From JMB / SXM Weekly News Double Edition, 8/3/20 and 8/10/20: US-SXM Flights Resume; New Five-Star Marriott Resort Coming to Nettle Bay; Record Hurricane Season Possible; No Cruises Through October; JW Marriott; Emilio's; Yoda; SkyMed Launches Huge Fall Sale [34 Top SXM News Stories for Tourists]

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===== DOUBLE ISSUE ===== Vol. 3, #1260 --- Monday, 8/3/20 and Monday, 8/1020 News From St. Maarten / St. Martin / SXM Jeff Berger's St. Maarten & St. Martin / SXM Weekly News This Week's Stories Airfare, Airlines & Weather News Everything SXM Home Page Island News Lodging News Members SECRET Webite Login **Member News** St. Maarten & St. Martin "SXM" Weekly News St. Maarten & St. Martin's Most Relied-Upon Source of Tourist-Oriented News & Information Copyright ©, JMB Communications, 2020. See Legal for reprint requests, page bottom. From: www.jmbcommunications.com

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

Add jeff1620@jmbcommunications.com to your address book

to be sure you receive this newsletter every week.

IMPORTANT: "Jeff1620" is an unmonitored <u>send-only</u> email address. For Contact info, see <u>#Contact Us</u> at the end of this newsletter.

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 <u>St.</u> <u>Maarten & St. Martin "SXM" Weekly News</u> because you subscribed to it and/or are a JMB Website Supporters member.

<u>Please do stay with us</u> for all the latest tourist-oriented news from St. Maarten / St. Martin / SXM all year long. Now read by about 342,000 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.

You can also download PDFs of recent editions here:

<u>http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/free_newsletters/sxmweeklynews.shtml</u> 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 <u>SXM Weekly News</u>:

Weather; Getting Here:

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-- Possible Record-Breaking Hurricane Season Has Four Months Left

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- -- What If NHC Runs Out of Hurricane Names?
- -- US-SXM Flights Resumed 8/1; Covid Restrictions Tightened
- -- jetBlue Continues Middle Seat Vacancies Thru 10/15
- -- No US-Origin Cruise Ship Sailing Until at Least October
- -- Where to Find Current SXM Weather Info
- -- Where to Download the NHC's Hurricane Tracking Chart

SXM Accommodations:

###

- -- New Marriott Resort Coming to Nettle Bay, French Side -- Our Guess: Westin Could Morph into J. W. Marriott ###
- -- Plenty of Beautiful, Squeaky-Clean Places to Stay in SXM
- -- 2020 and 2021 Rentals Available at Everythingsxm.com
- -- How To Rent Out Or Sell Your Timeshare Units
- -- Buying a Condo in SXM? Here's Important Info

Other Island Headlines for Tourists:

-- HELP US CONTINUE to Bring You Important News from SXM

-- LAST CALL: Get a Full Year Free Membership in our SXM Island Discount Program Thru "Plus One"

######

- -- SkyMed Launches Huge Fall Sale
- -- SXM Needs Your Help...
- -- US Loosens Covid Travel Warning to SXM
- -- Dutch side To Launch Covid Testing to All Residents Later This Month
- -- Because of US Flights, French Prefet Blocks Border Roads
- -- Current SXM Travel Requirements for US Citizens
- -- SkyMed Offers Extra Months of Protection for \$0; Ends Soon
 ########
- -- How to Put Incredible Caribbean Colors in Your Home

#######

- -- SkyMed Offers Extra Months of Protection for \$0
 #########
- -- SkyMed's Six Months of Free Protection Offer Ends Soon
- -- "Plus One" JMB Membership Promotion Underway

-- Please Patronize JMB Sponsors
########

-- SXM Business Owners: How To Increase Foot Traffic

Please see our <u>complete Table of Contents</u> below.

34 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 <u>http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/timeshare_rent_sale/index.shtml</u> 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 <u>http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml</u> for info. Membership now delivers a

growing list of about 300 St. Maarten and St. Martin-focused travel benefits -- and your membership subscription helps keep these weekly SXM newsletters coming.

SXM Timeshare Rental of The Week:

RENTAL 12/19/2020 12/26/2020 Week 51 The Villas at Simpson Bay Resort Christmas Week! Beautiful 2 bedroom/2 bath fourth floor unit overlooking Simpson Bay. Master suite has a full kitchen with dining space, living room with flat screen TV and 2 Murphy beds, master bedroom with king size bed, spacious bathroom with separate double vanity area. Junior lockout suite has 2 full beds, full bath with double vanity, small kitchenette with a mini refrigerator, microwave, toaster, and coffee maker. Each suite has its own patio with spectacular views of the water and surrounding hills. Extra nights, 12/26 and 12/27 are also available, \$600. Renter is responsible for the \$50 Timeshare Tax upon checkout. \$2,800.00 Sharon (315) 682-6141 scoolic1@twcny.rr.com

