

From JMB / SXM Weekly News 11/26/19: Airport Financing; Sebastien; Hotel-Timeshare Special Edition (5 stories); Black Friday; Fodor's Essential Caribbean; USA Today; Thanksgiving [41 News Stories]

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HappyThanksgiving!

Vol. 2, #1225 --- Tuesday, November 26, 2019

News From St. Maarten / St. Martin / SXM



This Week's Stories

Airfare, Airlines & Weather News

Everything SXM Home Page

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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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Important Note:

This is Jeff Berger's / JMB Communications' St. Maarten & St. Martin / SXM Weekly News, published every Monday (Tuesdays during most holiday weeks). You are receiving St. Maarten & St. Martin "SXM" Weekly News because you subscribed to it and/or are a JMB Website Supporters member.

Please do stay with us for all the latest tourist-oriented news from St. Maarten / St. Martin / SXM all year long. Now read by more than 334,000 people around the world...

Get Important SXM News as it Happens & Lots of Pictures Too from our Facebook and Twitter Pages:



Protect your vacation and business travel with SkyMed Emergency Medical Evacuation Membership



Download PDFs of Recent Editions ---- Attention iPad, iPhone, Note, and Android Users

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

You can also download PDFs of recent editions here:

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

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

Get Your Own Free Weekly Copy of SXM Weekly News:

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

Enter your email address at the top and click SUBMIT. When you receive the confirming email, click the confirming link and you're in

TOP STORIES IN THIS ISSUE:

Scroll Down for Full Table of Contents; this edition features many new stories about your favorite island:

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Cover Yourself With Emergency Medical Evacuation Protection from SkyMed
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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:

Not in archives.

SXM Timeshare Sale of The Week:

Not in archives.

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



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

"Like" Our Facebook St. Maarten Timesharing Group

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

Search the SXM Weekly News Archives:

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

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

Archives prior to April 12 2014 (old format):

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

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

www.linkedin.com

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

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

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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 agents](#)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

All JMB Newsletters Read *From JMB*

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

THIS WEEK'S STORIES:

Stories are numbered; scroll down for stories of interest.

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

1. Trop. Storm Sebastien's Winds Divert a Few SXM Flights

Tropical storm Sebastian, which formed well north and east of SXM early last week, caused rare westerly winds across SXM, interfering with normal flight arrivals at Princess Juliana SXM Airport.

Normally, planes land west to east, into the wind. Westerly winds are rare and are no problem for small planes, which can land by approaching over the lagoon. But there's insufficient approach space for larger aircraft to land from the lagoon end of the airport runway. Most planes landed successfully anyway, but some that had been circling over the ocean waiting for winds to subside had to be diverted to San Juan to refuel, then return. The delay of several hours for some incoming flights delayed outgoing flights and screwed up a number of connections for ongoing passengers.

Fortunately, the storm didn't dawdle much. As of today, Tuesday, its remnants were over Ireland.

2. Temporary New Govt To Sign Airport Loan Papers "In Days"

"In days" is the key since no one is saying when, exactly. The Kingdom of the Netherlands offered this \$120-million package of renovation grants / loans in February, 2019. Had they been signed then, the Airport would be about finished now.

Hopefully "in days" means this week. We'll let you know.

3. How Likely Are You To Get Bumped?

Ever wonder how likely you are to get bumped from your next flight due to airline overbooking or ticketing incompetence? Here are [rankings of all major airlines](#) in terms of the number of passengers they book. Some of the airlines high on this list do serve SXM.

4. Hurricane Season Ends November 30

Thankfully, the 2019 hurricane season ends this Saturday, November 30.

It was yet another very busy season when earlier predictions had suggested otherwise. The worst storm was hurricane Dorian which, with 185 mile-per-hour sustained winds like hurricane Irma had when it slammed St. Maarten in 2017, cost many lives in Grand Bahama and billions of dollars in damage.

Of course, mother nature doesn't pay much attention to calendars, but the likelihood of additional hurricanes during the next week and beyond is small. Nonetheless, our Weather Center on everythingSXM.com will remain active and will post current satellite images and radar loops as well as forecasts for any off-season storms that may develop in the next few months.

We will also be updating the Weather Center by adding 2020 storm names to the site next spring. The 2020 hurricane season begins June 1, 2020.

