

From JMB / SXM Weekly News 6/11/19: Nation in Mourning; JetBlue; Carnival Cruises; SECRETS Resort; Planet Hollywood; Noise; Your Condo on the Beach; Five Millionth Visitor; Vacation Giveaway; New Super U; You're Invited January 3; Pinel; Juliette's Bistro; It's All Over on Solstice Day [40 News Stories]

Can't see this newsletter? Go [here](#) for our *SXM Weekly News* PDF Archives (Updating Soon)

Vol. 2, #1202 --- June 10, 2019
----- *Special Edition* -----
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 Website Login](#)

Member News

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

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

Copyright ©, JMB Communications, 2019. See [Legal](#) for reprint requests, page bottom.

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 send-only email address.
For Contact info, see [#Contact Us](#)
at the end of this newsletter.**

*****Unsubscribe info is 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.

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...

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://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:

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:

- Jet Blue's Expanding Airlift to SXM
- Jet Blue Extends Schedule into Mid-Feb., But...

- ***Flying Internationally? Remember the "Name Rule"***
- ***Carnival Fined \$28-million in Pollution Case***

SXM Accommodations:

- ***New "Secrets" Resort Opens March 1, 2020***
- ***Two Objections Filed Against Planet Hollywood Resort***
- ***At Atrium, Noise Invades The Nights***
- ***Get That Condo on the Beach You've Been Dreaming Of***
- ***SXM Relocation Seminar Now Available Online***
- ***Get Lowest Rates for Hotel Rooms & Car Rentals Worldwide***

Island Headlines for Tourists:

- ***Our Five Millionth SXM Site Visitor in SXM***
- ***USA Today Article Features SXM***
- ***SXM Vacation Giveaways Coming***
- ***SXM Mourns Shooting Victim, Goes All-Out To Nail Shooter***
- ***New, Bigger Super U in Hope Estate Opens 6/18***
- ***Seaweed Update***
- ***Why Sargassum Seaweed Is Not Going Away Soon***
- ***SAVE THE DATE: SkyMed Member Appreciation Event Jan.3***
- ***Is Pinel Island Closed?***
- ***Juliette's Bistro Opens at SBR***

-- ***Spring "JMB Website Supporters" Promo Now Ends June 21, Solstice Day***

#####

-- ********For Father's Day, Gift Your Aging Parents SkyMed Coverage********

#####

-- ***Ensure Best SkyMed Deal - Jeff Berger / www.skymed.com/jmb (New Website)***

#####

-- ***Traveling Anywhere This Summer? Protect Your Trip With SkyMed Medevac Coverage: Get it Before You Need It***

#####

#####

********SkyMed Customer Stories********

#####

-- ***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.

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

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

SXM Timeshare Rental of The Week:

RENTAL 11/9/2019 11/16/2019 Week #45 **Simpson Bay Resort and Marina Sleeps 6! Oceanfront Penthouse with 2 king Bedrooms and 2 full baths.** Large living room with 2 murphy beds, large dining area and full kitchen. Huge balcony that includes a private hot tub! 3 swimming pools on property with a beautiful fully equipped private beach. Walking distance to supermarket and lots of great restaurants! \$2,200 Tammy . 917-929-7783 Tammy143@aol.com

SXM Timeshare Sale of The Week:

SALE 3/7/2020 4/4/2020 Week 10 11 12 13 **The Villas at Simpson Bay Resort Sleep 6, Floor 4, close to Marina building.** Master suite can be used as sleep 4 with junior suite as lock off unit. Stay in one unit and rent out the other! Beautiful view of Simpson Bay with restaurants, jewelry store, casino, and grocery available on the resort and other restaurants available within walking distance. Balcony has full afternoon shade, perfect way to end your day on the beach. Unit to be completely refurbished during low season in 2019. \$17,000 per week Deborah 412-952-7577 d_henle@msn.com

Non-St. Maarten Timeshare Rentals:

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

Villa Rentals Now Offered On Our Site Too:

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

TABLE OF CONTENTS -- 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/mysxm>

"Like" Our Facebook St. Maarten Timesharing Group

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

Search the SXM Weekly News Archives:

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

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

Archives prior to April 12 2014 (old format):

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

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

www.linkedin.com

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

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

Section One: Getting There: Flights, Airlines, Airports, Cruises, Weather [Go To This Section](#)

