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**From JMB / SXM Weekly News 12/19/22: Airport Reconstruction - Why It's Taking So Long & When It Will Start to Reopen; Preclearance; US Storms Expected to Play Havoc with Travel This Week; Tourist Breaks Leg While Watching Waves at Maho Beach; Jeff Interviews JIMBO About Jimbo's New Restaurant, NOLA; New Restaurants About to Open on Cheri's Site; How to Get Great Last-Minute Gifts Overnight from SXM; About The Looming Fate of SXM's Vervet Monkeys [Issue #1376 - 49 Top SXM News Stories for Tourists]**

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Vol. 4, #1376 ---- Monday, December 19, 2022  
News From Sint Maarten / Saint Martin / SXM

MERRY CHRISTMAS / HAPPY CHANUKAH!

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

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

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From: [www.jmbcommunications.com](http://www.jmbcommunications.com)

Weekly News is part of JMB's St. Maarten / St. Martin website: [www.everythingsxm.com](http://www.everythingsxm.com)

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

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

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

### ***SXM Timeshare (or Condo) Rental of The Week:***

**RENTAL 1/14/2023 1/21/2023 2 Royal Islander Club La Plage Magnificent complex featuring open air lobby, marble floors and lush tropical landscaping. Beautiful, unobstructed sea and pool views from the fifth floor on Maho side (quiet side). One bedroom/king size plus sleeper sofa in living room. Unit sleeps 4. Fully equipped kitchen. Convenient to everything, restaurants, shopping, casino, Sunset bar, airport and more. Timeshare tax of approx. \$50 per week is renters responsibility. Same unit is also available for week 1. \$1400 per week Vi 631-523-8600 [vi06@optonline.net](mailto:vi06@optonline.net)**

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

### ***SXM Timeshare (or Condo) Sale of The Week:***

**SALE 2/4/2023 2/11/2023 Week 5 The Atrium Resort and Spa Selling ocean-front 4th floor, 2 bedroom/2 bathroom suite (king-size beds). Fixed week, deeded property. Stunning 220 degree view of entire Simpson Bay Beach, Atrium pool area and harbor. Fully equipped kitchen with dishes, 3 TVs, air conditioning. Resort brings clean towels daily and fully cleans unit mid-week. Full wrap-around deck off living area with second deck off the bedroom. Recently remodeled bathrooms and new deck furniture. Pullout sofa in living area accommodates additional guests. Grocery stores, numerous restaurants, and casino within walking distance. No need for car. We've cherished it for 11 years and loved every minute -- aging makes travel difficult, so we are selling. Start your memories today. \$7,500 Gina 612-618-9969 [ginaltrutt@gmail.com](mailto:ginaltrutt@gmail.com)**

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

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

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

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

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

### **Search the SXM Weekly News Archives:**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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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. Airport Reconstruction: Why It's Taking So Long**

It has been five years and almost 4 months since SXM Airport (Princess Juliana, PJIA) was practically obliterated by hurricanes Irma and Maria. Though many people, particularly tourists, may have assumed that demolition of damaged areas and reconstruction started shortly after the hurricanes, that wasn't the case.

Nagico, a major SXM insurance company that carried the bulk of the insurance on the terminal building, offered the airport a settlement that amounted to pennies on the dollar, one airport official told us at the time, instead of the amount at the airport said it required to do the reconstruction and for which the airport said it had bought insurance. Nagico had to be taken to court by the airport before any money was released. The Airport also needed operating funds from the Dutch government via the World Bank and that was slowed when the Dutch side government fell early in the process.

The roof of the terminal building was essentially destroyed by the hurricanes and it had to be entirely replaced before anything could be done on the floors under it. After millions of dollars was spent for a new roof, mold remediation was required throughout the building because the building was filled with moldy debris thanks to all the rain that came in through the destroyed roof when Maria struck SXM — yet another expensive, time-consuming process. Much of the interior of the building had to be completely gutted, mold remediated, and cleaned out because of mold and water damage.

All of this activity consumed many months of time and millions of dollars — but it was all 100% necessary. Despite widespread criticism of how long the building restoration was taking, all the airport could do was proceed meticulously through the processes to make sure that things were not only being done right, but that the process was centered around **building back better**, so the "new" airport terminal building would be capable of withstanding a future battering of the same degree unleashed by record-shattering hurricane Irma and its buddy that followed, Maria.

*SXM Weekly News* Publisher Jeff Berger was invited on a press tour of the reconstruction area last week, where he shot dozens of construction photos which are about to be published in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#). *The opportunity to rebuild the terminal has enabled architects to employ many improvements envisioned after the building had been in use for close to 15 years. The new building will not only be stronger and more resistant to damage from tropical cyclones, it will also be more capable of handling significantly increased traffic that is already arriving in SXM and that is expected to accelerate in the years ahead.*

Thanks to technology improvements in the years since the former building had been designed, passengers should be happy to learn that in the new terminal, they can leave their belts on when going through security and they can also leave their laptops in their cases, since technology will be able to thoroughly examine passengers passing through security to a degree that will prove much faster for both arriving and departing passengers. In addition, showers will be provided so passengers arriving directly from the beach will be able to clean up before boarding their aircraft. There will also be many new shops enabling departing passengers to pick up souvenirs they may not have had time to get earlier — and there will be more places to grab food or drink or simply relax before boarding flights. (This past week, TV coverage of FIFA World Cup games was broadcast in the current airport departure area.)

Jeff photographed the contents of a presentation before the tour which laid out the timeline the airport has followed thus far and through the remainder of the process, including the next couple of years during which this process will be completed. Those images will be posted in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#) as will be photographs of the under-construction arrival and departure areas.

