

From JMB / SXM Weekly News 12/16/19: FAA / 737 Max; AA PHL-SXM 767s; Airport Getting Its \$\$; Megayacht/Bridge Accident; French side status; SXM Vacation Giveaway Begins [39 News Stories]

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**Vol. 2, #1228 --- Monday, December 16, 2019**  
**News From St. Maarten / St. Martin / SXM**



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**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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**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...**

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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](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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**TOP STORIES IN THIS ISSUE:**

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

***Top Stories in Today's SXM Weekly News:***

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

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 ---- *\*\*\*\*\*Customer Stories\*\*\*\*\**  
 Cover Yourself With Emergency Medical Evacuation Protection from SkyMed  
 #####

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- *Please Patronize JMB Sponsors*
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**39 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](http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/timeshare_rent_sale/index.shtml) and features them here.

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

**SXM Timeshare Rental of The Week:**

**RENTAL** 2/29/2020 3/7/2020 Week 9 **Simpson Bay Resort** 1 Bedroom sleep 4 Saturday to Saturday check in. King bed plus 2 murphy beds, fully equipped kitchen in a newly remodeled unit. Balcony & extra large patio with beautiful ocean views & fantastic sunsets. Close to beach, pool, watersports, deli, restaurants and all amenities. \$1,900.00 Bonnie 603-321-7631 [sxmdream@hotmail.com](mailto:sxmdream@hotmail.com)

**SXM Timeshare Sale of The Week:**

**SALE** 2/29/2020 3/7/2020 Week 9 **Simpson Bay Resort** One bedroom, Regatta Week. Bouganvillea bldg. spectacular views, from patio, third floor,also panoramic views from dining room, with floor to ceiling window, views to marina. King bed, two Murphy beds also in living room, sleep 4. Full kitchen, dining room, living room. AC, televisions in two rooms. Granite, and stainless appliances. 5 star amenities. Olympic Pool with swim up bar, tennis courts, basketball. Casino on property, restaurants, shopping, night club, groceries, bakeries. Walking distance to all other off property restaurants. \$5,500.00 Karen [Rinkydy151@aol.com](mailto:Rinkydy151@aol.com)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

[http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/free\\_newsletters/sxmweeklynews.shtml](http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/free_newsletters/sxmweeklynews.shtml)

*Archives prior to April 12 2014 (old format):*

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

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

[www.linkedin.com](http://www.linkedin.com)

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

[http://www.everythingxsm.com/sxm/about\\_sxm/paypal.shtml](http://www.everythingxsm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml)

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- A. **Where to Get Member Info:** [www.everythingsxm.com/secret](http://www.everythingsxm.com/secret)
- B. **Password Recovery Info:** Your username is the email address you have registered with JMB Website Supporters. If you forget your password, click "forgot password" in the orange login box near the masthead at [www.everythingsxm.com](http://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](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. FAA Predicted 15 737 Max Crashes - But Never Told Anyone

After the first crash of the Boeing 737 Max jet about a year ago, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), without fanfare, conducted a study about the aircraft which concluded that 15 737 Max airliners would crash over the life of the plane if it were allowed to continue to fly as is. The FAA said nothing to anyone, and the second fatal 737 Max crash then happened, killing all aboard. It was only after that crash that the FAA finally moved to ground the airplane.

Much more on this story is [here](#) from the *Wall Street Journal*.

## 2. AA Upgrades PHL-SXM Flights to Bigger 767 Aircraft

In response to increasing demand for more seats on its flights from Philadelphia to SXM, American Airlines is changing equipment from 757 jets to significantly bigger 767 airplanes. Here is [the schedule](#).

## 3. Dutch Side Govt Finally Signs Grant to Fix SXM Airport

Last week, the Dutch side government finally signed agreements in Washington DC for substantial grants and other funding to complete the reconstruction and renovations of SXM Airport.

