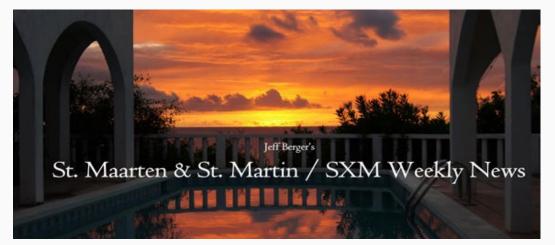
From JMB / SXM Weekly News 8/29/22: Air Caraiibes Suspends Orly Nonstops; Important Weather Update; Shocker Aboard a Cruise Ship; Dollar/Euro Parity; GEBE; Gendarmes Foil Robbers; Gas Prices; Protecting Your Stuff on Beaches; SXM Mystery Tours Coming; <u>Huge SkyMed Bonuses Must End 12/31 - Get SkyMed</u> <u>Medevac Protection Now;</u> Two New SXM Euro-Oval Car Stickers for You [Issue #1362 -- 48 Top SXM News Stories for Tourists]

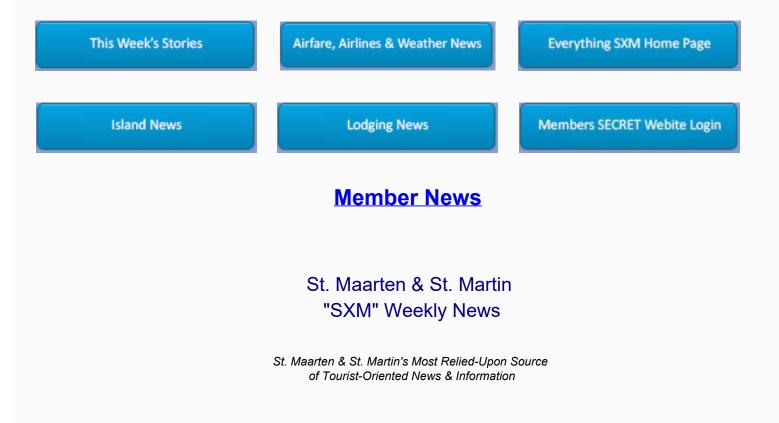
Can't see this newsletter? Go <u>HERE</u> for our SXM Weekly News PDF Archives.



Vol. 4, #1362 ---- Monday, August 29, 2022 News From Sint Maarten / Saint Martin / SXM

*******CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL SIX OF OUR VACATION GIVEAWAY WINNERS******

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From: www.jmbcommunications.com

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

Add jeff1620@jmbcommunications.com to your address book

to be sure you receive this newsletter every week.

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

Important Note:

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

<u>Please do stay with us</u> for all the latest tourist-oriented news from St. Maarten / St. Martin / SXM all year long. Now read by over 374,000 people around the world.

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



twitter

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



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

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

Download PDFs of recent editions here in our **<u>SXM WEEKLY NEWS PDF ARCHIVES</u>**:

http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/free_newsletters/sxmweeklynews.shtml On that page, the link beginning with the highest number is the most recent edition.

Get Your Own Free Weekly Copy of SXM Weekly News:

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

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

TOP STORIES IN THIS ISSUE:

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

Top Stories in Today's SXM Weekly News:

Getting Here; Weather:



- -- Restaurant of the Week: Isola
- -- First Responders Now Get Platinum Benefits
- -- Please Patronize JMB Sponsors

Please see our complete Table of Contents below.

In This Issue: 48 News Stories

Scroll down for our complete Table of Contents

Timeshare Rental and Sale of the Week

Each week JMB randomly picks timeshare condominiums for rent and for sale in SXM from the huge selection at http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/timeshare_rent_sale/index.shtml and features them here.

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

SXM Timeshare Rental of The Week:

RENTAL 12/24/2022 12/31/2022 52 Royal Palm Beach Resort by Diamond Resorts 3 Bedroom/ 3 bath (sleeps 8) second-floor unit with full kitchen. 2 master suites have balconies with views of the beach, bay/ocean, and sunset. Ocean-side resort with pool, gym, and restaurant. Within walking distance of shops and other restaurants. \$4,000 Ray 609-468-0844 pweigle6@gmail.com

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

SXM Timeshare Sale of The Week:

SALE 2/11/2023 2/18/2023 Week #6 The Atrium Resort and Spa Selling ocean-view 6th floor studio unit with kingsize bed. Fixed week, deeded property. Wonderful view of the harbor and Simpson Bay Beach. Fully equipped kitchen with dishes, TV, air conditioning. Resort brings clean towels daily and fully cleans unit mid-week. Private balcony.

Recently remodeled bathroom and new deck furniture. Grocery stores, numerous restaurants, and casino within walking distance. No need for car. Excellent retreat after enjoying the island by day! \$3,000 Gina 612-618-9969 ginaltruitt@gmail.com

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

Villa Rentals Now Offered On Our Site Too:

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

TABLE OF CONTENTS -- This Week's Stories

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

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

Find us on Facebook

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

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

Search the SXM Weekly News Archives:

Current Archives (Since 4/2014) in PDF Format: http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/free_newsletters/sxmweeklynews.shtml

Archives prior to April 12 2014 (old format):

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

Get a growing group of about 300 SXM-focused island discounts and other SXM-related benefits through JMB Website Supporters membership: http://www.everythingsxm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml

Complete Table of Contents

Section One: Getting Here: Flights, Airlines, Airports, Cruises, Going Home, Etc./ Weather --Scroll Down in This Section--

Getting Here:

1. Air Caraiibes Suspends Service Between Orly and SXM; Expect Higher Prices, Passengers Say

2. See "Weather" for an Important Update on Tropical Development

3. Where to Find Our Guide to SXM Entry Requirements / Return to US Requirements (Newly Updated) 4. Medevac Costs Have Soared: Got a Spare \$45,000++? You May Need It, In Cash in Advance, to Get a Medevac Jet Home in a Medical Emergency

5. <u>ABSOLUTELY ENDS 12/31</u>: 22 Additional Weeks FREE From SkyMed with Ultimate Global 5-year Medevac Memberships (Act Quickly If You're Planning a Trip to Europe, Asia, Africa, South America, Australia) 6. What To Do If Your Flight is Canceled Or Delayed...