5. 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***

6. 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.

7. Action Starting at Royal Islander Great Bay / Planet Hollywood

Site preparation has begun on one of the Great Bay buildings where Royal Islander Great Bay will be reincarnated and next door, where Planet Hollywood is expected to be constructed.

What we've heard is that construction of one building has been approved and is now starting. There is opposition to the height of the Planet Hollywood structure, though once the new government is in office it is widely expected that the project — critical to the economic future of the island — will be given its final construction clearance fairly quickly.

We believe the building for which site preparation is now underway relates to the Royal Islander structure, and not to Planet Hollywood. We'll be watching what happens and we plan to do some photography of the site in the coming weeks and share it in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#).

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8. Adonis Cupecoy Hotel Update

We continue to pass by the construction site of the Adonis Cupecoy hotel on Jordan Road not far from Barcode every week, and progress there continues.

Project developers have said they expect the hotel to open in December, which to us would be miraculous and helpful to the island economy. More realistically, we think, would be an opening date late this winter -- we think March.

Much more on this new hotel is [here](#).

9. Will New SXM "Secrets" Resort Open as Scheduled?

We spent some time late last week snooping around the site of the new Secrets Resort scheduled to open in February in Anse Marcel. At this point, at the end of November, the massive project seems to us to be moving slowly. The entire resort community in this area was obliterated by Irma, causing catastrophic damage.

Not only the big hotel, but also the commercial complex across the street from its front doors is being completely rebuilt.

Progress has been substantial, but completing this by spring would be a Herculean accomplishment. We will continue to check it often and we will be talking with management on the scene to see if we can get a current, accurate readout of when exactly Secrets will be opening.

10. Porto Cupecoy Hotel Coming

With little fanfare, a new hotel is taking shape at Porto Cupecoy — a superb location near excellent beaches and a growing culinary and condo community. Initial rooms at the hotel may should be available for rent in the next few weeks, with more units being worked on for occupancy a bit later in 2020.

As this new property gets closer to opening, we'll publish a lot more about it.

10a. Dawn Beach Club Renovations Done; Westin Next?

From DBC:

Dawn Beach Club News from the resort...

"Work hard, work smart but no matter [what] you do, work in silence. Great battles were won with stealth."

The Dawn Beach Club has discretely become the only timeshare resort in St. Maarten that has completely renovated all of its 99 villas. No quick cover ups! No short cuts were taken! All units have been completely rebuilt and refurnished to an absolutely brand new status.

As of December 7, 2019, all Dawn Beach Condominiums will have been completely revamped and will be open for reservations. If you have not yet used your 2019 week, please remember that weeks do not accrue automatically. If you wish to internally bank your 2019 week, please send an email to the reservations department.

From JMB: Now, so the script goes, work on the Westin gets going in earnest. They are working in stealth, announcing nothing about who, what, when, where, why, how. We'll keep watching and reporting....

11. A Very Unique Dec-Jan Rental Opportunity at Belair...

We wanted to make you aware of the very unexpected availability of a large chunk of Winter weeks during December and January that are now available at Belair Beach Hotel.

Here are the details:

Special opportunity December 2019 and January 2020 Two Bedroom, Two Bathroom, Second Floor, Belair Beach Hotel unit available for December 2019 and January 2020. This is the first time this unit has been available during this timeframe in many years. Once in a lifetime opportunity. Weekly Rate: \$1710, plus any applicable taxes; Special Monthly Rates available upon request. Email: info@island92.com to inquire.

Want to get away with family or friends for an extended vacation? This is your chance to do exactly that.

12. Want to Rent Out Or Sell Timeshare Units You Own?

If you own timeshare weeks that you would like to rent out or sell on our main everythingSXM.com website, you can do it once you become a member of our JMB Website Supporters island discount program. For all the details, go to our main site, everythingSXM.com and click on timeshare rentals in the navigation bar. You'll find the details about posting there. For information about joining JMB Website Supporters, click the page curl on all pages of everythingSXM.com. As a member, you will have access to a growing pallet of about 300 discounts and other benefits including the ability to post up to 10 ads per year in our rental pages at everythingxml.com.

The ability to post timeshare rentals on our site is limited to JMB Website Supporters members only, and is not available to any others at any price.

13. 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.

