

**From JMB / SXM Weekly News 6/20/22: Earthquake; Flight Cancellations in the US; Saharan Dust; "Sol" Energy Makes News; Sea Turtle Nests; Many Tourists Loving Military Exercises on SXM Beaches; New Restaurants; Best Picnic Lunches; Huge SkyMed Summer Sale Now Underway; How to Enter Our Six-Vacation Giveaway; Two New SXM Euro-Oval Car Stickers for You [Issue #1352 -- 44 Top SXM News Stories for Tourists**

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Vol. 4, #1352 ---- Monday, June 20, 2022  
News From Sint Maarten / Saint Martin / SXM

+++++ It's JUNETEENTH: Celebrate Freedom *for Everyone* +++++  
HOPE YOU HAD A HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

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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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**Important Note:**

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

***Please do stay with us for all the latest tourist-oriented news from St. Maarten / St. Martin / SXM all year long. Now read by over 370,000 people around the world...***

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

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**TOP STORIES IN THIS ISSUE:**

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## **In This Issue: 44 News Stories**

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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 7/30/2022 8/6/2022 31 Belair Beach Hotel Two bedrooms, two bathrooms, sleeps six, kitchen, ocean**

view balcony. The Belair Beach Hotel, located on Little Bay Beach, is the only All Suite Ocean front resort on St. Maarten. It has a unique combination of hotel, timeshare, and condominium facilities. Sit on your own private terrace overlooking the beach and Caribbean Sea and watch the world go by. Saba, St. Eustatius and St. Kitts sit majestically in the distance. Cruise ships entering and departing Philipsburg pass by in all their glory. With easy access to the onsite restaurant Gingerbread Cafe, a convenient and well stocked Mini Mart, activities center Sunny Land Activities and Starlite Car Rental for all of your Transportation needs, The Belair Beach Hotel is a wonderful place to plan your St. Maarten experience while enjoying the home away from home feeling. 1400 Stacey 703-932-9281 [stacey.jansen@gmail.com](mailto:stacey.jansen@gmail.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 11/6/2022 11/13/2022 Week 45 Flamingo Beach Club Beautifully renovated studio, sleeps 4, water view overlooking the pool. \$5,000.00 Marie [mobolero@hotmail.com](mailto:mobolero@hotmail.com)

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

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

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

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

### **"Like" Our 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://everythingxsm.com/sxm/free\\_newsletters/sxmweeklynews.shtml](http://everythingxsm.com/sxm/free_newsletters/sxmweeklynews.shtml)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

\*\*\*\*\*  
**All JMB Newsletters Read \*From JMB\***  
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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, Covid, & Weather; Etc.**

**GETTING HERE:**

**LEAD STORY: Thousands of Cancellations Again...**

Over the last few days and particularly on Father's Day weekend, there were thousands more airline cancellations in the United States. There were two principal causes: first, the usual problem of inadequate staffing on the part of both airlines and Federal air traffic controllers, thanks to the "Great Resignation" — and second, bad weather across much of the USA.

As we've reported before, neither problem will disappear quickly. Severe summer weather and winter blizzards always cause havoc with flights. The current situation is aggravated by the flight controller issue, which is apparently worse in the Jacksonville air traffic control center than elsewhere. There is heavy air traffic through all of Florida; if flights can't be properly expedited there, hundreds of aircraft can't get where they need to be and are unavailable to fly subsequent flights scheduled elsewhere for those aircraft causing delays and cancellations. Moreover, when aircraft don't move expeditiously where they're needed, their flight crews can run into situations where it would be against regulations for them for them to fly even minutes beyond the numbers permitted — it becomes a safety issue and is prohibited.

There is currently no slack in the air traffic control system and the severe pilot shortage in the United States which was largely caused by the Great Resignation. As we have previously reported, there is a shortage of about 13,000 pilots per month right now . Getting new people trained and put into service can't be completed in a matter of days. If pilots are needed for new aircraft, such as the A220 from Airbus, active pilots who are properly trained to operate one aircraft type must be trained separately to operate different aircraft types — and that, too, can't happen overnight, though as we understand it, training can happen separately as they continue to pilot currently assigned flights.

Don't expect miraculous cures for this nagging problem.

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## 1. Where to Find Our Guide to SXM Entry Requirements / Return to US Requirements (Newly Updated)

Tens of thousands of tourists will be visiting SXM this summer and fall, with hundreds of thousands coming next winter. Planning for all of these visits is well underway.

Our **Guide to Entry Requirements** (Second Edition, just updated) 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 must still apply for the required preapproval.

To access the just-updated second edition of our Guide to Entry Requirements, *which is free*, go [through this link](#) (revised) to the files area of our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#). You should be able to access the file easily if you are already a Facebook member.

Further updates may happen as the number of hospitalizations on the island stays very low. See next story.

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## 2. How to Replace Your US Passport

Regardless of how we try to protect them, sometimes passports get lost or damaged. Then what? [This article](#) tells you how to replace your passport under a variety of circumstances.

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## 3. Got a Spare \$45,000? You May Need It, In Cash in Advance, to Get a MedEvac Jet Home in a Medical Emergency

\$45,000 or more payable in cash in advance could be what you must pay out-of-pocket should you need emergency medical evacuation while traveling anywhere in the USA, Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, the Bahamas, or anywhere in the Caribbean. By contrast, SkyMed Takes You Home® for zero dollars when you become critically ill or injured in any of those countries *if you are a SkyMed member*. **All it takes is one phone call and SkyMed does everything. That \$45,000 you might have to spend without SkyMed assumes that you can make all the arrangements, find and hire the jet, make sure it is properly outfitted for the specific medical problems you face, staff it with appropriate medical professionals who are cleared to travel back home to the US or Canada, and take care of customs, immigration, and loads of other paperwork including Ambulances and getting your records to your Destination hospital.** By contrast, SkyMed does all of that and its members pay \$0 for the evacuation or ambulances.

**Setting up medical evacuations sounds complicated because it is** — and having to do all this in a medical emergency is a daunting task for anyone who has never done it. For about \$1.64/day for an annual or multiyear SkyMed membership. SkyMed will do all of this stuff once you make that single quick phone call.

For more information, call us today at 508-591-3483 or [Jeff.Berger@skymed.com](mailto:Jeff.Berger@skymed.com). Include your phone number and time zone so we can call back and get all your questions answered. We can also take your application by phone in roughly 10 minutes.

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## 4. What To Do If Your Flight is Canceled Or Delayed...

What should you do if your flight is canceled or delayed as happens fairly often now due to weather or staffing shortages?

This recently published [article](#) gives you exact answers.

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***Etc./Weather***

## 5. Be Properly Prepared for Hurricane Season

Compiled by NOAA and the National Hurricane Center, this information can help anyone who is ever in the path of any tropical cyclone hopefully make it through that event safely. For your own safety, download [this document](#) and save it after reading -- and feel free to share it with others.

