

**It's Still
FREE**

BONAIRE January 13-27, 2014 Year 21, Issue 2
The REPORTER
BES Island News Too

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**Maskarada New Year 2014
See page 10**

Dancing with the Gezaghebber

Flotsam and Jetsam

BONAIRE The REPORTER

The Executive and Island Councils of Bonaire are in operation again, at least for a while. Both the commissioners of the Executive Council and the coalition faction in the Island Council have agreed to respect Island Governor Lydia Emerencia as chairwoman of both councils while she remains in office. She is set to step down March 1. No replacement has been named.

After conversations with the Dutch Kingdom Representative and some face-saving dialogue, the council's majority agreed to meet as usual. The Executive Council already held meetings chaired by the governor, which proceeded in a business-like atmosphere. UPB/Santana coalition spokesman James Kroon said, "We have no problems with Emerencia as a person. We've explained to her several times that the way she chaired the meetings was not correct. Her attitude led to everything that happened last year and eventually resulted in the vote of no confidence."

► On January 7, **Edsel Winklaar (56) was sworn in as successor to Commissioner Burney el Hage representing the UPB Party.** The Curacao-born commissioner, who was living in The Netherlands, has a technical education and a graduate degree in business. He has not been active in politics but knows Bonaire, having served as Director of Telbo for part of the last decade.



Govt. photo

Winklaar is married and the father of two daughters. He was chairman of FESBO, the federation of neighborhood centers, was the first president of the NGO platform, and the employers' organization, AKIB

► **THE HAGUE—Travelling expenses of the Dutch Ministry of Home Affairs and Kingdom Relations (BZK) are expected to be lower this year due to the stricter guidelines that were implemented on July 1, 2013.**

During January-June 2013, BZK spent €47,829 on trips to the Caribbean part of the Kingdom. The expenditures of BZK have been declining after 2010. In 2011, the expenditures stood at €34,600 and in 2012 the figure was €309,361. The high cost in 2009 and 2010 respectively, €45,940 and €366,472, were related to the

constitutional process to dismantle the country of the Netherlands Antilles and to set up the countries Curaçao and St. Maarten along with the Dutch public entities Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba.

► Although The Netherlands is having a "warm" winter it's still cold there. So now is a good time for Dutch lawmakers to travel to the Dutch Caribbean for fact-finding trips. **Last week the first officials of the new year, an eight-member delegation of the Second Chamber of the Dutch Parliament, arrived to study the Dutch Caribbean islands.**

► On that recent junket VVD Party parliamentarian André Bosman said in order to alleviate the current high cost situation in the islands, the **Caribbean Dutch should "Work harder for more income and grow food themselves."** He emphasized his approach following a visit to supermarkets in Kralendijk and Rincon, reporter Belkis Osepa wrote.

Bosman believes in searching for a structural solution and that the inhabitants of the BES islands themselves should generate more income. "We need to work hard and look at the opportunities for work. **Why are there no cows and why are there no tomatoes, cucumbers and sweet potatoes being grown?"**

► Kralendijk's south pier, sometimes called New Pier is to be named after **Captain Petrus Nelson "Nelo" Craane, who recently died a tragic death at sea.**

Bonaire's Island Council passed the resolution after consultation with family members of the late captain.

Craane, also known as "Kaptan Dipchi," was shipwrecked last December while sailing a small vessel to Curaçao. He was rescued from the waters near Cuba together with another crewmember, but the help came too late for him.

As the *Amigoe* newspaper reported, Craane was a captain since 1997 in the service of Curaçao's government-owned tugboat company, Kompania di Tou Kòrsou (KTK). He was held in high regard within the local and international maritime world.

► **Aruba still ranks first worldwide among countries with the highest income tax rate.** Citizens with a taxable income of 309,131 Aruban florins or more are to pay **58.95% of their income in tax.** Sweden ranks second with a tax rate of 56.6% for citizens with a taxable annual income of just

over 154,000 florins. Third on the list is Denmark with a rate of 55.38% for an annual income of more than 127,000 florins.

The European Netherlands ranks fourth with a 52% rate for an annual income exceeding €51,787, according to online money magazine *therichest.com*. In the US the highest income tax rate is 39.6%. **The highest income tax rate in Bonaire is 35.4%.**



► United Airlines further modified its long-standing schedule with non-stop flights from Newark (NJ) and Houston (TX) to Bonaire. United Airlines flight UA1422 departs every Saturday from **Newark International Airport (EWR)** at 8:29am and arrives on Bonaire International Airport (BON) at 2:22pm. The return flight UA1420 departs BON at 3:22pm and arrives in EWR at 7:26pm.

United Airlines flight UA1402 departs every Friday afternoon from **Houston/George Bush International Airport (IAH)** at 1pm and arrives on Bonaire at 7:40pm. The return flight UA1401 departs Bonaire Saturday at 8:22am and arrives in Houston at 11:28am.

There will be two extra flights from Newark and one extra flight from Houston between March 6 and 31, 2014.

► **The Aruban airline, Tiara Air, recently filed for an automatic stay which will prevent creditors and collectors from trying to collect debts from the ailing company.**

Their service has been troublesome, especially for Bonaire passengers, some of whom were stranded overnight in Aruba and forced to sleep in the airport. The Aruba government recently approved a bridge loan from a special emergency fund to keep the airline operating while waiting for the Venezuelan Commission for the Administration of Currency Exchange (CADIVI). CADIVI is one of the main causes of financial problems for various airlines in the Caribbean region, including the Curacao airline Insel Air. According to CADIVI reports, Venezuela owes Tiara Air about \$40 million.

The airline announced that it will increase its operations to Curacao, Bonaire and Colombia. Currently the company is operating to Curacao, Bonaire, Caracas, Maracaibo and Las Piedras in Venezuela, Fort Lauderdale and Riochacha in Colombia.

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► **Bonaire has once again received top honors** and secured seven different awards in *Scuba Diving* magazine's Readers' Choice Awards, including three #1 ratings, underlining the island's long held reputation as a diver's paradise. For the 21st consecutive year, Bonaire has taken first place for the #1 Shore Diving Destination.

The #1 Caribbean/Atlantic region rankings received by Bonaire include Best Macro Diving, Best Shore Diving and Best Beginner Diving. The #2 rankings include Best Overall Destination and Best Marine Environment. Bonaire is also ranked #3 for Best Overall Diving and #4 for Best Visibility.

"We are extremely honored to once again receive these top honors that reflect on both our diving product, and the loyalty of Bonaire's visitors," commented Ethsel Pieterella, Director of Tourism Corporation

Bonaire. "Bonaire is continuously striving to preserve and protect Bonaire's National Marine Park. These awards demonstrate the results of our efforts. These awards and all of the Bonaire divers who voted inspire us to continue with our direction and remain a leader in sustainable tourism." Results of the 2014 Awards are featured in the January/February issue of *Scuba Diving* magazine.

► **The successful and much appreciated Green Label garden center celebrates its 15th birthday this year, and they are commemorating this by giving 15% off on all tagged items... for the whole year.** Pass by and check it out.

Ap and Agnes continue to own and operate Green Label. The Green Label story in the last edition gave some people the impression they were returning to The Netherlands immediately. But no, the business is up for sale and it will be a while before a new owner is found and starts to operate.

Follow the signs off Kaya Industria to the new entrance. See their ad on page 6.

► **As we go to press the fire at the landfill is still smoking. It's burned for six days** and the smoke and smell has upset island residents downwind of the fire as far as Hato. See letters to the editor for more details.

► **"Snorkel tags" for use of the Marine Park** are now for sale at the downtown TCB office-\$10. ■



G.D./L.D.

Want to get equal treatment as European Dutch citizens?

In The Netherlands a number of new laws went into effect on January 1, while some taxes and premiums are also went up.



Here's a summary of the main changes:

- Children under the age of 18 will no longer be allowed to buy cigarettes or alcoholic drinks. If caught in public with alcohol, they face a fine.
- The duty on wine, beer, sherry and port is going up by 5.75%.
- All traffic fines are going up, as are the duties on petrol. The fine for jumping a red light will be €230, while not placing a red triangle on the road if you have a breakdown will cost €140.
- People with company electric cars will now have to pay tax of 4% on their catalogue value. Electric cars used to be tax free.
- The state pension age is going up by one month to 65 and two months.
- The minimum wage for an adult rises by €8/month to €1,485.60/month.
- The health insurance own-risk element rises €10 to €60. Health insurance benefit is going down to a maximum €65 a year for a single person.
- The maximum rent for a rent-controlled property goes up to €699, while the maximum you can earn to live in rent-controlled accommodation goes up to €4,678.
- Every household will pay an extra €10 on their energy bills for sustainability measures.
- The lower rate of value-added tax (btw) on building renovations will continue throughout 2014.
- Farmers are no longer allowed to produce more manure than they can spread on their own ground unless they can prove they have a formal contract to have it removed.
- Mail will no longer be delivered on Monday.
- Romanians and Bulgarians will be able to come to the Netherlands without a work permit.

- See more at: http://www.dutchnews.nl/news/archives/2013/12/all_change_in_2014_a_round-up.php#sthash.BKqPOi2G.dpuf ■ G.D.

