

From JMB / SXM Weekly News 10/26/20: MAX Coming Back; Flying During a Pandemic; Hurricanes Zeta and Eta; SXM Airport; Finding RT-PCR Testing Sites; Tourist Entry Requirements Changes Eyed; Towers at Mullet Bay Fiasco; Why There's High Demand for Villas; GEBE; Dutch Side Boat Tour Captains Cry Foul Against French Side [33 Top SXM News Stories for Tourists]

Can't see this newsletter? Go [here](#) for our *SXM Weekly News* PDF Archives.

Vol. 3, #1270 --- Monday, 10/26/20
News From St. Maarten / St. Martin / SXM

WEAR YOUR MASK!
WE WANT YOU BACK SAFE IN SXM!



This Week's Stories

Airfare, Airlines & Weather News

Everything SXM Home Page

Island News

Lodging News

Members SECRET Website 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

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 send-only email address.
For Contact info, see [#Contact Us](#)
at the end of this newsletter.

********Unsubscribe info is 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 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 344,000 people around the world...

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



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



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

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

You can also download PDFs of recent editions here:

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

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

Get Your Own Free Weekly Copy of SXM Weekly News:

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

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

TOP STORIES IN THIS ISSUE:

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

Top Stories in Today's SXM Weekly News:

Weather: Getting Here:

- **SXM's Current Entry Requirements**
- **AA Schedules Boeing 737 Back Into Service Late in December**
- **On The Safety of Flying In the Era of Covid**
- **Middle Seats Empty? Ask Before You Reserve**
- **SXM Airport Tightening Its Belt: No Impact on Rebuilding**
- **Storm Zeta Forms; Storm Eta Possible Next Week**
- **Finding RT-PCR Tests in Your Area & Reporting Results to SXM**
- **Dutch Side Looking into Rapid Tests on Arrival**
- **Exact Current SXM Tourist Entry Requirements**
- **Watch Flight Reservations Closely: Airlines Keep Changing Them**
- **Where to Find Current SXM Weather Info**
- **Where to Download the NHC's Hurricane Tracking Chart**

SXM Accommodations:

- **For Towers at Mullet Bay T/S Owners, No Progress**
- **Plenty of Room in SXM Makes Social Distancing Easy**
- **Rent a Villa for Lots of Space to Yourself - Contact Our Sponsors**
- **2020 and 2021 Rentals Available at EverythingSXM.com**
- **Guidance on Buying Property in SXM**
- **How To Rent Out Or Sell Your Timeshare Units**
- **Buying a Condo in SXM? Here's Important Info**

Other Island Headlines for Tourists:

- **We Need Your Help Now To Keep Publishing SXM Weekly News**
- **Tour Boat Captains Crying Foul Over French Side Restrictions**
- **GEBE Claims Everything is Just Ducky Despite Engine Failure**
- **Dutch Caribbean Nature Orgs Endangered by Covid**
- **Restaurant of the Week:**
- **First Responders Now Get Platinum Benefits**
- **How to Put Incredible Caribbean Colors in Your Home**
- **"Plus One" JMB Membership Promotion Final Week is NOW**

 -- **Get SkyMed Medevac Protection BEFORE You Need It**
 #####

-- **Please Patronize JMB Sponsors**
 #####
 -- **SXM Business Owners: How To Increase Foot Traffic**

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

33 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 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 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 12/5/2020 12/12/2020 Week 49 **La Vista Resort One bedroom, two bath Penthouse with full kitchen.**
Spiral staircase with a spacious bedroom and bath on lower level, hide-a-bed and bath upstairs. Sleeps 4. Balcony with sweeping view of Saba, Statia and St. Kitts. Resort features a large infinity pool, bar and restaurant. Daily maid service and coin laundry. Amenities include AC, W-Fi, cable and generator. Enchanting small resort in the Pelican Key Estates area of St. Maarten. Casino and water sports within walking distance. \$950 Marc 612-759-3761 LGILLE@GILLELAW.COM

SXM Timeshare Sale of The Week:

SALE 2/20/2021 2/27/2021 Week 8 **Simpson Bay Resort** 1 Bedroom sleep 4 Saturday to Saturday check in. King bed plus 2 Murphy beds, fully equipped kitchen in a newly remodeled unit. Balcony with fantastic sunsets located on crystalline Simpson Bay & clear waters of the Caribbean Seas. 4 tennis courts, 5 swimming pools, 2 w/swim up bars, mini market, restaurants, watersports & all amenities. Following week in same unit available. Two weeks in the same room no moving. \$9,000.00 Bonnie 603-321-7631 sxmdream@hotmail.com