SXM Timeshare Sale of The Week:

SALE 2/6/2021 2/13/2021 Week 6 Sapphire Beach Club One privacy bedroom, Pull out couch which makes it a sleep 4 unit. Full kitchen. Balcony looking over ocean. Parking garage underneath or parking in front of building. Barrestaurant on premises. Also have a convenient store & salon for all your needs. \$13,995.00 Susan 609-476-4166 slzang1@aol.com

Non-St. Maarten Timeshare Rentals:

See them all at http://everythingsxm.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): <u>Click to access our recommended real estate agents</u>

TABLE OF CONTENTS -- This Week's Stories

Stories are numbered; scroll down for stories of interest. This week's Table of Contents follows these links:

"Like" Our <u>"Everything St. Maarten / St. Martin / SXM" Facebook Group</u>:

Find us on Facebook

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://everythingsxm.com/sxm/free_newsletters/sxmweeklynews.shtml

Archives prior to April 12 2014 (old format):

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

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

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

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

Section One: Getting There: Flights, Airlines, Airports, Cruises, Weather

--Scroll Down To This Section--

- 1. Possible Record-Breaking Hurricane Season Has Four Months Left
- 2. What If NHC Runs Out of Hurricane Names?
- 3. US-SXM Flights Resumed 8/1; Covid Restrictions Tightened
- 4. jetBlue Continues Middle Seat Vacancies Thru 10/15
- 5. No US-Origin Cruise Ship Sailing Until at Least October
- 6. Where to Find Current SXM Weather Info

- 7. Where to Download the NHC's Hurricane Tracking Chart
- 8. Guaranteed Big-Time Savings on Hotels, Cruises, & Car Rentals

Section Two: Accommodations (Hotels, Resorts, Timeshares, Villas, Etc.) --Scroll Down To This Section--

- 9. New Marriott Resort Coming to Nettle Bay, French Side
- 10. Our Guess: Westin Could Morph into J. W. Marriott
- 11. Plenty of Beautiful, Squeaky-Clean Places to Stay in SXM
- 12. 2020 and 2021 Rentals Available at Everythingsxm.com
- 13. How To Rent Out Or Sell Your Timeshare Units
- 14. Buying a Condo in SXM? Here's Important Info

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

Section Three: JMB Member Discounts & Benefits --Scroll Down To This Section--

15. News About JMB Member Discounts / Benefits Updates

Section Four: Island News, Info, & Features --Scroll Down To This Section--

16. LAST CALL: WE NEED YOUR HELP NOW to continue to send you SXM Weekly News every week:

- 17. SkyMed Launches Huge Fall Sale
- 18. SXM Needs Your Help...
- 19. US Loosens Covid Travel Warning to SXM
- 20. Dutch side To Launch Covid Testing to All Residents Later This Month
- 21. Because of US Flights, French Prefet Blocks Border Roads
- 22. Current SXM Travel Requirements for US Citizens
- 23. Restaurant of the Week: Emilio's
- 24. SkyMed Offers Extra Months of Protection for \$0; Ends Soon

#####

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

26. First Responders Now Get Platinum Benefits

27. Get a Little Bit of the Island in Your Home, NOW 28. SkyMed FAQ / More Information

- 29. Getting SXM Questions Answered Quickly
- 30. Want to See Back Issues of SXM Weekly News? Here's How
- 31. Are You Military, First Responder, or a Nurse?
- 32. Less Money, More Benefits, Ten Year Price Guarantee on SkyMed Ultimate
- 33. Please Patronize our Sponsors
- 34. SXM Business Owners: How To Increase Foot & Web Traffic

Section Five: For Members Only (Revised 8/2017)

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

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

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 <u>GROWING LIST of 300+</u> Money-Saving St. Maarten- and St. Martin-Focused Travel Benefits

Visit <u>http://www.everythingsxm.com/secret</u>, 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 <u>http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml</u>. 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. Possible Record-Breaking Hurricane Season - Four Months Left

The 2020 hurricane season began June 1 and ends November 30. During its first two months, it produced a record nine named storms.

Now, all leading authorities on tropical weather — the US National Hurricane Center, the folks at Colorado State University, and Rob Lightbown of Crown Weather — are all predicting up to or in excess of 24 or 25 named storms before this season ends a bit under four months from now.

Although the season is in something of a lull at the moment, enjoy it while it lasts. Crown Weather Chief Meteorologist Rob Lightbown in his latest report to the subscribers of his private forecasting service says that conditions across the tropical Atlantic are ripe for producing a significant number of storms in the near term, starting in the next two weeks. Worse, he says that current weather systems appear ready to block the normal movement of many storms away from the East Coast of the US and out to sea; instead, those storms are expected to be funneled toward the Caribbean and beyond -- toward the Gulf of Mexico and the entire US East Coast.