14. 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 everythingxml.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.

15. 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.

16. 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

17. JMB Member Discounts / Benefits -- Updates Underway

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

18. Black Friday / Cyber Monday / Holiday JMB Membership Sale NOW UNDERWAY

Our biggest sale of the year for our JMB Website Supporters SXM Island Discount Program is now underway. Both new and renewal pricing are the lowest of the year.

Make sure your new JMB membership or your renewal/reinstatement is in force well ahead of your next visit to the island: do it today. Sale pricing is shown below.



Holiday Membership Sale ---
Our Biggest of the Year --

NOW UNDERWAY!

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:**

New JMB memberships: 5 years, \$139 (best offer); 3 yrs., \$109; 1 yr., \$59
http://everythingsexm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml

Renewal JMB memberships: 6 years, \$149 (best offer); 3 yrs., \$89; 1 yr., \$49
<http://everythingsexm.com/sxm/reinstate/index.shtml>

Reinstatement JMB memberships:
6 years, \$149 (best offer); 3 yrs., \$89; 1 yr., \$49
<http://everythingsexm.com/sxm/reinstate/index.shtml>

19. Get SkyMed Now For All Upcoming Trips: Member Stories

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.

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.

20. Fodor's New "Essential Caribbean" Guide /s Essential

The 2020 edition of **Fodor's Essential Caribbean guide** has now been published and is available in bookstores and online shopping websites. Fodor's Essential Caribbean is the largest, most complete, most well respected guide to the entire Caribbean region published on the planet.

Fodor's asked Jeff Berger to research and write their entire coverage of St. Maarten, St. Martin, Anguilla, Statia, and St. Barth, and Jeff spent much of the winter visiting, researching, and writing all of those sections of the 2020 edition.

Fodor's 2020 online coverage of the same areas won't be live for another several weeks. For anyone traveling anywhere throughout the entire Caribbean basin, Fodor's Essential Caribbean is an indispensable information asset. We hope you enjoy it — and especially enjoy Jeff's contributions.

21. Emilio's Wins "Restaurant of The Year" Crystal Pineapple Award

The Crystal Pineapple Awards are presented each year to a number of SXM businesses involved in the hospitality industry; the awards were presented last weekend, and we heard that Emilio's Restaurant, owned by Norman and Su Wathey, has been voted Restaurant of the Year.

Congratulations to Norm and Su for this singular achievement.

22. USA Today Article Lauds SXM Beaches Among Caribbean's Best

A very timely article in *USA Today* by Caribbean reporter Melanie Reffes mentioned a number of the Caribbean's top beaches, among which the article included Mullet Bay beach here in SXM, one of the prettiest on the island and certainly one of the most popular with locals.

Here is [the story](#).

23. French Side Water Issues May Be Solved During December

Long-standing water issues on the French side may be completely solved this month, French side officials are saying.

As is the case on many Caribbean islands, the French side uses desalinated seawater as its main source of potable water. Under routine testing, the water was found several months ago to contain bromates in excess of recommended levels. After a great deal of work to find the cause and implement effective solutions throughout the system, the French side is doing follow-up tests to make sure everything is as it should be. Once tests verify that everything is running perfectly, the French side will lift the ban on water uses for drinking and other priority domestic purposes.

Once that decision has been made, we will publish it here in *SXM Weekly News* and also in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#).

More info is [here](#).

24. Make Thanksgiving Reservations Now: Restaurant List

If you are on SXM now or expect to be this Thursday, Thanksgiving day, it's important for you to make reservations for your Thanksgiving dinner well in advance.

We have asked local restaurants to post their Thanksgiving menus and pricing in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#). We've also created a file in the files area of that group showing which restaurants are offering Thanksgiving lunches and dinners along with additional information. See that page for detailed information, but please make your reservations early since many restaurants sell out.

25. Govt Belatedly Removing Boats from Lagoon, Mullet Pond

Now, 26 months after Hurricane Irma struck SXM, the island government is removing the last sunken boats from Simpson Bay lagoon and Mullet Pond. The delay involves the usual paperwork story since the government needed money to finance the removal, and the trust fund for hurricane recovery was the source of that funding. Lots of paperwork.

In any case, it's underway and the eyesores will soon be gone, hopefully including the wreck of the Pink Iguana, the closest big wreck near SXM Airport.

