

From JMB / SXM Weekly News 6/15/20: Flight Announcement Due Today; 20 Named Storms Possible this Hurricane Season; New JetBlue Nonstops; That False Rumor About Club O; Your Passport Renewal; Lake Atrium; Grand Case [36 Top SXM News Stories for Tourists]

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**Vol. 3, #1253 --- Monday, June 15, 2020**  
**News From St. Maarten / St. Martin / SXM**



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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](http://www.jmbcommunications.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 about 340,000 people around the world...**

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

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-- ***Get SkyMed BEFORE You Need It***

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-- ***Please Patronize JMB Sponsors***

#####

-- ***SXM Business Owners: How To Increase Foot Traffic***

***Please see our [complete Table of Contents](#) below.***

**36 News Stories This Week**

**[Scroll down for our complete Table of Contents](#)**

## **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://everythingSXM.com/sxm/timeshare\\_rent\\_sale/index.shtml](http://everythingSXM.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://everythingSXM.com/sxm/about\\_sxm/paypal.shtml](http://everythingSXM.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:***

**Distributed versions only**

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

**Distributed versions only**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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A. **Where to Get Member Info:** [www.everythingsxm.com/secret](http://www.everythingsxm.com/secret)

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

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(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. Flight Resumption Announcement & Protocols Due Today

SXM's long-awaited announcement of the resumption of flights between the island and North America is expected to be issued by this evening, Monday, June 15. Once that happens, we will post it immediately in a bulletin to members of our JMB Website Supporters Island Discount Program, and will also post it in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#).

To get that specific news right away, as it happens, use our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#). Even when we mail notice about this to our *SXM Weekly News* audience, it takes quite a few hours for that mailing to complete -- we now have well over 340,000 readers worldwide, including pass-alongs.

## 2. 20 Named Storms Possible This Year...

During the hurricane season which began June 1 and ends November 30, Chief Meteorologist Rob Lightbown of Crown Weather says we may see an unusually high number of storms — now possibly as many as 20 this hurricane season.

"Another item of note is that the Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) already looks pretty strong in terms of convection for early June. Right now though, the ITCZ is too far south to really start helping with producing tropical systems. In addition, there is quite a bit of moisture noted in water vapor loops over western Africa into the far eastern Atlantic and the amount of dust and dry air outbreaks from Africa seem to be far less intense for this time of year as compared to previous years.

"This, unfortunately, is a harbinger of things to come in terms of what I think will be a very active Hurricane Season (I'm now thinking 20 named storms (including the 3 we already have had), 10 hurricanes and 4 major hurricanes). I still think that the Caribbean, much of the US Gulf Coast, the Bahamas and the Carolinas are at particular risk this season for at least 1 hurricane landfall. Of those 4 areas mentioned, I do think that the Caribbean is at particularly high risk for a hurricane impact this season."

Rob is our go-to source of accurate, timely hurricane information. We have long subscribed to his private forecasting service both for the insights and early warning it provides for St. Maarten and also for our location in coastal Plymouth Massachusetts. If you live or visit anywhere where tropical storms or hurricanes ever hit, a very inexpensive subscription to Crown Weather's private forecasting service is a must. TV meteorologist friends also characterize Rob as the go-to guy for accurate hurricane predictions. Learn much more at [crownweather.com](http://crownweather.com).

## 3. Jet Blue Adds Boston Nonstops on Tuesdays Starting in Oct.

When double-checking our flights back to SXM this fall, we noticed something interesting: JetBlue has now added nonstops to SXM from Boston on Tuesdays starting late in October.

Increasing numbers of passengers who go to SXM for their timeshare weeks try to get there several days earlier to relax for a while before moving into their weeks. Doing this also eliminates the need for them to arrive at the airport on Saturday, always a hectic day there. SXM has increasing numbers of rooms at small hotels, villas, guesthouses, etc.

We have a feeling these flights will sell out early, particularly during the coming high season since so many thousands of people want to get to the relative tranquility of SXM and avoid Saturday airport crowds. See more at [jetblue.com](http://jetblue.com).



## 4. Flight Resurgence Evidence from TSA

Evidence of the resurgence in air traffic, reported here last week, comes from the TSA, which recently topped [1.2 million screenings](#) in one weekend for the first time since March. It's good news for the airlines (finally) and good news for passengers, since most airlines continue to keep middle seats empty except for family members and are doing a lot of work to make sure cabins are properly sanitized between flights and while in the air.

## 5. Aviation Week: Major Carrier Bankruptcies Now Unlikely

*Aviation Week and Space Technology* magazine, which has been the cutting edge information source in the aviation industry for decades, wrote recently that [major carrier bankruptcies](#) are now unlikely.