The departure portion of the airport will be opened as soon as it's ready — which according to airport CEO Brian Mingo, who spoke to us, will be before high season begins next year (next fall, 2023). The airport is expected to be open completely by April 2024.

As always, *SXM Weekly News* will continue to keep readers aware of the progress of the reconstruction: the actual rebuilding didn't start until October 2021 and the interior of the airport is an absolute beehive of activity. You will see many pictures of each section of the airport shortly in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#); we don't publish pictures here in *SXM Weekly News*. If you have friends with whom you would like to share this update, please note that it will also be shared in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#) along with many of our own photographs, so please invite them to join that group.

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## 2. "Preclearance" is Currently Back of Mind - But Essential to SXM's Competitiveness

As the previous article clearly noted, rebuilding a hurricane-ravaged airport is a painstakingly slow, agonizing, meticulous process. In the case of SXM, it was aggravated by a number of factors including some not mentioned in the previous article — the Covid pandemic and the supply chain disruptions it caused also have impacted airport reconstruction.

As always, the airport has to take one step at a time. The airport has stated in the past that preclearance is a matter of when, not if — and preclearance is a \$60 million expense. US personnel would need to be relocated to SXM to man the preclearance operation and they would have to be housed and paid. How is that funded? SXM fares are already among the most expensive in the Caribbean so adding to airport fees would be a remarkably counterproductive choice. Nonetheless, it has become quite clear to government officials and certainly the airport people that preclearance is essential to SXM's competitiveness in the highly competitive Caribbean marketplace. If SXM is to continue to take a substantial share of tourism dollars destined for warm-weather vacationing, it'll have to figure out some way to make it happen. It will require new construction including new gates at the far Eastern end of the current airport terminal (a terminal extension). But before any of that can happen or be realistically planned, the reconstructed Princess Juliana SXM Airport must be back in full operation generating revenues that can help support the major cost of preclearance,

SXM Airport CEO Brian Mingo has told us.

As we've said here before, preclearance is also a big deal from an air traffic perspective since it means that flights will be able to come to and from SXM from a number of smaller airports in the US that don't usually handle international traffic; the reason is simply that preclearance will mean that customs and immigration in those airports will not be necessary because those functions will have been handled by the preclearance function for US-bound passengers departing SXM, which is a heavy majority of all SXM airport passengers.

That brings up the eventual need for a parallel taxiway that keeps arriving or departing aircraft off the runway except when they must be on it (to arrive or depart). That is also on the airport's development radar but is at this point years away.. it, too, depends on revenues -- and would need to coincide with the arrival of preclearance.

We will continue to keep you aware of further developments on preclearance as they become more clear.

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### 3. Entire "Face" of SXM Airport Being Replaced; New Windows Withstand Cat. 5 Winds

In the weeks before the reconstruction of SXM Airport got going full tilt in October 2021, visitors passing by the airport noticed a number of cracked windows and even boarded up windows in the terminal façade. In recent weeks, most of those windows have been replaced with new ones capable of withstanding hurricane category 5 winds. The structural steel underlying the facade of the terminal is having all rust removed and being treated for fire suppression with special paints.

It's reassuring to see large numbers of workers making substantial progress on the terminal job site every day.

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### 4. About 7,000 Airline Passengers Processed Saturday

In one of the busiest Saturdays in years in terms of numbers of arriving passengers at SXM Airport, this past Saturday was up there with close to 7000 arriving passengers, most of them originating in the US.

Although those numbers are high, processing incoming passengers has become accelerated because the island no longer has any Covid entry requirements: officials are looking at passports, checking passport expiration dates, comparing the face on the passport with that of the arriving passengers, stamping the passports and letting the people go through. Airport personnel are getting accustomed to making things happen significantly faster than they were during the Covid pandemic. All hands are on deck serving passengers including the Airport's administrative staff. During Saturday, American Airlines alone had seven flights arriving in SXM and seven departures — a significant vote of confidence in the destination.

Airfares are now starting to moderate, too; see that story below.

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### 5. Italian-Style Carnival "Venezia" to Debut this Spring; Coming to SXM in '24

The new Italian style Carnival Venezia cruise ship debuts this spring — here is [complete information](#) on this unusual and very attractive new cruise ship, which debuts in sailings to SXM starting in 2024.

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## 6. Airlines Showing Great Confidence in Aviation's Future; Huge Jet Orders Placed

United Airlines recently placed [an enormous order](#) for new aircraft, underscoring their confidence in the future of the aviation market; United serves SXM from multiple US markets.

Both [Delta airlines](#) and [JetBlue](#) have also placed significant orders in recent months, including JetBlue's big order for A220 aircraft which carry almost as many passengers as its A320 did originally (150) but with far greater fuel efficiency. These articles contain more info United Airlines order and on Delta's future [outlook](#).

## 7. US Storms Start Playing Havoc With Airline Scheduling

The major US storm expected to impact many airports from Chicago eastward starting midweek is expected to play havoc with airline scheduling. If you're planning to fly this week, watch local forecasts closely since your flights may be impacted and you may want to leave home early....

## 8. Airfare Prices Finally Start to Soften

At long last, airfare prices are starting to soften. Prices for flights this summer and beyond have suddenly dropped for a number of dates on multiple carriers serving SXM from the US. [Even some round-trip tickets for this winter are affected, with some prices dropping to half what they had been earlier in the season](#). Earlier, it had been expected that price moderation would not start to be announced until late spring — but this is sooner than expected as oil prices have moderated back to 2019 levels. Air travel demand is still heavy and more pilots are entering the workforce, moderating the severe pilot shortage that had impacted pricing in the industry earlier.

