

**From JMB / SXM Weekly News 1/10/22: Online Passport Renewals; CDC Makes Good Changes; Front Street Repair Progress; Flight Schedules & Snowstorms; Anguilla Ferries are Back; OPCs; SIX Vacation Giveaway -- Complete List of Prizes; [Issue #1330 -- 40 Top SXM News Stories for Tourists]**

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Vol. 4, #1330 ---- Monday, Jan. 10, 2022  
News From Sint Maarten / Saint Martin / SXM

**MASKS SAVE LIVES -- KEEP WEARING YOURS!**

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St. Maarten & St. Martin  
"SXM" Weekly News

*St. Maarten & St. Martin's Most Relied-Upon Source  
of Tourist-Oriented News & Information*

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This is Jeff Berger's / JMB Communications' St. Maarten & St. Martin / SXM Weekly News, published every Monday (Tuesdays during most holiday weeks). *You are receiving St. Maarten & St. Martin "SXM" Weekly News because you subscribed to it and/or are a JMB Website Supporters member.*

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

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

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## **Timeshare Rental and Sale of the Week**

Each week JMB randomly picks timeshare condominiums for rent and for sale in SXM from the huge selection at [http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/timeshare\\_rent\\_sale/index.shtml](http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/timeshare_rent_sale/index.shtml) and features them here.

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

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

**RENTAL** 1/29/2022 3/19/2022 Weeks 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 & 11 **The Villas @ Simpson Bay Resort, Marina & Spa 2nd Floor Junior Suite. (Sat-Sat rental). The unit has 2 full beds,, small refrigerator, toaster, microwave, coffee maker, flat screen TV, DVD player, wireless internet, room safe, large bathroom with separate dressing area. Watch the sunset from your private balcony overlooking Simpson Bay. Great location-walk to beach or pool, tennis courts, restaurants, deli, casino & fitness center. Rent 1 week or multiple weeks without moving. Will consider a discount for multiple weeks. \$1100/week. Renter to pay \$50 timeshare fee/week to the resort**  
Judy [ronshagen@aol.com](mailto:ronshagen@aol.com)

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

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

**SALE 2/12/2022 2/18/2023 Week 7 Diamond Flamingo Beach Resort** Completely renovated deluxe studio with one bath, full kitchen, 1st floor beach front ocean facing suite. Has T.V., free Wi-Fi, safe. Resort has beautiful pool and is within walking distance to grocery store, casino, and great restaurants. Prime school vacation week. \$12,000 Mary Jane 978-369-9305 [maryjtn@gmail.com](mailto:maryjtn@gmail.com)

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

Villa Rentals Now Offered On Our Site Too:

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

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

"Like" Our All-New "Everything St. Maarten / St. Martin / SXM" MeWe Group

<https://mewe.com/join/jeffbergerseverythingsxmmewegroup>

Search the SXM Weekly News Archives:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Not a member yet? See [http://everythingxm.com/sxm/about\\_sxm/paypal.shtml](http://everythingxm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml). Cost: \$59 for one year, or \$99 total for three full years. Other durations available. Join us today...**

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### All JMB Newsletters Read \*From JMB\*

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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 Planning Online Passport Renewals To Speed & Simplify The Process

For as many years as most people can remember, renewing a passport has been a time-consuming and labor-intensive process. For the past two years, that experience has been made worse by the Covid Pandemic, which greatly aggravated waiting times and which made necessary expenditures for expedited service which often didn't work but cost money regardless.

Now, Pres. Joe Biden has tasked the office of the Secretary of State to move the system entirely online, eliminating the need to fill out paper forms and mail them along with your current passport and other information without knowing when it may be processed or returned.

Development of the new system is it expected to take at least a year but hopefully, it will make things far easier for everyone who has a current passport and intends to continue traveling. Online passport renewals should be available sometime during 2023. Here's more [information](#).

## 2. Air Canada Canceling SXM & Many Other Sun-Destination Flights Due to Omicron

Air Canada has decided to suspend service effective January 24 to a large number of sun destinations in response to the omicron Pandemic. So far, other Canadian airlines have not followed suit. The suspension of flights is effective through April 30.

Oddly, soaring numbers of omicron cases that had started several weeks ago in South Africa have already crashed there, and that seems to be happening elsewhere. So it may have been premature for Air Canada to decide that its suspension should run through practically four months. On the other hand there are also early reports overseas of a new variant with both Delta and Omicron constituents.

