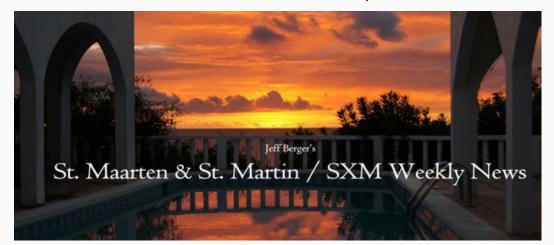
From JMB / SXM Weekly News 12/6/21: The New US Testing Requirement for Returning International Travelers; Mullet Bay Redevelopment; The Sands Hotel (Vegas) Mystery Jets; Towers at Mullet Bay; Caravanserai; Restaurant Reservations; Front Street & The Boardwalk; Emilio's; SkyMed's Huge Sale Ends Soon [Issue #1324 -- 34 Top SXM News Stories for Tourists]

Can't see this newsletter? Go HERE for our SXM Weekly News PDF Archives.



Vol. 4, #1324 ---- Monday, Dec. 6, 2021 News From Sint Maarten / Saint Martin / SXM Entire Contents Copyright, ©, JMB Communications, Plymouth, MA 02362-1812, 2021. World rights reserved. 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

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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 <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 more than 360,000 people around the world...

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



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

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-- US Changes Testing Requirement for Returning International Travelers To One Day -NOT a Problem in SXM -- Where To Find Our UPDATED "Complete Guide to SXM Entry Requirements" -- Where to Find Current SXM Weather Info SXM Accommodations: -- Mullet Bay Redevelopment MAY Be Fast Tracked - 25 Years Later -- The Mystery of Why Two Sands Hotel Las Vegas Jets Visited SXM -- Tower's at Mullet Bay Timeshare Owners Watch Recent Court Case Against Ansary -- Dozens More Timeshare Condo Rentals Added to Our Listings -- Buying a Condo in SXM: Important Procedural Help -- How To Rent Out Or Sell Your Timeshare Units -- Buying a Condo in SXM? Here's Important Info Other Island Headlines for Tourists: -- French Side Update -- For Restaurants Everywhere, Reservations Are An ABSOLUTE MUST -- Front Street & The Boardwalk Are Buzzing With Activity -- Front Street Merchants (Eagerly?) Await Front Street Repair/Repaving -- Parking in Downtown Philipsburg ***** -- Award-Winning Simpson Bay Restaurant For Sale -- Pasanggrahan Hotel May Be Rebuilt After All -- Restaurant of the Week: Emilio's ######## -- If Ever You've Thought About SkyMed - NOW IS THE TIME TO ACT ######## -- First Responders Now Get Platinum Benefits -- Please Patronize JMB Sponsors Please see our complete Table of Contents below. In This Issue: 34 News Stories 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.

<u>To rent out or sell timeshares you own in SXM or anywhere else</u> 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 12/18/2021 12/25/2021 Week 51 Atrium Resort 3 bedroom 3 bath penthouse unit with ocean and lagoon views. Many near by restaurants large main balcony with table and lounge chairs and couch, chair and coffee table. Multiple other small balconies off bedrooms and kitchen. Full kitchen and dining room. Living room with TV and Murphy bed \$2,500 Sean 630-336-9890 brinksean@aol.com

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

SXM Timeshare Sale of The Week:

SALE 1/15/2022 2/12/2022 Week 3-4-5 & 6 Atrium Beach Resort and Spa We are offering a 1 bedroom Suite on the 5th floor, Ocean side of the Resort. Overlooking the pool and the Beach. This is a unique opportunity to

spend your entire 4 weeks in the same Suite. (No moving) King Size bed, pullout couch, TV, satellite TV. Very good WIFI adequate to use for WIFI calling to the states. Recently remodeled with a bathroom with shower. Full patio deck with lounges and table and Chairs. An additional week 3, is available for purchase, if you want to bring friends. Restaurants, shops, Grocery stores and Casino within walking distance. Transfer fees are the responsibility of the buyer. \$28,000.00 total for all 4 weeks, Additional week is offered at \$5000.00. David 248-345-8104 dyezback@yahoo.com

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>

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Find us on Facebook

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

"Like" Our All-New "<u>Everything St. Maarten / St. Martin / SXM</u>" MeWe Group https://mewe.com/join/jeffbergerseverythingsxmmewegroup

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

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17. ***Huge SkyMed Sale Must End 12/31:***

IF YOU HAVE EVER THOUGHT ABOUT SKYMED, NOW IS THE TIME TO ACT

Beat The SkyMed Price Increase Because... <u>SkyMed Never Does Sales</u> <u>-- Except Right Now, and</u> <u>Your Renewal Pricing is Price-Guaranteed Forever</u>

Up to 21 Free Weeks added with new, renewal, and upgrade SkyMed purchases! Ends 12/31/21

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

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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 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 Here: Flights, Airlines, Airports, Cruises, Weather, and COVID-19

GETTING HERE:

1. US Changes Testing Requirement for Returning International Travelers To One Day - NOT a Problem in SXM

Effective today, the United States has changed its requirements for Americans returning to the US from international travel. Before, the US required Americans to have a negative Covid test within three days before their return trip. Effective today, December 6, that requirement has been changed one day.

Thanks to the wide availability of testing across SXM, testing a day ahead of your flight is readily achievable. For information about what lab to use for your tests, see our **Everything SXM Facebook Group**. Our Guide to Entry Requirements has been updated to reflect this change; see next story.

2. Our "Guide to Entry Requirements" Answers All Your SXM Travel Questions

Our completely new Guide to Entry Requirements — all new and completely different from the first edition — simplifies SXM Entry Requirements to make it easier for our readers to understand exactly what the island is looking for and to successfully navigate the electronic health authorization system EHAS website, through which visitors to SXM apply for the required preapproval.