If you already have fares at high levels and discover new fares that are cheaper, call your airline directly (always the best place to get fares -- gives you many more options than buying fares through third parties). Given seat availability, you should be able to cancel existing reservations, get a credit on your account that should be immediate, and book the new lower fare.

## 9. Repeating: SXM Has No Entry Requirements Re: Covid

SXM's Entry Requirements related to Covid went away on November 1, which means that passengers entering SXM need only have their passports and their return tickets. There are no Covid testing or vaccine requirements, though we suggest it would be wise for people who are fully vaccinated to bring proof of vaccination anyway in case the requirements change at some point, for any reason, though that's not likely.

## 10. MEDICAL EVACUATION COSTS SOAR; Got \$45,000++? You May Need It, In Cash in Advance, to Get a Medevac Jet Home in a Medical Emergency

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

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

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

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

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### **11. LESS THAN TWO WEEKS LEFT== ABSOLUTELY ENDS 12/31: 22 Additional Weeks FREE From SkyMed with Ultimate Global 5-year Medevac Memberships\*\*\* (Act Quickly If You're Planning a Trip Next Year 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 [jeff.berger@skymed.com](mailto:jeff.berger@skymed.com) 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!

### **12. 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 answers.

#### ***Etc./Weather***

### **13. December Winds Still Abound, As Do Rough Seas**

Unseasonably rough seas much of the time for the last few weeks marked December weather, which is usually a time of so-called December winds with the frequency of showers slowly declining until January, during which normal winter weather -- sunny and drier -- takes over. Please see the related story in our main news section concerning what happened to a tourist this past week at Maho beach.

### **14. Sand Coming & Going**

Rough seas over the last few weeks have at times removed sand from some beaches and deposited it at other beaches. For example, at world-famous Maho beach, where sand had been completely washed away roughly a week ago, sand became plentiful on the beach last week and rough surf washed it into Beacon Hill Rd., to which a plow was dispatched on more than one occasion to remove it.

**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](mailto:jeff.berger@skymed.com); include your callback number & time zone please. Protect your family NOW with SkyMed®!**

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

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

Here are SIX sources of current SXM weather info:

- 1) [Crown Weather Services](#) whose very inexpensive subscription service is, we feel, the best in the business.
- 2) Our "Weather Center / Hurricane Center" at [www.everythingsxm.com](http://www.everythingsxm.com) -- it has current satellite images and radar loops 24/7/365 and now all the latest NHC weather forecasts, outlooks, and advisories as well. There are now also active weather widgets on the site's home page. *That page also includes real-time or near-real-time satellite images and radar loops.*
- 3) Our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#) publishes the latest advisories, watches, and warnings when SXM is threatened by any storms.
- 4) **On or off the island, listen to Island 92** -- 91.9FM or see [www.island92.com](http://www.island92.com). They report island warnings at once so you'll know exactly what's going on. You can listen on the web anytime through live streaming.
- 5) For a quick look at weather radar exactly where you are or where you're going, try the My Radar phone app or My Radar for Windows -- excellent programs.
- 6) Get a quick, current satellite look at the Atlantic basin anytime: <http://www.goes.noaa.gov/GIFS/ATWV.JPG> .

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

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

## Changing Your Email Address?

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

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

## 16. Establish Residency FIRST if You're Buying a Condo or Villa in SXM

Despite the somewhat curious global economy, sales of condominiums here in SXM continue to roll ahead.

If you plan to buy an SXM condo and spend several months a year here, it is to your advantage to establish residency early. With 10 years of experience, BrightPath Caribbean has the knowledge, expertise, and infrastructure to help you do that with the minimum inconvenience and minimum time spent shepherding the process.

In other words, they know their stuff, they know the latest wrinkles in the law, and they can simplify and expedite the process for you. Mention that you heard about them from Jeff Berger's **SXM Weekly News** and call them toll-free from the USA and Canada at 1-855-203-0050 or in SXM call 1-721-554-8900 to get started.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### **Immigration Services**

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

BrightPath immigration consultants in Sint Maarten:

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

### **Business Incorporation Services**

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

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

### **Business Banking Services**

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

- Choose Your Bank. Our consultants review your business 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.

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## 18. Buying a Condo in SXM: Important Procedural Help

A while ago, working with Arun Jagtiani of Island Real Estate Team, we put together and conducted an SXM Relocation Seminar for dozens of attentive attendees at Emilio's Restaurant at the Emilio Wilson estate near Philipsburg.

Many of you have asked whether it would be possible for you to see video we made of our relocation seminar.

Although we do intend to put on future relocation seminars, the video of our November '18 seminar is available online to anyone interested in buying on SXM, whether for a vacation home, retirement home, income property, or anything else. Lots of outstanding info was communicated during this excellent seminar, and another is now in the early planning stages.

See the video [here](#). (Link is being updated).

**Please check this link to [BrightPath Caribbean SXM](#)**, a company that can help provide very deep and expeditious help in completing residency requirements for people buying a second home, income property, or a new business in SXM, or relocating there. They're located in the Puerta del Sol building opposite Avantika, Simpson Bay, Dutch side. Tell them you heard about BrightPath through Jeff Berger's *SXM Weekly News*.