Non-St. Maarten Timeshare Rentals:

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

Villa Rentals Now Offered On Our Site Too:

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

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 "Everything St. Maarten / St. Martin / SXM" Facebook Group:



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

"Like" Our Facebook St. Maarten Timesharing Group

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

Search the SXM Weekly News Archives:

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

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

Archives prior to April 12 2014 (old format):

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

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

www.linkedin.com

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

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

Complete Table of Contents

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

--Scroll Down To This Section--

1. AA Schedules Boeing 737 Back Into Service Late in December
2. On The Safety of Flying In the Era of Covid
3. Middle Seats Empty? Ask Before You Reserve
4. SXM Airport Tightening Its Belt: No Impact on Rebuilding
5. Storm Zeta Forms
6. Finding RT-PCR Tests in Your Area & Reporting Results to SXM
7. Dutch Side Looking into Rapid Tests on Arrival
8. Exact Current SXM Tourist Entry Requirements

9. Watch Flight Reservations Closely: Airlines Keep Changing Them
10. What Those Cruise Ships are Doing in SXM's Waters
11. Where to Find Current SXM Weather Info
12. Where to Download the NHC's Hurricane Tracking Chart
13. Guaranteed Big-Time Savings on Hotels, Cruises, & Car Rentals

Section Two: Accommodations (Hotels, Resorts, Timeshares, Villas, Etc.)

--Scroll Down To This Section--

14. For Towers at Mullet Bay T/S Owners, No Progress
15. Plenty of Room in SXM Makes Social Distancing Easy
16. Rent a Villa for Lots of Space to Yourself - Contact Our Sponsors
17. 2020 and 2021 Rentals Available at EverythingSXM.com
18. How To Rent Out Or Sell Your Timeshare Units
19. Buying a Condo in SXM? Here's Important Info

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

Section Three: JMB Member Discounts & Benefits

--Scroll Down To This Section--

20. News About JMB Member Discounts / Benefits Updates

Section Four: Island News, Info, & Features

--Scroll Down To This Section--

21. Help Keep WEEKLY NEWS Publishing: Join JMB Website Supporters Today!

22. Tour Boat Captains Crying Foul Over French Side Restrictions
23. GEBE Claims Everything is Just Ducky Despite Engine Failure
24. Dutch Caribbean Nature Orgs Endangered by Covid
25. Restaurant of the Week:
26. First Responders Now Get Platinum Benefits

#####

27. SkyMed FAQ / More Information

#####

28. Getting SXM Questions Answered Quickly
29. Want to See Back Issues of SXM Weekly News? Here's How
30. Are You Military, First Responder, or a Nurse?
31. Less Money, More Benefits, Ten Year Price Guarantee on SkyMed Ultimate
32. Please Patronize our Sponsors
33. 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 www.everythingsxm.com.
- C. How To Submit Rental or Sale Ads: Links are on the Secret Website (see a, above.)

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

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

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

Not a member yet? See http://everythingSXM.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. AA Schedules Boeing 737 Back Into Service Late in December

First, a little history.

Not long after two Boeing 737 Max airliners crashed overseas killing 346 people, American Airlines was still scheduling flights on the grounded planes, then canceling those flights, causing enormous confusion and inconvenience to its beleaguered passengers.

Electronic media are reporting that Steve Dickson, the former Delta Captain who is now the head of the FAA, was impressed when he recently flew the 737 Max. It is clear that — with crew training, airliner retrofits, and additional changes the FAA is requiring, the 737 Max will likely be back in service sometime during the first quarter of next year. Despite that, American Airlines appears to be waxing positive and is scheduling the planes to fly what it expects will be busy flights from New York to Florida around Christmas, which is still before the Max is likely to be approved to start flying again.

Perhaps AA is psychic and sees the planes flying before the FAA declares it so. Despite the fact that we expect the 737 Max to be quite a safe airplane once it returns to the skies, we strongly suggest American passengers avoid making any reservations involving the Max until after YOU know the FAA has already cleared it to fly. We think it would be an enormous waste of your time (not to mention that of AA) to be scheduling flights aboard planes that are still grounded. Once it has passed all the hurdles and is approved to fly, then it makes sense for airlines to schedule the 737 Max and for passengers to accept reservations on it. Until then, it's a waste of your time and a rather arrogant move by AA.

