From JMB / SXM Weekly News 4/29/19: AA Antics; JetBlue Expanding; Mozy; Southwest; New Hotel in Cupecoy; Sapphire Improving; Dino Jagtiani Leaving; Ja Rule; Drone Shot Down; Cats/Dogs; SkyMed [36 News Stories]

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Vol. 2, #1197 --- Monday, April 29, 2019 News From St. Maarten / St. Martin / SXM



This Week's Stories

Airfare, Airlines & Weather News

**Everything SXM Home Page** 

Island News

**Lodging News** 

Members SECRET Webite Login

# **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

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 St. Maarten & St. Martin "SXM" Weekly News because you subscribed to it and/or are a JMB Website Supporters member.

<u>Please do stay with us for all the latest tourist-oriented news from St. Maarten / St. Martin / SXM all year long. Now read by more than 326,000 people around the world...</u>

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:

http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/free\_newsletters/sxmweeklynews.shtml

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

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

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 SXM Weekly News:

#### **Weather; Getting Here:**

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- -- Jet Blue's Global Expansion is Just Beginning

- -- Airbus A220s Could Mean More Nonstops, Better Fares
- -- When Will Southwest Fly to SXM?

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- -- Big Improvements Observed at Sapphire
- -- Get That Condo on the Beach You've Been Dreaming Of
- -- SXM Relocation Seminar Now Available Online

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- -- Finally, French Side to Restore Le Galion -- Sort of
- -- Women Meet Ja Rule at Simpson Bay Resort
- -- Gov't, Serious About Drones, Shoots One Down
- -- Warning: Do NOT Eat Parrotfish
- -- Get a Rare Autographed First Edition Jacky Rom Novel
- -- How To Adopt a Rescue Dog or Cat from SXM
- -- Spring Sale Begins for our SXM Island Discount Program
- -- Restaurant of the Week: Vesna Taverna
- -- Major SkyMed Sale Underway

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## ---- \*\*\*\*\*\*Customer Stories \*\*\*\*\*\*

Protect Yourself With Emergency Medical Evacuation Protection from SkyMed

- -- Less Money, More Benefits, Ten Year Price Guarantee on SkyMed Ultimate
- -- Please Patronize JMB Sponsors

#### #######

-- SXM Business Owners: How To Increase Foot Traffic

Please see our complete Table of Contents below.

# 36 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 rent\_sale/index.shtml">http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/timeshare rent\_sale/index.shtml</a> 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 <a href="http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/about\_sxm/paypal.shtml">http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/about\_sxm/paypal.shtml</a> for info. Membership now delivers a growing list of about 300 St. Maarten and St. Martin-focused travel benefits -- and your membership subscription helps keep these weekly SXM newsletters coming.

#### SXM Timeshare Rental of The Week:

**RENTAL** 12/14/2019 12/21/2019 week 50 **Royal Islander La Plage** 1 bedroom, sleeps 4, lobby level, ocean/pool view \$895.00 plus \$50.00 timeshare share tax collected at check-in Sandy 704-567-6661 molloytravel@carolina.rr.com

#### SXM Timeshare Sale of The Week:

**SALE** 2/16/2019 2/23/2019 Week 7 **Simpson Bay Resort & Marina** President's Week. Beautiful newly renovated one-bedroom unit, sleeps four. Air-conditioned unit, large private bedroom with king-size bed, living room with 2 additional pullout murphy beds. The in-room fully equipped kitchen includes a refrigerator, a stove with oven, and a microwave. The private bathroom has a walk-in shower, as well as a hair dryer and a makeup/shaving mirror. Complimentary wireless internet access. This 4th floor unit, in the Beaumontia Bldg (lower B) has a balcony with gorgeous ocean views, beautiful sunsets overlooking Simpson Bay. Resort offers several pools, many restaurants, tennis courts, new fitness center, a convenience store, water sports, casino, and The Red Piano piano bar. Many local restaurants and bars in easy walking distance. Timeshare tax is due upon checkout. For more info see: <a href="http://www.simpsonbayresort.com">http://www.simpsonbayresort.com</a>. \$12,000 Mary-Beth 724-698-5896 <a href="marybeth.mccormack@gmail.com">marybeth.mccormack@gmail.com</a>

#### 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): 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://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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- 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 <a href="http://www.everythingsxm.com/secret">http://www.everythingsxm.com/secret</a> , 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 <a href="http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/about\_sxm/paypal.shtml">http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/about\_sxm/paypal.shtml</a>. Cost: \$59 for one year, or \$99 total for three full years. Other durations available. Join us today...

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

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

## THIS WEEK'S STORIES:

Stories are numbered; scroll down for stories of interest.

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

# 1. AA Reschedules Passengers, Doesn't Always Tell Them

American Airlines -- which according to our recent informal, unscientific survey on our <u>Everything SXM Facebook Site</u> is the least favorite US airline serving US passengers going to SXM -- continues to anger passengers in all classes of service by rescheduling them or canceling flights without necessarily notifying them of either.