Etc.; Weather

- 7. Tropical Activity COULD Affect SXM by Next Weekend; How to Stay Informed
- 8. Be Properly Prepared for Hurricane Season
- 9. Where to Find The Latest SXM Weather Information

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

10. Four Seasons Anguilla Getting a New Owner

11. For SXM Condo Buyers, Some Critically Important Advice

- 12. Buying a Condo in SXM: Important Procedural Help (including Residency)
- 13. Realtors to See for SXM Condos & Villas
- 14. SXM Timeshare Condo Rentals Still Available for '22, and Lots for 2023
- 15. Reminder: JMB Members May Now Advertise Both Timeshare Weeks They Own and
- Privately Owned SXM Condominiums for Both 2022 and 2023 On Our Site
- 16. How To Rent Out Or Sell Your Timeshare Units
- 17. SkyMed TRAVEL Guarantees Big-Time Savings on Hotels, Cruises, & Car Rentals

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

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

 UPDATED Reminder: \$100 Jewelry Gift Card Emails Sent to All JMB Website Supporters Members: News About JMB Member Discounts / Benefits Updates (Updated 7/25/22) How To Get Yours
JMB Website Supporters Island Discount Program Major Update Expected to Complete by Late This Fall
Updated Contact Information for JMB Communications, JMB Website Supporters Members

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

21. ABSOLUTELY ENDS 12/31: Get Up to 22 Bonus Weeks When You Buy SkyMed:

THIS WEEK'S TOP ISLAND NEWS:

22. THE FULL SKYMED STORY: What SkyMed Medevac Protection Is, Where & How It Works, and More

23. Answering Your Questions: What Does SkyMed Do for Its Members? -----Important from Jeff Berger

- 24. Here Are the Winners of Our Six-SXM Vacation Giveaway
- 25. Tropical System Could Affect SXM Late This Week
- 26. Dollar, Euro Stay Near Parity
- 27. You Asked: Bringing Adopted Puppies Back to the USA & Canada
- 28. The Hot Mess at GEBE, & Why It Matters to Tourists
- 29. Gendarmes Foil Attempted Mezza Luna Robbery at The Scene
- 30. New Mural Unveiled at Belair Beach Hotel
- 31. Shocker Strikes Home on Cruise Ship Coming to SXM
- 32. How to Protect Valuables When Visiting SXM Beaches
- 33. Gasoline Prices Continue Downward Slide
- 34. "Mystery Tours" Are Coming to SXM
- 35. Why It's So Important to Have a Car Rental When Visiting SXM
- 36. Not Too Early for Thanksgiving Reservations in SXM
- 37. Restaurant of the Week: Isola
- 38. Two New SXM Euro Oval Stickers Now Available; Where to See Them & How to Order
- 39. What Are the Best Sources of Accommodations Rentals?
- 40. Enormous Library of SXM Information is On The Web
- 41. Flying Next Winter? Here's Something You Should Know
- 42. Getting Answers to All Your Questions About SXM
- 43. Important Updated Contact Information for JMB Website Supporters & SkyMed Sales Inquiries
- 44. Who Our Sponsors Are, and Why You Should Patronize Them
- 45. Join Our New Conversational SXM Group on MeWe, the Facebook Alternative
- 46. First Responders / Military / MDs & Nurses Now Get Platinum Benefits
- 47. Want to See Back Issues of SXM Weekly News? Here's How
- 48. SXM Business Owners: How To Increase Foot & Web Traffic

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Not a member yet? See <u>http://everythingsxm.com/sxm/about_sxm/paypal.shtml</u>. Cost: \$59 for one year, or \$99 total for three full years. Other durations available. Join us today...

All JMB Newsletters Read *From JMB*

This newsletter and mail from JMB Website Supporters to members read *From JMB* in the subject area so you won't misinterpret them as spam.

THIS WEEK'S STORIES:

Stories are numbered; scroll down for stories of interest.

SECTION 1: Getting Here: Flights, Airlines, Airports, Cruises, Covid, & Weather; Etc.

GETTING HERE:

1. Air Caraiibes Suspends Service Between Orly and SXM; Expect Higher Prices, Passengers Say

Air Caraiibes, the only airline besides Air France to be flying routinely from Paris to SXM, has announced that it is stopping flying from Orly airport to SXM.

Passengers reacting on social media are all saying that the removal of Air Caraiibes' competition with Air France will lead to higher airfares from Air France.

Here is the full story about the suspension of service by Air Caraiibes.

2. See "Weather" for an Important Update on Tropical Development

Please see the weather section below for an important update on tropical development which may be happening in the central Atlantic now and may affect SXM later this week.

3. 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 <u>through this link</u> (revised) to the files area of our <u>Everything SXM Facebook Group</u>. 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.

4. MEDEVAC COSTS ARE SOARING: 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.

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

For more information, call us today at 508-591-3483 or 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.

SKYMED'S EXTRA-WEEKS BONUSES WITH PURCHASES END 12/31, SO GET SKYMED NOW FOR THEIR BEST OFFERS! SEE NEXT STORY:

5. <u>ABSOLUTELY ENDS 12/31: 22 Additional Weeks FREE From</u> <u>SkyMed with Ultimate Global 5-year Medevac Memberships</u> (Act Quickly If You're Planning a Trip Across the Pond or to Asia, Africa, Australia, or South America)

The 22-week **FREE MEMBERSHIP BONUS** for buying SKYMED's best GLOBAL membership, the SkyMed 5-yr. Ultimate, **ENDS 12/31**. *If you travel beyond the USA, Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, the Bahamas, and all the nations of the Caribbean, this is the BEST and LEAST EXPENSIVE product SkyMed sells on a cost-per-day basis: it will pay you to get these bonus 22 free weeks while they are still offered. Email me at <u>jeff.berger@skymed.com</u> with your phone number and time zone or call us USING WHATSAPP (free) 721-588-4188 or text or phone us at 508-591-3483.*

Available only to Americans, Canadians, or both living as xPats in the countries noted above. DO IT NOW WHILE IT'S FRESH IN YOUR MIND....SKYMED TAKES YOU HOME® when you become seriously ill or injured while traveling for pleasure or on business!

6. 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 article gives you exact answers.

