

From JMB / SXM Weekly News 8/19/19: Airport/Airlines Special Edition (four stories); Alegria/Morgan; Westin's Changing Name; Capt. Oliver's; CBS Reality Stars on Island92; Last Call for End of Summer Bash [35 News Stories]

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**Vol. 2, #1212 --- August 19, 2019**  
**News From St. Maarten / St. Martin / SXM**

===== AIRPORT/AIRLINES SPECIAL EDITION =====



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## **Member News**

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

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

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**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.**

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

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**SXM Timeshare Rental of The Week:**

**RENTAL** 5/1/2019 11/30/2019 Floater **DIVI LITTLE BAY** Spacious studio-sleeps 5. Located on private peninsula between 2 bays. Beach front unit. Balcony w/chairs. Ocean stunning views. Beautiful decor w/tile floors, huge Jacuzzi in bath w/rainbow colors lights changing in jacuzzi, huge shower. Mini full kitchen, safe, water sports, 2 high

quality ocean view restaurants, 4 pools, 3 hot tubs, deli, cafe, gym, grocery store & free internet. 1 mile of pristine beach almost private. 24 hr. security. Beautiful waterfall pool on hill. Fort Amsterdam on property. 900 Teddy 510-601-1154 [girlsrule5@earthlink.net](mailto:girlsrule5@earthlink.net)

### **SXM Timeshare Sale of The Week:**

**SALE** 1/5/2019 1/4/2020 floating week **Oyster Bay Beach Resort** This annual week Studio for 2 is Interval International premier resort on the beach. With kingsize bed, 1 bathroom, kitchen facility and balcony .It is an ideal location for a couple's getaway on the beach, although there is a possibility to upgrade it to 1, 2 or 3 bedroom unit. Available for use from 2019 year. Friendly resort with restaurant, swimming pool, live entertainment, gym, laundry, shop, beauty spa and more. \$14 800. tel: 0044 1202 707586 \$14,800 Helena 0044 1202 707586 [helena.thurston@talktalk.net](mailto:helena.thurston@talktalk.net)

### **Non-St. Maarten Timeshare Rentals:**

See them all at [http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/timeshare\\_rent\\_sale/index.shtml](http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/timeshare_rent_sale/index.shtml)

### **Villa Rentals Now Offered On Our Site Too:**

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

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

### **"Like" Our Facebook St. Maarten Timesharing Group**

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

### **Search the SXM Weekly News Archives:**

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

[http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/free\\_newsletters/sxmweeklynews.shtml](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](http://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](http://www.everythingsxm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml)

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

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

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

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## **THIS WEEK'S STORIES:**

Stories are numbered; scroll down for stories of interest.

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

## **1. Airport Gets Positive \$71-million Verdict**

*In a bit over two weeks, SXM will observe the second anniversary of hurricane Irma, which blasted the island early in September 2017. It was the second strongest tropical cyclone in the recorded history of planet Earth, surpassed only by super typhoon Tip of 1979, which had sustained winds of 190 mph — just 5 mph higher than Irma. Tip was also the largest tropical cyclone in history, with a diameter of 1,380 miles and the lowest barometric pressure ever recorded, 25.69".*

Although the new airport terminal in SXM was built to withstand strong storms, no one had anticipated anything like Irma, which beat the daylight out of what was essentially thought to be a hurricane-proof roof.

The damage to the roof enabled lots of wind and water to come into the building and wreck a lot of what was inside, including the entire second floor. When hurricane Maria struck a bit later, it dumped copious rain inside the already damaged terminal building, causing much more destruction.

Now, a court in SXM has recognized the legitimacy of the claim the airport made against its insurance company, or most of it; the insurer had disputed the huge claim. The court said that the insurance company must pay the airport some \$71 million, much of which has already been turned over in advance payments.

We have two stories on this, first the story about [the court decision itself](#); and second, the fact that this should enable the airport to complete the restoration of the second floor of the airport, and complete planning and executing [the next phase](#) of airport growth.