Lead Story: Airport Announces Phase Two Reconstruction

1. **Jet Blue's Expanding Airlift to SXM**
2. **Jet Blue Expands Schedule into Mid-Feb.,, But...**
3. **Flying Internationally? Remember the "Name Rule"**
4. **Carnival Fined \$28-million in Pollution Case**
5. **Turning Plastic Waste into Jet Fuel**
6. **See Current SXM Weather Info**
7. **Get Major Discounts on Hotels, Car Rental - Everywhere**

Section Two: Accommodations (Hotels, Resorts, Timeshares, Villas, Etc.) [Go To This Section](#)

8. **New "Secrets" Resort Opens March 1, 2020**
9. **Two Objections Filed Against Planet Hollywood Resort**
10. **At Atrium, Noise Invades The Nights**
11. **Get That Condo on the Beach You've Been Dreaming Of**
12. **SXM Relocation Seminar Now Available Online**
13. **Get Lowest Rates for Hotel Rooms & Car Rentals Worldwide**
14. **Places to Stay: Many Available, Take Your Pick (Updated)**

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

Section Three: JMB Member Discounts & Benefits [Go To This Section](#)

15. **JMB Member Discounts / Benefits News & Updates**

Section Four: Island News, Info, & Features [Go To This Section](#)

16. **Our Five Millionth SXM Site Visitor in SXM**
17. **USA Today Article Features SXM**
18. **SXM Vacation Giveaways Coming**
19. **SXM Mourns Shooting Victim, Goes All-Out To Nail Shooter**
20. **New, Bigger Super U in Hope Estate Opens 6/18**
21. **Seaweed Update**
22. **Why Sargassum Seaweed Is Not Going Away Soon**
23. **SAVE THE DATE: SkyMed Member Appreciation Event Jan.3**
24. **Is Pinel Island Closed?**
25. **Juliette's Bistro Opens at SBR**
26. **SPIGA Taking a Long Summer Vacation, July 24 to mid-Oct.**
27. **Summer Vacations in SXM**
28. **Absolute Last Call - JMB Membership Sale Ends Solstice Day June 21**
29. **It's Father's Day: Get Your Parents SkyMed Protection**
30. **Restaurant of the Week: Mandarin**
31. **Ensure Best SkyMed Deal - Jeff Berger / skymed.com/jmb**

=====

32. **Going Anywhere?
SkyMed's Guaranteed Renewable Annual Membership is Just \$1.35/day; Global Coverage Available**

=====

33. *******Customer Stories***** Protect Against Costly Emergency Medical Evacuations w/ SkyMed:**

=====

34. **Are You Military?**
35. **Less Money, More Benefits, Ten Year Price Guarantee on SkyMed Ultimate**
36. **Please Patronize JMB Sponsors**
37. **Use Our SXM Weekly News Archives (Update)**
38. **Got SXM Questions? Here's Where The Answers Are**
39. **SXM Business Owners: How To Increase Foot & Web Traffic**

Section Five: For Members Only (Revised 8/2017)

- 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 password" in the orange login box near the masthead at www.everythingsxm.com.
- 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://everythingxm.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*

Lead Story: Airport Announces Phase Two Reconstruction

After what seemed to many observers to be an interminable delay due to the government approving funding options, gross disagreements with its insurance company, and planning issues, the long-awaited second phase reconstruction of SXM Airport has finally been announced.

There are two pieces of annoying news, however.

First, the project won't start until the fourth quarter of this year, a few months away, most likely due to the arrival of the funds to pay for it. And second, no mention is made in the current story from SXM Airport about preclearance. On that topic, airport officials have repeatedly said it is a matter of when, not if — but we still don't know when.

We have queried the airport on that question — and on the question of the next airport master plan, and when a parallel taxiway may be built: that could significantly expand the airport's ability to handle more flights. The major taxiway project was delayed by Irma, necessitating the rebuild of the main terminal and rewriting of the entire airport master plan.

Here is [the current story](#).

**Do You Enjoy Reading SXM Weekly News?
 If So, Please Help Us Keep the lights on
 by joining JMB Website Supporters,
 our Island Discount program.**

Details: everythingsexm.com Sale Must End June 21!

1. jetBlue's Expanding Airlift to SXM

Because of the reconfiguration of jetBlue's fleet of mainline A320 aircraft, the airline's capacity for carrying passengers to SXM nonstop from Boston, New York, and Fort Lauderdale is increasing.

The cabin reconfigurations include the replacement of traditional thick seating with thinner but equally comfortable new seats, enabling the airline to add two new rows of seating to each of its planes — 162 seats now, versus the old 150. The program will be completed some time during 2020. Reconfigured planes are already in use on a number of the airline's busiest routes.