Etc./Weather

7. Tropical Activity Unlikely to Affect SXM by Later This Week

Last week in this space, we said that tropical activity was beginning to percolate in the Atlantic basin and that it required we all keep an eye on it. That looked more true last week -- but now appears much less likely to affect SXM this week.

This is from Dr. Soc / Island 92 radio and features news from our shared Chief Meteorologist Rob Lightbown of Crown weather, the go-to hurricane authority for TV meteorologists across the US:

For the North Atlantic...Caribbean Sea and the Gulf of Mexico: As of 2 pm on August 28, 2022, Area of Investigation 91L is 1,242 miles east and south of St. Maarten.

According to our Chief Meteorologist, Rob Ligthbown, he asked me to share this with our listeners and followers, "The really good news is that this is no Irma. Please let everyone on SXM know this. Better news is that I think that any intensification should hold off until after it gets by the longitude of SXM. And the even better news is that I think it'll pass to the north of SXM putting the island far enough away to not be affected much, if at all."

Recent satellite-derived wind data indicate that a broad area of low pressure located over the central tropical Atlantic Ocean is producing winds to near gale force, but the circulation remains elongated with an ill-defined center. Although environmental conditions ahead of the system do not appear conducive for significant development, a tropical depression, at the very least, is likely to form later this week while moving slowly toward the west and then west-northwest at 5 to 10 mph, toward the waters east and northeast of the Leeward Islands. * Formation chance through 48 hours...medium...40 percent. * Formation chance through 5 days...high...70 percent.

From JMB: We are publishing the latest updates for this system in our weather center at everythingSXM.com. Those updates appear in real time when issued by the National Hurricane Center; our listings can follow up to five different storms simultaneously.

If you are ever in the path of any tropical cyclone, we urge you to check <u>www.crownweather.com</u>, a very comprehensive site under the direction of our chief meteorologist (who is also the chief meteorologist at Island92), Rob Lightbown. Rob is widely regarded by professional TV Meteorologists as the "go-to guy" for the most accurate, complete tropical weather forecasts. For years, he has offered (and we have subscribed to) a low-cost pay service which tells you exactly what is happening not only throughout the Caribbean and along the US Gulf Coast and East Coast, but also when there are any major weather systems affecting any of their subscribers throughout North America.

We will continue to watch developing systems in the tropical Atlantic and we will be reporting on them also in our Everything SXM Facebook Group, but to a greater extent in our weather/hurricane center on our main site, everythingSXM.com.

8. 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 <u>this document</u> and save it after reading -- and feel free to share it with others.

Get your SKYMED MEMBERSHIP *BEFORE* you need it. Air ambulances are now more costly than ever: when you become seriously or critically ill or injured while traveling, SKYMED TAKES YOU HOME® to doctors and hospitals you know & trust. Otherwise you must pay tens of thousands of dollars in cash in advance to get a medevac jet -- if you can even do it (NOT easy or fast if you don't know how). SkyMed annual or multiyear memberships are only about \$1.64/day, and they're guaranteed renewable regardless of age or medical condition at renewal and they are PRICE GUARANTEED FOR LIFE. Why wait? CALL today 508-591-3483 or email us at jeff.berger@skymed.com; include your callback number & time zone please. Protect your family NOW!

9. 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) <u>Crown Weather Services</u> whose very inexpensive subscription service is, we feel, the best in the business. 2) **Our "Weather Center / Hurricane Center"** at <u>www.everythingsxm.com</u> -- 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 <u>www.island92.com</u>. 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.

<u>In addition</u>, when storms form or pass near SXM, we expect to run the latest forecasts, watches, warnings, and observations in our <u>Everything SXM Facebook Group</u>, and we will post all of that material directly in the weather center of our everything SXM website, 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: <u>www.sxmweeklynews.com</u>

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

10. Four Seasons Anguilla Getting a New Owner

When you tour the islands of the Caribbean, you quickly notice that the only similarity between them is weather. Different nationalities reside on different islands. Different nations run different islands (British, French, Dutch, and others). And the types of resorts, the use and usability of beaches, and dining all differ significantly from island to island. That's why we occasionally publish significant news from nearby islands.

The Four Seasons resort in Anguilla is getting a new owner, which we expect will result in future upgrades to the property. Here is that <u>complete story</u>.

11. 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 expertlevel 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 errorfree. 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 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.

12. 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 <u>BrightPath</u> **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*.

13. 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 <u>Island Real Estate Team</u>. Call the number that follows and ask to speak with the agent who handles villa rentals: 1 721 520 7284. Please let the agent know that you're interested in a rental and you were referred by Jeff Berger's *Everything SXM Facebook Group*. Hundreds of villas are now online.

Jennifer's Vacation Villas has also joined us as a villa rental partner. *Jennifer's Vacation Villas* is a licensed management, real estate and villa rental company specializing in the rental of private villas and condos on both French and Dutch St. Maarten. Its proprietor, Jennifer, is a New Yorker who has been residing in St. Maarten for 40 years and whose goal is to provide guests with personal attention and to ensure that their vacations are memorable. Jennifer's Vacation Villas also does Weddings, Private Events, and any additional services including massages, boat trips, and private catering. Their aim is to make your vacation stay as comfortable, accommodating, and easy going as possible. Call 1 (721) 544-3107 | +1 (631) 546-7345. When you contact them, please tell them you were referred by Jeff Berger's *Everything SXM Facebook Group*.

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

GoBeach Vacations

Sunshine Properties

Monte Verde / Belle Vue

Villa Acropole: <u>www.acropole-stmartin.com</u>

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

file:///C/Users/jeff/Documents/JMBSXMWEEKLYNEWS/PDFs/V4_1362Aug292022.html[11/21/2022 7:16:24 AM]

14. SXM Timeshare Condo Rentals Still Available for '22, and Lots for 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. 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.

15. Reminder: JMB Members May Now Advertise Both Timeshare Weeks They Own <u>and Privately Owned SXM Condominiums</u> 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, <u>www.everythingsxm.com</u>. All the details you need are there.

16. How To Rent Out Or Sell Your Timeshare Units

If you own timeshare weeks that you would like to rent out or sell on our main everythingSXM.com website, you can do it once you become a member of our JMB Website Supporters island discount program. For all the details, go to our main site, everythingSXM.com and click on timeshare rentals in the navigation bar. You'll find the details about posting there.

