

From JMB / SXM Weekly News 10/21/19: Boeing 737 MAX; Why Rainy Season Isn't; Holland House; Spiga; Vesna Taverna; David Foini; Orient Beach Carbets; Pot in SXM; Regatta's Headline Musician [36 News Stories]

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Vol. 2, #1220 --- Monday, October 21, 2019
News From St. Maarten / St. Martin / SXM



This Week's Stories

Airfare, Airlines & Weather News

Everything SXM Home Page

Island News

Lodging 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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From: www.jmbcommunications.com

Weekly News is part of JMB's St. Maarten / St. Martin website: www.everythingsxm.com

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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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This narrow format is easily readable on all mobile devices. Scroll down for this week's news.

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

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

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-- Traveling Anywhere In January or Later? Beat SkyMed's 90-day Exclusion on Pre-Existing Conditions Coverage by Buying Now
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36 News Stories This Week

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Timeshare Rental and Sale of the Week

Each week JMB randomly picks timeshare condominiums for rent and for sale in SXM from the huge selection at http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/timeshare_rent_sale/index.shtml and features them here.

To rent out or sell timeshares you own in SXM or anywhere else worldwide, for no ad charge or commission, join JMB Website Supporters. Visit http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/about_xsm/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 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

SXM Timeshare Sale of The Week:

SALE 1/19/2020 2/2/2020 week3, & week4 **Simpson bay resort & marina** 1 bedroom unit on 4th floor facing west. wonderful sunset views. two weeks back to back. large patio. fully furnished. 1 bedroom, 1bathroom. air conditioning. elevators \$8,000 per week David. 843 215 7389 ghchucii@gmail.com

Non-St. Maarten Timeshare Rentals:

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

Villa Rentals Now Offered On Our Site Too:

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

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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

Archives prior to April 12 2014 (old format):

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

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

www.linkedin.com

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

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

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

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

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

All JMB Newsletters Read *From JMB*

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

THIS WEEK'S STORIES:

Stories are numbered; scroll down for stories of interest.

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

1. Two Years Before Fatal 737 MAX Crashes, Boeing Knew of MCAS Defects But Told Nobody, Test Pilots Charge

In a news story broadcast late last week, NBC News reported on messages written to Boeing by two Boeing test pilots pointing out "egregious" defects in the performance of the airplane's MCAS system in simulator tests — the same problem believed to have caused both crashes of the 737 Max two years later that claimed 346 lives.

Boeing never brought these communications to the attention of the FAA; it never fixed the defects in its MCAS system brought to its attention by its test pilots before live flights with full passenger loads began; and it never warned its airline customers or their pilots about this potentially lethal defect on 737 Max aircraft, the NBC report said.

You can watch the report [here](#).

At the end of the report, the reporter reminds viewers that 737 Max aircraft will not be back in the skies until January "at the earliest." Don't be surprised if winter is entirely over when the 737 Max returns to service, *if* it returns to service.

The airplane and Boeing have a long way to go before this plane model can be made whole and put back into revenue service.

2. Busy Hurricane Season Stays Busy Through October

The busy 2019 hurricane season continued unabated last week when it produced the season's fourteenth named storm, Nestor, which came ashore in Northwest Florida and drenched much of the southeast, quickly delivering rain and wind as far north as the central Atlantic East Coast.

The storm may have done more good than harm, some observers are saying, since the southeast has been suffering a drought for some time and the storm helped relieve parched areas.

For much more information on current and future storms, please see the Weather Center in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#). The stories below also provide more information.

3. Why "Rainy Season" Isn't

This time of year in the Northeast Caribbean is regarded as rainy season but, significantly, tourists should regard that as a misnomer.

Rainy season implies that the weather in the Caribbean now is, well, *rainy*. Although there is a fair amount of rain this time of year, what that means is that tropical showers last a bit longer than usual and may be a bit heavier than usual -- not that it never stops raining.

The island becomes very lush and gorgeous and there is still plenty of sun throughout the fall. Hurricane season doesn't end until the end of November, but during its last several weeks rain does fall but it's not a gloomy pattern.

4. 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).

5. 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](#).

6. See Current SXM Weather / Tracking Serious Weather

You'll find detailed observations and forecasts by visiting our main SXM website, [www.everythingsxm.com](#), and clicking either of the weather observations at the top of the page.

