

From JMB / SXM Weekly News 9/23/19: Jerry, Karen, & Lorenzo; Thomas Cook; AA Mechanic; Dutch Side Gov't Falls; Airport's Reconst. Funding; Louis Richardson; Jan Borsje; Condo Sales Soaring; Cupecoy's New Skyline [37 News Stories]

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Vol. 2, #1216 --- Monday, September 23, 2019  
News From St. Maarten / St. Martin / SXM



This Week's Stories

Airfare, Airlines & Weather News

Everything SXM Home Page

Island News

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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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-- **Traveling Anywhere In November or Later? Beat SkyMed's 90-day Exclusion on Pre-Existing Conditions Coverage by Buying Now**  
#####

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---- \*\*\*\*\***Customer Stories**\*\*\*\*\*  
**Cover Yourself With Emergency Medical Evacuation Protection from SkyMed**  
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-- **Less Money, More Benefits, Ten Year Price Guarantee on SkyMed Ultimate**

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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.

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

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

**SALE** 1/12/2020 1/19/2020 2 **Simpson Bay Resort & Marina Beaumontia Building**, fixed & deeded week, Sunday to Sunday, one bedroom sleeps four, 4th floor ocean view. Highly discounted from current Resort retail resale cost \$8,000.00 Richard 815 236-0642 [cubsgo100@gmail.com](mailto:cubsgo100@gmail.com)

#### ***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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- C. How To Submit Rental or Sale Ads: Links are on the Secret Website (see a, above.)

### Section Six: Where To Find Background Information for Travelers (For New Readers) (Revised 8/2017)

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

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

Not a member yet? See [http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/about\\_sxm/paypal.shtml](http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml) . Cost: \$59 for one year, or \$99 total for three full years. Other durations available. Join us today...

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

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

### THIS WEEK'S STORIES:

Stories are numbered; scroll down for stories of interest.

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

### **1. Hurricane Jerry, T. S. Karen Brush SXM**

This busy hurricane season continues unabated. Tonight and tomorrow, SXM may feel some effects from tropical storm Karen, which at this writing is expected to pass well to the west of the island. If there is any effect, it will probably be in the form of heavy rain and some thunder. If you are on the island, please heed instructions from local authorities which will be broadcast on Island92 radio at island92.com.

Several days ago, hurricane Jerry brushed SXM with heavy rain for a time, flooding some streets and causing business closures for a limited period. To the relief of everyone on the island, winds were eerily calm as that storm passed well distant and most of the time, skies were partly cloudy and the weather was hot and humid. A number of people sought to cool off in their swimming pools.

Although September ends soon, hurricane season continues until the end of November. See our Weather Center on our everythingSXM.com website for all the latest watches, warnings, Tropical Outlooks, satellite images, and more, updated around-the-clock throughout hurricane season.

During the week between Monday issues of *SXM Weekly News*, we also publish updates in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#) — join it for lively discussions about the island, many pictures, and lots of island updates.

Much more information about weather is in the following articles.

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### **2. Lorenzo is Next In Line**

Tropical storm Lorenzo formed today southeast of the Cabo Verde islands in the far Eastern Atlantic. That system appears to be headed west or west northwest and will have to be watched, as usual, just like any other long-track storms this time of year that head in the general direction of the Windward and Leeward islands.

The latest Advisories concerning Lorenzo, Jerry, Karen, etc. are always posted in the weather center of our main everythingSXM.com site.

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### **3. About This Hurricane Season**

This busy back-end loaded hurricane season, which has already seen 12 named storms, shows no sign of abating. Though the Cape Verde season normally would end in a few weeks, there are still monsoonal storms crossing the African continent East to West, some of which may become tropical systems until the environment in the tropical Atlantic no longer supports that, starting in a number of weeks.

Bottom line, this isn't an ordinary season: everyone needs to be acutely aware that it's busy and that we all need to watch developments carefully and be prepared. For more information about hurricane preparations, see the files area in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#), which also has a great deal of island information.

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### **4. Thomas Cook Travel Goes Belly-Up, Stranding Thousands**

The Thomas Cook travel empire has imploded, stranding about 150,000 people far from home, after talks to provide rescue funding collapsed. Thomas Cook was a huge British travel agency and airline; you may have seen a Thomas Cook aircraft in the past at Princess Juliana airport, since they have brought tourists to the island. Here is the latest information from the UK [Guardian](#).