To download the new second edition of our Guide to Entry Requirements, *which is free*, go to the files area of our **Everything SXM Facebook Group**; you can get there through this link if you are a Facebook member. Otherwise, Facebook will prompt you to join, which is free. To join our group, answer the simple vetting questions. Once you go to the files area, search for Entry and you'll be able to download the PDF of our new second edition Guide to Entry Requirements -- or just <u>go here</u>.

We always urge everyone to download the **Guide to Entry Requirements** directly from our files area, since that area enables you to ensure that you are downloading the latest available version. We do expect the Dutch side government to make more changes as the Covid Pandemic hopefully continues to wane.

3. Flight Cancellations Continuing: Which Airline is the WORST at Helping You Out?

Although our poll on this topic is incomplete, incremental evidence we received from readers of our **Everything SXM Facebook Group** suggests that American Airlines may be canceling more flights than other airlines serving SXM.

Despite the omicron Covid variant, demand for air travel is soaring and some airlines seem to be scheduling flights for which they don't appear to have crews. Since the resumption of air travel after the worst of the Covid Pandemic appears to be behind us, we have had more complaints about American doing this than all other airlines combined — though most have done it to some degree. Our advice to passengers regardless of your airline: Frequently RECHECK your flights both to and from SXM to make sure the airline has not changed them....

WEATHER:

4. Christmas Worms & December Winds Arriving on Schedule

December in SXM typically brings several things to the island: the two that are most unexpected by tourists are December winds and Christmas worms.

Changing weather patterns here during December bring with them frequent windy conditions — day and night. We've already noticed an increase in those conditions this month.

Christmas worms — so named because of their bright red color — are about the size of earthworms but they move quickly, sometimes in fairly large groups. Look down as you walk and you may often see them near buildings as this month unfolds.

5. Hurricane Season Ends...

After a hurricane season that once again used all the hurricane names picked in advance by the National Hurricane Center, the season ground to a halt during November and ended with a whimper. Many Meteorologists had expected a busy October but that didn't happen except for hurricane Wanda which whacked Cape Cod while it was forming and disrupted maritime traffic for some time after it left the Cape.

What's up for next year's hurricane season? The early predictions should be released by the National Hurricane Center, Colorado State University, and our own Rob Lightbown of Crown Weather during the next several weeks, and we will publish them here.

All of us hope that the next season will be "boring."

6. "Rainy" Season Still Packs Surprises

Although most tourists hardly notice it, we are currently in the rainy season during which tropical showers or downpours are a bit more frequent than during the dry season and can last a bit longer.

During this season, you may encounter large puddles while driving in some areas. It's best to hang back and drive through the most shallow part of the puddle rather than venture into the deeper parts -- those deeper parts could well cover where the road ends — and you don't want your rental car to go off the road into a gully.

7. Where to Find Current SXM Weather Info

You'll find detailed observations and forecasts by visiting our main SXM website, www.everythingsxm.com.

Here are four more sources of current weather info:

<u>Crown Weather Services</u> whose very inexpensive subscription service is, we feel, the best in the business.
 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.

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>

Etc.

8. SkyMed TRAVEL <u>Guarantees</u> 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 15% 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 508-591-3483 (NEW NUMBER) any weekday. Thanks..

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

9. Mullet Bay Redevelopment MAY Be Fast Tracked - 27 Years Later

From the 1970s through 1995, Mullet Bay Beach Resort was the hub of tourist activity on SXM. It was a resort consisting of many condos spread out around the current St. Maarten golf course plus lots of restaurants and a busy casino.

When hurricane Luis hit the island in 1995 — to that point the most severe hurricane ever to hit SXM, we believe — it completely obliterated Mullet Bay Beach Resort. The resort stayed in ruins until the last remaining destroyed buildings were finally demolished several years ago.

If you look at the remains of Ocean Club in Cupecoy today, that's how the entire Mullet Bay complex looked for years after Luis. The condos were owned by various people and there were, of course, disagreements about what should be done. In the US, ruins would not be allowed to remain — and cities hosting large tracts of undeveloped but attractive land would've acted quickly to make redevelopment happen.

But this isn't the US, this is SXM, and now 27 years have passed since Luis hit.

Only now is the government of SXM saying that it wants to expedite (?) the process so that a billion guilder judgment against Hushang Ansary, who is involved in the ownership of the property, can be levied and paid for by revenue from the property. (Google him to find out more.)

The property is on the ocean and would be a prime site for a large resort. If the process of offering the property for sale can finally be expedited, construction and operation of a major resort here would be a major shot in the arm to the Dutch side economy as well as the economy of the entire island — provided the road through the property were upgraded and made capable of accommodating increased traffic.

Here is more on this story.

See the next story about something that is possibly related.

10. The Mystery of Why Two Sands Hotel Las Vegas Jets Visited SXM

Two big private jets owned by the Sands Hotel in Las Vegas flew into SXM Airport before Thanksgiving. One, a four engine Airbus A340, took off a few days after Thanksgiving and seemed to blow a chunk of Maho beach into the ocean in the process. The other jet, a 737, was still at the airport yesterday morning, December 5. Lots of people on the island are wondering what they were doing here. Of course, the answer could be simple — lots of key corporate people or families or some of their highest high rollers came here to enjoy Thanksgiving.

That's where it gets more interesting, since the 737 is still here. This island creates rumors like apple orchards create cider. There is widespread speculation that perhaps the Sands folks are looking into the Great Bay Beach property formerly earmarked for a major Planet Hollywood Resort. After Irma struck, the money that was to be used for creating Planet Hollywood was invested elsewhere so that project has been dormant. The property is prime beachfront with plenty of room for a large upscale resort with a casino — something that the island would likely want to fast-track because of all the jobs and revenue it could produce. So that's a possibility.

