

**It's Still
FREE**

BONAIRE

Nov. 23-Dec. 7, 2007; Volume 14, Issue 36

The REPORTER

Kunuku Shimaruku, PO Box 407, Bonaire, Netherlands Antilles, Phone 786-6125, 790-6518, email: reporter@bonairenews.com

Since 1994



Tree Planting in Rincon

Danilo Christiaan, Boy Clarinda and Rocky Emers plant the first tree.

See Page 13

**Stichting
Project**

Page 3

**Tene Bonaire
Dushi**

Page 7

**25 years for
Rocargo**

Page 13

**Saka Man
Yuda Nos**

Page 17



The last round of talks between the Dutch and the BES (Bonaire/St. Eustatius/Saba) was considered a failure because the Dutch representatives refused the request of Bonaire's Economics Commissioner, Burney el Hage, to specify the standard of living the Netherlands target for Bonaire following the islands becoming municipalities of Holland. Nevertheless Holland deposited NAf178 million in the Antilles Central Bank to cover the islands' debts and is continuing to move forward.

► There was a street riot in Curaçao last week to pressure the Island Government not to agree to the Dutch terms for granting more autonomous status to the island. The demonstrators threw boulders, pallets and tires on the road and parked cars to block the entrance road to the Marriott Hotel and the World Trade Center in Piscadera. They also set a tire on fire. A large contingent of police was deployed to keep the more than 100 demonstrators and other onlookers under control. On TV one could see that the police used strong-arm tactics to remove some handcuffed demonstrators. Supporters of the opposition parties *Pueblo Soberano*, NPA, and MAN conducted the demonstration.

► Last week the Bonaire government announced that it will more strictly apply the rules for rented land, commonly referred to as 'kunuku land.' Rented land, as opposed to long-lease land, is offered on a year-to-year basis, automatically extended, and is designated for agricultural purposes. With the increasing development on the island the Executive Council has developed a policy to prevent the erosion of the traditional values kunukus have brought to Bonaire culture. Local people have expressed concern that the typical character of the 'kunuku' is disappearing. The guidelines include prohibiting the conversion of rental land to long lease land and allowing transfer of kunukus only among family members. However, exceptions are allowed for providing environmental protection and convenience of the land holder.

► Bonaire motorists got an unwelcome pre-Christmas gift from the government that will make them unhappy. **Fuel prices went up last Monday**, but not as much as on Aruba where regular gas costs NAf 2 per liter. On Bonaire the prices are: Regular gas, 92 octane NAf 1,97; High test, 95 octane NAf 2,00; Kerosene, NAf 1,29; Diesel, NAf 127,04; LPG 100 lbs tank, NAf 71,75 and LPG 20 lbs tank, NAf 15,50.

► According to published reports **Aruban investors will construct a Hilton Hotel of 144 rooms in the Flamingo paradise area north of Flamingo Airport.** Construction is expected to begin next year and be complete by 2010. The investment, according to the developer, Azul Management Bonaire, will be about \$100 million.

► **Mexico's Senate approved a law on October 30 to charge cruise passengers who visit**

► While still highly ranked, **Bonaire dropped out of the top group of islands in the 2007 National Geographic Traveler Magazine Destination Rating Poll.** The two points it dropped, from 70 to 68, allowed its place to be usurped by Anguilla and Nevis. The report published in the November/December issue considers that the world's most appealing destinations, islands, are the ones most prone to tourism overkill.

The Traveler and National Geographic Center for Sustainable Destinations conducted the fourth annual study survey aided by George Washington University. A group of 522 experts in sustainable tourism donated time to review conditions of 111 selected islands and archipelagos.

Bonaire was hailed for its conservation practices but was negatively cited for its rapidly growing real estate boom and the government's intention to expand tourism, minimal sewage treatment with potential stress on the environment. Bonaire's coral reef management and sustainable tourism awareness program received special mention, according to the experts.

This is not news to Bonaire residents who have become more vocal in their opposition to cruise ship calls and ever higher buildings. A poll of island residents' sentiments on expanding tourism, the pollution sensor project and the soon to be announced "Keep Bonaire Flat" Foundation seeking to limit building height, are all evidence of that.

Is Bonaire heading in the direction of St. Maarten (with a National Geographic score of 47) which was described as "out of control high-rise and strip development, loss of community character, traffic congestion, and schlock?"