## 5. Road Travel During Heavy Rains?

Press coverage of the recent heavy rains in Texas caused by Imelda and its remnants showed many cars virtually swallowed up by puddles far deeper than the driver had expected when he/she decided to drive through. In the tropics, heavy tropical showers — even without tropical cyclones — can cause big puddles almost regardless of whatever special construction measures the government undertakes to prevent them.

For years, Mullet Bay Road — the real name of which is Rhine Road — has become flooded at its northern end, near Mullet Bay beach before the exit from the golf course. (See the related article in this issue concerning the Cupecoy skyline.)

That area was reconstructed several years ago but still floods. So does Beacon Hill Road near Alegria, Sister Patientia road near the lagoon end of the airport runway, and Billy Folly road near Atrium after any heavy rainstorm.

Worse, storm tides pile tons of beach sand onto the portion of Beacon Hill Road between Maho beach and the end of the runway under rough sea conditions, sometime shutting that road down entirely. The best thing to do in truly bad weather is not venture out.

If there are tropical storm or hurricane warnings, follow the instructions of officials to ensure your safety. But otherwise, stay where you're staying until road conditions are passable. Official information is always posted on local radio stations including our partners at [island92.com](http://island92.com).

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## 6. AA Mechanic Alleged to Have "ISIS Sympathies"

A long time mechanic for American Airlines who was recently arrested for tampering with a device on board an AA 737 aircraft that caused its next flight to be aborted just before takeoff has now been found to be in possession of a phone containing ISIS propaganda. That story is [here](#). Airlines take great pains to ensure passenger safety, including heavy security for all employees who work in or near aircraft. This particular employee had been with the airline for many years and had not caused previous problems, press reports say.

We'll continue to watch what happens with this individual and with this topic in general and report what we learn here in *SXM Weekly News*.

This is the story about the original incident, from the [Miami Herald](#).

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## 7. New FAA Chief Will Fly 737 MAX Himself To Test Safety

The new head of the US Federal Aviation Administration, FAA, himself a seasoned pilot for Delta airlines and the U. S. Air Force, said in an NBC Nightly News interview recently that he would personally fly a 737 MAX aircraft to see for himself exactly how it operates under challenging circumstances after his agency has given its tentative okay to the aircraft's return to service. It has been widely reported that Boeing has either completed or is about to complete the extensive software update that it says will solve the problems that caused the crashes of two 737 MAX aircraft killing 346 people earlier this year, resulting in the MAX fleet's global grounding since last March. Here is [that story](#).

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## 8. 737 MAX & Holiday Travel

For reasons which totally defy logic, American Airlines has continued to schedule 737 MAX aircraft for their usual flights for a number of months, then has canceled those flights inconveniencing many thousands of passengers. It would have made far more sense either to use other aircraft or not schedule the flights at all, but that's not the course that American took. (Ours is admittedly a lay perspective -- but the same one we'd bet is held by most AA customers.)

Consequently, once again, American Airlines is now canceling flights for which it sold tickets around the upcoming holidays, causing bewilderment and consternation among its passengers.

Some passengers have been rescheduled onto other 737 MAX aircraft even though no date has been set for their return to service.

If you continue to fly American Airlines, these shenanigans could affect you. We strongly suggest you contact the airline to make sure the aircraft on which you are scheduled to fly isn't one of the grounded 737 Max fleet.

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## 9. SXM Surpasses One Million Cruise Passengers for '19

From January through July of this year, Port St. Maarten reports that more than 1 million passengers entered SXM through the port, which expects the total at the end of this year to be in the vicinity of 1.5 million people.

Here is that [story](#).

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## 10. Where to Download the 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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## 11. 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 in 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](#).

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## 12. 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 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](#). 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.

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***Now You Can Unsubscribe Your Old Email  
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for your SXM Weekly News subscription  
Quickly and Easily  
at our Site: [www.sxmweeklynews.com](http://www.sxmweeklynews.com)***

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

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

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**LAST CALL!!!**

**Beat The Price Increase**

**Coming Next Tuesday Oct 1!**

**Low Summer Prices Are Almost History!**

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**New JMB memberships: 5 years, \$129 (best offer); 3 yrs., \$99; 1 yr., \$59**

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**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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## **13. Condo Sales Soaring, Building Boom Continues**

The Dutch side of the island, where most development has been occurring over the last 20 years, is in the middle of a fresh surge of condominium developments, many of them in the Cupecoy area close to beaches, the airport, and the French side border as well as increasing numbers of restaurants both in Porto Cupecoy and in the Maho area, plus smaller eateries scattered near the AUC medical school.