As you read in the previous story, SXM also wants to fast-track redevelopment of the Mullet Bay Beach Resort property, the largest tract of beachfront property available on the island and probably over much of the Caribbean. Perhaps these folks heard about the interest in redeveloping that property either before they decided to come here or while they were on the island.

The reality of course is that we don't know — but many people are talking about the possibilities.

11. Towers at Mullet Bay Timeshare Owners Watch Recent Court Case Against Ansary

There have been several timesharing-related debacles on SXM in recent years.

The foremost of these has been the **Caravanserai debacle**, where US credit card magnate Ray Sidhom bought the Caravanserai timeshare resort out of bankruptcy and immediately emailed timeshare owners telling them that their contracts were null and void. He then changed the name of the resort to Allegra "the place of happiness" but Allegra never seemed to attract much business, from what area visitors could ascertain.

He has since renamed the building yet again but it, too, doesn't appear busy, although the bars around the property seem to attract a fair amount of business — especially Sunset Beach Bar.

Meanwhile, all of the buildings that earlier had been erected to accommodate Caravanserai timeshare owners have now been demolished, and piles of reinforced concrete construction rubble litter the landscape adjacent to Sidhom's property. Some of the debris has been hauled out by big box trucks but much of it remains in place with a steam shovel on top of it, moving it around sometimes creating cement dust in the area.

All of this has left Caravanserai timeshare owners out in the cold since there has been no intervention by the government to help them. Courts have not provided any resolution, and timeshare owner consumer protection legislation though supposedly close to finalization still isn't final.

Caravanserai timeshare owners are not the only ones who invested in timesharing on the island and have been left out in the cold. Although most timeshare owners on the island are happy with their investments and the island has a spectrum of fine, very well run timeshare resorts, the ones that make the news are the ones that have the problems.

Besides the ongoing mess at Caravanserai, timeshare owners at the Towers at Mullet Bay (near the medical school of the American University of the Caribbean in Cupecoy) have also been unable to use their timeshare units at that property because of a complex problem regarding ENNIA insurance and Hushang Ansary (see earlier article). One would hope that with the possible redevelopment of the old Mullet Bay Beach resort area, if in fact that happens, money can be put into restoring the Towers at Mullet Bay property so the timeshare owners who have put millions of dollars into it don't lose that investment as have others — notably, for example, those at Ocean Club in Cupecoy, another timeshare debacle.

We will keep watching this developing story for you.

12. Dozens More Timeshare Condo Rentals Added to Our Listings

Dozens of new listings of timeshare condominiums for rent and for sale during the rest of 2021 and 2022 have been added to our timeshare sales rental page in our main SXM site, www.everythingsxm.com. If you're looking for a place to stay, that's where to find it. All of our listings are from members of our JMB Website Supporters island discount program so you deal directly with timeshare owners — there are no middleman or agents or anything else charging commissions. Usually, timeshare owners charge close to their actual annual maintenance fee costs.

Dozens of new entries were posted over the last few days.

13. Full-Ownership Condo Sales Continue Through the Roof -Who to Contact

See the Realtors in our Sponsors list below; they are the most qualified to help you learn more about and acquire a condo on SXM that meets your specific needs. Also see the story immediately below about BrightPath #Caribbean, a company that can help enormously with required paperwork. They know what they're doing.

14. Buying a Condo in SXM: Important Procedural Help

A while ago, 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*.

15. 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 package 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.

SECTION 3: JMB Member Discounts & Benefits

16. NEWS About JMB Member Discounts / Benefits Updates -Updated Dec. 6, 2021

We are now working to further increase the already huge number of restaurants, jewelry stores, hotels, car rentals, 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. *We hope to complete the upgrade during the first quarter of 2022.*

For more info on what you get with your JMB membership, go here. Please see the next section.

SECTION 4: Island News, Info, & Features

17. IF YOU HAVE EVER THOUGHT ABOUT SKYMED, NOW IS THE BEST TIME EVER TO ACT -- Four Big Reasons:

First: Huge SkyMed Sale Must End 12/31:

Second: Beat the January 1 SkyMed Price Increase Because... SKYMED NEVER DOES SALES -- EXCEPT RIGHT NOW (first price increase since 2013):

Third: Get Up to 21 Free Weeks added to new, renewal, and upgrade SkyMed purchases (Ends 12/31)!

Fourth: Lock In Current Low Prices Forever When You Buy THIS MONTH (Current Pricing Offer Ends 12/31):

WHAT IS SKYMED?

SkyMed is a medical evacuation membership company. "SkyMed *Takes You Home*®" when you become seriously or critically ill or injured when traveling anywhere throughout the USA, Canada, all the nations of the Caribbean, Mexico, Bermuda, and the Bahamas. Global protection is also available. <u>SkyMed members pay</u> nothing for SkyMed-arranged medical evacuation flights that would cost non-SkyMed members \$35,000 and up <u>*payable in cash, in advance*</u>. Why risk that? Of course, you must get your SkyMed membership <u>before</u> you need it – just like fire insurance. You'll find an overview of all **SkyMed Services** <u>here</u>, and you'll find **Frequently Asked Questions** <u>here</u>.

LOW GROUP PRICING:

All of the SkyMed memberships we sell go to either members of our JMB Website Supporters Island Discount Program, to members of our various online SXM groups, or to readers of *SXM Weekly News*. The prices we charge for all multiyear Ultimate memberships are substantially less than the retail prices you will see online from SkyMed's website. Call or email us (contact info below) for details on all of our major-league savings on SkyMed Ultimate multi-year membership prices.