Air Canada is not a major player in air travel from Canada to SXM. WestJet, Air Transat, and other carriers who provide service via the United States carry far more passengers from Canada to SXM.

Here is the full [story](#).

## 3. That Air Caraiibes A330 Jet Is Still Stuck in SXM

That big Air Caraiibes A330 Widebody jet that suffered an apparent compressor failure almost 2 weeks ago as of this past weekend was still sitting on the ground at Princess Juliana airport, though now its engines have both been wrapped in plastic.

Wrapping engines is nothing new; it is widely practiced on aircraft that will be parked more than a few days. We assume it helps keep out moisture and other foreign matter including birds seeking a nifty new nest location.

Originally, a senior official at SXM Airport had told us that the plane would be on the ground at Princess Juliana for at least a week — a very accurate conclusion. People are occasionally taking pictures of the aircraft from parking lots off Airport Road.

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## 4. Winter Weather, Omicron Play Havoc With Flight Schedules, BUT...

Thousands of flights were canceled last week thanks to winter storms hitting many highly populated areas as well as the omicron virus playing havoc with flight crews.

The good news is that the United States centers for the disease control, as we reported last week, is taking steps to reduce the quarantine period for omicron, which should make absence from work far less disruptive to all American businesses, not just airlines, in the coming weeks. See the separate story below about the change in CDC mandates concerning quarantines.

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## 5. CDC Reduces Quarantine Time Required in US

The United States centers for disease control and prevention has changed its recommendations for quarantine time for people who test positive for Covid 19/omicron. The CDC has essentially cut quarantine time from 10 days to five days, saying that current science supports the change.

Here are the [details](#).

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## 6. Evidence Mounts That Omicron's Heyday May be Short-Lived

All the evidence is not yet in, but what is in is indicating that omicron may come in like a lion but go out like a lamb — like the proverbial month of March. The highly contagious but apparently largely mild or asymptomatic variant shows evidence of widespread infection due to its contagiousness, but once that happens in a population the disease seems to crash, as is currently happening in South Africa and some other nations.

See this absorbing [article](#) from Bloomberg.

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## 7. Should People Who Were Fully Vaccinated in Novavax Clinical Trials Be Allowed to Enter SXM?

Apparently the Novavax vaccine has been approved for use in the United States and elsewhere — but not yet in SXM.

A number of people were involved in clinical trials of the Novavax and are now fully vaccinated with a vaccine recognized in several countries. Some of those people are coming to SXM but are currently regarded as unvaccinated since country St. Maarten has not yet recognized Novavax, although Novavax reportedly has been recognized by both the CDC and WHO.

We are certainly not clinicians here and can't make recommendations about clinical matters — but if this vaccine has now been approved by many reputable authorities, we would hope it is seriously considered for addition to the list of vaccines approved for entry to SXM by those in authority to do so.

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## 8. NEWS About the Future of SXM Airport (Short- and Long-

## Range) Coming Soon

We are currently working on a major story concerning the future of SXM Airport — both short term regarding the restoration efforts currently underway and longer-term, regarding plans to improve the ability of the airport to serve more people throughout the region more quickly.

The article should appear here in *SXM Weekly News* during the next week or two and will be of keen interest to all visitors to SXM — now and for several years in the future. Your friends should be subscribed to *SXM Weekly News* so they don't miss this and other important articles we will be publishing in the weeks and months ahead.

## 9. Our "Guide to Entry Requirements," Second Edition, Answers All Your SXM Travel Questions (Just Updated)

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 SXM's Electronic Health Authorization System EHAS website, through which visitors to SXM apply for the required preapproval. The Guide has been updated to include the new requirements effective January 1, 2022.

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 [go here](#)**.

*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 evolves and hopefully wanes. It was updated again recently, and will continue to be updated as necessary.*

### **WEATHER:**

## 10. Where to Find Current SXM Weather Info

You'll find detailed observations and forecasts by visiting our main SXM website, [www.everythingsxm.com](http://www.everythingsxm.com).

