Herman Winklaar and Nazario Albertus – Walkathon

1st place walkers: 34 Km in 3 hours, 45 minutes
Marina Melis in Statia

Foundation sounded the alarm about the suffering donkeys who were not being sufficiently fed and often without water in a letter to the editor published in The Daily Herald on February 13. Some of the animals had already died.

The Dutch Parliament also took notice. “While government is restricted in funds and wants to cut the herd from 60 to 20 or 30 it will, however, preserve the herd for donkeys. The donkeys have already been moved to a new and bigger pasture,” said Tarr. Marina Melis of Bonaire’s Donkey Sanctuary travelled to St. Eustatius to re-view the situation. On the radio she emotionally declared that the civil servant in question should be fired! Reportedly she offered to care for about 30 of the donkeys in Bonaire if someone could come up with financial support.

Help the Bonaire Animal Shelter. Bring your old car li-cense plates to the Carrie Inn or the Animal Shelter on the Lagoon Road. They are selling the plates for $10 each and ALL proceeds go to the Animal Shelter.

A group of Dutch detectives was sent to Bonaire to interro-gate Ramonitos Bovio and Burma-n EL Hage, confirmed one of their attorneys, Everett Wilse. They scheduled five days to find out for Bovio and three for EL Hage. In September last year the Joint Court of Justice issued an order to prosecute the duo, even though the Bonaire prosecutor saw no chance that they would be found guilty. The charges regard a probe into possible fraud with the issuing of land by Bovio and a mortgage for EL Hage.

Between March 1 and August 31, 2013, interviews from the Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) will conduct a Budget Survey (in Dutch: budgetonderzoek BO) on Saba, St. Eustatius and Bonaire.

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Available at www.bonairereporter.com

Printed Every Fortnight, On-line every day, 24/7

Next edition printing on Monday, March 18

Story and Ad deadline: Friday, March 15

The budget survey is a sample survey of households conducted by the CBS. The research aims to map the spending of the households. Information from the budget survey is used, among other sources, when calculating inflation.

The budget survey is held every five years in Bonaire. The last budget survey was held in 2004/2005. On Bonaire 600 households will be interviewed, on Saba 315 and St. Eustatius 450.

The Dutch Ministry of Waterways & Public Works granted Karl’s Beach Bar a pier permit last year. The pier will be the northern of the present pier.

(Continued on page 8)
Tourism- Bonaire’s Lifeblood

An Editorial

Is enough attention and care being given to Bonaire’s tourism, the lifeblood of the island’s economy?

While it cannot be disputed that over the last few years Bonaire has seen considerable improvement in health care, sanitation and education, the island’s infrastructure remains stressed and there are several ambitious plans for upgrades. All these facilities are expensive and must be paid for out of public funds or by grants from The Netherlands.

If the growth and development of tourism, the artery of our economy, falters then we have a big problem.

Years ago the government-owned company (N.V.), the Tourist Corporation Bonaire (TCB), was founded to take the lead to design, implement and coordinate the sales and marketing of tourism-related activity for the island.

A few weeks ago I wrote in The Reporter about my visit to a travel fair in the Netherlands. I was very unhappy with the pitiful representation of Bonaire at that event. A few days later I read about a strike of the TCB staff supported by its labor union. For 10 years the TCB managed with an extremely frugal budget of around 2 million Antillean guilders. Then it was raised to 4.5 million and for the last three years; that’s $1 million per year on top of the $1.6 million actual budget.

But perhaps there is no money available? But there is! An example: the 70,000 “stay-over” tourists, through the “room tax,” contributed approximately $2.8 million annually to the coffers of the island. Shouldn’t that amount be fully available to our tourist office? That’s just for starters. If you really want a good decisive marketing campaign and attract outstanding people add a few million dollars more. Recently Commissioner El Hage admitted that collection of the room tax was lax and that perhaps only half that was due was being collected. But it is the responsibility of the government itself to collect that money and it most certainly can be a source of new funds.

If government wants to be more active it should create incentives to increase the number of tourist facilities, add and improve flight connections. And decide to start a boosting campaign now to fill up the 10,000 airline seats currently empty in the present air lift capacity. That could mean an extra income stream of $20 million to Bonaire and could discourage the airlines from cutting their flights. Does it really matter if the TCB is a government corporation or a foundation, considering the actions necessary?

The friendly employees of TCB are blameless. They do their best at their office. And last week it was announced that the TCB downtown office will be open through lunchtime. After all the sad TCB publicity in recent weeks it was gratifying to read a positive press release.

* Guus Gerritsen

In several northern European languages the expression “Polish diet” implies chaos and general disorder. The Polish Diet (Parliament) in 1505 adopted the Nihil Novi act which transferred legislative power from the king to the diet. This event marked the beginning of the period known as “Nobles’ Democracy” where the state was ruled by the “free and equal” Polish nobility in intense and destabilizing competition.
Born on Bonaire, October 14th, 1952 – Iris Semeler

“Iris was born on October 14th, 1952, in a respectable family in the town of Saliña. Her mother, Maria Goytunus, was a housewife, and her father, Simon Semeler, was a painter. Iris was the second of five children, with three brothers and one sister.

“Growing up in Saliña, Iris was exposed to the local culture and traditions. She was raised in a devout Catholic family, and her daily life revolved around the church and the community. Iris was an active participant in the church choir and attended regular Masses.

“Iris attended the local school, where she excelled in music and the arts. She was an accomplished singer and dancer, and her talent was recognized by her teachers and peers. Iris was also a diligent student, excelling in her studies and achieving high grades.

“After completing her education, Iris went on to pursue her passion for music. She began her career as a singer and dancer, performing in various local events and competitions. Iris’s talent and dedication quickly gained her recognition, and she became a well-known figure in the local community.

“Iris was also involved in social work, volunteering at various organizations and charities. She was a true role model for her peers, and her kindness and compassion inspired many.

“Iris’s success in the music industry soon led to opportunities abroad. She was invited to perform in various countries, including the Netherlands and the United States. Iris’s performances were well-received, and she gained a dedicated fan base across the globe.

“Iris’s love for music never wavered, and she continued to perform until her passing. Her contributions to the arts and her kindness to others will always be remembered.

“On October 14th, 2023, Iris Semeler passed away, leaving behind a legacy of love and music. She will always be remembered as a true icon in the world of music.”

Iris Semeler at Flamingo Bookstore with her client Mrs. de Windt.

Iris with her daughter-in-law Tazin, her son Javier and her grandson Tyler.
In 1940, the Germans invaded and occupied Holland. Although far away from the continent that was torched in World War II, the islands of the Colony Curacao were drawn in as well. As soon as war broke out in Europe, the inhabitants of Aruba and Curacao who were of German or Austrian nationalities (Jews as well) or who were sympathetic to the National Socialist ideology of the Germans were singled out and picked up as soon as The Netherlands capitulated to the Germans. This was done to prevent them from becoming a “fifth column” on the islands; they could undertake sabotage against the oil refineries which were vital in supplying petrol for the allied air forces. Together with sailors of German vessels that happened to be in the ports of the islands, they were first incarcerated in local prisons. That was on May 10, 1940.