Princess Juliana SXM airport will be going through a lot of changes over the next few years, during which a parallel taxiway will likely be erected to enhance capacity; new construction is expected to be completed enabling US customs and immigration preclearance to become a reality for flights to the US; and the airport terminal should be virtually immune to the kind of colossal storms that Irma introduced to the tropical Atlantic.

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## **2. Delta Cancels Some JFK / SXM Nonstops, Switches to ATL Connections**

A few readers have contacted us saying that Delta airlines has canceled some JFK – SXM nonstops later this year and next, replacing them with connections by way of Atlanta, resulting in big delays.

If you are booked on any nonstop Delta flights between Kennedy and SXM, we strongly suggest you contact the airline to reconfirm your flights. We don't know why Delta would do this, especially in March — and one of the complaints received from a reader regards roundtrips in March. We will stay aware of what's happening with Delta on this route and many others involving other airlines, and will keep you posted here through *SXM Weekly News*.

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## **3. SXM Airport / Airspace "Close to Capacity" This**

## Winter

SXM Airport faces a number of issues, most of which we've already addressed in prior articles here in *SXM Weekly News*.

The airport is located in busy airspace at the northeast tip of the Caribbean. Increased airlift is expected this winter thanks to the island's spectacular recovery and increased demand for airlift based upon reopenings or new hotels, all increasing the number of heads in beds across the island.

But a few things get in the way of SXM Airport doing much of a further increase in airlift in the short term. Among those things are the busy airspace; the lack of a parallel taxiway, which means planes must turn and taxi down the main runway in order to return to the terminal, hogging the runway and making it impossible for other planes to land one after the other, as they can at busier airports; and of course completing the restoration of the world-class terminal that existed before Irma, enabling the comparatively rapid passenger processing of before.

A parallel taxiway could solve the basic airlift capacity problem and has long been in the back of the minds of airport executives. The taxiway would require that Airport Road be moved farther to the north. Indeed, most of the businesses on the north side of airport road between the lagoon and the active runway already know that their time there will be limited by airport expansion and they will ultimately be forced to relocate; some have long since closed and been demolished. Indeed, the lagoon Causeway was located so it will be able to connect with the new airport road north of its current location after the parallel taxiway is built.

Here is the story about the airspace/runway closing in on [full capacity](#) without the long-anticipated parallel taxiway.

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## 4. Horses As Comfort Animals on Planes: No Joke

This is for real: this is not an early or late April Fools' joke.

The US Department of Transportation, DOT, has decided that [miniature horses](#) qualify as emotional support animals for use by passengers on domestic US airline flights.

When this news broke last week, we posted it at once in our [Jeff Berger's Everything SXM Facebook Group](#). The reaction, as you might expect, was swift and wholly negative — particularly from passengers but also from flight crewmembers who answered in detail the question, what could possibly go wrong?

A few pilots who are members of our site thought the idea was horse feathers.

Sorry, owners of miniature horses, we don't buy it. Like most others, we wonder, what the DOT could possibly have been thinking....

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## 5. How To Influence Jet Blue to Add a New City or New Flights

If you like JetBlue and want them to either initiate service at your local airport or enhance the service they already provide, JetBlue [provides a channel](#) enabling you to make such suggestions.

In fact, after JetBlue started flying to SXM from New York, we published several times in this newsletter advice to Boston area passengers suggesting they lobby the airline to do similar flights from Boston — which soon happened, as we had predicted at the time.

If you're interested in getting in touch with JetBlue, go to [this site](#) and you will be communicating directly with the airline.

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## 6. First Class Isn't Anymore

As airlines have made increasingly radical changes to their passenger compartments over the years, First-Class has been affected as much as coach; if you fly first class or business class on upgrades, you will be interested in [this](#)

[article](#).

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## 7. More on the Airbus A220

To many observers, including us, the Airbus A220 looks like it will be a mega winner for many years to come. You might be interested in this [video from Delta airlines](#) which launched its initial service on the A220 earlier this year.