While commenting on the survey, and ever since, passengers have gone out of their way to detail problems caused by American Airlines' habit of willy-nilly rescheduling. Passengers carefully select their flights to enable them to arrive in SXM the same day, wherever possible. But in rescheduling its passengers, AA seems to pay no attention to passenger preferences or to passenger convenience: it just does what it wants and it doesn't necessarily tell passengers that it made changes, let alone changes that ignore passenger convenience.

As always, we strongly suggest you remain in touch with your airline over time to ensure that you are aware of any changes the airline makes in your flights -- particularly if your airline is American. It doesn't matter what kind of plane you had originally been scheduled on; American passengers on all kinds of airplanes are being affected by the current AA frenzy of rescheduling.

Please see next story.

**About Our JMB Website Supporters Island Discount Program:** 

SALE STARTS TOMORROW; SEE STORY #24

Get 300+ SXM Discounts

& Many Other Island Benefits,

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

Get, Renew, or Reinstate YOUR JMB Membership

Today:

New JMB memberships: Low Prices! http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/about\_sxm/paypal.shtml

Renewal JMB memberships: Low Prices! http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/reinstate/index.shtml

Reinstatement JMB memberships: Low Prices! http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/reinstate/index.shtml

# 2. Blame Game: AA Says it's Max 8's Fault

Logic tells us that if an airliner has been grounded by the federal government in the US, airlines should remove it entirely from their current and future schedules and use replacement aircraft in its scheduling.

For reasons that totally defy logic, American Airlines apparently has continued to leave Boeing 737 Max 8 flights in its future schedules — cancelling the flights only as dates come closer, when those cancellations may cause increased inconvenience for its customers.

At the end of the day, the result of these peculiar scheduling habits by American Airlines has been a grossly higher amount of customer dissatisfaction than one might otherwise have expected.

The biggest problem here falls in the lap of American Airlines. American has over 900 airplanes, only 24 of which are Boeing 737 Max 8 aircraft currently grounded. Those aircraft are very new, which means that for the most part the aircraft they replaced are likely still not retired.

With a major problem staring Boeing and the industry in the face after two seemingly avoidable crashes, it may be quite a while before the 737 Max 8 is allowed to return to service. And it may be even longer before anyone believes Boeing's CEO who recently said the aircraft manufacturer will soon make the aircraft "even safer": fact is, nobody believes that the 737 Max 8 is anything remotely resembling "safe" now. It was certificated by the FAA even though it clearly wasn't fit to fly.

Consequently AA should have canceled all 737 Max 8 flights when that aircraft was first grounded. Passengers of American are largely fed up with the lack of attention that American is paying toward them and that airline's clear lack of focus on customer satisfaction, evidence of which you can see in posts on our <a href="Everything SXM Facebook Site">Everything SXM Facebook Site</a>....

# 3. Jet Blue's Global Expansion is Just Beginning

Although JetBlue is already an international airline, serving an increasing number of cities and countries in the United States, the Caribbean, and South America, its recent announcement of nonstop flights to London from both New York and Boston starting in 2021 — and its widely expected nonstop flights from the West Coast (and possibly elsewhere) to Hawaii within the next year or two — should be taken as Indications that the airline is dead serious about expanding beyond the international locations which it has already announced.

JB is undertaking a massive expansion at JFK, its main focus city, and should be expected to do the same in Boston, where it is the leading airline and where it has a long history of expansion and international service.

At JFK, JetBlue will be spending hundreds of millions of dollars taking over and completely rebuilding another terminal adjacent to its current terminal 5 presence: it also has many gates for international flights among its expansion plans.

Nobody had better underestimate where JetBlue is going in the next few years. Its plans are clearly bigger than many people think — and its Mint service, with very comfortable lie flat seats at a fraction of traditional first-class travel costs — have great appeal to a broad range of passengers, even people who are platinum or elite platinum flyers with American. Even those AA customers have grown increasingly intolerant of that airline's inability to do its job in a way that results in dependable customer satisfaction.

# 4. Airbus A220s Could Mean More Nonstops, Better Fares

It's interesting to watch what JetBlue is doing with the main aircraft in its fleet — the A320. It is completely reimagining A320 passenger cabins, making them more comfortable with vastly superior entertainment options but with significantly thinner seats. That is enabling it to retain outstanding legroom while adding two rows of seats to its airplanes and increasing the number of seats in all its A320s once the program is finished.

In addition to its 162 seat A320s, the aircraft is acquiring new Airbus A220 aircraft which are capable of accommodating up to 150 passengers, though the expected capacity of A220's to be delivered to JetBlue is not yet announced.

Routes on which the A220 will be used have yet to be announced, but the airplane's great fuel economy could likely allow it to be used on some transcontinental flights and certainly on flights to the Caribbean from the East and Midwest. Its promised operational economies make it conceivable that the airplane could be used as the basis for an increased number of flights to the island from existing ports of embarkation and from other cities that don't yet have nonstops to SXM. The A220 could make such nonstops possible — and in fact, it could be used for flights multiple times per week year-round to SXM from Boston, which currently has no Boston nonstops during low season.