The Kingdom of the Netherlands offered the package almost a full year ago, but the Dutch side government studied it to death and turned it into a political football, causing what most people regarded as the unconscionable one year delay in moving ahead expeditiously to finish the reconstruction.

We expect to publish much more on what happens next very soon.

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

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

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

- 1) [Crown Weather Services](#) whose very inexpensive subscription service is, we feel, the best in the business.
- 2) Our "Weather" page at [www.everythingsxm.com](http://www.everythingsxm.com) -- it has current satellite images and radar loops and now all the latest NHC weather forecasts, outlooks, and advisories as well. There are now also active weather widgets on the site's home page.
- 3) Our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#), which publishes the latest advisories, watches, and warnings when SXM is threatened by any storms.
- 4) On or off the island, listen to Island 92 -- 91.9FM or see [www.island92.com](http://www.island92.com). They report island warnings at once and know exactly what's going on. You can listen on the web anytime through live streaming.
- 5) For a quick look at weather radar exactly where you are or where you're going, try the My Radar phone app or My Radar for Windows -- excellent programs.

Get a quick, current satellite look at the Atlantic basin anytime: <http://www.goes.noaa.gov/GIFS/ATWV.JPG> .

N. B.: *Again...Never rely on any website if you're in the path of a storm; always heed warnings from local authorities.*

### **Download your own NHC Hurricane Chart:**

Years ago, before we were all saturated with weather information from cable TV to local (redundant and repetitive) news and forecasts plus weather updates and bulletins on our smart phones, gas stations and television stations offered printed hurricane tracking charts so people at home could try to figure out for themselves whether they were about to get slammed by the latest hurricane.

We haven't seen hurricane tracking chart handouts for years, but if you want one they are easy to get.

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

More stories are below.

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## **Changing Your Email Address?**

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

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## **5. 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](http://www.skymed.com/jmb), then call us with questions or to sign up. Call 508-747-8281 any weekday. Thanks...

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See additional Airline Stories in our main NEWS section, Section IV.

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

## **6. Where to Find SXM Condo & Villa Rentals**

If you are looking for timeshare condos to rent for future SXM island vacations, please see our main SXM website, everythingSXM.com. It contains hundreds of rentals for 2020 as well as dozens of units for sale on the island. 2021 rentals will begin to appear on the site early in March, 2020. Our high-quality sponsors/partners offering villa rentals across the island also have a variety of properties to offer you. Here they are. We have also listed three hotel properties below that have rooms available for future stays in all seasons.

## **7. 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](mailto: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.

## **8. How To Rent Out Or Sell Your Timeshare Units**

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 everythingSXM.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.

## **9. Buying a Condo in SXM? Here's Important Info**

Just before Thanksgiving 2018, 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 '18 seminar is 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](#).

**Please check this link to [BrightPath](#) in SXM**, 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, or relocating there. They're located in the Puerta del Sol building opposite Avantika, Simpson Bay, Dutch side. Ask for Vivian Chamas and let her know you heard about BrightPath through Jeff Berger's *SXM Weekly News*.

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

## **10. JMB Member Discounts / Benefits -- Updates Underway**

Jeff will be working in December & January 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](#).**

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

## **10a. Megayacht Ecstasea Wipes Out Drawbridge Control Booth; No One Hurt**

The 282' super megayacht Ecstasea was attempting to enter Simpson Bay lagoon on Sunday when its bow door, open in a horizontal position and protruding from the bow, smashed into and demolished the one-person drawbridge control booth at the edge of the Simpson Bay bridge, hurling it into the channel. Miraculously, no one was hurt.

Moments before, a yacht crewmember was seen standing on the open door but fled in a hurry when he realized he was about to collide with the control booth.

The sole occupant of the control booth also quickly realized what was about to happen and fled to safety. He was unhurt, as were bystanders at the Yacht Club restaurant.

Originally bought more than 15 years ago by Russian billionaire Roman Abramovich, Ecstasea was later sold to an unnamed buyer.