The four sources of current weather info, beyond the two above, are:

1) [Crown Weather Services](#) whose very inexpensive subscription service is, we feel, the best in the business.

2) Our "Weather" page at [www.everythingsxm.com](#) -- it has current satellite images and radar loops and now all the latest NHC weather forecasts, outlooks, and advisories as well. There are now also active weather widgets on the site's home page.

3) Our [Everything SXM Facebook 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.

More stories are below.

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***

7. Guaranteed Big-Time Savings on Hotels, Cruises, & Car Rentals

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.

SkyMed Travel offers exceptional pricing on everything and almost invariably beats everyone else's pricing. We have found their pricing excellent across the board and their 115% 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 there to get the absolute greatest possible discounts.*

You won't be disappointed.

Not a SkyMed member? Learn more about it at www.skymed.com/jmb, then call us with questions or to sign up. Call 508-747-8281 any weekday. Thanks...

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

About Our JMB Website Supporters Island Discount Program:

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

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

Renewal JMB memberships: 6 years, \$149 (best offer); 3 yrs., \$89; 1 yr., \$49

<http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/reinstate/index.shtml>

Reinstatement JMB memberships:

6 years, \$149 (best offer); 3 yrs., \$89; 1 yr., \$49

<http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/reinstate/index.shtml>

8. Fascinating Story About Holland House, P-Burg's In-town Hotel

Although Philipsburg is the capital of the Dutch side of the island, there's only one stylish hotel in the middle of town — Holland House beach hotel, located a few hundred yards east of the center of town on Great Bay beach.

It's location on the beach makes a great spot for people-watching and beach relaxation, though when a lot of ships are in port the Great Bay Beach Promenade (boardwalk) can get rather busy.

Holland House's bar/restaurant is very popular and has a great reputation, which explains why it's busy with local business owners after work. But there's more to the story than just information about a very good hotel in the center of town. That's a story that should be of great interest to you — read the full story [here](#).

9. Our Condo Rentals Listings are Heavily Updated

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 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 timeshare rentals -- *plus* villa rentals and more.

10. 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, 3impson Bay, Dutch side.

11. Places to Stay: Many Available, Take Your Pick

With most timeshare resorts back online — Belair, Sea Palace, Divi, Atrium Resort, La Vista, 3impson 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.

12. A Place Where SXM Timeshare Owners Can Talk

JMB Communications has long operated a St. Maarten timesharing site on Facebook. We have now combined that site with our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#) since more timeshare owners from St. Maarten belong to the latter site than the former.

In the [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#) lots of current information about timeshare resorts is being exchanged by timeshare owners. We welcome you to join that site and share your experiences with other timeshare owners.

13. Rented/Sold Your Timeshare? Please Cancel Your Ad

Owners of timeshares from St. Maarten and the rest of the world who are members of our JMB Website Supporters Island Discount Program can post timeshare weeks they own for rent or for sale on our main SXM site, [everythingSXM.com](#), which has had over 6 million visits and continues to be enormously popular. *We do urge timeshare owners to let us know at once when their weeks have been rented or sold. That way, we can remove expired ads on a timely basis — usually weekly during high season.*

Members of JMB Website Supporters can post or cancel ads using our members-only secret website, [www.everythingsxm.com/secret](#). Your assigned username and password are required for secret site access. Your username is the email address you have registered with JMB Website Supporters. If you don't recall your password, use the forgot password link in the orange login box below the masthead on every page of [everythingSXM.com](#) for site access.

Updates to our listings are done weekly during high season.

SECTION 3: JMB Member Discounts & Benefits

14. JMB Member Discounts / Benefits -- Updates Coming

Jeff returns to the island during November and will be working in November and December to further increase the

already huge number of restaurants, jewelry stores, hotels, and other businesses offering discounts or other incentives to members of our JMB Website Supporters SXM Island Discount Program.

As these additions are made, they will be reported here in *SXM Weekly News* and will also be noted in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#), which currently offers roughly 300 discounts and other benefits to its thousands of members.

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

SECTION 4: Island News, Info, & Features

15. At Orient, "Carbet" Site Prep Done, Shops Etc. Coming for High Season

Several years ago, the French side Collectivite and the Orient beach Reserve Naturelle decided to build carbets on the site of a number of older buildings which had fallen into disrepair and needed replacement.