The airplane can carry up to about 140 passengers, almost as many as JetBlue's mainline original A320 aircraft, but with much better economics. Its operating characteristics enable it to fly from smaller airports relatively long distances at lower cost than any other aircraft in its class, reports say.

Delta was the first airline in the US to operate the A220. We think you will find the video of interest.

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## 8. Elon Musk Planning Electric Plane

The thought of it brings forth many questions which will hopefully be answered by positive news in the next several years.

The news that Elon Musk is developing an electric airplane for introduction in a few years has created curiosity, interest, and probably a bit of fear. As a reporter for the last several decades, I alone can come up with any number of questions about its practicality. For example, what happens if the batteries start smoking, which has happened to lithium-ion batteries in the past? What if the batteries overheat when being charged at airport terminals? How much time will a plane spend on the ground recharging, when the only way airplanes make money is when flying? What happens if the airplane is suddenly walloped by a bolt of lightning?

You can probably come up with more questions of your own after [reading this story](#).

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## 9. Where to Download NHC's Hurricane Tracking Chart

Blank hurricane tracking charts similar to those that have been used by the folks at the National Hurricane Center for many years are now available for download; download yours [here](#) (that's the NHC download site).

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## 10. NHC Watches, Warnings, Etc. Are Our SXM Site

Regardless of whether there are systems being watched, the National Hurricane Center (NHC) posts Tropical Outlooks and other routine posts multiple times per day. As long as the tropical Atlantic and Caribbean remain quiet, we will have few NHC posts on our site. But when the tropical Atlantic becomes active, we will be posting all significant bulletins both in the Weather Center of our main everythingSXM.com website and, later, on our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#).

Our Weather Center on everythingSXM.com this season will include all current hurricane informational bulletins, satellite images, radar, etc. Be aware that Crown Weather Services, our long-time partner private weather forecasting organization, will be posting its exclusive content on our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#) as necessary when any storms threaten SXM.

If you live or work anywhere where tropical systems could conceivably impact you or your business, we urge you to subscribe to Crown Weather Services predictions. We know a number of TV meteorologists and they invariably refer to Crown Weather's Rob Lightbown as the person to go to for accurate hurricane weather forecasting. Find out more at [crownweather.com](#).



## 11. See Current SXM Weather / Tracking Serious Weather

You'll find detailed observations and forecasts by visiting our main SXM website, [www.everythingsxm.com](http://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](http://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 Group](#), 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](http://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.

## **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](http://www.sxmweeklynews.com)***

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

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

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**Get it All -----Join JMB Today!**

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**& Many Other Island Benefits,**  
**& (P. S.) Exclusive First-in-Line Invitations**  
**to Our Famous Members-Only Island Parties**  
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**Reinstatement JMB memberships:**  
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## **12. How Are Locals Reacting to Handouts for Hotels? Not Well**

Last week, we reported that the Dutch side government was planning to give handouts to a number of resorts. One of the resorts it chose, oddly enough, was Alegria, which is going out of business -- sort of.

In case you missed it, the Caravanserai timeshare resort was bought out of bankruptcy by Ray Sidhom, a credit card magnate from Long Island. Later pleading that he was unaware that laws prohibited people taking over timeshare resorts in bankruptcy from severing existing timeshare contracts, he did exactly that — using email as the notification technique.

Although there is no such thing as class-action lawsuits in St. Maarten, a group of timeshare owners got together, went to a good law firm, and sued Mr. Sidhom, winning successive challenges though Mr. Sidhom is still fighting them in court while running out of options.

In a bizarre bit of irony, the St. Maarten government chose to give handouts to Mr. Sidhom's apparently highly unsuccessful Alegria Resort, as we recently reported here in *SXM Weekly News*. Mr. Sidhom, who opponents in court claimed violated a court order by initiating construction on property he was not allowed to touch until the court case was finally resolved, is nonetheless undertaking construction now under which is changing the structure of a key building and renaming Alegria "the Morgan" — the second renaming in the last few years.

People reading about the Morgan have described it as chic until they hear what Mr. Sidhom did to timeshare owners, to which some have reacted in horror.