2. On The Safety of Flying In the Era of Covid

As we've noted here before, modern airliners suck fresh air into aircraft through engines, circulate that clean air in the cabins where it enters from the ceiling and leaves through the floor — finishing a complete change of air about every three minutes or less. Since the air does not circulate side to side, and since everyone is required to wear a mask aboard passenger jets in the US, there is little danger -- experts say -- of anyone catching Covid 19 from the air aboard an airliner, particularly with the middle seats empty, media reports say. HEPA filters — the same kinds of filters used in operating rooms in hospitals across the country — are also used to filter cabin air, another advantage.

At the end of the day, it appears that taking a flight to St. Maarten appears to be much less likely to expose you to Covid than a long lingering look through your favorite aisles in your neighborhood supermarket.

A significant number of commercial airplanes arrived in SXM on Saturday with almost 800 passengers, its busiest day since last March and clearly a harbinger of what's to come.

To see many more tourist observations about getting to SXM and what the island is like right now, please see the discussions in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#).

3. Middle Seats Empty? Ask Before You Reserve

Despite what we wrote in the previous story, faced with the choice of sitting next to a stranger aboard a crowded aircraft

or sitting next to an empty middle seat, most passengers during this Pandemic opt for the latter. But the question that your airline must answer for you is: **will the middle seat be empty on your next flight to SXM?**

The answer depends on what airline you're flying and when you are flying them. Some airlines — most notably Delta and JetBlue — have been noticeably pro-consumer in executing their policies regarding keeping middle seats empty as long as it is practical for them to do so.

American Airlines, on the other hand, according to its own passengers, is flying many flights full or close to full.

Despite the previous story, many passengers remain reluctant to sit next to strangers on an airplane during a lethal global Pandemic where neither cures nor vaccines are readily or dependably available. Wouldn't you really rather fly next to an empty seat too?

4. SXM Airport Tightening Its Belt: No Impact on Rebuilding

The roof of SXM Airport was severely compromised in early September 2017 when Irma, the most powerful hurricane in Atlantic basin history, slammed into the island, followed not many days later by hurricane Maria which dumped tons of water through the compromised roof, wrecking virtually everything left inside.

It is now three years later and the airport is still rebuilding. From a consumer standpoint, rebuilding things better -- including the airport -- should have been a high priority for the island... Every bit as important as rebuilding all of the facilities that locals and tourists depend on for jobs and revenue. The island is back and in generally great shape, and the airport is functional but still at least two years away from being normal. The island also has committed to preclearance for US customs and immigration but there is no current information on when that might happen. Once it does, it should be capable of generating a significant new wave of stayover tourism from smaller airports that won't need to have customs and immigration facilities to greet returning passengers who have cleared preclearance.

That's the big preview of coming attractions. The piece of good news here is that due to radically diminished revenues from passenger operations, SXM must tighten its belt but that tightening, the airport says, will have no impact on the scheduling or financing of the completion of the entire rebuilding process. Under the circumstances, that's a big piece of good news.

Here is [more](#) on this story.

5. Storm Zeta Forms

As we were finishing this edition of SXM Weekly News on Saturday night, the National Hurricane Center (NHC) was announcing the formation of a tropical depression in the Northwest Caribbean, far from SXM. The tropical depression was expected to become a tropical storm on Sunday and hurricane Zeta on Monday.

We are publishing the latest forecasts, advisories, watches, and warnings from the National Hurricane Center in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#). Much more storm information is also in the 24-hour weather center inside our main SXM website, [everythingSXM.com](#). That site also delivers a number of satellite images, radar loops, and much more from the NHC and other sources and is continually updated around-the-clock.

6. Finding RT-PCR Tests in Your Area & Reporting Results to SXM

If you're looking for a place near you that offers RT – PCR testing in your area that is acceptable to SXM as part of its entry requirement, there are two places where you might find it.

First, try our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#) which now has about 27,000 members. While we may not cover every town in the country, we do cover virtually every state and some people in our group will likely have suggestions to help you find a place that can deliver the testing you need. Remember that the test SXM requires is the nasopharyngeal PCR test, where RT means reverse transcription and not real time.

For current information on exactly what the entry requirements are in SXM, please see [this site](#). It's a site operated by the SXM government and it also includes individual forms you must fill out online in advance to get advance approval to enter the country, and where you also are required to upload your RT PCR negative test results. If you don't do that, or if you send results in a form that is not acceptable to the island, you will not be allowed to board your flight.