In addition, as we previously reported, the reconfigurations include new, larger-screen individual entertainment centers. In a second update to be completed next year, jetBlue will fully replace its inconvenient armrest entertainment controls with touchscreen capability, which will enable people to use armrests as armrests and will eliminate unintentional channel changes by you or anyone sitting next to you.

At the same time, jetBlue continues to take delivery of new A321 aircraft with or without their upscale Mint seating configurations; all of their A321 aircraft have more seats than the shorter-cabin A320s. Looking to the future, we expect new connections to SXM to emerge through the jetBlue focus city in Fort Lauderdale — particularly from Phoenix, a growing JetBlue city; Las Vegas; and Long Beach, a major jetBlue focus city. We also would not be surprised to see the airline expand its service from Fort Lauderdale perhaps as soon as this coming winter to accommodate increased demand which we're sure the airline would expect from available new connections.

There will be more coming than what we've reported — stay tuned.

About Our JMB Website Supporters Island Discount Program:

=====
***FINAL EXTENSION* - MUST END SOLSTICE DAY,
6/21**
=====

Get 300+ SXM Discounts
& Many Other Island Benefits,
& Invitations to Members-Only Island Parties:
Get, Renew, or Reinstate YOUR JMB Membership
Today:

New JMB memberships: 6 years, \$139 (best offer); 3 yrs., \$79; 1 yr., only \$33
http://everythingsexm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml

Renewal JMB memberships: 6 years, \$129 (best offer); 3 yrs., \$69; 1 yr., only \$29
<http://everythingsexm.com/sxm/reinstate/index.shtml>

**Reinstatement JMB memberships:
6 years, \$129 (best offer); 3 yrs., \$69; 1 yr., only \$29**
<http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/reinststate/index.shtml>

2. Jet Blue Expands Schedule into Mid-Feb., But...

JetBlue recently expanded its schedule into mid-February, as we announced beforehand on our [Everything SXM Facebook Site](#). The biggest demand of winter 2020, however, will be during March because of the 40th Heineken Regatta — the biggest vacation week of the year on the island. The 2020 Regatta is slated for March 5 through 8, slightly later than usual.

For more information on the Regatta, please visit heinekenregatta.com.

3. Flying Internationally? Remember the "Name Rule"

When flying internationally, it is imperative that the name on your airline tickets be exactly the same as the name on your passport. That means if the name on your passport is John Quentin Public, the name on your ticket must be the *exact same* — not John Q Public.

Here is [more](#) on the rule.

4. Carnival Fined \$28-million in Pollution Case

Carnival Cruise Lines has been fined \$20 million by the US government for violating antipollution statutes. That's on top of a previous fine of \$40 million. The line is accused of dumping gray water, plastic waste, and other pollutants into the oceans of the world.

Carnival isn't just Carnival: they own a number of other cruise lines including Princess and Holland America, and their fleet consists of more than 100 cruise ships.

Their revenues last year were reportedly well into the billions, so the current \$20 million fine is next to nothing for them financially — but it is a large slap in the face (or whack upside the head) as well as copious bad PR for a company that should know better.

Here's [more info](#).

5. Turning Plastic Waste into Jet Fuel

Perhaps Carnival should pay attention to this story if it wants some way to get rid of its plastic waste: it would be a lot smarter than dumping it in the ocean.

Details are [here](#).

6. See Current SXM Weather / Tracking Serious Weather

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.

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

7. Get Major Discounts on Hotels, Car Rentals - Everywhere

[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.

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: www.sxmweeklynews.com

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

8. New "Secrets" Resort Opens March 1, 2020

Construction of a new Secrets all-inclusive resort continues to progress on the site of the former Riu Palace in Anse Marcel on the French side.

We published an extensive article about the new resort a number of weeks ago here, describing the many features of the new complex including its multiple restaurants. We will revisit the site late this year and publish extensive photography and more information.

The former Riu Palace was practically obliterated by hurricane Irma, which roared ashore with wind gusts well in excess of 200 mph, tornadoes, and a flooding storm surge with major league waves back in September 2017. The site had previously been the home of a Radisson Blu resort and before that, L'Habitation. The opening date for secrets was originally expected to be at the beginning of 2020, but the latest publicly released opening date is now early March, 2020.

We'll be providing updates as construction progresses. Here's [more info](#).

9. Two Objections Filed Against Planet Hollywood Resort

In a news story published here several weeks ago, we reported that plans for the new Planet Hollywood Resort on the property that formerly housed the Sonesta great Bay beach resort were to be made available for public review and comment within recent weeks.