Meanwhile, locals say they don't like hotels being given rewards in cases where their owners have been described as bad actors. And some excellent hotels that spent millions of their own money to get renovated and reopened

quickly got nothing from the government, they told us. Furthermore, many locals lost tens of thousands of dollars or more in damage from hurricanes, not all of which was covered by insurance. If the government can give money to hotels that were fully insured — in some cases, hoteliers say, awarding money to organizations not on the basis of who deserves it — they reason that they should have gotten a piece of the pie since they are the backbone of the country and have received no help from it.

Bottom line, some locals are not particularly ecstatic about handouts given to hotels -- and neither are some hoteliers.

Please see the next story.

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## 13. Alegria / The Morgan Construction Using Illegal Aliens?

As if the history of Alegria described in the preceding article weren't challenging enough, now it appears that construction outfits hired by Mr. Sidhom's organization — according to documents from the Dutch side police — have been using illegal aliens to do some of the construction work on the property.

Here is that news verbatim from the Dutch side police:

*On Friday August 9th 2019 a multi disciplinary team, consisting of members of the KPSM Mobile Unit, Human Trafficking Unit, Alpha Team, Uniform Division, the Prosecution Service, Coast Guard, Inspectors of the VSA and SZV conducted a control on illegal workers at the Alegria Hotel construction site located in Beacon Hill.*

*A total of 20 illegal workers in service for two separate construction companies were controlled.*

*From the control it was apparent that all workers were working illegally and had no insurance.*

*All workers were registered by the Immigration Mobile Unit and were given the obligation to report to the department on specific dates.*

*The two construction companies for whom these persons worked were given a hefty fine.*

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## 14. Westin Dawn Beach Resort & Casino May Get New Nameplate

As we've been reporting, the paucity of information from SXM Westin owners Columbia Sussex about the future of the Westin Dawn Beach Resort and Casino has apparently led to a number of rumors being spread -- from what we can tell, mostly by Westin employees about the future of the resort.

One common thread in all of those rumors is that regardless of its name, the new resort will be Five-Star — good news for the island which is seeking a more affluent demographic to help it as the future unfolds.

We've heard from several people that the latest rumor coming from Westin employees is that the Westin property *may* become a Ritz-Carlton, which would be good for employees, the island, and certainly for residents of both Dawn Beach Club, the Westin's timeshare arm, and neighboring Coral Beach Club, an unrelated condo resort.

One long-time timeshare owner at Dawn Beach Club wrote to us:

*"It's said during a sales presentation to a current owner end of July that the rebuild on the former Westin will be the highest standard they can make it . The final nameplate will be determined by Marriott Corp. They are trying to change to a Ritz Carlton. Not up to them it's a Marriott call. There are 3 Ritz Carlton's in the Caribbean now. See below. They have raised the price for one week winter by about 30%. Not sure if that's working. Only existing owners can buy 1 week in the oceanfront unit. New owners must buy 4 weeks for the most desirable building. Right now no one knows the future nameplate. No one..."*

There already are Ritz-Carlton hotel operations in the Caribbean; they are located on St. Thomas, Aruba, and Puerto Rico.

We'll keep you posted.

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## 15. For Maggi Shurtleff / Capt. Oliver's, New "Progress"?

For years, as we've been reporting, Capt. Oliver's has been straddling the Dutch/French border in Oyster Pond. Maggi Shurtleff owns the Capt. Oliver's hotel, marina, and restaurant, all of which previously were Dutch side properties.

For the last several years, there have been disagreements between the French and Dutch sides about exactly what country Maggi's businesses are located in. Consequently, it has been virtually impossible for her to get permits to rebuild the Irma-decimated property since it wasn't certain what country would issue the permits. Reportedly, she has been interested in selling but can't do that either, for the same reasons.

Now, it appears the two countries are at least going to move closer to having negotiations about this — later this year. That story is [here](#).