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On the Island Since... the end of the 1970s - Suyen Süssenbach



Suyen at her new office, showing photos of various clean up projects

"I was born on Aruba. My dad was of Surinamese, German and Portuguese descent. My mother's mother was from Aruba and her father from Surinam. I had a very quiet childhood. I have one brother and one sister, both older than I and we've always been close. We understand each other. We didn't go out a lot; there was no way that we could just go somewhere as my parents were very strict.

When I was 11 both my sister and my brother left for Holland and I stayed with my mom and dad. My mother was a home-maker and my dad had a small garage business at home. When I wasn't at school I spent all the time with my father at his garage. I guess," she smiles, "that's why I love everything that has to do with cars and trucks. I love to watch the mechanics doing repairs, I love to see big trucks and heavy equipment and when I look at SELIBON's vehicle fleet or see them driving by, I feel very proud! Also," she grins, "I service my own car.

It's a pity I'm not trained to work the heavy equipment, but I'm still hopeful it will happen one day! I've told our director" - she smiles roguishly - "Oh... if only I could.

Well, to go back to my childhood, I think it made a big impact on me and the way I see life. We were raised to become independent, responsible and respectful people. I had to keep my bedroom

clean and tidy and after dinner I washed my own plate. They taught me to respect others. Never use only one word, always use two words. That's how strict my parents were. But it was a normal thing you know and I am still happy with the way they raised me. I am a very gentle person and I get along with everybody. I adapt myself to others and it feels good.

When I was about 18 I 'discovered' Bonaire when I went on vacation to spend two weeks with two classmates of mine. I spent one week in Rincon and one in Nort Saliña. It was very different from Aruba because at the time it was already getting busy there while Bonaire had only about 12,000 inhabitants. I thought Bonaire was the nicest thing. So quiet and so friendly. I told my friends I would like to live here and they answered, 'How could you? Bonaire is really quiet.' And I answered that yes, that's the way I like it.

So when I got back to Aruba I told my parents that I wanted to move to Bonaire. They didn't like it but I was old enough, although," she laughs, "my dad told me, 'If you do something naughty, then I will immediately come to get you!' So, I went and instead of their coming to get me, I went to fetch them to come and live with me on Bonaire in 1986. I had my own car rental business and I rented a house from Fundashon Cas Bonaireano in Den

Tera where I lived with them until my mother passed away in 1992, followed by my father three months later.

My sister had come back from Holland to live on Bonaire as well, but when our parents were gone she went back to Holland and told me to come as well.

I stopped everything and I went to live in a nice little village in Holland called Boxmeer. It was a real rural village; every morning fresh air and the smell of cows! I was working for Xerox in Venray, a bigger town nearby.

I liked living in Holland because I was close to my sister and brother, but I didn't like the cold. I love to fish, it's my hobby, but in Holland you're not allowed to fish without buying a permit first and then there are still plenty of rules and regulations to follow up. I didn't like that. I got homesick and was longing for Bonaire.

In 2007 I came back - I still knew a lot of people and had a lot of contacts, more than I ever had on Aruba. I got a job immediately with a money transport company; picking up the money from the ATMs but also repairs and maintenance of the ATM machines. It was fun: a big armored truck with a lot of money in the back. I love a tough job.

At the same time I was working at the airport for a security firm from Curacao, checking on all



Suyen and her colleague, executor Mr. Elvis Cicilia.

terrain and waste acceptance.

Now that we are working together with Bon Recycling, a large portion of the waste is handled by them and sent abroad. But everything that's still at the landfill - like for instance the refrigerators and car tires - will eventually also go to Bon Recycling. The deal has been made; the only thing we're waiting for is the green light. As soon as Bon Recycling has space, we will start cleaning up the landfill.

Yes, I love this work and I am proud of it. My father used to say, 'When you work, you work! You don't play games!' That's why all my employers have been pleased with me. SELIBON is a great company and all of us colleagues

Of course there are good people too. Many times when we've removed the illegally dumped trash, a neighbor comes to me and grabs my hand and says, 'God bless you Miss, you're so good,' which, in a way, makes up for everything.

When I don't work I'm fishing. I have a little boat and as soon as I am free I go out at sea and when the sea is too rough I fish at Lac Cai. It's my hobby, but I don't eat the fish, I don't like it." She laughs. "My sister eats it.

Although I was born on Aruba I do feel I am Bonairean. A lot has changed these last years and I am worried about it, but I am not a person who stands on the barricades. I am quiet and I like it quiet and to me, the island still

"...the sad thing is there are still people who are throwing their trash in the mondi. Isn't that incredible?"

international flights - people and planes. Also I was a member of the voluntary police corps.

When the money transport company had to close its doors after four years, I began to look for another job. I started working for SELIBON's environmental police. I just loved it; patrolling, dealing with illegal dirt and debris deposits, talking some sense into people who were causing inconveniences and we would also write police reports.

When that function ceased to exist, I went on in the same job but then it was called 'quality inspector.' Nothing really changed, only we couldn't write the official reports anymore. I am still quality inspector but since two months ago I am also executor. I am with the heavy equipment department and what we do is collect recyclables, store and process at the landfill, clean up illegal dumpsites, rehabilitation of Morotin (the small landfill in Rincon), maintenance of the landfill

get along fine. Our director, Mr. Leito, is a fair person who knows his people. If you're working hard you won't hear him, but if you're hanging around idle, boy, you better make sure you have a good excuse for it.

We're keeping Bonaire clean, every day. However, the sad thing is there are still people who are throwing their trash in the mondi. Isn't that incredible? Especially when you realize that everyone can take their waste to the Environmental Square on Kaya Industria for free, six days a week.

And during the weekends the landfill is also open and it's for free. Nevertheless it's the biggest problem I'm dealing with. And you know what? It's an ongoing thing, because when we clean up the dumpsites, a week later there's another pile of trash again! It's ridiculous. Sure thing, the people know it's wrong, but they keep on doing it. And we're talking about grown ups, adult people. You know, it bothers me to no end. It's bad!

feels good.

I love being outside and luckily the greatest part of my job takes place outdoors. I don't spend a lot of time at my new office at Kaya Industria, but when I moved there, the first thing I did was clean it up and paint it. Then I put a nice palm in a pot. It smells fresh now and all of a sudden," she laughs "everyone wants to borrow my office for a meeting. Ha! Ha!

You see, my mama always said, 'If you drop something, do not step over it... pick it up.' I would like to say the same thing to the people: 'If it's doable, pick it up. You yourself can do something too and contribute to a clean Bonaire. Don't leave it all for SELIBON!"

Story & photos by Greta Kooistra



Word on the Street



New restaurants are popping up all over the place but the list of those for sale is also increasing. Unbelievable has been for sale for some time. Word on the street is that others include It Rains Fishes, and Sebastian's (formerly Richard's) which opened not too long ago. The Lover's ice cream shop in the Sand Dollar strip mall reportedly has new ownership. Chat n' Browse, in the same mall, long a Mecca for American expats, has closed.

• The Classical Music Board's next concert will be at the high school (see poster on this page). The Plaza Resort, which for years has been hosting the piano at no charge and the concerts put on by the volunteer-operated, non-profit foundation, now wants to charge for storage of the grand



piano, rental of the concert hall and won't provide a bar service near the hall. They prefer that the concert-goers walk to the Coconut Crash Beach Bar. They have withdrawn their sponsorship. It seems that new brooms are sweeping cleaner and all with new management, etc. It is a shame as school concerts held there give something back to the community. As a result CMBB needs significant additional sponsorship to organize future concerts at a reasonable ticket price. Their website is WWW.ClassicalMusicBonaire.com.

• All the hoopla about loose dogs lately (see last issue of *The Bonaire Reporter*) prompted this comment on Facebook (translated from Dutch): "ATTENTION! Anyone who has come to live on Bonaire and is suffering from stray donkeys, iguanas, dogs, etc., is urged to leave the island as soon as possible. Your (stray) presence is not appreciated!" As of January 8, over 100 "likes"

for the comment.

• In a lengthy January 7 post on the "Salon van Sisyphus" blog site, entitled "Bonaire: The Rot in Paradise," journalist Johan Depoortere made the following observation about Bonaire's cruise ship tourism (translated from Dutch): "In December last year, 39,000 cruise tourists for a population of 15,000. Like a steamroller, the corpulent and sometimes scantily clad but heavily tattooed mass moves through narrow Kaya Grandi, the only shopping street of the capital, with resulting congestion and irritation. Evening, the floating tower building leaves the dock with loud honking; if it's Tuesday it must be Bonaire. Only the bars and souvenir shops benefit."

• *The Reporter* receives a report from the police almost every day listing the incidents investigated by the police, auto accidents and related matters. There has been a sizeable increase in car thefts. It wasn't long ago that car theft was unknown on Bonaire. It was called "joyriding" and the cars were usually recovered a bit worse for the abuse they suffered. But now cars are being stolen and "chopped," stripped for their parts, and could be considered a total loss. Most often the stolen car is a Toyota, and a Yaris, the most popular model.