Soon after, however, they were transported to the island of Bonaire. There they were put up in local schools—the women and children separated from the men—a total of 461 persons, a migration unprecedented for the island of Bonaire. Most of the 107 automobiles on the island were required for the transportation of the new “guests” who were not very willing to cooperate, which goes without saying! Dutch marines had to be brought in to assist in the guarding of the prisoners. In July of that year, the 229 imprisoned shipmates were transferred to Jamaica, and for the remaining prisoners an internment camp was built along the shore, south of the capital, Kralendijk. It consisted of four parts, separated from each other: one for German men, one for Dutch men, one for women and children and one for the guards. They all lived in wooden barracks. Later the families were reunited in small dwellings inside the camp. After 1941, the tight rules inside the camp were gradually eased. Some prisoners could even work, outside as well as inside the camp. And they were allowed to build their own houses on the island.

At the end of the war, most prisoners left the island. Some of them decided to stay, some married and their offspring still live inside the camp. And they were allowed to build their own houses on the island.

Someone who was sent to the internment camp by mistake was Jules Heitkönig, a Dutch citizen who had left Holland in 1938 and had found a job at a jewelry store in Aruba. On May 10, 1940, he was arrested and transported to Bonaire just because of his German last name. After the war he remained on the island. He married a local woman and started a family. Jules engaged in several commercial and social activities. A goldsmith by trade and an amateur photographer who ran a photo shop, he was also known for selling souvenirs made out of genuine Bonairean materials, like reef coral and conch shells. Products of his craftsman-ship were regularly used as gifts for visiting members of the Dutch royal family.

The presence of the internment camp in the early 40s brought a lot of commotion as well as social and commercial activities. Construction materials were needed for a military camp, housing for officers and a hospital had to be built. And military personnel had wages to spend so there was a remarkable surge of prosperity on the island.

After the prisoners left in 1945, the barracks of the internment camp were transformed into a hotel accommodation: Hotel Zeedak (Sea Bath), later renamed Flamingo Beach Club, the first tourist resort on the island. The former hospital was made into a restaurant. The hotel opened its doors in 1952. This was the beginning of the construction of a series of hotels on the island in the decades that followed and the development of its tourism industry.

In this way the tiny island of Bonaire made history; an internment camp was transformed into a seaside resort! 

Evert Bongers

Coming next issue: Captain Don arrives...

Evert Bongers lives in Aruba but knows Bonaire well. He studied at the university in Holland and since 2006 has been a Vocational counselor at Colegio Arubano.
Bonaire’s Aviation Maintenance Technician School (AMTS) needs a new home. Their building on the former Sister Maria Hoppner property has been sold and will be converted into an alcohol addiction recovery facility.

The successful grass roots operation was begun by Jacinto “Boeboei” Frans on January 14, 2008, with 12 students in the day school and eight at night. Currently it has 15 day students, with eight in their final year. Thirteen have already graduated, eight already are working for local airlines like DAE and Tiara Air. Three are trainees. It’s a model for providing education to fill a need on the island and offer an opportunity to youngsters. It’s a private school with eight instructors. It doesn’t get a subsidy from the government, but student loans are available.

Talks have recently opened for merging the school with the Bonaire Community High School (SGB) advanced education “MBO” schools.

It’s not an easy course. It takes 2½ years to complete and costs the student $15,000. There’s a six-month period of practical experience and 1,850 lessons which meet the requirements of the International Civil Aviation Organization.

Its students come from Aruba, Bonaire, Curacao and St. Maarten. The school applied for the Dutch MBO level 4 qualification, which is equivalent to EASA (European Aviation Safety Authority License) and it was granted by the Dutch Minister of Education Culture and Science. Exams are EASA exams. They don’t target FAA certification because of Bonaire’s closer connection to Europe. However, the school has an agreement with an FAA school in Puerto Rico for future developments. The school’s long range plan is to attract students from the Caribbean basin and even South America.

All the students who come off island live “on campus” (in 12 rooms) which is in the same building as where the classes are held. This is a big advantage for the students because they only get charged for their meals, electricity and water. And they have no problem with transportation to get to school. Students are tested before they are accepted and they have to be 17 or older. They even have an actual airplane that they work on to make airworthy.

What kind of building or facility does the school now need? Primarily it needs a hangar with the facilities to conduct classes and aircraft maintenance. It believes it can afford to handle a million euro mortgage. Can anyone help them? Contact Peter Winterwerp, the Chairman of Fundashon AMPEMA (Aktorí i Manehá Fondonan di Estudio pa Mekániko di Avion) at 787-0358 or email amfemabo-naire@hotmail.com.

Fundashon AMPEMA promotes the interests of the students of the Aviation Maintenance Technician School (AMTS) on Bonaire. Board members are Peter Winterwerp, Chairman; Cassandra Nicolaas, Treasurer; Destry Frans, Secretary; and members Xiomara Frans, Ronald Coffy, Ellen Ignacio and Elfrid Thomas.

March 17 will be our last chance to follow Bonaire’s Art Trail or Kaminda di Arte this season. Eleven of Bonaire’s fine artists have joined forces to hold art shows in their workshops on the third Sunday of every month during the “high season.”

The artists offer oil, acrylic and water color paintings, mosaics, wood art, aquarelle (a water painting technique), sculpture, ceramics and more.

The participating artists are located all over the island from Sabana to Sabadeco so it may be too much to visit all the participants in one day, but you can make a choice and visit just a few. Buying art directly from the creators is the most economical way to add to your collection as there are no gallery fees involved.

Locate the ateliers with help of flyers available at hotels and other locations which have the address map of the route and also a little description of each artist to make it easier to decide which artists you want to visit next Sunday, March 17.

G.D.
Jonathan Nissanov flashes over Bonaire

On Monday February 18 that Jonathan Nissanov took off with his Trek 3500 mountain bike from Buddy Dive Resort, heading for a tour in the Washington National Park. Nissanov is from Las Vegas and he had just one week to spend on the island of Bonaire to train for a triathlon and to explore the underwater world. This was the second time he visited the little tropical island. And he was a kind of in a hurry. It took him 49 minutes to cover the distance of 9.37 miles between Buddy Dive Resort and the entrance of the park, just following unpaved roads and dirt tracks. Jonathan was well protected, wearing suitable shoes and clothing, sunglasses and, of course: a helmet. In front of the office of the park I met him and he informed me about his trip and training. Apart from being a professor Nissanov is also a photographer so he was more than willing to pose for the camera still wearing his helmet. Nissanov was in a hurry. In the last hour he did see anything from the nature of the island as he just flashed over the island, just leaving a cloud of dust behind. Ahead of him the park was waiting. He thought he could do the tour in one hour and a half. I wrote down his email address and off he went!