Here are four more sources of current weather info:

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

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

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

## **Changing Your Email Address?**

***Now You Can Unsubscribe Your Old Email  
and Sign Up Your New One***



**for your SXM Weekly News subscription  
Quickly and Easily  
at our Site: [www.sxmweeklynews.com](http://www.sxmweeklynews.com)**

**Etc.**

## **11. SkyMed TRAVEL Guarantees 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](http://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**

## **12. Two Side-by-Side Two Bedroom Condos at Rainbow For Private Sale by Owner**

This is a very rare find that may just resonate with close friends or extended family members that want to relocate or at least back a condo or two here in SXM.

Two side-by-side two bedroom condos at Rainbow on the buildings fourth floor are available now for private sale directly by their owners. They have been well maintained in the residents are happy with the location, but one is overseas in Europe most of the year and the other has bought a villa for his growing family.

These can be bought as separate villas or you can buy both, do a bit of construction, and wind up with a big four bedroom condominium. Here are the details:

**Asking \$540K per 2 BR condo. I don't own these; a friend does. PM me your name, phone number, email address, and your interest and I'll give the info to the owner for callback. I'm doing this as a favor for a long-time friend.**

## **13. Hundreds of SXM Timeshare Condo Rentals Available This Winter**

**Dozens of new listings of timeshare condominiums for rent and for sale for 2022 have been added to our timeshare sales / rental page in our main SXM site, [www.everythingsxm.com](http://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.

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## 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*.

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## 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 everythingxsm.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.

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

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## 16. \$100 Jewelry Gift Card Being Emailed This Week to All JMB Website Supporters Members: NEWS About JMB Member Discounts / Benefits Updates - Updated 1/10/22

One of the newest benefits of JMB Website Supporters membership is a \$100 Gift Card from Caribbean Gems. The Gift Card will be sent this week by email to all members of our JMB Website Supporters Island Discount Program, and will then be added (for one-time use only) to our members-only passworded "Secret" Website. Details on its use will accompany the card. (We had hoped to mail it last week, but it was delayed by server issues.)

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](#). We hope to finish these updates later during Q1, 2022.

JMB Website Supporters currently offers roughly 300 discounts and other benefits to its thousands of members. *Again, we hope to complete the upgrade of this unique program later during the first quarter of 2022.*

**For more info on what you get with your JMB membership, [go here](#).** Please see the next section.

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

**Only \$1.64/day - \*LESS THAN A CUP OF COFFEE\* -- gets you annual or multiyear SKYMED MEDEVAC protection for your next trip! Buy it NOW, \*BEFORE\* you need it -- just like fire insurance. It's GUARANTEED RENEWABLE and PRICE GUARANTEED FOR LIFE, too. For info see the links below, for answers to questions or to sign up by phone call 508-591-3483 (you can text to that number & leave voicemail 24/7). My prices ARE LESS THAN YOU WOULD PAY ONLINE.**

**NEW!**  
**NOW UNDERWAY!**  
**SKYMED's BEST SALE EVER!**  
**HERE ARE THE DETAILS:**

**For ALL NEW MEMBERSHIPS in 2022:**

**22 FREE weeks added to all new 5-year ULTIMATES**  
**12 FREE weeks added to all new 3-year ULTIMATES**  
**22 FREE days added to all new Annual memberships**

**Thank YOU for Your Service**  
**(Bonus for US & Canadian Military Veterans):**

**6 FREE months added to all new 5-year ULTIMATES**  
**3 FREE months added to all new 3-year ULTIMATES**

**17. Only \$1.64/day Gets You Guaranteed Renewable, Price-Guaranteed-Forever SkyMed Annual or Multiyear Medevac Protection:**

• **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. SkyMed members pay nothing for SkyMed-arranged medical evacuation flights that would cost non-SkyMed members \$35,000 and up – payable in cash, in advance. Why risk that? Of course, you must get your SkyMed membership before you need it – just like fire insurance. **You'll find an overview of all SkyMed Services [here](#), and you'll find**

Frequently Asked Questions [here](#).

### **LOW GROUP PRICING \*LOWER THAN THE PRICES ON THE SKYMED WEBSITE\*:**

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 price-guaranteed for life. The price of your membership will not increase if you buy during 2022 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

- **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](mailto:jeff.berger@skymed.com).**

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

- **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 now only about \$1.64/day total.* Multiyear memberships are also about \$1.64/year 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](mailto: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  
1/10/22

**18. LAST CALL == MIDWINTER SALE FOR OUR JMB Website Supporters Island Discount Program MUST END JAN 31: It Funds**

## SXM Weekly News, Our Hurricane Center, Our Facebook Site, & Lots More!

### =====>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!

Our biggest sale of the year -- now better than ever since it precedes a price increase on multiyear memberships coming Feb. 1 -- is now underway. It offers pricing that will not be back... take advantage of these great MIDWINTER SALE OFFERS before they disappear, soon!