• The startup of Flamingo Express Dutch Caribbean (FXDC), the new Post Office operator for the BES Islands, got off to a rough beginning. The post office on Saba opened

smoothly, but labor problems related to layoffs and the previous operator, NPNA, hampered operations on Bonaire and Statia. On Bonaire workers did not receive expected severance pay from NPNA. The backlog of mail and Christmas packages was being reduced last week and mail was finally getting delivered.

On Statia by two postal workers who were dismissed by FXDC demonstrated. One was Eardley Woodley, who recently had celebrated 40 years of employment with FXDC's predecessors. People were upset but so far no one "went postal."

• Sad and mean street news: Two young men recently died from injuries sustained in two separate traffic accidents

that occurred on December 25 and 26 in Rincon and on Kaya Korona. Strangely, no cars or trucks were involved in either tragedy. One accident involved a bicycle and a scooter, in which the bicycle rider died. The other involved a quad and a bicycle, in which the driver of the quad died. It was heard that neither of the operators were wearing helmets. ■ Bula Bonchi



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Diver Down



Albert Bianculli on the reef
Photo by Catherine Salisbury

Last week Albert Bianculli, one of Bonaire's most enigmatic residents from the US, passed away from complications following a stroke. He was a man with a love affair for Bonaire's coral reef. Early Saturday, January 4, while walking to his car after leaving Little Havana, he fell. He was transported to San Francisco Hospital around 2:45 am by ambulance. He was removed from life support later in the day. Shortly before he was stricken he mentioned he had tripped on rough ground near the airport the day before after seeing some friends off. He hit his head and noticeably bruised his face.

Albert Louis Bianculli was born in New York City on Dec 16, 1942, to Katherine (Simon) and Victor Bianculli. He was married three times. Besides his two sons, Tom and Michael, he is survived by a sister, Victoria, and grandchildren Anne and Victor, and a recently born great-grandson Luke Michael. After enjoying many dive trips to Bonaire starting in the early 1970s, he achieved his dream to permanently live here in 2003. Before his move, he lived in CT and worked on a local radio show, Shopping Spree, and then sold advertising for Thomas Register Regional Industrial Buyers

Guide. Albert enjoyed dive trips to many locations including Red Sea, Papua New Guinea, Maldives and Indonesia. Albert possessed a quality of mystery and ambiguity, sometimes difficult to understand or interpret. On one hand he was gregarious with visitors to the island, particularly divers. He had numerous friends and acquaintances. On the other he was furtive and lurked below the official "radar." His death prompted several inquiries and comments to *The Reporter*. Lisa and Ted from Canada wrote, "My husband and I met Albert while on a vacation in Bonaire. He immediately became a true friend. He took us on a guided tour of your Beautiful island and shared the island's charm. The seven days we spent with Albert were magical. He left us with a wonderful memory that we will always treasure. His loss will be felt by many."

Local author and diver Jan Brouwer added, "We had a warm hearted relationship. We did a lot of clean up dives together. A couple of years ago he and his wife were robbed in Sabadeco (*Ed note: following the robbery and assault, the Biancullis bravely promoted a community awareness campaign and motivated police to find their attackers who were soon caught and sent to prison*). He drove an old Toyota Rav4 with a rotten rear end. He was a very kind, polite and friendly person. He is not that old... we always talk about diving, pollution, the *Free-winds*, his car, lionfish. In my opinion he really liked the island."

But Albert was much more than a rec-



reational diver and guide. In 2007, alarmed by degradation to the reef thought to be caused by sewage pollution, Albert promoted the "Light and Motion Sensor Program" (LSMP) which continues to this day. He wondered about wastewater. Where does it all go? The ugly truth was that because of inadequate septic systems raw sewage was finding its way into the sea. What happens then? Is this untreated wastewater seeping into the ocean? Many thought so, but thinking wasn't enough: Data was needed in order to demonstrate that in fact this water was seeping into the coastal region and therefore affecting the reef. Only then would there be sufficient evidence to provide a stronger impetus to action.

John Jensen, who worked with Albert since the start of the sensor program wrote, "Albert truly loved the sea and all

(Continued on page 12)

Scheduled Water Taxi TO KLEIN BONAIRE

From Bonaire Nautico Marina in front of It Rains Fishes Restaurant

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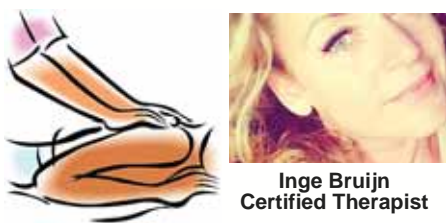
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POLICE PROTECTION

Dear Editor:

If your Word on the Street column is correct, isn't it wonderful that extra police will be on patrol to make sure the cruise ship people, who spend very little individually, who pay no room tax, who for the most part will never come back to Bonaire, are going to be well protected while the rest of Bonaire suffers crimes throughout each night.

A. Victim (many times!)



Al Catalfumo photo

A very troubled Sweet Thing, (Possibly a future eradication victim)

My name is "sweet thing". I am one of the animals they plan on eliminating. We were brought here over 400 years ago. We have endured the many obstacles handed out by nature over the years, (drought, famine etc), and survived. But we will not survive this human made tragedy unless Humans with a heart for animals intervene. Me and my friends are appealing to those of you that have Bonaire roots, whose families were killed or taken to other islands. We are also appealing to the new residents that know the truth about this action, along with tourist and visitors. With your help and the availability of the large percentage of Bonaire that is not occupied, we could enjoy the next Christmas and live happily after, as some of our forebearers did at the birth of Christ.

A DONKEY'S CHRISTMAS

Dear Editor:

Did all of you enjoy your Christmas? For those of you that do not know, we did not! our families were separated. Some of us have been injured due to the new regulations orchestrated and administered by the so called "donkey help." Because of the contract they signed with the government they are catching all of us, keeping the ladies and our young, cutting off our balls, putting tags in our ears, and turning us loose in a secluded part of the island that may not have water or good vegetation. That part is no matter, we will go back to our original homes. What matters is not finding our family and friends there. (because of the part of the regulations that allows the Donkey help to kill the old or wounded, and keep our ladies captive).

Could not the thousands of dollars spent be used to install cameras on the roads to stop speeders? (Old systems can be had from Europe for free and the only cost would be instillation. Perhaps volunteers would be glad to install them free. (This would also save human lives). Why can't the humans use the money to reinstall wells in the kunuku areas, that would serve a dual purpose; giving the kunuku owners much needed water and a place where we can drink. Then we would be happy to stay away from town and speeding cars, (that should be doing 40 to 60 kilometers per hour anyway).

Al Catalfumo

Editor's note: Many caring people are concerned about Bonaire's donkey population. But Donkey's Help is the ONLY organization which is making large scale, government and humanitarian approved, actions to better the lives of the animals. If others are distressed about their approach they are invited to take action as well. Rhetoric only will not improve the donkeys' lives

FUTURE BONAIRE TOURISM

Dear Editor:

In general I agree with your article (last edition) and understand what you try to say, however, I feel the need to give some comments.

Cruise Ships

1. Shipping: on the internet the time schedule is published, and most of the time it is correct. So freighters should have no major problems. (I have a strange hobby to check boat, train and airlines schedules where possible).

2. Traffic: yes we are caught by slow driving traffic, and yes people do walk on the street as if there were no cars on Bonaire. However, if you close the road in front of the cruise ships for traffic you give the people the idea there are no cars. I agree completely with you about the disrespect, this however is quite easy to solve: put a sign at the exit/entry gate and put an official at the gate also. He should have people return to the ship in order to get dressed correctly. But no, we don't do that because that's unfriendly and will scare the tourist away.

Maybe I'm wrong but all the complaints I hear and read are coming mostly from non locals!

Retirement Tourism for Bonaire

Why are tourists staying away? I believe one of the reason is the number of crimes, breaking into houses, stealing from cars at dive locations etc. (as you mentioned on the AIDA they were told that Bonaire is dangerous). Tourists will take this message home and spread it.

Retirement tourism in addition to Dive and (kite) surfing is a very good idea.

You mentioned that "Bonaire's prime obstacle to long term tourism is Immigration rules that limit visitors to no more than 90 days a year. I already discussed this problem on an internet forum, and your 90 day rules is not completely correct.

Both Dutch and other people are allowed to stay on the island for 180 days a year (some countries excluded).

JJE Aalders

Editor's note:

The author of this letter went on to explain in detail his understanding of the rules and inconsistencies involved. However, there is insufficient space to print them here. It is best that individuals discuss their particular situation with Immigration or a Koninklijke Marechaussee official.

Jella van Berkum photo



LANDFILL TERROR

Dear Editor,

As you may be aware, the landfill has been burning since Monday morning (Jan. 6). I live near the landfill and I'm being smoked out now for six days in a row.

The first smell of fire was around 9 am Monday morning and from my house you could see a big black cloud of smoke (see photo) one and half hours later.

I drove to the landfill to see for myself and took the picture around 10:30 am.

At that time the fire truck also arrived. So I thought the smoke would stop soon.

But in the afternoon around 2 pm I went there again and the fire was much bigger. They had decided to let it burn as you can read on the news sites.

They made that decision with some vague arguments, like runoff water would end up in the ocean and the smoke would have increased.