We post all of the latest watches, warnings, and advisories for the 2020 hurricane season storms both in our <u>Everything SXM Facebook Group</u> and in the weather center of our main SXM website, everythingSXM.com. That site, in fact, publishes advisories within about two seconds of the time they are issued by the National Hurricane Center. Our own weather center also includes many satellite images and loops that show you at a glance what's happening where.

If your home or business is in an area that may at some point be visited by a tropical system, we urge you to seriously consider signing up for Rob Lightbown's surprisingly inexpensive private forecasting service, which we have used for years. It gives you his best in-depth analysis of where storms are likely to go and when they will be there — as well as their potential effects on such locations. It is indispensable information for anyone who may be affected by any tropical weather system. <u>Click this link</u> to learn more about Crown Weather Services.

2. What If NHC Runs Out of Hurricane Names?

Based upon expert forecasts of a possibly record-shattering 2020 hurricane season, it's entirely possible that all of these 2020 hurricane names will be used before the season ends. **Boldfaced** names have already been used this season.

Arthur Bertha Cristobal Dolly Edouard Fay Gonzalo Hanna

Wilfred

Isaias		
Josephine		
Kyle		
Laura		
Marco		
Nana		
Omar		
Paulette		
Rene		
Sally		
Teddy		
Vicky		

If all of these names are used before the end of the season and more storms form, what will the National Hurricane Center name them? Such a thing actually happened early in this millennium and it may well happen again before the end of this hurricane season. If it does, the NHC will switch to the Greek alphabet, which includes these letters / names:

Alpha			
Beta			
Gamma			
Delta			
Epsilon			
Zeta			
Eta			
Theta			
lota Kanna			
Kappa			
Lambda			
Mu			
Nu			
Xi			
Omicron			
Pi			
Rho			
Sigma			
Tau			
Upsilon			
Phi			
Chi			
Psi			
Omega			

3. US-SXM Flights Resumed 8/1; Covid Restrictions Tightened

After being disallowed by Dutch St. Maarten since mid-March of this year, flights between the United States and Princess Juliana SXM Airport on the Dutch side of the island resumed August 1.

Because of the Covid-19 Pandemic, passenger demand is down considerably from normal summertime levels, so airlines are not delivering normal summer flight frequencies to SXM. If you have flight reservations during the next few months, we urge you to contact your airline now for current information about what if anything has been done to change your reservation. This is especially true from now through October, since many flights are now seeing reduced frequencies and a number of nonstops have been discontinued in favor of connections.

Moreover, the island has instituted new requirements to help ensure that people with Covid 19 are not permitted to enter the country. Those requirements state that Americans flying to SXM must have taken in RT – PCR test for Covid 19 and have been given a written complete negative report which they take with them on the trip. Details on exactly what information must be in the written report is in the files area of our Everything SXM Facebook Group.

<u>There are also requirements for your trip to be approved in advance by the island government</u>. To obtain such approval, you must go to SXM's special online website and fill out online forms regarding your health. The site where this information must be entered and the timing of such an entry are both in the Files area of our **Everything SXM Facebook Group**.

Although the information on our site at this writing is correct and complete, it is subject to change on an ongoing basis should conditions require, so we suggest that everyone who is planning a trip to SXM frequently refer to the requirements and related information linked to from our **Everything SXM Facebook Group**: that will ensure that you have all of the latest information at your fingertips.

4. jetBlue Continues Middle Seat Vacancies Thru 10/15

JetBlue, which has been an outspoken leader in keeping middle seats empty in the cabins of its aircraft, is now promising to continue that practice until at least mid-October, "at the earliest." Here is the full <u>story</u>.

5. No US-Origin Cruise Ship Sailing Until at Least October

No cruise ships will be sailing from US ports until at least the end of October, to help prevent the spread of Covid 19. The US Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has also said that cruise ships amplify the spread of Covid 19; that's why the stoppage of cruises exists.

Since many cruise ships became focal points last winter for the spread of Covid 19, it may be some time before any cruise ships that call US ports home will be taking any passengers anywhere, including the Caribbean.

6. Where to Find Current SXM Weather Info

You'll find detailed observations and forecasts by visiting our main SXM website, <u>www.everythingsxm.com</u>, 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) <u>Crown Weather Services</u> whose very inexpensive subscription service is, we feel, the best in the business. 2) **Our "Weather" page** at <u>www.everythingsxm.com</u> -- 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 <u>Everything SXM Facebook Group</u>, 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 <u>www.island92.com</u>. 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: <u>http://www.goes.noaa.gov/GIFS/ATWV.JPG</u>.