26. Badly Needed Traffic Lights Back at Prince Bernhard Bridge

The small Prince Bernhard bridge at the northwestern end of downtown Philipsburg was an easy go for motorists when the traffic lights there worked — but they failed frequently, and were essentially killed more than two years ago by hurricane Irma.

Despite the fact that without that traffic signals the intersection was very dangerous, the government had so many other things to deal with that it kind of slipped through the cracks. We and many others made a lot of noise about it over many months and now, finally, new lights have been installed and are finally operational.

Nonetheless, this should never have taken anywhere near 27 months to happen....

27. Where Are They Now? Mario's Bistro

This is the sixth 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. In this series, we'll tell you where some of them are and where you can get those recipes you thought you'd never taste again.

Mario's Bistro at its original channel location between Baie Nettle / Marigot Bay and the Marigot inner harbor was a Mecca of great dining when, quite frankly, SXM was not the Culinary powerhouse it is today. Didier was chief waiter and often intently slid across the damp floor on the way to seats by the fish-laden channel. People hardly ever saw Chef/owner Mario Tardiff, then a young guy who was running the whole show from their small, ever-busy kitchen.

The restaurant was small and busy and often had a two month wait for reservations and you were lucky if you could snare one before 10pm.

That area of Marigot had seen better days, and the building (where Mario was a tenant) was also starting to fall apart, so Mario made his big move to strong and gorgeous new quarters on the plaza at Porto Cupecoy.

Mario is still creating innovative entrees and delivering one of the absolute most extraordinary dining experiences you will ever have on SXM. Regardless of what you're craving, Mario's will make you think, "Wow!" at the end of you evening there. If anything his restaurant is the best it has ever been now, and the prices have moderated so there's no reason at all not to go. Service is always experienced and impeccable.

Save room for dessert...

See next story...

If you have suggestions for future articles, please email them to jmbweb@jmbcommunications.com with the subject where are they now.

Featured so far in this series:

Soon: L'Alabama

Mario Tardiff, **Mario's Bistro, Marigot on the Channel** (article #6)

Vesna **Sunshine Cafe** and Yannick **Fish Pot** (article #5)

Livio Bergamasco / **Da Livio** (article #4)

Gray & Jason & "Lulu" / **Busby's / Daniel's** (article #3)

David Foini, **La Raviolina / La Gondola** / iZi (article #2)

Al & Lillian Wathey, **Turtle Pier / Nowhere Special** (article #1)

28. Restaurant of the Week: Mario's Bistro

See prior story. One more thing: going early in your trip is essential since you WILL want to go back!

Here are recently featured SXM restaurants:

Mario Bistro www.mariobistrot.com/en/ **11/26/19** Mario's Bistro is one of the most spectacular culinary experiences you'll ever have. Go. Phenomenal dining at very reasonable prices. On the plaza at Porto Cupecoy, Cupecoy Beach.

Spiga, www.spiga-sxm.com (featured 11/18/19) New bar, great staff, service, and phenomenal food. Everything is great, appetizers are out of this world. Not to be missed.

Mama Pizza, Porto Cupecoy (featured 11/11/19) Excellent pizza, and sizeable portions / reasonable prices on numerous other Italian specialties. On the plaza at Porto Cupecoy, Cupecoy Beach.

Vesna Taverna, www.vesnataverna.com (featured 10/28/19). Now open every day for through B/L; dinner is offered Wednesday through Sunday.

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 Simpson 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 Simpson bay. Essentially the same menu, same staff, same great food/service.

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.

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, 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 (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.

29. 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.

30. 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

31. 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.*

32. 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).

33. 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.

34. 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.

35. Going Somewhere 2/26 or 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.

36. *****SkyMed Customer Stories***** Protect Against Pricy 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](#)

37. 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.

38. 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.

39. Please Patronize JMB Sponsors (Updated 11/26)

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

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)

SWIMWEAR:

Endless Summer Swimwear, Philipsburg & Simpson Bay

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

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

That's what we do:

www.websitesthatworkusa.com

In business since the web began --

a unit of JMB Communications.

40. 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_sxm/paypal.shtml .

Want to rent or buy a week?

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

SECTION 5: For Members Only

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

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

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

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

See www.everythingsxm.com.

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

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

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

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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