If you are one of the many people looking into purchasing a condo on the island, please see the following articles which relate in different ways to what you're planning.

Also be mindful that our Sponsors in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#) represent companies well able to serve your condominium search and acquisition needs. See also the story here about the [relocation seminar](#) we did late last year with Arun Jagtiani of Island Real Estate Team; the information in that seminar can be quite useful to you.

There is a great deal of detail work required to execute relocations on a personal basis. [BrightPath](#), a Sponsor of our Facebook site, can help you wade through that entire experience at very reasonable pricing. When you contact them, remember to tell them that you read about them here in *SXM Weekly News*.

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## **14. That Amazing Skyline in Cupecoy**

If you're heading toward Cupecoy beach from Simpson Bay, keep your eyes open after the first major right-hand turn once you're on the old Mullet Bay property. You may want to pull over because ahead of you, in the distance, you'll see a remarkable new skyline that is uniquely SXM. No other skyline anywhere on the island compares; most of the buildings are condos with a number of new ones under construction.

They are not timeshare condos, but personally owned places which are sometimes offered as rentals.

You'll find much more information on the Sponsors page of our main SXM site, everythingSXM.com, and also in the sponsors list in every edition of *SXM Weekly News*. If you've been thinking about how much you hate the Winter, make an appointment to see one of our real estate partners in that Sponsor list: it just might be time for you to warm up this winter and beyond in SXM.

## 15. Hundreds of 2019, 2020 T/S Condo Rentals Available Online

If you're looking to rent an SXM timeshare condominium directly from its owners for your use during an upcoming 2019 or 2020 trip to SXM, go to our main SXM website at [everythingSXM.com](http://everythingSXM.com) and click on the timeshare rentals page. You'll find hundreds of ads and you'll be able to deal directly with the people who own the timeshares. If you have SXM friends who are also looking for accommodations, don't hesitate to mention our page to them, which also has links to additional sources of rentals plus villa rentals and more.

## 16. Original 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.

## 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 in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#).

## 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**

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 are 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. Dutch Side Politics as Usual: Government Falls Again**

For the ninth time since it became country St. Maarten within the kingdom of the Netherlands on October 10, 2010, the Dutch side government has fallen.

Don't worry about it — they don't. Events like this have precious little impact on tourists. On the other hand, they cost money and those who are forming a new government must go through a formal vetting process which at the very least takes weeks. With the country in the middle of the height of hurricane season, still recovering from hurricane Irma two years ago, SXM can do without distractions — and nine since 2010 is more than a bit much.

We wish the new government well but more than that, we hope the new government hits the ground running and working productively for all the people on the Dutch side of the island.

More on what's going on is [here](#).

## 22. Airport Reconstruction Gets Funding

At long last — roughly 8 months after it was first suggested — SXM is going ahead with an enormous funding package to enable the airport to return to its pre-Irma condition, with major improvements intended to enable it to survive another Irma, should that ever happen.

Tragically, some say thanks in large measure to climate change, storms with sustained 185 mph winds may no longer be rare events. Irma devastated SXM two years ago, with those sustained winds of 185 miles per hour for dozens of hours, and was the most powerful hurricane in Atlantic basin history and the second most powerful tropical cyclone in recorded history in any ocean.

Dorian, the storm that pummeled both Abaco and Grand Bahama, also had 185 mile-per-hour winds and sat on top of Abaco and Grand Bahama for an extended period of time causing enormous destruction and many deaths. That's why the rebuilding programs in SXM and elsewhere in the Caribbean has to be oriented to enable people and structures to survive monster storms which are no longer rare entities.

Two years ago, SXM Airport lost the integrity of its roof from Irma, and that loss was compounded soon after when Maria visited, dumping feet of rain through missing roofs across the island, greatly aggravating the island's problems. Late last year, the temporary tents that were being used for arrivals and departures were packed up and moved away, and the first floor of the airport was reopened to serve both arrivals and departures. The now agreed-to funding will enable contractors for the airport to complete the build out of the second floor with, pretty much, new everything. The first floor will then be enhanced so it can handle significantly increased numbers of passengers.