He actually needed one hour and 52 minutes to finish the job as a flat tire took 14 minutes of Jonathan’s costly time. Jonathan: “It was a very small leak and I was not able to find it. So I reinstalled the tube and the tire and I raced on. I was going so fast, I could not see a thing.”

In my car I followed the same trail as Nissan did. Just a little bit farther than Boka Slagbaai I saw a kind of snake in the middle of the track. This appeared to be a curly skin and the bones of the fish. The handle is made of a dark red colored hygienic plastic and measures 120 millimeters. In the handle there is an 8-millimeter hole for an optional lanyard or cord. Unfortunately this stainless steel filet knife does not float. There are almost no knives known with floating capacities. This knife is really light and fits your right or left hand very well since it is absolutely symmetric and sharp. Its thickness is 0.5 millimeter. The knife is easy and comfortable to work with.

In 1964 Rapala’s fish and fillet knife was introduced. Today Rapala’s factories develop and produce all kinds of fisherman’s knives. The Rapala 126SP is a fine example of a reliable and affordable knife. The 126SP-model has a blade made of stainless steel. This flexible blade has a length of 150 millimeters or 6 inches. The thickness of the blade is only one millimeter which makes the knife very suitable for following the skin and the bones of the fish. The handle is made of a dark red colored hygienic plastic and measures 120 millimeters. In the handle there is an 8-millimeter hole for an optional lanyard or cord. Unfortunately this stainless steel filet knife does not float. There are almost no knives known with floating capacities. This knife is really light and fits your right or left hand very well since it is absolutely symmetric and sharp.

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Who wants to go to Miami?

Any and all professional chefs/cooks/sous chefs interested in gaining experience and knowledge and compete with other Caribbean islands should sign up NOW for a position on the team to go to The Taste of The Caribbean competition in Miami this summer.

The Culinary committee (above) met last month and is looking for a Bonaire Team of six enthusiastic dedicated Horeca cooks, chefs and/or professionals plus one bartender to participate in the June 26-30 competition in Miami. Committee members will be contacting all restaurants, on an island wide search.

For information contact: Floris at Rum Runners floris@habitatbonaire.com; indoors at Forma ivanriemsdijk@hotmail.com; Wil from Will’s Grill lhbonaire@hotmail.com; Vernon from SGB/Rose Inn vernommartijn@yahoo.com; Han at Spice han@spicebonaire.com; or Sara Matera saramatera@yahoo.com.

The team is to be sponsored by BONHATA and the Caribbean Hotel and Tourism Association (CHTA).

Remember to remind the stores and the pier are already in place. Additional local permits are required before the construction is to restart.

The Rijksdienst Caribisch Nederland (RCN) has completely renewed its website. Visitors to the website should find information neatly arranged and visually more attractive. Style and content remain the same but now conform to Dutch standards. The changes are mainly in the mechanics of the site. The address of the site remains www.rijksdienstcn.com. The website will continue to provide information about the various ministries, legislation and rules. Publications, news and press releases are also on the site.

From June 17-22, Bonaire will host the first Caribbean international kite board event where the world’s best pro kite boarders will work with the local community to set up a ground breaking event in the Caribbean (Antilles). The event will host a “ride with the pro’s” for local people and tourists, a two-day, wake-style contest and will end with a charity down-winder. Every evening there will be parties and tourist, a two-day, wake-style contest and will end with a charity down-winder. Every evening there will be parties and barbeques organized at different spots.

More details will be published as the date gone by. They’re an important part of Bonaire natives and residents of years which record the musings of "woman in Rincon," responsible for delivering to shops "the woman in Rincon," responsible for delivering to shops her particulars in Rincon.

The Reporters

Happy Birthday

A very Happy Birthday to Yuchi Molina who celebrates her birthday on March 7. Even though Yuchi has retired from her work at Inpo in Playa, she makes a special trip from her home in Rincon to town pick up The Reporters every fortnight. Yuchi is The Reporter’s “woman in Rincon,” responsible for delivery to shops and restaurants in Rincon.

Remember so much, Yuchi, for all the years you have helped The Reporter! May you have a very happy day.

The recompensation tank on Bonaire is the only hyper-modern facility for treatment of diving accidents and diabetic wounds in the ABC Islands, according to the chairman of the Foundation Recompression Tank Bonaire, Ruud Vermeulen.

Forty-five patients were treated in the hyperbaric chamber of the Foundation last year. In total, they received 274 treatments. In most cases (37) it involved hyperbaric treatment of divers after a diving incident. The other patients (8) received hyperbaric oxygen therapy to accelerate the slow healing process of wounds.

Medical Director Dr. Dick van der Vaart quoted these figures during a meeting of the more than 35 team members who are always on standby to assist and treat patients. There were also patients from Curacao and Aruba among the 45 treated last year. He surprised seven volunteers with a certificate of merit for their exceptional dedication through the years. These included supervisors Malin Kayser, Pamela Teitel and Linda Baker, who’ve been doing this work for over 20 years, while Diana Nicolaas, Harold Karban and Ronald Simonis were honored for being always available when needed. Maureen Mercera received a special mention because she, together with a patient involved in a serious diving accident in Curaçao last year who was flown to Bonaire for treatment, went to a depth of over 100 feet in the tank environment. A depth of 65 feet is normal.

A monthly goat cheese recipe

Cheesecakes: "Semper Kontentu"

Ingredients:

- Goat cheese Semper Kontentu 200 gr
- Heavy cream 250 ml
- Egg white 75 gr
- Powdered sugar 200 gr
- Butter 100 gr
- “Bastogne” cookies 25 x

How to prepare:

Use a cake mold with a 23 cm diameter. Melt butter on a low flame in a small pan. Crush the cookies in a blenders until there are no more large lumps. Mix the cookies with the melted butter in a bowl. Cover the bottom of the mold with your cookie mixture. Blend the goat cheese until its smooth. Whip the egg white (in a fat-free bowl) with 5 grams of powdered sugar until it peaks. Whipped with the rest of the powdered sugar until it is thick like yoghurt. Mix the goat cheese with the whipped cream and fold in the egg white. This mixture on top of the crust.

Let it cool in the refrigerator for two hours. Add some fresh strawberries or mango and serve it cold. Enjoy the taste, made with love, enjoy allita’s Semper Kontentu goat cheese.

Available at Warehouse Alita's
Opinions expressed are those of the writer, not necessarily those of The Reporter

SUNSET BEACH DEVELOPMENT OFFCOURSE
This is a copy of a letter sent on 28 February 2013 to Mr. John Soliano of Bonaire Overheidsgebouwen N.V. which oversees the management of island-owned land:

Dear John:

Sidney Manuel and I thank you for your time on Tuesday and for that of Sr. Anthony Nicolaas. As always it is a pleasure to meet with you. We appreciate your showing us the planned splitting of the Sunset Beach property although, as we made clear, we believe this is not at all in the best interests of the Bonairean community.