US-based airlines have an advantage over foreign carriers that is not easy to dismiss: it's their extensive domestic route systems. As we reported last week here, flight reservations are rising now perhaps a bit faster than airlines expected. American, the biggest carrier in the country, seems to be attracting more passengers, likely thanks to its extensive route system.

## 6. Cruise Tourism Coming Back

Information about cruise tourism, in fact, was released before information about the return of flights was scheduled to be released by the island. Here is the news about [cruise tourism](#).

## 7. Where to Find Current SXM Weather Info

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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## **8. Where to Download the NHC's Hurricane Tracking Chart**

Blank hurricane tracking charts similar to those that have been used by the National Hurricane Center for many years are now available for download [here](#) (that's the NHC download site). Also noted above; republished in case you missed it.)

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## **9. 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...



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

### **10. Towers at MB Employees Livid Over 50% Pay Cut**

For financial reasons related to its ownership, the Towers at Mullet Bay timeshare resort has neither completed repairs required in the wake of hurricane Irma almost 3 years ago, nor allowed timeshare owners to use the units that are habitable, nor provided timeshare owners with any concrete information about when their units will be restored and habitable.

Now, apparently because of Covid, the resort has informed its 60 employees that their salary will be cut in half and that they, too, will continue to be told nothing about the future of the resort. Pleas from timeshare owners and hotel workers' union representatives to the government to intervene have yielded no results.

Here is the full story from the [SXM Daily Herald](#).

### **11. 2021 Rentals Available Now at Everythingsxm.com**

SXM timeshare owners who are members of JMB Website Supporters have begun to post 2021 timeshare rentals on our main SXM website, everythingSXM.com. Much more information about available rentals is on our timeshare rentals and sales page on that site. It is certainly not too early to start making reservations for 2021.

### **12. 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.

### **13. 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

### 14. News About JMB Member Discounts / Benefits Updates

Once the island reopens to tourism, we will be working 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 in *SXM Weekly News* and will also be noted in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#).

JMB Website Supporters 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

### (15.) JMB Island Discount Program Promotion Underway

First launched 18 years ago, our *JMB Website Supporters SXM Island Discount Program* now offers about 300 discounts across the island — a number which we expect to grow once the island reopens for tourism (see related stories in this issue). Although you personally may not return to SXM in the next month or so, no doubt you are looking forward to going back as soon as it is practicable. For that reason — and in recognition of the financial impact Covid has made on many tourists — we want to make it easier for people to obtain our suite of SXM discounts, whether they're doing so for the first time or renewing a JMB Website Supporters membership.

For that reason, we are now introducing **plus 1** — a bold new program that gives everyone buying or renewing a multiyear JMB Website Supporters membership an additional full year of membership on us. This bonus is available today on all new JMB membership and renewal purchases, although you won't see anything about it on everythingSXM.com.

When your new JMB membership or your renewal is processed from now (5/18) through the end of June, we will automatically give you **plus 1** — an additional full year of JMB membership when you start a new **multiyear** JMB membership or renew one for more than one year.

**We are also doing this for members of the US military and first responders who are eligible for our Military/first responders memberships.** When you order a new or renewal four year military/first responders membership, you'll get an additional year on us if the transaction is completed by the end of this month. That is five years for \$67.96, which is our usual four year ultra low pricing for Military/first responder memberships and renewals. Ends June 30.

Regardless of when you intend to travel or when your current membership expires, this is an offer you should not pass up. We normally now only very rarely have any kind of sales, so **plus 1** is an offer that won't last long and that you should take advantage of now.

Orders can be placed through PayPal in the usual way, and you do not need to do anything special to be able to get this plus one offer. But you do need to respond now, since the offer will expire at the end of June. Much more information about new JMB memberships can be found on our main site, everythingSXM.com, by clicking the page curl. Renewal information is on our JMB members-only secret website, which members can access through logging in via the orange login box below the masthead on all pages of our main site, everythingSXM.com. **Plus 1** is automatic -- you will not find it mentioned on our site, but again, it ends June 30, 2020.

If you have any questions at all, please don't hesitate to contact Membership Services at 508-830-3456 during regular office hours on weekdays, Eastern time.

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### (16.) SkyMed Offers Extra Months of Protection for \$0

In recent weeks, SkyMed international has offered six months of free protection as a bonus to people who opt to sign up for their top global membership, the five-year SkyMed Ultimate. This membership provides **SkyMed takes you home®** medical evacuation protection throughout the United States, Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, the Bahamas, and all the nations of the Caribbean, plus a suite of additional benefits for protection in the rest of the world. A complete list of all SkyMed Features is [here](#). And answers to frequently asked questions concerning SkyMed are [here](#). (These are both PDFs.)