A dollar estimate of the damage was not available at presstime late Sunday. The bridge itself is being manipulated manually without issue, and the accident has NOT affected service.

The collision was recorded live by witnesses at the Yacht Club; you can see it in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#).

The yacht did not appear to suffer any damage.

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## **10b. SXM Government Finally Names People to Mullet Bay Committee**

More than 24 years ago, hurricane Luis slammed SXM in what was, until that time, the island's most severe hurricane. It destroyed SXM's top hotel at the time, Mullet Bay Beach Resort (MBBR). The property, around the Mullet Bay Golf Club, has been cleared but has never recovered or been developed.

This committee, championed and headed by Member of Parliament Rolando Brison, will look into the complex ownership of the property. The ultimate objective is to transform it from its current status as a valuable wasteland into a property that serves Country St. Maarten, its people, and its tourists.

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## 10c. About the Protests on the French Side

There are several key factors to remember about the French Side demonstrations:

- > They are on the FRENCH SIDE ONLY. The Dutch side is NOT AFFECTED.
- > They are based on legitimate concerns by many people whose homes were destroyed by Irma. The government does not want people rebuilding in flood-prone areas where insurance is not obtainable. The people HATE the still-not-final policy since it expropriates their property. Some fear the government will sell their expropriated property to developers.
- > They are TEMPORARY. The government of the Collectivite (President Daniel Gibbs) is sympathetic to the plight of the many people who lost their homes and simply want to rebuild and is talking with them. The "Prefet" (top French national official) is pushing this logical but ruthlessly Draconian "solution". It is clear to everyone that the draft "solution" will not fly in French St. Martin.
- > They started with serious civil disobedience including blocking access to some roads, an approach some "striking" groups have used before to get their point across to the government. Hooligans and police-hating youths have jumped into these demonstrations and aggravated the situation by setting fire to junk cars used as barricades, throwing rocks at police and others, and demanding money from some motorists driving through areas where roads were blocked and the government has told people not to travel.
- > Many additional gendarmes (members of the French military) have been flown in and numerous Gendarmerie vehicles arrived by ship yesterday (late Sunday) from Guadeloupe. The ship was off-loaded in Galisbay near Marigot.
- > Tourist access to the French side has been TEMPORARILY stopped while this situation is being calmed and normalized and roads cleared by gendarmes. Schools and businesses have been closed. Both the U. S. and Canadian governments issued temporary "Level 1" travel advisories on Sunday for the FRENCH SIDE ONLY.
- > As always *SXM Weekly News* and our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#) will continue to cover this and all other news of consequence / significance to tourists as we have (in the case of *Weekly News*) since 1992.

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## 11. Don't Miss Our Holiday SXM Membership Sale -- Ends 12/24!

Our biggest sale of the year for our JMB Website Supporters SXM Island Discount Program ends 12/24. Both new and renewal pricing are the lowest of the year. We have few sales, so take advantage while this is offered; it ends soon.

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 --***

**\*\*\*\*\*ENDS 12/24!\*\*\*\*\***

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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:**

**New JMB memberships: 5 years, \$139 (best offer); 3 yrs., \$109; 1 yr., \$59**  
[http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/about\\_sxm/paypal.shtml](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>

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## **12. Want an SXM Vacation? Be Our 6.5-millionth Visitor**

Effective by 9 PM tonight, Monday, December 16, you can enter our paradise SXM vacation giveaway, described below.

In addition, if you are our 6.5 millionth visitor to everythingSXM.com, our main website, you will be a finalist in that vacation giveaway. If you are visitor number 6.5 million, you will see 6,500,000 in our hit counter. When that happens, click PRT SCN to print the screen you see, or get an image of it. Email that image to Susank [at] JMBcommunications.com with the subject 6.5 million. In the email, include your full name, address, and telephone number. When we create a list at random of 50 people who will be finalists in our giveaway next March, you will be on that list. You will be highly likely to be called and awarded a vacation prize.