For information about joining JMB Website Supporters, click the page curl on all pages of everythingSXM.com. As a member, you will have access to a growing package of about 300 discounts and other benefits including the ability to post up to 10 ads per year in our rental pages at everythingsxm.com.

The ability to post timeshare rentals on our site is limited to JMB Website Supporters members only, and is not available to any others at any price.

17. SkyMed TRAVEL <u>Guarantees</u> Big-Time Savings on Hotels, Cruises, Car Rentals

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

SkyMed Travel offers exceptional pricing on everything and almost invariably beats everyone else's pricing. We have found their pricing excellent across the board and their 15% low rate guarantee on hotels and car rentals is real news.

Normally, SkyMed Travel charges \$99 to join plus \$99 annual renewals. But for our JMB Website Supporters members and now for Weekly News readers, the cost to join is zero as will be the cost for renewals. Join the Club by going to <u>https://www.skymedtravel.com/register</u>, 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 <u>www.skymed.com/jmb</u>, then call us with questions or to sign up. Call 508-591-3483 (NEW NUMBER) any weekday. Thanks.

SECTION 3: JMB Member Discounts & Benefits

18. \$100 Jewelry Gift Card Emails Coming to All JMB Website Supporters Members: News About JMB Member Discounts / Benefits Updates (Updated 8/15/22) 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 earlier this year by email to all members of our **JMB Website Supporters Island Discount Program**, and **will be sent again this week**. Details on its use accompany the card.

We are now working to dramatically 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 <u>Everything SXM Facebook Group</u>. We expect to finish these updates this Fall.

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.

For more info on what you get with your JMB membership or to sign up, go here.

19. JMB Website Supporters Island Discount Program Major Update Expected to Complete Late This Fall...

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 still be finished by late this Fall. We will keep you aware of program changes and we apologize for the delay.

20. 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. <u>Here's what's best</u>: First, a Suggestion: **Get the free WhatsApp app**. It lets you make free phone calls (including video calls) worldwide and send free texts, all for zero cost. It is very widely used around the world.

- SkyMed Answers to Questions or to Sign Up by Phone: If you're interested in learning more about SkyMed, contact Jeff Berger at jeff.berger@skymed.com. Leave your phone number and time zone and he'll return your call. SkyMed is sold only to Americans, Canadians, and xPats. If you prefer, phone Jeff at 508-591-3483 and leave a message; that is a NEW NUMBER. You may also call our JMB office, 508-747-8281.
- 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; use it for JMB Website Supporters membership questions. Thank you.

SECTION 4: Island News, Info, & Features

21. ENDS 12/31: Get Up to 22 Bonus Weeks FREE When You Buy 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

THE UP TO 22 FREE WEEKS OFFER ENDS 12/31!

MAKE YOUR MOVE TO SKYMED NOW AND GET 22 WEEKS FREE WITH YOUR NEW PURCHASE OF A FIVE-YEAR SKYMED ULTIMATE, OUR LOWEST-COST-PER-DAY, MOST FEATURE-RICH MEMBERSHIP!

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

SkyMed Routinely Never Does Bonuses -- Except Right Now:

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

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). <u>NOTE: My prices for</u> <u>multiyear memberships ARE MUCH LESS THAN YOU</u> <u>WOULD PAY ONLINE</u>.SKYMED's BEST BONUSES EVER MUST END 12/31/22.....

BONUSES 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*

ALL THESE BONUSES GO AWAY 12/31/22!

=== <u>PLUS</u>===

<u>"Thank YOU for Your Service"</u> Bonuses for US & Canadian Military Veterans & FIRST RESPONDERS:

<u>6 FREE months</u> added to all new 5-year ULTIMATES* <u>3 FREE months</u> 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!***

22. SKYMED 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. <u>SkyMed members pay</u> 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 <u>before</u> you need it -- just like fire insurance. You'll find an overview of all SkyMed Services <u>here</u>, and you'll find Frequently Asked Questions <u>here</u>.

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 priceguaranteed 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.

My SkyMed website: <u>http://www.skymed.com/jmb</u>. <u>But please CALL ME DIRECTLY with questions or to</u> sign up - that way I get credit (number above). Or 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 (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 7/25/22

23. <u>Answering Your Questions</u>: What Does SkyMed Do for its Members?

---<u>from Jeff Berger</u>

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. <u>In</u> 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 <u>jeff.berger@skymed.com</u> 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. <u>IMPORTANT: Buy directly through me</u>: 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

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*SXM / St. Maarten / St. Martin Weekly News*
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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 <u>www.skymed.com/jmb</u>. 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.

24. Here Are The Winners of Our Six-Vacation Giveaway

In case you missed this last Monday, here are the names (first name, last initial) and cities of the WINNERS of our six-vacation giveaways, awarded last Monday morning, and where they will be heading:

The vacations will be at:

Villa En Sea high on a hill overlooking beautiful Great Bay and downtown Philipsburg. Won by Scott V., Houston, TX

Colony Manor Golden Daze condo directly on Simpson Bay beach. Won by Phyllis A., Georgetown, MA

Belair Beach Hotel on its own private beach minutes from Philipsburg. Won by Scott S., Deering, NH

Divi Little Bay Beach Resort, on its own private beach with a gorgeous multi-level pool and lots of great restaurants on-site -- and the world-famous GIZMO. **Won by Michael G., Levittown, NY**

Azure Hotel & Art Studio, a small family-owned hotel on the beach and within walking distance of many fine Simpson Bay restaurants. Won by: Ann W., Guelph, Ontario, CANADA

GRAND PRIZES / GRAND PRIZE WINNER:

Simpson Bay Resort, Marina, & Spa in the heart of Simpson Bay, on its own private beach, ocean views, many outstanding restaurants. Won by GRAND PRIZE WINNER Debbie D., Parrish, FL

Additional Prizes for our Grand Prize Winner Debbie D.:

- 1. Car rental from Leisure Car Rental.
- 2. A \$400 women's or men's watch from Caribbean Gems, Philipsburg.

3. A \$100 gift certificate good toward any purchase at ZHAVERI LUXURY, Philipsburg.

4. MANY DINNERS FOR TWO including 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.

5. 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.