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 <u>here</u>. Select "Atlantic" and you're good to go. You can print out the chart and use it repeatedly, or simply print a bunch of them and use one for each storm that may approach an area of interest -- like, SXM. Bear in mind that this hurricane season may well be frontloaded — so you might want to print a few of these now and *not* save doing that for later.

More stories are below.

Changing Your Email Address?

Now You Can Unsubscribe Your Old Email and Sign Up Your New One for your SXM Weekly News subscription Quickly and Easily at our Site: <u>www.sxmweeklynews.com</u>

7. 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 <u>here</u> (that's the NHC download site). Also noted above; republished in case you missed it.)

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

We're now giving JMB Website Supporters members and *SXM Weekly News* readers access to a private, "members only" travel wholesale club that offers incredible prices not only on airfares but on travel reservations and packages worldwide.

SkyMed Travel offers exceptional pricing on everything and almost invariably beats everyone else's pricing. We have found their pricing excellent across the board and their 115% low rate guarantee on hotels and car rentals is real news.

Normally, SkyMed Travel charges \$99 to join plus \$99 annual renewals. But for our JMB Website Supporters members and now for Weekly News readers, the cost to join is zero as will be the cost for renewals. Join the Club by going to https://www.skymedtravel.com/register, sign up, and provide the requested information. Complete the first sign up item (SkyMed Membership Number or Representative ID) by entering the code 391330 — doing that ensures that you pay nothing for your SkyMed Travel Club membership. No code, no free entry to the club's phenomenal pricing. *If you are a SkyMed Member, however, enter your SkyMed Membership Number there to get the absolute greatest possible discounts*.

You won't be disappointed.

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

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

9. New Marriott Resort Coming to Nettle Bay, French Side

It looks like the beautiful stretch of Nettle Bay beach that was home to both the Dreams bar/restaurant and Le Sand, both obliterated by hurricane Irma three years ago next month, will be getting lots of new action: that's the location of a new 168-room Marriott Resort and Spa, construction of which starts next year. It's one of several big new hotel construction projects announced since Irma, about which we been publishing a steady stream of news stories here in

file:///C/Users/Jeff/Documents/JMBSXMWEEKLYNEWS/_SXM%20Weekly%20News/V3_1260Aug32020.html[11/8/2020 5:34:31 PM]

SXM Weekly News.

According to details published in the SXM French-language newspaper *Le Pelican*, the project is being created by Harmony Promotion and Marriott International plus a consortium of investors. It will be a 5-star property featuring 168 rooms including 10 beach villas, four island villas, 22 suites, and 132 guest rooms and will be under a management contract with Marriott.

The project will also include a SPA / wellness center, two restaurants (one of them gourmet), reception and seminar rooms, a convention center, a shopping area, a Marina with eight luxury villas, and 52 apartments.

Le Pelican noted, "The site will be densely planted along the trails to ensure shaded traffic. The beach will remain a privileged place for walking and will be uninterrupted. A central service backbone hidden by dense plantations (sic) will be accessible from the road and will bring together all the constructions related to the operation of the hotel, directly linked to public spaces and restaurants. Particular attention will be given to indirect lighting at night to ensure safety while preserving the atmosphere."

The article also noted that the project promises "... a new lease of life for the island's tourism industry wish: To replace Saint Martin on the World Luxury Tourism Map, to innovate by offering high-end service to visitors."

Harmony Promotion and Marriott International are said to be looking into developing a Hospitality School within this project as well, something that is long overdue on SXM.

The **Marriott Lagoon Resort & Spa**, the *Le Pelican* article said, "will be built around a coral pool, a key element of the project. It is a sand-bottomed lagoon, supplied with filtered water from the sea, which structures and connects the entire project, both physically and symbolically."

We expect to publish photos of the project in our Everything SXM Facebook Group once construction begins.

Marriott has long been interested in building in SXM, and reportedly had an agreement in place to buy the Blue Mall in nearby Cupecoy Beach before Irma, when the project was apparently cancelled.

Please see next story (related).

10. Our Guess: Westin Could Morph into J. W. Marriott

The Marriott Corporation has a number of brands under its corporate umbrella -- including Westin. Columbia Sussex, a major global hotel and casino developer, in fact owns the Westin St. Maarten on Dawn beach, hit hard by hurricane Irma and closed ever since. The neighboring Dawn beach club, a related timeshare property adjacent to the Westin, is in full or nearly full operation now, however.

But the future of the Westin, since its owners have been tight-lipped in the wake of Irma, remains an object of speculation.

It seems unlikely to us that it will come back under a Westin nameplate. The building had been widely used as a site for conferences and was unrivaled in that space quality-wise. Nonetheless the building — though not much more than 15 years old now — had begun to show its age and needed work. Sources have said that substantial work in upgrading the facility and bringing it to a five star status has been underway and had been underway until Covid 19 interfered a few months ago. Sources had told us that a December '20 opening was likely but that possibility most likely has been erased by the Pandemic, and reopening sometime later in 2021 seems far more likely. Demand is not high currently either.