A report in the daily Herald noted that there were two objections to the plans but it didn't specify what the objections were or are, so we can't report them. Our expectation would be that if they were significant, they would've made their way into the newspaper. The plan was for the objections to be reviewed by all concerned and acted upon, if necessary.

We don't foresee anything getting in the way of the Planet Hollywood Resort project. It's a home run for SXM since it appeals to a younger demographic. Construction should begin in the next several months and the resort is expected to be open in time for the 2021 high season — or possibly before.

Here's [more](#). As always, we'll keep you posted.

10. At Atrium, Noise Invades The Nights

At first, when people heard all the noise -- that incredibly loud late-night music -- they blamed the new Roxy Beach

bar/restaurant next to Royal Palm beach resort. But they were listening from a distance — at Atrium Resort or Simpson Bay, and the blame they were placing was a knee-jerk reaction instead of an observed phenomenon.

Soon, as people began checking where the most egregiously overzealous musical amplifications were actually originating, they found that Roxxy was a minor player but that the eardrum-breaking noise after midnight was actually coming from the supposed-to-be cement parking lot south of Roxxy, where cars and trucks appear to arrive at night, set up amplifiers, and start blasting away.

At Atrium, many people are complaining. Calls to police at least in some instances are working, with the bed-shaking Behemoth speakers silenced soon after complaints were phoned to the police.

Everyone is entitled to enjoy themselves — but not at the expense of others, and absolutely not to the point where SXM's tourism product is degraded by so much noise that people can't sleep. Existing anti-noise ordinances need to be enforced and that enforcement must be rigid and immediate, to avoid high season confrontations after Royal Palm Beach reopens and their situation becomes untenable.

We realize the police have more to do than to control overzealous noise. Responsible people should look in the mirror and if they see a source of mind-numbing noise, they should do what's right for the island and shut it off.

11. 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 jmbweb@jmbcommunications.com. 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 [Everything SXM Facebook Site](#).

12. 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](#).

13. Get Lowest Rates for Hotel Rooms & Car Rentals Worldwide

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.

14. Places to Stay: Many Available, Take Your Pick (Updated 6/19)

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 [timeshare rental site](#) on [everythingSXM.com](#) 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

15. 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:

=====
***FINAL EXTENSION* - MUST END SOLSTICE DAY,
6/21**
=====

**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: 6 years, \$139 (best offer); 3 yrs., \$79; 1 yr., only \$33
http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml

Renewal JMB memberships: 6 years, \$129 (best offer); 3 yrs., \$69; 1 yr., only \$29
<http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/reinstate/index.shtml>

**Reinstatement JMB memberships:
6 years, \$129 (best offer); 3 yrs., \$69; 1 yr., only \$29**
<http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/reinstate/index.shtml>

16. Our Five Millionth SXM Site Visitor in SXM

When everythingSXM.com founder Jeff Berger is giving away vacations on his website, everythingxsm.com he tells everybody who will listen. One of the people who listened was a woman named Stacey from Massachusetts. Jeff told her that he was giving away several SXM vacations to celebrate vacationing during the summer in SXM and also the fact that the site was going to surpass 5 million visitors -- perhaps as early as that night. (It was Spring, 2017.)

The following morning Stacey emailed JMB Communications proof that she was, indeed, in the middle of that night, the 5 millionth visitor to everythingSXM.com. She won a trip for her family to SXM, a trip subsequently delayed by the untimely arrival of hurricane Irma in September, 2017, around the time Stacey was starting to plan her trip.

Now that SXM is moving full steam ahead, Stacey reset her sights on her family trip to SXM, which she will be taking with her teenage children. Her prizes were many, including an eight day, seven night vacation at Simpson Bay Resort; a free one-week car rental from Leisure Car Rental; dinner for her family at Mario's Bistro, Porto Cupecoy; another dinner for her family at Vesna Taverna, Simpson Bay; a third dinner for her family at iZi Ristorante Italiano, Simpson Bay; plus a dinner and some games at Pineapple Pete restaurant in Simpson Bay.

She also plans some SCUBA diving with her son.

Our congratulations to Stacey and her family on their "5,000,000" summer vacation in SXM. Summer — particularly July — may be the best time of the year to vacation in SXM. Virtually all restaurants remain open; the weather is more moderate thanks to sea breezes than the sweltering US; and the entire island is Uncrowded, with very reasonable accommodations prices everywhere.

Whether you stay at Simpson Bay Resort or Azure Hotel and Art Studio or Belair Beach Hotel (all on their own stretch of beautiful beach) or anywhere else, there is no better time to vacation in SXM than summer: it's

inexpensive, low-stress, low traffic, and big on relaxation.