SkyMed's offer of six months of free protection when you opt for a five-year SKYMED ultimate EXPIRES soon. You can sign up for it after watching a SkyMed webinar or simply by calling Jeff directly during regular office hours at JMB Communications on his private number, 508-747-8281.

If you are renewing an existing annual SkyMed membership, Jeff can help you get a free three-month bonus on your renewal with no increase in cost. Call Jeff daytimes at 508-747-8281 for more information or to get this bonus. SkyMed memberships can be renewed as much as 18 months before they expire.

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## 17. Cedrick: Club Orient Beach Rumor is False

Cedrick, who has been in charge of the Club Orient clothing-optional beach for as long as anyone can remember, this week put to rest recent rumors that the beach would no longer be clothing optional. You can see his full comments here, on his [Facebook page](#).

As he explains, management of the beach has shifted to a new government entity and what that entity might want to do in the future remains to be seen. Nonetheless, Cedrick confirms that the beach remains clothing optional and he intends to fight to keep it that way, as it has been for decades. It attracts literally tens of thousands of people to the island every year.

Cedrick ended his online comments with "be careful...stay vigilant -- never know what could happen." And again, he'll be fighting to maintain the area's long clothing-optional tradition.

*If you like getting tan all over, go to Cedrick's FB page and check it frequently; there may be ways you can help.*

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## 18. Illegal Aliens on Dutch Side To Be Deported

You MUST legalize your stay in SXM if you are here 6 months or more during any 12 month period (residency). [BrightPath.sx](#) was developed several years ago by Vivian M. Chamas to handle most of the footwork and paperwork required for island residency or starting a business in SXM.

Vivian points out: "Our initial consultation is free of charge. This may be a good time to take advantage of that. Obtaining legal residency comes with its inherent pros and cons and everyone's situation is unique. If continuous, uninterrupted access to the island is important to the individual, this may be a good time to reach out to BrightPath for advice and relevant information that's important to arrive at that decision."

The following story was posted by Alita Singh in social media: " St. Maarten govt. urges unauthorized immigrants to make plans to voluntarily leave or face deportation"

### Highlights

Persons who currently reside on Sint Maarten without legal documentation are advised to start making the necessary provisions to voluntarily leave the country or run the risk of getting detained and deported to their country of origin.

The ordinance also regulates the revoking of permanent residence permits for persons who are not living on Sint Maarten but are living abroad.

Persons without an income could possibly resort to a life of crime in order to fend for themselves and their families. As such, the first step will be removal of our overstaying guests in order for us to better handle our internal affairs.

### Full Statement by Justice Minister

Immigration laws of Sint Maarten will be strictly enforced in the coming weeks, months and thereafter. As such Immigration and Border Protection Services will be collaborating with the Ministry of VSA and the Civil Registry Department to ensure that persons who are in possession of work and residence permits still meet the conditions of which they have acquired said permits.

As we share this land with France, as minister responsible for the protection of our ports and surrounding borders, I plan initiate discussions with the French authorities to identify a plan of approach to strengthen the surveillance and protection of certain points of entry used by some visitors to enter the country and reside illegally on the island.

Persons who currently reside on Sint Maarten without legal documentation are advised to start making the necessary provisions to voluntarily leave the country or run the risk of getting detained and deported to their country of origin.

Sint Maarten took a hard hit with Hurricane Irma and now with COVID-19 causing an increase in job loss with numerous businesses having to close their doors or scale down their operations. Our National Ordinance on Admittance and Expulsion regulates the revoking of residence permits for persons who no longer meets the conditions under which their residence permit was granted.

The ordinance also regulates the revoking of permanent residence permits for persons who are not living on Sint Maarten but are living abroad.

Though Sint Maarten is the friendly island and welcomes all visitors, illegal activities will no longer be tolerated. Persons without an income could possibly resort to a life of crime in order to fend for themselves and their families. As such, the first step will be removal of our overstaying guests in order for us to better handle our internal affairs.

Comprehensive details will be release[d] to the general public on this matter.

*(Source: Council of Ministers Press Briefing Wednesday, June 10, 2020)*

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## 19. The Fascinating Story of Mary Pomeroy of Mary's Boon

Anyone who has been coming to SXM for any length of time has noticed Mary's Boon a bit more than a stone's throw from the runway of the SXM Princess Juliana airport, on Simpson Bay beach. But have you ever wondered who Mary was, how the resort got its name, and the rest of the story?

The Mary of Mary's Boon was Mary Pomeroy, a fascinatingly feisty lady who was loved and respected by many people — even as she was abhorred by some others.

She disappeared like Amelia Earhart, flying away from SXM in her own plane never to be seen or heard from again.