CONGRATULATIONS to all winners! NEWS CONCERNING OUR NEXT VACATION GIVEAWAY WILL APPEAR HERE VERY SOON!

25. Tropical System Now Not Likely to Affect SXM Late This Week

As of late Sunday afternoon, see the latest news on the system currently headed NE of the Northeast Caribbean in story #7, the lead article in our Weather section.

26. Dollar, Euro Stay Near Parity

As of Sunday, the US Dollar and the Euro, the currency used on the French side, were at parity, where they've been very recently. That's good for American tourists. In the last few years the Euro has been higher, requiring up to roughly \$1.18 to equal one Euro. A number of years ago, it was much worse -- over \$1.40 was required to get one Euro. Parity makes French side purchases less pricey than before...

27. You Asked: Bringing Adopted Puppies Back to US & Canada

Although promotion of speying and neutering on SXM has been ongoing, nonetheless the supply of puppies available for adoption has stayed too high, and the island needs your help to give these puppies their new forever homes in the US or Canada. Many people have asked what the process is for transporting a puppy to its new owners in the US and Canada.

Here it is:

- * The SXM Paws team will book pups reservation under escorts flight
- * Someone from the Paws team will meet the escorts at the SXM airport to deliver pups and paperwork
- * The Paws team will coordinate with escort to link with adoptive family
- * New family picks up pups directly at the destination airport
- * All pups expenses are paid for by the adoptive family
- * The process is completely handled by SXM Paws, sit back, enjoy your vacation and help a pup get to their forever home

Many thanks in advance!

Anyone who is interested in escorting can contact us on our FB Page or via email sxmpaws@gmail.com. If you are a member of our **Everything SXM Facebook Group**, contact Cyndi Shell there; she can coordinate w/ SXM Paws and get it done for you. If you are interested in adopting a puppy from SXM for yourself, please contact Cyndi Shell through our everything SXM Facebook group; she can help make it happen through SXM Paws, one of SXM's leading animal adoption organizations.

We are also always looking for escorts in many of the Northeast States and Canada; sharing is caring.

28. The Hot Mess at GEBE, & Why It Matters to Tourists

GEBE is the Dutch side's electric and water company. If you hear locals talking about it, chances are the conversation will be derisive, as it has been for as long as most people can remember.

If you are staying in a timeshare resort or hotel, chances are you won't notice anything unusual about power generation in SXM; that's because most resorts have backup power, so when one or more GEBE generators stops working (which happens occasionally) you won't notice it. But if you live on the island, and don't have backup generators, you will absolutely notice it.

In fact, the power generation system on the Dutch side has been compared to that of Zimbabwe in Africa — not exactly a compliment, since those who talk about it say that Zimbabwe's power generation capability is about as undependable as that of GEBE. Sometimes GEBE tells you in advance when power is going to be out in certain areas, saying that "routine maintenance" is involved. If routine maintenance were involved, one wonders why shunts are not also involved — so power stays on during maintenance operations.

As if this weren't enough to worry about, several months ago the GEBE billing database apparently was hacked, turning the GEBE database of customers and their usage of electricity into an even hotter mess than usual. GEBE hasn't billed anyone in several months, we hear, and it appears to be asking customers now to pay bills they haven't received.

Some people are also promoting the idea that people should pay money to GEBE in advance, an idea that seems to generate spontaneous mass recoil among GEBE's thousands of customers. GEBE is owned by the government of St. Maarten which bears ultimate responsibility for fixing this situation. We don't see any danger whatsoever of GEBE being allowed to disintegrate publicly, though its current financial shape appears to be a significant distance from peachy. We did think it is appropriate for tourists to know about its situation in case you decide to stay at some point in a villa or an older condo in a building that doesn't have backup generators.

Here's more on this.

Except in the wake of hurricanes, power outages generally don't last more than a few, if that — though their duration can be longer depending on circumstances.

If you are planning to buy a condo or a villa on SXM, definitely make sure it has working backup generators installed. You should also make sure that important electronics are protected from power surges by uninterruptible power supplies/surge protectors. When GEBE turns the power back on after an outage, power surges are likely and they can kill unprotected appliances and electronics.

29. Gendarmes Foil Attempted Mezza Luna Robbery at The Scene

SXM is paradise, not utopia – and quite infrequently, a few vulnerable small businesses have become targets of hoodlums who have decided that they should try making a living through holdups at businesses. **But wait a minute, guys**: the gendarmerie on the French side is taking some very smart steps to encourage such would be robbers to consider another line of work.

Robbers recently attempted to cash in on the success of the Mezza Luna restaurant in Nettle Bay. What they didn't know is that the gendarmerie had placed gendarmes in plainclothes in the restaurant since they, too, thought it might be a particularly attractive target for the robbers.

As anticipated by the Gendarmerie, some folks came into the restaurant recently with no intention of eating there, instead seeking funds which didn't belong to them. Seeing this, the plainclothes gendarmes quickly took over as you'll see in the story below. Gendarmes are also in place at other potential targets — so robbing businesses is not such a neat idea for earning a living on SXM. The gendarmerie knows what it is doing.

Here is more on the event at Mezza Luna.

30. New Mural Unveiled at Belair Beach Hotel

A local artist and several helpers have now created a new mural at Belair Beach Hotel. You will see it as you pull into the parking lot.

Entering the parking lot, of course, is also a good idea, since you might want to look at timeshare units available for sale at the resort. You might also want to visit the Gingerbread Café, located in the resort on the beach. It sells French toast which has the reputation of being the best on the island — and you may also find great meals at lunch and dinner here. Gingerbread also has some of the best BBQ on the island every Monday night from 7pm until 9pm.

Tell them you were sent by SXM Weekly News.

Here are more details about the mural.

31. Shocker Strikes Home on Cruise Ship Coming to SXM

He was looking forward to a Covid-delayed honeymoon after having suffered through the death of his son, a police officer in Brentwood Tennessee who was killed by a drunk driver during the pandemic.

But while on a Caribbean cruise at long last celebrating his honeymoon, the father of the fallen police officer suffered a heart attack at sea. When his ship docked in SXM, he was quickly rushed to the Dutch side St. Maarten Medical Center.