Of the 30 Caribbean islands evaluated by the experts, St. Thomas scored the lowest, 37 points, putting it in serious trouble. Experts called it: "A mess - too many cruise ships disgorging their passengers into the small town..." (See related story on page 7.)

In the Caribbean the highest points were awarded to Dominica - 77 points, which means it has minor difficulties. "Beautiful country. Still largely forested, amazing biodiversity." However, they pointed out, "A serious dichotomy between lip service to preserving and protecting its wilderness, the soliciting of more cruise ships, and support for Japan on the whaling issue." The number one score grabber, ranked best island in the world to visit with a score of 87, is Faroe, Denmark.

The article can be viewed online at www.national-geographic.com/traveler/features/islandsrated0711/islands.html

Mexican ports a \$5 head tax beginning in June 2008, said Mexico's Ministry of Tourism said. In 2006, Mexico received 6.5 million cruise passengers who spent an average of \$70 each, according to the Mexico Tourism Board. Bonaire does not have a cruise ship tax but is considering one. This week Bonaire has three cruise ships with around 8,000 passengers aboard. If Bonaire charged \$5 a head, it would earn \$40,000.

► **The smallest ever gold coin issued for the Netherlands Antilles**



commemorates the International Year of the Dolphin. On the 10-guilder coin's obverse is a portrait of Queen Beatrix, and two dolphins are depicted on the

(Continued on page 4)

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An initiative of Bonaire's youngsters

Stichting Project Kids



Kids in front of the sign on Kaya J.A. Abraham - Adriaan, Jerson, Dayanara, Ruthlisa

What can happen with kids who fall through the cracks in the academic world at school? They can open a mini restaurant. That's just what happened with the second year kids of the Stichting Project. They run a little coffee shop -snack restaurant, called de Boulevard, on Kaya J. A. Abraham every Friday morning from 9 to 11:30 am. Customers may sit on the breezy terrace and order coffee, tea, juice, fresh homemade cakes, sweets or tosties. Under the direction of Mick Smit, Patty, Chelendra and Mark the kids do the baking, the serving, add up the bills, even do the shopping with a budget and volunteer new ideas. And, as all their customers could see, they're loving it.

The Project deals with youngsters, 11 to 17 years old, who've had behavioral problems in school and are

heading on a possible downward spiral in life. Their teachers recommend these students, 18 at the moment, to the training center where they must attend three to five days a week, from 7 am to 12:30 pm. "The first year is a nurturing one," says Director Mick Smit. "They learn how to behave through participating in sports, drama, group dynamics, hospitality, first aid and computer work, to name a few activities. We want them to learn to trust, to work together, to negotiate (their lives). We want to find out what their interests are - in hospitality, greenery, reception, restaurants."

Smit continues, "The kids here in the restaurant are second year students. We started off slowly, with cooking classes, then opened the restaurant in August. Every week we're adding more to the menu.

They do all the jobs and take turns doing them. At the end of each restaurant morning we sit down together and evaluate our day. You'd be surprised how motivated these kids are."

In fact, flushed with their own success, they've started serving coffee and cakes, first to the stand holders at the crafts markets set up at Wilhelmina Park during cruise ship visits. The stand holders were so appreciative that they suggested the students sell to the cruise ship passengers - which they are now doing. And they have to speak English, Dutch or Papiamentu to their customers.



Serving Onnie Emerenciana, Mrs. Pancho Cecilia, and Mrs. Sallie Pourier

The Stichting project has been going on for three years, according to Smit, but now it's more structured. Their "graduates" have gotten diplomas in diving, first aid, computer science. "And the schools, SEK and the commissioner of education are behind the project too," Mick says. "The group leaders are with the kids the whole day. How to behave is the most important goal."

What they can really use now are some volunteers who've had experience in the food and beverage industry. Call Mick if you can help: 786-6816. What you can give can come back a hundred fold. □
L.D.



Mr. Turtle Conservation, Gielman "Fungi" Egbrechts with his Stichting Project students

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Flotsam and Jetsam (Cont. from pg. 2) reverse. Coins can be bought from the Central Bank or from the Royal Dutch Mint online: <http://en.knm.nl> for 49.95 euros.