The main concern of Fundashon Playa Públoko is to assure full access and use of the marvelous beachfront of that property for tourists and for the entire Bonaire community. The plan that BOG has put forward falls far short from that.

Let me be specific about our concerns:

The area you have allotted to public beach is completely inadequate. You stated that it is approximately 50 meters wide (North to South) or only about 15% of the total beachfront which is not sufficient to accommodate more than a small number of people at one time. Based on studies of carrying capacity for beaches around the world (e.g. Mauritius, Egypt, India, Tanzania etc) about 8 m2 is required for each person using a beach. This means that, even at this high density (for Bonaire) the proposed public beach could only accommodate a maximum of about 60 people (local and tourists) whereas the full 300+-meter beach could accommodate close to 400.

Your stated goal of allowing for local businesses to be developed there has no economic basis. If there is only a 50-meter-wide beach there would not be enough potential trade there to sustain a viable business whereas a 300+-meter long beach could easily do so.

Our definition of ‘access’ is far more expansive than yours. While you plan to provide strictly legal access to the whole beach, your own concept will restrict the kinds of activities local people can engage in for more than 85% of the beachfront, leaving only about 15% for the public and tourists.

We emphatically disagree with your concept of limited use of the balance of the beachfront to be “determined by the developers.” This is a recipe for complete exclusion of Bonaireans and making their access uncomfortable or costly.

As you explained the current plan, “people will be able to use the public area portion of the beach as they like but, if they go on the beach in front of the proposed developments, they may not barbeque” or, we assume, camp, play music or engage in many of the activities that Bonaireans expect when they go to the waterside.

Your plan would allow the developers to cover the beach with chairs and lounges (for which they would charge a fee as do Plaza and Harbour Village) and in other ways to obstruct or intimidate local residents who only wish to enjoy their time at the sea. The government has proven itself unable to enforce public access at Plaza, Harbour Village and other developed sites where, by law, there should be access. There is no reason to expect that the Sunset Beach situation will be any different.

As BOG has split the property, the depth (sea to property line) of the beach appears to be quite inadequate for it to be shared between the developments and the public. Once new hotels or condos appear, real access by local people will be both extremely limited and intimidating. We believe that existing law claims the first 50 meters from mean high tide as public beachfront. The BOG plan does not even come close to this. It is not a valid argument that the government has ignored this requirement in the past. Now is the time to take a stand for the people of Bonaire and not for the developers.

Should the developers decide to build condos instead of hotels, this problem will be even worse as the ‘owners’ will expect to have restricted beach rights having paid for their property.

While the items above represent serious objections to the plans of BOG we do acknowledge some good points you brought out:

Your requirement for the developers to contribute to the cost of beach development and maintenance. However, we are concerned that this may make them think that they ‘own’ the beach since they are paying for it.

A willingness to consult with Fundashon Playa Públoko in setting negotiating points when the time comes for contract deliberations. We would have appreciated being consulted before this decision was made since both BOG and the Bestuurscollege have been aware of our concerns and interest for almost three years.

The BOG plan is a series of lost opportunities for Bonaire which will never come again.

The opportunity for our community to have full access to the last large beach area on the island

The opportunity to create a recreation and entertainment focus on the island

The opportunity to create new Bonairean-owned businesses and the associated jobs.

The opportunity to create a new magnet for our tourists and enhance our tourism product

The opportunity to encourage the blending of tourists and local residents in a pleasant, uniquely Bonairean environment

The opportunity for Bonaire to make a dramatic statement about its tourism product, about ecology and to re-enforce the unique nature of Bonaire for our visitors.

We know that it is late in your process to make some of the changes we have asked for but, at a minimum, the entire public beach area should be no less than the required 50 meters deep from high water and the ability of the developers to dictate the uses of the beach should be rescinded. This property is large enough to allow for that. We believe that, with this width there is room for both visitors and local people to share one of the best spots on the island for relaxing and enjoying the ocean.

We hope to continue our dialogue with BOG.

Bestuurscollege, Openbaar Lichaam Bonaire et al… Island Council Openbaar Lichaam Bonaire.. GezaghebBerSea.Lydia Emerencia

Bonaireans enjoying their Sunset Beach in the 80s

The Reporter

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Conch Treasure Lost

In the middle of a very busy period of time Evelien Rijswijk, owner of All Denture Lab Bonaire, decided to rent the location next to her existing lab when that place became vacant. A thorough renovation followed and the units were connected. As a result the laboratory became way more efficient and spacious. When Evelien saw the murals of the Krioyo restaurant in Playa, she became so enthusiastic that she wanted to spice up the walls of her business next to the Botica in Antirio as well.

So, she paid a visit to Manuela Winklaar, who “did” the murals at the Krioyo restaurant, but Manuela told her she couldn’t paint people and gave Evelien the phone number of Roy Wanga, a painter from Nort di Salita. “I wanted something that would distinguish my business from the other buildings around me,” Evelien says, “and when Roy came up with this design I really liked his idea!

It’s a funny mural, because Roy painted the people as if they were real people, same height. And now, when someone is waiting or leaning against the wall, he or she just blends in real well into the mural! We – my co-worker Charlotte Andrea and I – are very happy with the result and passersby are also appreciative about the make-over! It was well worth it!”

Evelien and Charlotte in front of the lab. Alas, Roy Wanga couldn’t be there because he was working elsewhere.

Classical Music Board Bonaire

Proudly presents:

THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 2013
Starting at 8 P.M.

Plaza Resort Bonaire, Cabo de Hita

Harold Martina

playing a varied programme consisting of amongst others pieces by:
Ludwig van Beethoven, Felix Mendelssohn, Louis Gottschalk, Enrique Granados
Luis A. Calvo, Claude Debussy, Franz Liszt

Tickets are available at the City Hall and at the locations mentioned with schon B13-15.
Tickets are for sale at Addo’s books and toys, Flamingo bookshop, Chateau Linnea, Resort Report Shop, Restaurant Plaza Resort Bonaire.

Reservations can also be made at www.classicalmusicboard bonaire.com

Downtown Kralendijk at the old Cultima

Supermarket

- Downtown location - Great service
- Lots of variety - Lower prices

Super Specials on Fruits and Vegetables on the Last and First Sundays of Every Month

Topteam

bonaire@gmail.com
Walk-a-thon

The Walk-a-thon! It might be the largest show of support of any community organization on Bonaire. Individuals, groups of friends, families, staffs of companies walking or biking, supporting the Special Olympics team, commemorating the slaves’ trip from the salt flats in the south to their family homes in Rincon.