**Preclearance.** There is no question now about preclearance coming to SXM. There has been nearly unanimous agreement among government officials that it's a matter of when, not if. We believe that the current reconstruction project will be done in such a way to grease the skids of a follow-on project for the construction of convertible new gates able to be used for preclearance and other purposes, much as is the case in some US airports.

Although we're trying to pin down the government about when preclearance might be a reality, as you noted in story 21, the government is in a state of flux so that answer may not come quickly — but as far as we know, again, it's a high priority. Not only would preclearance expedite the processing of many departing passengers, it would also enable flights from SXM to go into a variety of smaller US airports that don't necessarily have international immigration facilities. That — along with a possible parallel taxiway a few years hence — could enable the airport to handle significantly more passengers from more places in the US, a big advantage over a number of other islands.

More on the reconstruction project is [here](#) and [here](#).

[More stories are below.](#)

## About Our JMB Website Supporters Island Discount Program:

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**LAST CALL!!!**

**Beat The Price Increase**

**Coming Next Tuesday Oct 1!**

## Low Summer Prices Are Almost History!

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**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. French Side Water Situation Updated

Thanks to a chemical issue related to desalination, French side water has been unusable for drinking, cooking, or washing vegetables for many weeks.

That situation has now improved, though cautions still need to be exercised.

The following is a brief update from Lara Russo, co-owner of Spiga restaurant in Grand Case which is expected to reopen later this month:

*There is still a water ban on the French side. The only change is that now you can wash your fruit and vegetables with it. Before not even that was allowed. Still cannot cook with it or drink it.*

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## 24. The Fascinating Life of Louis Richardson

Throughout their lives, Many heroic people go unsung. Only after they have passed do their incredible accomplishments become more widely known.

We think you will find this article by Patricia Cantor and Roland Richardson of great interest:

*By Patricia Cantor and Roland Richardson*

***Louis Emmanuel Richardson, a man whose greatest passion was flying, has taken wing and soared to the gates of Heaven. As befitting a man of great honour and integrity, he passed***



***quietly in his sleep in his Marigot childhood home.***

He was a remarkable and accomplished individual imbued with great humility; a true Caribbean man descended from a mélange of Old French, English, Spanish and Dutch settlers mingled with African and the indigenous Indian of the Caribbean.

Louis' French-Caribbean lineage began with a Royal Knight sent by the King of France to construct Fort Louis over 300 years ago. As the family grew over the centuries, they became an integral part of the island's culture and historical evolution. Louis Richardson was one of the finest, most accomplished members of that lineage.

Awarded *Le Chevalier de l'Ordre National du Mérite* from the French National Government for his service to the island and France, Louis' legacy is that of a hero of old. He embodied the noble principles so important in this world: elegance, bravery, chivalry, and honour. His demeanour was that of a true individual.

A man of the world, his life was filled with countless friends collected from all corners of the earth. These lifelong fellowships, whether old or new, added such joy and rich texture to his life – and one felt privileged to have known him.

Born in Marigot in 1923, Louis emerged into the world with a boundless sense of curiosity and wonder. He was a true Renaissance man, a creative entrepreneur, and public servant, always on the cusp of emerging technology. Louis grew up in a world where survival depended on creativity and a pioneer spirit.

As a child, he earned money by butchering meat and helping to make bread, butter and charcoal. Louis installed St. Martin's first telephone lines. He was a partner in the first electrical company providing light to Marigot, where customers were charged by the number of bulbs they owned.

He was the first person to bring French cars, Renault and Peugeot, to St. Martin and the island's first agent for Pepsi Cola. He was an engineer, pilot, plumber, accountant, teacher, fireman, architect, electrician and more.

He owned a sewing machine and knew how to use it. He could make jewelry, furniture, and even parts for his beloved car. His talents and intelligence were boundless.

He recalled, "One day, M'ma found me upstairs with my father's pocket watch completely disassembled and spread all over the table. And she says, 'When your father sees this, he is going to whip your behind!' But I told her not to worry and I put it all back together, and it worked, Thank God!"

Among Louis Richardson's most treasured accomplishments was to assist in the founding of *WinAir* and to help establish St. Martin's first flying club. More than anything in the world, taking to the air was Louis' true passion. Over the decades, he immersed himself in all aspects of aviation.

