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Vol. 2, #11XX --- April Fool's Day, April 1, 2018
April Fool's News From St. Maarten / St. Martin



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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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Important Note:

This is Jeff Berger's / JMB Communications' **St. Maarten & St. Martin / SXM Weekly News**, published every Monday (Tuesdays during most holiday weeks). **You are receiving St. Maarten & St. Martin "SXM" Weekly News because you subscribed to it and/or are a JMB Website Supporters member. Unsubscribe info is at the end of this newsletter. Stay with us for all the latest tourist-oriented news from St. Maarten / St. Martin / SXM all year long. Now read by more than 300,000 people around the world...**

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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.

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

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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:

Resumes Monday April 2

SXM Timeshare Sale of The Week:

Resumes Monday April 2

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](#)

This Week's Stories

Stories are numbered; scroll down for stories of interest. This week's Table of Contents follows these links:

"Like" Our "[Everything St. Maarten / St. Martin / SXM](#)" Facebook Site:



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

"Like" Our Facebook St. Maarten Timesharing Group

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

Search the **SXM Weekly News** Archives:

Current Archives (Since 4/2014) in PDF Format:

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

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.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 **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. UNA Airlines To Serve SXM Starting April 1

UNA Airlines, formed one year ago (on April 1, 2017), starts serving SXM with its unique version of flying this Sunday, April 1, 2018.

UNA is an acronym for United Naturists Alliance, an airline founded by and focused exclusively on the needs of naturists. All passengers board the aircraft as always, but once aboard, everybody strips naked and flies that way to their destination, SXM, where they get dressed just before arrival.

Since the planes cater exclusively to nudists, paying for more than the free first suitcase is hardly ever required. And the planes have a big skylight in the ceiling to allow passengers to start their all-over tans before reaching SXM.

Find out more by calling 1-869-GET-NUDE.

2. Elon Musk, Richard Branson To "Ice-Out" Hurricane Seasons

Entrepreneurs Elon Musk and Richard Branson will work together this year to "ice out" hurricane season.

The plan -- revealed exclusively to *SXM Weekly News* -- calls for a fleet of ships to tow huge icebergs from Antarctica to the tropical Atlantic, Caribbean, and Gulf of Mexico, where they'll melt, lowering water temperatures during hurricane season and preventing hurricanes from forming.

In an exclusive interview, Musk told *SXM Weekly News* that he expects Caribbean nations to be able to enjoy full-year tourist seasons now that the threat of future hurricanes can be eliminated.

There are a few drawbacks, of course. One is that the water temperature will be too cold for swimming — perhaps around 60°F, according to some estimates. To solve that, Musk and Branson plan to go into the wetsuit business and offer cut rate wetsuits to swimmers, to enable them to enjoy the beaches as always.

The other problem is that most tropical fish are accustomed to 80° water and may well perish as waters chill. "No worries," says George, the owner of SkipJack's Restaurant in SXM. "I have connections. I'll bring down thousands of cold-water lobsters from Maine, throw them in the water where they can breed comfortably, and everybody will be happy. They're already on my dinner menus."

3. Another Downside of the Ice-Out

Another downside of the planned ice out will be that sea levels will be rising. That's no problem, officials of the government of Holland declared. "In Holland we are accustomed to building and monitoring dikes, so we expect to build dikes around the entire Dutch side of the island to make sure it is protected from rising sea levels. No problem."

When asked whether the dikes would be extended to cover the French side, the official simply said, "The French Side is a foreign country. They will have to figure that out."

4. Current SXM Weather Info

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. They were knocked off the air by Irma but are now back.

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.*

5. **Guaranteed Lowest Rates** for Hotel Rooms & Car Rentals **Around The World**

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

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

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

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

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

You won't be disappointed.

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Now You Can Unsubscribe Your Old Email and Sign Up Your New One for your SXM Weekly News subscription

Quickly and Easily
at our Site: www.sxmweeklynews.com

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

6. SXM Timeshare Condo & Villa Rentals

With several timeshare resorts coming back online — Sea Palace and Atrium Resort, with others to follow soon -- timeshare owners are now posting units available for rent on our [timeshare rental site](#) on everythingSXM.com and on our new companion Villas for Rent page, also on everythingsxm.com. Check them out.

Our timeshare rentals page was heavily updated last week.

SECTION 3: JMB Member Discounts & Benefits

7. "Section Three" -- Member Discounts / Benefits News & Updates

This section of *SXM Weekly News*, which appears weekly, will provide detailed information about current JMB Website Supporters discounts and benefits both for current members and for people thinking about joining JMB.

We now offer about 300 discounts (including some now being rolled out). We think you'll find many surprises here that will be of great interest and value. Please check this section in the coming months as we restart rolling out a number of entirely new discounts and benefits.