See next story.

# 5. New Airline "Mozy" Likely to Shake Up SXM Fares

As we wrote here a few weeks ago, David Neeleman — the founder of JetBlue, WestJet, and Azul in South America -- has ordered the same Airbus A220 aircraft that JetBlue, his former airline, also has ordered. Yet Neeleman is taking dead aim with this airline on underserved US cities, planning to offer travel from many of them to other cities which he believes are also underserved or overpriced. What Neeleman is doing, it appears to us, is massaging the same concept he used to start JetBlue about 20 years ago into something a bit different, newer, and perhaps slightly fresher than his JetBlue concept — although making it better than JetBlue, which is hugely popular, is a far bigger challenge.

We continue to believe that ultimately, Mozy (or whatever he chooses as the final name of his new airline) could well choose to provide flights to the Caribbean from many underserved cities, including some as big as Cincinnati, Pittsburgh, Milwaukee, Providence, and others. It will be interesting to look at this edition of *SXM Weekly News* five or six years from now and see whether we been as accurate at predicting where Mozy might go as we have been with JetBlue.

# 6. When Will Southwest Fly to SXM?

We know, and have reported, that Southwest Airlines wants to come to SXM. We also know that the airline wants to be sure that every 737 aircraft it sends to the island will be loaded with passengers on all flights.

SXM last winter had its best year in the last several years, including a few years before the island was hit by hurricane Irma.

Late in 2019 and during 2020, a number of new hotel properties as well as new condominium properties will be opening on SXM; see info about the latest of these to be announced, the *Adonis Hotel* which is coming to Cupecoy, in story 8.

As a result of that hotel opening and a number of others covered in that story, it's clear that the room capacity on the island a year from now will be substantially more than now; and two years from now, when even more properties will be open, things will be even better for airlines and island businesses.

All of this makes the appetite for news about new airlines coming to SXM quite substantial. Southwest has yet to announce any date for launching its service to SXM. We have asked the airline directly about widespread rumors that it could begin service as early as this coming September — a move that we feel is highly unlikely, since September and October are two of the slowest months of the year on the island. If the airline is going to begin service soon, it could well happen in November or within a few months after November — when SXM airport has said it may well be returning to full service on both floors.

If we hear anything back from our inquiries into Southwest, we'll let you know.

# 7. See Current SXM Weather / Tracking Serious Weather

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 <a href="www.everythingsxm.com">www.everythingsxm.com</a> -- 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 <a href="https://www.island92.com">www.island92.com</a>. They report island warnings at once and know exactly what's going on. You can listen on the web anytime through live streaming.
- 5) For a quick look at weather radar exactly where you are or where you're going, try the My Radar phone app or My Radar for Windows -- excellent programs.

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 <a href="here">here</a>. 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.

# **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: <a href="https://www.sxmweeklynews.com">www.sxmweeklynews.com</a>

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

# 8. New 52-room "Adonis" Hotel Coming to Cupecoy

A few weeks ago, the people behind the twin condominium towers now being constructed on land between the Starz Casino and the Mullet Bay golf course announced that because of brisk condominium sales, they would not use one of the towers for an upscale hotel project as had previously been announced, but rather would simply sell it as condos.

Late last week, it was announced that a new hotel will be constructed about a five minute walk from the twin towers. The project will be called Adonis. It will be finished this year, says its developer, and it's expected to open in November, 2019.

In a letter on social media to a limited audience on the island, the developer said:

I am pleased to inform you that we will open a contemporary hotel in Saint Martin [Sic] in the West Indies, my island of heart, from November...

It will be a beautiful hotel of 52 rooms design, with parking, gym, close to beautiful beaches. To Have (on) lived Irma, I am happy to participate in my modest contribution to revive this [precious] place.

Looking forward to welcoming you there soon,

In point of fact, it has been announced that the project will be constructed in Cupecoy, close to the prior location of Summit Resort near the AUC medical school and the Caribbean International Academy. The developer told us over the weekend that the project will have a gym as noted above, but no pool (not necessary because both Mullet Bay and Cupecoy beach are so close) and no restaurant, since many restaurants will be nearby in the reimagined Starz Casino complex and in Porto Cupecoy. Starz is expected to reopen possibly as soon as later this year.

We will post more about Adonis when we we have it; we're in contact with the developer.

# 9. Big Improvements Observed at Sapphire

Although in social media many people continue to observe aging negative reports about the status of Sapphire Resort in Cupecoy, we've been seeing an increasing number of reports from recent visitors who say that the 23-year-old resort, though not perfect, is greatly improved now from what it was just a few years ago.