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

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

### **VILLA RENTALS / RENTAL COMPANIES:**

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

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

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

[GoBeach Vacations](#)

[Sunshine Properties](#)

[Monte Verde / Belle Vue](#)

Villa Acropole:

[www.acropole-stmartin.com](http://www.acropole-stmartin.com)

Villa Vijoux:

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

Villa Steel Magnolias (new 1/22)

40Weeks SXM Vacation Rentals (new)

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

Villa Kimon

Daffodil Villa

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## 20. Many More 2023 SXM Timeshare Condo Rentals Now Available

Dozens of new listings of timeshare and other condominiums for rent and for sale for both 2022 and 2023 have been added to our timeshare sales / rental page in our main SXM site, [www.everythingsxm.com](http://www.everythingsxm.com). If you're looking for a place to stay, that's where to find it. All of our listings are from members of our JMB Website Supporters island discount program so you deal directly with timeshare owners -- there are no middlemen or agents or anyone else charging commissions. *Usually, timeshare owners charge close to their actual annual maintenance fee costs.*

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

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

We are now accepting advertising for both timeshare resort condominiums as well as privately owned condominiums on the island directly from their owners who are members of our JMB Website Supporters Island Discount Program. This is effective immediately and includes weeks from 2023 (and starting in March, 2024). Submit your ads through the members-only "Secret" website.

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

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## 22. 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](http://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 [everythingxm.com](http://everythingxm.com).

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

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## 23. SkyMed TRAVEL Guarantees Big-Time Savings on Hotels, Cruises, Car Rentals

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

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

**Normally, SkyMed Travel charges \$99 to join plus \$99 annual renewals. But for our JMB Website Supporters members and now for Weekly News readers, the cost to join is zero as will be the cost for renewals. Join the Club by going to <https://www.skymedtravel.com/register>, sign up, and provide the requested information. Complete the first sign up item (SkyMed Membership Number or Representative ID) by entering the code 391330; doing that ensures that you pay nothing for your SkyMed Travel Club membership. No code, no free entry to the club's phenomenal pricing. If you are a SkyMed Member, however, enter your SkyMed Membership Number there to get the absolute greatest possible discounts.**

You won't be disappointed.

**Not a SkyMed member?** Learn more about it at [www.skymed.com/jmb](http://www.skymed.com/jmb), then call us with questions or to sign up. Call 508-591-3483 (NEW NUMBER) any weekday. Thanks.

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

## 24. \$100 Caribbean Gems Gift Card for All Current JMB Members NOW LIVE: Where to Find it

Want a free \$100 Gift Card for purchases at Caribbean Gems? If you're a JMB Website Supporters island discount program member, **you can download your all-new gift card to Caribbean Gems from the secret site home page now.** The link to it will be at the bottom of the first page of the secret site. You can login to the secret site using your assigned username and password in the orange login box below the masthead on all pages of our main site, everythingSXM.com.

**What if you're not a JMB Website Supporters member?** JMB Website Supporters is our island discount program and it's easy to join -- go to our main site, [everythingSXM.com](http://everythingSXM.com), and click the page curl icon for the sign-up page. *Don't miss this opportunity — act now.*

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## 25. Discounts/Benefits Updates Continues

The major update that we've been telling you about to our **JMB Website Supporters Island Discount Program** is continuing. The stage we expect to complete in the next week or so involves updates to eliminate the last group of partners whose businesses have not survived either Irma or Covid; there have been a number of those. There are also a number of other updates.

For us the most fun part of this is adding new discounts and benefits, a process which will run through December. We will continue to add more new discounts going forward into 2023, as planned, though all those that are already nailed down will be posted during December.

We're making many other changes here behind the scenes including upgrading to a new main server and a new main mail server, all of which are targeted for completion during April (after SXM's high season ends), to prevent any significant disruption during high season.

The effects of Irma and Covid on SXM's tourism economy have been quite substantial and some major businesses were impacted. In some cases we were hoping they would be able to come back but, sadly, that has NOT always happened.

Fortunately, there are a number of new businesses on the island and they are doing quite well and we're doing our best to reflect that in this major upgrade.

We will post more about this as it continues to move toward completion.

## 26. Own a Business in SXM? Offer Our Members a Discount or Incentive to Visit You!

If you own a St. Maarten or St. Martin business that caters to tourists, we have a free program that we like you to join: it's called our JMB Website Supporters Island Discount Program. By participating in the program, you will offer our over 30,000 JMB Website Supporters members some kind of discount or incentive for visiting your establishment. We are especially looking for restaurants, bars, beach bars, and related businesses. There is currently no charge for this program.

There are also separate opportunities for SXM businesses to promote what they offer to the 35,000 members of our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#) (about 98% tourists); for information on that program, please PM any admin of the [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#).

## 27. Updated Contact Information for JMB Website Supporters and SkyMed Sales Inquiries (UPDATED 10/17/22)

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

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

1. **SkyMed Answers to Questions or to Sign Up by Phone**: If you're interested in learning more about SkyMed, contact Jeff Berger at [jeff.berger@skymed.com](mailto:jeff.berger@skymed.com). Leave your phone number and time zone and he'll return your call. SkyMed is sold only to Americans, Canadians, and xPats. **If you prefer, phone Jeff at 508-591-3483 and leave a message; that is a NEW NUMBER** on which you can also leave text messages
2. **JMB Membership Questions/Issues -- JMB Website Supporters**: Use WhatsApp to send questions to Membership Services; use Jeff Berger's WhatsApp phone number, 721-588-4188, **but call or TEXT (texting is preferred) from within the WhatsApp application ONLY**. Membership Services at our headquarters in Massachusetts handles all these calls. **INCLUDE YOUR EMAIL**, since all responses are made by email. You may also phone Membership Services directly at 508-591-3483, which also takes texts.
3. **Our new email is [jmbcomms@gmail.com](mailto:jmbcomms@gmail.com)**; use it freely for JMB Website Supporters membership questions. Thank you.