Perhaps they should just flip a coin — not a French or Dutch coin, but a US quarter, independent from both countries. Such a solution might save a lot of time and a lot of money. The notion that part of Maggi's property should be declared in one country and the rest of it and in another strikes us as absurd and an unimaginably tremendous burden on Ms. Shurtleff. We're sure everyone would like to get this resolved quickly and our coin flipping suggestion may be as good as anything out there -- even though it is, admittedly, tongue-in-cheek...

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## 16. 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. Lots of outstanding info was communicated during this excellent seminar, and another is now in the early planning stages.

See the video [here](#).

Next week we expect to add a link here to Bright Path, a company that can help provide very deep and expeditious help in completing residency requirements for people buying a second home, income property, or a new business in SXM. They're located in the Puerta del Sol building opposite Avantika, Simpson Bay, Dutch side.

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## 17. 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](mailto: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 Group](#).

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## 18. 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.

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## 19. 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](http://everythingSXM.com) and on our new companion Villas for Rent page, also on [everythingxsm.com](http://everythingxsm.com). Check them out.

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

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

## 20. 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](#).**

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## **SECTION 4: Island News, Info, & Features**

### **21. CBS Reality TV Stars To Be Interviewed on Island 92**

Join Dr. Soc this week on Wednesday and Thursday morning in the 10 AM (AST) hour [Same as EDT] as members of the cast of the CBS summer hit reality series "Love Island USA" drop by for a discussion. Two of the couples from the show are scheduled for this week -- Yamen and Aissata join Soc on Wednesday and Cashel and Kyra join Soc on Thursday! We hope someone has warned them about Dr. Soc.??

@socisland92  
@loveislandusa  
@yamensanders  
@aissatadiallo  
@cashelb  
@kyra212green

Join us this week on Fresh Air in the Morning on #Island92 (91.9) FM and Z105.1 FM. Listen online at [www.island92.com](http://www.island92.com) and [www.z1051.com](http://www.z1051.com).

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### **22. Last Call for Our End of Summer Bash at Toppers Rhum Distillery: Registration Required by This Wednesday**

Here are all the details:

If you're a JMB Website Supporters member, and now even if you're not, you're invited to attend our August 23, 2019 JMB Members SXM Island Party to be held at Toppers Rhum Distillery, Jobco Complex #3, Well Road #9, Colebay St. Maarten. Time: 6-8 pm. Arrive early please. Check-in will likely start a bit before 6pm.

You **MUST** register by this Wednesday. Once you do, your confirmation will be emailed to you.

**Registration is required; see How To Register, below.**

Island Party Features:

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

*To cover the cost of the open bar, the*

*Toppers Rhum Distillery will charge \$15 per person to all attendees (cash) upon entry. There are no other costs unless you (wisely) decide to buy some of Toppers delicious rhums or souvenirs of your visit.*

Learn much more about Toppers Rhum at [toppersrhum.com](http://toppersrhum.com).

### **Special Guests!**

#### **Guest #1:**

Noted British author Jacky Rom, who does much of her writing at her "vacation" villa in SXM, is now also a Netflix TV series producer and star. She'll be letting attendees in on her current activities and her future plans — including writing a new novel this year from her writing base in SXM. This is about her new Netflix series:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JNK0i1PpQk0>

She will also have copies of her latest novel, *From Vegas to Villainy*, available for purchase and will be happy to autograph these first editions. More on the book is here:  
<https://www.amazon.com/Vegas-Villainy-Sandra-Bernstein-Chronicles/dp/191644007X>

#### **Guest #2:**

The second guest will be Topper Daboul himself, for whom Toppers Rhum Distillery is named. He'll be talking about his two new shorefront condominium projects that are now underway along or near Simpson Bay beach: see our Everything SXM Facebook Group posting for more information on these projects if you are thinking at all of relocating to SXM or buying income property there:  
[www.facebook.com/groups/mysxm](http://www.facebook.com/groups/mysxm)  
Use the Search Window to trace the word "Drake" to find news of this project.

At this party, you'll be invited to sample some of Toppers' many rum flavors. There will be mini-tours of the distillery, and you may decide you want the full scale tour also presented by the distillery during daily operations. If so, the Toppers Rhum folks will give you a discount certificate toward a reduced-cost full-scale Distillery Tour you can take during your trip to SXM.