► **MCB, your friendly bank, has made it even easier for you to do banking. They have ATMs around the island:** at their main branch in Playa, in Hato and at the airport, Progresso Super Market, Plaza Hotel, Divi Flamingo Hotel, Warehouse Bonaire, Caribe Super Market and in Rincon at the *Kas di Hadrey*. How convenient can it get?

► **American Thanksgiving is this Thursday, November 22. If you're looking for a good Thanksgiving meal with all the trimmings call Golden Reef Inn at 717-5759.** For \$30 they'll be providing an all-you-can-eat typical American Thanksgiving buffet. Or try **Rum Runners at Captain Don's Habitat.** They too will have an all-you-can-eat buffet for \$21.45. Reservations at 717-8290. Seatings at 6 and 8 pm.

► **Sanikolas arrives on Bonaire at the town pier (Waf Chiku Mercelina) on Saturday, November 24, around 10:30 am along with his sidekicks, Zwartepietnan (Black Piets).** As is traditional Sanikolas will arrive from the sea but on which

vessel always remains a mystery until the day. Beforehand there will be activities and music for the children and those who accompany them in Wilhelmina Park. The old gentleman and his cohorts will parade through Playa, greeting everyone and throwing candy and sweets. Nearly every child on the island will be there and it makes for fantastic photo opportunities. Thanks to *Fundashon Ata Sanikolas i Zwartepiet* (FASIZ) and *Fundashon SEBIKI* for putting this event together every year. If you would like to have Sanikolas and the Zwartepietnan visit you or your business, call 717-8482.



Antique chest on wheels

► **Interiours, formerly Plantation, just received two 40-foot containers of some of the most beautiful furniture and antiques from Mainland China, Bali and other areas of Indonesia.** Many of the items are one-of-a-kind and some over 350 years old. Such a variety we haven't ever seen on the island. Interiours is bursting with unique furniture and accessories - antique

cabinets, standing screens, tables, chairs, lamps, carved boxes, lanterns, silk pillows, sculptures, water features and more. They've got the biggest collection of home furnishings and accessories on the island. Visit them soon before much of the stock is gone. People sometimes buy things as they're being unpacked from the containers! See page 11 ad.

Interiours has the same owner and is in the same location (since December 2005), behind Warehouse Bonaire. See their sign on the dirt road just to the south of Warehouse and north of Lisa Gas. They're open Tuesday to Friday from 9 am to 6 pm, non stop. Saturday from 9 am to 1. Tel. 717-5449.

► In the last issue we reported on the 1956 treaty between The Netherlands and the US concerning friendship, commerce and navigation that implied that **Americans did not require work permits in the Antilles and Aruba**, a view recently supported by an Aruban court. The opinion is based on the Antilles' Federal Foreign Labor Ordinance that says Dutch Nationals born outside the Netherlands Antilles don't need a work permit. (Article 3, b of said Federal Ordinance).

Under Article 3 of the Friendship Treaty, US citizens are entitled to treatment equivalent to European Dutch. Does this mean



► **Local artists Winfried Dania and Frans Booi will have an exhibition of their work at the Kas di Art, opening Sunday, December 2, from 5 to 8 pm.** The exhibit will continue through December 31, open daily at 10 am. Subjects will be art and architecture of Bonaire and stars from the heavens. A special surprise announcement - a gift to the island of Bonaire - will be made at the opening. Entrance is free and everyone is invited. For more information call 717-5644, 09-512-1469.

no work permit requirement for Americans? Perhaps a local court ruling may be needed to support this view. The English version of the Friendship Treaty can be found at www.expatlaw.nl.

► **The Economic Platform Bonaire Foundation will host an information evening, combined with a buffet, to collect**

funds for the foundation at the Plaza Resort Bonaire on Saturday, November 24, at 19:30.

The theme for this evening will be "How can we form a partnership with foreign investors and determine a strategy for the future regarding Bonaire's direct relations with the Netherlands?" Experts from the accounting firm

(Continued on page 19)