The Special Olympics 11th consecutive Walk-a-Thon was held last Sunday, March 3. There were 587 tickets sold. Most participants gathered in the dark at the Slave Huts at 5 a.m. According to sources there were more than 90 walkers/runners and 100 bikers at the start, even a roller blader. However, others joined along the way, all ending up at Pasa Dia di Karino in Rincon, 34 k. from the start. At one point, at Tolo, 149 bikers were counted.

It was a perfect morning – sunny, no rain as in other years, but with enough cloud cover to make it cool.

The first biker to arrive in Rincon was Luigi Egbrechts who made it in 1 ½ hours! Winning walkers were veterans Nazario Alberto and Herman Winklaar (cover) who did it in 3 ¾ hours!

Stations were set up along the way, staffed by volunteers offering water, orange and watermelon slices, pan dushi and lots of encouragement. At the end everyone got homemade chicken soup, “a power lunch,” a drink and an impressive Walk-A-Thon Certificate.

Sponsors: Best Brands Bonaire, Fatum, NAPA, Multi Post, Fundashon Wega di Number Bonaire, Flamingo Communications, Digicel, MCB

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Affordable Self Storage

Out of Space?

Choose your size from 5’x5’ to 10’x20’. Prices from $29 to $147 per month. Call 700-1753

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BISTRO DE PARIS

On The Waterfront at The Harbour Village Marina
Air-conditioning and al fresco dining
Reservations: Tel: 717-7070 email: info@bistrodeparis.com

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ZAZU Bar

Zazu Bar at the Harbour Village Marina
Open:: Mon-Fri 3-10 pm, Sat: 5-10 pm Bar menu available Tel: 717-7070 email: info@bistrodeparis.com

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Coral Casino Bonaire invites you to a free taxi journey to the Casino where you can have fun and play:
- Black Jack
- Roulette
- The only Three Card + Caribbean Stud on the island
- 100 slot machines to choose from

Become a member of our VIP players club and be eligible for giveaways, prizes, raffles and more…
For a free cab ride to the Casino call 782-1669
Check the list below for your area.

For a group of 2+
Flamingo Beach
Caribbean Court
Kralendijk
Belenem
Tera Cora
Den Tera

For a group of 3+
Harbour Village Marina
Beach Resort
Den Laman
Sand Dollar
Buddy Dive
Nikkoko
Nort di Salinja
Amboina
Republiek
Mexico (north + south)
Captain Don’s Habitat
Antriel

For a group of 4+
Bonaire Caribbean Club
Sorobon Beach Resort
Rode Pan/Witte pan
Tras di Montana
Punto Blanco
Cargill Salt

For a group of 5+
Karpata
Rincon

For a group of 6+
Playa Grandi

For a group of 7+
BoPec

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**Bonaire Humor**

*From the Papiamentu language newspaper *extra*

What is better—a battery or a mother-in-law? A battery, because the battery at least has a positive side.

A drunk gets on a bus and asks: Who lost a wad of money tied with a rubber band? A guy on the bus yells: I did! The drunk says: Well, I found the rubber band.

**Feminist: Why do they say that a dog is man’s best friend? Because animals understand each other!**

You are, the Internet?

**Wife:** Yeah, sure, who do you think you are, the Internet?

**Carmen:** Well, I would divorce you and go have a happy life.

**Buchito:** Sweetheart, what would you do if I told you we won the lottery?

**Jane Madden-Disko**

**Why did the drunk take apart the computer? He was looking for the CD Rum.**

**The teacher asked her:** Who are you? The girl answered: My name is Bee. Translated by Jane Madden-Disko

**Buchito:** Well, we won $24. Here’s your $12. Go have a happy life.

In what way is a woman like a hurricane? They arrive very strong and intense and leave with your car and your house.

A pastor was running for his life because there was a lion chasing him. Suddenly, the pastor fell to his knees and began to pray: “Dear God, please let this lion become Christian.” The lion also fell to his knees and began to pray: “Dear God, thank you for this food that I am going to have.”

Juan was in class with all his friends. The teacher was late in arriving and the kids started a huge free-for-all in the classroom. When the teacher arrived she saw the chaos and began to ask each kid what they had done.

Juanita, what did you do? I painted on the blackboard.

Pedro, what did you do? I threw my chair in the front of the class.

Buchi, what did you do? I threw a bee out the window.

You see children, Buchi is the only one who conducted himself properly in class and did something right.

After a couple of minutes, a young girl, looking battered, knocked on the door of the house.

The teacher asked her: Who are you? The girl answered: My name is Bee.

**The teacher visited Pedro, what did you do? I threw my spare time… to fill in some carpet.**

**The reporter was running for his life located on Madison’s own ‘Hippy Street’ has live music, dancing, parades and lots of craziness!**

To help catch up with this month’s advertisements, you can call to make an appointment.

**Picture Yourself With The Reporter**

**In Miami Springs, Florida**

A well known member of the Bonaire Golf club, Piedra So, Mr. Hugo Leter visited the Miami Springs Golf Club and took The Bonaire Reporter with him, probably to fill in some spare time…

You must know that Hugo Leter did his first steps in this sport on the golf course of the Bonaire golf club, Piedra So, and was given some lessons by one of our members.

This golf course is a special one, on the east coast of Bonaire, near Washikemba.

The course is designed to use the natural environment as much as possible. No grass on the fairways and greens, with the soil as it is. The design can be characterized as ECOLOGICAL! It’s a very challenging course, also for the more experienced golfers, but fascinating, given the fact that the northeast trade winds sometimes add an extra difficulty to the game.

The Bonaire Golf Club Piedra So (which means “just stone,” a good qualification) has been around since 2004. There are more or less 25 members now. And the club can have many more! The necessary golf gear is available. Local playing costs are only $20. And if you want, initial practices can be offered.

Just visit our website www.piedraso.com and you will find all the necessary information including phone numbers. You can call to make an appointment.

**Picture Yourself With The Reporter**

**In Madison, Wisconsin, USA**

To help catch up with the backlog of Picture Yourself entries we are publishing two submissions per edition.

**Business Owners: Are you disappointed with your present advertising? Use The Reporter to get best results.**

**Why The Reporter?**

- Big format - Your ad is never "lost in the clutter."
- Real Bonaire stories, new s and letters
- Balanced views and topics people want to read, not just press releases
- Low ad cost per copy.
- Aimed at Locals and Tourists in hotels and markets, shops and restaurants
- Your ads go Worldwide on the Internet, free
- In English - The language of bargains and business.

**Dutch and Papiamentu publications use English**

**Free Directory listings for regular advertisers**

**Call 786-6518**

Your ads placed in The Reporter will find customers for your shop or restaurant. Try it and see. At over 80 Bonaire locations and around the world via the Internet.

**WIN GREAT PRIZES!** Take a copy of The Bonaire Reporter with you on your next trip or when you return to your home. Then take a photo of yourself with the newspaper in hand. THE BEST PHOTOS OF THE YEAR WILL WIN THE PRIZES.