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

SECTION 4: Island News, Info, & Features

**Huge Sale on
SkyMed's Lowest Daily Cost
Five-Year SkyMed Ultimate
Medical Evacuation Memberships!
SkyMed's best coverage!**

**Buy or Upgrade to a new Five-Year SkyMed Ultimate
Membership Through Us (their Best Membership
at their Lowest Daily Cost) & Get 10 Years
of membership in JMB Website Supporters
w/ About 300 SXM Discounts
as our Huge Winter Bonus!**

Plus you can get a 10-year
price guarantee on SkyMed!

Applies only to new or upgraded
Five-Year Ultimate memberships
bought directly through us
(including the original SkyMed purchase).
New purchases or upgrades must be
purchased from 2/5/18
through 3/11/18 (just extended).
Not combinable with any other offer.
Available exclusively through us.
Offer ends 3/11/18.
For details, contact
Jeff Berger at 508-747-8281
or email Jeff.Berger@skymed.com
with the Subject "SkyMed."
Do it now...
this offer will soon disappear.

Lead Story: China, South Korea Offer Competing Bids to Buy Dutch Side

Over the last few years, St. Maarten has seen vast increases in investment by China, which has talked about building tunnels through mountains to relieve traffic, build big hotels and convention centers, and -- announced officially just today, April 1 -- erecting a rocket launcher for tours to the moon starting next year.

To accelerate these development initiatives, the government of SXM has invited both China and South Korea to bid to buy the Dutch side of the island.

Both China and South Korea are not only elated at the prospect, but are considering an alliance under which they may buy the island together.

In fact, they are considering shipping trillions of tons of land from mountainous parts of China to be dumped off shore of SXM, with the ultimate intent of increasing the size of the island to that of Cuba. China already has said it will build highways, rapid transit, high-speed rail links, airports, cities, towns, villages, and a large number of both Chinese and Korean restaurants across the greatly expanded island. Japanese restaurants are not included.

The island will be so big, in fact, that the Chinese are already at work creating engineering drawings for bridges to St. Thomas, St. Croix, and Puerto Rico.

Some other islands, such as Anguilla, which would be gobbled up by the expansion, claim this move by the Chinese and Koreans into international waters violates international law. When *SXM Weekly News* exclusively asked Chinese government authorities about this, they laughed but didn't answer.

Sealed bids from China and Korea, and the joint bid from both, are expected to be completed and opened by April 1, 2019. If the bids are accepted, the Chinese are saying they can complete expanding the island by April 1, 2020.

8. New Dutch Side Coalition's Promise: Kumbaya Album

A new coalition government expected to take office sometime this spring on the Dutch side of the island includes representatives from each of the 92 political parties on the island, making necessary two things: an expanded parliamentary building so everybody can fit, and also unanimity.

Each member of the new coalition, elated by being voted into office, has agreed to issue a Kumbaya Album in time for Christmas, 2018. Since they have never sung together, or at all for that matter, they are getting advice from the Mormon Tabernacle Choir.

The lead song in the album will be Kumbaya. One Chinese official said to commemorate the unanimity, the first new restaurant to be opened when the Chinese take over the island will be named Kumbaya. So will every dish on the menu (Kumbaya Chicken, Kumbaya Shrimp, Kumbaya Steak, Veggie Kumbaya, etc.).

9. Temporary Miniaturization To Solve SXM's Traffic Woes

The traffic woes which are notorious in St. Maarten may be about to disappear. Elon Musk told *SXM Weekly News* exclusively says he is working on new molecular-level devices which are capable of miniaturizing anything that is put into them, on a temporary basis.

He is erecting a building where people can drive in one end (like a car wash) then drive out the other, fully miniaturized.

"The miniaturization of people, cars, and trucks would enable all of the island's two-lane roads to become multi-lane superhighways, accommodating vastly increased numbers of vehicles," he said.

There are a few kinks to be worked out, of course, one of which is potholes, which could swallow up a number of vehicles. Another is showers, which could cause major floods that might allow the miniature cars to float away. Normal size cars would not be affected. "We're working on that," he said. "Instant de-miniaturization of vehicles in rainstorms is a possible solution, as long as they don't all de-miniaturize at once," he said.

The new cars would be run using a single D cell battery.

10. Google "Waymo" Self-Driving Motorcycles to Replace Idiots

Both the French and Dutch Sides are in negotiations with the developers of Google "Waymo" self-driving cars to replace all motorcycles and motorbikes on SXM (except big Harleys, Hondas, and BMWs) with Google-developed "Waymo" self-driving motorcycles. The Waymo vehicles, currently being tested in several US cities, would be incapable of doing wheelies, stand-ups, and other eccentric moves currently practiced by some "cowboy" motorcycle riders, mostly from the French Side.

The Gendarmerie has said it is committed to gathering, crushing, and melting all outlawed two-wheeled vehicles and giving the steel and aluminum to the Dutch company that is rebuilding the main terminal of SXM Airport. "The heavier the next roof is, the better for us all," the commandant said. A tremendous amount of melted steel is expected to be left over. "That will be used to build dikes for us," he added.