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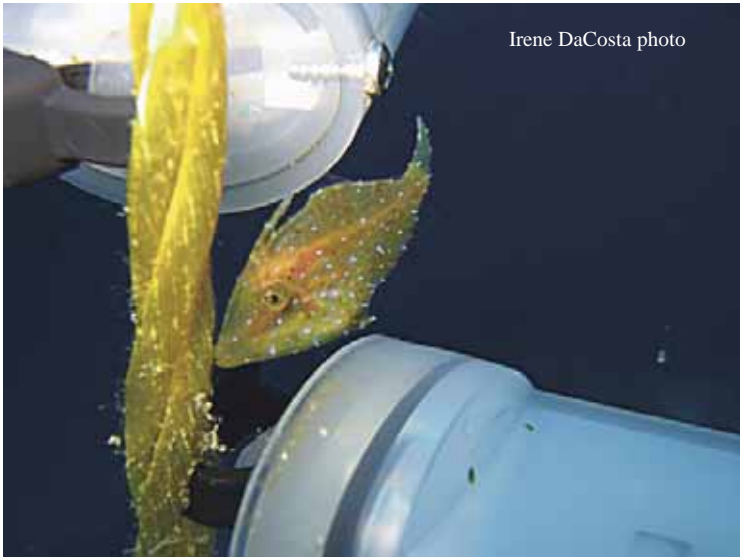
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CLEAR BLUE WATER NEWS

BONAIRE'S REEF-WATER QUALITY MONITORING PROJECT



Irene DaCosta photo

goes to Yellow Submarine for their generous contribution of air tanks for the project. □
John & Cindi Jensen

For more information, to donate or to volunteer contact:

Ramon de Leon, Manager of the BNMP, marinepark@stinapa.org or

Albert Bianculli, LMSP On-Island Coordinator, Volunteers and Fundraising, directab@gmail.com or

Blue McRight, LMSP Off-island Coordinator, Fundraising blue-ness@earthlink.net. □

The past two weeks have been incredibly productive for the LMSP (Light and Motion Sensor Project). Two new monitoring sites were activated - at positions near Buddy Dive and the WEB power plant, additional donations were received, more volunteers joined the team -John and Cindi Jensen, Cassandra and Franklin Neal, Leo Hoogenboom and his partner Suzie and Marge Lawson - and the first steps were taken to establish a non-profit foundation to lead the effort. Three more monitoring sites are to be activated in December once additional sensors arrive in Bonaire. On the dark side there have been two incidents of vandalism and theft of sensors.

Lots of practical experience is being gained that will be valuable over the duration of the project: construction of the arrays, their positioning and anchoring, the effects of interference from sea creatures and marine growth as well as a "feel" for the conditions along the fringing reef.

This project, if undertaken by an oceanographic company, would need a million dollar budget. However, because of the guidance from USC, the leadership of STINAPA, private donations and most of all, volunteer divers who install the monitors, maintain the gear and take the readings, the cost is reduced by an order of 10 or better.

The following story describes the dedication of one of the monitoring sites by its volunteer caretakers and is indicative of the feeling that the volunteers have for the project. □ *G.D.*

Dedication of the Monitoring Site, "Remembering Ryan"

How poignant that this special day began with a beautiful rainbow arching over the Remembering Ryan mooring site, just up the coast from the Hamlet Villa home of the mooring spon-



sors, John and Cindi Jensen. Remembering Ryan is dedicated to the memory of Ryan Mazzola, Cindi's oldest son who tragically died August 5, 2005 at age 24.

John and Cindi met with LSMP project leader Albert Bianculli at the Yellow Submarine facility at Hamlet Beach to begin the deployment. Albert had pre-assembled the mooring line with three sets of tri-color sensor suites, STINAPA identification tags and the handy Coke bottle floats. The sensor suites are located on the mooring line at depths of 20 meters, 12 meters and 5 meters from the sea surface.

With the pre-assembled mooring in tow, Albert, John and Cindi descended to the previously identified anchor point off the coast from the WEB site. Albert removed the temporary site locator and deftly attached the mooring line. After checking the position of the 20-meter sensor location, Albert made a minor depth adjustment to the line, then ascended to fill the floats at the top of the line with air. The complete installation took about 15 minutes. His experience in developing the installation process and applying lessons learned from the previous installation of nine moorings has enabled Albert to efficiently complete the new installation.

Once the installation was done, Cindi and John dedicated the mooring, Remembering Ryan. It was a heartfelt moment. Later that day, Albert and STINAPA Chief Ranger, Dean Domacassé, determined the GPS position of the mooring for future reference and identification on a web-based map for the LSMP project. A special note of appreciation

LMSP Volunteer Reports

"With the sky blue and the sun shining I left the dock and floated out to the deep water. I cleaned the sensors which were surrounded by many Creole wrasse and took my readings. I dropped down to the next set at 12 meters and was surrounded by many brown Chromis and one curious Tarpon. With the last sensors read I looked up and saw the same yellow tail snapper with the distinctive white spot on his side, which kept us company last week. As I started to swim away I decided to dive deeper than 20 meters. With flash light in hand I check up on 2 spotted moray eels, one bar jack with a cut on his head and 2 purple reef fish. What a dive!"