But that is literally just the tip of the iceberg: there was much more to Mary, and we wrote about some of it a few years ago for an article that appeared here in *SXM Weekly News*. Don't bother looking for it: a reporter recently published the best little biographical sketch of her that we've ever seen. This more recent, relatively complete story is absolutely fascinating and proves to us something we've felt for years (are you reading this, Cheryl Dubois?) It's that Mary Pomeroy would make a fascinating film that could be scripted and shot right here in the Caribbean (Jacky Rom, part of that could be you).

Here is [the article](#). Read it closely. Mary wasn't limited just to St. Maarten — not by a long shot. She also had a resort in Nevis, only about 25 minute flight away on Winair. It's called Nisbet Plantation, and it's right on the water. Just read [the article](#) -- you'll understand why quite quickly.

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## 20. For those Staying Home, RV's are The Answer

Normally our newsletter solely regards SXM. But for next winter, we know a number of people who normally visit SXM and other Caribbean vacation spots are looking into renting a luxury RV and driving it southward to Florida, Arizona, New Mexico, Texas, or Southern California, to stay in the sun in relative tranquility and hopefully shield themselves a bit from the Covid Pandemic.

We're familiar with RV travelers not because we do it (we don't) but because literally hundreds of thousands of them use SkyMed medevac protection. This is not an ad for SkyMed, just a fact of why this story is here.

Here is [much more](#) on the current craze for RVs in this country which is not taking any back seat to the Pandemic.

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## 21. Covid-19 Vaccine Testing by J&J Has Dutch Connection

The effort to research, develop, test, manufacture, and distribute an effective vaccine against Covid 19 appears to be an unprecedented global effort. Indeed, one of the top contenders in this race for a cure is US-based Johnson & Johnson, which reportedly is moving into clinical trials of its vaccine next month.

There is a St. Maarten/Dutch connection to this story, which you will find [here](#). What it means is that one of the first vaccines likely to be sent to SXM after potential manufacture in the Netherlands or elsewhere may be a final form of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine, of which hundreds of millions of doses will hopefully be produced — if of course it is effective and approved.

Again, here is [more](#) on this story.

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## 22. Finally, Billy Folly Road Drainage Improvements Underway

We have shot and run pictures of "Lake Atrium" in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#). Lake Atrium — a rather huge street pond that covers most of Billy Folly road in front of Atrium Resort — frequently develops after heavy rains hit the Dutch side. With all the development on the Hill overlooking Billy Folly road, as the hill was paved over there was no place for rainwater to go but down the streets and into Lake Atrium — our name for the street ponding in front of Atrium Resort.

Finally, the Dutch side is tackling this drainage problem and hopes to eliminate it. Here are [details](#).

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## 23. Sewer Pipes Being Laid on Blvd de Grand Case

In a move which doubtless has left French side restaurateurs located in Grand Case bewildered, exasperated, and more, the French side is now digging trenches and burying new sewer pipes under the main drag there, Boulevard de Grand Case, closing much of the Boulevard to traffic.

Since the lockdown on the French side lasted several weeks and killed the end of high season, the sewer pipe exercise could hardly come at a worse time for GC business owners. With tourism apparently on the verge of reopening, tourists won't immediately be able to use Boulevard de Grand Case as the pipe laying activity continues for the next few weeks.

"Some restaurateurs are probably thinking about how refreshing it would be to simply take a long walk off a short pier at this point," one journalist said to us. It seems logical to assume that the work could've been deferred to low season, when many Grand Case Restaurateurs are closed; but no, that's not what happened.

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## 24. SG Bridge Work Underway, Deck Later

It has been a long time since the Sandy Ground drawbridge west of Marigot worked properly, so the French side government is continuing its work to make that happen.

It appears that the work should only take a few weeks, and once it's done, work on resurfacing the deck will get going.

Thanks to the Simpson Bay Lagoon Causeway, people can easily get from Cupecoy, Maho, or Simpson Bay to Marigot and beyond without having to use the Sandy ground drawbridge — so for tourists, who are expected to start returning soon, this isn't much of a problem. On the other hand, a bridge that actually works and has a smooth surface will be a welcome change -- especially for locals and some residents of Sandy Ground and Nettle Bay.

## 25. Update on US Passport Renewals:

Ever since much of the US was shut down weeks ago to plateau ascending numbers of Covid 19 cases across the country, the US State Department and DHS have had to slow the renewal of passports and the issuance of new passports due to a shortfall in staffing.

Below is updated information from the government but the bad news is that it really doesn't say much. It doesn't answer the basic questions of when normal fast service will return -- quite possibly because the government doesn't know.

While epidemiologists and virologists are saying that we are not now in a second wave (we are still in the first wave of Covid), a number of states are experiencing an increased caseload which may further delay passport processing.

You'll find all of the information available about this [here](#). If your passport will be expiring within a few months after your next SXM trip, it's always wise to try to get it renewed beforehand. See the article for much more useful information.