11. Next Regatta To Happen In Your Home, Thanks To Holographic High Definition 3D TVs

The "Next Big Thing" in electronics is fully holographic high-definition 3D television, which will enable those owning it to view programs in full 3D from any angle. This means you could watch the entire Heineken Regatta in your living room, practically smelling the salt spray, hearing the crews urging themselves on, and possibly buying cold Heineken straight from your TV (delivered by Amazon drones within 5 minutes of ordering)...

12. Newest SXM Construction: 3D Printing

The French and Dutch Sides have had it with construction that can't survive monster hurricanes, so they've ordered all new construction to be built via 3D printing. That makes all buildings fast, easy, and cheap to build, and equally fast to de-construct and haul away in a hurry when the next storm is forecast.

Insurance companies took an immediate dislike to the idea, saying their product wouldn't be needed and their profits would nosedive. Several French and Dutch Side construction company owners said one word to *SXM Weekly News*: about the insurers: "Karma."

13. SXM Dump Gets Grant From Fabreze; Resort Hotel Coming

Remember the Fabreze ads showing blindfolded people going into smelly places that had been sprayed with Fabreze to make the smell all nice and stuff?

We don't either, but trust us, they were impressive ads.

Even the Fabreze people believed them and today, April 1, they announced a USD\$60-million grant to the Dutch Side for a massive dig-through and calm-day "spray" to kill the stink from the dump.

Not only that -- or to use the words of a Fabreze spokesperson, "But wait, there's more," -- they will build a semi-gigantic resort hotel there too, with a separate smell-protected Dog Park on the nearby former site of the St. Maarten Zoo.

All construction will utilize repurposed trash and garbage from the dump.

14. Sargassum Seaweed Being Made Into Toilet Paper, Pet Food

The rich fiber and nutrient content of Sargassum Seaweed -- the seaweed that has been a scourge to Caribbean beaches for several years -- is its undoing as a menace to tourism in the region, according to Topper Daboul...

Although he's most well known for his Topper's Restaurant and Rhum, Topper also is said to hold a Masters Degree in biophysics. "I got tired of all the seaweed, and to tell you the truth, only realized recently what a boon it is to the economy here," he said over a glass of Topper's Rhum at his iconic Simpson Bay restaurant.

"I mean, the stuff sinks, but did you realize it's loaded with fiber and nutrients? I mean, it's loaded. So I started thinking, what could we do with that? That's where the Dog Food idea came from and the "TTP" Toppers Toilet Paper. It has a beige kind of color, but it's super-well refined and lets the island profit from the cost of skimming the seaweed from the ocean onto barges before it even reaches the island. It's a win-win for everybody," Topper told *SXM Weekly News* exclusively.

He said production may start as early as April 1, 2019. "We've got a lot of gathering of the seaweed to do before then."

15. Island Iguanas a Nuisance, Restaurants to Serve Them

An explosion in the population of invasive iguanas has devastated island residents' vegetable gardens, invaded their garbage cans, and created an obstacle course on some roads. "Iguana Soup is delicious," said LuLu, a long time waitstaff member at several island restaurants. She gathered 3,456 signatures on a petition to legalize catching the varmints and serving them at restaurants. They are expected to be added as both soups and stews at a number of restaurants in time for next year's tourist season.

"If you see one injured in the road, you can now pick it up and kill it," she said. "Ask any local. We all have great recipes."

16. Dutch Side to Build Border Wall; Says "French Side Will Pay"

The Dutch Side has decided unilaterally to build a border wall, with recycled materials from the Dutch Side Dump where a resort hotel will soon be built (see story 13). The Dutch Side did not say why it is building the wall, but it insists that the wall "will be paid for by the French."

We'll keep an eye on this for you, as always. We think it has to do with the need to put recycled heavy metals somewhere other than in the dump.

17. Get Your Vehicle Pass To The St. Barths Tunnel

Almost no one knows it, but there's a very well hidden tunnel from the Dutch Side near Dawn Beach to a bar in Gustavia, St. Barths. It was erected for defense and spying purposes during World War II, when German U-boats were known to stop at Tintamarre,

Though most people forgot about the tunnel, several billionaires have used it in recent years to hide gold. But that was recently found and subsequently "lost" by some treasure hunters, and the tunnel was cleaned and reopened to those with passes for it.

Want one? There are only 100 available. On Friday, our agents went to several restaurants across the island and taped #10 envelopes under them, containing "St. Barths SXM Tunnel Vehicle Passes" which never expire and cannot be duplicated.

When you next go out to eat in SXM, don't forget to look under the table. Your pass "is yours" if it's still there. They will go very quickly and contain directions for using the tunnel. If you find no envelope, you did not get there in time.

**Your Business
Deserves a Marketing-Centric, Customer-Focused
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In business since the web began --

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18. Where to Find Past Issues of SXM Weekly News

Look here for our PDF archives: http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/free_newsletters/sxmweeklynews.shtml. Most issues for the past few years are now online.

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.

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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<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 8/21/17)

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

04/01/18 #V2-11XX PES 0.0

This is the April Fool's Day 2018 spoof edition of **SXM Weekly News**. Would we lie?

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