### **How To Register...**

*This promises to be one of our biggest parties of the year, so please register early; registration is now open:*

1. **Membership:** You must be a JMB member in good standing to attend but we are now also accepting requests from readers of Weekly News and our FB site. If your JMB membership has expired, please renew now at the Membership Renewal Center on the Secret Site, or by calling Membership Services at 508-830-3456

daytimes during regular office hours EDT. ***If you're not a JMB member and want to check into membership, click the page curl on our main site, everythingxsm.com; you can join online there.***

When phoning, leave your membership #, credit card info, billing address, and the length of renewal or reinstatement that you want:

Renewal JMB memberships:

6 years, \$139 (best offer); 3 yrs., \$79; 1 yr., \$39  
<http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/reinstate/index.shtml>

Reinstatement JMB memberships:

6 years, \$139 (best offer); 3 yrs., \$79; 1 yr., \$39  
<http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/reinstate/index.shtml>

**2. Who Can Attend:** Member and spouse / partner; you may bring a guest or two, but everyone \*must\* be registered. **Sorry, no children under the age of 18 and NO EXCEPTIONS.** We have space for up to 125 people. When registering you must give us the names and email addresses of your guests (max two.) **YES nonmembers can register now for this party as well.**

**3. What We Need / How To Register:** Email [susank@jmbcommunications.com](mailto:susank@jmbcommunications.com) and in your email give us the names of who will be attending, your email address, and your JMB Website Supporters membership number. For security please also tell us your street address. We will acknowledge your email and confirm your attendance. *If you have guests, give us their information as well. We'll confirm guests, we expect, later during August. The Subject of your email must be DISTILLERY PARTY Aug. 23.*

**4. The Last Word About This Party:** Again, no children under 18, and cash is needed for the \$15 p/p venue charge for the open bar, regardless of whether you intend to use it.

*Register now.* This big JMB Summer Island Party has a chance to sell out quite soon, so don't delay your registration.

*Admins / moderators from our Everything SXM Facebook Site will be in attendance.*

We are now enabling a limited number of SXM Weekly News readers and members of our FB site to register: **you can register now.**

## About Our JMB Website Supporters Island Discount Program:



**Get it All -----Join JMB Today!**





**Get 300+ SXM Discounts**  
**& Many Other Island Benefits,**  
**& (P. S.) Exclusive First-in-Line Invitations**  
**to Our Famous Members-Only Island Parties**  
**(see story 19 in this issue):**  
**Get, Renew, or Reinstate YOUR JMB Membership**  
**Today:**

**New JMB memberships: 5 years, \$129 (best offer); 3 yrs., \$99; 1 yr., \$59**  
[http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/about\\_sxm/paypal.shtml](http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml)

**Renewal JMB memberships: 6 years, \$139 (best offer); 3 yrs., \$79; 1 yr., \$39**  
<http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/reinstate/index.shtml>

**Reinstatement JMB memberships:**  
**6 years, \$139 (best offer); 3 yrs., \$79; 1 yr., \$39**  
<http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/reinstate/index.shtml>

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## **23. How About a Salt Museum in Philipsburg?**

Salt used to be one of SXM's primary businesses, and images of salt production 100 years ago on SXM permeate its history. The "salt pond" behind Philipsburg was prime production territory.

Today, sea salt is in common use, though its reputation for purity has been tainted by recent reports of microscopic amounts of plastic in some samples.

In Grand Case, Le Pressoir restaurant was named for the large, authentic salt press across the street from the restaurant.

Our suggestion: an operating, authentic Salt Museum for Philipsburg. Purity and authenticity would be paramount, but it could be developed by a public-private partnership and become a very key attraction for both cruise ship and stayover tourists. Real potential for it to make money not just as a museum/tourist attraction, but also from sales of pure, authentic, historical sea salt....

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## **24. Our SXM Euro Ovals are Back**

They're back - our famous SXM Euro-Ovals! You'll find pictures of the ovals in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#).