7. Dutch Side Looking into Rapid Tests on Arrival

There is serious disagreement on the island about this, but the Dutch side is now looking into offering rapid tests for arriving passengers and having them pay a small fee for those tests and getting virtually immediate results. Based upon the rapid testing experience in the United States, we think the current approach to testing in advance of flights is a far more accurate and expeditious way to handle things. Real-time testing in the US has resulted in a high percentage of incorrect results. Moreover, testing arriving passengers seems to us to be highly likely to result in enormous chaos at the airport.

We'll keep our eyes on this for you: if we're wrong about the accuracy of current rapid tests, or if the island develops a way to do it expeditiously so it does not interfere with the flow of passengers through the terminal, that would be two huge and unexpected improvements — especially if the island has some way of dealing with people who test positive.

We will keep you posted. Here's [more on this](#).

8. Exact Current SXM Tourist Entry Requirements

See them in the Covid area of the FILES in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#) or see the last paragraph of story 6, above.

9. Watch Flight Reservations Closely: Airlines Keep Changing Them

Again we remind all passengers to watch your flight reservations very closely since they can change overnight. If airlines have flights with a lot of open seats and they can move people to other available flights in their system, they are highly likely to cancel less-full flights. That explains why almost 800 people came in on Saturday. The airport was busier than it has been since last March, though still well below normal. We expect things to get busier particularly during the second half of November; significant numbers of people are now returning to SXM.

[Check your flight reservations closely and call the airline for new reservations if your flight is canceled.](#)

10. What Those Cruise Ships are Doing in SXM's Waters

In recent weeks, a number of people have posted pictures in social media of large cruise ships either in the port in Philipsburg or moored just offshore.

Cruise lines have not simply moored their ships in various ports and sent everybody home. They have kept the ships in full operating condition and they have crews working to support the staff that remains aboard. They come into port for provisioning (food, fuel, etc.) And to cycle in and out crewmembers.

When will cruise ships start operating normally again? Our guess — and it is only a guess — is not before next summer. As many people have said, cruise ships became floating Petri dishes earlier this year and helped spread the highly contagious Covid 19 virus while they were still sailing through various ports around the world. It makes no sense for cruise ships to go back into service while the Pandemic continues to rage.

11. Where to Find Current SXM Weather Info

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

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

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

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

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

Download your own NHC Hurricane Chart:

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

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

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

More stories are below.

Changing Your Email Address?

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

12. 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.)

13. 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

14. For Towers at Mullet Bay T/S Owners, No Progress

Not much has been written about it in recent months, but the saga of victimization of timeshare owners at the Towers at Mullet Bay Resort in Cupecoy is continuing. The building suffered significant damage from Irma and had received much replacement/renovation materials in the months after the storm. Some of that material has been installed but some has not.

Meanwhile, there are a number of apartments in the building that are occupied by people who lost their houses as a result of the storm — as well as others who have taken up temporary residency there.

At the same time, thousands of Towers at Mullet Bay timeshare owners are getting no updates from the company, no intercession from the government, and no use of their timeshare units for more than three years. The cause of this was a government effort to control the company that owns the resort and that was thought to be close to collapse as a result of financial woes following hurricane Irma. The effort was to control assets, according to communications at the time.

Our question to those who are still keeping this resort closed: how does controlling assets turn into closing a resort to its timeshare owners and preventing them from spending money there? If there is genuine concern on the part of the government at making sure that tourists have a good experience on St. Maarten, why is it that the government still has not acted on timeshare legislation that has sat in parliament for years and not been acted upon? And why is it that no attention appears to be directed toward solving this problem at the Towers and enabling thousands of timeshare owners to use the investments they bought and paid for on the island? Our suggestion: make it easy (subject to sensible restrictions to stop Covid) for people to come to the island and use their timeshares there without the need to be concerned with matters that should not affect them. Timeshare owners at Ocean Club, Caravanserai, and Towers at Mullet Bay have been victims in SXM and that should not be happening. Pass the legislation now and help the timesharing sector do its job of keeping SXM a popular vacation destination that actually proves it cares about its largest pool of stayover visitors.

15. Plenty of Room in SXM Makes Social Distancing Easy

It's Fall, usually the low season on the island. This year, it is particularly quiet for obvious reasons — although it is becoming clearer by the day that increasing numbers of tourists will be returning to SXM during the next several weeks. The current usual small numbers of tourists on the island makes social distancing across the island, including of course in all restaurants, easily accomplished — relieving a key point of concern for prospective visitors.