It would seem incongruous that both this property and the new Five-Star Marriott resort in Nettle Bay would both be under a Marriott nameplate. But the nameplate JW Marriott is different, highly elegant, and may well have exactly the degree of luster that Columbia Sussex wants for the former Westin property when it reopens. So our hunch — and that is all it is — is that when the reopening happens, it will be as a JW Marriott.

If we hear anything more from that resort in Dawn beach about its future and about the timing of its reopening, we'll quickly publish that information here in *SXM Weekly News*.

11. Plenty of Beautiful, Squeaky-Clean Places to Stay in SXM

The highly seasoned and polished hoteliers and restaurateurs of SXM, along with lots of others with deep hospitality experience, are ready to welcome you back to SXM with impeccably clean facilities, protocols to keep all properties as spotless as can be, and the determination to give all visitors a pleasant, relaxing, helpful, and rewarding vacation experience.

Thanks to the Pandemic, this winter is not expected to be as busy as usual — which makes it even more inviting for discriminating visitors. That's why we urge everyone who loves SXM to take a second look at the island. The beaches are as gorgeous as ever and less crowded; the restaurants are ready with your favorite dishes (and social distancing) and many delightful surprises — and the big beds in your favorite resort or timeshare are as plush, comfortable, and relaxing as ever.

If you need a real vacation, this winter may be the perfect time to take it in SXM.

12. 2020 - 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.

13. 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.

14. 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*.

SECTION 3: JMB Member Discounts & Benefits

15. 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 <u>Everything SXM Facebook Group</u>.

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. Please see the next story.

SECTION 4: Island News, Info, & Features

16. LAST CALL: WE NEED YOUR HELP NOW to continue to send you SXM Weekly News every week:

THIS OFFER ENDS AUGUST 15. PLEASE ACT NOW:

Literally thousands of JMB members in recent weeks have told us they're ready to return to SXM as soon as it's safe to do so. Well, that time appears to be almost at hand -- August 1, the Dutch side island government says.

We know readers / JMB members have uncertainties -- for clearly obvious reasons. <u>Our business has been</u> adversely affected by Covid-19 as have most businesses worldwide and we need your help now to continue be able to research, write, produce, and distribute *SXM Weekly News* to you, its more than 344,000 worldwide readers every week as we have since 1992. That's why we're giving all readers who do multiyear new, renewal, or reinstated JMB memberships from now through August 15, 2020, <u>a free "Plus One" additional full year of</u> <u>JMB membership</u>. That's our thanks to you for helping us make it through this challenging period.

You'll certainly return within a year, since an effective vaccine appears likely to be available by next winter. So, take advantage of this unique, about-to-end offer and sign up for, renew, or reinstate today. Military / First Responder memberships are included.

New Memberships Get Great Benefits:

All our *new membership* rates except one-year new memberships have this same "Plus One" enticement, but it must end 8/15/20 (just extended). Here are our low regular new membership prices:

- 1 year \$59 (no "Plus One" one-year bonus)
- 3 years \$109 plus you get an additional full Plus One year free.
- 5 years \$139 plus you get an additional full Plus One year free.

Sign up by going to everythingsxm.com and clicking the page curl.

<u>Here are all the multiyear renewal / reinstatement rates for all current or former members</u>: remember, you get "Plus One" in all of these – a full year on us in addition to the years stated:

- The one-year renewal or reinstatement does not offer "Plus One"... it remains \$49.
- Three-year renewal/reinstatements, \$89, plus you get an additional fourth year free. Offer ends 8/15/20.
- Our Best Offer: <u>Six-year</u> renewal/reinstatements, \$149, plus you get an additional seventh year free. Offer ends 8/15/20.

You can do both renewals and reinstatements <u>right here</u>, in our membership reinstatement center (prices are identical to renewals). For new memberships, click the page curl on our main site, everythingsxm.com, for info or to sign up. Your renewal begins when your current subscription ends. Reinstatements of expired memberships take just a few days to process. <u>You can reinstate an old membership regardless of how many years ago it expired, too</u>, We email you a new membership card once processing has been completed.

<u>Military and First-Responder memberships</u> offer you the usual four years for just \$67.96 (at \$16.99/year paid at inception) <u>plus you get an additional fifth year free</u>. That is the best deal we have ever offered anyone for any memberships, on a yearly basis. DD214 or other proof of US military or first-responder service required. <u>Additional year offer ends 8/15/2020</u>, so please act quickly.

We hope you are having a pleasant summer, but please ... join, renew, or reinstate today to get that additional full-year Plus One bonus before it goes away 8/15, which is not far away.