I think that is B.S. because after the rain we will also have runoff water that also

will end up in the ocean and 3 days of burning is also a lot of smoke (my lungs can tell). You don't see it at once but I'm sure that now a lot of bad things have gone up in smoke which will be worse than if they had put out the small fire at once.

It seems as if no one else is concerned, but when you live near the landfill and have to take this burning terror (it is not the first time the landfill is burning) once every 3 or 4 years you will have questions about health issues.

I think the time has come when the landfill has to take precautions about hazardous fires, and also our government and health department have to take action.

For now the question is how long it will take before this fire will be burned out?

I think this kind of fire shouldn't have been necessary and to let a fire reach this kind of proportion is a crime.

Jella van Berkum

Editor note: It's still burning as we go to press on Sunday, January 12.

Multilingual TV Show Coming Soon

On 24, 25 and 26 January nine teams from Bonaire's primary schools will demonstrate how well they can count.

The 1 + 1 = 3 LITO TV quiz for schools will be presented simultaneously in Papiamentu and Dutch.

This quiz is the second production by the Bon Kousa (Good Stuff) Foundation. Once again a large temporary TV studio (13 x 19 meters in size) will be built in the sports hall on Kaya Amsterdam.

The show is supported by the MCB Bank, and its mascot, Lito the Lion, will participate.

"The distinctive title, '1 + 1 = 3,' has special meaning. All children will say that we have made an addition mistake...



Studio Set-up for the first Bon Kousa show, "Proverbio"

and that is so ... " smiles Jacqueline Bremmers of Fundashon of Bon Kousa. "But still it can be a correct answer because we know from experience, that with enthusiastic cooperation, the total can be more than just the sum of its parts. The result is better than expected and is much more than 'two.' That is exactly what is being done with this show." Stay tuned to The Reporter for more details or watch the show on local TV. ■ Press release

In Between the Palms

PART 10 FROM THE SERIES, *DOWN IN THE LAND OF BON BINI*



From Bora Bora to Carriacou, from Malalo Lailai to Ko Phi Phi, tropical islands around the world are fortunately graced with palm trees. You know, those elegant, frond-studded wonders that dance with the wind and conjure up day-dreams of harmony and bliss. Even my tiny arid rock in the southern Caribbean has them. They are signature signposts for easy contemplation. But it is often what lays betwixt the palms, the not so obvious, that I find interesting about island living.



Take, for instance, Bonaire's first and only escalator (above). Yes friends, we are movin' on up in the world. Or are we really? When the new device first appeared I spoke with Jean-Marie Pradin from Otis Elevators in Curacao. His company did the escalator installation in the newly built Bonaire Mall in downtown Kralendijk. "Jean-Marie, every time I go by the new mall, the escalator is not running. What's

up?" "Well, it works. After installation, we tested it with a temporary electrical hookup. But the island's power company still has to put in a dedicated power drop for it to run. For some reason, they can't find a suitable place to put it and have to build a special storage room. It's all poco poco." Poco Poco? The clock was ticking! The cruise ship hordes were about to invade our shores in a month and they would be in desperate need for effortless transport to the stores above. No worries. The escalator finally rolled and everyone chilled out. (Ed. Note: *Interestingly there is only an "up" escalator, perhaps a small effort to uplift Bonaire society.*)



Captain John and Gaviota

There are times when between the palms takes on a musical bent. Occasionally I can hear the

tenor tones of Italian opera mixing with the sounds of surf from my Playa Pabou porch. There is only one answer for this unusual symphonic collaboration—Johnny Craane. Johnny often sings from on board *Gaviota*, his 28-ft wooden fishing boat hand built by his father, John Philip Fredrik Craane around 1941. The Craanes have a long history in the Caribbean. They moved from Scotland to Curacao in the late 1700s and have always been people of the sea. The family spread to Aruba, Bonaire and Sint Maaarten during the following centuries. "My family invaded Scotland from Scandinavia a long time ago," boasts Johnny. "So they were Vikings then?" "Yeah, I think so. And after they went to the Caribbean, some were pirates. We always liked sailing, boats, fishing." "And the opera, Johnny. Why do you sing it?" "Why not? I'm on my boat. I usually just got back from catching fish, so I have dinner. And I'm happy, so I just sing."

There are days I find myself in between the palms at major social events on the island. Take, for instance, the Parade of Nations, the kick-off to Bonaire's International Sailing Regatta—a week of races, street food and nighttime debauchery. The parade is always a lot of fun since



Parade of Nations

Bonaire claims residents from over 85 nations. Not all countries participate, but most years there are about 40 represented. It is difficult for me to estimate an exact number. I always march with the Irish in the middle of the pack where it is not easy to see either end of the extravaganza. Noel, one of a handful of Irish lads who reside on the island, leads the way with a 26-year-old baby stroller modified to hold a cooler brimming with iced cold beer. Gotta' beat the heat during the forced march. In years past, the countries were arranged alphabetically. Not this year. For some reason we were placed be-

(Continued on page 9)




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Between the Palms (Continued from page 8) tween Germany (fashionable Fräuleins decked out in traditional dress fitting for the Oktoberfest) and Haiti (solemn, serious marchers). We Irish, on the other hand, danced like fools, waved flags and swilled Amstel. As my dive master friend from Donegal enthusiastically quipped, "This is much better than sitting on me arse."



Bonaire boulders

I have a good friend who visits the island now and then, and he is definitely a candidate for in between the palms. He has become a trusted dive buddy and an aspiring deck hand on my sailboat, *Kontentu*. Both activities are quite a stretch since this fella hails from the frigid, land-locked plains of North America. He happily tells tales of moose, Loonies (Canadian currency-not crazy Northerners) and rounding up Japanese tourists on horseback. The latter is a complicated story and best not told as to avoid an international incident. For purposes of anonymity I shall use his self-proclaimed name, Ninja—No Income, No Job Aspirations. The man from the North chose this since he decided to abandon his world of lucrative employment and wander the globe before he turned 50. The moniker is not entirely true. The income still flows from years of career, furthering his vagabonding. But Ninja certainly has no job aspirations. He does, however, have a penchant for lifting huge boulders to stay fit.

This unusual activity has raised the eyebrows of several Bonaireans who live near the East Coast rock field where Ninja sweats, grunts and lifts stone, shirtless in the hot mid-day sun. In fact, the locals found this bizarre endeavor to be too close for comfort and called the police. Ninja was briefly interrogated for pumping boulders. The police went home. Atlas shrugged.

Ninja is also the creator of No Sweat Sundays. I don't believe the man ever goes to church, but he can always be found on the Lord's Day in between the palm trees that line the tranquil shore of Sorobon Beach. "My goal is not to sweat. I just sit under a palm and look at the world for the day. If I turn my head, I do it slowly. No perspiration allowed." I have to admire Ninja's discipline. For a guy who is active all week long diving, sailing and lifting boulders, he really knows how to chill out on Sundays. No sweat.

So now I'm back on Sunset Beach contemplating the cosmos with my dog, Sparky. This is how we often end our island days together. Actually, the hound simply stares blankly out to the sea. Heavy meditation is not this Catahoula swamp dog's forté. Looking into her big brown eyes, it is apparent that there is not a whole lot going on between the ears. She certainly is not pondering the numerical insignificance of the new year, 2014. But hey, that is what island living is all about, in between the palms. ■ *Story & photos by Patrick Holian*



Sparky and Patrick (the one with the hat)

First 2014 Baby

Bonaire's first baby of 2014 was born just 5 hours and 29 minutes into the new year in San Francisco Hospital. Baby Goedgedrag, a boy, weighed a healthy 3590 grams (just under 8 pounds) and measured 52 cm. (20½ inches) long. Mother and baby were visited by the hospital's staff, Commissioner James Kroon, MCB's Lito the Lion and Lucy Diaz, and media celebrity, magic Ed Janga, all who showered him with gifts and a savings account at MCB. Congratulations to baby and parents. As we go to press the baby's name hasn't been revealed. ■

Press release/G.D.



Success Story



Waldi-2008

Waldi Gijsbertha (left) is a past SGB Horeca (Hospitality) student who studied and trained with Chef-Teacher Vernon Martijn (right) on Bonaire and in the Italy stage program. He came home to Bonaire for the holidays. He now owns and is chef of Restaurant Redemption in Moergestel, The Netherlands. A true example for today's Bonaire Horeca students. Follow your dreams he says! ■ *Sara Matera*
Photo insert is Waldi when he was on the Bonaire Culinary Team in 2008.

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Maskarada

Maskarada is one of the most cultural, authentic, original and fascinating traditions on Bonaire.

Every New Year the group of silent, mysterious, masked people starts at the home of the governor (see front page) on New Years morning, then moves on to other sites like the hospital, the old folks home and then to the homes of people in the barrios. It is said that good luck will come to those who invite them into their homes. They make another appearance after Three Kings Day (Epiphany).

They arrive silently, following a group of musicians—an accordion, a *tambu* (drum), a *raspa* (file) and a *quarto* (large ukulele) and the skits and dancing begin.

Maskarada has been going on in living memory of even the oldest person on Bonaire, it is said, except for when it might have been rained out and then on New Years 2012, when the group, the costumes and props all became worn out and didn't appear. Maskarada is important because on Bonaire is the only island of the Antilles where this unique custom exists in this form.