### What's In It For You:

All multiyear memberships bought now through 1/31 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 January 31. BUY NOW, THIS SALE ENDS 1/31. And because of the looming price increase, these values will soon be gone forever...**

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

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

**.....Here's More Island News.....**

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## 19. Important Update on EHAS and Your Insurance Claim

**.....CORRECTION.....**

### **EHAS and your insurance claim:**

Last week, we published a story about some of our members who had told us that two or more members of their party had tested positive for COVID and they had to pay extra for their hotel stay. "One would think that if everyone pays individually for their insurance, that the insurance claim would cover them individually. What has been happening is that members are being asked to either pay the full amount for their accommodations or pay the difference of the USD\$125.00 per night" that is promised by the insurance as a reimbursement, the story said, based on written information supplied by the SXM Tourist Bureau.

The fact is that the required insurance sold by SXM promises to pay \$125 **per person testing positive and staying in the same room**, not a maximum of \$125 paid by insurance toward the room as the tourist bureau had stated a week ago. The Tourist Bureau has recognized its error and it has apologized in writing to a hotelier who had questioned their original comment, which was the incorrect information we had published here last week.

If you have any questions, contact the GM at your hotel.

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## 20. Front Street Road Repairs Start; Should Finish by Month's End

Road repairs to Front Street are now finally underway. Although the road is closed to vehicular traffic, it is completely accessible to pedestrians and is set up largely like a pedestrian mall for optimal pedestrian convenience.

Information on where to park is in a related story below in this issue.

## 21. French & Dutch Sides Roll Back All-Night Bar Hours to Stem Omicron

The apparently benign but annoying omicron virus has been spreading rapidly worldwide, as reported in Section One here today. In response, both the French and Dutch sides of the island have cut back the hours of all night bars in an effort to slow the spread.

To ensure that you have the absolute latest information about current curfews on both sides of the island — which start at midnight at the earliest now on the French side, and later on the Dutch side — see our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#). Because this newsletter has hundreds of thousands of readers and takes a substantial amount of time to transmit to all of them, things could change by the time you receive and read your *SXM Weekly News* — which is why we refer you to our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#) for the latest information.

Bear in mind these are not early curfews on either side of the island, and they will enable you to have a normal evening meal at your leisure regardless of which restaurants you visit. *Do take copies of your proof of vaccination cards with you since it's increasingly likely that they may be requested at restaurants on either side of the island.*

## 22. Daily Ferries to Anguilla Resume Today, January 10

Daily Ferries from the downtown Marigot ferry facility to Anguilla are resuming today, Monday, January 10. Anguilla does have the following [strictly enforced entry requirements](#).

## 23. Heads Up About French Side Timeshare Hawkers (OPCs)

"Off-premises consultants" is the odd-sounding name given to timeshare sales people who are scattered around the island trying to lure people to go to timeshare presentations at various resorts. We have seen them most frequently in the oyster pond area on the French side, though they may appear elsewhere.

OPCs typically stand at the side of the road, usually a young guy and a young woman who attractively present themselves. They wave fliers to oncoming traffic and those who stop are given a scratch card or something similar which they are urged to fill out for a free dinner or some other "gift." They routinely tell people that almost every card is a loser, then they act astonished when your card wins. Note: all cards "win."

Whether you decide to buy timesharing is of course up to you, and if you like dining at good restaurants they do present an opportunity to get a free dinner for two -- not really free though since you must sit through a 90-minute presentation.

Thousands of people visiting SXM received their introduction to the island through buying timesharing on the island, which remains highly popular and for the most part, reasonably priced. Off premises consultants have you go to timeshare resorts for presentations by professional timeshare sales people.

If you want to buy timesharing, you may be able to save money by buying it in the aftermarket, directly from timeshare owners in our main SXM website, [www.everythingsxm.com](http://www.everythingsxm.com), where you'll find hundreds of timeshare weeks both for sale and for rent directly from timeshare owners.