Don't want to use PayPal to sign up or renew (even though you need not be a PayPal member)? Just call our office any day from 8am to 8pm EDT at 508-830-3456 and we'll be happy to take your info by phone. If lines are busy and you get our answering system, you can leave your info on our secure line. We'll appreciate anything you can do to help.

If you already did this and have not yet received your membership materials, we hope to be fully caught up by the end of the day today (Monday 8/10).

Jeff Berger / Tracy / Susan / Michael / Greg and the entire JMB team. JMB Communications P. O. Box 1812 Plymouth, MA 02362-1812

17. SkyMed Launches Huge Fall Sale

Authorities are saying that within the next few months, a vaccine will be introduced that is expected to substantially deflate the Covid 19 pandemic. SkyMed is launching its biggest sale ever but that sale will and on September 30. It offers people who buy a new SkyMed ultimate medical evacuation membership up to six months free of additional protection.

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

And you'll find **Frequently Asked Questions** here: <u>http://www.everythingsxm.com/sxmweeklynews/2020SkyMedFAQ.pdf</u>

Under this SkyMed Fall Sale, you can get up to six months of free protection when you buy a new SkyMed Ultimate membership or upgrade to one from another annual or longer SkyMed membership. There are also offers for annual membership renewals. There will never be a better time to obtain SkyMed medical evacuation protection than now. Remember too that for the first three months of new annual or multiyear SkyMed memberships, protection for pre-existing conditions is briefly excluded during the first 90 days. Get a membership now, and you can get up to six months free; if you're not traveling for at least 90 days, even pre-existing conditions will be covered according to the provisions in your membership once you do travel.

SkyMed *Takes You Home*® when you become seriously or critically ill or injured when you travel anywhere the United States, Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, the Bahamas, and all the nations of the Caribbean. Global protection is also available on an optional basis

For answers to questions or to sign up, please call Jeff directly on his private line, 508-747-8281 weekdays from 8 AM until 8 PM EDT. He'll return your call as quickly as possible. Again, SkyMed *TAKES YOU HOME*® when you become critically ill or injured while traveling. What else matters?

18. SXM Needs Your Help...Three Ways

The people of St. Maarten need your help — and so do the students in island schools.

<u>The Freedom Fighters Ital Shack Restaurant</u> near Philipsburg and Ras Bushman / Roland Joe seriously need your help to enable this famous SXM institution to survive. Serving delicious, all-natural Rastafarian foods in a delightful local atmosphere, Ras Bushman has been written up in travel publications around the world and is an extremely integral, major part of the island's attraction to the world.

But without any significant number of tourists over the last several months, the Ital shack is in rough shape financially and needs whatever help you can offer. Here is <u>more information</u>; please help.

Because of the Covid 19 pandemic remote learning is in full swing across SXM. But there's a serious problem: many children don't have iPads but the computer is necessary to be able to safely continue their education from home so a gofundme campaign has been launched by Drake Daboul to help solve this issue. Can you help Drake and the students of SXM? (Drake is the daughter of Topper and Melanie Daboul). Here is <u>more information</u>.

One of the least known but most famous people on SXM — or in the world, for that matter — is <u>Nick Malley, the Yoda</u> <u>guy — the person who created the legendary Star Wars character Yoda. His Yoda guy Museum</u> at the lower end of front Street in Philipsburg offers thousands of pieces of Star Wars memorabilia for your perusal, plus many authentic Yoda and Star Wars souvenirs. Nick needs your help since the lack of tourists has taken away the income that keeps this incredible Museum going. <u>Here is more information on how you can help</u>

19. US Loosens Covid Travel Warning to SXM

For months, even if there had been flights to SXM, you couldn't take them because the US for quite some time wasn't allowing flights. SXM also disallowed US travel for quite some time, as you recall.

Recently, the US CDC (Centers for Disease Control) changed its do not travel warning for Americans planning to go to SXM to a lesser advisory against travel to the island, the same warning it's giving regarding about 200 other nations around the world.

Here is the exact current warning.

20. Dutch side To Launch Covid Testing to All Residents Later This Month

After learning last week that under 900 people on the Dutch side had so far been tested for Covid 19, we asked SXM President of Parliament Rolando Brison Saturday morning whether the Dutch side planned to offer its citizens mass testing, which would enable the island government to identify those who test positive and to isolate, quarantine, and treat them so they do not spread the virus further. Such a move would be a huge help in reducing the presence of Covid 19 on the island.

The Dutch side Parliament President Rolando Brison quickly responded, telling *SXM Weekly News* Saturday morning that *the Dutch side of the island will soon offer all Dutch side residents tests for Covid 19.* He said that the tests might begin as early as late this month. At the time we did not learn whether there would be any cost to island residents for the tests, or whether those tests would also be offered to tourists on the island.