But this year, thanks to the energy of the North Salina volunteers organization, Maskarada was back. All had been rejuvenated—the actors, the glistening costumes and the sparkling props, the enthusiastic musicians. Everyone smiled at the cast performed their skits—hooking the shark which goes into death throes, the matador facing the bull—and of course, dancing with the Governor.

Congratulations to the North Salina group for not letting a beloved tradition die. ■

Laura DeSalvo



Scenes from Maskarada (clockwise from top left); *The Jester*, *Assembled Maskarada cast at the home of the Governor*, *The Maskarada Band*, *The shark is caught by the Fisherman*.



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The Well of Love

Pos di Amor translates as the Well of Love, but there was no love apparent of this ugly, overgrown spot with its dilapidated windmill, cracked water catchment tank and spooky dark trees and weeds across the street from More-4-Less Supermarket.

But recently the Komishon Bario Nikiboko (KBN) (Nikiboko Commission) that is taking an interest in the different aspects of that barrio—social, cultural, sports infrastructure and security - decided it would give the Pos di Amor a facelift. The Pos (Well) was a good candidate because although it hadn't been used in years as a well and was so terribly deteriorated, it still was considered an important monument. So some of the barrio's residents took steps to bring the Pos di Amor back to its lustrous appearance and make it more than just a monument.

But it needed much more than a new coat of paint: the tanks had to be cleaned, holes had to be patched, the windmill restored to operation, and the spiky thorn bushes removed. But this was just the first stage. To date the work has been accomplished totally by volunteers. With some financial help from the local government the well can be brought into full operation.

If you tour the island of Bonaire you see similar wells everywhere. The wells were a key part of the island's infrastructure. The well water was not only used for livestock and agriculture but some wells were pure enough for household use and drinking.

Pollution and damage to the underground aquifers of the island have diminished the importance of the wells. With the new emphasis on environmental preservation and availability of money for restoration, the neighborhood wells can again become a part of Bonaire's culture.

Although seawater desalinization allows Bonaire to support a much larger population than it did 50 years ago, the well system can still have a place today. ■

Press Release- Komishon Bario Nikiboko/ L.D./G.D.



The old well had been taken over by weeds



Before the final fix-up, but after clearing the weeds and brush



Volunteer Nino Paula paints the tank



The restored Pos di Amor gleams in the sunlight

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Go Pro at Dive Friends

Bonaire/Playa – At the Dive Inn location of Dive Friends Bonaire I was surprised by the impressive display including a flat screen full-color video presentation about the new Hero3+ cameras from GoPro. Dive Friends directly imported a huge pile of the latest and most advanced cameras from GoPro for very sharp prices.



The smaller, the mightier. The

Hero3+ Black Edition presents the top of the line with high-performance live capture. The camera features video resolutions up to 1080p60, 10MP photos up to 10 frames per second, enhanced low-light performance and built-in Wi-Fi. Waterproof to 131' /40m.

Gordon Harveson, dive instructor at the Dive Inn, says, "These GoPro cameras are really fantastic. The Hero3+Black Edition is the top of the line with the highest resolution and the latest technology sensor. The Silver Edition is very good too and for sale for \$349 but I'd definitely go for the Black Edition for a hundred bucks more. These cameras really are a revolution in the world of diving, skiing, mountain biking, you name it. Just attach it to your helmet, long board, motorcycle and shoot the best pictures and videos of your life!" ■ *Story & photo by Jan Brouwer*

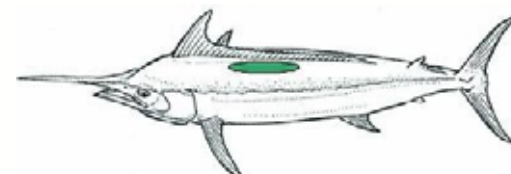


26th Bonaire International & Local Fishing Tournament JANUARY 23 - 25, 2014



Dockside scene from a past tournament

On January 23 to 25, 2014, the international and local Fishing Tournament of Bonaire will celebrate its 26th Edition. The tournament will consist of two parts, the international Billfish "Catch and Release" and the local Fishing Tournament.



Proper tagging location

The local tournament will be divided once again in two categories of large and small boats. The local tournament is geared to the fish to be used as food. Both local categories will have the chance to sell the caught fish directly to the public. There is more than \$15,000 in prize money to be divided between the various categories, which will make it an even more exciting competition! For more information and registration go to: www.bonairefishingtournaments.com.

As usual in the evenings there will be a cozy "festival atmosphere" with nightly live music and DJs. It Rains Fishes will provide a delicious buffet dinner every night and a well-stocked and sorted bar. Also there will be slide and video showings of the fishing activities of the day.

On Saturday, January 25, there will be several water events organized at the pier next to Club Nautico. Registration for the tournament will take place on Thursday, January 23rd. Customs and the Immigration Department will both be present on the day of arrival and of departure at the Festival Center next to It Rains Fishes.

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Picture Yourself In Hudson Bay, Canada With polar bears



Serena Black from Santa Barbara in Bonaire writes, "In September I spent a week at Nanuk Polar Bear Lodge on Hudson Bay, Canada. ([Churchill wild.com](http://Churchillwild.com)) This bear stayed around the lodge all week because he was curious, not because he was being fed. Each day we traveled along the coast looking for bears and if the bear was relaxed we were able to walk to within 75 yards of it. A very special experience. Especially with *The Bonaire Reporter*." ■

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Albert Bianculli (Continued from page 6)

of its creatures, but perhaps his greatest legacy is as the director for the Sea Monitor Foundation which is responsible for the sensor project on Bonaire. He worked tirelessly on the project, managing schedules for the many volunteers, downloading the sensor data every week and sending it to the scientists at the University of Southern California, maintaining the sensors (replacing batteries, filters, leaking cases etc) and mooring sites, recruiting volunteers, and covering for any sensor site if a volunteer went off island and he could not find a timely substitute. This sometimes required him to collect data from 8-10 sensor mooring sites per week. I and my wife have been volunteers and sponsors for the LSMP project since 2007 (its first year) and I have never heard him complain about the work load. He was very passionate about the project, its goals and the protection of the

reef. I will surely miss his enthusiasm and the always present twinkle in his eyes."

Working with researchers from the University of Southern California, STINAPA, volunteers from Bonaire and private donors, Albert drove the deployment of the LSMP "Rainbow Sensors" along Bonaire's west coast. The sensors recorded the acceleration of the pollution of the reefs. Sensor evidence was instrumental in the decision of the Dutch and EU to contribute to the multi-million dollar sewage system about to go into operation along Bonaire's coastal zone now, five years later.

During this period he was a frequent contributor of stories and photographs to *The Bonaire Reporter*. The stories reflected his concern for the reef, the wonders of diving Bonaire and the variety of its sea life. Funeral arrangements are incomplete as we go to press. ■ *G.D.*

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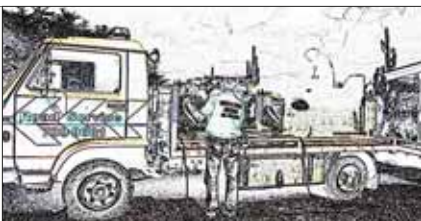
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Contact:

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Email: ingebriujn@gmail.com

www.Bonairemassage.com

For sale : 2 brand new generators :
 5500 watts each. Asking price- \$750 each (original price: \$1000 each).
 Contact: digitalis1956@hotmail.com.

Twin tub (washer and spinner) washing machine "Arctic" In good condition... \$150.00 **Call 788 7919**

For sale : 2007 Jeep Grand Cherokee, about 60.000km driven, auto transmission. \$ 15,000 or best offer.
 Contact: digitalis1956@hotmail.com

REAL ESTATE AND RENTALS

For Rent:
Belnem Waterfront Cottage
 \$1,500.00/month, + WEB. 2-BR, 1 Bath private residence. **786-1803**
 Email: bonbini2@aol.com

For Rent NEW HOUSE at Republic. 3 bedrooms and 3 bathrooms. \$1435 + deposit **Cell 796-3698. Tel. 717-5365**

Looking for rent in Bonaire for the period of March 16 till April 13, a house or apartment with 2 bedrooms, kitchen and internet dsl connection. Home exchange with our house on Aruba, over this period also possible. Contact and information: checkpoint-color@hotmail.com or cel: +297 592-8446

The ONLY place on Bonaire for Vegetarian Ayurvedic food
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Kaya Krorona 47