If you have questions about summer travel to SXM, check out our [Everything SXM Facebook Site](#). You can also find many weeks for rent or sale in condos and elsewhere on our main SXM site, [everythingSXM.com](#).

17. USA Today Article Features SXM

A *USA Today* newspaper and online article published on Tuesday, June 11 talks about all the bargains available to vacationers during the summer in the Caribbean. It cites a number of places to stay on several different islands including Simpson Bay Resort, SXM's best-known timeshare. The article, written by seasoned reporter Melanie Reffes, also mentioned our main site, [everythingSXM.com](#), as a key source of information on condo and villa rentals on SXM. *USA Today* regularly publishes articles concerning the Caribbean in its travel sections and also online at [USAToday.com](#).

Here is [the story](#).

18. SXM Vacation Giveaways Coming

When significant events in the life of [everythingSXM.com](#) occur, we celebrate them by giving away vacations — sometimes, more than a dozen of them.

That's exactly what we did when we surpassed 5 million visits to [everythingSXM.com](#) in the spring of 2017. Virtually everyone who was awarded a vacation at that time has now either taken it or is about to in the next several weeks. One of them was our 5,000,000th site visitor, Stacey from central Massachusetts who visits SXM this month.

Although we surpassed 6 million visitors a number of weeks ago we are just now organizing a new vacation giveaway to celebrate that rather amazing achievement.

Some time before the end of July, we'll be announcing details concerning everything we're giving away — a number of vacations, dining options, a car rental, perhaps even a cruise and perhaps a flight to a neighboring island. 6 million is a big number and we know how to celebrate, so stay tuned and you may very well win the Grand Prize. (Sorry, previous JMB SXM vacation winners are not eligible to participate.)

We will announce the next giveaway both here in *SXM Weekly News* and on our [Everything SXM Facebook Site](#), with some information published as well on our main SXM site, [everythingSXM.com](#). Entry forms will be available only through a link provided in *SXM Weekly News*, so you must subscribe to *Weekly News* (it's free) in order to enter this giveaway. If you are receiving this email as a pass-along from another subscriber, please get your own subscription so you will be eligible to win this giveaway.

We wish best luck to all readers.

19. SXM Mourns Shooting Victim, Goes All-Out To Nail Shooter

Late at night on Wednesday, June 5, a man and his daughter were walking near a bar on Maho beach when an unidentified man approached them, apparently with robbery in mind. A struggle ensued during which the father attempted to thwart the attempted robbery. During that struggle, the would-be robber's weapon allegedly fired a bullet into the father's head. The alleged perpetrator and some other people reportedly left the scene in three small cars.

The victim has been identified according to Canadian press reports as Sylvain Valade of the Laurentians town of Ste-Agathe-des-Monts, in Quebec, about 90 miles north of Montreal.

Reaction was swift across the island as efforts galvanized among all parts of government and police island-wide to

expeditiously examine what happened, go over all the evidence, determine with public help who was responsible — and go after them. On Tuesday afternoon, June 11, police captured three men on the Dutch side but were tightlipped about whether they had any relationship to the shooting six days before. It was widely suspected that those apprehensions were related to the July 5 shooting. (The release of this issue was delayed pending news about those individuals.) Previously, government officials had promised to do everything humanly possible to find and bring to justice those responsible.

Sentiments poured out to the family and to 48 year-old Mr. Valade's daughter who was with him when this happened. Yanie, his daughter, made this public statement: "*Words I miss to describe the evil I feel for losing you in this way. A tragic and unimaginable end. The images are constantly turning in my head, and the sound of the shot is haunting me. My Daddy of love, you left as a hero, you saved my life and you protected me until your last breath, as you've always done. Today I lost a part of me, the man of my life, the best father we can have. I'm counting on you to give me the strength and courage to continue. I love you from unconditional love and irreplaceable love. Watch over me as you have been doing since my childhood. You will be in my heart forever, I love you.*" (Yanie)

SXM Weekly News will continue to bring readers the latest developments both here and on our [Everything SXM Facebook Site](#).

Although St. Maarten is one of the most peaceful and serene islands in the Caribbean, the reality is that it remains paradise — but not Utopia. All of us involved in SXM Weekly News, everythingSXM.com, and our [Everything SXM Facebook Site](#) offer our profound sympathies and condolences to the family of Sylvain Valade, the victim of this senseless tragedy, and his daughter Yanie.