As often happens on the French side, there was a lot of disagreement about what should be built, how customized the units should be, cost, etc. There was even a strike or two which blocked traffic across the French side.

Ultimately, the shops or carbets were built and customized by their renters but not long after, Irma came and completely blew them away.

Since then, the Dutch side, in general, has run circles around the French side in terms of the speed of its hurricane recovery. It appears that most businesses on the Dutch side wanted to build back better but also fast. On the French side, the return to normalcy has taken significantly longer and evidence of Irma's ferocity is more visible there than on the Dutch.

Before Irma, Orient was the busiest of all SXM beaches especially near the carbets and at Club Orient, the naturist resort at the southern end of the beach. The good news is that now, the infrastructure for rebuilding the carbets has been completed, and the French government says the carbets themselves, which are relatively simple structures, should be finished by high season.

Starting next month, we'll be stopping by Orient every week (at least) to check out the carbets construction progress, and we intend to post photographs of what's happening there in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#), so watch for them there.

For the sake of the businesses whose livelihoods depend on Orient beach, it's great news that this area should soon be coming back.

We should add here that the nude section of the beach at its southern end continues to thrive. See next story.

16. Orient Beach Nude Section Busy Under Cedrick's Direction

Cedrick is the tall, athletic guy who for years has been in charge of beach operations on the clothing optional section of Orient beach at its southern end. There, you will find plenty of chairs and umbrellas for rent plus Perch Light, the bar/restaurant that serves the Club Orient section of the beach.

Those who have never tried a clothing optional beach might want to read about [our experience](#) when we first tried it many years ago. Most of the people who actually try it wind up loving it — and besides, tan lines are ugly.

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& Many More Island Benefits

& (P. S.) Exclusive First-in-Line Invitations

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Reinstatement JMB memberships:

6 years, \$149 (best offer); 3 yrs., \$89; 1 yr., \$49

<http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/reinstate/index.shtml>

17. In SXM, Pot is Strictly Illegal; Should it Stay that Way?

The vibe on the Dutch side of the island is different from the French side; the Dutch side is more built up, more cosmopolitan, more commercial, and generally busier.

On many occasions, but especially in recent years, tourists have asked whether marijuana is legal on the island, or whether it is legal for them to use marijuana or extracts of marijuana prescribed for them in the US for pain or other reasons.

It has become quite clear that in recent years the mood about marijuana in the US has changed considerably. Its medical benefits have been well proven and it is being prescribed for pain relief caused by cancer and other serious conditions. It also has been proven to work.

The answer to the question about the legality of marijuana in SXM is that it is strictly forbidden, in any form. The question was referenced in an article published on a marijuana legalization tracking site years ago — [this is that article](#). Much has happened in the last four years, however, and tourists in general as well as users of medical marijuana keep asking the question.

It is unlikely that the government of Dutch St. Maarten is going to consider legalizing marijuana anytime soon. There are a few reasons for this.

First, the current government is a caretaker, since the legal government of the Dutch side fell for the ninth time in the last nine years just a few weeks ago and elections have not yet been held.

Second, the island continues to recover from the effects of hurricane Irma, which struck with great ferocity about 26 months ago. The island is trying to return to normal as best it can under these trying circumstances.

Should the island legalize medical and recreational marijuana? For American tourists, it's a question that continues to be asked. But SXM is an island run by two foreign governments peacefully for hundreds of years -- and neither government on either side of the island tends to move very quickly, especially with so many pressing priorities staring them in the face.

The United States and Canada are two very major markets for SXM tourism — and the mood in both countries has turned sharply in favor of marijuana legalization. *Were SXM to legalize marijuana and commercialize it — as states in the US and cities across Canada are currently doing — it could provide a new source of revenue for the island and that means increased tax collections at a time of financial stress.*

Although we don't expect any consideration of marijuana legalization soon under the current climate of other pressing priorities, nonetheless it wouldn't surprise us to see this considered in the next three or four years.

We'll keep you posted.

18. 30 Boats Already Registered for 40th Heineken Regatta; 200+ Expected

The St. Maarten Heineken Regatta starts in a bit more than four months. It's the 40th Regatta, and already 30 boats have been registered in a field that is widely expected to top more than 200 boats from around the world.

It is also the largest Regatta in the Caribbean and the largest warm water Regatta in the world. For much more information, please see www.heinekenregatta.com.