## 6. Where to Find The Latest SXM Weather Information

Although hurricane season officially begins June 1, nonetheless it's best to be prepared before then. In recent years, tropical activity has begun around mid-May. Stay in touch with any or all of these sources of tropical weather information...

Here are SIX sources of current SXM weather info:

- 1) [Crown Weather Services](#) whose very inexpensive subscription service is, we feel, the best in the business.
- 2) Our "Weather Center / Hurricane Center" at [www.everythingsxm.com](http://www.everythingsxm.com) -- it has current satellite images and radar loops 24/7/365 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. *That page also includes real-time or near-real-time satellite images and radar loops.*
- 3) Our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#) 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 so you'll 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.
- 6) 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.*

**In addition...** When storms form or pass near SXM, we expect to run the latest forecasts, watches, warnings, and observations in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#), and we will post all of that material directly in the weather center of our everything SXM website, [www.everythingsxm.com](http://www.everythingsxm.com).

## [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)**

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

## 7. For SXM Condo Buyers, Some Critically Important Advice

Moving to the Caribbean requires a multi-step procedure that involves different citizenship programs. While territories in the Caribbean region have made relocation to the Caribbean easier for people, it's still a meticulous process. It's best to go through the application with seasoned immigration consultants.

Our partner [BrightPath Caribbean](#) is an expert immigration agency that has helped countless people move to their slice of paradise in the tropics. Investors, retirees, and skilled workers who were assisted by the BrightPath team now enjoy life in the land of sun, sea, and sand.



**By working with BrightPath's immigration consultants, you don't have to deal with the nitty-gritty of the complicated immigration process. Plus, you avoid delays and increase your chances of approval.**

**Moving, retiring, and opening a business in Sint Maarten (country abbreviation SXM) all involve complicated, multi-step processes. So leave the nitty-gritty to professionals who are well-versed in immigration and the business climate in this Caribbean country.**

BrightPath Caribbean makes your move to Sint Maarten smooth-sailing and fuss-free. You no longer have to deal with complicated paperwork or complex immigration, incorporation, or retirement procedures. Our consultants in Sint Maarten will oversee everything so that you can focus on the important thing — your new life in paradise.

### **Moving to St. Maarten**

BrightPath Caribbean provides various services to prepare for your relocation, retirement, or venture in Sint Maarten.

### **Immigration Services**

Our team handles immigration matters for individuals who want to relocate to St. Maarten. Moving to this country is no easy task, but the effort is more than worth it. Its beautiful beaches and scenery make it seem like you're on vacation all year round.

BrightPath immigration consultants in Sint Maarten:

- Walk you through the various immigration avenues in Sint Maarten, including investment, employment, family reunification, cohabitation agreements, and more
- Collect required documents based on the avenue for immigration and review them for completeness and accuracy
- Oversee the entire application process and guide you every step of the way

### **Business Incorporation Services**

Our business incorporation consultants see to it that you start your company on the right legal footing. You'll get expert-level guidance in:

- Business License. Our experts deliver reliable advice about the right business license for your company if you haven't applied for one yet. We also guide you in applying for the license in St. Maarten.
- Name Search. BrightPath consultants check if your chosen business name is available. If not, we can work with you to form a cleared name.
- Preparing the Articles of Incorporation. Our team prepares and makes sure the paperwork is complete and error-free. We'll also be the ones to file the articles of incorporation.

### **Business Banking Services**

Our team opens bank accounts for existing or planned businesses in SXM to make sure your company starts on the right financial footing. You'll be assisted as you:

- Choose Your Bank. Our consultants review your business's banking needs, as well as your in-person and online banking preferences, to help you choose the right bank. Our goal is to find a bank that provides scalable solutions and day-to-day banking convenience.
- Gather Requirements. Our team helps you collect the required documents and review them for accuracy and completeness. We'll also be the ones to submit them and set an appointment with your chosen bank in Sint Maarten.
- Sign Forms. You simply attend the appointment and sign the forms.

### **Retirement Planning Services**

You'll develop a personal retirement planning strategy that takes into account your personal financial goals, the financial risks you face, and the kind of life you want to lead during your golden years in the Caribbean. Our retirement service consultants in Sint Maarten:

- Help you set clearly defined goals for your retirement in St. Maarten
- Improve tax efficiency and help you maximize your benefits
- Plan your legacy in case you want to leave something to your grandchildren or a charitable institution

### **Sint Maarten Awaits:**

There's more to Sint Maarten than beautiful beaches and breathtaking landscapes. The culinary scene is rich and diverse, representing over 100 nationalities, including French cheeses and Mediterranean wines. The shopping experience is divine, and the festivals are spectacular.

If you're eyeing St. Maarten for your retirement or new venture, then you've made the right choice.

## 8. Hundreds of SXM Timeshare & Condo Rentals Available for Both 2022 and 2023

Dozens of new listings of timeshare and other condominiums for rent and for sale for both 2022 and 2023 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 middlemen or agents or anyone else charging commissions. *Usually, timeshare owners charge close to their actual annual maintenance fee costs.*

Dozens more new entries were posted over the last couple of weeks.

## 9. Realtors to See for SXM Condos & Villas

The following list of our sponsor realtors tells you how to contact SXM's best sources of condos and villas across the island:

### 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>

**Villa Steel Magnolias (new 1/22)**

**40Weeks SXM Vacation Rentals (new)**

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

**Villa Kimon**

**Daffodil Villa**

## 10. 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](#). (Link is being updated).

**Please check this link to [BrightPath Caribbean 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. Tell them you heard about BrightPath through Jeff Berger's *SXM Weekly News*.

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## 11. 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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## 12. 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.

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

## 13. Reminder: \$100 Jewelry Gift Card Emails Sent to All JMB Website Supporters Members: News About JMB Member Discounts / Benefits Updates (Updated 1/31/22) How To Get Your \$100 Gift Card to Caribbean Gems

One of the newest benefits of JMB Website Supporters membership is a \$100 Gift Card from Caribbean Gems. The Gift

Card was sent last month by email to all members of our **JMB Website Supporters Island Discount Program**, and will soon be added (for one-time use only) to our members-only passworded "Secret" Website. Details on its use accompany the card.

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 here in *SXM Weekly News* and will also be noted in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#). We hope to finish these updates late during Summer, 2022.

JMB Website Supporters currently offers roughly 300 discounts and other benefits to its thousands of members.

**Want your own \$100 Gift Certificate to Caribbean Gems? Join JMB Website Supporters and we will send it to you. We recently sent Certificates to all JMB members.**

For more info on what you get with your JMB membership or to sign up, [go here](#).

## 14. Reminder: Members May Now Advertise Both Timeshare Weeks They Own and Privately Owned SXM Condominiums On Our Site

We are now accepting advertising for both timeshare resort condominiums as well as privately owned condominiums on the island directly from their owners who are members of our JMB Website Supporters Island Discount Program. This is effective immediately and includes weeks from both 2022 and 2023. Submit your ads through the members-only "Secret" website.

Not a member? Join us by clicking the page curl on our main site, [www.everythingsxm.com](http://www.everythingsxm.com). All the details you need are there.