In fact, the resort has been open for many months, albeit with limited room capacity. Some elevators are now operational in all three buildings, recent visitors tell us. Rooms, very heavily renovated post-Irma, are in excellent shape, and the staff is happy to see visitors and timeshare owners. A number of workers brought on board to help complete the renovations are still staying in some resort units, which limits Sapphire's ability to accommodate all timeshare owners who seek accommodations. But the resort has taken great strides forward and some staff members who we talked to in recent weeks are saying that the resort expects to be fully open in time for the 2019 – 2020 high season.

# 10. Get That Condo on the Beach You've Been Dreaming Of

Spacious New Townhouses on Simpson Bay Beach:

If you've been thinking about moving to SXM but are turned off by large condo developments and have an urge to be on the beach in a place that is state-of-the-art strong, gorgeous, functional, and reasonably priced, we may just have found it for you on Simpson Bay beach, near its quiet northern end.

Drake Residences is built using quad-lock® insulating concrete forms construction which delivers rugged durability as well as great soundproofing.

There beachfront location consists of a four-story beachfront tower and five spacious townhouses, all offering beachfront access.

Construction is state-of-the-art using strong, steel reinforced concrete which is fire resistant, ultra-energy-efficient, with high wind resistance, impact resistance, seismic resistance, and flood resistance as well.

Drake Residences also offers true luxury, with modern design; an Italian kitchen; a waterfall island; floating staircases; all in a spacious, private, turnkey location. Preconstruction prices begin at just \$850,000; construction is about to begin. This is the last buildable lot on Simpson Bay beach and at these prices, you can expect Drake Residences to be sold out quickly.

If you'd like detailed information directly from the developer (whom you may well already know), email Jeff at <a href="mailto:jmbweb@jmbcommunications.com">jmbweb@jmbcommunications.com</a>. Include your email and phone number with the subject **Drake Residences**. We'll put you in direct contact with the developer himself so he can tell you all the details. This is the most attractive, incredibly durable beachfront property we've seen in SXM in many years, and it is brand-new construction. Photos have been posted on our <a href="mailto:Everything SXM Facebook Site">Everything SXM Facebook Site</a>.

## 11. SXM Relocation Seminar Now Available Online

Just before last Thanksgiving, working with Arun Jagtiani of Island Real Estate Team, we put together and conducted an SXM Relocation Seminar for dozens of attentive attendees at Emilio's Restaurant at the Emilio Wilson estate near Philipsburg.

Many of you have asked whether it would be possible for you to see video we made of our relocation seminar.

Although we do intend to put on future relocation seminars, the video of our November seminar is now available online to anyone interested in buying on SXM, whether for a vacation home, retirement home, income property, or anything else.

See the video here.

# 12. Get <u>Lowest Rates</u> for Hotel Rooms & Car Rentals Worldwide

<u>SkyMed Travel</u> 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 <a href="https://www.skymedtravel.com/register">https://www.skymedtravel.com/register</a>, 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.

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

With most timeshare resorts back online — Belair, Sea Palace, Divi, Atrium Resort, La Vista, Simpson Bay Resort,

Port de Plaisance, and Oyster Bay Beach now open too -- timeshare owners continue to post units available for rent on our <u>timeshare rental site</u> on <u>everythingSXM.com</u> and on our new companion Villas for Rent page, also on everythingsxm.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** 

# 14. JMB Member Discounts / Benefits -- Updated

We've recently updated the site to reflect ongoing changes on the island.

For more info on what you get with your JMB membership, go here.

SECTION 4: Island News, Info, & Features

**About Our JMB Website Supporters Island Discount Program:** 

SALE STARTS TOMORROW; SEE STORY #24

Get 300+ SXM Discounts

& Many Other Island Benefits,

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

Get, Renew, or Reinstate YOUR JMB Membership Today:

**New JMB memberships: Low Prices!** 

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

**Renewal JMB memberships: Low Prices!** 

http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/reinstate/index.shtml

Reinstatement JMB memberships: Low Prices! http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/reinstate/index.shtml

15. Near-Legendary Chef Dino Jagtiani Leaving SXM

St. Maarten's first chef to graduate the prestigious Culinary Institute of America (CIA), chef Dino Jagtiani, is leaving the island. He'll be going to Curaçao where he will be head of culinary for the big Marriott there, which has been closed for very heavy renovations for the last couple of years.

Hurricane Irma did quite a number on Dino here in St. Maarten. The storm destroyed both his restaurant, Temptation, which was part of Starz casino which Irma also destroyed. Worse, Dino lost his home to Irma. It was one of many tragedies coming out of the storm, but thanks to courage and perseverance, Dino gathered himself and moved on, joining Norm and Su Wathey at their Emilio's restaurant in the Rainforest Adventures/Emilio Wilson Estate area where he was in charge of that outstanding restaurant.

Dino has won many of our Everything SXM Awards of Excellence both for Temptation and Emilio's.

We'll be keeping in touch with Dino and will let you know when the Marriott reopens in Curaçao and what the names will be of the restaurants there.