19. Heineken Regatta Sunday Headliner Will Be Flo Rida

Michele Korteweg, who directs all activities at the Sint Maarten Yacht Club, along with long-time Regatta entertainment guru John Leone visited with Dr. Soc on "fresh air in the morning" on Island92 radio last week and made the announcement that the Sunday musical headliner for the coming year's Heineken Regatta will be Flo Rida, a very well-known rap recording artist.

Here is much more from the Regatta:

The organizers of the Caribbean's largest sailing event, the St. Maarten Heineken Regatta, are proud to announce the musical superstar, Flo Rida to headline the upcoming 40th edition of the international event to be held on the Caribbean island of St. Maarten, March 8, 2020.

Every year thousands of sailors and partygoers make their way to the beautiful island of St. Maarten to be part of the "Serious Fun" that the St. Maarten Heineken Regatta brings to the island. "For those who haven't booked their trip yet, we invite you to join us in the celebrations of this special 40th edition of the Regatta. With increased hotel room capacity, extra flights and a wide selection of beautiful villas to stay in, the island has never been more ready to welcome you! We are thrilled to announce such a fabulous headliner early in the preparation stages, it helps immensely for our visitors to start planning their trip. It will be a party to always remember", stated Michele Korteweg, Regatta Director.

Tramar Lacel Dillard (born September 16, 1979) known professionally as Flo Rida is an American rapper, singer, songwriter and composer from Carol City, Florida. His breakout single "Low" was number one for 10 weeks in the United States and broke the record for digital download sales at the time of its release. Flo Rida, has sold over 100 million records worldwide, making him one of the best-selling music artists of all time. His catalog includes the international hit singles "Right Round", "Club Can't Handle Me", "Good Feeling", "Wild Ones", "Whistle", "I Cry", "G.D.F.R." and "My House". Flo Rida's musical collaboration include tracks with T-Pain, Kesha, Akon, Jennifer Lopez, Pitbull, David Guetta, and Lady Gaga, among other notable musical artists. His performances are full of energy, and world class music.

John Leone, Onshore Production Director adds, "We are super excited to bring Flo Rida to the regatta in St. Maarten. He will bring an awesome mix of energy and fun to our already lively event. The island of St. Maarten invites you to join our event for sailing or to party or both! There has never been a better time to visit the island, and we look forward to hosting you on our beautiful island!"

The St. Maarten Heineken Regatta combines world-class racing with amazing concerts in a festival atmosphere, creating the “Serious Fun” for which the event has become famous. With 30 teams already signed up, the number of entries is looking promising for the 2020 St Maarten Heineken Regatta. “We are pleased to welcome back a number of regular Regatta competitors, such as Whistler, Touch 2 Play, Taz, Liquid, KHS&S Contractors and several others. The Regatta wouldn’t be the same without them! Of course we always love seeing new faces and there are some great names on the list already. Team Brunel a Volvo 65, Argo a MOD 70 and Green Dragon a Volvo 65 will bring the racing to a top notch level again, putting the Serious in “Serious Fun”, continues Korteweg.

The St. Maarten Heineken Regatta has been featuring incredible entertainment for four decades. Past performers have been The Black Eyed Peas, Wyclef Jean, Damian Marley, Shaggy, UB40 and Kool and the Gang to name a few. Flo Rida can now be added to the prestigious list of performers gracing the main stage on the St. Maarten Heineken Regatta Sunday, taking place on March 8th 2020.

More musicians and entertainment are to be announced in the coming weeks, follow us on Instagram and Facebook to stay up to date!

20. Vesna Taverna Reopens Nights Early in November

Vesna Taverna in Simpson Bay just about never closes for lunch or breakfast — go any day of the week for a great meal. At night, they been closed for the last few months — their annual closing, when Vesna and Yannick spend time in Paris further perfecting their already practically perfect culinary skills in preparation for new and innovative dishes and desserts they will be offering during the coming season.

They expect to be open at the beginning of November and should be open Tuesday or Wednesday through the following Sunday every week. Once they have reopened, we'll announce it and give you the exact dates and times of evening operation.

The food is great, the service superb (even when they're busy in high season), and Vesna and Sally are always a hoot to watch. Prices are very reasonable, too.

You'll find them in Simpson Bay just north of the Dutch side drawbridge.