Lunch served Tue. to Fri 12pm to 2pm
Reservations 700-5488

Bonaire-Sun Rise/Set, Moon Phase and Tides

Day	High	Low	High	Low	High	Sunrise	Sunset
Mon 13		03:25	10:59	20:13			
		0.06 ft	0.96 ft	-0.10 ft		7:00	18:28
	01:44	02:56	11:38	21:06			
Tue 14	0.10 ft	0.10 ft	0.92 ft	-0.11 ft		7:00	18:29
	12:16	21:51					
Wed 15	0.87 ft	-0.11 ft				7:00	18:30
	12:54	22:27			Full Moon		
Thu 16	0.81 ft	-0.11 ft				7:00	18:30
	13:33	22:55					
Fri 17	0.75 ft	-0.10 ft				7:00	18:31
	14:13	23:15					
Sat 18	0.68 ft	-0.08 ft				7:01	18:31
	06:17	08:58	14:56	23:31			
Sun 19	0.35 ft	0.34 ft	0.61 ft	-0.07 ft		7:01	18:32
	06:01	10:57	15:41	23:45			
Mon 20	0.42 ft	0.33 ft	0.53 ft	-0.06 ft		7:01	18:32
	06:08	12:20	16:29	23:59			
Tue 21	0.52 ft	0.28 ft	0.45 ft	-0.06 ft		7:01	18:33
	06:25	13:27	17:17				
Wed 22	0.62 ft	0.20 ft	0.37 ft			7:01	18:33
		00:17	06:50	14:25	18:06		
Thu 23		-0.07 ft	0.74 ft	0.13 ft	0.30 ft	7:01	18:34
	L	00:40	07:21	15:18	18:57		
Fri 24 Quarter		-0.09 ft	0.85 ft	0.05 ft	0.23 ft	7:01	18:34
		01:08	07:57	16:09	19:49		
Sat 25		-0.11 ft	0.95 ft	-0.02 ft	0.18 ft	7:01	18:34
		01:43	08:38	17:00	20:46		
Sun 26		-0.13 ft	1.03 ft	-0.07 ft	0.14 ft	7:01	18:35
		02:23	09:22	17:51	21:49		
Mon 27		-0.13 ft	1.08 ft	-0.12 ft	0.12 ft	7:01	18:35



Please call if you find:
 Missing Phantom Quad Copter in Caribbean Club area from Oil Slick to Jeff Davis sites about 5 pm, Wed., Jan 8. **Reward. Call 717-2050.**

Sudoku Puzzle

			4	1	9			
8		1				5		
			9			8		
2	3							
	5		7	4				
			5			4	6	
				6		3		
	4					5	2	
9	2	3						

Sudoku Solution

7	5	6	1	8	4	2	3	9
4	3	2	5	9	7	1	6	8
6	1	8	2	3	5	7	4	9
2	7	1	8	6	4	9	5	3
8	6	9	4	7	5	3	2	1
3	4	5	9	2	1	6	8	7
5	9	4	3	8	7	1	2	6
5	3	7	6	1	9	8	4	3
1	8	3	7	4	2	9	5	6

SHOPPING and SERVICE GUIDE

AIRLINES

Divi Divi Air- Bonaire's "on time airline" with 16 flights a day between Bonaire and Curaçao. 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. Their office is 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! Great hangout spot for divers and sailors.

BEAUTY

Bon Bida Spa Therapeutic Massage — Certified masseuse offers the best conventional massages, sports massage, after-dive massage and more. Ask for **Inge Bruijn**.

Face Clinic of Bonaire offers anti aging treatments under the care of a medical professional. Injectibles like Botox and Hyaluronic Acid available. Call or email for a free consultation. 7950827, info@fceclinicbonaire.com

Hair Affair. Expert hair cutting, styling, facials and facial waxing. Great new shop on Kaya Grandi. Walk-in service too.

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.**

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.

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.

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, Dushi Shoes on Kaya Grandi, open now.

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

VanEps Property Management B.V./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 above or underwater 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

Harbourtown Real Estate for your real estate buying or selling needs. Listings of homes, land, businesses, apartments and commercial property.



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. Its Zazu Bar is a very popular hangout for divers too.

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.

Pasa Bon Pizza—Bonaire's quality pizza-Best ingredients, best baking and best taste. Great salads and lasagna too. Eat in or take away.

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 lifestyle 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 (Mangazina 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. Massages by Certified Therapist Inge Bruijn,



SUPERMARKETS

TOP Supermarket—

Conveniently located **downtown** at the old Culti-mara location. Featuring a complete selection including liquors, 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. Souvenir mugs available.

VARIETY STORE

The Tung Fong Store is a great asset to everyone on Bonaire because it stocks so many thing we want: clothes, hardware, food, auto and bike supplies. If you don't see it... ask for it. They probably have it.

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 (It Rains Fishes Restaurant)

New Playground



Recently another new playground and kids' hangout was opened as part of the island's new emphasis on recreation. This one is in Amboina. The new playground is part of the Integrated Neighborhood Approach and is located on the grounds of the community center of FESBO. There are various play elements that help develop physical, mental and social skills of children. For parents and teachers there are benches to sit on and trees to provide shade.

The ribbon was cut by Richard 'Boy' Goeloe, president of FESBO, along with the children of the Trai Mérida who then were able to try everything out with plenty of enthusiasm.

The playground is a project of the Public Body Bonaire (Island Government), implemented by the NGO Platform Bonaire and funded by Usona. The design for this playground, as were several other excellent recent playgrounds, was created by Bodifée Design and the work performed by BonNed Contractors. ■ *Press release/G.D.*

DID YOU KNOW?



That fish larvae (above) smell their way back home? Apparently reef fish larvae can smell the presence of coral reefs from several kilometers away. Odor acts as a sort of "wake up call" to change their behavior and help them head back to the reef. Smell is the dominant sense that they use to return to the reef that they settled on after they ventured into the open ocean. However, the ocean current does not even seem to affect the fish's sense of "directional smell." The fish use the odor signals as a sort of internal compass. The odor signals do not provide a frame of reference but instead provide directional cues. Human activities might cause problems in the smells of the ocean, potentially causing fish larvae to not be able to return to the reef. Next time you see adult fish like Damselfish and Cardinalfish, you can then appreciate these bloodhounds of the ocean. ■

Kyra Creger

Kyra Creger is a Biology Major with a Marine Biology option from Oregon State University in Corvallis, Oregon. She is studying on Bonaire for the fall semester at CIEE Research Station.



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WHAT'S HAPPENING

CLOSE-IN EVENTS

Sign up as soon as possible for the "Musika Konta ta" on January 17

100 children between 8 and 14 can now register for the music project, "Musika Konta ta" ("Children Making Music"). Children learn krio and brass band instruments. Joint kick-off on January 17, in Wilhelmina Park. Sign up at Jong Bonaire. Participation is free.

Musika Konta ta is an initiative of Fundashon Plataforma Kultural, Jong Bonaire and Skol di Musika. The children may choose between krio instruments and brass band instruments and learn to make music together. After the kickoff, the children receive weekly group music lessons at Jong Bonaire and Skol di Musika. The children will give a concert together in June 2014.

Music is an important part of culture on Bonaire. With this project, the partners hope to contribute to musical traditions. Moreover, a study by UNICEF says that there is a need for meaningful leisure activities for children on Bonaire. With "Children Making Music" in the first year, 100 children can spend their free time in a good way. They learn to make music together and play a musical instrument.

Children Making Music is a unique partnership between the Orange Fund and the Fund for Prince Bernhard Culture Funds. The Skanfonds and the SNS REAAL Fonds also provide funding.

Sunday, January 19—Kaminda di Arte, Kaya Nikiboko Zuid, 11am-4pm—More on page 10

Thursday, January 23-25 - 26th Annual Bonaire International and Local Fishing Tournament. Boats of any size welcome. More than \$15,000 in prizes. A catch and release billfish competition and local catch for consumption. Plus fun and entertainment. See story on pg. 12 www.bonairefishing.tournaments.com

Karnaval is underway working toward the Grand parade in Kralendijk on March 2. Coming up:

Saturday, January 25— Karnaval Bikers Parade - Karnaval Queens, 8pm-midnight

Friday, January 31— Karnaval 2014 Jump-Up, 8pm-midnight



REGULAR EVENTS

Rooi Lamoenchi Kunuku Park Tours \$21 (includes tax). Discounts for residents and local people. Tel. 717-8489, 540-9800.

Saturdays

• **Last Saturday of the month** – donate foods and household items to Food Bank (*Stichting voedselbank Bonaire*) from 10 am-4 pm, in front of Van den Tweel Supermarket

• **Open House at Semper Kontentu milk goat farm. Second Saturday of the month, 8 am to 12 noon.** 786-6950

• **Marshe di Kunukeru (Farmers' Market) 1st Saturday of the month,** at Kriabon, Kaminda Jatu Baco #55, next to Aquamarin School, 8 am to 1 pm.

• **Bonaire Animal Shelter's "Garage Sale" Pakus di Pruga—every Saturday, 8am-5pm.** At Kaminda Liberador Simon Bolivar, across from Brandaris Café. Tel. 717-4989. Drop off cast offs on Saturdays or at the Shelter on the Lagoen Road weekdays. 717-4989

• **Wine Tasting at Antillean Wine Company's warehouse on Kaya Industria, Second Saturday of the month, 7-9 pm.** (Always call to make sure it's on: Tel. +5999-560-7539.) Snacks and tasting of six wines for \$10 per person.

• **Soldachi Tours—See the real Bonaire and be transported back in time.** Learn about the history, culture and nature by Bonaireans from Rincon. Call Maria Koeks for more information—796-7870.