His deep love of flying was ignited as a little boy in Marigot when a plane from Martinique flew over his house to deliver a visitor. He promised himself that one day he would fly. While he did soon learn to fly, duty to family and country prevented him from ever obtaining his formal flying license.

Prior to his formal entry into aviation, Louis gathered as much education as was possible in the old Caribbean days. Up until age 12, he attended the local St. Martin school. After acquiring a scholarship, he was able to complete several more years of education in Guadeloupe.

One of the most useful educational tools he acquired during this time was learning Morse code; a skill that was to serve him and the island well.

When World War II broke out, Louis was denied his request to join the French Air Force in order to obtain his formal flying license. Instead, he was ordered to stay because he was the only person on island who knew Morse code and cable transmission.

It was a critical position as German submarines plied the waters attacking vessels carrying oil from South American and Caribbean refineries.

Louis, at the age of 20, helped locate and direct rescue teams toward downed Allied pilots and seamen from torpedoed ships. He often composed telegrams for those who couldn't write, and would read them to those who were illiterate. He never divulged their content to anyone else – a fact that gained him a reputation of integrity and trustworthiness.

After the War, Louis continued as radio operator while feeding his passion for flying. Aviation on St. Martin/St. Maarten was taking a new direction. In 1945, Princess Juliana Airport opened on the Dutch-side while Flat Island (Tintamarre) became the French-side's aviation hub.

The colourful Remy De Haenen was a French aviation entrepreneur who created CAA Airlines and became the first pilot to land on St. Barths.

Louis Richardson was the airline's mechanic, radio equipment repair expert, and had the responsibility of alerting passengers when planes landed at PJIA.

More than ever, Louis wanted to learn to fly, but flying lessons were expensive and money was not available. So, just as he taught himself how to drive a car (without his mother's permission), he taught himself to fly.

He would "hitch-hike" on cargo planes to Puerto Rico to take official lessons with the pilots. He never attained his formal license. There was no money or time for them, so he continued his informal training by flying the Caribbean with licensed pilots to French Guyana, Curaçao, Cuba, Santo Domingo, Martinique and Guadeloupe. During this time, he acted as mechanic and co-pilot.

Despite his lack of a formal licensing, Louis participated in the creation of the island's only flight school: The Aero Club. Purchasing a kit shipped from Curaçao, he built his own plane and was the first to fly it. And when he did, he wasn't sure how or if he could land it!

In 1950, Flat Island ceased its aviation operations when a major hurricane destroyed the island. The remains of planes and airport buildings are visible on the island to this day.

In the early 60s, Richardson had a vision of a local airline to connect the neighbouring islands. In those days, sailing was the only way to visit friends and family. Together with Chester Wathey, Louis journeyed to Guadeloupe to introduce Bob Halley and the airport manager responsible for oversight of aviation. In only a day, *WinAir* was created.

Starting with just one plane, they began flights to St. Barths, Anguilla, and St. Kitts/Nevis, the only nearby islands with airports. Today, *WinAir* connects St. Martin/St. Maarten to an extensive network of islands throughout the whole Caribbean.

Louis Richardson was also a family man, and is remembered by his two children, seven grandchildren, and five great grand-children.

The artist, Sir Roland Richardson, is his son from his first marriage to Elvia Lawrence of Grand Case. Nikki Richardson is his daughter from his second marriage to Hyacinth (Cynthia) Richardson.

In his later years, Louis and Cynthia lived a peaceful existence atop Pic Paradis in a house they designed and built overlooking the magnificent mountains of St. Martin with Princess Juliana International Airport visible in the distance.

From morning to night, Louis indulged his passion for all things aviation right from his terrace. He even kept a special frequency aircraft radio on all day to hear the pilots as they ascended and descended.

He never stopped dreaming.

Louis Richardson lived his remarkable life to its fullest. As Sir Roland Richardson said in his father's eulogy, "My father was and will remain in memory as a man of high and unbending integrity with a genuine smile and an endless treasure trove of jokes and stories. He was a man of courage, a true Saint Martin hero. He has left his mark through his example, quiet and humble, generous and friendly. He left his community better off for his having been among us. His passing is like a library that has closed its doors forever."