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## 26. Going Anywhere? Pack Peace-of-Mind With SkyMed

In recent weeks, SkyMed international has offered six months of free protection as a bonus to people who opt to sign up for their top global membership, the five-year SkyMed Ultimate. This membership provides **SkyMed takes you home®** medical evacuation protection throughout the United States, Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, the Bahamas, and all the nations of the Caribbean, plus a suite of additional benefits for protection in the rest of the world. A complete list of all SkyMed Features is [here](#). And answers to frequently asked questions concerning SkyMed are [here](#). (These are both PDFs.)

SkyMed's offer of six months of free protection when you opt for a five-year SKYMED ultimate EXPIRES soon. You can sign up for it after watching a SkyMed webinar or simply by calling Jeff directly during regular office hours at JMB Communications on his private number, 508-747-8281.

If you are renewing an existing annual SkyMed membership, Jeff can help you get a free three month bonus on your renewal with no increase in cost. Call Jeff daytimes at 508-747-8281 for more information or to get this bonus. SkyMed memberships can be renewed as much as 18 months before they expire.

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## 27. First Responders Now Get Platinum-Status JMB Discounts

*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.*

**And now we're adding police, firefighters, EMTs, and nurses to our just-renamed Military / First Responder Memberships in recognition of their sacrifices for the rest of us every single day.** We just need you to send us documentary proof (ID) that you're one of America's very best. To sign up or upgrade your JMB membership to Military / First Responders, visit [everything.sxm.com](http://everything.sxm.com) and click the page curl to sign up for your JMB military membership (the page still says Military). We'll also need a DD214 (or other police / fire / nursing ID) with your SS# obliterated for security. We'll be delighted to welcome you all to our new best-of-all JMB Website Supporters Platinum Memberships.

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## 28. Get a Little Bit of SXM in Your Home, Now

[This is our all-new copyrighted purple sand chair SXM Euro Oval](#). Big shipment recently arrived in our Plymouth offices. You can now order them -- they're the successor to our former green "twin palms" SXM Euro Oval.

Price, \$7 each or **THREE for \$15** (multiple orders of three welcome). Pay by PayPal payable to



jeff@jmbcommunications.com or by check payable to JMB Communications, P. O. Box 1812, Plymouth, MA 02362-1812 USA. INCLUDE YOUR NAME, SHIP-TO ADDRESS, EMAIL ADDRESS, & PHONE NUMBER IN YOUR ORDER. All checks MUST be US dollar checks drawn on US banks. Shipped ONLY to USA & Canada addresses, Put it on your car, on mirrors at home, on smooth-sided luggage, over your husband's mouth (just kidding), etc. Fun item for everyone who loves SXM like YOU do! =====PHONE ORDERING IS NOW AVAILABLE TOO! 508-747-8281, 8am - 8pm EDT daily. Secure line, please leave all required info.

The link at the beginning of this story takes you to our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#). If you have not yet joined, do so now; it's a community of SXM fans like you.

## 29. SkyMed Q&A / FAQ - Frequently Asked Questions

### SkyMed® FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

#### Answers to Common Questions

*This document contains general SkyMed information in answer to common questions. SkyMed's services are defined by its Member Services Agreements – plain English documents that tell you what you get and how it works (see much more info below). As always, SkyMed offers a 30-day “Free Look period,” so if for any reason you're not satisfied with your unused SkyMed protection before 30 days have expired, SkyMed will refund your money.*

#### Q1. Does it cover my trip to...?

1. Basic short-term and annual “SkyMed *Takes You Home*®” protection applies throughout the USA (all 50 states), Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, the Bahamas, and all the nations of the Caribbean. Global Emergency Travel Services (G.E.T.S., a subsidiary of SkyMed) protection is available outside the USA, CANADA, MEXICO, BAHAMAS, BERMUDA, and the CARIBBEAN (the rest of the world), however neither SkyMed nor G.E.T.S. covers trips to nations on the U. S. State Department's then-current “Do Not Travel” list – North Korea, Iran, and Venezuela currently, for example, and several others. Before planning a trip, check that list if you have any question about whether protection is provided for your destination – or call SkyMed directly during normal office hours (Mountain Standard Time) at 480 946 5188 or 1-800-475-9633.

#### Q2. Who is protected?

1. “Single” protection is available for individual travelers. “Family” protection includes your spouse or domestic partner and your young children up to 18 or 24 if they are full time students.

#### Q3. Do I need to call SkyMed before traveling outside my home country?

1. If you're traveling during the normal high season for travel to your destination, no. If you're traveling to your destination during its low season, do call SkyMed Member Services at the 800 number in the first question and let them know.