**Here is more on our Paradise SXM vacation giveaway.** To enter the giveaway, go to our home page at everythingxsm.com tonight after 9pm EST. That's the only place & the only way you can enter our giveaway. All winners \*MUST\* be subscribers to SXM Weekly News (required); it's free. We will verify that all winners are subscribers.

Several people are going to win SXM vacations from us through **Paradise SXM**, and you might just be one of them.

**Paradise SXM** will be giving away several SXM vacations, including weeks at Simpson Bay Resort, Belair Beach Hotel, Adonis Cupecoy hotel, Azure Hotel and Art Studio on Simpson Bay beach, and El Zafiro hotel and restaurant on Simpson Bay beach -- and other properties to be announced.

The giveaway celebrates our site surpassing 6.5 million visits. Most of the weeks we give away will be handed out to randomly picked entries late in March. Some others — particularly at villas and condominiums to be announced — will be given away a bit later. All are subject to seasonal limitations and availability.

In addition to vacations, we will give away many dinners for two, gifts at jewelry stores, day sails, probably zipline trips, a car rental, and possibly some major gifts on one or two neighboring islands.

**Paradise SXM** will be one of our biggest Giveaways ever.

Several people will be winning vacations from us. Why not you?

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## 13. Philipsburg Businesses Struggle: Why?

Although Philipsburg businesses have been struggling for the last several years, it appears that their struggling has been aggravated by two factors.

First, the schedule of a number of ships, we're told by downtown merchants, has them visiting other islands before they visit SXM — which means their wallets were full at other islands and are less full when they visit SXM.

Second, for whatever reason, the St. Maarten Ports Authority decided that it wanted to build a little village at the port, where a few businesses paying high rents would put money into its corporate pockets while removing it from the pockets of consumers who would otherwise go to Front Street, Philipsburg. It strikes us that this was a good idea for the Ports Authority but a bad deal for every merchant in Philipsburg and for the people who live and work on SXM.

It would've made sense for the entire island — and particularly for Philipsburg merchants — if the Ports Authority had instead spent money making it faster and easier for passengers to get to Philipsburg, which many probably don't realize is only steps away from the port. The consequence of this is to put a burden on Philipsburg merchants instead of enhancing the amount of money that cruise ship passengers spend throughout the Dutch side's capital city which, we think, would've been a far more enlightened approach.

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## 14. December Winds Howling

December winds — prominent every year at this time as the climate begins to change from rainy season to winter — were quite pronounced last week, and were welcomed by many locals for the refreshingly brisk clear air. There were also a number of heavy showers, also not unusual this time of year.

By mid January, weather will be its usual warm, dry winter self — welcomed with open arms by frozen tourists arriving from the north.

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## 15. Warning About Falling Coconuts

Once you've spent a bit of time on the island, you'll notice that coconuts grow quickly and that when mature they may fall to the ground with a loud thump.

Occasionally, they land on people's heads — never a good thing.

So, two pieces of advice. First, don't park your car under a palm tree. And second, never lay romantically under a beautiful palm tree on a serene beach (speaking of coconut palms specifically).

The life you save may be your own....

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## 16. Tourists Highly Critical of P-Burg Skincare Hawkers

Tourists have never been particularly enamored of people in front of jewelry stores urging them to enter.

Now, they have other people to ignore: a small army of young, aggressive skincare balm peddlers who stand in front of more than half a dozen stores in Philipsburg stopping pedestrian traffic to smear goop on unsuspecting faces and offer them to buy this miracle "non-surgical" cure for wrinkles for a mere \$150 per tiny tube.

One reader mentioned these individuals in a post in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#) and many others got on the bandwagon to agree with the observation that they are incredibly annoying.

If you want to eliminate wrinkles, ask your dermatologist to recommend something or ask a pharmacist... these folks remind us of OPC's who have been hawking timeshares on SXM for years -- but the skincare hawkers are even more strident and annoying.