Norm and Su are working to bring on a new top chef at Emilio's, something they hope to complete in the next couple of weeks. We'll keep you posted on what happens there.

# 16. Finally, French Side to Restore Le Galion -- Sort of

Within the last couple of weeks, we published a story here concerning the most recent report of the nature reserve on the status of the Orient beach area, also including the LeGalion area. If you read the report (our story included a link to a downloadable PDF), you already know this — but since most of you probably didn't click the link, here's the rest of the story.

The French side had said quite some time before Irma hit that it wanted to restore Le Galion beach to the unspoiled status it had enjoyed before the Le Galion hotel was built there and destroyed years ago by a hurricane.

In 1977, Patrick Turner opened a restaurant called Tropical Wave at LeGalion beach which for 40 years served simple, delicious, affordable food to a spectrum of customers, many of them locals with a number of tourists mixed in.

He was hassled by the French government which wanted to close his business and then have him compete with others for the privilege of operating a new restaurant there. Worse, if that's possible, the French government was openly talking about charging a high rental for the property which would've made his long-standing cost structure untenable.

Then along came Irma, destroying everything in its path including Tropical Wave and everything else on that beach and on neighboring Orient beach. We have no idea why it has taken the French government so long to say it's going to redevelop the beach, since it knew that before Irma hit. Nonetheless, that's what it did in the report for which we supplied a link previously here in *SXM Weekly News*. The *Daily Herald* is simplifying things for everyone; it wrote a story specifically related to rebuilding activities on LeGalion. Here is that story.

Take note, this really is not a rebuilding project it's a restoration project of the beach to what it was many years ago, the Reserve intones — though how they will integrate a new restaurant into that property remains a mystery.

# 17. Women Meet Ja Rule at Simpson Bay Resort

Twin sisters vacationing in SXM, Stephanie and Jacqueline were headed back to Simpson Bay Resort on foot when they spotted someone who looked familiar walking not far from them. They quickly realized it was Ja Rule. The three Simpson Bay resort guests talked a bit and had a picture taken together which soon appeared on our <a href="Everything sxm Facebook Site">Everything SXM Facebook Site</a>.

Famous rapper Ja Rule was on the island for a Carnival-related concert. If you missed the Carnival, consider coming next year... who knows who you might bump into.

Tomorrow is a Carnival holiday on the island, and Wednesday is another holiday. Carnival is big on SXM: watch for more posts about it on our <a href="Everything SXM Facebook Site">Everything SXM Facebook Site</a>

# 18. 200 Kilos of Antillean Shark Fins Intercepted at Amsterdam

Authorities intercepted some 200 kg of shark fins at Amsterdam airport recently. The shark fins are considered a delicacy in some parts of the world, and these shark fins had been destined to go to a buyer in China until they were intercepted and confiscated. Spokespersons said that the harvesting of the fins would have caused the death of some 200 sharks, a major blow to conservation efforts. Police are continuing to investigate; here's the story.

# 18a Never, Ever Remove Starfish from the Water

Remove them from the water and they'll die, a bad thing for the environment. Please see why here.

# 19. Another Scooter Driver Killed: No Helmet

Scooter riders on SXM have a reputation for dangerous driving, though it's only a small percentage of scooter riders who behave dangerously. Several scooter riders in the past year in SXM have lost their lives in accidents, and that just happened to another who, while passing in and out of traffic on the French side, careened head-on into an approaching ice truck. The scooter rider, who was not wearing a helmet, was killed instantly.

Here is the complete story.

# 20. Gov't, Serious About Drones, Shoots One Down

A few weeks ago, the Dutch side government released new rules concerning the use of drones throughout its side of the island.

Because of heavy use of Princess Juliana SXM Airport, drone activity is banned over most of the Dutch side land area and also in the vicinity of most government facilities.

A drone was recently spotted approaching the prison at Point Blanche. After a quick but complete assessment of the situation, a prison guard grabbed his shotgun and <u>blasted the contraption</u> to smithereens.

What was left of the drone was taken to a police laboratory where an investigation was launched to determine its source and its owner.

We repeat: if you have drones and would like to fly them on St. Maarten, leave them home.

# 21. Warning: Do NOT Eat Parrotfish

Authorities from the SXM Nature Foundation recently discovered that parrot fish were for sale in some area Chinese markets. Because they are threatened, parrot fish are supposed to be left alone and certainly not offered for sale in any supermarkets. Why is this so important? Please read <a href="mailto:the story">the story</a>.

If you ever see any for sale in any SXM supermarkets, please report it to The Nature Foundation.

# 22. Get a Rare Autographed First Edition Jacky Rom

### Novel

Bibliophiles tell us that first editions of rare books signed by the author may become extremely valuable.

Here is your chance to obtain a first edition of Jacky Rom's newest novel, *From Vegas to Villainy*, which officially debuts this coming month. If you rent her home here in SXM, you can get just such a rare first edition.

Here is more information about the forthcoming book.