The government of Dutch St. Maarten sent this out on June 7:

The Ministers of Justice and Tourism on St. Maarten have united in their condemnation of Wednesday night's shooting incident involving a Canadian tourist vacationing on St. Maarten calling it "a senseless act of violence." The two, Minister of Tourism Stuart Johnson and Justice Minister Cornelius De Weever, issued a press statement on Thursday evening joining the call by local authorities for the community at large to provide any information that would lead to the swift arrest of the perpetrator(s) of Wednesday heinous crime.

Minister De Weever says "The investigation of the events on June 5th, 2019 in the Beacon Hill area of St. Maarten continue with the highest level of priority from the Ministry of Justice. We fully intend to prosecute those responsible for this senseless act of violence and for compromising the peaceful and friendly nature of St. Maarten. Our thoughts and prayers are with the victims and their family."

In his response to the incident, Minister Johnson said, "My thoughts and prayers are with the relatives and friends of the victim." He said, "This was a senseless act of violence perpetrated against another human being, which we will not tolerate. The people of our Country have always been friendly, hospitable and welcoming we will continue to keep these as our guiding principles. Meanwhile, as the details of this incident continue to unfold, we are working assiduously to ensure the perpetrators of this crime are brought to swift justice. Our home in St. Maarten is a haven for all to live and visit, and we take seriously any acts of violence."

The male victim was walking through the Beacon Hill area with a member of his family, when unknown assailants in what police believe to be an armed robbery, approached them.

"This isolated incident saddens us, and we, as the representatives of St. Maarten's tourism sector are dedicated— together with the Ministry of Justice and the private sector—to do everything in our power to find this assailant and bring him to justice," said St. Maarten Director of Tourism May-Ling Chun.

Much more on crime on SXM is [here](#).

20. New, Bigger Super U in Hope Estate Opens 6/18

After a wait of more than two years, the big new Super U supermarket in the Hope estate area on the French side between Orient and Grand Case will finally open on June 18.

The previous Simply market, sold before Irma to the Super U folks, was ripped to shreds by Irma, necessitating many changes to the new building's design, enabling it to maintain structural integrity in case another catastrophic category five storm should return to SXM at some point in the future. Bigger than its sister store in Marigot, the new Super U has a lot going for it — including plenty of parking.

Ironically, the Carrefour supermarket in Cole Bay that was also destroyed by Irma has also been completely rebuilt, and it will be opening in the next several weeks, during July.

All in all, some very welcome news for everyone on the island. Here's [more](#).

21. Seaweed Update

The seaweed situation on the island right now is generally pretty good. Seaweed from the Sargasso Sea tends to come in from the east.

Tadzio Bervoets, head of the SXM Nature Foundation, tells us that observations indicate that a fairly large amount of Sargassum seaweed from the Sargasso Sea may bump into East facing beaches during the next couple of weeks. It is expected to have virtually no effect on beaches facing other directions.

Please see the next story.

22. Why Sargassum Seaweed Is Not Going Away Soon

Ever since it first appeared in significant amounts in 2012, Sargassum seaweed from the Sargasso Sea has proven itself to be a major nuisance not only throughout most of the Caribbean, but also throughout virtually the entire coastal area of the Gulf of Mexico.

Originally, people felt that the cause was hurricanes that misdirected seaweed from the Sargasso Sea well northeast of the Caribbean down toward a few Caribbean islands.

Now, it appears that the real cause of this influx of seaweed is something very different — and something far more persistent. Here is that [complete story](#).

23. SAVE THE DATE: SkyMed Member Appreciation Event Jan. 3

We have now confirmed a SkyMed Member Appreciation Luncheon on SXM January 3. It's for SkyMed members AND OTHERS who want to learn more about SkyMed -- friends of SkyMed members, JMB members, and peeps of our FB site.

Preregistration is required. No one under age 18 will be admitted. Luncheon: Beef Wellington, Chicken Cordon Bleu, and Fish Fillet in caper sauce are among the entrees.

Much more to come...including information on how to preregister.

N. B.: It will be a while before registration opens but SAVE THE DATE! There is no charge to attend. There will be beverages served plus a cash bar.

24. Is Pinel Island Closed?

It's not something that happens very often, but Pinel island was closed on Tuesday, June 11. Apparently there was some kind of French government "control" regarding business licenses that necessitated the closure.

Pinel, we are now told, will reopen this Thursday. See our [Everything SXM Facebook Site](#) for the latest updates on the status of Pinel.

25. Juliette's Bistro Opens at SBR

On the site of the former Bon Appetit restaurant near Red Piano on the campus of Simpson Bay Resort, Dutch side, Juliette's Bistro has now opened for business.

Relatively few restaurants garner rave reviews upon opening — usually the reviews are mixed as the new business gets its act together. That is certainly not the case at Juliette's Bistro.