If you want to consider full-share condos on the island, so you can spend as many months here as you wish, you will find our list of SXM's top realtors in the Sponsors article which appears below in this edition of *SXM Weekly News*. Much more information about buying condos and about island residency is also in section 2 of this week's *SXM Weekly News*.

If you plan to acquire residency on the island, we recommend you contact [Bright Path Caribbean](#) which specializes in helping people do exactly that.

## 24. Avoid Illegal "Gypsy" Taxis

Not every vehicle with a sign on the roof that says Taxi is a real, licensed, insured Taxi allowed to travel on the island's roads with paying passengers. Doing business with illegal gypsy Taxis is dangerous and unwise. You can tell a real taxicab from a gypsy by looking at the license plate. On the French side, the plate says TXI or TAXI, and on the Dutch side they begin with the letter T.

*ILLEGAL Taxis do not have this kind of plate and should be avoided, even if they attempt to meet you at a hotel or other location commonly served by Taxis.*

A few years ago, I was driving slowly because of traffic near a funeral in Philipsburg. A gypsy taxicab rammed the rear

of my rental car, then attempted to pull backwards but his front bumper tore off his car and was attached to the tailpipe of my car. A senior officer from Philipsburg police saw this and went right over to the gypsy, recognizing him. The officer started yelling and the gypsy cabdriver claimed he was "but a lowly pensioner" which brought on even more yelling from the officer, who took over and was seemingly quite happy to catch the gypsy with fake signage on his roof.

Avoid gypsy taxis and you'll avoid a potential slew of problems.

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## 25. Reminder: Restaurant Reservations Are Essential

It is now the height of high season in SXM and restaurants are all very busy on every day they're open. To avoid sure disappointment, make reservations well before you decide to go to any specific restaurant — and don't forget to cancel in advance should your decision change. We have seen many restaurateurs have to tell would be patrons that there was no room for them or that they would have to wait two hours to be seated — both true.

If you are told this, believe it. The fact that you may see empty tables simply means that those tables are being held for people who had the sense to make reservations — they are *their* tables, not yours, unless you have thought to make reservations in advance.

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## 26. Act With Courtesy Toward Hospitality Workers

Typically, for whatever reason, the last two weeks of the year in the first week of the new year are the worst times of the entire year for Restaurateurs and their staffs, who have to endure unimaginably rude behavior from nasty, over-the-top rude guests. We've seen it firsthand in several SXM restaurants over the last few weeks. One "gentleman" in a beautiful restaurant on the lagoon complained about everything including the expensive chairs everyone was sitting in which, by the way, are amazingly comfortable. He complained about drinks made by one of the most experienced bartenders on the island, about service which was fast and efficient, and of course about the food which he ordered, ate from beginning to end, and then said it was no good — clearly looking for some kind of bogus, unearned payback.

Everyone should be very respectful of all hospitality workers. They work hard in a time of unprecedented challenge — literally risking their lives by serving you during a global pandemic. They are doing everything possible to be safe themselves while helping to give you a pleasant vacation.

Beyond that, restaurateurs themselves are facing unprecedented challenges of a different sort since the prices of their raw materials — meat, cheese, and everything else — have shot through the roof and continue to rise because of so-called supply chain issues.

No matter how busy they are, with these kinds of conditions and challenges it is very difficult to make any profit in the restaurant business anywhere. Please respect that and respect them doing all this work for you.

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## 27. Reminder: Never Leave Valuables In Your Car or Car Trunk

For years, we've been warning all our readers never to leave valuables in their car or in the car's trunk. Yet we continue to see people put cameras, purses, and even some small luggage in their trunk. If we see it, so do people who might want to acquire it when you leave the car.

So, once again, we warn you: ***never leave valuables in your car or in the cars trunk; SXM is paradise, not Utopia.***

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## 28. Restaurant of the Week: Returns Next Week

Here are recently featured SXM restaurants:

**The Coffee Lounge, (featured 1/3/22) Simpson Bay next to Domino's and in Philipsburg at the head of town.**

Great freshly roasted coffees, pastries, and sandwiches. Don't miss it.

**Vesna Taverna, [www.vesnasxm.com](http://www.vesnasxm.com) (featured 12/27/21).** Now open every day for B/L; dinner is offered Tuesday through Saturday. Outstanding dining and very reasonable pricing.