LIFETIME PRICE GUARANTEE:

All existing SkyMed memberships and new SkyMed membership purchases of one-year or longer are now priceguaranteed for life. The price of your membership will not increase if you buy during this 2021 sale or if you already are a SkyMed owner of any annual or longer membership: this applies as long as your renewals are paid on time.

<u>FREE BONUS WEEKS</u> (UP TO 21 WEEKS) FOR PURCHASES OF SKYMED'S MOST POPULAR MEMBERSHIPS (MUST END 12/31/21):

- Buy a new 5-year Ultimate SkyMed membership OR UPGRADE TO ONE and get an added 21 weeks of medevac protection at no added cost. More on SkyMed memberships is on our site, www.skymed.com/jmb or call us at 508-591-3483 (NEW NUMBER) for answers to any questions. Guaranteed renewable as long as your renewals are paid on time. Does not apply to monthly-payment 5-year Ultimates.
- Buy a new 3-year Ultimate SkyMed membership OR UPGRADE TO ONE and <u>get an added 12 weeks of</u> <u>medevac protection</u> at no added cost. More on SkyMed memberships is on our site, <u>www.skymed.com/jmb</u> or call us at 508-591-3483 (NEW NUMBER) for answers to any questions. Guaranteed renewable *as long as your renewals are paid on time*.
- Buy a new annual (one-year guaranteed renewable as long as your renewals are paid on time) SkyMed membership and get an added 21 free days of medevac protection at no added cost.

REWARDS FOR REFERRALS FROM SKYMED MEMBERS FOR NEW MEMBERSHIPS:

- 21 Free Weeks added to your SkyMed membership when you refer someone who buys a 5-year Ultimate.
- 12 Free Weeks added to your SkyMed membership when you refer someone who buys a 3-year Ultimate.
- 21 Free Days added to your SkyMed membership when you refer someone who buys an annual SkyMed membership.
- HOW TO CONTACT US: Phone us ANYTIME at 508-591-3483 (new number, where you can also text us) for answers to questions or to sign up. When you call us directly, we get credit for the sale. You can also email us directly through SkyMed at jeff.berger@skymed.com.

My SkyMed website: <u>http://www.skymed.com/jmb</u>. <u>But please call me directly with questions or to sign</u> <u>up</u>.

When and Where SkyMed Protects You:

Basic SkyMed short-term and annual memberships protect you throughout the USA, Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, the Bahamas, and all the nations of the Caribbean. In that SkyMed universe, SkyMed *Takes You Home*® when you become critically ill or injured. Optional protection covering most of the rest of the world is provided by GETS, Global Emergency Transportation Services, a SkyMed company.

Key Differences Between SkyMed Short-Term & Annual Memberships:

Many people who buy SkyMed memberships first request short-term protection. Is that the best solution for most people? That's a decision you have to make, but before you do, here's some important info. **First, short-term memberships** are available only for a specific defined short term. They protect you with SkyMed *Takes You Home*® membership that applies throughout the United States, Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, the Bahamas, and

all the nations of the Caribbean including Cuba. Short-term protection cannot be upgraded or renewed since you buy it for specific trip; it's temporary protection. There is no waiting period for any benefits. When you want protection for a future trip, you must make a separate application for it. It is economical if you seldom travel and if you take brief trips. The cost is \$9/day per person, or a maximum of \$15 a day per family (parents and kids 21 or younger). *We always tell people who are 50 or over about the most important advantages of SkyMed annual and multiyear memberships. The single most important benefit is that SkyMed annual and multiyear memberships are guaranteed renewable, regardless of advancing age or declining health.* Details are in SkyMed's Member Services Agreement. We currently have members who are still traveling and are in their upper 80s and 90s. *The cost of annual memberships per family — far more economical than the \$15/day per family for short-term coverage -- is currently only about \$1.35/day total.* Multiyear memberships are even less expensive and have more features; contact me for full information about features of each type of SkyMed membership. **Ultimate memberships protect you worldwide.** I can answer all your questions by phone in minutes, and can also take your application by phone (that way I get credit). Phone anytime at 508-591-3483 (NEW NUMBER). That's a direct line to Jeff Berger.

SkyMed Frequently Asked Questions / FAQ

Feel free to contact me via Facebook Messenger as well or now WhatsApp, 721-588-4188 (through WhatsApp ONLY), or use our new office line, 508-591-3483. Or email me at jeff.berger@skymed.com (SkyMed inquiries only please). You can also send texts to that 508 line and leave voice messages. Please include your phone number, time zone, callback number, and email address.

--Jeff Berger 12/6/21

18. TWO MORE HUGE DECEMBER BARGAINS FROM SKYMED FOR BOTH BUSINESSES & FAMILIES (YOURS AND YOUR KIDS)

For FAMILIES: Buy SkyMed for your grown children and their families -- get global coverage at bargain prices for your own family and for them at prices that will be gone forever 12/31 (but that you lock in forever buy buying before 12/31/21).

For BUSINESSES: Get "Key Person" memberships for all your top employees (and their families); global coverage is available.

Feel free to contact me via Facebook Messenger as well or now WhatsApp, 721-588-4188 (through WhatsApp ONLY), or use our new office line, 508-591-3483. Or email me at jeff.berger@skymed.com (SkyMed inquiries only please). You can also send texts to that 508 line and leave voice messages. Please include your phone number, time zone, callback number, and email address.

--Jeff Berger 12/6/21

19. Black Friday Sale Continues for our JMB Website Supporters Island Discount Program:

Join or Renew Your Membership in Our *JMB Website Supporters Island Discount Program* Today; Great *Last-Chance* Sale Prices & You'll Beat The Coming Price Increase!