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

### 28. **LESS THAN TWO WEEKS LEFT ----- ABSOLUTELY ENDS 12/31**: Get Up to 22 Bonus Weeks **FREE** When You Buy SkyMed--

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



\*\*\*\*\*

**THIS UP-TO-22-FREE-WEEKS OFFER**

**MUST END 12/31!**

**MAKE YOUR MOVE TO SKYMED NOW AND GET  
22 WEEKS FREE WITH YOUR NEW PURCHASE OF  
OUR BEST -- 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 (ENDS 12/31):**

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

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

**For info see the links below, for answers to questions or to  
sign up by phone call 508-591-3483 (you can text to that  
number & leave voicemail 24/7) or email  
[jeff.berger@skymed.com](mailto:jeff.berger@skymed.com). NOTE: My prices for multiyear  
memberships ARE MUCH LESS THAN YOU WOULD PAY  
ONLINE.**

.....SKYMED's BEST BONUSSES EVER MUST END 12/31/22.....

**BONUSSES**

**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 MUST END 12/31/22!**

**=== PLUS ===**

**"Thank YOU for Your Service"**

**Bonuses for US & Canadian Military Veterans  
& FIRST RESPONDERS:**

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

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

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

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

## **29. 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. SkyMed members pay nothing for SkyMed-arranged medical evacuation flights that would cost non-SkyMed members \$45,000 and up payable in cash, in advance. Why risk that? Of course, you must get your SkyMed membership before you need it -- just like fire insurance. You'll find an overview of all SkyMed Services [here](#), and you'll find Frequently Asked Questions [here](#).

### **WHAT ARE "ULTIMATES"?**

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

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

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

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

All existing SkyMed memberships and new SkyMed membership purchases of one-year or longer are now price-guaranteed for life. The price of your membership will not increase if you buy during 2022 or if you already are a SkyMed owner of any annual or longer membership: this applies as long as your renewals are paid on time.

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

- **HOW TO CONTACT US: Phone us ANYTIME at 508-591-3483 (new number, where you can also text us) for answers to questions or to sign up. When you call us directly, we get credit for the sale. You can also email us directly through SkyMed at [jeff.berger@skymed.com](mailto:jeff.berger@skymed.com).**

My SkyMed website: <http://www.skymed.com/jmb>. *But please CALL ME DIRECTLY with questions or to sign up - that way I get credit (number above).* Or [jeff.berger@skymed.com](mailto:jeff.berger@skymed.com)

- **When and Where SkyMed Protects You:**

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

- **Key Differences Between SkyMed Short-Term & Annual Memberships:**

Many people who buy SkyMed memberships first request short-term protection. Is that the best solution for most people? That's a decision you have to make, but before you do, here's some important info. **First, short-term memberships** are available only for a specific defined short term. They protect you with SkyMed *Takes You Home* membership that applies throughout the United States, Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, the Bahamas, and all the nations of the Caribbean including Cuba. Short-term protection cannot be upgraded or renewed since you buy it for a specific trip; it's temporary protection. There is no waiting period for benefits. When you want protection for another future trip, you must make a separate application for it. **Although at \$15/day per couple SkyMed short-term protection is the most expensive product SkyMed sells on a cost-per-day basis**, short-term protection is economical if you seldom travel and take brief trips. The cost is \$9/day per individual, or a maximum of \$15 a day per family (parents and kids 21 or younger). ***We always tell people who are 50 or over about the most important advantages of SkyMed annual and multiyear memberships. The single most important benefit is that SkyMed annual and multiyear memberships are guaranteed renewable, regardless of advancing age or declining health.*** Details are in SkyMed's Member Services Agreement. We currently have members who are still traveling and are in their upper 80s and 90s. ***The cost of annual memberships per family is far more economical than the \$15/day per family for short-term coverage -- it's now only about \$1.64/day total.*** Multiyear memberships also have more features; contact me for full information about features of each type of SkyMed membership. **Ultimate memberships protect you worldwide.** I can answer all your questions by phone in minutes, and can also take your application by phone (that way I get credit). Phone anytime at 508-591-3483 (NEW NUMBER). That's a direct line to Jeff Berger that also accepts text messages. *Updated 6/20/22.*

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

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

- [SkyMed Frequently Asked Questions / FAQ](#)

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

--Jeff Berger  
10/17/22

## **30. Answering Your Questions: What Exactly Does SkyMed Do?**

## **--- from Jeff Berger**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**All this is why we always recommend SkyMed.** Call Jeff Berger 24/7 at 508-591-3483 and leave

your name, phone number, and time zone. Jeff will call back at a mutually convenient time and answer all your questions. He can also take your application by phone in about 10 minutes. *You're eligible to apply regardless of your age or health if you are a U.S. or Canadian citizen or an American or Canadian ExPat living in SXM or certain other countries.*

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

Thanks for reading this.

## Registration Ends Soon! Register NOW!

### 31. Your Invitation to Our January 20 SkyMed Member Appreciation Luncheon in SXM

This is your personal invitation to register to attend our **SkyMed Member Appreciation Luncheon** in St. Maarten on January 20. This luncheon is open exclusively to Americans, Canadians, and xPats (ADULTS ONLY) and **advance registration is required**; seats are strictly limited so please register NOW. *You need not be a current SkyMed member to attend, though we warmly welcome all SkyMed members who are on SXM January 20 to register & attend.* We encourage you to bring a few friends who will be on the island January 20 and who would like to go, but they MUST preregister as well (asap).

**Formal Registration is REQUIRED and it is now open BUT REGISTRATION CLOSSES EARLY IN JANUARY.**

Please REGISTER NOW.