## 15. JMB Website Supporters Island Discount Program Major Update Expected to Complete Late This Summer...

The huge update we have been working on for some time of our JMB Website Supporters Island Discount Program — which coincides with a major server upgrade and upgrades to two mission-critical programs for our new servers — is taking longer than we had originally hoped.. Unfortunately, this seems to be a common theme among many businesses dealing with personnel shortages among their principal contractors. In any case, we believe this major upgrade should be finished sometime late this summer. We will keep you aware of program changes and apologize for the delay.

## 16. Updated Contact Information for JMB Website Supporters and SkyMed Sales Inquiries (UPDATED 6/6/22)

**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**. You may also call our JMB office, 508-747-8281.
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.
3. **Our new email is [jmbcomms@gmail.com](mailto:jmbcomms@gmail.com); use it for JMB Website Supporters membership questions**. Thank you.

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

**17. HUGE SUMMER SALE NOW UNDERWAY BY SKYMED: TRAVELING "ANYWHERE" THIS SUMMER, FALL, or NEXT WINTER? This is Huge News from SkyMed:**

**Up To 22 Weeks FREE (PLUS Military/First Responder Free Weeks) with New Multiyear SkyMed Purchases ===Only \$1.64/day Gets You Guaranteed Renewable, Price-Guaranteed-Forever SkyMed Annual or Multiyear Medevac Protection**

\*\*\*\*\*

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

\*\*\*\*\*

**SkyMed Never Does Sales  
-- Except Right Now:**

**Only \$1.64/day - \*LESS THAN A CUP OF COFFEE\* -- gets you annual or multiyear SKYMED MEDEVAC protection for virtually all of your upcoming trips.**

***Buy it NOW, \*BEFORE\* you need it -- just like fire insurance.***

***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). NOTE: My prices for multiyear memberships ARE MUCH LESS THAN YOU WOULD PAY ONLINE.***

**.....SKYMED's BEST PROMOTION EVER IS NOW UNDERWAY!.....**

**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**

**=== PLUS ===**

**"Thank YOU for Your Service"**  
**Bonuses for US & Canadian Military Veterans**  
**& FIRST RESPONDERS:**

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

**\*What are "Ultimates"? See next story.**

**\*\*\*These MILITARY benefits are IN ADDITION TO the**  
**benefits for all new members!\*\*\***

**18. THE SKYMED SALE DETAILS: Only \$1.64/day Gets You**  
**Guaranteed Renewable, Price-Guaranteed-Forever SkyMed**  
**Annual or Multiyear Medevac Protection:**

**WHAT IS SKYMED? WHERE DOES SKYMED WORK?**

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 \$45,000 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.

**WHAT ARE "ULTIMATES"?**

SkyMed Ultimates are SkyMed's best memberships and also its LEAST EXPENSIVE on a cost-per-day basis (about \$1.64/day for family protection). They offer a suite of 18 services and protect you worldwide -- almost everywhere. They are offered in monthly-pay (minimum payment period two years), three-year, and five-year versions.

**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 DIRECTLY (contact info below) for details on all of our major-league savings on SkyMed Ultimate multi-year membership prices.

**LIFETIME PRICE GUARANTEE / GUARANTEED RENEWABLE MEMBERSHIPS:**

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. SkyMed annual and longer memberships are also Guaranteed Renewable when annual or multiyear fees are paid on time -- guaranteed renewable regardless of advancing age or declining health.

**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 - that way I get credit \(number above\)](#). Or [jeff.berger@skymed.com](mailto:jeff.berger@skymed.com)

- **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 Travel 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 a specific trip; it's temporary protection. There is no waiting period for benefits. When you want protection for another future trip, you must make a separate application for it. **Although at \$15/day per couple SkyMed short-term protection is the most expensive product SkyMed sells on a cost-per-day basis**, short-term protection is economical if you seldom travel and take brief trips. The cost is \$9/day per individual, 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 is far more economical than the \$15/day per family for short-term coverage -- it's now only about \$1.64/day total.** Multiyear memberships also 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 that also accepts text messages. *Updated 6/20/22.*

- **\*What is the SkyMed Ultimate?**

Again, the Ultimate is SkyMed's best - and least expensive (on a daily cost basis) form of medical evacuation membership. With SkyMed "Takes You Home"® services in the USA, Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, the Bahamas, and all the nations of the Caribbean, plus Global Emergency Travel Services (GETS) almost everywhere else worldwide, the Ultimate is for people who visit Europe, Africa, Asia, and almost anywhere else your wanderlust takes you. It also delivers 18 critically important travel-related services as opposed to 12 with SkyMed annual memberships. **You'll find an overview of all SkyMed Services including those provided with Ultimate memberships [here](#).**

- [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  
6/20/22

## 19. Answering Your Questions: Examples of What SkyMed Does & How SkyMed Works

### ---An Important Message from Jeff Berger to All SXM Weekly News Readers---

We've always said SkyMed **TAKES YOU HOME**® when you become critically ill or injured -- home to doctors and hospitals you know and trust, and home where your health insurance *works*. **In recent weeks as many of you have decided to resume traveling, you've asked us for examples of what SkyMed does.** Several examples are right here:

**For answers to questions or to sign up, email me at [jeff.berger@skymed.com](mailto:jeff.berger@skymed.com) or call me at 508-591-3483. Open to Americans & Canadians & xPats only. Based in Scottsdale, Arizona, for the last 33+ years, SkyMed TAKES YOU HOME® when you become critically ill or injured while traveling anywhere in the USA, Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, the Bahamas, or all the nations of the Caribbean. Global protection is available. Cost for family membership is as little as \$1.64/day on annual and multiyear plans. **IMPORTANT: Buy directly through me: our pricing for multiyear memberships is much lower than SkyMed's pricing published on the web.****

Here are specific examples of how SkyMed works for its members:

**On a recent Thursday at Mullet Bay Beach**, a woman at the edge of the water fell and accidentally knocked down her friend, standing close by. The friend felt pain in her leg as she got up, went to a hospital, and was told she had a "soft tissue injury" and should relax in the sun. Pain continued. Next day she went to the Maho Clinic for another opinion since she couldn't put any weight on the leg without pain. The doctor there sent her to the French Side for a new x-ray. That diagnosis came back - broken leg and she had to be medically evacuated back to the US for surgery. A few days before, the woman had bought short-term SkyMed medevac protection for her short trip to SXM. Cost, under \$100. She was sent home by jet by SkyMed. The charge for the jet: \$0. Without SkyMed, had she needed a medevac jet, the \$26,000 (approx.) price of that jet home would have had to be paid in cash in advance; with SkyMed she was home and in the hospital of her choice the next day for \$0 out-of-pocket.

**Mary Beth and her partner Don** were vacationing in SXM when Don fell and broke his hip -- only about a month after they had bought SkyMed. SkyMed flew them home on a medevac jet for the hospital care he needed. Flight cost to the patient: \$0. Savings: over \$35,000.