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## 17. Guayabera Beach Club Closes...

Guayabera Beach Club which we wrote about here and in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#) several times last winter, has closed.

Located along the shore of Simpson Bay on Simpson Bay Road (which is parallel with airport road but on the coast north of the Simpson Bay police station), Guayabera was built inside a very old Creole home and was an ambitious venture to offer creative fare for breakfast, lunch, and dinner, along with quality local entertainment during some evenings. It was operated on a shoestring by people with other jobs and word about it spread by mouth, but that wasn't enough to sustain it long-term. It closed permanently this month, a significant loss of a very creative young business.

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## 18. Historic Philipsburg Courthouse To Be Restored

Originally built in 1793, the Philipsburg courthouse at the center of town on Front Street is probably the single most photographed building on the entire island. After being destroyed by a hurricane, it was rebuilt in 1825 and has been meticulously maintained ever since.

Weather has not been kind to St. Maarten and the courthouse now needs some restoration, which is being undertaken in stages. Regardless of the progress of the restoration, it will remain one of the most photographed locations on the island.

Please see the article about the Courtyard Restaurant next door to the historic courthouse; it's below.

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## 19. Courtyard Restaurant Offers Convenient Respite

Located next door to the historic courthouse in Philipsburg, the Courtyard Restaurant (formerly Kangaroo Court) offers a variety of reasonably priced breakfast and lunch selections at this very convenient, central downtown Philipsburg location.

We heard about it from its owner and stopped in to give the place a look over last week. The location is always been outstanding — and historic: it's a building that was once a salt warehouse and if you look in the seams of its stone walls, you will still see a bit of salt oozing from them, many decades after its use as a salt warehouse had ended. That's about as historical as you can get. In the meantime, give the restaurant a try.

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## 20. Jimbo's Is Going To Move...

James "Jimbo" Morris has been the namesake of Jimbo's TexMex restaurant on Simpson Bay lagoon on the Dutch side as long as anyone can remember, but he said to a crowd of timeshare owners at Simpson Bay resort yesterday that he has lost his lease and is in the last three months of his tenure at that location. He must move at the end of March.

We've always thought that his current place is quintessentially Caribbean and would make an excellent location for a movie scene. If any producers are interested in doing that, they better act fast because the building is expected to go once Jimbo vacates it. It's beautiful and features mini-pools and waterfalls.

What about the future of Jimbo's? Jimbo is actively looking for new location and we will tell you here as soon as he finds one.

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## 21. Top 25 Celebrity Yachts...

Over the last few weeks, Simpson Bay lagoon has been filling up rapidly with some gorgeous yachts. If anything, it looks like the numbers are higher than in recent years.

Celebrity yachts are often seen in the lagoon or outside in Simpson Bay. But, who owns them? You'll find some of them listed right here in this [compilation of the top 25 celebrity yachts](#).

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## 22. '20 Destination Magazine Warrants Reading

Both American Airlines and United Airlines offer passengers headed for SXM a copy of *Destination St. Martin* magazine, also found at hotels and timeshares across SXM -- an eye-opening look at island attractions through the seasoned eye of an editor who lives on the island and several freelance writers.

One of those freelance travel writers is Jeff Berger, who also publishes *SXM Weekly News*, everythingSXM.com, his [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#), and who recently visited, researched, and wrote the entire St. Maarten, St. Martin, Statia, Anguilla, and St. Barth sections of the all-new 2020 *Fodor's Essential Caribbean directory*, the 2020 version of which was published last month and is at leading bookstores, both online and bricks and mortar.

The *Destination* article takes a close look at medical evacuation services and offers some criteria for travelers to consider in selecting the best programs.

You'll find many other articles of interest in the new 2020 *Destination* magazine and we urge you to take a close look at it during your next trip to SXM.

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## 23. 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](http://www.skymed.com/jmb), our new SkyMed site, going live shortly.. JMB members get big discounts off SkyMed's regular pricing: see the story about JMB Website Supporters in this section.