Open from early morning to late night in the heart of the Pelican key area, Juliette's offers a convenient new alternative for coffee, pastries, lunches, dinner, and even a late night dinner or snacks. It is getting rave reviews. We expect to have downloadable PDFs of their menus available shortly from our [Everything SXM Facebook Site](#). In the meantime, we suggest you give this fine new restaurant by the seasoned and skilled culinary folks at Simpson Bay Resort a try.

From what everyone is saying, it's a big home run.

26. SPIGA Taking a Long Summer Vacation, July 24 to mid-Oct.

One of SXM's most popular restaurants, Spiga in Grand Case, is rewarding itself for an excellent season by taking a slightly longer than usual Fall closing — from July 24 to mid-October. If you're visiting the island between now and July 23, make certain to visit Spiga, a true culinary masterpiece of SXM and long one of the top two or three restaurants on the island. It has repeatedly been a selection on our Restaurant of the Week feature here in *SXM Weekly News*.

27. Summer Vacations in SXM

Come to SXM for less traffic ... lower prices ... less human congestion ... and better weather, tempered by seabreezes particularly through all of July.

That extraordinary weather is the perfect antidote for the traffic jams and high prices you'll otherwise see at the Jersey Shore, on Cape Cod, in the Mountains, or at the lake. Try it -- you'll quickly become as addicted to SXM in Summer as you are in Winter!

While you're planning, get or renew your JMB membership for about 300 SXM discounts and other benefits. See next story.

28. Absolute Last Call - JMB Membership Sale Ends Solstice Day June 21

Our big Spring JMB Website Supporters membership sale ends June 21. Don't miss it — it offers you the best pricing of the year on our membership, pricing you are unlikely to see again. Multiyear memberships are available at Unheard-of low price points:

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, but by far our best buy)

Great renewal & reinstatement prices are offered too. To take advantage of these offers, click the page curl at everythingxsm.com to join or renew/reinstate your JMB membership now.

29. It's Father's Day: Get Your Folks SkyMed Protection

A major promo on SkyMed memberships is almost over. Not only are all multiyear SkyMed memberships heavily discounted for JMB members, but *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. That even applies when you buy a new SkyMed annual membership for your parents and remember -- there is no age limit to apply.

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 skymed.com/jmb (that new website goes live soon), 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.

30. Restaurant of the Week: Mandarin Pan Asian

Mandarin Pan Asian at Port de Plaisance, Dutch Side, is relatively new, from seasoned restaurateur Nikhil Gurnani, who also owns Melange nearby and Pelican Bistro in Pelican Key. Delightful ambiance serves an expanding spectrum of Chinese, Japanese, Thai, and other Far Eastern-influenced dishes. No matter what your favorite Far Eastern foods are, you're likely to find them here, prepared with skill and artistry. Always fresh... Make a night of it with friends -- you will not be disappointed. Tell Nikhil you read about them in *SXM Weekly News*.

Here are recently featured SXM restaurants:

Mandarin Pan Asian, Port de Plaisance (featured 6/11/19) A beautiful ambiance only starts the story. This is a pure Asian culinary delight, great food and service to match.

Vesna Taverna, www.vesnataverna.com (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, www.sxmfreedomfighters.com/restaurant 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, www.spiga-sxm.com (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 www.mariobistrot.com/en/ 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 <http://www.sxmtoppers.com/> (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 Sushitto) (1/7/19) is the new name of Sushitto, now relocated next door to Pineapple Pete in Simpson bay. Essentially the same menu, same staff, same great food/service.

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

SkipJack's SXM, <http://www.skipjacks-sxm.com/> (featured 12/24/18) SkipJack's 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, <http://www.lavistaresort.com/restaurant.html> (featured 10/31/16) Open; contact the restaurant for details and reservations. Updated 3/2/18.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

31. Ensure Best SkyMed Deal - Jeff Berger / GetSkyMed.com

Our new SkyMed website is www.skymed.com/jmb, going live soon; please bookmark that 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; 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.

32. Going Anywhere? SkyMed's Guaranteed Renewable Annual Membership is Just \$1.35/day; Global Coverage Available

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 from SkyMed after approval to jmbweb@jmbcommunications.com 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.

Again, our new SkyMed website is www.skymed.com/jmb: please be sure you bookmark that and not any other site. Thank you.

Customer stories are below.