**An MD from Florida who always visits SXM** was on a cruise vacation to the Greek Islands with his wife when he broke his femur aboard the ship. He was rushed to the hospital in Corfu but called SkyMed which arranged and paid for an emergency medevac flight to Athens for urgent surgery. A few days later SkyMed evacuated him again, with an excellent male nurse, all the way home to Florida, where an ambulance took him home for recovery. Required flight cost to the patient: \$0. Savings: huge.

**A Summer trip ended in disaster when a child visiting her grandmother in Grand Case was bitten in the head** by the grandmother's bulldog, imperiling the girl's eyesight. She was flown to Miami in a medical evacuation jet for emergency eye surgery that saved her sight. Flight cost to the patient: \$0.

**A woman from Virginia shopped at an island grocer and headed back to her car carrying two bags of groceries. She tripped and fell on a curb and knew at once she had fractured her hip.** After being stabilized locally, she was flown home on a medical evacuation jet from SkyMed where she had the surgery she needed. Flight cost to the patient: \$0.

**Two men were riding their horses on a hill in Cay Bay when a car backfiring spooked one of the horses, which threw its rider.** The other rider got off his horse to check his companion when the car again backfired, spooking the horse again which led it to kick its dismounted driver in the head, luckily causing "only" a severely dislocated jaw. The local hospital had no ability to solve that problem so the victim was airlifted by SkyMed back to Pennsylvania for surgery. Flight cost to the patient: \$0.

**A member of the clergy** fell down cement stairs and broke her leg. She too was airlifted home by SkyMed for surgery. Flight cost to the patient: \$0.

**Not all trips end well:** anything can happen when you travel. Being a member of SkyMed was the common thread in all these cases. SkyMed takes its members home when serious or critical injuries occur in the "SkyMed universe" , usually in a private, ICU-equivalent medical evacuation jet -- home to doctors and hospitals the patient knows and trusts -- and home where their health insurance works. That's just one of up to 18 benefits received by SkyMed members for about \$1.64/day for annual or multiyear memberships.

**All this is why we always recommend SkyMed.** Call Jeff Berger 24/7 at 508-591-3483 and leave your name, phone number, and time zone. Jeff will call back at a mutually convenient time and answer all your questions. He can also take your application by phone in about 10 minutes. *You're eligible to apply regardless of your age or health if you are a U.S. or Canadian citizen or an American or Canadian ExPat living in SXM or certain other countries.*

**Anything can happen anywhere:** Do it now, BEFORE YOU NEED IT. To learn more, visit [www.skymed.com/jmb](http://www.skymed.com/jmb). JMB members get big discounts off SkyMed's online pricing for all multiyear memberships, the BEST memberships for most people age 50 or over. More contact info is above.



Thanks for reading this.

## 20. LEAD STORY: Quake Leaves SXM Shook Up, but Nobody's Hurt and No Consequential Damage

Early last Friday morning, lots of people across SXM may have thought a really big truck had just rolled by — but for those more familiar with island living, there was only one logical conclusion: it was an earthquake.

Earthquakes are not unusual in the Caribbean. Those that affect SXM are usually minor. Reports from people across the island indicate this quake was SLIGHTLY more audacious than other recent minor earthquakes. Some people heard a bang first, which is an audible underground concussion — followed by several seconds of shaking. Two people contacted us to report broken mirrors. By Saturday morning, we had heard of only widely scattered minor damage. There were no reports of injuries reaching *SXM Weekly News*.

## 21. In Other Mother Nature News...Saharan Dust Still Around

Most tourists don't know it, but dust from the Sahara desert often blows westward in the tradewinds at high altitudes and may arrive in SXM and the rest of the Caribbean, affecting visibility and having certain other effects.

Recently during this month, NASA, which keeps an eye on this, issued the following commentary about the status of Saharan dust at this time; here is their report:

*On June 1, 2022, strong winds blew a thick layer of dust from the Sahara Desert, pushing it westward over the Atlantic Ocean. The dense dust plume continued to grow in size and length, and by June 6, the leading edge of the massive river of dust reached South America. The dust plume stretched more than 3,500 miles (5,630 km) and covered more than 2.2 million square miles (5.7 million square km).*

*On June 7, 2022, the Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS) on board NASA's Aqua satellite acquired a true-color image of Saharan Dust over the Caribbean and South America. Dust hovers over northern Venezuela as well as many of the Caribbean Islands, including Aruba and Curacao near the coast of South America and Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic, seen in the north of the image. The Saharan dust is expected to reach the Gulf of Mexico over the next few days and is expected to color skies over Texas and possibly other southern U.S. states by June 12.*

*The Sahara Desert is by far Earth's largest source of airborne dust, and the storms can arise at any time of year. In winter and spring storms, Saharan dust often ends up fertilizing the nutrient-poor soils of the Amazon rainforest. Dust storms in the summer tend to loft material higher into the atmosphere, allowing plumes to travel thousands of kilometers on high-level winds. Those summer seasonal wind patterns can carry the dust from Africa to the Caribbean and the Gulf of Mexico. Plumes of dust recently reached Florida, Texas, and other southern U.S. states in mid-May 2022.*

Here is [much more on this topic](#) from NASA.

## 22. Fuel Spill at "Sol" Facility in Cay Bay

A fuel spill has been reported at the Sol Energy facility in Cay Bay on the Dutch side.

The article below, from the Nature Foundation, an environmental watchdog with government contracts to keep an eye on all environmental issues around the island, reports on this event:

*Mid-Morning on Monday, June 13th the Nature Foundation responded to calls regarding a fuel spill occurring in the area of Cay Bay. Upon investigation it was confirmed that the spill originated from Sol. Foundation staff and Sol crews tried to mitigate the spill using fuel absorbent supplies, however the extent of the incident and the difficult weather conditions caused much of the pollution to be washed out to sea.*

*"We received a call from a concerned boat charter company to let us know a **significant amount of fuel** could be seen in the water as they were passing Cay Bay. We were able to respond to the call within 15 minutes, but by the time we arrived a wide slick of fuel could be found more than 1.8 Kilometers (1.1 miles) away from shore. It was unclear how much product was able to enter the environment during this incident as the fuel had mixed with the water and spread while it was pushed away from the area," stated the Nature Foundation.*

*In response to the incident Sol has released the following statement, "Sol Antilles N.V. (Sol) confirms that on June 13, 2022, at approximately 8:00 a.m., an incident occurred during the connection of the new white oils receiving pipeline at*

the Sol Cole Bay depot in Cay Bay. Due to the swift reaction of the internal response team, the operation was immediately halted, and majority of the spill was subsequently contained. As part of its overall contingency planning, Sol has an emergency response team of trained and certified staff and has oil spill equipment readily available should it be required. **There was no harm to any personnel, however, a small quantity of fuel escaped out to sea.** All other on-site activities were ceased immediately as a precautionary measure. The maintenance activities have since all been completed without any further issues.