The RT–PCR nasopharyngeal testing required within 72 hours before departure is required for US residents flying to SXM, but it is not yet known whether that is the test that the Dutch side plans to offer to its citizens.

We will continue to watch this and keep you posted.

21. Because of US Flights, French Prefet Blocks Border Roads

The borders between the Dutch and French sides of the island are currently being blocked by the French side. That government has placed huge shipping containers across all roads linking the French and Dutch sides of the island.

We've heard that the French state offered the ability to keep the borders open, but that it would have placed onerous demands on the French side government were it to allow open borders. Oddly enough, American tourists are still being allowed into Saint Barth, another French island; Americans can fly there on flights from San Juan.

If you're thinking about going to the French side by way of Saint Barth, forget it; the French side of SXM is not allowing it. It is unclear why Saint Barth is allowing the entry of Americans and the French side of SXM isn't. Hopefully this foggy situation will be cleared up soon by local officials and the blockage stopped.

Note: More on this will also appear in our Everything SXM Facebook Group.

22. Current SXM Travel Requirements for US Citizens

Thanks to Covid 19, travel requirements for US citizens flying into SXM have been a moving target. We continuously update our listings of these requirements in the files area of our <u>Everything SXM Facebook Group</u>. There, you can see details of the type of Covid test you must take at home within 72 hours of your departure to SXM; how you must

present the negative results to the island; what you must do online to get preapproved for entry to SXM; and where to access that online functionality.

We're not publishing that information here since it would live on forever in our archives — not a good thing because the information is subject to change. So please visit our **Everything SXM Facebook Group** and look in the files area for the latest information on steps you need to take to visit SXM.

23. Restaurant of the Week: Emilio's

When you first hear the name Emilio's restaurant, you might think it's one of SXM's many Italian fine dining restaurants — and you'd be half right. We rate Emilio's as one of the top three SXM restaurants: it defines fine dining.

It is named for the estate on which it is located, the Emilio Wilson estate — an unspoiled nature preserve not far from Philipsburg, Here, owners Norman and Su Wathey and renowned Chef Sidney have created a place of great culinary magic (open for lunch and dinner) in elegant, historic surroundings with outstanding service and unsurpassed innovation and quality.

It's continental fine dining with an innovative touch. The bar is beautiful as well, in case you need to wait a short time for your table.

Offering both dine-in and gourmet food to go, the restaurant is a must for every island visit. Do they have selections that will appeal to you? <u>Take a look at these</u>, from Appetizer Tapas to extraordinary Mains. Just go. You will not be disappointed.. Emilio's has been a frequent winner of our Everything SXM Culinary Award of Excellence.

Here are recently featured SXM restaurants:

Emilio's just outside Philipsburg (featured 8/10/20) offers fine dining in an historic, classic ambiance. Not **to be missed**. <u>https://emilios-sxm.com/menus/dinner-menu/</u>

Isola next to Hollywood Casino at Simpson Bay Resort, (featured 7/27/20). Italian. Excellent food, many choices (pizza too), busy, good specials. Lively; busy; entertainment some nights. Many folks from Simpson Bay Resort dine here as well as many locals and lots of casino high-rollers. <u>www.isolaristorante.com</u>

Sale & Pepe (featured 7/20/20) Cool location among breathtaking megayachts, cool decor, knowledgeable staff, and extensive menu, good service, and delicious food. Chef Davide Zagami stays mostly in the kitchen ensuring things go just right. <u>https://www.facebook.com/saleandpepemarina/</u>

La Rosa Restaurant, Maho Plaza, 7/13/20: Loved the relaxing vibe, attentive service, GREAT food, reasonable prices, and BIG portions. <u>www.larosarestaurant.com/index.html</u>

Avantika Thai www.avantikasxm.com (featured 7/6/20) Avantika is wonderful; SXM's best Thai.

Mario Bistro <u>www.mariobistrot.com/en/</u> 6/29/20 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. **Vesna Taverna**, <u>www.vesnataverna.com</u> (featured 6/22/20). Now open every day for B/L; dinner is offered Tuesday through Saturday. Outstanding dining and very reasonable pricing.

IZI Ristorante Italiano, <u>www.izirestaurant.com</u> (featured 6/15/20). 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 <u>Restaurant</u>(featured 3/16/20) SXM's very best, delicious, authentic food, attentive service, generous portions, and reasonable prices. We loved it...

SkipJack's SXM, <u>http://www.skipjacks-sxm.com/</u> (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.