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## 25. Jan Borsje Passes Away

Jan Borsje, who many readers will remember from his long tenure as GM at Oyster Bay Beach Resort and who more recently has served as General Manager of Sapphire Resort in Cupecoy, passed away unexpectedly last week in the Dominican Republic, where he was recuperating from recent surgery.

His daughter Danielle Borsje said, " 'Tomorrow is another day' he always said, with a smile on his face as he shrugged his shoulders or a big warm hug. Reminded many of us not to worry so much, to stand up tall, and to simply work a bit harder the next day. I am sad to say, I am not the only one who lost a father today. He brought many of us together and made us feel like family. Was known for second chances and his big heart."

No one has ever had a bigger heart than Jan Borsje, who will be sorely missed. Our thoughts are with his entire family.

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## 26. Rx for Medical Cannabis May Be Possible in SXM

You may soon be able to get a prescription for medical marijuana in SXM. Here are [the details](#).

Medical marijuana and recreational marijuana are entirely different things. We know of no movement on the island toward the legalization of recreational marijuana

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## 27. Want to See Back Issues of SXM Weekly News? Here's How

Our *SXM Weekly News* PDF archives enable you to download any issue of Weekly News published since Spring 2014, including our amazing *2018 April Fools' Day parody* and many Special Editions.

Check it out [here](#). It has now been thoroughly updated. Each week's newsletter is being added just hours after mailing of that issue to its subscribers completes.

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## 28. Green Palms SXM Euro Oval Going Away; Get it Now or Never

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](mailto: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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## 29. 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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## 30. Restaurant of the Week:

Returns September 30....

**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.

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## 31. 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.

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## 32. Going Somewhere 12/23 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.

### 33. \*\*\*\*\***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](#)**

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## 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 [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.

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## 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](http://www.skymed.com/jmb), our new site, going live shortly.

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## 36. Please Patronize JMB Sponsors (Updated 8/26)

## **AMUSEMENTS**

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

## **CAR RENTALS:**

[Leisure Car Rental](#)

[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 & BARS**

[IZI](#)

[SPIGA](#)

[VESNA TAVERNA](#)

**ISOLA**

**Frenchy Ludo's**

**SNOOPY'S**

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

**Melange (Port de Plaisance)**

**Pelican Bistro**

**Soggy Dollar Bar**

**Sale and Pepe**

**LA PATRONA (Simpson Bay Resort)**

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

**Pineapple Pete Restaurant**

**Wasabi Charlie Japanese Restaurant**

**Emilio's (NEW)**

**Taloula's Blue Bitch Bar (NEW)**

**Nowhere Special (NEW)**

## **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 8/26/19

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

**That's what we do:**

**[www.websitesthatworkusa.com](http://www.websitesthatworkusa.com)**

**In business since the web began --  
a unit of JMB Communications.**

### **37. 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.](#)**

### **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.

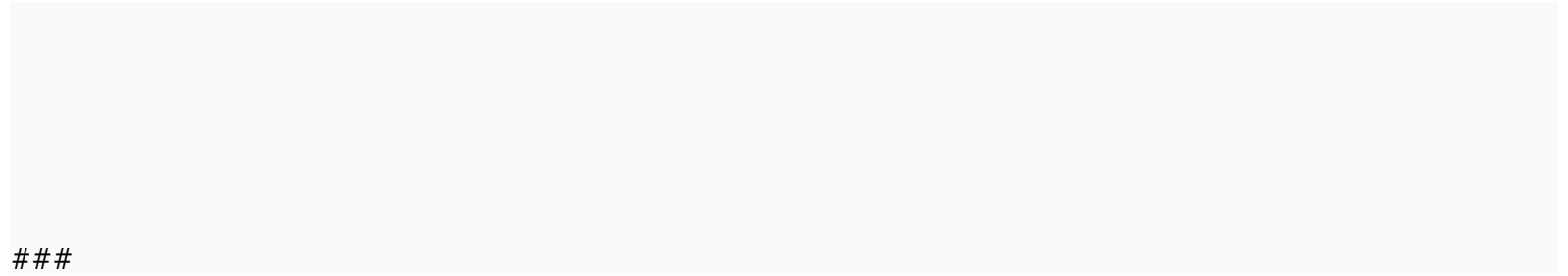
Our main St. Maarten / St. Martin website: [www.everythingsxm.com](http://www.everythingsxm.com).

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

9/23/19 #V2-1216 11am EDT 9/23

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