#### **How to Register:**

1. **Go to** [skymed.com/jmb](http://skymed.com/jmb).
2. At the top of the page, **click the RED** button; it reads "Appreciation Events."
3. **Select the Country** DUTCH WEST INDIES, then Select **Simpson Bay, SM**, then **Click Here to Register (blue button)**. Enter the requested information. Each person who plans to attend needs to register separately. Please let me know once you have registered; send me a note at [jeff.berger@skymed.com](mailto:jeff.berger@skymed.com).
4. **Feel free to share this email with friends who will be on SXM 1/20 and whom you feel would like to attend.** Thanks! I'll be there and look forward to seeing you.

#### **(Briefly) About SkyMed:**

When you become seriously or critically ill while traveling anywhere in the USA, Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, the Bahamas, or all the nations of the Caribbean, **SkyMed TAKES YOU HOME®** to doctors and hospitals you know and trust, delivering a suite of up to 18 vital, life-saving services. A separate suite of 26 services is available with our Ultimate global memberships that protect you around the world. Both our Annual and Ultimate memberships cost as little as \$1.64/day and are guaranteed renewable for life regardless of advancing age or declining health. plus they are price guaranteed for life.

P. S.: Don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions. My contact information is below. --Jeff Berger, SkyMed Ambassador. My email is above, and my phone is 508-591-3483 which also takes Texts.

### 32. Tourist Breaks Leg While Watching Rough Surf at Maho

Every week, many tourists flock to Maho Beach at the ocean end of the SXM Airport runway to watch planes land and take off just feet above their heads. Last week, the beach had an added draw -- rough surf, which at times spilled onto Beacon Hill Road, depositing plowable beach sand there. When we were driving back to Beacon Hill before noon early last week, traffic had been halted by police and a Dutch side ambulance parked at the beach's edge had its doors open, awaiting a patient. We asked police handling traffic there what had happened and the officer said "a tourist broke a leg." Minutes later the tourist was taken by ambulance to St. Maarten Medical Center. We don't know more about who, what exactly happened, etc.

Hundreds of tourists from cruise ships are routinely bused to Maho every day, and stayover tourists flock here as well. We wondered if these were cruise ship passengers and if so, how they would recover their belongings from the ship if this became an extended hospital stay.

SXM is paradise - not Utopia and things like this happen every day everywhere, which is why I got involved with

SkyMed more than 20 years ago. SkyMed provides medical evacuation services to SkyMed members for \$0 out-of-pocket cost when the SkyMed member or their family becomes seriously ill or injured. I got my membership years ago purely for the peace of mind it offers. Hope the person who broke their leg is doing well. [SkyMed TAKES YOU HOME®](#) For SkyMed info, [jeff.berger@skymed.com](mailto:jeff.berger@skymed.com).

### 33. Why Mask Wearing Remains Very Important

Most of our readers are protected against COVID, but this time of year many viruses enter SXM with every planeload of tourists -- as usual. To protect yourself against airborne viruses we suggest you continue to wear your mask in situations where you will be among many other people. It's a sensible way to stay well while you're on vacation.

### 34. Interview with JIMBO About His New Restaurant, NOLA

Last week, we stopped by Nola, the new restaurant that opens very soon at the site of the former Saratoga restaurant in Simpson Bay just steps away from the location of James "Jimbo" Morris' prior restaurant, Jimbo's. We posted a number of pictures of it in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#) and we interviewed Jimbo about Nola: [here is that interview](#).

### 35. Update on the Status of Restaurants at the Former Site of Cheri's

As we described here in detail before, a number of new restaurants will be opening on an incremental basis starting soon on the property formally dedicated to Cheri's Café in Maho. Some of those restaurants are already very close to opening, and each restaurant will be opening as soon as it is fully ready to do so. We will publish news of the openings in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#), as we do for most significant restaurant openings on SXM.

### 36. High Season Underway; Dinner Reservations Essential

High season is well underway now here in SXM and dinner reservations are essential for now at least through the end of March. Your alternative is to be refused admission to restaurants where there are simply no seats left, or sit in the most undesirable seat in the restaurant, or wait in a bar. Having reservations which are likely to enable you to be seated on arrival is a far more desirable alternative — it also enables the restaurant you're visiting to be prepared fully for your visit from a staffing and supplies perspective; it's the right thing to do.

### 37. Still Time for Great Gifts of Jewelry, Fragrances Shipped Overnight from SXM

SXM has numerous fine jewelry stores, and as you have probably seen, the best of the best advertise some of their most beautiful pieces in our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#). We suggest you go there and when you see something you particularly like, called the Jeweler and order it by phone: [there is still time for items to be shipped overnight from SXM to your home in the US or Canada in time for arrival before the holidays](#).

You can also find great fragrance ideas at the Tijon Parfumerie in Grand Case — and you can even gift the opportunity for someone you care about to create their own fragrance online with guaranteed satisfaction in the result. Of course, it's more fun to create your personal fragrance in their laboratory which you can do in Grand Case or now even in New Orleans; see [www.Tijon.com](http://www.Tijon.com) or phone them directly for more information or to get an online fragrance creation session.

### 38. Dutch Side Government Plans to Trap & Kill Invasive Vervet Monkeys - And Why It Won't Work

The population of Vervet monkeys on SXM is now believed to be over 1000 total on both sides of the island, with almost half of them on the Dutch side. The Dutch side has acquired the services of someone with experience in getting rid of such wild monkeys in St. Kitts, which is estimated to have about 40,000 of them now. The plan, put simply, is to capture them, put them in cages, sedate them, then euthanize them.

Vervet monkeys are not native to SXM, and started out here as escaped or released pets. People who had them as pets discovered that they got too big or obnoxious to keep, so they let them loose and they have flourished in the wild here.

In St. Kitts, the situation is much worse, with 40,000 of them in the wild there; that's about the same as the human population.