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## 24. Where Are They Now?

*This is the xth 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.*

No story this week: **If you have suggestions for future "Where Are They Now" articles, please email them to [jmbweb@jmbcommunications.com](mailto:jmbweb@jmbcommunications.com) with the subject where are they now.**

### Featured so far in this series:

Daniel Jurczenko **Busby's, Daniel's by the Sea** (article #8)  
Karin Mikitz and Pascal Potin, **L'Alabama** (article #7)  
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)

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## 25. Restaurant of the Week:

Returns next week.

### Here are recently featured SXM restaurants:

**IZI Ristorante Italiano**, [www.izirestaurant.com](http://www.izirestaurant.com) (featured 12/2/19). Open for lunch and dinner except Monday, when they're closed. Great food from one of SXM's very best restaurants. Fun atmosphere, too.

**Mario Bistro** [www.mariobistrot.com/en/](http://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](http://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](http://www.vesnataverna.com) (featured 10/28/19). Now open every day for through B/L; dinner is offered Wednesday through Sunday.

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

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

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

**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](http://www.sxmfreedomfighters.com/restaurant) 4/15/19. Just go....

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

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

**Topper's** <http://www.sxmtoppers.com/> (featured 1/28/19) One of SXM's oldest and busiest restaurants, Breakfast, lunch, dinner, and late dining. Open morning until late night. Sports on TV. Karaoke some nights.

**Dany & John's Cupecoy Beach Bar** (on Cupecoy beach); follow the road toward Shore Pointe and turn near Shore Pointe to get there. (Featured 1/20/2019) Parking, drinks, chairs and umbrellas, lolo-type food, and an all-over tan. What could possibly be better?

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

**SkipJack's SXM**, <http://www.skipjacks-sxm.com/> (featured 12/24/18) SkipJack's triumphantly reopened with an entirely new dining deck late in January, 2019. Great place - go!

**Enigma C3 luxury Catamaran**, [www.sailstmaarten.com](http://www.sailstmaarten.com) (featured 8/7/17). Neil's new boat is as big as Celine Too was and it has now entered service. Neil is known for amazing cooking on board his boats.

**Domino's Pizza** <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Dominos-Pizza-St-Maarten/95635717338> (featured 9/16) Open.

**The Hideaway**, <http://www.lavistaresort.com/restaurant.html> (featured 10/31/16) Open; contact the restaurant for details and reservations. Updated 3/2/18.

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

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

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

**Jimbo's**, [www.jimboscafe.com](http://www.jimboscafe.com) (featured 6/12/17) Reopened.

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

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

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## 26. 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.



## 27. LAST CALL: Your Invitation: SkyMed Member Appreciation Luncheon 1/3; Registration Deadline 12/17/19

If you are either a SkyMed member or are interested in learning more about SkyMed, the medical evacuation membership service we've been recommending since 2001, you are invited to our first SKYMED MEMBER APPRECIATION LUNCHEON in SXM on January 3. [Please see details here](#); registration is required.

Bring friends who should also hear this information, but ALL must be preregistered. Looking forward to seeing you there!

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## 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 recently been thoroughly updated. Each week's newsletter is usually added just hours after mailing of that issue to its subscribers completes (Monday).

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## 29. Major SkyMed Promo Now Underway

A major promo continues on SkyMed memberships. Not only are all multiyear SkyMed memberships heavily discounted for JMB members, but *when you buy a new multiyear SkyMed membership through us or upgrade your annual SkyMed membership bought from us to a multiyear membership, we will extend your JMB membership on us for the number of years you buy SkyMed.*

Example: Upgrade to or buy a new five-year SkyMed membership through us, and we give you a free five-year extension of your existing JMB Website Supporters membership. All you need to do is forward us a copy of the acknowledgement you receive from SkyMed after you buy new or upgrade through us. For info, see [skymed.com/jmb](http://skymed.com/jmb) (that new website goes live soon), but to qualify for these bonuses, you must buy by phoning us at (508) 747-8281 or email Jeff at [jeff@jmbcommunications.com](mailto:jeff@jmbcommunications.com) with the subject SkyMed. Give us your phone number and time zone and we'll return your call as quickly as we can. Available exclusively to Americans, Canadians, and X-Pats.