*“At Sol, we take pride in conducting our business with our business core values of Safety, Integrity, Community and Respect at the helm and as such, we are currently engaged with the relevant regulatory agencies and stakeholders to keep them fully abreast of the situation and of the mitigation measures put in place. These stakeholders include the Nature Foundation, The Coast Guard, the Department of Maritime Affairs and the Inspection Department of VROMI. **Sol’s main focus is the protection of the health, safety and security of our employees, customers and the communities within which we operate.**”* [Emphasis added by SXM Weekly News.-Ed.]

*Due to the high winds and waves during the day the majority of spill that was not contained was pushed away from the island quickly, but dive schools reported remnants of fuel still at nearby dive sites as late as 5pm the same day. While the foundation was monitoring the spill, mapping the affected areas, and **attempting to absorb thick patches found on the surface many animal species were spotted. An endangered Green Sea Turtle, several sea birds, and flying fish were all seen on the surface of the water in and among the pollutants.***

*“Sol was able to immediately halt their activities and activated their response plan. As part of this workers deployed absorbent materials to help control what was lost into the sea. However, whether it is present in St. Maarten shores or not, **fuel spills like this have a distinct and long-lasting impact on the ecosystem,**” explained the foundation, **“Not only can it directly harm the animals that encounter it, but it also has long lasting effects on food sources and can disrupt biological growth. It also won’t just disappear; this fuel will travel with the wind and waves and could impact other Caribbean islands.”***

*Foundation staff continued to monitor the area throughout the week and saw no further signs of pollutants entering the water. The Nature Foundation urges that any company working with environmentally hazardous materials to have equipment and protocols in place to handle inevitable issues such as oil or fuel spills. Including contacting the foundation as soon as possible in the event of emergency in order to mitigate the impacts on our precious environment.*

***“With major environmental incidents involving fuel or oil happening at varying locations in 2010, 2014, 2018, 2021, and now 2022 it is clear that there is a need for a change in policy and regulation when it comes to dealing with these hazardous materials,”** stated the Nature Foundation.*

#### **SXM Weekly News comments / opinion:**

We found one paragraph from Sol particularly irksome. It was this: *“At Sol, we take pride in conducting our business with our business core values of Safety, Integrity, Community and Respect at the helm and as such, we are currently engaged with the relevant regulatory agencies and stakeholders to keep them fully abreast of the situation and of the mitigation measures put in place. These stakeholders include the Nature Foundation, The Coast Guard, the Department of Maritime Affairs and the Inspection Department of VROMI. **Sol’s main focus is the protection of the health, safety and security of our employees, customers and the communities within which we operate.**”* [Emphasis added by SXM Weekly News.]

Sorry, Sol, but you have an overarching responsibility to protect the environment. That, in our humble opinion, should be a MAJOR concern. The above paragraph was pure PR pap, in our humble opinion. (Note: our Publisher, Jeff Berger, is a life-long journalist who has worked in corporate PR & marketing for decades for numerous global corporations and is sufficiently deep to recognize "pap" when he reads it.

Sol, you never bother to say here what type of fuel was spilled and how much of it went into the ocean; that should be readily available or calculable information. The type of fuel was and is critical; some fuel types stay on the surface of the water and evaporate quickly. Other types are heavy, fouling the water into which Sol spilled them -- and spelling danger to creatures in the sea including endangered sea turtles and to thousands of seabirds and uncounted numbers of fish. The implication here is that much of whatever spilled was blown westward, away from SXM, but Sol didn't bother to detail that so we don't know. If Sol were serious about the "pride" it takes, it seems to us it would have had locked-in procedures that would make events like this all but impossible -- and it should have been more forthcoming about exactly what happened here and detailed precisely how it was responding. Its "pap" statement details none of that. Apparently Sol needs both better environmental safety planning and disaster planning. Its "pap" PR statement says nothing meaningful and is a disservice to the people of St. Maarten, to whom it owes a serious apology and a timetable for telling everyone what it is doing to thoroughly investigate the incident -- and what its timetable is for arriving at serious solutions that make repetition of events like this virtually impossible -- even if only a few dozen liters of fuel were involved in this event. We all need FACTS from Sol, not beyond-pointless pap.-- *SXM Weekly News*

Here is [the detailed story](#) from The Nature Foundation.

## 23. Endangered Leatherback Sea Turtle Nests on Simpson Bay Beach

As we've been reporting, sea turtle nesting season is underway on SXM and it will continue through late this year. Here is a [story concerning endangered leatherback sea turtle nesting](#) on Simpson Bay beach.

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## 24. Blue Marine Foundation Makes \$90,000 Grant for Marine Conservation in Dutch Caribbean

Marine conservation is a critically important element in sound environmental management across the Caribbean — for a host of reasons.

That's why the \$90,000 grant being apportioned to several islands in the Dutch Caribbean for Marine conservation by the California-based Blue Marine foundation is of such critical importance to island residents, future generations of island residents, and to everyone else who is interested in environmental protection and preservation. Here is that [complete story](#).

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## 25. Military Exercises on SXM

In recent weeks, and over the last few months, there have been military exercises on both sides of the island — like normal practice military operations held in many countries on a routine basis around the world.

Advance news about all of these operations doesn't necessarily reach the entire population before the exercises begin. Several weeks back, Dutch Marines — who to many people are a tourist attraction in and of themselves -- fairly suddenly appeared in full Gear at one end of Mullet Bay Beach. Some people took their appearance as a matter of concern, but others (we would venture a guess mostly females) relaxed on their lounge chairs and simply enjoyed the company and physical action nearby. There were also recent military exercises on the French side — same result.

All we'll say about future exercises is that we have no idea in advance when they are scheduled unless we receive media releases. So, our only advice is that if you see a number of fit young men (and perhaps a few women) in military garb anywhere on the island or in its coastal waters, relax and enjoy this unanticipated tourist attraction....

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## 26. SXM No Longer Smallest Island Shared by Two Nations

Thanks to a recent good-natured agreement between Denmark and Canada, SXM is no longer the smallest island shared by two nations. However, it remains the smallest populated island shared by two nations.

This story is best explained by the BBC -- and [here it is](#).

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## 27. Vesna Taverna Reopens for Dinner Tuesday Through Saturday

Vesna Taverna, which had been shut down at night briefly from the end of May until early this month so owners Vesna and Yannick could attend a wedding far from SXM, is now again hosting guests for dinner from Tuesday through Saturday every week at their restaurant in Simpson Bay just north of the drawbridge. They expect to be open nightly except Sunday and Monday from now through virtually the entire summer.

Vesna is also a great spot for breakfast and lunch. Both meals are served daily from Tuesday through Sunday every week.

Vesna has been one of our favorite restaurants for all three meals for years. It has been a consistent winner of our culinary Awards of Excellence from Everything SXM and has been featured several times as our Restaurant of the Week in our regular column here in *SXM Weekly News*.

Click the link in every issue of *SXM Weekly News* for much more information about Vesna Taverna. Passalong readers can subscribe free to *SXM Weekly News* — SXM's only professionally written weekly newsletter devoted to stories of

interest to tourists — at [www.sxmweeklynews.com](http://www.sxmweeklynews.com).