Mail photos to: Bonaire Reporter, Box 407, Bonaire, Dutch Caribbean. E-mail to: info@bonairereporter.com
Bonaire Sun Rise/Set, Moon Phase and Tides

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**Bonaire-Sun Rise/Set, Moon Phase and Tides**

**MISCELLANEOUS**

- **Private Sighting**
- **Flights**
- **Discover Bonaire from the air.**
- Up to 3 passengers.
- Also photo and special flights, 7 days a week. Information: 786-7720

**SUDOKU**

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**Sudoku Solution**

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SHOPTING and SERVICE GUIDE

AIRLINES
Divi Divi Air- Bonaire’s “on time airline” with 16 flights a day between Bonaire and Curacao. Your first choice for inter-island travel. Now flying to Aruba.

APPLIANCES / TV / ELECTRONICS / COMPUTERS
City Shop, the mega store, has the island’s widest selection of large and small home appliances, furniture, TV, computers, cell phones and more. In-store financing too.

AUTOMOBILE DEALER
Check out Auto City Bonaire for the widest selection of new car brands on Bonaire including Chevrolet, Honda, Isuzu, Suzuki, Subaru. Used cars too. Complete service department. Hertz rentals.

BANK
ORCO Bank offers one-on-one attention, personal banking. Each client is a person, not a number. Office in the historic building at Kaya Grandi 48.

BARS
Zazu Bar at the Harbour Village Marina is all you expect in a great bar. Super bartender, quality drinks and friendly service. Plus Bonaire’s only Rum Bar—over 50 types!

BEAUTY PARLOR
Hair Affair. Expert hair cutting, styling, facials and facial waxing.

CARS AND BIKES
De Freewieler sells bikes and all kinds of bike accessories. They do professional repairs on almost anything on two wheels. Have your keys made here too.

CASINO
The Coral Casino at the Plaza Resort has it all—BlackJack, Roulette, Caribbean Stud, over 100 slots. Always specials and raffles. Free cab ride from your hotel.

DENTURE REPAIR
All Denture Lab—for the best denture care by an experienced professional. Repairs while you wait. Next to Botika Korona on Kaya J. G. Hernandez.

WANT A LISTING IN THIS DIRECTORY?
It’s still free for regular advertisers in The Reporter. Call Laura at 786-6518 for more details.

ON and IN the WATER
Budget Marine has what anyone with a boat needs, and if it’s not in stock they can order it quickly. You can also find special hardware for general use and components for solar and wind electric systems.

Carib Inn is Bonaire’s third oldest Dive Shop, open since 1980, is a 10-room resort tailoring to small-scale resort lovers. Well stocked scuba store, best prices on dive equipment. The place where others take their gear for repair.

Dive Friends has four dive schools and three retail shops so you always get the best deals and can be assured of top notch training. Remodeled shop open now.

UNDERWATER VIDEO
Scuba Vision - Pro video of your Bonaire vacation, above and/or below the water with a custom DVD by Bonaire’s top videographer, Hendrik Wuyts.

GARDEN SUPPLIES AND SERVICES
Green Label has everything you need to start or maintain your garden. They can design, install and maintain it and offer plants, irrigation supplies and garden chemicals. Off Kaya Industria, behind Lucky Supermarket.

HOME CARE
Bonaire Second Home Care can handle all the needs of second home owners on Bonaire including inspection, management and cleaning.

OPTICIAN
Buena Vista Optics is Bonaire’s most up-to-date place to get eyeglasses or contact lenses. The combination of experienced personnel and advanced equipment and technology make it a top value

PHOTOGRAPHER
Bonaire’s creative video and still photographer for the wedding or other important events in your life. ScubaVision, Kaya Grandi 6. See website scubavision.info or ScubaVision on YouTube

REAL ESTATE / RENTAL AGENTS
Sunbelt Realty offers full real estate, rental, and insurance services. If you want a home or to invest in Bonaire, stop in and visit.

RESTAURANTS
Bistro de Paris — Waterfront location at the Harbour Village Marina. Superb menu, genuine French dishes in a waterfront ambiance. Airco if you want it.

La Balandra at The Harbour Village Resort offers Bonaire’s most spectacular setting. Superb cuisine, top notch service. Eat on the deck or with your feet in the sand.


RETAIL
Benetton, world famous designer clothes available now in Bonaire at prices less than those in US. For men, women and children.

Bona Dea is Bonaire’s newest Caribbean life style shop featuring good taste gifts, apparel, shoes, accessories and home décor.

SECURITY
Special Security Services will provide that extra measure of protection when you need it. Always reliable.

STORAGE
The Storehouse (Mangasina in Papiamentu) offers Secure Storage for Vehicles, Household Items, Diving and Sporting Gear, Business Files or Inventory. Across from the northern hotel row.

SHIPPING
Rocargo Freight Air and sea shipments in/out of Bonaire. Customs agents. Professional and efficient. FedEx agent. What would we do without their superb services?

SPAS/GYM/HEALTH
Bon Bida Spa & Gym World Class fitness and health facility. Classes, top notch machines, trainers. Day, monthly or annual rates.

SUPERMARKETS
TOP Supermarket — Conveniently located downtown at the old Cultimarina location. Featuring a complete selection including fresh meat, fruit and vegetables.

Warehouse Supermarket on Kaya Industria — Big air conditioned market with a friendly staff, the largest selection and lowest prices on the island. They stock what you need.

MADE ON BONAIRE
Semper Kontentu goat cheese. Ask for it at restaurants and look for it in the markets. Lovingly handmade. Mugs available.

WATER TAXI
Get to Klein Bonaire by Ferry. Ride the Kantika di Amor. Hotel or downtown pickup. The only water taxi to Klein Bonaire with an easy on/off built-in ramp at Bonaire Nautico (If Rains Fishes Restaurant)

A Directory listing is free for regular advertisers in The Reporter. Call Laura at 786-6518 for information.
A (very) partial list of Jobs and Activities done in the past

Clean up of the cemetery, two days of beach clean up at Lac, painting / repair / improvement and planting in numerous locations, walking, entertain people with limited visibility / blind / limited hearing at Rum Runners restaurant, Party at Kas di Kaido - New shelves for books, Outside painting of the Sporthall, Outside painting of the building of Oubaas repair / improvement, Make a bolas field, painting / repair / improvement of the Lourdes Grotto, Outside painting of the Sporthall, Outside painting / repair / improvement of the field and building. Fence building at the kunuku for par- 

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Dr. Gerald Rach celebrated 20 years of service on Bonaire with a party in the garden of the Centro Medico with friends, colleagues and family on Thursday, January 25.

Dr. Rach, considered one of the best ear, nose and throat specialists in the region, has been coming to Bonaire twice a month from his Head & Neck Center in Curacao. Over the years he’s consulted with hundreds of patients. Making the trek to Bonaire and back every other Thursday, starting with the now defunct ALM, and the subsequent airlines has been quite an adventure. For that the man deserves a medal! Thank you, Dr. Rach. ■ L.D.