**Pineapple Pete, [www.pineapplepete.com](http://www.pineapplepete.com) (featured 12/20/21)** Known for great lobster Thermidor and lots, lots more. Generous portions, reasonable prices. Huge variety. Games for kids & their parents.

**Wasabi Charlie Japanese Restaurant (12/20/21)** now combined with Pineapple Pete at the Pineapple Pete location, opposite IZI Ristorante Italiano in Simpson Bay. GREAT sushi rolls and sashimi and much more.

**Emilio's:** outside Philipsburg (featured 12/6/21) offers extraordinary fine dining in an historic, classic ambiance. **Not to**

be missed. <https://emilios-sxm.com/menus/dinner-menu/>

**Jai's Contemporary Indian Cuisine** (featured 11/29/21), **Simpson Bay** Leave your preconceptions behind! A 15-second 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**, [www.izirestaurant.com](http://www.izirestaurant.com) (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 <https://www.astrasxm.com/>

**Mario's Bistro at the Cliff**, formerly Mario's Bistro [www.mariobistrot.com/en/](http://www.mariobistrot.com/en/) 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. [www.isolaristorante.com](http://www.isolaristorante.com)

**Topper's** <http://www.sxmtoppers.com/> (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 rum 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, 9/7/2021: Loved the relaxing vibe, attentive service, GREAT food, reasonable prices, and BIG portions. [www.larosarestaurant.com/index.html](http://www.larosarestaurant.com/index.html)

**Blue Bitch Bar** [www.bluebitchbar.com](http://www.bluebitchbar.com), 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. <https://www.facebook.com/Mamapizzaisthebest>

**Spiga**, [www.spiga-sxm.com](http://www.spiga-sxm.com) (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** [www.avantikasxm.com](http://www.avantikasxm.com) (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.

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

**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 [Everything St. Maarten / St. Martin / SXM Facebook Group](#). Our thanks to our Admin there, Contessa Aiello, who edited the restaurant entries on that site.

## 29. Our Everything SXM 2022 Awards of Excellence Are About to be Distributed

Early every year for the last 10 years, JMB Communications has been distributing its **Everything SXM Awards of**



**Excellence** to superior businesses throughout the French and Dutch sides of the island. We been working on our 2022 awards and will be distributing them over the next few weeks. Once we've distributed all of them, we will show you the list here in *SXM Weekly News* and also in our [Everything St. Maarten / St. Martin / SXM Facebook Group](#).

We highly recommend all of these fine establishments.

## 30. Six-Vacation Giveaway Entries Now Underway; Complete Prize List for "Eight Million Thanks"

**EverythingSXM.com** will be celebrating 8 million visits to its suite of **SXM** websites by giving away **SIX SXM** vacations late this coming March. Want one?

The vacations will be at:

**Villa En Sea** high on a hill overlooking beautiful Great Bay and downtown Philipsburg;

**Colony Manor Golden Daze** condo directly on Simpson Bay beach;

**Simpson Bay Resort, Marina, & Spa** in the heart of Simpson Bay, on its own private beach;

**Belair Beach Hotel** on its own private beach minutes from Philipsburg;

**Divi Little Bay Beach Resort**, on its own private beach with a gorgeous multi-level pool and lots of great restaurants on-site; and

**Azure Hotel & Art Studio**, a small family-owned hotel on the beach and within walking distance of many fine Simpson Bay restaurants.

In addition, there will be a car rental from **Leisure Car Rental** for the grand prize winner, several dinners for two at top island restaurants (see below), and a \$400 women's or men's watch from **Caribbean Gems** in Philipsburg.

Dinners for two will be at **Mario's Bistro; Emilio's Restaurant; Isola Restaurant; Vesna Taverna; Mama Pizza;** and **IZI Ristorante Italiano**. (There may be more).

Our **GRAND PRIZE** winner will also appear live on **Island 92 radio with Jeff "Dr. Soc" Sochrin** on his Fresh Air in the Morning Program.

**ENTRIES ARE NOW OPEN AND IF YOU RECEIVE YOUR OWN COPY OF SXM WEEKLY NEWS, YOU ARE ELIGIBLE TO WIN BUT YOU STILL MUST ENTER. [ENTER HERE](#).** If you do NOT subscribe, you must go to [sxmweeklynews.com](#) now to subscribe FREE before entering this giveaway. **ENTRIES FROM NONSUBSCRIBERS ARE NOT ELIGIBLE TO WIN.**

## 31. Where to Park in Philipsburg (Revised 12/20/21)

**From Rakhee Sakhrani, Royal Jewelers, Philipsburg (Edited 12/20)**

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 [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#). [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. **The lot reopened on Monday, December 20, 2021.**

**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!*

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## 32. 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.