## 28. A Look at SXM's Newest Restaurants

More than anything else, this is a look forward to some restaurants that you will likely be visiting either this summer or next fall/winter when you return to SXM. Some are open now and others will be opening in the next several months.

First, here are some comments about restaurants that have been open for a while but which you may not yet have had a chance to experience:

The first of these is **Jai's Contemporary Fusion Cuisine** around the corner from Pizza Italy at the Simpson Bay Yacht Club. Jai, a graduate of the culinary Institute of America (CIA), was planning to offer a spectrum of dining experiences including his own variations of traditional cuisine. The restaurant became a magnet for people who love fusion dining even though at first its sign read "Contemporary Indian Cuisine" *even though it was fusion with a number of offerings that are not traditional Indian Cuisine*. Jai quickly changed the name to Jai's Contemporary Fusion Cuisine and his restaurant has been going gangbusters ever since, serving an ever-changing kaleidoscope of dishes combining a world of fresh flavors and textures and aromas in a way that you probably have never experienced. Although Jai's has been around for a couple of years, it has really just taken off and has become a culinary Mecca for people who appreciate exceptional creativity and innovation in their dining. Jai also is very responsive to requests from people making future reservations who are looking for specific dishes seen in photos or videos in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#). Regardless of what brings you there, you will encounter what we honestly believe is a unique culinary experience on SXM and one you are bound to enjoy beyond your expectations. Reservations strongly recommended regardless of season. [See more here](#).

The second unique restaurant is Jim Goldman's **Bamboo House**, located on the hill opposite the entrance to Carrefour in Cole Bay. Reservations are essential here as well. Bamboo House does an extraordinary job of delivering on creative Japanese cuisine with lots of new touches. The steaks here are outstanding as well and the bar is a future prizewinner as word spreads quickly about its creativity. The setting is an open-air masterpiece which gives you a unique panoramic view of sunsets across Simpson Bay lagoon. There is also entertainment — and facilities for special events guests can schedule here. There's a lot more to Bamboo House than you may think — so if you are currently on the island make a reservation and go during this visit. If you have not visited the island since Bamboo House opened several months ago, add it to your list. Jim Goldman's Bamboo House is a keeper.

Our third new restaurant only opened a few weeks ago under the seasoned tutelage of Desmond Culbert at Porto Cupecoy: "**Le Mediterranean**." It offers a plethora of Eastern European offerings every night; you won't find the same offerings available nightly anywhere else on the island. Some are Greek, some Middle Eastern, but all come from the experienced mind and hands of Desmond, one of the most experienced culinary entrepreneurs on SXM. Desmond owns both Mama Pizza operations on the island -- the one next door to Mediterranean at Porto Cupecoy and his Mama pizza on the French side in oyster pond. We've highly recommended both. Mediterranean has a beautiful setting and an extensive, highly creative menu. Definitely give it a much closer look.

All will say about **the fourth restaurant** is that we are looking forward to it as much as you are. Located in the heart of Simpson Bay and a fast, easy walk from the area of the unrelated Zee Best restaurant, the new restaurant by **James Jimbo Morris** should become a reality soon — though perfectionist Jimbo won't open it until he is convinced it is 100% ready for prime time. Jimbo's partner — about whom we'll say more later — has already enjoyed many of you being his fan, though most of you have never met him. We'll give you details about this new venture as soon as Jimbo is ready.

The **fifth restaurant** development is at the site of the former Cheri's Café in Maho. Construction activity here has been brisk for several months. The restaurant will celebrate different types of dining experiences from what will look to the world like a small gathering of food trucks — a phenomenon which has really taken off throughout the United States. We'll have more about this once it is ready to open. Rest assured it will not be anything like Cheri's Café, which is fondly remembered by tens of thousands of island visitors including all of us here at *Weekly News*.

More to come...

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number & time zone) or use WhatsApp (FREE) 721-588-4188.

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### 29. Where to Get The Best Picnic Lunches

Now that we hopefully have made you ravenously hungry, we want to suggest a few places where you can pick up midday meals to use as your own picnic lunches across SXM.

Open for lunch and dinner most days except Monday, **Mario's Bistro** offers fabulous and highly innovative lunches. When he opened at his new location in the Cliff only a few years ago, it was the first time culinary impresario Mario Tardif was serving lunches. It was obvious to him that he had to include the same creativity, style, and panache always displayed at dinner — but available nowhere else for lunch. Shortly before he started serving lunches Mario admitted to us, "this will be the first time I've ever made a hamburger!" True, his Mario's Bistro is far from a burger joint — but when you put an apex culinary magician in charge of making a burger, you can expect one extraordinary burger — and lots more. Mario offers more than a dozen outstanding lunches at Mario's Bistro at the Cliff in Cupecoy. Eat it there (the setting is beautiful) or take it with you to some distant beach or other vantage point: there is a reason Mario's is always on the short list of the very best SXM restaurants.

**Astra** in Simpson Bay is open for lunch and dinner every day and is a beautifully designed fine dining restaurant with the Caribbean's largest lobster pool right behind the restaurant in Simpson Bay lagoon. The restaurant offers an interesting, eclectic, and delicious selection of lunch entrées — stop here and you will be hooked.

We can't write an article about lunches without telling you about **Vesna Taverna** which serves lunches every day but Monday, when the restaurant is closed. Sally is in charge and she has been doing this for a lot of years. Vesna lunches are excellent — particularly the salads, smoothies, and more. A selection of bagels should also be available for your enjoyment.

**Pelican Bistro** on Billy Folly Rd. close to Simpson Bay Resort and Atrium is a small breakfast and lunch place with a sizable menu — a very nice selection of breakfasts and lunches and the bagels are delicious New York style that taste pretty authentic to us. Enjoy these places and mention to the people in charge (Anna) that you were sent by Jeff Berger's *SXM Weekly News*.

### 30. Our Six-Vacation Giveaway is Still Slated for Summer; How to Enter & What You Can Win

EverythingSXM.com will be celebrating 10 million visits to its suite of SXM websites by giving away SIX SXM vacations this Summer.

#### 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; Movida; IZI Ristorante Italiano** and **Spiga** in Grand Case. *All are subject to limitations set by the owner; if you exceed the limit, you are responsible for the excess.*

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](http://sxmweeklynews.com) now to subscribe **FREE** before entering this giveaway. **ENTRIES FROM NONSUBSCRIBERS ARE NOT ELIGIBLE TO WIN. PREVIOUS WINNERS ARE NOT ELIGIBLE.**

## 31. Restaurant of the Week:

This series returns next week. In the meantime, see stories 28 and 29 in this issue, both about several top SXM restaurants.

**Setting / Location:**

**Offerings:**

**Summary:**

### Here are recently featured SXM restaurants:

**Vesna Taverna**, [www.vesnasxm.com](http://www.vesnasxm.com) (featured 6/13/22). Now open every day but Monday for B/L; dinner is offered Tuesday through Saturday. Outstanding dining, reasonable pricing.