#### Q4. What if I'm going to a country not listed above in question 1?

1. Then you'll need (G.E.T.S) protection. If you have one of our Ultimate multiyear memberships, (G.E.T.S.) protection is included. On Annual (one-year) memberships, “G.E.T.S.” protection is an inexpensive option.

#### Q5. What's the difference between “short term” and “Annual” or multi-year protection?

1. Short-Term protection is intended for brief trips, say a week or two. Like Annual protection, it “Takes You Home®” to doctors and hospitals you know and trust when you suffer a serious or critical illness or injury while traveling. Preexisting medical conditions are covered from day one with the short-term plan. It's inexpensive, only \$15/day for family protection. Remember, though, that Annual and Multi-year Ultimate memberships cost much less – only about \$1.35/day for family plans. Plus, they're guaranteed renewable without regard to advancing age or declining health. If you get a short-term plan, once it has expired, it is done, and you must reapply and requalify for another when you next travel. With Annual and multiyear Ultimate memberships, all you need do is renew before the renewal deadline – no need to reapply unless your membership has lapsed and the grace period has ended.

#### Q6. Is there an age limit for applications?

1. There is no age limit to apply. There's no age limit on renewals, either.

#### Q7. Can you cancel my protection at a certain age or if I get really sick?

1. Annual and multi-year Ultimate memberships are guaranteed renewable, as noted above. They will not be cancelled simply because you're a certain age or because your health has changed.

**Q8. Will you raise the price of my membership at a certain age or if I get sick?**

1. Once you're a SkyMed member, at renewal time you'll pay the same low renewal fees that everyone else with your type of membership pays. If you join at age 75 or older and purchase the X-Pat plan because you live in Mexico, the Bahamas, Bermuda, or the Caribbean, the X-Pat plan is more expensive than the standard traditional (Annual or multiyear Ultimate) plan.

**Q9. What exactly does SkyMed cover? Is it health insurance?**

1. You'll find an overview of all key SkyMed Features & Benefits here:  
<http://www.everythingsxm.com/sxmweeklynews/SkyMedServices.pdf>

This is the same list you'll find on the back of our current membership applications. SkyMed provides up to 18 benefits related to medical evacuation if you suffer a serious or critical illness or injury while traveling. It is not health insurance – in the "SkyMed universe," SkyMed *Takes You Home*® to doctors and hospitals you know and trust, where your health insurance works.

**Q10. What about pre-existing conditions? Are they covered?**

1. Yes: for short-term memberships, medevac protection (including items listed in the answer to Q9, above) is included for critical illnesses or injuries related to pre-existing and non-pre-existing conditions. For Annual and multiyear Ultimate memberships, pre-existing conditions are covered after a brief 90-day waiting period.

**Q11. I want guaranteed renewable protection because of my age, but I'm going on a trip sooner than 90 days. What can we do about that?**

1. Get our inexpensive short-term membership to cover your near-term trip, including medical evacuations for serious or critical illnesses or injuries due to pre-existing conditions. At the same time, apply for an Annual or Ultimate membership, to kick in once your near-term trip ends.

**Q12. I'm not traveling for a while. When should I apply?**

1. Get SkyMed before you need it – just like fire insurance. Since you don't know when you'll need it – and since health can change in a heartbeat thanks to falls, accidents, or other issues – it's always better to do it sooner rather than later. Beyond that, if you have pre-existing conditions and get SkyMed Annual or multiyear Ultimate medevac protection now, that 90-day exclusion period for pre-existing conditions protection may well be finished by the time you travel.

**Q13. What kind of questions do you ask in your application? Do you send somebody to do a medical exam?**

1. There's no medical exam. Our application is simple, asking about hospitalizations in the last six months, your current medical conditions, and your prescriptions – and on the prescriptions, all we need is their name, not dosage info. If you have a complex medical history, SkyMed may ask for a "HQ" (health questionnaire) to be completed by your doctor and submitted to SkyMed by fax. You should also have your passport number handy; we record it so it's there in case you need help outside your home country.

**Q14. How long does it take before I hear whether I'm accepted?**

1. Generally just a few business days, but it's always best to do your application early to ensure sufficient time for processing.

**Q15. I have more questions. Where do I find the answers?**

1. SkyMed Ambassador Jeff Berger, located in Massachusetts, will be happy to answer your questions. Call his private line at 508-747-8281.

**Q16. Can I sign up online?**

1. For fastest results, we always suggest you contact us directly. We've done thousands of applications and can whisk you through the process in minimal time and with minimal bother. To get additional information first and see some customer stories, check our site, [www.skymed.com/jmb](http://www.skymed.com/jmb) . But to sign up, always call 508-747-8281. The process normally takes about 10 minutes, if that.