-Cassandra E. Neal

"In this latest incident of obvious THEFT, the single strand of line that held this sensor was CUT with a knife or dive scissor and the sensor and tie wrap was removed."

-Albert Bianculli

"After cleaning and reading the sensors at 5 and 12 meters, I found four little sea urchins helping clean up the algae at the 20 meter array. Careful not to disturb them, I went about my business and gave them my thanks as I left the mooring to complete my dive."

-Rick Aguilar

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Letters to the Editor

Topics:

1. Kudos for Greta
2. Surf iT Problems
3. Bat Mystery

KUDOS FOR GRETA

Dear Editor:

Many thanks and best wishes to Greta Kooistra. Her series of articles, along with Flotsam & Jetsam, have really helped us all understand more about the many faces of Bonaire. Her contributions were magnificent and we wish her well in whatever she turns her hand to next.

We would also like to say how much we liked the series about buildings, architecture and old homes and history ("Antique Living House of Bonaire" by Wilna Groenenboom).

Keep up the great work *Reporter!*!

Chris Ischay



TELBO SURF-IT PROBLEMS

Dear Editor:

It seems the Telbo time we're buying with Surf-iT cards is literally disappearing into the ether.

We are cruisers who have brought our boat to a Bonaire mooring for the past two summers. Last year paid WiFi service was truly an on again/off again experience; it rarely worked because the signal was both weak and erratic. A year later there's Surf-it, with big promises of fast and consistent Internet service. We were, frankly, excited

We bought our first card (NAf 25 for 6 hours online) two weeks ago. Connections were good and service was fast. Unfortunately we got a lot less usable time. First, because Telbo offers no instructions to guide users about how to log off. Unless you enable pop-ups and the small window appears on your screen to log off, you are, in fact, still connected and paying. We got this information, not from Telbo, but from other cruisers who'd figured it out themselves.

After we mastered the sign-off trick, we logged off with one hour's time left. Next sign-on we got a message that the card had expired.

We bought a second NAf 25 card and we were much more careful to log off properly. Yet, after about one hour of use, we attempted to log on again and were given the message that our time was used up. Five hours lost.

We went to visit Telbo. After about an hour of waiting, they produced a computer print out "proving" that we had used the five hours--in fact downloaded 5 megabytes and uploaded 1 meg. We were not even on the boat at that time and I told them their printout was in error. Sorry, said a clearly irritated and insistent clerk, we have to go by the printout.

Since they are the only paid working WiFi service in the moorings (or, for that matter for island visitors and tourists) We purchased a NAf 50 card—15 hours of (alleged) service. Again, after about an hour we logged off correctly. Almost immediately we needed to get back on. Again we got the message that our time was used up. Back to Telbo, again an

hour wait for them to upload my printout. Because it was long before the 14 hours could possibly have been used, this time I was given a new NAf 50 card.

And told that this almost never happens.

When we told our story to several boat neighbors, two of them advised that they got an extra free 14 hours on their service—both the morning our hours disappeared.

Clearly, something is wrong with Telbo's software.

We called their Internet tech support (9212 option #4) twice on the same day to report this problem. Twice they promised to call back within the hour with an answer. To date (4 days later) we are still waiting. This is frustrating, annoying and the fact that they do not acknowledge problems we know (and have reported) exist, dishonest

At the very least, Telbo should print a simple page of instructions, in English, with helpful troubleshooting hints. In addition, they should acknowledge these problems and fix their software.

They are giving new meaning to the words "Sittin' in the dock of the bay, wasting' time."

Dissatisfied Cruisers.



BAT MYSTERY

Dear Editor:

In two days I have picked up four dead bats on my seaside porches, three on Tuesday and one Wednesday. Friends were here yesterday so they took that dead bat to the Vet for examination. He said it looked as though it had been healthy, but will have a final report later. There was no dead bat today.