**La Rosa Restaurant**, Maho Plaza, (featured 5/23/2022): Loved the relaxing vibe, attentive service, GREAT food, reasonable prices, and BIG portions. [www.larosarestaurant.com/index.html](http://www.larosarestaurant.com/index.html)

**Jai's Contemporary Fusion Cuisine** (featured 5/9/22), **Simpson Bay** Leave your preconceptions behind! A 15-second walk to the opposite side of the building from Top Carrot. Outstanding dinners (and 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 an ever-growing spectrum of flavors, aromas, textures, and tastes. You gotta try Jai's! Highest recommendation. See <https://www.facebook.com/jaissxmresto>

**Astra Steak & Seafood** (featured 5/2/22) is the newest creation of the organization that also operates Avantika and Movida in the same area of Simpson Bay. It's relatively new, beautiful, constantly evolving, and has high-quality written all over it. We go often and love it. See <https://www.astrasxm.com/>

**Melange International Grill, Port de Plaisance (next to Princess Casino entrance)**. (featured 4/18/22) A spectrum of delightful offerings from Europe, the USA, and South America. One of the most eclectic menus on SXM. Delicious dining.

**Mama Pizza**, Porto Cupecoy & Oyster Pond, (featured 4/4/22) 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>

**Mandarin Pan Asian** at Port de Plaisance Resort off the Union Road, Cole Bay, (featured 3/21/22). Excellent selection of palate-pleasing offerings from Japan, Thailand, and China. Highly recommended.

**IZI Ristorante Italiano**, [www.izisxm.com](http://www.izisxm.com) (featured 3/14/22). 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.

**Isola** next to Hollywood Casino at Simpson Bay Resort, (featured 3/7/22). 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)

**La Patrona, Simpson Bay Resort** (featured 2/28/22) La Patrona is SXM's only truly authentic Mexican restaurant. Highly recommended: great food, great service, not to be missed.

**Bovin Steakhouse at Simpson Bay Resort, Marina Plaza next to la Patrona** (featured 2/21/22) Upscale restaurant offering sumptuous dining, outstanding service, and more than just steak (though we expect lots of steak lovers will flock here).

**Avantika Thai** [www.avantikasm.com](http://www.avantikasm.com) (featured 2/14/22) Avantika is flat-out wonderful; SXM's best 4hai Delicious food artfully presented and reasonably priced, backed by seasoned service. Go...you'll become a regular.

**Spiga**, [www.spiga-sxm.com](http://www.spiga-sxm.com) (featured 2/7/22) Chef-co-owner **Ciro Russo & Lara Russo** haven't missed a beat here as Spiga continues to be simply the best restaurant of any kind in Grand Case, where it has a lot of competition. Incredibly irresistible food, great staff, service, and beautiful ambiance. Everything is great, appetizers are out of this world. Absolutely not to be missed.

**SkipJacks Seafood Grill, Bar, and seafood Market** (featured 1/31/22) is one of the largest seafood restaurants on the island, located in a remarkable site overlooking Simpson Bay Lagoon and many megayachts. With many types of fresh fish cooked to order, SkipJack's is best known for lobster, both the local spiny variety and even some flown in from Maine. Pick your own and have it prepared as you like it. Lots of other choices too for all kinds of appetites. Classic

attentive service and delicious everything. It's a must.

**Emilio's at the Emilio Wilson Estate**, Dutch Side, <https://emilios-sxm.com/> . [Featured January 2022] Truly fine dining in one of SXM's most well known and respected restaurants. The property is rich in history, the owners and Chef Sidney are culinary perfectionists, and you will kick yourself if you don't go here early in your trip so you have time to come back. Sunday Brunch is a must but requires reservations as does dinner. Not to be missed.

**Mario's Bistro at the Cliff**, formerly Mario's Bistro [www.mariobistrot.com/en/](http://www.mariobistrot.com/en/) 1/17/22 Mario's is one of the most spectacular culinary experiences you'll ever have -- here in SXM or anywhere else. Go. Phenomenal dining. 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.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**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 Philipsburg. (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....

**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.

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.

## 32. Two New SXM Euro Oval Stickers Now Available; Where to See Them & How to Order

As many readers are aware, we have SXM euro oval stickers available for sale to our readers for very reasonable prices. There are currently two versions available: our traditional green SXM Euro ovals with a large SXM overlaying a recently modified image of coconut palms in the background, and a purple sand chair SXM euro oval which features the SXM letters in large purple type with a purple sand chair in the background. Both of these are now available for ordering.

They are great for cars, smooth-sided luggage, mirrors in your home, and LOTS of other places. These are copyrighted by us and available ONLY from us by mail. (Sorry, no magnets but we ARE working on luggage tags...) Available for mailing only to USA, Canadian, and APO/FPO Addresses. **Pricing:** 1 for \$10, but THREE for \$20 including shipping; multiple orders of three accepted (order a total of 6 or more ovals and we'll send a surprise in the package). Unless you direct otherwise, We will send you our green coconut palms SXM euro oval to fulfill your order. If you'd like to have both the purple sand chair SXM euro oval and the new green coconut palm tree SXM euro oval, tell us how many of each you want when ordering.

To see pictures of both Euro ovals, please visit our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#) and search for "coconut" or for "purple sand chair" -- remember that prices are as indicated in the preceding paragraph when ordering.

**HOW TO ORDER:** Please use PayPal and submit payment to [jeff@jmbcommunications.com](mailto:jeff@jmbcommunications.com). NOW BEING SHIPPED. Allow 3 weeks for delivery but they will likely arrive much sooner. Printed on vinyl and varnished for long life. Questions? TEXT US at 508-591-3483 or email us ONLY AT [jmbcomms@gmail.com](mailto:jmbcomms@gmail.com) please. IF YOU DON'T USE

PAYPAL send a US DOLLAR check payable to JMB Communications to JMB, P. O. Box 1812, Plymouth, MA 02362-1812. Include # of ovals you are ordering and your phone, email, and delivery address.

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### 33. **We Need Your Help Now -- to Avoid a 2022 JMB Website Supporters Island Discount Program Price Increase...**

We depend on your support to enable us to publish *SXM Weekly News* every week. We also depend on your support to fund the work we do to publish news in our **weather center** and in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#) concerning tropical weather approaching SXM for the US mainland. Your support also makes possible the winter parties we hope to resume next winter for our JMB Website Supporters members plus all the benefits of our JMB website Supporters Island Discount Program.