**Q17. Who can get SkyMed?**

1. SkyMed is available to residents of the USA and Canada, and to X-Pats living in the countries listed in Q1. X-Pat protection is necessary if you live outside the US or Canada for six months or more, in aggregate, in any

12-month period. Always notify SkyMed if you move.

**Q18. I have a rather deep medical history. Will SkyMed still accept me?**

1. Although SkyMed accepts the vast majority of applications, others do get health questionnaires (see Q13) and occasionally some do not qualify. There is no cost to apply if your membership application cannot be accepted. A history of a heart attack or cancer several years ago or other maladies does not automatically signal any issues for SkyMed. Apply – there is nothing to lose (again, no charge if you're not accepted). And as we noted in Q6 there is no age limit to apply and no age limit to renew.

**SkyMed World Headquarters business office operations:**

*We are following the White House Coronavirus Task Force '15 Days to Slow the Spread' guidelines released March 16th, 2020.*

*We have team members fully functional and working from home. We are all connected on line and have access to all programs*

*necessary for efficient operations. We have a seamless business operation whether employees are working in the office or from home.*

**We are on duty 24 SEVEN for our members.**

*SkyMed Travel reservation # 1-800-568-8994 is open during regular business hours 8am to 5pm (MST). Messages can be left off hours.*

**Resources to help you:**

Center for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) [www.cdc.gov/travel](http://www.cdc.gov/travel)

Canadian government updates [www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection.html](http://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection.html)

National Institutes of Health (NIH) [www.nih.gov](http://www.nih.gov)

US Customs & Border Protection (CBP) [www.cbp.gov](http://www.cbp.gov)

US State Department emergency assistance [coronavirusemergencyUSC@state.gov](mailto:coronavirusemergencyUSC@state.gov)

World Health Organization (WHO) [www.who.int](http://www.who.int)

SkyMed Travel reservations [www.skymedtravel.com](http://www.skymedtravel.com) or email [info@skymedtravel.com](mailto:info@skymedtravel.com)

SkyMed Member Services **1-480-946-5188** or **1-800-475-9633** or [memberservices@skymed.com](mailto:memberservices@skymed.com)

*Please do not hesitate to call or email us with your questions or concerns. We are here to help as much as we can.*

*Regular member*

*services are being conducted everyday.*

*Our thoughts and prayers are with everyone in the SkyMed Member family wherever you are in this time of uncertainty.*

*Eleanore Klein, President*

*SkyMed Group of Companies*

From JMB:

**How to Contact Us or Sign Up**

Jeff is a SkyMed Ambassador. Reach him directly at 508-747-8281 during regular office hours, Eastern time. You can also find him in Facebook Messenger through [www.facebook.com/groups/mysxm](https://www.facebook.com/groups/mysxm) or you can email him at [jeff@jmbcommunications.com](mailto:jeff@jmbcommunications.com) with the Subject **SkyMed**. He has an alternate Skype number too, 508-591-3483. It is always best to sign up by phone directly with Jeff at the numbers above – it's fast & easy.

From:

JMB Communications

Membership Services

[support@jmbcommunications.com](mailto:support@jmbcommunications.com)

## 30. Restaurant of the Week: IZI Ristorante Italiano

Ever since David Foini first opened his original La Raviolina pasta factory in Sandy ground about more than 20 years ago, he has been putting smiles on people's faces across the island. Because he wanted to see people and interact with them, he turned La Raviolina into a tiny restaurant that got an immediate huge reception. There were times

when he was waiter, parking lot attendant, chef, and chief cook and bottle washer. Really.

After a few years there, he stopped manufacturing pasta for other restaurants and moved to his legendary La Gondola restaurant at the former Atlantis casino. It was a place where people who just got off the beach could get stares from billionaires, casino owners, Hollywood royalty, reality TV stars, and lots of recording artists. The food was phenomenal.

At the same time, David wanted something a bit more relaxed and upbeat which led to the introduction roughly 15 years ago of his current culinary passion, iZi Ristorante Italiano. It is more casual, upbeat, fun, but also has David's hallmark which is phenomenal dining: creative Italian and lots more.

In recent weeks, the restaurant has been redone inside to deliver social distancing including Plexiglas barriers between tables. The food is as great as ever, as is the service — and you will still see several years worth of our Everything SXM Awards of Excellence on the wall near the cash register. iZi deserves every one of them.

Do not miss iZi Ristorante Italiano, the first restaurant we're featuring as we return our Restaurant of the Week feature to *SXM Weekly News*.

### Here are recently featured SXM restaurants:

**IZI Ristorante Italiano, [www.izirestaurant.com](http://www.izirestaurant.com) (featured 3/15/20). Open for lunch and dinner except Mon., when they're closed. Great food from one of SXM's very best restaurants. Fun atmosphere, too.**

**White Swan Chinese Restaurant** (featured 3/16/20) SXM's very best, delicious, authentic food, attentive service, generous portions, and reasonable prices. We loved it...