He needed to be moved from the island so he could get top-notch critical cardiac care but the family didn't have the means to do that, so they quickly set up a GoFundMe fundraising campaign and got coverage of their predicament on a local TV station. GoFundMe is a business, not a charity, and it took a chunk of the donated money as it always does.

Late last week, the dad was rushed in an air ambulance to Florida for emergency care. He will still need to be transported from Florida back home to Tennessee once he has recovered sufficiently. <u>Here is more on this story</u>.

The cost of an average medical evacuation back to the eastern United States now is in the \$45,000 range. Prices have been surging because of the high cost of jet fuel and other continually increasing costs. The cost of an emergency medical evacuation air ambulance must be paid for in advance in cash, often wrecking the savings of any family required to pay it. The good news is that in this case, late last week the stricken dad was transported from the St. Maarten Medical Center back to Florida, as we've noted. But this is a stunning example of why a group of enlightened Canadians visiting Scottsdale Arizona more than 30 years ago founded SkyMed **to confront a situation they encountered when a friend from Canada became critically ill there;** SkyMed has since become America's foremost medical evacuation membership company. It takes its members home when they become seriously or critically ill anywhere in the USA, Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, the Bahamas, or the Caribbean. It also has a substantial spectrum of services it delivers to members who are traveling throughout most of the rest of the world. It serves Americans, Canadians, and ex-pats of both countries living anywhere in the countries we listed two sentences ago. *One thing it does expertly is help its hundreds of thousands of members prevent financial calamity during medical emergencies*. It always delivers enormous peace-of-mind.

SkyMed has saved millions of dollars for thousands of members over the years. It exists to deliver peace of mind when its members travel. The cost of membership is only about \$1.64/day for guaranteed renewable, price guaranteed forever annual and multiyear plans — a tiny fraction of what you'd have to pay in cash in advance should you be faced with the need for an emergency medical evacuation in the years ahead. To learn more about SkyMed, please contact us at jeff.BERGER@skymed.com or call us at 508-591-3483, to which you can also send texts. If you email us, please let us know your return telephone number and your time zone — we'll be happy to answer all your questions and take your application by phone to get your protection started quickly. (We've been working with SkyMed for over 20 years.)

32. How to Protect Valuables When Visiting SXM Beaches

As we've often mentioned, SXM is paradise, not utopia. That's why we always recommend that people not leave valuables in your car or anywhere else where unscrupulous individuals may be able to make off with them.

What about protecting things you have to take with you to a beach — such as money and car keys? You can't just hide these things — unscrupulous people know where to look. <u>This better idea</u> was suggested recently in our <u>Everything</u> <u>SXM Facebook Group</u> by several people who have already taken advantage of it. Check it out.

33. Gasoline Prices Continue Downward Slide

Gasoline prices in SXM will never be as low as they are historically in the United States. They have always been significantly higher and are charged on a per liter basis.

It has always been cheaper to buy gas on the French side, since regardless of the value of the dollar, you could long use dollars at par with euros when paying for gas there at certain Cadisco gas stations. That's less of a bargain now than it has been, because of the dollar and euro being at parity — but the price of gas is usually less on the French side than on the Dutch.

The government of the Dutch side controls the price of gas there, and it recently reduced the maximum price; here are <u>details</u>. If you want to see where people are currently buying gas on the island and what they're being charged in dollars or euros per liter, please ask that specific question in our <u>Everything SXM Facebook Group</u>.

<u>Get your SKYMED MEMBERSHIP *BEFORE* you need it. Air ambulances are now more</u> <u>costly than ever</u>: when you become seriously or critically ill or injured while traveling, SKYMED TAKES YOU HOME® to doctors and hospitals you know & trust. Otherwise you must pay tens of thousands of dollars in cash in advance to get a medevac jet -- if you can even do it (NOT easy or fast if you don't know how). SkyMed annual or multiyear memberships are only about \$1.64/day, and they're guaranteed renewable regardless of age or medical condition at renewal and they are PRICE GUARANTEED FOR LIFE. Why wait? CALL today 508-591-3483 or email us at jeff.berger@skymed.com; include your

callback number & time zone please. Protect your family TODAY!

34. "Mystery Tours" Are Coming to SXM

Although the Beatles released their much vaunted magical mystery tour record in November of 1967, mystery tours had been around for some time before that.

In fact, my boss at AAA New England in the late winter of 1966 introduced mystery tours to AAA members at that time. His name was Rob Newton — himself descended from the UK. And it was I, a PR assistant at AAA at that time, who wrote directions for AAA members taking the mystery tour and made a number of suggestions along the way for places where they can stop, take pictures, buy souvenirs, and get refreshments.

Upon hearing "Magical Mystery Tour" on the Beatles channel on Sirius XM one day last week, I decided this winter will be a perfect time to create and publish new **SXM mystery tours**. We plan to write them for our **JMB Website Supporters Island Discount Program** members whose memberships enable us to pay the costs of researching, writing, and distributing every issue of *SXM Weekly News* and do many other things like throw parties for our JMB members which, we are happy to say, should be resuming late this year or early next.

If you are not yet a JMB website supporters member, please click the page curl on our main site, www.everythingSXM.com and help us ensure the continued publication of *SXM Weekly News*, all of the work we put into our weather/hurricane center on our website, and we'll be sure to get you an invitation to join our parties at various restaurants, distilleries, jewelers, and more — and you will also be able to get all the details on our Mystery Tours, which you will be able to take at your leisure when you next visit SXM.

35. Why It's So Important to Have a Car Rental When Visiting SXM

When first visiting SXM, many tourists elect not to rent a car, thinking that their lack of familiarity with the island could be problematic. The fact of the matter is that not having a car deprives you of the fun of discovery as you travel around the island. While it's true that the island has many very good taxi drivers, hiring them to haul you around for a few days can be very pricey and also very limiting. SXM has many drop-dead gorgeous beaches, superb shopping, outstanding restaurants of a spectrum of types, and scenery that is largely unmatched anywhere in the Caribbean.

For example, you could spend an entire day simply exploring the Great Bay beach promenade (the boardwalk) and Front Street, Philipsburg, though you would probably need a new suitcase (easily bought on Back Street) to haul all the stuff you would decide to buy. There also great prices for cameras (with US Warranties) on Front Street at Klass Electronics, and places for an array of souvenirs that is beyond your imagination.