So if you have been concerned about that, realize that major precautions are being taken across the island in all restaurants, to ensure all Covid guidelines for social distancing are properly observed (you won't be seated near others). Come on down!

16. Rent a Villa for Lots of Space to Yourself - Contact Our Sponsors

Our sponsors include some of the top vacation rental/Villa rental companies on the island. Contact information for all of them is in our sponsor list in story 32 in this edition of *SXM Weekly News*.

For lots of space all to yourself, rent a villa on the island — possibly with members of your extended family or your closest friends. When coming to SXM, you will have been pretested for Covid so you should have a worry-free vacation on the island. Do check article 32 now.

17. 2020 - 2021 Rentals Available Now at EverythingSXM.com

SXM timeshare owners who are members of JMB Website Supporters are posting 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.

18. 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.

19. 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 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

20. 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](#). Please see the next story.

SECTION 4: Island News, Info, & Features

-- Help Keep WEEKLY NEWS coming by joining our JMB Website Supporters Island Discount Program Membership -- PLEASE HELP *NOW*

HELP US CONTINUE PUBLISHING SXM WEEKLY NEWS BY JOINING / RENEWING / REINSTATING A MULTIYEAR MEMBERSHIP IN OUR "JMB WEBSITE SUPPORTERS" ISLAND DISCOUNT PROGRAM:

21. WE NEED YOUR HELP TO KEEP PUBLISHING *SXM Weekly News* every week:

We know readers / JMB members have uncertainties -- for clearly obvious reasons. Our business has been 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 ask all readers to buy a multiyear new, renewal, or reinstated JMB membership. You get about 300 discounts and other benefits while you enable us to keep the lights on -- literally.

You'll certainly return within a year (possibly way sooner), since an effective vaccine appears likely to be available during the coming winter. So sign up for, renew, or reinstate today.

Military / First Responder memberships available, too.

a) New Memberships Get Great Benefits:

Here are our low regular new membership prices:

- 1 year \$59
- 3 years \$109
- 5 years \$139

Sign up by going to everythingxsm.com and clicking the page curl, or phone us.

b) Here are all the multiyear renewal / reinstatement rates for all current or former members:

- The **one-year** renewal or reinstatement remains \$49.
- **Three-year** renewal/reinstatements, \$89.
- **Our Best Offer: Six-year renewal/reinstatements, \$149.**

You can do both renewals and reinstatements [right here](#), in our membership reinstatement center (prices are identical to renewals). For new memberships, click the page curl on our main site, everythingxsm.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. You can reinstate an old membership regardless of how many years ago it expired, too. We email you a new membership card once processing has been completed.

c) Military and First-Responder memberships offer you the usual four years for just \$67.96 DD214 or other proof of US military or first-responder service required.

We hope you are having a pleasant summer, **but please ... join, renew, or reinstate today.**

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're moving as quickly as we can with a temporarily reduced staff. We hope to be fully caught up shortly

THANK YOU!

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

22. Tour Boat Captains Crying Foul Over French Side Restrictions

It seems that the recent spirit of cooperation between the French and Dutch sides of the island has hit something of a speed bump.

Owners of tour boats registered on the French side can go pretty much anywhere they want in the waters on both sides of the island. But owners of tour boats based on the Dutch side can't currently go through French waters, despite the fact that the border has been reopened and everything is supposed to be moving freely.

Consequently, owners of Dutch side tour boats — already bludgeoned by the economic realities of Covid-19 — are hopping mad because of prospective business taken away from them by the French.

[Here is the story](#) as posted within the last few days by the Dutch side newspaper, the *Daily Herald*.

23. GEBE Claims Everything is Just Ducky Despite Engine Failure

The Dutch side's electric and water company, GEBE, whose reliability has been compared to that of the electric system in Zimbabwe, is having trouble again. In the past, GEBE has been known mostly for its lack of reliability as well as for the creativity with which it seems to blame various causes for its outages.

Now, one of its engines is out, and it has had to contact the factory representative in hopes of getting it fixed.

Despite this setback, GEBE is now claiming that its ability to generate electricity is just ducky despite the engine failure. Guests at larger hotels and timeshares and many businesses across the island should rest assured that the owners of those establishments have purchased and use generators to take over when these semi--predictable outages occur, which is regularly.

We will say that GEBE's record in recent years has been less abysmal than it had been earlier — an improvement.