<u>Our biggest sale of the year -- now better than ever since it precedes a price increase on multiyear</u> <u>memberships coming in January --</u> is now underway. <u>It offers pricing that will not be back</u>... take advantage of these great BLACK FRIDAY OFFERS before they disappear, soon!

What's In It For You:

All multiyear memberships bought starting 11/21/21 receive one full year of membership in addition to what's stated

on the site. Want two full years? Our LONGEST DURATION multiyear membership offers TWO FULL YEARS EXTRA, on us, through the end of the sale (date to be announced). BUY NOW, THIS SALE WON'T LAST FOREVER and can end any time. And because of the looming price increase, these values will soon be gone forever....

<u>To sign up, please visit our main site, everythingsxm.com, and click the page curl at the top of the home page</u>. That takes you to where you can join, helping us <u>continue</u> to produce *SXM Weekly News* ... <u>continue</u> to organize and deliver our complete Weather Center / Hurricane Center on our main site, everythingsxm.com ... and <u>continue</u> to expand our JMB Website Supporters benefits significantly in efforts already underway.

<u>Please don't put it off</u>... we do ask you to join (or renew, if you're already a JMB member) today. <u>Thank you</u>.... Please allow several days for processing your new membership or renewal / reinstatement.

:::::::::::Here's More Island News:::::::::::::

20. French Side Update

For several weeks, we have recommended that tourists stay out of the Sandy Ground area immediately west of downtown Marigot, over the Sandy Ground drawbridge. That recommendation continues.

For a time last week, gendarmes were dealing with disorderly youths just west of Sandy Ground in the Nettle Bay area. Although negotiations between collectives of unhappy citizens and the French side government and the Préfet (representative of the French state administering the area) are continuing, a few dozen bored youths continue to create disturbances in Sandy Ground by setting fire to junk cars and other trash, including trash bins normally placed beside roads. Several gendarmes were injured last week in altercations with the youths. Gendarme reinforcements are now in the Sandy Ground area to stop Sandy Ground youth disturbances. There are currently no issues anywhere else on the French side.

For daily information updates on the status of the French side, join our everything SXM Facebook Group. The border between the French and Dutch sides remains open and freely passable.

Our <u>Everything SXM Facebook Group</u> will continue to inform our readers about whatever is happening — if anything — on the French side in the weeks ahead. If you're not yet a member of that private Facebook group, please join us to stay up-to-date daily with island events affecting tourists. You must answer brief vetting questions to join the site.

21. For Restaurants Everywhere on SXM, Reservations Are An ABSOLUTE MUST

Many restaurants, particularly on the Dutch side of the island, are now as busy as they normally get during high season, which officially starts later this month. To avoid disappointment, we strongly suggest all readers make reservations at restaurants. If you are unable to keep your reservation, common courtesy dictates that you cancel it as early as possible before the date and time of the reservation.

22. Front Street & The Boardwalk Are Buzzing With Activity

We visited downtown Philipsburg twice last week, parking at open lots in town. Both front Street and the boardwalk were quite busy — busier than we have seen them in some time as ships started visiting here again in numbers a few weeks ago.

Even when cruise ships are in town, parking continues to be available and there is room to move about town freely. If you're not sure where to park, see story #24 re: parking -- parking is readily available when you know where to find it.

23. Front Street Merchants (Eagerly?) Await Front Street Repair/Repaving

As we reported here a few weeks ago, Front Street in Philipsburg is about to be repaired in the same way much of

Backstreet was a few years ago. From one end to the other, Front Street, built with Cobblestones roughly 15 years ago when downtown improvements were initiated, has sunk in places so driving down the street is not as pleasant as it needs to be. Although the government of the Dutch side is strapped for cash, nonetheless it understands the need to fix this since it represents a challenge to some tourists walking in town. Front Street merchants are now waiting for the repair/repaving operation to begin, which is to start this month. It is supposed to happen quickly once it starts — but we have not heard a specific starting date.

In many cases when several cruise ships are in town, Front Street is blocked off to vehicular traffic during the day, enabling the entire downtown area to be a pedestrian mall for visitors. That is expected to continue and accessibility by tourists is not expected to be impacted by construction activity.

We will keep you posted.

24. Parking in Downtown Philipsburg

From Rakhee Sakhrani, Royal Jewelers, Philipsburg:

Visiting Philipsburg but don't know where to park or there are no spaces available? Take a look at the map for road markings/names posted by Rakhee in our <u>Everything SXM Facebook Group</u>. [Use the Search feature in the group to find her posts; the maps are there.].

I added a few pictures for easy & convenient visuals of the parking spots! There are free & paid areas. It's approximately a 5-7 min walk to front street from these spots!

Free Parking: The Pondfill: Unmarked spots: As you drive into town, you can pull into a spot, it's usually unpaved/dirt/rock area.

Marked free parking spots: There are designated free parking lots on the Pondfill. These are usually full by 11am. If you are an early bird great, otherwise you may have to wait 'til a car pulls out.

New Government bldg free lot: Another free lot, but it's a decent walk to front street. Take the turn by the center roundabout and head toward the white/yellow/green(roof) building.

Paid parking: Center of town: The parking lots is literally in the center of town by the WIB Bank/KFC. This fills up very quickly.

Old Library: This is a new area for paid parking. Very convenient. It is \$2.00 an hour. Easy walk to front street.

Bobby's Marina: This is a little farther down Philipsburg, however it is a great place to park. It's near the grocery store Fairway. Once parked, there is a pathway accessible to the boardwalk via Greenhouse restaurant. Takes you straight to front street. It is a nice scenic walk.