Vervet monkeys raid garbage cans, decimate contents of fruit trees across the island, prevent people from raising their own fruits and vegetables, and throw things at people to protect what they regard as their food -- or for no other apparent reason. That's why this [eradication](#) is coming.

Whether it will work is another matter. The planned eradication is to be done as a Dutch side initiative and it is only happening on the Dutch side, as far as we know. SXM has an open border. Monkeys, like people, needn't check in somewhere when they cross the border. Therefore, it is inevitable (we think) that remaining populations on the French side will continue to expand as they have in the past and will come back onto the Dutch side at some point, meaning that plans to capture and eradicate them would have to be implemented continuously or repeatedly in order to work. We would imagine that it would be easier and more effective long-term to simply feed them something that would sterilize them, but whether that's feasible we don't know.

Here is [more](#) on this.

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## 39. "Village at the Border" Coming With a Third Carrefour Supermarket

This project will be located in an area adjacent to the McDonald's in Dutch Quarter, along the main road north from Philipsburg to French quarter and Orient beach. [Here are details.](#)

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## 40. POPULAR DUTCH SIDE RESTAURANT FOR SALE

Prime location in Simpson Bay... 100 seats... Interior and terrace... Fully equipped... In excellent condition... Good lease... Correct rent. Off-street parking.

Price including current N. V. concept, name and good will, fit-out and inventory, \$595,000. Price for the lease, fit out, and inventory only, \$395,000. For further information please contact [SXMrestaurantforsale@Gmail.com](mailto:SXMrestaurantforsale@Gmail.com)

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***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](mailto:jeff.berger@skymed.com); include your callback number & time zone please. Protect your family TODAY!***

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## 41. Restaurant of the Week: Vesna Taverna

**What/Where:** "Vesna's" as many people call it is named for its owner, a young lady named Vesna, who along with her husband Yannick (generally found in their kitchen) have a great restaurant in Simpson Bay just north of the drawbridge. Parking in front (but arrive early). American, French, and Greek food with global influences.

**Particulars:** Delicious breakfasts and lunches 6 days a week (closed Mondays), with great dinners Tuesday through Saturday. Full American menu plus many French dishes, to-die-for desserts, experienced service, and the vivacious Vesna herself. Saturday night is Greek night with many authentic Greek selections for dinner plus their full regular menu. Many blackboard dinner specials. They are very responsive to dietary needs especially given sufficient advance notice.

Vesna's is loved by thousands of loyal visitors. Reservations essential during high season. Generous portions and sensible prices. Vesna's food is sensational; tell them if you're visiting for the first time that Jeff Berger's *SXM Weekly News* recommended Vesna's to you. Save room for their homemade desserts: you'll want one of everything. No, really....they're that good.

### Here are recently featured SXM restaurants:

**Vesna Taverna**, [www.vesnasxm.com](http://www.vesnasxm.com) (featured 12/19/22). Now open every day but Monday for B/L; dinner is offered Tuesday through Saturday. Outstanding dining, reasonable pricing.

**Mandarin Pan Asian** at Port de Plaisance Resort off the Union Road, Cole Bay, (featured 12/12/22). Excellent selection of palate-pleasing offerings from Japan, Thailand, and China. Delicious food and excellent service. Highly recommended.

**Jai's Contemporary Fusion Cuisine** (featured 12/5/22), **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/jaisxmresto>

**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 <https://www.astrasxm.com/>

**Bamboo House** (11/21/22), located high on a hill in Cole bay has spectacular island views and equally spectacular dining and service. Exquisite sushi, steaks, and lots more. Vegetarians welcome; people with special dietary needs are well cared-for here too. Jeff rates Bamboo with one huge WOW -- go; you will absolutely be visiting more than once.

**Mario's Bistro at the Cliff**, formerly Mario's Bistro [www.mariobistrot.com/en/](http://www.mariobistrot.com/en/) 11/14/22 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.

**IZI Ristorante Italiano**, [www.izisxm.com](http://www.izisxm.com) (featured 11/7/22). Open for dinner starting at 5pm except Mon., when they're closed. Fantastic food from one of SXM's absolute best restaurants. Fun atmosphere, too.

**Avantika Thai** [www.avantikasxm.com](http://www.avantikasxm.com) (featured 10/31/22) Avantika is flat-out wonderful; SXM's best Thai; Delicious food artfully presented and reasonably priced, backed by seasoned service. Consistently excellent. Go...you'll become a regular.

**Mama Pizza**, Porto Cupecoy & Oyster Pond, (featured 10/24/22) Big, outstanding pizza, and sizable portions plus reasonable prices on numerous other delicious Italian specialties. They also have fresh fish entrees you should not miss. On the plaza at Porto Cupecoy, Cupecoy Beach, and on the main drag through Oyster Pond, French side.

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

**Pineapple Pete**, [www.pineapplepete.com](http://www.pineapplepete.com) (featured 9/12/22) Known for great lobster Thermidor and lots, lots more. Generous portions, reasonable prices. Huge variety. Games for kids & their parents.

**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.

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

**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.

**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.

**Spiga**, [www.spiga-sxm.com](http://www.spiga-sxm.com) (featured 2/7/22) Chef-co-owner Ciro Russo & Lara Russo haven't missed a beat here as Spiga continues to be simply the best restaurant of any kind in Grand Case, where it has a lot of competition. Incredibly



irresistible food, great staff, service, and beautiful ambiance. Everything is great, appetizers are out of this world. Absolutely not to be missed.

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

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

**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.

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

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

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

**Freedom Fighters ITAL SHACK Rasta Restaurant**, [www.sxmfreedomfighters.com/restaurant](http://www.sxmfreedomfighters.com/restaurant) 4/15/19. Just go....