Dr. Rach

20 Years of ENT

I was in 1976 that I found myself at the threshold of the Bartlett Music Store in Carmel, California. We are in the first days of a nine-month sabbatical. It is time-off as compensation for myself and my family. A reward for six years of dogged hard work for the company I work for. One is expected to do something fruitful with the time available. Write a book or pursue another academic or spiritual adventure.

As my first publication is almost finished there is room for something else. After years of musical performances on the drums I want to learn to play the baritone saxophone. And I have an idol: It is Gerry Mulligan whose 78 rpm records I have played until the grooves were out. “Nights at the Turntable” and “Bernie’s Tune” with Chet Baker.

The owner of Bartlett Music Store is one Chris Bartlett. He is a character of great individuality, perhaps partly formed by his experiences in Vietnam. He shows me a baritone saxophone which turns out to be 15 lb. contraption with a mouthpiece the size of a cucumber. He thinks it is not necessarily the most appropriate instrument for a beginner, so I leave the store, the proud owner of a beautiful Silverplate Buescher tenor saxophone, a beginner’s textbook and a reference for a teacher with a Mexican background at the Carmel High School: Mr. Roberto Avila.

From thereon half a year of biweekly lessons ensued. These are skillfully administered, supported by Avila’s authority and love for music, as he treats his other, somewhat younger students. And there is endless practicing in a bathroom which has been converted so that my beginner’s scores don’t torture the rest of the family too much.

Back in The Netherlands I consider myself to be quite an accomplished musician. I cheekily call a teacher of the musical conservatory and am promptly referred to his youngest student, who goes by the name of André. I arrive for my first lesson in my working costume, a sleek dark blue business man’s suit. After some scales he warily shakes his head. “This won’t do. Put that thing away and lie on the floor.” I take off my jacket and lie down on the prickly horse hair carpet tiles and await what may come. Suddenly he plants his foot with its sturdy shoe in the center of my chest and bellows: “And now breathe.” As I gasp for breath he clears me up on the difference between the technique of the breathing of wind instrument players, from the diaphragm of the chest and my perky chicken’s breast.

We become friends and after two years he accompanies me to Brussels to finally buy the baritone saxophone I long for. On the way back he recommends a real baritone saxophone specialist as a teacher. It is a first-year conservatory student, Henk van Twillert. My idol Gerry Mulligan is coming within reach.

The new music teacher teaches me to properly interpret music. After ample analysis and painful practice the music sheets are removed. “From memory, please, so that you may focus on intonation, accents, cadences and tone.” I find it excruciatingly difficult but he is right. “It has to be turned into music by you yourself.” After some years we lose contact. We are both preoccupied with our careers. He finishes his conservatory studies and establishes himself as a gifted musician. I pursue my management career, followed by making some sailing voyages and end up in Bonaire in 1998 and indulge in writing books, making music with my Antillian friends, organizing jazz festivals and much more.

Thirty years after my lessons with Henk van Twillert something special happens. It is in our Mega-jazz radio show (yes, the one with Bernie’s Tune as opening melody) I hear the CD of a guest of co-host Henk Rozendoal. It is a beautiful piece of music played by 10 saxophone players, recorded in the church of Spakenburg (NL) and the soloist (who is also the director) is Henk van Twillert himself! I am dumbfounded, surprised and curious and consult “Google” to learn of his whereabouts. I establish that he is studying and teaching in New York City and that he lives and works in Portugal. We make contact by telephone and a week later there is a reunion at Schiphol Amsterdam Airport. Whilst enjoying a tasteful combo of fish and white wine we make plans for the near future.

Since then I am organizing the concert tours of my teacher of old on and in the vicinity of our islands. Sometimes with a large orchestra, another time with a fado singer, piano player or a quintet of string instruments. And we have become the closest of friends.

Recently Henk has, on my request, sent me two scores by Bach: “Aria” (on a G string) and “Du bist bei mir” and he spurs me on to try them diligently. Practising. Exciting! Bach!

A month later Henk and his wife Laurinda are guests at our family and vacation house in Friesland (NL) and we have what I have dreaded unfoldings.

“Come on, Gunz, let’s hear those snippets of Bach.”

Even though I saw this coming my heart sinks. We take it one by line, at first with a bit of sheet and then from memory, becoming increasingly beautiful.

Thank you, maestro Henk!

A few days later: My son-in-law tells me that my youngest grandchild, 11 year old Rik, wants to take up the saxophone. They have already been to a shop and he is equipped with both an alto saxophone and a teacher in Utrecht (NL). And they will soon stop by. It makes me very happy. The people at the shop had asked Rik whether he had an idol. “For sure!” the little fellow said; “My grandfather is my idol!” They came to visit. After a day we could play the scale of “C” together and a simple children’s tune.

Almost flawless, played from memory with feeling and bravado. Upon saying goodbye I had to disappoint my grandson a little: “Grandpa will gladly help you with a few lessons, but you are better off with a with a real saxophone player for an idol. Like Benjamin Herman, Candy Dulfer or your own teacher for instance. They are more than perhaps partly formed by his experiences in Vietnam. He shows me a baritone saxophone which turns out to be 15 lb. contraption with a mouthpiece the size of a cucumber. He thinks it is not necessarily the most appropriate instrument for a beginner, so I leave the store, the proud owner of a beautiful Silverplate Buescher tenor saxophone, a beginner’s textbook and a reference for a teacher with a Mexican background at the Carmel High School: Mr. Roberto Avila.

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Pet of the Week

Here’s a beautiful dog with a very sad past. “Binck,” this Bonairean Doberman was thrown out of a car. Someone witnessed the act, took the license number and reported it to the Animal Welfare and the police. Binck, totally upset and disoriented, was brought into the Bonaire Animal Shelter. Just six or seven months old he’s been through doggie hell but since he’s been in the Shelter and taken care of by the loving and friendly staff and volunteers he’s a different dog. He’s playful and smart and so very appreciative of his good fortune. He’s been checked out by the vet, proclaimed healthy, has had his shots, worming and will be sterilized. In the meantime he’s enjoying his new life with his kennel mates. But his real aim is to find a caring owner who will appreciate his fine qualities.

When we hear stories like this of animal abuse it makes us wonder. The Shelter does everything in its power to make it easy for people to deal with unwanted animals. There is a cage at the Shelter entrance where animals may be dropped off, no questions asked. The cage is checked often so the animal doesn’t have to be in there too long. The Shelter offers free sterilization to help keep the cat and dog population down. They have educational programs for children. There is no need to throw an animal out of a car, but when it happens more and more often. Why?