We hope this helps! Don't forget to visit us after you park. Royal Jewelers 44A Front Street (Across from Horizon view hotel)

Thanks Rakhee Sakhrani for this information!

25. Award-Winning Simpson Bay Restaurant For Sale

VERY WELL KNOWN, AWARD-WINNING SIMPSON BAY RESTAURANT FOR SALE. Prime location with on-site parking; all-new kitchen; experienced staff. 100 seats -- indoors and outdoors. Great 6-year lease; motivated owner. TURNKEY OPERATION; SERIOUS INQUIRIES ONLY. For information send your name, address, email address, qualifications for buying, and phone number VIA WHATSAPP TEXT ONLY to Jeff Berger; WhatsApp 721-588-4188. Jeff will pass the information to the owner. WHATSAPP TEXT INQUIRIES ONLY PLEASE. Asking 595K..

Note from Jeff: I have no involvement in this transaction; am just gathering inquiries for the owner, a long-time friend.

26. Pasanggrahan Hotel May Be Rebuilt After All

It took SXM Airport a very long time after Irma to get insurance money out of NAGICO, a local insurance company that was slammed by claims after hurricane Irma. At one point, airport officials alleged to us that they lost a year of

rebuilding time thanks to court cases that the airport had to file to get the money it felt it was owed to its hurricane insurance policies. A court eventually ordered NAGICO to pay.

Now, historic Pasanggrahan hotel, which also had insurance through NAGICO, has received some positive news since a court here ordered NAGICO to pay at 5.5 million in insurance proceeds NAGICO had claimed it didn't owe. Here are details from the <u>Daily Herald</u>.

27. Restaurant of the Week - Emilio's

Located just North of the Philipsburg Carrefour in the "Rainforest" zipline area at the Emilio Wilson Estate, Emilio's has been one of the island's most cherished restaurants since it opened several years ago. The building is historic, as owners Norman and Su Wathey will gladly tell you. Come during the day for a closer look -- and late week for lunch and/or dinner.

There are two secrets we'll reveal here. Desserts first: Su Wathey is a renowned dessert chef and it is her recipes that you'll be enjoying -- and they're absolutely exquisite.

Chef Sydney is amazing. He serves what many are saying is the best beef tenderloin / fillet mignon on the island; takes special pleasure in responding to culinary challenges such as preparing dinners for vegetarians and those with other special diets. He knows his stuff and really cares about his work. Emilio's is a MUST VISIT when you are on the island; it has our highest recommendation.

As the Emilio's website notes: "Emilio's is named in honor of Emilio Wilson, deceased owner of the Estate where we are located, Industry and Golden Rock Estates. Emilio was the Grand son of Henriette or Big Mamie as Emilio called her. Big Mamie was a slave on the plantation. Emilio worked on the plantation doing various jobs ranging from Milking Cows to picking rocks. In 1954, he bought the plantation for \$8,200. He was a kind and strong character and is considered a hero and symbol of the strength and determination of the Afro Caribbean man.

"Emilio's is located within the walls of the plantation's Sugar Cane Boiling house. With the destruction of the Estate's Great House (now a museum) in 1995 by Hurricane Luis, the boiling house became Emilio's home – so the good energy you feel from these 17th century walls, it is Emilio proudly looking down at his legacy being celebrated."

Our dinners on Saturday night were extraordinary. Come soon -- this is one of the very best. For more see https://emilios-sxm.com/

Here are recently featured SXM restaurants:

Emilio's: outside Philipsburg (featured 12/6/21) offers extraordinary fine dining in an historic, classic ambiance. **Not to be missed**. <u>https://emilios-sxm.com/menus/dinner-menu/</u>

Jai's Contemporary Indian Cuisine (featured 11/29/21), Simpson Bay Leave your preconceptions behind! A 15second walk to the side of the building from Republic Bank.. Outstanding dinners (and soon lunches a few days weekly) in Jai's, a fun new contemporary fusion restaurant operated by two young SXM graduates of the Culinary Institute of America (CIA). Super creative, artfully presented, phenomenally executed selections spanning a spectrum of flavors, aromas, textures, and tastes. You gotta try Jai's! Highest recommendation.

IZI Ristorante Italiano, <u>www.izirestaurant.com</u> (**featured 11/22/21**). Open for dinner starting at 5pm except Mon., when they're closed. Fantastic food from one of SXM's very best restaurants. Fun atmosphere, too.

Astra Steak & Seafood (featured 11/15/21) is the newest creation of Anish Chugani, who also operates Avantika and Movida in the same area of Simpson Bay. It's new, beautiful, and has high-quality written all over it. We just went and loved it. See <u>https://www.astrasxm.com/</u>

Mario's Bistro at the Cliff, formerly Mario's Bistro <u>www.mariobistrot.com/en/</u> 5/24/21 Mario's is one of the most spectacular culinary experiences you'll ever have -- here in SXM or anywhere else. *Go.* Phenomenal dining at very reasonable prices. Formerly on the plaza at Porto Cupecoy, Cupecoy Beach, they are now at the Cliff. Open every day but Monday, they 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 essential. They do not use an answering machine, so call when they are open and let it ring.

Isola next to Hollywood Casino at Simpson Bay Resort, (featured 10/25/21). 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>

Topper's <u>http://www.sxmtoppers.com/</u> (featured 10/11/21) One of SXM's oldest and busiest restaurants, now in a beautiful new over-water setting at the Carousel building on Simpson Bay lagoon. Lunch, dinner, and late dining. Karaoke. Co-located with Toppers Rhum Distillery so have some rum (rhum is the French spelling) and rhum cake when you dine. Open until late night. Sports on TV. From cops to billionaires, everyone loves Toppers.