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

Our new SkyMed website is [www.skymed.com/jmb](http://www.skymed.com/jmb), now live; please bookmark that and not any other site.

**When you're ready to sign up for SkyMed, be sure to call us and let us take your application by phone; that way we get credit.** It takes about 10 minutes, and we submit it electronically. We know what SkyMed is looking for and we can make sure you submit it efficiently; that way we do get credit for the purchase, which in a small way helps fund this newsletter and everything else we do for you.

SkyMed inquiries only can be received at 508-747-8281 during regular office hours, Eastern time. Thank you. Customer stories are below.

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## 31. Going Somewhere? 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](mailto:jmbweb@jmbcommunications.com) with the subject SkyMed.**

Of course we'll be happy to answer your questions and we can tell you about everything SkyMed offers. Totally up to you what type of coverage you select. Much more info about SkyMed is in the next story.

You'll find an overview of all key SkyMed Features & Benefits [here](#).

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

Customer stories are below.

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## 32. \*\*\*\*\*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.

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**Not all trips end well: anything can happen when you travel. Being a member of SkyMed was the**

**common thread in all these cases.** *SkyMed takes its members home, usually in a private, ICU-equivalent medical*

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

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

**Nobody is immune: anything can happen anywhere.** Do it today. To learn more, visit [www.skymed.com/jmb](http://www.skymed.com/jmb), our new SkyMed site, going live shortly.. JMB members get big discounts off SkyMed's regular pricing: see the story about JMB Website Supporters in this section.

**More Info on SkyMed...**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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## 35. Please Patronize JMB Sponsors (Updated 12/16)

### **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**

**Taloula's Blue Bitch Bar**

**Nowhere Special**

**ROXXY Bar / Restaurant (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](http://blueparadiserealty.com).

### **[GoBeach Vacations](#)**

**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 12/2/19

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

**That's what we do:**

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

**In business since the web began --**

***a unit of JMB Communications.***

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

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

Our Sponsorships enable SXM businesses to present their products or services to a huge, responsive audience of tourists from around the world, but primarily the USA and Canada. (Our site is based in the U. S. and is focused on the needs of tourists traveling to SXM.) If you own an SXM business and want to look into and take advantage of this unique marketing opportunity, please email [susank@jmbcommunications.com](mailto:susank@jmbcommunications.com) with the subject "JMB Sponsorships".

We'll get complete information to you quickly. Winter is here and with it, plenty of opportunity to bring more tourists into your business not only in the short term, but especially as tourist business increases throughout this year and into 2020. Contact us today for more information.

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

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

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

JMB members can run up to 10 free ads on our website per 12-month period to rent out or sell St. Maarten / St. Martin timeshare weeks they own -- or any timeshares, anywhere worldwide. If you're not a member, learn more about membership here: [http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/about\\_sxm/paypal.shtml](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](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](http://www.everythingsxm.com/secret)
- B. **Password Recovery Info:** Your username is the email address you have registered with JMB Website Supporters. If you forget your password, click "forgot / change password" in the orange login box near the masthead at [www.everythingsxm.com](http://www.everythingsxm.com). To change your password, click that same link.
- C. **How To Submit Rental or Sale Ads or Update the Price in an Ad:** See [www.everythingsxm.com/secret](http://www.everythingsxm.com/secret). Your username and password are required.

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

See [www.everythingsxm.com](http://www.everythingsxm.com).

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

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

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

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

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

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<http://www.everythingsxm.com> . You cannot join by emailing us.

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

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

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

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

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

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

12/16/19 #V2-1228 6:00 am AST

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