• **Petanque- Jeu de Boules, Saturdays 2:30pm Tera Cora Ranch.** Info: 786-0150

Sundays

• **Kunuku Arawak - Music, drinks, local food, dancing, 10 am—6 pm.** Live music starts at 4 pm. Tel.786-7210

Mondays

• **Soldachi Tours of Rincon, the heart of Bonaire, 9 am-noon. \$20-Call Maria, 717-6435**

• **Bonaire Goat Cheese Farm Tour—9 am.** Meet the goats, see milking, cheese making and more. \$10 includes cheese tasting and tea, Kids \$5. 786-6950

• **Meet the Captain Night at Captain Don's Habitat Bar—** Get up close and personal with Bonaire's dive pioneer. The Captain will autograph your copy of his newest book *Reef Windows*.

Wednesdays

• **Divemaster's Night at Bistro de Paris Restaurant at Harbour Village Marina.** Free house rum when you buy a coke.

• **Bonaire Goat Cheese Farm Tour—9am.** See Monday for more information

• **30-minute Meditation at Yoga Bonaire, 12 noon, Bonaire Basics.** Donation. Call 786-6416, email: info@bonaireyoga.coim

Fridays

• **Happy Hour party at Bistro Di Paris.** Ricky Thomas performs Reggae, Soul, Latin and more 6- 9pm.

• **Bonaire Goat Cheese Farm Tour—9 am.** See Monday for more information

FREE SLIDE/VIDEO SHOWS

Monday - Touch the Sea -- Dee Scarr, honored as a member of the Women Divers Hall of Fame, conducts Bonaire's Touch the Sea programs of personalized dive guiding. She presents a unique perspective on critters and corals, plus an updated Bonaire lionfish report, **every Monday when she's on-island** at 8:30 pm in the Aquarius Conference Center at Captain Don's Habitat, Call 717-8290.

Wednesday - Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire (STCB) presents an informative slide show: *Sea Turtles of Bonaire*, at 8pm, every **2nd and 4th Wednesday** in the conference room at Captain Don's Habitat (717-8290)

BONAIRE'S TRADITIONS

Mangasina di Rei, Rincon. Enjoy the view from "The King's Storehouse." Learn about Bonaire's culture. Visit homes from the 17th century. Daily. Call 717-4060/ 790-2018

Museo Sentro Chichi'Tan, historical home, behind Rose Inn, Rincon, open 10am-4pm daily. Tel. 786-6420

Washington-Slagbaai National Park Museum and Visitors' Center. Open daily 8 am-5 pm. Closed on December 25th and January 1st. Call 788 - 9015 or 796 - 5681

CLUBS and MEETINGS

Bridge Club - Every Wednesday, Bridge Club on Bonaire. 19:15, contact Jeroen Seegers for information tel. 717-4200 or 788-2819 or jeroen@telbonet.an

Darts Club plays every other Sunday at City Café. Registration at 4, games at 5. Tel. 717-2950, 560-7539.

Lions Club meets every 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month at 8 pm at Kaya Sabana #1. All Lions welcome. For more information call 510-0710.

Rotary lunch meetings Wednesdays, 12:15-2 pm - Divi Flamingo Beach Resort in Peter Hughes meeting room upstairs above the dive shop. All Rotarians welcome. Call Gregory Obersi 785-9446.

Toastmasters Club meets every two weeks. For more information call Crusita de Palm at 786-3827 or Lucia Martinez Beck, at 786-2953.

CHURCH SERVICES

Protestant Congregation of Bonaire: (VPGB), Kralendijk, Plaza Wilhel-

mina; Sunday service-10 am in Dutch.

Rincon, Kaya C.D. Crestian; Sunday service-8:30 am in Papiamentu/Dutch.

Children's club-every Saturday from 4:30-6 pm in Kralendijk, (annex of the church.) Contact; Marytjin@gmail.com or Daisycoffie@hotmail.com

International Bible Church, Kaya Papago 104, Hato, behind Bon Fysio/Bon Bida Spa & Gym on Kaya Gob. N. De-brot. Sunday 9am-Worship service in English; 10:45am-Sunday school for all ages. Tuesday 7:30 pm-Adult Bible study class. 717-8377 for more info or ride bonaireibc@yahoo.com

Catholic: San Bernardus in Kralendijk – Services, Sunday at 8 am and 7 pm in Papiamentu, 717-8304.

Our Lady of Coromoto in Antriol, Saturday at 6 pm in English. Mass in Papiamentu on Sunday at 9 am and 6 pm. 717-4211.

Assembly of God (Asemblea di Dios): Kaya Triton (Den Cheffi). In English, Dutch & Papiamentu on Sunday at 10 am. Wed. Prayer Meeting at 7:30 pm. 717-2194

Ministerio di Kristu Hesus Services Sunday mornings at 10 am at Jong Bonaire Youth Center in English, Dutch and Papiamentu. Preaching the full gospel. Contact: 786-2557.

Prayer and Intercession Church, in English. A full Gospel Church located temporarily at Kaya Alexandrit # 20, Santa Barbara, Republiek. Services are held Sunday mornings 10am-11:30am. Bible studies in English on Monday nights from 7-8 pm. Contact: 717-3322

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints: Kaya Sabana #26, Sundays: 9 am Sacrament Services (Translation to English and Papiamentu upon request) 10:20am- Sunday School, 11:15 RS/YM/YW/PH Primary held from 10:20-12 noon Visitors welcome: Information: Call 701-9522 .

Foundation Fountain of Living Waters, Centro Fuente, Service Sunday at Kaya Aruaco 4 at 6 pm, in Papiamentu and Spanish. For Marriage Counseling, contact 717-2161.

Iglesia di Cristo (Church of Christ) Sunday: 10:30am & 7pm; Wednesday: 7pm. Services in Papiamentu (English also if needed) Address: Kaya Msgr. ndt 25 (same street as Dr. Dorvil) Cell: 796-0721. email:

Cruise Ship Tentative Schedule

DAY	DATE	NAME	ARR/DEP	PAX	Cruise Line
Tuesday	14---Jan-14	<i>Vision of the Seas</i>	0800--- 1800	2446	Celebrity/RCCL
Friday	17---Jan-14	<i>Legend of the Seas</i>	0700--- 1400	2435	Celebrity/RCCL
Saturday	18---Jan-14	<i>Seabourn Pride</i>	0800--- 1800	208	Seabourn/HAL
Tuesday	21---Jan-14	<i>Vision of the Seas</i>	0800--- 1800	2446	Celebrity/RCCL
Tuesday	21---Jan-14	<i>Azura</i>	0800--- 1800	3080	P&O Cruises
Wednesday	22---Jan-14	<i>Noordam</i>	0700--- 1700	1920	HAL
Wednesday	22---Jan-14	<i>Aida Luna</i>	0800--- 1800	2194	Aida Cruises
Friday	24---Jan-14	<i>Emerald Princess</i>	1200--- 1900	3200	Princess Cruises

Doggies Happy At The Animal Shelter



Carmelita and Harrie celebrated a birthday (again). This was done with an exuberant party where guests danced to the music of the Sensation Band and a solo-appearance by Bert Poyck who brought us back to the 60s. As in other years Carmelita didn't want to receive any presents for herself so she asked for food for the animals in the Bonaire Animal Shelter. All guests reacted generously; she was up to her ears in dog food packages. Our own doggies were allowed to make the first choice of the dog treats and looked very disappointed when all the other dog food was packed into the car.

With a car loaded with dog food we went to the Shelter. The Shelter staff was very happy with this donation, as were the cats and dogs. Several wheelbarrows were needed to bring all the food to the storage area.

We are wondering why more people don't take this kind of initiative. It is true,

it would be better to bring food for the animals in the Shelter than un-needed gifts you have to put somewhere or bottles of alcoholic drinks which you don't really like. The animals that have already had a life behind them full of pain, misery and neglect are really happy with anything when it is edible!

The Animal Shelter does good work taking care of these animals, providing shelter, (medical) care, food and finding new homes for them. If you are looking for an animal, think of taking a look at the homeless animals in the Shelter. You will probably find a friend that will be thankful the rest of his life for adopting him/her.

We want to express our thanks to all the people who contributed something for the animals in the Shelter.

Doggies happy, cats happy, caretakers happy and we are happy. What more can you expect? ■ *Story & photo by Harrie Cox*

RealFit on Bonaire!

The sporty approach to combat obesity in youngsters.

Excessive body weight is a problem for many young people. Obesity is one of the greatest health risks for everyone but especially young people. Many young people find it is just not fun to be fat, but they don't know what they can do about it. Hence Bon Bon Bida Spa & Gym/Physiotherapy has organized the RealFit course. On January 11 there was an introductory meeting and January 28 the RealFit course starts.

What is RealFit ?

RealFit is a course specifically designed for young people aged 13 to 18 years. During this course young people will exercise in the gym and be supervised by a dietitian. The course lasts 13 weeks and is designed to get enjoyment out of MOVING. The organizers plan to give the young people and their parents lots of good ideas about healthy eating and exercise. The main aim of the course is to have the participants feel better.

On 28 January, the 13-week course starts. It consists of :

- 13 weeks of varied exercise in a fitness center;
- Group and individual nutrition counseling with a professional dietitian;
- Group lessons conducted by a child psychologist;
- Work together to figure out how to make and maintain an active and healthy



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lifestyle;

and above all, to have FUN !