Mandarin Pan Asian at Port de Plaisance Resort off the Union Road, Cole Bay, (featured 9/27/21). Excellent selection of palate-pleasing offerings from Japan, Thailand, and China. Highly recommended.

La Patrona, Simpson Bay Resort (featured 9/13/21) La Patrona is SXM's only truly authentic Mexican restaurant. Highly recommended: great food, great service, not to be missed. La Rosa Restaurant, Maho Plaza, 9/7/210: Loved the relaxing vibe, attentive service, GREAT food, reasonable prices, and BIG portions. <u>www.larosarestaurant.com/index.html</u>

Pineapple Pete, <u>www.pineapplepete.com</u> (featured 8/30/21) Known for great lobster Thermidor and lots, lots more. Generous portions, reasonable prices. Huge variety. Games for kids & their parents.

Wasabi Charlie Japanese Restaurant (formerly Sushiitto) (8/30/21) now combined with Pineapple Pete at the Pineapple Pete location, opposite IZI Ristorante Italiano in Simpson Bay.

Vesna Taverna, <u>www.vesnasxm.com</u> (featured 8/16/21). Now open every day for B/L; dinner is offered Tuesday through Saturday. Outstanding dining and very reasonable pricing.

Blue Bitch Bar <u>www.bluebitchbar.com</u>, formerly Taloula Mango's Blue Bitch Bar, is THE bar/restaurant to visit on the Boardwalk in Philipsbuirg. (featured 8/9/21) Great open-air atmosphere, outdoor dining/drinking, entertainment. Their menu is extensive with excellent food, fun atmosphere, and beautiful ocean views. Located on the beach, at the Boardwalk....

Mama Pizza, Porto Cupecoy & Oyster Pond, (featured 8/2/21) Big, outstanding pizza, and sizable portions plus reasonable prices on numerous other delicious Italian specialties. They also have a number of fresh fish entrees you should not miss. On the plaza at Porto Cupecoy, Cupecoy Beach, and on the main drag through Oyster Pond, French side. <u>https://www.facebook.com/Mamapizzaisthebest</u>

Spiga, <u>www.spiga-sxm.com</u> (featured 7/12/21) Chef-co-owner Ciro Russo & Lara Russo haven't missed a beat here as Spiga has finally reopened. Incredibly irresistible food, great staff, service, and beautiful ambiance. Everything is great, appetizers are out of this world. Absolutely not to be missed.

Avantika Thai <u>www.avantikasxm.com</u> (featured 7/6/21) Avantika is wonderful; SXM's best Thai. Delicious food artfully presented and reasonably priced, backed by knowledgeable service. Go...you'll become a regular.

<u>Pure Ocean Restaurant</u> at Divi Little Bay Resort, Dutch side (featured 3/1/21) Fine new beachside restaurant serving breakfast, lunch, and fine dining dinners. Excellent choices for everyone, innovative menu, beautiful presentation, and downright delicious. Great #Caribbean ambiance on their open-air beachside deck. Attentive service and responsive staff.

Freedom Fighters ITAL SHACK Rasta Restaurant, <u>www.sxmfreedomfighters.com/restaurant</u> 4/15/19. Just go.... **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?

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

28. Important Updated Contact Information for JMB Website Supporters & SkyMed Sales Inquiries

Updated Contact Information for Everything SXM / JMB Communications / JMB Website Supporters Membership Services and SkyMed Sales:

Because of volume, email is not the best way to reach us. <u>Here's what's best</u>: First, a Suggestion: **Get the free WhatsApp app**. It lets you make free phone calls (including video calls) worldwide and send free texts, all for zero cost. It is very widely used around the world.

 SkyMed – Answers to Questions or to Sign Up by Phone: If you're interested in learning more about SkyMed, contact Jeff Berger at jeff.berger@skymed.com. Leave your phone number and time zone and he'll return your call. SkyMed is sold only to Americans, Canadians, and xPats. If you prefer, phone Jeff at 508-591-3483

and leave a message; *that is a NEW NUMBER*. (Our old numbers were knocked out by the recent Cape Cod storm and are still funky.)

 JMB Membership Questions/Issues -- JMB Website Supporters: Use WhatsApp to send questions to Membership Services; use Jeff Berger's WhatsApp phone number, 721-588-4188, but call or TEXT (texting is preferred) from within the WhatsApp application only. Membership Services at our headquarters in Massachusetts handles all these calls. INCLUDE YOUR EMAIL, since all responses are made by email.

29. Who Our Sponsors Are, & Why You Should Patronize Them (Updated 11/29/21)

Our JMB SXM Web Media Sponsors help make it possible for us to research, write, produce, and email you *SXM Weekly News* every week. They also enable us to spend lots of hours making sure our <u>Everything SXM Facebook</u> <u>Group</u> fulfills its mission to be SXM's only authentically managed [by a seasoned journalist] interactive conversational SXM news and information portal on Facebook. And their help makes our JMB Website Supporters members-only Island Parties possible (resuming next year) as well as all the working going into enhancing our Island Discount Program now for its thousands of loyal members. Thank You for patronizing our Sponsors! (JMB Communications is based in Massachusetts, USA).