Here is more about Jacky's home in SXM:

FREE SIGNED NOVEL .... STAY AT MINE!

1C Son Risa

Pelican

1 Bed Condo

1C Son Risa

\$165 high season

\$135 Low Season

Great deals

www.Jackyrom.com

# 23. How To Adopt a Rescue Dog or Cat from SXM

Good day animal lovers. Jeff Berger asked me to explain how one can bring a cat or dog back to the US or Canada. It's actually very easy. First step is to take it to a Vet Clinic in order to get the basic vaccination and rabies shot done. Usually rabies shot needs to be done 1 month before departure, which is a little difficult if you are here only for a short time. SXM is rabies free and this has never been a problem at arrival. You will also need a health certificate a few days before (not more than 5 days before). You also need to call your airline in order to know if you can take the dog along. JetBlue takes up to 4 in a soft carrier in cabin. For checked luggage (plane belly) you will need to get a crate. Must be AA. We are very happy to help you in order to take your new friend along with you. If you can not take the dog or cat when you're travelling back home, we can try to find someone who's ready to escort. To JFK, Newark, Philadelphia, Boston is easy! Hope this helps. If you would like to adopt a dog from us (we can not keep cats), please let us know or make a friend request on our FB page. Dog over 6 month are vaccinated, dewormed and spay/neutered. Ursula. I LOVE MY ISLAND DOG ASSOCIATION -- Ursula Oppikofer

Her website is here.

# 24. Spring Sale Begins for our SXM Island Discount Program

JMB Website Supporters, our SXM Island Discount program, delivers about 300 discounts and other SXM benefits. We haven't had a sale for our **JMB Website Supporters SXM Island Discount Program** since January, but our Spring Sale delivers <u>Black Friday Prices</u> -- and its starts Tuesday Night 4/30 at 9pm EDT:

GOOD: One year new memberships, \$33 (our reg. \$59)

BETTER: Three-year new memberships, \$79 (our reg. \$99)

BEST: Six-year new memberships \$139 (not normally offered, by far our best sale price)

Great renewal & reinstatement prices will be offered too. To take advantage of these offers, click the page curl at everythingsxm.com to join or renew/reinstate your JMB membership starting at 9pm EDT Tuesday 4/30/19..

# 25. Major SkyMed Sale Now Underway

A major sale has begun on SkyMed memberships. Not only are all multiyear SkyMed memberships heavily discounted for JMB members, but when when you buy a new multiyear SkyMed membership through us or upgrade your annual SkyMed membership bought from us to a multiyear membership, we will extend your JMB membership on us for the number of years you buy SkyMed.

Example: Upgrade to or buy a new five-year SkyMed membership through us, and we give you a free five-year extension of your existing JMB Website Supporters membership. All you need to do is forward us a copy of the acknowledgement you receive from SkyMed after you buy new or upgrade through us. For info, see getskymed.com, but to qualify for these bonuses, you must buy by phoning us at (508) 747-8281 or email Jeff at jeff@jmbcommunications.com with the subject SkyMed. Give us your phone number and time zone and we'll return your call as quickly as we can. Available exclusively to Americans, Canadians, and X-Pats.

## 26. Restaurant of the Week: Vesna Taverna

Ever since we first visited Vesna Taverna several years ago, we've raved about it. Once you visit for dinner and meet Vesna, Sally, and the crew, and taste their amazing food, you'll fully understand why we love the place.

Pick your dessert first -- they're great but they disappear in a hurry and you do not want to lose out. They're all homemade by Vesna herself, and she truly knows her stuff.

There are dinner specials every week -- check them out first from the blackboard, brought to your table. Saturday night is Greek night with a spectrum of Mediterranean specials -- plus their entire regular menu. If you like spicy food, ask for their Matouk's sauces from Trinidad -- they'll take your breath away.

Vesna's is located on the lagoon side of Airport Road in Simpson Bay just north of the drawbridge. See much more on their website at vesnataverna.com. Reservations are highly recommended.

Try it and tell us what you think on our **Everything SXM Facebook Site**.

Here are recently featured SXM restaurants:

**Vesna Taverna,** <u>www.vesnataverna.com</u> (featured 4/29/19). Now open every day for through B/L; dinner is offered Tuesday through Sunday.

**Emilio's** at Emilio Wilson Estate (featured 4/21/19) is the new property run by renowned chef Dino Jagtiani, whose Temptation Restaurant was wrecked by Irma.

Freedom Fighters ITAL SHACK Rasta Restaurant, <a href="https://www.sxmfreedomfighters.com/restaurant">www.sxmfreedomfighters.com/restaurant</a> 4/15/19. Just go....

Avantika Thai www.avantikasxm.com (featured 4/8/19) Avantika is wonderful; SXM's best Thai.

**IZI Ristorante Italiano,** www.iziristoranteitaliano.com (featured 3/11/19). Open for lunch and dinner except Monday, when they're closed. Great food from one of SXM's very best restaurants. Fun atmosphere, too.