You will find the names of several outstanding car rental companies in the Sponsors listings in the Files area of our **Everything SXM Facebook Group**, and also in the Sponsors listing in this edition of *SXM Weekly News*.

36. Not Too Early for Thanksgiving Reservations in SXM

Thanksgiving is only three months away, and those three months are going to pass more quickly than you can imagine. In fact, Thanksgiving cards are already available for sale in many places across the country — and Christmas gifts are already being promoted.

If you're lucky enough to be in SXM during Thanksgiving, you will enjoy one of the busiest weeks of the year without missing out on fabulous Thanksgiving dinners. Although when you get here you will see advertising for a number of places for Thanksgiving, for years the busiest place that we know of on Thanksgiving day is Toppers Restaurant at the site of the former carousel in Simpson Bay next to the Fedex building.

If you're one of the few people who hates turkey, that's no problem at Toppers; they serve their regular menu all day in addition to their special Thanksgiving dinner which of course includes turkey, delicious stuffing, squash, and all the fixings (yes, including delicious cranberry sauce most likely grown close to our headquarters in Plymouth, Massachusetts). They also have an assortment of pies that is dazzlingly delicious.

37. Restaurant of the Week: Isola Ristorante Italiano - NOT Doing An Annual Closure

file:///C/Users/jeff/Documents/JMBSXMWEEKLYNEWS/PDFs/V4_1362Aug292022.html[11/21/2022 7:16:24 AM]

What: Fine dining Italian Restaurant that also creates SXM's most popular authentic pizza, dine-in or take-out.

Where: Entrance is next door to Hollywood Casino in the middle of Simpson Bay Resort. Free valet parking in front of the Casino.

Particulars: Top guy Marco Ferrante has been serving discriminating people who appreciate Italian fine dining for about 25 years on SXM. A native Italian, he knows his stuff, and offers a huge menu of delicious choices -- meat, fish, poultry -- chances are high that your favorite Italian dishes are here; lots of creative dining. Dine inside in air-conditioned comfort or on the veranda where pleasant tradewinds caress you. Excellent service from an experienced staff. And -- this is one restaurant that <u>WILL NOT DO A SEASONAL CLOSING</u> and is open for dinner seven nights a week. They also now have **GLUTEN FREE PIZZA**. Highly recommended.

Here are recently featured SXM restaurants:

Isola next to Hollywood Casino at Simpson Bay Resort, (**featured 8/29/22**). 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. Outstanding restaurant. <u>www.isolaristorante.com</u>

Astra Steak & Seafood (featured 7/25/22) is the newest creation of the organization that also operates Avantika and Movida in the same area of Simpson Bay. It's new, gorgeous, constantly evolving, and has highest-quality written all over it. We go often and love it. See <u>https://www.astrasxm.com/</u>

IZI Ristorante Italiano, <u>www.izisxm.com</u> (**featured 7/11/22**). 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.

Bold Buddha Bar/Restaurant, 49 Front Street at Horizon View Hotel, Philipsburg (featured 7/5/22) Cool new place with seasoned service, very good tapas / Caribbean / Asian and other food, a superb location, and a perfect concept. Highly recommended; something new and different. Ideal place to cool off with a delicious drink and make your taste buds happy.

Vesna Taverna, <u>www.vesnasxm.com</u> (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. <u>www.larosarestaurant.com/index.html</u>

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/iaissxmresto

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. <u>https://www.facebook.com/Mamapizzaisthebest</u>

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.

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 <u>www.avantikasxm.com</u> (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, <u>www.spiga-sxm.com</u> (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, <u>https://emilios-sxm.com/</u>. [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.

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

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

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

Freedom Fighters ITAL SHACK Rasta Restaurant, <u>www.sxmfreedomfighters.com/restaurant</u> 4/15/19. Just go.... **Dany's Smooth Cupecoy Beach Bar** (on Cupecoy beach); follow the road toward Shore Pointe and turn near Shore Pointe to get there. (Featured 1/20/2019) Parking, drinks, chairs and umbrellas, lolo-type food, and an all-over tan. What could possibly be better?

Enigma C3 luxury Catamaran, <u>www.sailstmaarten.com</u> (featured 8/7/17). Neil's new boat is as big as Celine Too was and it has now entered service. Neil is known for amazing cooking on board his boats.

You will find hundreds more restaurants from both the Dutch Side and French Side listed in the Files area of our <u>Everything St. Maarten / St. Martin / SXM Facebook Group</u>. Our thanks to our Admin there, Contessa Aiello, who edited the restaurant entries on that site.

38. 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, <u>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.</u>

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. 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 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.

39. 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. 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.

40. 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 its 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 well over 33,000 members, not counting their friends and spouses. The vast majority of our members are tourists who have spent years visiting SXM and 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.

41. Flying Next Winter? Here's Something Else You Should Know

If you are traveling anywhere this winter, 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 preexisting conditions; after three months, those conditions are covered in full. <u>So...to AVOID ANY IMPACT on your</u> <u>travel plans this Summer or Fall, buy your new SkyMed annual or multiyear membership NOW</u>, at least three months ahead of your planned 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 cup of coffee. Call me at 508-591-3483 or <u>jeff.berger@skymed.com</u> 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.

42. 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 33,000 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.

43. 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. <u>Here's what's best</u>: First, a Suggestion: **Get the free WhatsApp app**. It lets you make free phone calls (including video calls) worldwide and send free texts, all for zero cost. It is very widely used around the world.

- SkyMed Answers to Questions or to Sign Up by Phone: If you're interested in learning more about SkyMed, contact Jeff Berger at jeff.berger@skymed.com. Leave your phone number and time zone and he'll return your call. SkyMed is sold only to Americans, Canadians, and xPats. If you prefer, phone Jeff at 508-591-3483 and leave a message; that is a NEW NUMBER.
- 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; use it for JMB Website Supporters membership questions. Thank you.

44. Who Our Sponsors Are, & Why You Should Patronize Them (Updated 8/8/22)

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 <u>Everything SXM Facebook</u> <u>Group</u> fulfills its mission to be SXM's only authentically managed [by a seasoned journalist] interactive conversational SXM news and information portal on Facebook. And their help makes our JMB Website Supporters members-only Island Parties possible (resuming next year) as well as all the working going into enhancing our Island Discount Program now for its thousands of loyal members. Thank You for patronizing our Sponsors! (JMB Communications is based in Massachusetts, USA).