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## 33. How to Adopt an Island Dog ("Coconut Retriever")

Have you ever thought how wonderful it would be to adopt a dog or cat from SXM? "Rescue" animals come in many breeds and sizes and all they need is a new forever home — perhaps with you.

If you think it's prohibitively expensive to adopt a rescue dog from SXM, we have a pretty wonderful surprise for you: it's way less expensive than you may think.

For example pups from SXM Paws can be had for ROUGHLY a \$150 adoption fee, and a flight fee of \$125 with Jet Blue (American Airlines is about the same). Kittens from The Island Vet are \$90 and flights same cost as above. That's very affordable.

Watch for posts about available animals in our Everything SXM Facebook Group. Or, if you'd like to do it now, contact Cyndi Shell in our Everything SXM Facebook Group; she coordinates adoptions with many people directly from our site.

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## 34. 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. Here's what's best: 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.

1. **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](mailto: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.)
2. **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.

## 35. Who Our Sponsors Are, & Why You Should Patronize Them (Updated 1/10/22)

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 [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#) 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)

### **ARTISTS**

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](http://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:**

[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.)

**FASHIONS FOR WOMEN**

**En Vogue**, Billy Folly Road, Simpson Bay, opposite Atrium Hotel. (New 1/22)

**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](http://www.tijon.com)

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

[Island Real Estate Team](#) is widely regarded as SXM's top real estate organization. A long-time JMB Sponsor, they offer both residential and commercial real estate in every price range. Call the number that follows and ask to speak with the agent who handles what you seek: 1 721 520 7284. Please let the agent know that you were referred by Jeff Berger's *Everything SXM Facebook Group*.

### **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**

[IZI](#)

[SPIGA](#)

[VESNA TAVERNA](#)

**ISOLA**

**Mandarin Asian Bistro (Port de Plaisance)**

**Melange (Port de Plaisance)**

**Pelican Bistro**

**Soggy Dollar Bar**

**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 [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 **#Caribbean Estate Agency N. V.**

[GoBeach Vacations](#)

[Sunshine Properties](#)

[Monte Verde / Belle Vue](#)

**Villa Acropole:**

[www.acropole-stmartin.com](http://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 1/10/22

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## **36. 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](#).

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## **37. First Responders Now Get Platinum-Status JMB Discounts**

*If you're U. S. Military with a DD214, you're able to get a Platinum-Status Military JMB Membership for \$16.99/year, the lowest we ever charge anyone. You get instant Platinum Status which is permanent as long as you're a JMB member plus 300+ SXM discounts and other benefits. All you do is pay for four years to start and renew in four-year increments (\$67.96). Nobody else pays so little -- our small way of expressing how grateful we all are for your service.*

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

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## **38. 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.

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## **39. Want to See Back Issues of SXM Weekly News? Here's How**

Our *SXM Weekly News* PDF archives enable you to download any issue of Weekly News published since Spring 2014, including our amazing *2018 April Fools' Day parody* and many Special Editions.

Check it out [here](#). It has 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).

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**[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 [skymed.com/jmb](http://skymed.com/jmb) or email Jeff at [jeff.berger@skymed.com](mailto:jeff.berger@skymed.com). **SkyMed is the Principal Sponsor of JMB SXM programs.**

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

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**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.**

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

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

Our **JMB SXM 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 [susank@jmbcommunications.com](mailto:susank@jmbcommunications.com) with the subject "JMB Sponsorships". Or PM us on FB for an even faster response. 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.

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

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

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

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



## Want to rent or buy a week?

"2022 St. Maarten / St. Martin Timeshare Weeks For Rent or Sale" are posted at [http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/timeshare\\_rent\\_sale/index.shtml](http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/timeshare_rent_sale/index.shtml) Listings are now updated weekly. Ads are free (no commission) but are accepted from our JMB Website Supporters members only.

## SECTION 5: For Members Only

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Contact Us (Revised 11/22/21)

1. **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](mailto: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.)
2. **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](http://www.everythingsxm.com).

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

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