**Vesna Taverna, [www.vesnataverna.com](http://www.vesnataverna.com) (featured 3/9/20).** Now open every day for B/L; dinner is offered Tuesday through Saturday. Outstanding dining and very reasonable pricing.

**Sale & Pepe (featured 2/10/20)** Cool location among breathtaking megayachts, cool decor, knowledgeable staff, and great menu, service, and food. Sale & Pepe is hitting its stride. Chef Davide Zagami stays mostly in the kitchen ensuring things go just right.

**SkipJack's SXM, <http://www.skipjacks-sxm.com/> (featured 2/3/20)** SkipJack's triumphantly reopened with an entirely new dining deck late in January, 2019. Great place - go! Great staff and superb food in a picture postcard lagoon setting.

**La Rosa Restaurant, Maho Plaza, 1/27/20:** Loved the relaxing vibe, attentive service, GREAT food, reasonable prices, and BIG portions. [www.larosarestaurant.com/index.html](http://www.larosarestaurant.com/index.html)

**Isola next to Hollywood Casino at Simpson Bay Resort, 1/6/20.** Italian. Excellent food, many choices, busy, good specials. Many folks from Simpson Bay Resort dine here as well as many locals and lots of casino high-rollers. [www.isolaristorante.com](http://www.isolaristorante.com)

**Avantika Thai [www.avantikasxm.com](http://www.avantikasxm.com) (featured 12/30/19) Avantika is wonderful; SXM's best Thai.**

**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.

**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....

**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's Smooth 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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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## 31. Getting SXM Questions Answered Quickly

Join our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#) and you'll find about 25,000 SXM tourists who love SXM as much as you do.

Our site is the best place around to ask questions and get answers about SXM -- around the clock. Check it out.

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## 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 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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**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](#)**

### 33. Are You Military, First Responder, or Nurse?

*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.*

**And now we're adding police, firefighters, EMTs, and nurses to our just-renamed Military / First Responder Memberships in recognition of their sacrifices for the rest of us every single day.** We just need you to send us documentary proof (ID) that you're one of America's very best. To sign up or upgrade your JMB membership to Military / First Responders, visit [everything.sxm.com](http://everything.sxm.com) and click the page curl to sign up for your JMB military membership (the page still says Military). We'll also need a DD214 (or other police / fire / nursing ID) with your SS# obliterated for security. We'll be delighted to welcome you all to our new best-of-all JMB Website Supporters Platinum Memberships.

### 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.

### 35. Please Patronize JMB Sponsors (Updated 6/15/20)

#### **AMUSEMENTS**

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

#### **BOAT TOURS**

**Celine Charters (Enigma)**

#### **BREWERIES & DISTILLERIES**

**SXM Beer Brewery**

**Toppers Rhum & Vodka Distillery**

#### **CAR RENTALS:**

[Leisure Car Rental](#)

[Sax Car Rental](#)



## **Tropical-Tropicana Car Rental**

### **Exclusive Car Rental**

## **CUBAN CIGARS:**

### **Cigar Mack**

### **SXM Cigars**

## **DOLLAR STORES**

### **All in One Place**

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

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

## **JEWELERS:**

**Zhaveri Jewelers** in Philipsburg.

### **Caribbean Gems**

### **Oro Diamante**

### **Majesty Jewelers**

### **Ray's Jewelers**

### **Alpha Jewels**

**JN Jewelers (Maho under Jax, open late)** NEW!

Jewels & Beyond (Maho) NEW!

### **Shoppers Haven**

## **PARFUMERIE / PERFUME**

**Tijon Parfumerie**, Grand Case, [www.tijon.com](http://www.tijon.com)

## **REAL ESTATE COMPANIES:** (See also VILLA RENTAL COMPANIES, below)

**Island Real Estate Team** is widely regarded as SXM's top real estate organization. A long-time 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** (new)

**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**

**Topper's Restaurant**

**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)**

**LA ROSA (NEW)**

**NONNA ROSA (NEW)**

**LAZY LIZARD (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](#)

[Monte Verde / Belle Vue \(new\)](#)

**Relocation / "Papers" Consulting Companies**

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

Updated 6/15/20

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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 **JMB SXM Media 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. Or just PM Jeff Berger on Facebook Messenger.

Tourism will soon return 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 beyond the shutdown. Contact us today for more information.

\*\*\*\*\*

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

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

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

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

### Want to rent or buy a week?

**\*2017 St. Maarten / St. Martin Timeshare Weeks For Rent or Sale\*** are posted at [http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/timeshare\\_rent\\_sale/index.shtml](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).

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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](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)

6/15/20 #V3-1253 Noon EDT 6/14/20

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