AMUSEMENTS

Island Pedals Beer Cycle (Philipsburg)

<u>ARTISTS</u>

Roland Richardson Patty Meotti Laura Fisher Saxon

AUTHORS/NOVELISTS

Russell Clark

Jacky Rom

BARS

Juggie's "The Smallest Bar In The World," Philipsburg

BOAT TOURS / BOAT CHARTERS

Celine Charters (Enigma)

Luxury Private Catamaran Charters: www.sxmstmartincatamarancharters.net

Rumbelly Boat Charters Pleasure boats, motorized and catamaran

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

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

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

EMERGENCY MEDICAL EVACUATION MEMBERSHIP PROGRAMS:

<u>SkyMed International</u> (Covers the entire USA, Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, the Bahamas, and all the nations of the Caribbean; Global protection available. Sold only to Americans, Canadians, and X-Pats living in these countries.)

FASHIONS FOR WOMEN

En Vogue, Billy Folly Road, Simpson Bay, opposite Atrium Hotel.

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)

Jewels & Beyond (Maho)

Shoppers Haven

Royal Jewelers

Kay's Fine Jewelry

Joe's Jewelry International

Ballerina Jewelers

LIVE MUSIC

Hole in the Wall, Maho Plaza, Dutch side

MAPS (SXM MAPS and others in the Caribbean)

Kasprowski Publisher

MASSAGE see Spas

PARFUMERIE / PERFUME

Tijon Parfumerie, Grand Case, 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 Realty

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 Beach Hotel

RESTAURANTS, BARS, & BEACH BARS

[Z] (See their new website)

<u>SPIGA</u>

VESNA TAVERNA

ISOLA

Mandarin Asian Bistro (Port de Plaisance)

Melange (Port de Plaisance)

Pelican Bistro

Soggy Dollar Bar

Topper's Restaurant, Gelateria, & Rhum Distillery

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 del SOL

SUNSET CAFE (Grand Case)

AVANTIKA

MOVIDA

ASTRA

JAI'S CONTEMPORARY FUSION CUISINE

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)

BOLD BUDDHA BAR / RESTAURANT on the Boardwalk at Horizon View Hotel, Philipsburg (6/27/22)

RESTAURANT ORDERING ONLINE

Orders.sx

SOUVENIRS

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

<u>SPAS</u>

Sunset Spa, Simpson Bay Resort (11/21)

Patty's Healing Hands Massage (7/22)

STAR WARS / YODA GUY MUSEUM

Nick Malley, Front Street

VILLA RENTALS / RENTAL COMPANIES:

If you're interested in making a villa reservation (doing it with close friends can be fun and more economical than you'd imagine), contact our top recommended Villa rental/sale partners at <u>Island Real Estate Team</u>. Call the number that follows and ask to speak with the agent who handles villa rentals: 1 721 520 7284. Please let the agent know that you're interested in a rental and you were referred by Jeff Berger's *Everything SXM Facebook Group*. Hundreds of villas are now online.

Jennifer's Vacation Villas has also joined us as a villa rental partner. Jennifer's Vacation Villas is a licensed management, real estate and villa rental company specializing in the rental of private villas and condos on both French and Dutch St. Maarten. Its proprietor, Jennifer, is a New Yorker who has been residing in St. Maarten for 40 years and whose goal is to provide guests with personal attention and to ensure that their vacations are memorable. Jennifer's Vacation Villas also does Weddings, Private Events, and any additional services including massages, boat trips, and

private catering. Their aim is to make your vacation stay as comfortable, accommodating, and easy going as possible. Call 1 (721) 544-3107 | +1 (631) 546-7345. When you contact them, please tell them you were referred by Jeff Berger's *Everything SXM Facebook Group*.

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

GoBeach Vacations

Sunshine Properties

Monte Verde / Belle Vue

Villa Acropole: <u>www.acropole-stmartin.com</u>

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 8/8/22

45. 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 <u>Everything SXM</u> <u>Facebook Group</u>. 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 $\Delta \Delta \phi$ 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.

46. First Responders Now Get Platinum-Status JMB Discounts

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

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

47. Want to See Back Issues of SXM Weekly News? Here's How

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

Check it out <u>here</u>. It has just been thoroughly updated. Each week's newsletter is usually added within a few days after mailing of that issue to its subscribers completes (Monday).

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

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

See the rundown of all SkyMed Features & Benefits

Got a Radio While You're in SXM?

Want to Listen to SXM While You're Home?

Tune In Island92 at 91.9 FM

or On Your Internet-Connected Device

at island92.com ...

and hear Jeff Berger LIVE on the air most Mondays

between about 9:45am and 10am island time

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

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

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

Our **JMB SXM Web Media Sponsorships** enable SXM businesses to present their products or services to a huge, responsive audience of tourists from around the world, but primarily the USA and Canada. (Our site is based in the U. S. and is focused on the needs of tourists traveling to SXM.) If you own an SXM business and want to look into and take advantage of this unique marketing opportunity, please email <u>susank@jmbcommunications.com</u> with the subject "JMB

Sponsorships". 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.

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

Click to access our recommended real estate agent, Arun Jagtiani, featured on HGTV.

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

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

Want to rent or buy a week?

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

SECTION 5: For Members Only

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

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

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

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

See www.everythingsxm.com.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Contact Us (Revised 11/22/21)

- SkyMed Answers to Questions or to Sign Up by Phone: If you're interested in learning more about SkyMed, contact Jeff Berger at jeff.berger@skymed.com. Leave your phone number and time zone and he'll return your call. SkyMed is sold only to Americans, Canadians, and xPats. If you prefer, phone Jeff at 508-591-3483 and leave a message; that is a NEW NUMBER.
- JMB Membership Questions/Issues -- JMB Website Supporters: Use WhatsApp to send questions to Membership Services; use Jeff Berger's WhatsApp phone number, 721-588-4188, but call or TEXT (texting is preferred) from within the WhatsApp application only. Membership Services at our headquarters in Massachusetts handles all these calls. INCLUDE YOUR EMAIL, since all responses are made by email.

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

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

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