AMUSEMENTS

Island Pedals Beer Cycle (Philipsburg)

<u>ARTISTS</u>

Roland Richardson Patty Meotti Laura Fisher Saxon

AUTHORS/NOVELISTS

Russell Clark

Jacky Rom

BOAT TOURS / BOAT CHARTERS

Celine Charters (Enigma)

Luxury Private Catamaran Charters: www.sxmstmartincatamarancharters.net

Rumbelly Boat Charters Pleasure boats, motorized and catamaran (new)

BREWERIES & DISTILLERIES

SXM Beer Brewery

Toppers Rhum & Vodka Distillery

Caribbean Brewing

CAR RENTALS:

Leisure Car Rental

Sax Car Rental

Exclusive Car Rental

Tropicana Car Rental

CHILD CARE & MORE FOR VISITORS

Alisha Brookes

COFFEE / PASTRY & MORE (NEW):

Coffee Lounge & More: Head of town in Philipsburg and Simpson Bay near Domino's

CUBAN CIGARS:

Cigar Mack

SXM Cigars

DOLLAR STORES

All in One Place

DUTY-FREE SHOPPING (NEW)

Great Deals on Watches, Bags, Wallets, Sunglasses and Fashion Jewelry:

https://www.facebook.com/buy.sxm

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

Royal Jewelers (new)

Kay's Fine Jewelry (new)

Joe's Jewelry International (new)

Ballerina Jewelers (new)

LIVE MUSIC

Hole in the Wall, Maho Plaza, Dutch side

MAPS (SXM MAPS and others in the #Caribbean)

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*.

Jennifer's Vacation Villas

Century 21 St. Maarten

Sunshine Properties

Candie Billant does condo and villa rentals and sales. You will find her at #Caribbean Estate Agency N. V.

BrightPath Real Estate (new)

RESORTS:

Baker's Suites

Belair Beach Hotel

Simpson Bay Resort

Azure Hotel & Art Studio

RESTAURANTS & BARS

<u>IZI</u>

SPIGA

VESNA TAVERNA

ISOLA

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

LA ROSA

NONNA ROSA LAZY LIZARD RANCHO (new) SUNSET CAFE (new) AVANTIKA (new) MOVIDA (new) ASTRA (new) JAI'S CONTEMPORARY INDIAN RESTAURANT (new) COFFEE LOUNGE & More, Head of town in Philipsburg & Simpson bay near Domino's (new)

STAR WARS / YODA GUY MUSEUM

Nick Malley, Front Street

VILLA RENTALS / 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 #Caribbean Estate Agency N. V.

GoBeach Vacations

Sunshine Properties

Monte Verde / Belle Vue

Villa Acropole: www.acropole-stmartin.com

Villa Vijoux: https://www.facebook.com/VillaVijoux

40Weeks (new)

Villa En'sea 5 bedroom Villa, overlooking Philipsburg bay (new)

Relocation / Business Formation / "Papers" Consulting Companies

Bright Path is posting in our Everything St. Maarten / St. Martin / SXM Facebook Group

Wedding Planners / Wedding Venues

Fawnette Scott-Angelides - Azure Hotel and Art Studio (Fawnette is a minister and she owns Azure, a venue on beautiful Simpson Bay Beach, where beach weddings are her specialty)

Sint Maarten Marry-Me Destination Weddings (new)

Updated 11/29/21

30. Join Our New Conversational Everything SXM Group on MeWe, the Facebook Alternative

For years, you have been able to obtain a great deal of SXM information and photos/videos in our **Everything SXM Facebook Group**. Unfortunately, not everyone is a fan of Facebook, so we have started a new Everything SXM group on a platform that has become a strong competitor Facebook — it is called MeWe.

We urge all fans of SXM Weekly News to become members of MeWe and join our group there; here is the link.

31. 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.

32. Getting SXM Questions Answered Quickly

Join our Everything SXM Facebook Group and you'll find about 28,000 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.

33. 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 just been thoroughly updated. Each week's newsletter is usually added within a few days after mailing of that issue to its subscribers completes (Monday).

Get The Current Low Price on SkyMed's Best 5-Year Ultimate Membership

Ask Jeff for details -- call him at 508-591-3483. More info? See <u>skymed.com/jmb</u> or email Jeff at <u>jeff.berger@skymed.com</u>. **SkyMed is the Principal Sponsor of JMB SXM programs**.

See the rundown of all SkyMed Features & Benefits

Got a Radio While You're in SXM?

Want to Listen to SXM While You're Home?

Tune In Island92 at 91.9 FM

or On Your Internet-Connected Device

at island92.com ...

and hear Jeff Berger LIVE on the air every Monday

between about 9:45am and 10am island time

on "Fresh Air in the Morning" with Dr. Soc.

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 Web 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". <u>Or PM us on FB for an even faster response</u>. We'll get complete information to you quickly. (Or again, just PM Jeff Berger on Facebook Messenger or phone us / text us on WhatsApp at 721-588-4188.)

Tourism is returning in a big way 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 in the months ahead. 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?

2020 & 21 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 weekly. Ads are free (no commission) but are accepted from our JMB Website Supporters members only.

SECTION 5: For Members Only

file:///C/Users/jeff/Documents/JMBSXMWEEKLYNEWS/_SXM%20Weekly%20News/V4_1324Dec62021.html[2/16/2022 3:04:42 PM]

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 <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 www.everythingsxm.com.

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 11/22/21)

 SkyMed – Answers to Questions or to Sign Up by Phone: If you're interested in learning more about SkyMed, contact Jeff Berger at jeff.berger@skymed.com. Leave your phone number and time zone and he'll return your call. SkyMed is sold only to Americans, Canadians, and xPats. <u>If you prefer, phone Jeff at 508-591-3483</u>

and leave a message; *that is a NEW NUMBER*. (Our old numbers were knocked out by the recent Cape Cod storm and are still funky.)

 JMB Membership Questions/Issues -- JMB Website Supporters: Use WhatsApp to send questions to Membership Services; use Jeff Berger's WhatsApp phone number, 721-588-4188, but call or TEXT (texting is preferred) from within the WhatsApp application only. Membership Services at our headquarters in Massachusetts handles all these calls. INCLUDE YOUR EMAIL, since all responses are made by email.

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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