I am wondering if other people have observed dead bats (or other dead animals like cats or dogs, or rats or mice. I have never seen a dead animal on my property before so this is most unusual. I am wondering if some overly toxic mosquito spraying may account for these deaths. Whatever is killing the bats would most likely be dangerous to humans as well. Perhaps you could print this as a letter or bulletin or something in the paper to alert others to this situation.

Laraine Abbey-Katzev

Editor's note: Bonaire's bats are key to the island's environmental health as they pollinate the night-blooming cactus that hold the soil and consume thousands of mosquitoes.

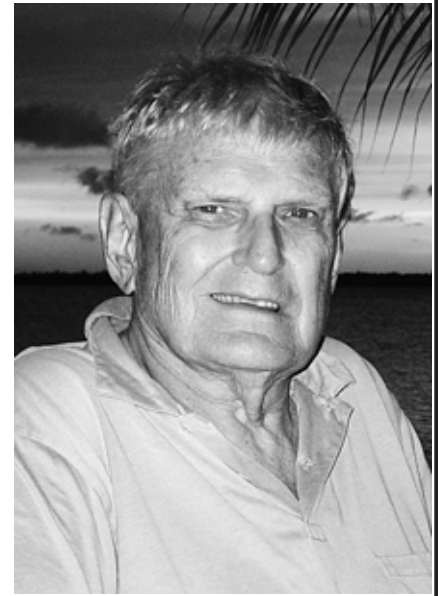
Larry Theilgard Passes

Larry Theilgard died on Tuesday afternoon, November 13, at his house in Waverly, Pennsylvania following a long battle with cancer. He was well known on Bonaire as the man who started the salt works and who was its first manager. He lived on Bonaire for many years before returning to the area near his birthplace.

Born and educated in Princeton, NJ, he served in the US Navy as an Electronics Technician and received the Victory Medal and American Theater Medal. He was awarded a Mechanical Engineer degree from Princeton University in 1949.

He began his career in the salt industry when he joined the International Salt Company and managed various mines and plants. The highlight of his career was building the solar sea salt plant on Bonaire. His retirement was filled with skiing, bicycling, playing the trumpet, sailing, travel and spending winters on Bonaire. He met his wife Joan, on a ski trip to St. Anton, Austria. Larry believed that life had been good to him and that family and friends were his jewels.

On Bonaire he was involved in local activities including organizing and founding the Bonaire Lions Club. He was a charter member of the Bonaire Flying Club. He was a director of Alkali Ltd, a salt industry or-



ganization in Jamaica; trustee of the Northeastern Philharmonic, President of Princeton Club of Northeastern Pennsylvania, a member and Vice President of Scranton Tennis Club, Senior Warden of Church of the Epiphany, New Iberia, LA. Larry is survived by his wife Joan; son, John Theilgard of Chapel Hill, N.C.; a daughter, Susan Moriearty of Clarks Summit; four grandchildren: Heather Moriearty Smith, Stephanie Moriearty, Nels and Peter Theilgard; three great-grandchildren: Alexandra, Tialynn and Rhianna; two sisters Janet Englehart of Silver Spring, MD, and Carel Fass and husband Len of Towson, MD. He was preceded in death by a son, Mark, and a brother Neil. □

DO YOU SUDOKU?

Sudoku means "the digits must remain single" in Japanese. To solve the puzzle, enter the numbers 1 through 9 to the partially filled in puzzle without repeating a number in any row, column or 3 x 3 region. For a tutorial visit the web site www.Sudoku Shack.com. **Solution on page 11.**

Supplied by *Molly Bartikoski-Kearney (who has to solve all the puzzles first.)*

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

TENE BONEIRU DUSHI

(Keep Bonaire "Sweet")
The vision of a prosperous
and sustainable Bonaire

In 2003, the Government of Bonaire developed a Strategic Recovery Agenda designed to improve the quality of life on Bonaire through economic revitalization and poverty alleviation. The Agenda envisions achieving for the people of Bonaire:

- A high standard of living
- Sustainable economic development
- A strong common identity and social cohesion

To further this vision, Bonaire has created the Economic Development Program Bonaire 2004-2007. The core vision of the Economic Program is:

Growth with preservation of nature and culture, where growth needs to be controlled and manageable, internally driven, more qualitative than quantitative, supported by society and contributing to the general welfare of all individuals and the community as a whole.