21. Spiga Reopens Today

It's the best news most lovers of fine dining could possibly hear: Spiga Restaurant, which we have long regarded as the best restaurant in Grand Case and one of the three best restaurants on the island, reopens after a long seasonal closing today (Monday). They're located across the street from Tijen Parfumerie at the northern end of Grand Case near Boulevard de Grand Case.

Spiga exemplifies highly innovative, creative, perfectly executed Italian fine dining. Their restaurant is a beautifully restored Creole building with a multi-award-winning kitchen staff and seasoned, attentive servers.

The restaurant, a standout for many years, is owned and operated by Ciro and Lara Russo. Our advice: GO. In fact, go early in your trip so you will be lucky enough to know how great this restaurant is and can go multiple times. See also our restaurant of the week article, which follows.

22. Restaurant of the Week: Spiga

Superb, classy, outstanding Italian is on the menu every night except Sundays (closed Sunday) at Spiga, long a real Caribbean standout. Its reputation is near-legendary. Go early during your trip because you will absolutely want to return.

See our separate article on Spiga's reopening, above.

Here are recently featured SXM restaurants:

Spiga, www.spiga-sxm.com (featured 10/20/19) New bar, great staff, service, and phenomenal food. Everything is great, appetizers are out of this world. Not to be missed.

IZI Ristorante Italiano, www.izirestaurant.com (featured 10/14/19). Open for lunch and dinner except Monday, when they're closed. Great food from one of SXM's very best restaurants. Fun atmosphere, too.

Isola next to Hollywood Casino in 3impson Bay Resort, 7/13/19. 100% redesigned, inside and out, floor to ceiling and everything inside. Just go.

Pineapple Pete, 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 3impson bay. Essentially the same menu, same staff, same great food/service.

Mario Bistro 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 (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 4/15/19. Just go....

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

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

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, 3impson 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 (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 (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.

23. Where Are They Now?

This is the second in a series of articles about where the people are who served you in the past at extremely popular SXM restaurants. If you've been going to SXM for any length of time — or, in fact, if you're an ex-pat now living there — you will find interesting information right here. Since they moved on from their original restaurants, many SXM restaurateurs and restaurant employees have stayed in the business on the island. You may not know it, but we'll tell you where some of them are and where you can get those recipes you thought you'd never taste again.

We told this story recently, in a separate article, but we wanted to feature it here, where it belongs, in this new series.

After working for a number of years on a Royal Caribbean ship, where he was in charge of culinary, **David Foini** settled in SXM and opened a tiny wholesale pasta manufacturing business in Sandy Ground just west of the Marigot

drawbridge. Quickly, by popular request, he opened a tiny restaurant at night at the same location and started serving people in a very modest setting.

At times, David was sole cook and bottle washer — literally. He greeted people at the door, took their orders, cooked everything, and even walked people back to their car in the lot across the street.

Word spread quickly... and he struggled to keep up with the growing demand for his pasta and his cooking. Finally, shortly after the millennium, he gave up the pasta manufacturing business and made pasta only for his own restaurant, relocating to Atlantis Casino in a beautiful, highly upscale setting.

Word spread quickly. The restaurant started attracting legendary celebrities — among them TV and film actors, well-known musicians, billionaires, and of course thousands of tourists. David's *La Gondola* came to be the most sought after restaurant on the island.

Just before the beginning of the great recession, David felt that it was time to make a change, creating what was originally known as iZi Italian Pasta Lounge later changed to iZi Ristorante Italiano. Today, it continues to be an outstanding restaurant known for extraordinary dining but most of all now reputed for its incredible and exclusive *tasting menu*. You'll find David at iZi in Simpson Bay across Welfare Road from Pineapple Pete, and he would love to see you.

Watch for the next article in this series next week.

Featured so far in this series:

David Foini, **La Raviolina / La Gondola** / iZi (article #2)
Al & Lillian Wathey, **Turtle Pier / Nowhere Special** (article #1).

24. Getting SXM Questions Answered Quickly

Regardless of what time it is, people are always interacting with our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#) — asking questions, answering questions, getting answers or suggestions or recommendations from other people, posting thousands of pictures, etc.

With almost 24,000 participating members (more than twice that including their partners and friends), there's just about always a number of people around to answer any question or to offer recommendations. *You will also find some of the best businesses on the island occasionally posting information about what they offer, too — jewelers, car rentals, points of accommodation, restaurants, pharmacists, swimsuit retailers, and others.* The best place to get your questions answered quickly is our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#) -- check it out.