**Spiga**, <u>www.spiga-sxm.com</u> (featured 3/4/19) New menu; redesigned. New bar, great staff, service, and wonderful food. Everything is great, appetizers are out of this world. Not to be missed.

**Mario Bistro** <u>www.mariobistrot.com/en/</u> 2/25/19 Mario's Bistro is one of the most spectacular culinary experiences you'll ever have. Go. Phenomenal dining.

Mama Pizza & Pasta, featured 2/11/19, Porto Cupecoy.

**Topper's** <a href="http://www.sxmtoppers.com/">http://www.sxmtoppers.com/</a> (featured 1/28/19) One of SXM's oldest and busiest restaurants, Breakfast, lunch, dinner, and late dining. Open morning until late night. Sports on TV. Karaoke some nights.

**Dany & John's Cupecoy Beach Bar** (on Cupecoy beach); follow the road toward Shore Pointe and turn near Shore Pointe to get there. (Featured 1/20/2019) Parking, drinks, chairs and umbrellas, lolo-type food, and an all-over tan. What could possibly be better?

**Wasabi Charlie Japanese Restaurant (formerly Sushiitto)** (1/7/19) 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.

**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**, <a href="http://www.skipjacks-sxm.com/">http://www.skipjacks-sxm.com/</a> (featured 12/24/18) SkipJack's triumphantly reopened with an entirely new dining deck late in January, 2019. Great place - go!

**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.

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**, <a href="http://www.lavistaresort.com/restaurant.html">http://www.lavistaresort.com/restaurant.html</a> (featured 10/31/16) Open; contact the restaurant for details and reservations. Updated 3/2/18.

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

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

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

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

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

Taloula Mango <a href="http://www.taloulamango.com/">http://www.taloulamango.com/</a> (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 <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.

# 27. Ensure Best SkyMed Deal - Jeff Berger / GetSkyMed.com

Our SkyMed website is <a href="https://www.getskymed.com">www.getskymed.com</a>: please be sure you bookmark **getSkyMed.com** and not any other site.

When you're ready to sign up for SkyMed, be sure to call us and let us take your application by phone; that way we get credit. It takes about 10 minutes, and we submit it electronically. We know what SkyMed is looking for and we can make sure you submit it efficiently and effectively; that way we do get credit for the purchase, which in a small way helps fund this newsletter and everything else we do for you.

SkyMed inquiries only can be received at 508-747-8281 during regular office hours, Eastern time. Thank you. Customer stories are below.

# 28. Traveling Aug. 1 or Later? Beat SkyMed's 90-day Exclusion on Pre-Existing Conditions Coverage by Buying Now

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 now 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. All you need to do is email us a copy of your welcome letter to SkyMed after approval at <a href="mailto:imbweb@imbcommunications.com">imbweb@imbcommunications.com</a> with the subject SkyMed.

Of course we'll be happy to answer your questions and we can 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.

By buying annual protection now at only about \$1.35/day, pre-existing conditions will be covered in full after a brief 90-day waiting period. SkyMed covers you in the USA, Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, the Bahamas, and all the nations of the Caribbean. Global coverage is available as well. For answers to your questions, call us today at 508-747-8281.

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

Our SkyMed website is www.qetskymed.com: please be sure you bookmark getSkyMed.com and not any other

site. When you're ready to sign up for SkyMed, be sure to call us and let us take your application by phone. It takes under 10 minutes, and we submit it electronically. We know what SkyMed is looking for and we can make sure you submit it efficiently and effectively; that way we also get credit for the purchase, which in a small way helps fund this newsletter and everything else we do for you. SkyMed calls only can be received at 508-747-8281 during regular office hours, Eastern time.. Thank you.

Customer stories are below.

# 29. \*\*\*\*\*\*\*SkyMed Customer Stories\*\*\*\*\*\*\* Protect Against Pricey Emergency Medical Evacuations by Getting SkyMed:

Emergency medical evacuations are <u>payable in cash in advance</u> and often cost upwards of \$45,000 -- <u>unless you have a SkyMed membership</u>. 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:

On a recent Thursday at Mullet Bay Beach, a woman at the edge of the water fell and accidentally knocked down her friend, standing close by. The friend felt pain in her leg as she got up, went to a hospital, and was told she had a "soft tissue injury" and should relax in the sun. Pain continued. Next day she went to the Maho Clinic for another opinion since she couldn't put any weight on the leg without pain. The doctor there sent her to the French Side for a new x-ray. That diagnosis came back - broken leg and she had to be medically evacuated back to the US for surgery. A few days before, the woman had bought short-term SkyMed medevac protection for her short trip to SXM. Cost, under \$100. She was sent home by jet by SkyMed. The charge for the jet: \$0. Without SkyMed, had she needed a medevac jet, the \$26,000 (approx.) price of that jet home would have had to be paid in cash in advance; with SkyMed she was home and in the hospital of her choice the next day for \$0 out-of-pocket.