Order three for \$15 or five for \$20. Pay through PAYPAL payable to jeff@jmbcommunications.com. Include your US or CANADIAN address (none shipped elsewhere). Style may vary SLIGHTLY from the photo. Allow 6 weeks for delivery. Use them on your car window or on smooth, hard-sided luggage (makes ID easy in baggage claim). You can also send a check to us (US dollar checks drawn on US banks ONLY) to OVALS, c/o JMB Communications, P. O. Box 1812, Plymouth, MA 02362-1812. Checks do take extra time for processing.

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## 25. Got Any SXM Questions?

Check out our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#) and our main SXM website, [everythingxsm.com](http://everythingxsm.com).

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## 26. Major SkyMed Promo Now Underway

A major promo continues on SkyMed memberships. 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.*

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](http://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](mailto: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.

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## 27. Restaurant of the Week:

Returns in September....

### Here are recently featured SXM restaurants:

**Isola** next to Hollywood Casino in Simpson Bay Resort, 7/13/19. 100% redesigned, inside and out, floor to ceiling and everything inside. Just go.

**Pineapple Pete**, [www.pineapplepete.com](http://www.pineapplepete.com) (featured 7/8/19) Known for great lobster Thermidor and lots, lots more. Generous portions, reasonable prices. Huge variety. Games for kids.

**Wasabi Charlie Japanese Restaurant (formerly Sushiitto) (7/8/19)** is the new name of Sushiitto, now relocated next door to Pineapple Pete in Simpson bay. Essentially the same menu, same staff, same great food/service.

**Spiga**, [www.spiga-sxm.com](http://www.spiga-sxm.com) (featured 7/2/19) New bar, great staff, service, and phenomenal food. Everything is great, appetizers are out of this world. Not to be missed.

**Mario Bistro** [www.mariobistrot.com/en/](http://www.mariobistrot.com/en/) 6/24/19 Mario's Bistro is one of the most spectacular culinary experiences you'll ever have. Go. Phenomenal dining. On the plaza at Porto Cupecoy, Cupecoy Beach.

**Mama Pizza, Porto Cupecoy** (featured 6/17/19) Excellent pizza, and sizeable portions / reasonable prices on numerous other Italian specialties. On the plaza at Porto Cupecoy, Cupecoy Beach.

**Mandarin Pan Asian, Port de Plaisance** (featured 6/10/19) Excellent Pan-Asian dining including Japanese, Thai, and Chinese. Nice setting near the casino at Port de Plaisance.

**Vesna Taverna**, [www.vesnataverna.com](http://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 as stupendous as it ever was, with spectacular dining in an equally spectacular restored building on the Emilio Wilson Estate. Ask to see the wine cellar and the museum. Open for lunch and dinner: not to be missed.

**Freedom Fighters ITAL SHACK Rasta Restaurant**, [www.sxmfreedomfighters.com/restaurant](http://www.sxmfreedomfighters.com/restaurant) 4/15/19. Just go....

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

**IZI Ristorante Italiano**, [www.iziristoranteitaliano.com](http://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.

**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?

**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!

**Enigma C3 luxury Catamaran**, [www.sailstmaarten.com](http://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.

**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.jimboscafe.com](http://www.jimboscafe.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 Group](#).** Our thanks to our Admin there, Contessa Aiello, who edited the restaurant entries on that site.

## 28. Ensure Best SkyMed Deal - Jeff Berger / SkyMed.com/jmb

Our new SkyMed website is [www.skymed.com/jmb](http://www.skymed.com/jmb), now live; 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.

## 29. Going Somewhere 11/20 or Later? Beat SkyMed's 90-day Exclusion on Pre-Existing Conditions by Buying Guaranteed Renewable Annual Protection Now, Only About \$1.35/day

**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](mailto: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](http://www.skymed.com/jmb): please be sure you bookmark that and not any other site. Thank you.

Customer stories are below.

## 30. \*\*\*\*\*SkyMed Customer Stories\*\*\*\*\* **Protect Against Pricey 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](http://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.