25. Annual Dutch Side Road Patching Starts Today (Mon)

Because of occasional tropical downpours during summer and early fall, the Dutch side often delays the bulk of its road patching for November and December. During this period, crews check the entire Dutch side and mark off areas of roads that need to be repaired/repaved. Later, other crews remove a large square or rectangular shaped area of top-level asphalt as is often done in the US for major road repaving projects. These bumpy areas tend to annoy motorists for a couple of weeks before they are finally repaved. We won't ask why the top-level asphalt stripping and repaving can't be done in one contiguous operation....

This series of projects across the Dutch side starts today and will continue probably through the end of the year. Roads should be fully ready to go and in much more pleasant shape around the first of the year.

Until then, expect occasional bumpiness.

26. Please Help Stop the Scourge of Brain Tumors...

Jeff Berger writes:

Our son Scott Berger has had two brain tumors. He's married with two kids and understandably his passion and ours is supporting the efforts of the National Brain Tumor Society (NBTS) in finding the cause of brain tumors, improving diagnostic tools, advancing treatment modalities, patient care, and more.

Scott in a few weeks will once again be active in the Brain Tumor Walk where he lives, in the Phoenix area. Please see more in [his post for the NBTS](#) and please help in any way you can. Every family affected by brain tumors will thank you - us especially! -*Jeff & Ilene*

27. Your Invitation: SkyMed Member Appreciation Luncheon 1/3

Starting in November, SkyMed members (read on even if you're not) will be receiving invitations by mail from SkyMed's headquarters in Scottsdale, Arizona, inviting them to come to our [SkyMed Member Appreciation Luncheon in Simpson Bay, St. Maarten, on January 3](#). The menu is fantastic, not at all surprising since SkyMed takes great care of its members. On hand will be Eleanore and Will Klein, Chairman/CEO and President of SkyMed respectively. Jeff Berger, long-time SkyMed Ambassador, will also be on hand.

Save the date. Not too long after formal invitations go out, we'll be inviting other St. Maarten / St. Martin visitors from the USA and Canada (as well as American and Canadian XPats) to join us as well. SkyMed is handling all arrangements. SkyMed TAKES YOU HOME® when you become critically ill or injured while traveling -- and not just to SXM. See www.skymed.com/jmb for more SkyMed info and call Jeff directly for answers to questions or to sign up by phone (that way we get credit). *Nothing else is SkyMed.*

28. 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 (Monday).

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 (that new website goes live soon), but to qualify for these bonuses, you must buy by phoning us at (508) 747-8281 or email Jeff at jeff@jmbcommunications.com with the subject SkyMed. Give us your phone number and time zone and we'll return your call as quickly as we can. Available exclusively to Americans, Canadians, and X-Pats.

30. Ensure Best SkyMed Deal - Jeff Berger / SkyMed.com/jmb

Our new SkyMed website is 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.

31. Going Somewhere 1/14or Later? Beat SkyMed's 90-day Exclusion of 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 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 guaranteed renewable annual or multiyear protection now at only about \$1.35/day, pre-existing conditions will be covered in full after a brief 90-day waiting period. SkyMed protects you in the USA, Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, the Bahamas, and all the nations of the Caribbean. Global protection is available as well. For answers to your questions, call us today at 508-747-8281.

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

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

Customer stories are below.

32. *****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, our new SkyMed site, going live shortly.. JMB members get big discounts off SkyMed's regular pricing: see the story about JMB Website Supporters in this section.

More Info on SkyMed...

On its guaranteed renewable annual and multiyear memberships, SkyMed has a 90-day waiting period for coverage of pre-existing conditions -- everything else is covered in full as soon as your SkyMed membership has been approved, per SkyMed's member services agreement.

If you're traveling more than three months into the future, you can beat that one-time 90-day pre-existing conditions exclusion by joining today. That way the 90-day exclusion period will be over by the time you travel -- so you're covered in full, including pre-existing conditions, at that time.

SkyMed Takes You Home® when you become critically ill or injured when traveling. There is no age limit to apply, and once you're enrolled you can renew without further medical checks regardless of your attained age or your health at the time of renewal. Without SkyMed, if you need an Emergency Medical Evacuation, you must pay for it in cash, in advance. No cash, no evacuation. And the cost without SkyMed can be astronomical. Why risk that?