Parents are involved in the course as well. There will be some parents' evenings where the organizers and parents see how they can contribute to a more active and healthy lifestyle.

RealFit is a good idea! For whom?

For young people who are rather tired and not able to participate in sports activities, young people who'd like to be slimmer and want to feel healthier.

For more information: Robert Smaal, Bon Bon Bida Spa & Physio and Gym. 717-7030/7850/7224 or info@bonbida.com ■ *Press release*



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Shelter News

New Years Eve Report

Animal Shelter Manager Marlies reports that the Shelter did relatively okay during the New Years fireworks. They had some lost and found animals but they were all returned to their homes safely, thanks to the Shelter's presence on Facebook and to the Shelter's microchip initiative which painlessly slips a ID under the animal's skin. This makes it much easier to reunite the animal with its owner.



A Record Year

The Shelter has already put together the adoption statistics for 2013. **In 2013 there were 276 adoptions (212 dogs and 64 cats).** That's an absolute record. In 2012 there were 236. Five years ago, in 2008, there were 165 adoptions. Way back in 2002 there were only 90 adoptions. They've come a long way, baby!

"So the year 2013 was very successful for the Bonaire Animal Shelter," says Shelter Manager Marlies Tiepel. "It was also very successful because we could trace the owners of lost dogs and cats that were brought to the Shelter. This is because we post announcements on Facebook and we microchip every dog that is adopted."

Keep these good works in mind when you think to contribute to a hardworking and deserving organization. **For a general donation: Bonaire Animal Shelter, MCB Bank #102.37800. For a donation to the Sterilization Fund: Bonaire Animal Shelter Sterilization Fund MCB Bank Account 106.16410.** ■ *Laura DeSalvo*

Pet of the Week



Nelly

Meet Nelly, one of the sweetest, smallest cats you'll ever encounter. Nelly is a beautiful, petite eight-month-old tabby cat. Although she is full grown, she looks like a kitten...and always will. She was born at the Shelter when her mom was brought in and gave birth within hours of her arrival. As a result, she is very accustomed to human contact as Shelter staffers couldn't resist cuddling this tiny little beauty.

Nelly's kittenish looks are also reflected in her behavior. She is active and loves to play with toys...but equally enjoys settling in for kitten snuggles. And she talks! Nelly knows her name and when you talk to her she will answer back. Frequently, all on her own, she will approach you and ask for affection or play time.

Nelly is healthy, vaccinated, sterilized and ready for her "fur"ever home. This tiny girl has a big heart and will surely steal yours once you meet her. You can visit Nelly and all her Shelter compatriots Monday through Saturday, 9am to 1pm and 3 to 5pm at the Bonaire Animal Shelter, Kaminda Lagun 26A. Telephone 717-4989. WWW.BonaireAnimalShelter.com ■ *Jane Madden Disko*

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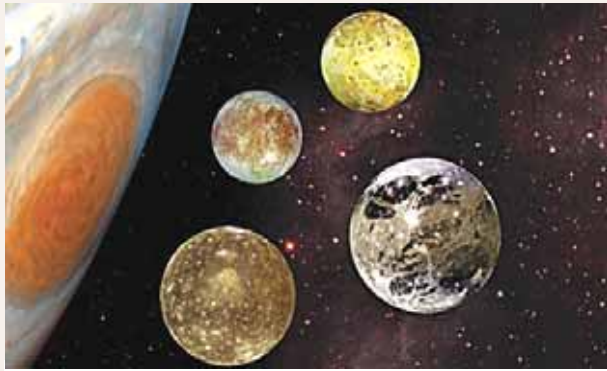


BONAIRE SKY PARK*

*to find it... just look up

TWO NEW MOONS AND JUPITER'S BEST

There will be a second **New Moon** this month. The first was on New Years day and the second will be on January 31. When there are two FULL moons in a month the second is called a "**Blue Moon**." But what do you call the second NEW moon? Some call it a "**Black Moon**" as the moon is invisible against the dark sky. There can never be two full or new moons in February.



The planet Jupiter's four largest moons are called the Galilean satellites, after Italian astronomer Galileo Galilei, who observed them in 1610. These large moons, named Io, Europa, Ganymede, and Callisto, are each distinctive worlds.

Planet wise, **Venus** is dropping low in the western sky and may have "disappeared" by the time you read this. But, although it will be lost in the solar glare for a while, it will reappear as a low morning star most of this year. On Saturday, January 11, it began its transition from "**evening star**" to "**morning star**" when Venus passes between **Earth** and **Sun**. Because of the tilt of its orbit, it passes six degrees north of the Sun, rather than directly in front as it did in June 2012.

The real night sky brilliancy in January belongs to the largest planet in our solar system, **Jupiter**, visible in the constellation **Gemini**, which was in **opposition** on January 5th. The Giant Planet, at magnitude -2.7, rises at dusk and is out all night.

Jupiter will be well placed for observation far above the horizon for much of the night. In the Sky Park, Jupiter will be at its highest point in the sky at around midnight Sky Park time all month.

This optimal positioning occurs when Jupiter makes its closest approach to the point directly opposite to the Sun in the sky – an event termed opposition. Since the Sun reaches its greatest distance below the horizon at midnight, the point opposite to it is highest in the sky at the same time.

At around the same time that Jupiter passes opposition, it also makes its closest approach to the Earth – termed its **perigee** – making it appear at its brightest and largest in the night sky. This happens because when Jupiter lies opposite to the Sun in the night sky, the **Solar System** is lined up so that Jupiter, the Earth and the Sun lie in a straight line with the Earth in the middle, on the same side of the Sun as Jupiter.

In practice, however, Jupiter orbits much further out in the Solar System than the Earth – at an average distance from the Sun of 5.20 AU (Astronomical Units) as compared to the Earth's average distance of 1 AU– and so its angular size does not vary much as it cycles between opposition and solar conjunction.

On this occasion, Jupiter will lie at a distance of 4.21 AU, and its disk will measure 45.8 arcsec in diameter. Even at its closest approach to the Earth, however, it is not possible to distinguish it as more than a star-like point of light with the naked eye, though a simple pair of binoculars are sufficient to reveal it as a disk of light with accompanying system of moons. Over the weeks following its opposition, Jupiter will reach its highest point in the sky four minutes earlier each night, gradually receding from the pre-dawn morning sky whilst remaining visible in the evening sky for a few months.

Mars rises at midnight at magnitude 1.0; it forms a lovely orange contrast with the blue **Spica** below it. **Saturn**, at magnitude 0.6, is a morning object, rising at 3am. **Uranus**, also in the evening sky, will only be visible with a telescope. ■ *Bob Berman*



THE STARS HAVE IT

By Astrologer Michael Thiessen
January 2014

ARIES (Mar. 21- April 20) Check your project over carefully if you were not the only one contributing to the end result. You must try to include your mate in your activities this month. You may find that purchases or entertainment could be expensive. Your business sense will be leading you in a direction that indicates more travel and communication. Your luckiest events will be on a Wednesday.

TAURUS (Apr. 21- May 21) Secret activity is evident. Pamper yourself; you deserve it. Don't hold back. Most partner problems are a result of both people not living up to their promises. Your luckiest events will occur on a Saturday.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21) Your self esteem will benefit. Friends will be loyal and caring. The information that you gain can be used in every aspect of your life. It will do you some good. You could have a need to make some changes this month. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Monday.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) Be prepared to make compensations and adjustments. New partnerships will develop if you join investment groups. This could be a difficult day to deal with coworkers. You will have to do a lot of running around, so be prepared to fall short of your expectations. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Monday.

LEO (July 23-Aug 22) Opportunities for new romantic encounters will unfold through the social events you attend. Confronting a situation will only result in indignation and misunderstandings. You have the stamina and determination to succeed. Don't trust coworkers with important or personal information. Your luckiest events will occur on a Monday.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) Do not get involved with individuals who are already committed to others. You can make a huge difference to children if you are able to put yourself in their shoes. Get into some activities that will help you in making new friends. Your luckiest events will occur on a Saturday.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) You must look into your options. Your personal life

will be under the gun and you may want to avoid the questions your lover is going to want to ask you. Avoid arguments with relatives who might be conservative and outdated. Be discreet and don't reveal any personal information. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Friday.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) You may not be as well received in group endeavors if you try to force your will on others. Listen to a good friend who is truly looking out for your best interests. Your irritability may drive your loved ones crazy. You will find travel and lectures most stimulating. Your luckiest events will occur on a Wednesday.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) Hassles with female colleagues may lead to problems with your boss. Some of your new friends may not be that trustworthy. If they want help that's great, but if they try to take credit for your work, you will have to set them straight. Authority figures may be less than accommodating if you have done something deceitful. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Friday.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) You'll only hurt your lover if you don't. You may find that you are a little lucky this month. Take care of any dealings with government agencies. Take the time to do something nice for your friends and relatives. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Monday.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) You should be able to get involved in an interesting proposition this month. Concentrate on your career and on making money. Don't neglect these problems; deal with them once and for all, then move on to more pleasurable tasks. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Saturday.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) You may divulge private information without realizing it this month. Get busy on those home improvement projects that you've been procrastinating about. Don't push your opinions on others this month or you may find yourself in the doghouse. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Friday. ■



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