You may see Binck and the other pets up for adoption at the Shelter on the Lagoen Road, open Monday through Saturday, 9 am to 1 pm and 3 to 5 pm. Tel. 717-4989. Remember, a pet adopted from the Shelter has been “screened” as healthy and social – a proven and known animal! — Laura DeSalvo

That a species of shrimp live inside sea squirts? This association is so strong that the Italian common name for the shrimp is Gambero dell’ascidia, or “shrimp of sea squirt.” These animals are found in the sub tidal zone off the coast of Islas Baleares in Spain. Each shrimp usually lives alone and returns to the same chamber for shelter. When these shrimp begin their summer mating season the females of the species stay inside their sea squirt homes while males of the species leave to visit females. Sometimes both male and female shrimp live together in one sea squirt, but it doesn’t happen very often. Think about how cramped it would be! Instead imagine how nice it would be to live in a cushy sea squirt in the sea. — Alexandra Lukasiewicz

Alexandra Lukasiewicz is a senior studying environmental science and marine conservation biology at the Pennsylvania State University. She is currently living and studying at the CIEE research station here in Bonaire.

Benetton Bonaire

Open: MONDAY – SATURDAY
Time: 9:30am-12:30am / 2:00pm-6:30pm

Kaya Grandi #29
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Tel: (599) 717-5107
Email: benettonbonaire@telbonet.an

What will you do on March 15th and 16th?

On March 15th and 16th 2013 NGO Platform Bonaire is cooperation with Orange Femida will organize BON DOET, the biggest volunteer’s event on Bonaire. Form your own group of family, friends, acquaintances or colleagues to participate together and have a good time. There are many chores and activities listed for BON DOET. Choose what you’d like to do best on our website. We are going for it! Are you?

Register today at bonvol2013@gmail.com,
www.facebook.com of 717-2854

Bonaire Reporter- March 8-22, 2013
This month we have a chance to spot what may be the brightest comet seen for some time. Comet Pan-STARRS was discovered some two years ago when it lay between the orbits of Saturn and Jupiter - very dimly. It is named after the Panoramic Survey Telescope and Rapid Response System. It reaches perihelion, when closest to the Sun, on March 10th, well inside the orbit of Mercury. At our latitudes it is likely to be at its best between March 8th to 20th with the March 10th, well inside the orbit of perihelion and Rapid Response System.

In a less spectacular vein as March opens, the Moon ushers in Saturn as they both rise together late at night. Saturn and Spica, at magnitudes 0.3 and 1.0 respectively, will shine brightly in the southeastern sky in the late evening. Toward the end of the month, on March 28, the Moon will re-enter the scene, positioning itself between the two as it is one day past full phase. March's Full Moon occurs at 6:27 a.m. Sky Park Time on the 27th, which means that at moonrise on the evenings of both March 26 and 27, the Moon will be more than 99% lit. The mornings after Full Moon, March 28 and 29, you can spot the Moon as it is still setting in the west looking close to full while the Sun has already risen in the east.

Jupiter is still in Taurus positioned near the bull's V-shaped head. March 17 will make for a great photo-op as the Moon interjects itself into the small space between Taurus's head and Jupiter. The giant planet and our Moon will appear to be about two degrees apart.

The spring equinox occurs on March 20 at 11:02 UT. On many places on the globe on this date, day and night each last for 12 hours. In the Southern Hemisphere, fall begins.

In the Northern Hemisphere, the sky is ruled by the constellation Orion during the first quarter of the year. Containing some of the brightest stars in the sky, it anchors both the Winter Hexagon and Winter Triangle. Its familiar line of three stars that outline Orion's belt makes it one of the easiest constellations to spot.

Last month we discussed how to identify some of the bright stars seen in the winter sky. This month brings more bright stars near the zenith (i.e., the point on the sky directly overhead). Just to the north of Orion and Taurus is the constellation Auriga, the Charioteer, which has the shape of a pentagon.

Its brightest star is Capella, which ranks 6th in brightness in the night sky.

Bob Berman

A BRIGHT COMET?

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We do our best to make your hair and make-up wishes come true!!
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The Stars Have It
By Astrologer Michael Thiessen
Early March 2013

ARIES (Mar. 21 - April 20) False information is likely if you listen to idle chatter or gossip. Work diligently and you will get ahead this month. Conflicts over joint finances are likely. You can enhance your cash flow if you pick up additional skills. Your lucky day this month will be Monday.

TAURUS (Apr. 21 - May 21) You may have a problem dealing with elders. Temper could boil if someone you work with has not being pulling their weight. You will feel tired and rundown if you have allowed yourself to get into a financial mess. Your determination may make you a little overbearing when dealing with others. Your lucky day this month will be Friday.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21) Don't overindulge in anyway. If you put your mind to it, you could entertain or host a multitude of social events. Things at home may be somewhat rocky. Don't let your personal partner hold you back or slow you down. Your lucky day this month will be Saturday.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) Your partner may be reluctant to tell you how they feel. You may be tired of working for someone else. Although it does look promising, be careful not to overextend yourself or you will lose in the long run. Deception and confusion regarding your status in society is likely. Your lucky day this month will be Wednesday.

LEO (July 23-Aug 22) Your practical approach to life may charm someone who has been observing you. You will communicate easily and should be able to develop new friendships. Your irritability will lead to family squabbles. Tell them to get out of the mess they are in and then you'll consider getting together with them. Your lucky day this month will be Thursday.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 - Sept. 23) Your desire for excitement and adventure may be expensive. Try not to lend or borrow money or belongings this month. Deception in your home is evident. Don't beat around the bush. Be cautious when dealing with coworkers. Your lucky day this month will be Saturday.

Libra

Libra (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23) If boredom has set in, find new and unique directions that offer interesting friendships. Try looking into new ways to make extra money. Deception is apparent. Younger relatives may seek your advice. Your lucky day this month will be Thursday.

Scorpio

Scorpio (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) You will do extremely well if you get involved in competitive activities this month. Mingle with those who can help you get ahead. Use your quick wit to win points with friends. Arguments will flare up if you get backed into an emotional corner. Your lucky day this month will be Thursday.

Sagittarius

Sagittarius (Nov. 23 - Dec. 22) Don't hesitate to present your unique ideas. You should be able to get a lot done. You can make major gains if you talk to your bank about your findings. You will reap the benefits if you put money into upgrading your residence. Your lucky day this month will be Wednesday.

Capricorn

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 20) So smile! You may have difficulties with someone close to you. Keep the promises you've made and expect to be in the doghouse. Romance will develop if you get involved in social events that deal with children. Your lucky day this month will be Friday.

Aquarius

Aquarius (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19) Broaden your horizons and look into programs that will teach you awareness and relaxation. You're best to avoid disputes. You could receive recognition for a job well done. Entertainment should include sports events or physical activities. Your lucky day this month will be Tuesday.

Pisces

Pisces (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) You will find your vitality is lowered. You could have trouble persuading others to accept your ideas and opinions. Changes in your domestic scene are apparent. Take time to listen to children and help them with projects that seem impossible to them. Your lucky day will be Monday.

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Asking price US$ 235,000

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