By contrast, if you're a SkyMed member, you call SkyMed directly and they make all the arrangements for all the services they provide. SkyMed Takes You Home -- what else matters?

And there is *no age limit to apply*. Call us at 508-747-8281 and ask for Jeff; he'll answer your questions and can take your application by phone, usually in under 10 minutes.

It's available to Americans, Canadians, and X-Pats from both countries. Short-term and annual coverage includes the USA (all 50 states), Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, the Bahamas, and all the nations of the Caribbean including Cuba. Global coverage is available on annual memberships for a \$99 additional yearly fee, but global coverage is standard on multiyear SkyMed Ultimate memberships, which are both SkyMed's best and its least expensive

medevac memberships.

You'll find an overview of all key SkyMed Features & Benefits here:

<http://www.everythingsxm.com/sxmweekly.../SkyMedServices.pdf>

Got questions? Call us daytimes (EDT) at 508-747-8281. Again, we can answer your questions and take your application by phone in about 10 minutes. We can set up evening phone appointments too. It's like fire insurance -- get it before you need it.

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

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

Ask Jeff for details -- call him at 508-747-8281 (SkyMed calls only, reg. hours Eastern time.) More info? See skymed.com/jmb. SkyMed is the Principal Sponsor of JMB SXM programs.

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

33. 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 everythingssxm.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.

34. Less Money, More Benefits, Ten Year Price Guarantee on SkyMed Ultimate

Get The Current Low Price
on SkyMed's Best 5-Year Ultimate Membership

and keep the current low price on your first 5-yr. renewal.
That's a 10-year price guarantee.
More benefits... same price.

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

35. Please Patronize JMB Sponsors (Updated 10/14)

AMUSEMENTS

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

BOAT TOURS

Celine Charters (Enigma)

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)

Sunshine Properties (new)

RESORTS:

Belair Beach Hotel

3impson 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 (3impson 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.

Sunshine Properties has just joined us.

Relocation / "Papers" Consulting Companies

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

Updated 10/14/19

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

SXM Weekly News, our everythingSXM.com website and its Hurricane Center, and our [Everything SXM Facebook 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 with the subject "JMB Sponsorships". We'll get complete information to you quickly. Winter is here and with it, plenty of opportunity to bring more tourists into your business not only in the short term, but especially as tourist business increases throughout this year and into 2020. Contact us today for more information.

St. Maarten / St. Martin Homes, Villas, Businesses, Commercial Properties, and Residential Properties for Sale (NEW):

[Click to access our recommended real estate agent, Arun Jagtiani, featured on HGTV.](#)

Rent Out or Sell Your Timeshare (both SXM and Worldwide) -- Frequently Updated

JMB members can run up to 10 free ads on our website per 12-month period to rent out or sell St. Maarten / St. Martin timeshare weeks they own -- or any timeshares, anywhere worldwide. If you're not a member, learn more about membership here: http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/about_xsm/paypal.shtml .

Want to rent or buy a week?

2017 St. Maarten / St. Martin Timeshare Weeks For Rent or Sale are posted at http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/timeshare_rent_sale/index.shtml Listings are now updated every few weekdays. Ads are free (no commission) but are accepted from JMB Website Supporters members only.

SECTION 5: For Members Only

A. **Where to Get Member Info:** www.everythingsxm.com/secret

B. **Password Recovery Info:** Your username is the email address you have registered with JMB Website Supporters. If you forget your password, click "forgot / change password" in the orange login box near the masthead at www.everythingsxm.com. To change your password, click that same link.

C. **How To Submit Rental or Sale Ads or Update the Price in an Ad:** See www.everythingsxm.com/secret . Your username and password are required.

SECTION 6: Background Information for Travelers (For New Readers) Updated 7/2017

See www.everythingsxm.com.

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

To unsubscribe, go here: www.sxmweeklynews.com. You **CAN NOT** unsubscribe either by replying to this email or, if you are an AOL user, by clicking the *spam* button on AOL.

To change your email address, visit www.sxmweeklynews.com; unsubscribe your old email address and subscribe your new one. *JMB Website Supporters members should notify Membership Services of the new email address for continued Secret Site access.*

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***

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

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

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

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