<u>Mary Beth and her partner Don</u> 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.

<u>A Summer trip ended in disaster when a child visiting her grandmother</u> 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.

<u>A woman from Virginia</u> 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.

<u>A member of the clergy</u> 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 <a href="www.getskymed.com">www.getskymed.com</a>. 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 more than three months into the future, 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.

Our SkyMed website is <a href="www.getskymed.com">www.getskymed.com</a>: please be sure you bookmark <a href="getSkyMed.com">getSkyMed.com</a> and not any other site. When you're ready to sign up for SkyMed, be sure to call us and let us take your application by phone. It takes under 10 minutes, and we submit it electronically. We know what SkyMed is looking for and we can make sure you submit it efficiently and effectively; that way we also get credit for the purchase, which in a small way helps fund this newsletter and everything else we do for you. SkyMed calls only can be received at 508-747-8281 during regular office hours, Eastern time.. Thank you.

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 <a href="mailto:getskymed.com">getskymed.com</a>. SkyMed is the Principal Sponsor of JMB SXM programs.

# See the <u>rundown of all SkyMed Features & Benefits</u>

# 30. 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.

# 31. 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 <a href="mailto:getskymed.com">getskymed.com</a>.

Our SkyMed website is <a href="www.getskymed.com">www.getskymed.com</a>: please be sure you bookmark <a href="getSkyMed.com">getSkyMed.com</a> and not any other site. When you're ready to sign up for SkyMed, be sure to call us and let us take your application by phone. It takes under 10 minutes, and we submit it electronically. We know what SkyMed is looking for and we can make sure you submit it efficiently and effectively; that way we also get credit for the purchase, which in a small way helps fund this newsletter and everything else we do for you. SkyMed calls only can be received at 508-747-8281 during regular office hours, Eastern time.. Thank you.

# 32. Please Patronize JMB Sponsors (Updated)

#### **CAR RENTALS:**

**Leisure Car Rental** 

**Tropical-Tropicana Car Rental** 

Starlite Car Rental (Belair Resort)
Sax Car Rental
CICADE HAND MANUEACTUDED ON CVM.
CIGARS HAND-MANUFACTURED ON SXM:
<u>Das Cigars</u>
CUBAN CIGARS:
Cigar Mack
SXM Cigars
EMERGENCY MEDICAL EVACUATION MEMBERSHIP PROGRAMS:
SkyMed International (Scottsdale, Az.)
JEWELERS:
Zhaveri Jewelers in Philipsburg.
Caribbean Gems
Majesty Jewelers
Oro Diamante
Ray's Jewelers
Art of Time
Artistic Jewelers
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>SPIGA</u>
VESNA TAVERNA
Melange (new; Port de Plaisance)

**Pelican Bistro** 

Sale and Pepe (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.

Candie Billant does condo and villa rentals and sales. You will find her at blueparadiserealty.com.

#### Relocation / "Papers" Consulting Companies

Bright Path is already posting on our Everything St. Maarten / St. Martin / SXM Facebook Site

Updated 4/29/19

# 33. Use Our Weekly News Archives

Our 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. Updating soon.

## 34. 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.

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

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

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. (Our site is based in the U. S. and is focused on the needs of tourists traveling to SXM.) If you own an SXM business and want to look into and take advantage of this unique marketing opportunity, please email <a href="mailto:susank@jmbcommunications.com">susank@jmbcommunications.com</a> with the subject "JMB Sponsorships". We'll get complete information to you quickly. Winter 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 2020. 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: <a href="http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/about\_sxm/paypal.shtml">http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/about\_sxm/paypal.shtml</a>.

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

\*2017 St. Maarten / St. Martin Timeshare Weeks For Rent or Sale\* are posted at <a href="http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/timeshare rent sale/index.shtml">http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/timeshare rent sale/index.shtml</a> 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 <a href="www.everythingsxm.com/secret">www.everythingsxm.com/secret</a> .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: <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 <a href="www.sxmweeklynews.com">www.sxmweeklynews.com</a>; unsubscribe your old email address and subscribe your new one. <a href="JMB Website Supporters members should notify Membership Services of the new email address for continued Secret Site access.">www.sxmweeklynews.com</a>; unsubscribe your old email address and subscribe your old email address and subscribe your new one. <a href="JMB Website Supporters members should notify Membership Services of the new email address for continued Secret Site access.">www.sxmweeklynews.com</a>; unsubscribe your old email address and subscribe your new one. <a href="JMB Website Supporters members should notify Membership Services of the new email address for continued Secret Site access.">www.sxmweeklynews.com</a>; unsubscribe your old 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, <a href="http://www.everythingsxm.com/secret">http://www.everythingsxm.com/secret</a>. If you're a JMB Website Supporters member and have a question not answered there, contact <a href="mailto:support@imbcommunications.com">support@imbcommunications.com</a>

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)

4/29/19 #V2-1197 0600 am AST 10.8

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