Earlier this year, we announced that we were going to increase prices — since the price increase was long overdue and held off because of Covid. **We never did that price increase**, wanting to hold the line for our members and we still want to hold the line. But Russia invaded Ukraine and crude oil prices have shot through the roof, as we all know, and the costs of everything have gone crazy. **At this point, we still don't want to raise prices but we need your help now to be able to hold the line on our current pricing for membership in our JMB Website Supporters Island Discount Program.** Please join or renew now, [here](#). *We will be grateful for your support as we begin our 31st year communicating about SXM to hundreds of thousands of readers around the world.*

**This is important:** we have been working on and continue to work on a significant upgrade of our JMB Website Supporters Island Discount Program. We are hoping the upgrade will be finished by the end of this summer, and we are depending on our partners and our sponsors to offer new discounts to all our JMB Website Supporters Island Discount Program members. If you are our Sponsor of JMB, please contact us at [jmbcomms@Gmail.com](mailto:jmbcomms@Gmail.com) or text us through WhatsApp at 721-588-4188 so we can get things started for you.

Regardless of whether **you** are already a member of JMB Website Supporters, you can join or renew your membership and get hundreds of benefits through us now, [here](#). We are grateful for your support, as always. You make all this possible!

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### 34. **What Are the Best Sources of Accommodations Rentals?**

We offer hundreds of timeshare condominium rentals directly from timeshare owners in the listings on our main site, [www.everythingSXM.com](http://www.everythingSXM.com). There, you're not buying from strangers — you're buying from other people who love St. Maarten as much as you do. We've been doing this since 1992 and we know that it's the way thousands of people have rented weeks successfully over the last 30 years. Give it a try. More information about Condominiums is in Section 2, above.

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### 35. **Enormous Library of SXM Information is On The Web**

Regardless of what kind of SXM information you need, our sites deliver it.

Here are three examples:

a) our **SXM Weekly News PDF archives** include every edition of SXM Weekly News since 2014 – now approaching 9 years of editions and hundreds of thousands of words of SXM information. Our PDF archives are searchable by keywords to make it easy for you to find whatever information you seek quickly and easily on your computer. (A link to the Archives is in every edition of *SXM Weekly News*.)

b) our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#) is a repository for an enormous amount of SXM information posted during it's more than 10 years of existence. You can search all posts ever allowed, for any SXM topic — and you will find hundreds of posts on virtually any specific topic. If you don't find what you're looking for, you can always post a question on that site that will tap the brains of nearly 33,000 members — not counting their friends and spouses. The vast majority of our members are tourists who have spent years visiting SXM and who have a wealth of information available.

c) we have a **Files** area in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#) with another enormous reservoir/library of island information. Our files are also searchable directly from our everything SXM Facebook group. They are also frequently updated by our admins and moderators, particularly Contessa Aiello who has written most of them.



Take advantage of these resources — and don't forget to thank those who have made them possible.

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## 36. Flying This Summer? Here's Something Else You Should Know

**If you are traveling anywhere this summer, there is a way you can inject tremendous peace of mind into your travels...**

For the first three months of any new SkyMed annual or multiyear membership, SkyMed excludes coverage of pre-existing conditions; after three months, those conditions are covered in full. **So...to AVOID ANY IMPACT on your travel plans this Summer or Fall, buy your new SkyMed annual or multiyear membership NOW, at least three months ahead of your planned Summer/Fall travel -- then the 90-day exclusion period for preexisting conditions will end before you travel...**

**Why get annual or multiyear memberships?** SHORT-TERM family memberships (for a week or two) are \$15/day, while guaranteed renewable for life, price guaranteed for life annual and multiyear memberships are only about \$1.64/day -- less than a decent cup of coffee. Call me at 508-591-3483 or [jeff.berger@skymed.com](mailto:jeff.berger@skymed.com) for answers to questions or to sign up by phone.

Available exclusively to Americans and Canadians. SkyMed TAKES YOU HOME(R) when you become seriously ill or injured while traveling in the USA, Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, the Bahamas, and all the nations of the Caribbean. Global protection is also available through GETS, Global Emergency Travel Services, part of the SkyMed group.

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## 37. Getting Answers to All Your Questions About SXM

Regardless of what questions you have about SXM, you can find the answers to any questions either in the files area of our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#) (where we post our current Guide to Entry Requirements) that answers many questions) or you can simply post a question on our site.

We have over 32,000 members, more than other active SXM Facebook sites combined. Our site is also a unique news and information portal, not typical social media where people post pictures of smiling cats, monkeys standing on their heads, and other pointless items. Our SXM site is strictly SXM focused with no drivel. Join it today at [www.facebook.com/groups/mySXM](http://www.facebook.com/groups/mySXM).

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## 38. Important Updated Contact Information for Everything SXM / JMB Communications / JMB Website Supporters Membership Services and SkyMed Sales (UPDATED):

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.**
  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.
  3. **Our new email is [jmbcomms@gmail.com](mailto:jmbcomms@gmail.com); use it for JMB Website Supporters membership questions.** Thank you.
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## 39. Who Our Sponsors Are, & Why You Should Patronize Them (Updated 6/13/22)

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)

## **BOUTIQUES**

En Vogue, Billy Folly Road opposite Atrium Resort

## **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

Dollar/Thrifty Car Rental

SixT 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

**COVID TESTING:**

**Medcare** (near Avantika in Puerto del Sol)

**Test-to-Fly** (new 1/22)

**CUBAN CIGARS:**

[Cigar Mack](#)

[SXM Cigars](#)

**DOLLAR STORES**

[All in One Place](#) (Near Carrefour and now in Simpson Bay near Domino's)

**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)

**FISHING CHARTERS**

**Taylor Made fishing charters**, Captain Dougie. Full day or half day Call WhatsApp # 721-524-7510

**Immigration (SXM Residency) / Relocation / Business Formation / "Papers" Consulting Companies**

BrightPath/Caribbean is posting in our [Everything St. Maarten / St. Martin / SXM Facebook Group](#)

**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 Publisher](#)

## PARFUMERIE / PERFUME

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

## PHARMACIES

**Simpson Bay Pharmacy**

**Orange Grove Pharmacy**

**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.**

**BrightFuture Real Estate (new)**

[My Net Immo](#) (French Side, **Muriel Lemoine**)

**40Weeks SXM Vacation rentals**

## RESORTS:

**Baker's Suites**

**Belair Beach Hotel**

**Simpson Bay Resort**

**Azure Hotel & Art Studio**

**Mary's Boon (new 1/22)**

## **RESTAURANTS, BARS, & BEACH BARS**

[IZI](#) (See their new website)

[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)**

**NAVY BEACH**

**BOVIN STEAKHOUSE**

**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)**

**BUCCANEER BEACH BAR**

**NAVY BEACH**

**BAMBOO HOUSE (new 5/16/22)**

## **RESTAURANT ORDERING ONLINE**

Orders.sx

## **SOUVENIRS**

**Flamboyant on The Boardwalk, Philipsburg (new 1/22)**

## **SPAS**

**Sunset Spa**, Simpson Bay Resort (11/21)

## **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>**

**Villa Steel Magnolias (new 1/22)**

**40Weeks SXM Vacation Rentals (new)**

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

**Villa Kimon**

**Daffodil Villa**

## **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 6/13/22

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**40. 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](#).

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

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

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

## 42. 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).

## **[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](#)**

**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 most Mondays

between about 9:45am and 10am island time

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

(Resumes THIS MORNING!)

### 43. 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.](#)

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

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