At times in the past, wags have suggested that some past GEBE outages had occurred because the company ran out of bubble gum and spit -- though we have not been able to investigate the matter further. We do wish them luck in fixing this soon and without impacts on service.

Here's [more](#).

24. Dutch Caribbean Nature Orgs Endangered by Covid

This story is one of many we're working on for next week! Please tell your friends about *SXM Weekly News* -- they can subscribe free at sxmweeklynews.com.

25. Restaurant of the Week: Returns in November

Here are recently featured SXM restaurants:

Mario's at the Cliff, formerly Mario's Bistro www.mariobistrot.com/en/ **9/14/20** Mario's is one of the most spectacular culinary experiences you'll ever have. Go. Phenomenal dining at very reasonable prices. Formerly on the plaza at Porto Cupecoy, Cupecoy Beach, they are relocating effective in late October to the Cliff. Open every day but Monday, they will serve both lunch and dinner six days a week. Traditional and highly creative Continental dinners, with Tapas and other selections at lunch. Do not miss it. Reservations are required.

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

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. www.isolaristorante.com

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

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

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

Vesna Taverna, www.vesnataverna.com (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, www.iziristorante.com (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 Restaurant (featured 3/16/20) SXM's very best, delicious, authentic food, attentive service, generous portions, and reasonable prices. We loved it...

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.

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

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

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

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

Mandarin Pan Asian, Port de Plaisance (featured 6/10/19) Excellent Pan-Asian dining including Japanese, Thai, and Chinese. Nice setting near the casino at Port de Plaisance.

Emilio's at Emilio Wilson Estate (featured 4/21/19) is as stupendous as it ever was, with spectacular dining in an equally spectacular restored building on the Emilio Wilson Estate. Ask to see the wine cellar and the museum. Open for lunch and dinner: not to be missed.

Freedom Fighters ITAL SHACK Rasta Restaurant, www.sxmfreedomfighters.com/restaurant 4/15/19. Just go....

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

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

Dany'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 (featured 8/7/17). Neil's new boat is as big as Celine Too was and it has now entered service. Neil is known for amazing cooking on board his boats.

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

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

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

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

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

Jimbo's, www.jimboscafe.com (featured 6/12/17) 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 [Everything St. Maarten / St. Martin / SXM Facebook Group](#). Our thanks to our Admin there, Contessa Aiello, who edited the restaurant entries on that site.

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 everythingxsm.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. 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. 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

Canadian government updates www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection.html

National Institutes of Health (NIH) www.nih.gov

US Customs & Border Protection (CBP) www.cbp.gov

US State Department emergency assistance coronavirusemergencyUSC@state.gov

World Health Organization (WHO) www.who.int

SkyMed Travel reservations www.skymedtravel.com or email info@skymedtravel.com

SkyMed Member Services 1-480-946-5188 or 1-800-475-9633 or 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 or you can email him at 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

28. 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.

29. 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 will shortly again be thoroughly updated. Each week's newsletter is usually added within a few weeks 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 skymed.com/jmb. SkyMed is the Principal Sponsor of JMB SXM programs.

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

30. 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 everythingxsm.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.

31. 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.

32. Please Patronize JMB Sponsors (Updated 10/25/20)

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](#)

MAPS

[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

[IZI](#)

[SPIGA](#)

[VESNA TAVERNA](#)

ISOLA

Frenchy Ludo'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 [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.

[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 10/25/20

**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.

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

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

Our **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 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_sxm/paypal.shtml .

Want to rent or buy a week?

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

SECTION 5: For Members Only

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

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

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

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

See www.everythingsxm.com.

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

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

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

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

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

LEGAL:

Entire contents copyright (c), JMB Communications, 2019. World rights reserved. Excerpting, quotation, and republication, in any form, print, electronic, or archival, is expressly prohibited without written advance permission. You can forward this newsletter in its entirety only to your friends. For reprint permission, email us. JMB vigorously defends its copyrights. *Everything St. Maarten*, *Everything SXM*, and *Everything St. Martin* are service marks of JMB Communications. *JMB Communications* is a trademark of JMB Communications, P. O. Box 1812, Plymouth, Massachusetts 02362-1812 USA. Join our free St. Maarten / St. Martin newsletter mailing list at <http://www.everythingsxm.com> . You cannot join by emailing us.

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

Contact Us (Revised 5/25/18)

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

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)

10/26/20 #V3-1270 6am EDT 10/25/20 | [Terms of use](#) |

Copyright ©, JMB Communications, 2020. World rights reserved.

###