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**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 [skymed.com/jmb](http://skymed.com/jmb). SkyMed is the Principal Sponsor of JMB SXM programs.

## **See the [rundown of all SkyMed Features & Benefits](#)**

### **31. Are You Military?**

If you're U. S. Military with a DD214, you're able to get a Platinum-Status Military JMB Membership for \$16.99/year, the lowest we ever charge anyone. You get instant Platinum Status which is permanent as long as you're a JMB member plus 300+ SXM discounts and other benefits. All you do is pay for four years to start and renew in four-year increments (\$67.96). Nobody else pays so little -- our small way of expressing how grateful we all are for your service.

Visit [everythingsexm.com](http://everythingsexm.com) and click the page curl to sign up for your JMB military membership. We'll also need a DD214 with your SS# obliterated for security. We'll be delighted to welcome you.

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

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

Ask Jeff for details -- call him at 508-747-8281 (SkyMed calls only, reg. hours Eastern time.) More info? See [www.skymed.com/jmb](http://www.skymed.com/jmb), our new site, going live shortly.

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

#### **AMUSEMENTS**

[Island Pedals Beer Cycle](#) (Philipsburg)

#### **CAR RENTALS:**

[Leisure Car Rental](#)

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

[Sax Car Rental](#)

## **[Tropical-Tropicana Car Rental](#)**

**Exclusive Car Rental** (new)

## **CUBAN CIGARS:**

**[Cigar Mack](#)**

**[SXM Cigars](#)**

## **EMERGENCY MEDICAL EVACUATION MEMBERSHIP PROGRAMS:**

**[SkyMed International](#)** (Covers the entire USA, Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, the Bahamas, and all the nations of the Caribbean. Global coverage available. Sold only to Americans, Canadians, and X-Pats living in these countries.)

## **JEWELERS:**

**[Zhaveri Jewelers](#)** in Philipsburg.

**[Caribbean Gems](#)**

**Majesty Jewelers**

**[Ray's Jewelers](#)**

**[Alpha Jewels](#)**

**Art of Time**

**Artistic Jewelers**

**Oro Diamante**

## **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 Group*.

**Century 21 St. Maarten** (just joined)

## **RESORTS:**

**Belair Beach Hotel**

**Simpson Bay Resort**

**Azure Hotel & Art Studio**

**Baker's Suites**

## **RESTAURANTS:**

**[IZI](#)**

**[SPIGA](#)**

**[VESNA TAVERNA](#)**

**Frenchy Ludo's**

## **SNOOPY'S**

**Mandarin Asian Bistro (Port de Plaisance)**

**Melange (Port de Plaisance)**

**Pelican Bistro**

**Sale and Pepe**

**LA PATRONA (Simpson Bay Resort)**

**MARIO'S BISTRO (Porto Cupecoy)**

**Pineapple Pete Restaurant**

**Wasabi Charlie Japanese Restaurant**

## **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 Group*. 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 Group*.

**Candie Billant** does condo and villa rentals and sales. You will find her at [blueparadiserealty.com](http://blueparadiserealty.com).

## **Relocation / "Papers" Consulting Companies**

**Bright Path** is already posting on our [Everything St. Maarten / St. Martin / SXM Facebook Group](#)

Updated 7/21/19

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## **34. 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 very soon.

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

SXM Weekly News, our [everythingSXM.com](http://everythingSXM.com) website and its Hurricane Center, and our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#) — 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](mailto: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.

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**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.](#)**

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### **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](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](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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://www.everythingsxm.com).

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

To unsubscribe, go here: [www.sxmweeklynews.com](http://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](http://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?>

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

### **Contact Us (Revised 5/25/18)**

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

NON-members who wish to contact us should write to [jmbweb@jmbcommunications.com](mailto: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](http://www.everythingsxm.com).

**Privacy Policy** [http://www.everythingsxm.com/sxm/privacy\\_policy/index.shtml](http://www.everythingsxm.com/sxm/privacy_policy/index.shtml) (Updated 5/25/18)

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