33. ***** SkyMed Customer Stories ***** Protect Against Costly Emergency Medical Evacuations by Getting

SkyMed:

Emergency medical evacuations are payable in cash in advance and often cost upwards of \$45,000 -- unless you have a SkyMed membership. SkyMed Takes You Home® to doctors and hospitals you know and trust, and where your health insurance actually works. It's available to Americans and Canadians and to X-Pats 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.

Mary Beth and her partner Don were vacationing in SXM when Don fell and broke his hip -- only about a month after they had bought SkyMed. SkyMed flew them home on a medevac jet for the hospital care he needed. Flight cost to the patient: \$0. Savings: over \$35,000.

An MD from Florida who always visits SXM was on a cruise vacation to the Greek Islands with his wife when he broke his femur aboard the ship. He was rushed to the hospital in Corfu but called SkyMed *which arranged and paid for* an emergency medevac flight to Athens for urgent surgery. A few days later SkyMed evacuated him again, with an excellent male nurse, all the way home to Florida, where an ambulance took him home for recovery. Required flight cost to the patient: \$0. Savings: huge.

A Summer trip ended in disaster when a child visiting her grandmother in Grand Case was bitten in the head by the grandmother's bulldog, imperiling the girl's eyesight. She was flown to Miami in a medical evacuation jet for emergency eye surgery that saved her sight. Flight cost to the patient: \$0.

A woman from Virginia shopped at an island grocer and headed back to her car carrying two bags of groceries. She tripped and fell on a curb and knew at once she had fractured her hip. After being stabilized locally, she was flown home on a medical evacuation jet from SkyMed where she had the surgery she needed. Flight cost to the patient: \$0.

Two men were riding their horses on a hill in Cay Bay when a car backfiring spooked one of the horses, which threw its rider. The other rider got off his horse to check his companion when the car again backfired, spooking the horse again which led it to kick its dismounted driver in the head, luckily causing "only" a severely dislocated jaw. The local hospital had no ability to solve that problem so the victim was airlifted by SkyMed back to Pennsylvania for surgery. Flight cost to the patient: \$0.

A member of the clergy fell down cement stairs and broke her leg. She too was airlifted home by SkyMed for surgery. Flight cost to the patient: \$0.

Not all trips end well: anything can happen when you travel. Being a member of SkyMed was the common thread in all these cases. SkyMed takes its members home, usually in a private, ICU-equivalent medical

evacuation jet -- home to doctors and hospitals the patient knows and trusts -- and home where their health insurance works. That's just one of up to 18 benefits received by SkyMed members for not much more than \$1.30/day for annual or multiyear memberships.

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

Nobody is immune: anything can happen anywhere. Do it today. To learn more, visit www.skymed.com/jmb, our new SkyMed site, going live shortly.. 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 X-Pats 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.

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; 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 getskymed.com. SkyMed is the Principal Sponsor of JMB SXM programs.

See the rundown of all SkyMed Features & Benefits

34. 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 everything.sxm.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.

35. 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 www.skymed.com/jmb, our new site, going live shortly.

36. Please Patronize JMB Sponsors (Updated)

CAR RENTALS:

[Leisure Car Rental](#)

[Tropical-Tropicana Car Rental](#)

[Starlite Car Rental \(Belair Resort\)](#)

[Sax Car Rental](#)

CIGARS HAND-MANUFACTURED ON SXM:

[Das Cigars](#)

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:

[IZI](#)

[SPIGA](#)

[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

37. 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 within the next two weeks.

38. 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.

39. SXM Business Owners: How To Increase Foot & Web

Traffic

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

Our Sponsorships enable SXM businesses to present their products or services to a huge, responsive audience of tourists from around the world, but primarily the USA and Canada. (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 susank@jmbcommunications.com 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: http://everythingSXM.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://everythingSXM.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.*

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

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

LEGAL:

Entire contents copyright (c), JMB Communications, 2019. World rights reserved. Excerpting, quotation, and republication, in any form, print, electronic, or archival, is expressly prohibited without written advance permission. You can forward this newsletter in its entirety only to your friends. For reprint permission, email us. JMB vigorously defends its copyrights. *Everything St. Maarten*, *Everything SXM*, and *Everything St. Martin* are service marks of JMB Communications. *JMB Communications* is a trademark of JMB Communications, P. O. Box 1812, Plymouth, Massachusetts 02362-1812 USA. Join our free St. Maarten / St. Martin newsletter mailing list at <http://www.everythingsxm.com> . You cannot join by emailing us.

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

Contact Us (Revised 5/25/18)

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

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

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

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

6/12/19 #V2-1202 6/12/19 2pm EDT 11.3

| [Terms of use](#) |

Copyright ©, JMB Communications, 2019. World rights reserved.

###