Spiga, <u>www.spiga-sxm.com</u>(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, <u>www.pineapplepete.com</u> (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, <u>www.sxmfreedomfighters.com/restaurant</u> 4/15/19. Just go.... **IZI Ristorante Italiano**, <u>www.iziristoranteitaliano.com</u> (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 <u>http://www.sxmtoppers.com/</u> (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, <u>www.sailstmaarten.com</u> (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 <u>https://www.facebook.com/pages/Dominos-Pizza-St-Maarten/95635717338</u> (featured 9/16) Open. **The Hideaway**, <u>http://www.lavistaresort.com/restaurant.html</u> (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, <u>http://www.cluborient.com/papagayo.php</u> (featured 10/17/16) Club Orient was wrecked by Irma; rebuilding is planned. ETA not yet known.

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

Jimbo's, www.jimboscafe.com (featured 6/12/17) Closed permanently.

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 <u>Everything St. Maarten / St. Martin / SXM Facebook Group</u>. Our thanks to our Admin there, Contessa Aiello, who edited the restaurant entries on that site.

24. SkyMed Offers Extra Months of Protection for \$0; Ends Soon

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 <u>here</u>. And answers to frequently asked questions concerning SkyMed are <u>here</u>. (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.

<u>If you are renewing an existing annual SkyMed membership</u>, 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.

25. 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 <u>here</u>. And answers to frequently asked questions concerning SkyMed are <u>here</u>. (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.

26. 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 everythingsxm.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.

27. 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 <u>Everything SXM Facebook Group</u>. If you have not yet joined, do so now; it's a community of SXM fans like you.

28. 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 ...?

 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 <u>outside</u> the USA, CANADA, MEXICO, BAHAMAS, BERMUDA, and the CARIBBEAN (the rest of the world), <u>however neither SkyMed nor G.E.T.S.</u> <u>covers trips to nations on the U. S. State Department's then-current "Do Not Travel" list</u> – 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 <u>age 75 or older and purchase the X-Pat plan</u> 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 <u>not</u> 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?

 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?

 <u>Get SkyMed before you need it – just like fire insurance</u>. 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, <u>www.skymed.com/jmb</u>. 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?

 Although SkyMed accepts the vast majority of applications, others do get health questionnaires (see Q13) and occasionally some do not qualify. <u>There is no cost to apply if your membership application cannot be accepted</u>. 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) <u>www.cdc.gov/travel</u> Canadian government updates <u>www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirusinfection.html</u> National Institutes of Health (NIH) <u>www.nih.gov</u> US Customs & Border Protection (CBP) <u>www.cbp.gov</u> US State Department emergency assistance <u>coronavirusemergencyUSC@state.gov</u> World Health Organization (WHO) <u>www.who.int</u> SkyMed Travel reservations <u>www.skymedtravel.com</u> or email <u>info@skymedtravel.com</u> SkyMed Member Services **1-480-946-5188** or **1-800-475-9633** or <u>memberservices@skymed.com</u>

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 <u>www.facebook.com/groups/mysxm</u> or you can email him at <u>jeff@jmbcommunications.com</u> 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 <u>support@jmbcommunications.com</u>

29. 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.

30. 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 <u>here</u>. 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).

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 <u>skymed.com/jmb</u>. SkyMed is the Principal Sponsor of JMB SXM programs.

See the rundown of all SkyMed Features & Benefits

31. 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 everythingsxm.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.

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

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

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

33. Please Patronize JMB Sponsors (Updated 7/27/20)

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:

<u>SkyMed International</u> (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

<u>MAPS</u>

Kasprowski Publishers

PARFUMERIE / PERFUME

Tijon Parfumerie, Grand Case, 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

<u>|Z|</u>

<u>SPIGA</u>

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)

STAR WARS / YODA GUY MUSEUM

Nick Malley, Front Street

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 <u>Island Real Estate Team</u>. 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 <u>blueparadiserealty.com</u>.

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

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

That's what we do:

www.websitesthatworkusa.com

In business since the web began --

a unit of JMB Communications.

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

SXM Weekly News, our <u>everythingSXM.com</u> website and its Hurricane Center, and our <u>Everything SXM Facebook</u> <u>Group</u> — along with our many Vacation Giveaways and hundreds of benefits of JMB Website Supporters membership — <u>are all made possible through our partnerships with our JMB Website Supporters members and our Sponsors</u>.

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 <u>susank@jmbcommunications.com</u> 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: <u>http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml</u>.

Want to rent or buy a week?

2017 St. Maarten / St. Martin Timeshare Weeks For Rent or Sale are posted at http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/timeshare_rent_sale/index.shtml 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: <u>www.everythingsxm.com/secret</u>

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 <u>www.everythingsxm.com</u>. To change your password, click that same link.

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

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

See <u>www.everythingsxm.com</u>.

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

To unsubscribe, go here: <u>www.sxmweeklynews.com</u>. You **CAN** <u>NOT</u> 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 <u>www.sxmweeklynews.com</u>; 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, <u>http://www.everythingsxm.com/secret</u> . If you're a JMB Website Supporters member and have a question not answered

there, contact support@jmbcommunications.com

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

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

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

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