**Dany's Smooth Cupecoy Beach Bar** (on Cupecoy beach); follow the road toward Shore Pointe and turn near Shore Pointe to get there. (Featured 1/20/2019) Parking, drinks, chairs and umbrellas, lolo-type food, and an all-over tan. What could possibly be better?

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

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

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## 42. Enormous Library of SXM Information is On The Web (Updated)

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 -- 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.

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 nearly 35,000 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.

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## 43. Flying This 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 pre-existing conditions; after three months, those conditions are covered in full. **So...to AVOID ANY IMPACT on your travel plans this Summer or Fall, buy your new SkyMed annual or multiyear membership NOW, at least three months ahead of your planned 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 [jeff.berger@skymed.com](mailto:jeff.berger@skymed.com) for answers to questions or to sign up by phone.

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

## 44. 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](http://www.facebook.com/groups/mySXM).

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

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

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

## 46. Who Our Sponsors Are, & Why You Should Patronize Them (Updated 12/18/22)

Our JMB SXM Web Media Sponsors help make it possible for us to research, write, produce, and email you *SXM Weekly News* every week. They also enable us to spend lots of hours making sure our [Everything SXM Facebook Group](#) fulfills its mission to be SXM's only authentically managed [by a seasoned journalist] interactive conversational SXM news and information portal on Facebook. And Sponsors' help makes our JMB Website Supporters members-only Island Parties possible (resuming next year) as well as all the work 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).

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Roland Richardson  
Patty Meotti  
Laura Fisher Saxon

### **AUTHORS/NOVELISTS**

**Russell Clark**

**Jacky Rom**

### **BAKERIES / DINE-IN & TO GO**

**Le Sucriere**, Dutch side near Fedex (new 11/22)

### **BARS**

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

### **BOAT TOURS / BOAT CHARTERS**

**[Celine Charters](#)** (Enigma)

**Luxury Private Catamaran Charters:**  
**[www.sxmstmartincatamarancharters.net](http://www.sxmstmartincatamarancharters.net)**

**Rumbelly Boat Charters** Pleasure boats, motorized and catamaran

### **BOUTIQUES**

**En Vogue**, Billy Folly Road opposite Atrium Resort

### **BREWERIES & DISTILLERIES**

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**[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:**

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

**FASHIONS FOR WOMEN**

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

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

## **PHARMACIES**

**Simpson Bay Pharmacy**

**Orange Grove Pharmacy**

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

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

**Jennifer's Vacation Villas**

**Century 21 St. Maarten**

**Sunshine Properties**

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

**BrightFuture 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** (see also BAKERIES)

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

[SPIGA](#)

[VESNA TAVERNA](#)

**ISOLA**

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

**Melange (Port de Plaisance)**

**Pelican Bistro**

**Soggy Dollar Bar**

**Topper's Restaurant, Gelateria, & Rhum Distillery**

**LA PATRONA (Simpson Bay Resort)**

**MARIO'S BISTRO (Porto Cupecoy)**

**NAVY BEACH**

**BOVIN STEAKHOUSE**

**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**)

**BOLD BUDDHA** Restaurant, Great bay beach Promenade at Horizon View Hotel (new)

**BUCCANEER BEACH BAR**

**NAVY BEACH**

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

**LE PERLE BLEU** Restaurant Simpson Bay & **Le Perle Bleu Beach Bar** (Welfare Road) (new 11/22)

**FLEUR DE SEL** Hope Estate / **French Side** (new 11/22)

**RESTAURANT ORDERING ONLINE**

Orders.sx

**SOUVENIRS**

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

### **SPAS**

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

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

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

**GoBeach Vacations**

**Sunshine Properties**

**Monte Verde / Belle Vue**

**Villa Acropole:**

[www.acropole-stmartin.com](http://www.acropole-stmartin.com)

**Villa Vijoux:**

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

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

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

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

**Villa Kimon**

**Daffodil Villa**

### **Wedding Planners / Wedding Venues**

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

**Sint Maarten Marry-Me** Destination Weddings (new)

Updated 12/19/22

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Ask Jeff for details -- call him at 508-591-3483. More info? See [skymed.com/jmb](http://skymed.com/jmb) or email Jeff at [jeff.berger@skymed.com](mailto:jeff.berger@skymed.com). SkyMed is the Principal Sponsor of JMB SXM programs.

### **See the rundown of all SkyMed Features & Benefits**

**Got a Radio While You're in SXM?**

**Want to Listen to SXM While You're Home?**

**Tune In Island92 at 91.9 FM**

**or On Your Internet-Connected Device**

**at [island92.com](http://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.

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

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

Our **JMB SXM Web Media Sponsorships** enable SXM businesses to present their products or services to a huge, responsive audience of tourists from around the world, but primarily the USA and Canada. (Our site is based in the U. S. and is focused on the needs of tourists traveling to SXM.) If you own an SXM business and want to look into and take advantage of this unique marketing opportunity, please email [susank@jmbcommunications.com](mailto:susank@jmbcommunications.com) with the subject "JMB Sponsorships". Or PM us on FB for an even faster response. We'll get complete information to you quickly. (Or again, just PM Jeff Berger on Facebook Messenger or phone us / text us on WhatsApp at 721-588-4188.)

Tourism is returning in a big way and with it, plenty of opportunity to bring more tourists into your business not only in the short term, but especially as tourist business increases in the months ahead. Contact us today for more information.

\*\*\*\*\*

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

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

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

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

**Want to rent or buy a week?**

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

### SECTION 5: For Members Only

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Our main St. Maarten / St. Martin website:**

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

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

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