Balance is the Key

Sustainable development is the very foundation of Bonaire's recovery and development plans. Sustainability requires a careful balance between three elements:

- A healthy society with a strong sense of identity, connection and tradition

Bonaire Tourism Figures (source TCB)

	2004 Actual	2005 Actual	2006 Actual	2007 Econ. Prog. Target	2007 TCB Target	2008 TCB Target
Stay-over tourists	63,156	62,575	63,585	86,900	N/A*	N/A*
Cruise tourists	53,343	40,077	61,844	46,200	155,539	230,481

is integral to the quality of each person's life.

- Nature, with biologically diverse and healthy ecosystems, ensures that fundamental needs like clean air and water are met, enriches quality of life and is the underpinning of a robust economy.

- A robust economy makes possible a high standard of living for all.

For Bonaire, tourism is a vital component of a healthy, sustainable economy. And it is critical that we develop a tourism industry that protects the long-term quality of life of the people of Bonaire, and is entirely subject to the protection of nature and the environment, the assets that make tourism possible.

TCB commits Bonaire to mass tourism. Despite the fact that government policy provides clear guidance for sustainable tourism development, TCB has taken a sudden, unsustainable turn toward mass cruise ship tourism.

The Economic Program lays out specific targets for numbers of stay-over tourists and cruise tourists. The table above shows actual numbers of tourists in 2004 through 2006, alongside the 2007 targets, as laid out in the Economic Program, versus TCB's targets shown in the above table

TCB has described its vision as managed tourism and not mass tourism. But as

of this year, TCB has committed Bonaire as a mass tourism destination, orchestrating an increase from 62,000 to 154,000 cruise tourists in one season. In this season, we will experience individual days when 5,000 people could spill from as many as three cruise ships onto our neighborhoods, streets, sidewalks, beaches and reefs. And as the table shows, TCB's target for 2008-09 leaps to **230,000 cruise passengers**.

This is not guided development, and the consequences of mass tourism will be swift, devastating and lasting on our small island.

Guided Tourism Leads to Success

The table shows that the Economic Program target for stay-over tourists is not being achieved. Two major reasons for this, lack of commercial flights and failure to expand hotel room capacity, are not under the direct control of the office of tourism. The answer, however, is not to chase the easier target of mass cruise ships. That market cannot compensate for the more stable, low-impact and lucrative stay-over market.

Mass cruise tourism will in fact defeat our ability to attract stay-over tourism. The answer is to stick to the guiding spirit of the Economic Program and maintain the relative proportion of stay-over (65%) to cruise tourism (35%).



Improved and Sustainable Quality of Life

Bonaire's history is the history of small Caribbean islands, shaped, for good and bad, by those who saw the potential of sea travel. The huge commercial ships of old brought both destruction and benefit. Small ships departing our shores brought both freedom and loss. Today, Bonaire has developed policies designed to create a sustainable future, wherein the economy will serve not just the big ships of commerce, but will ensure a high standard of living for all on Bonaire, will protect our natural environment and respect Bonairean cultural heritage and identity.

Cruise ship tourism is one component of economic activity on Bonaire. We urge TCB and the Deputy to return to the guiding spirit of Bonaire's Economic Development Program. Be sure that cruise tourism is truly managed, is in proportion to other economic activity and brings only benefit. Focus on stay-over tourism and small cruises that will not compromise our infrastructure, create gridlock in our streets, monopolize and degrade our natural attractions, and overtax our sewage and sanitation systems. □ Bruce Bowker

Laraine Abbey-Katzev
invites all who would like to attend to a

MEMORIAL GATHERING IN CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF HER BELOVED HUSBAND PHILLIP KATZEV

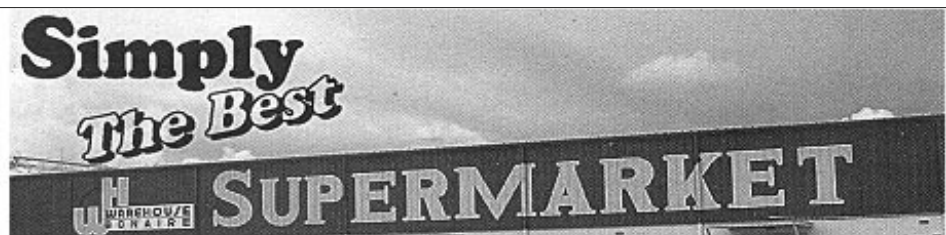
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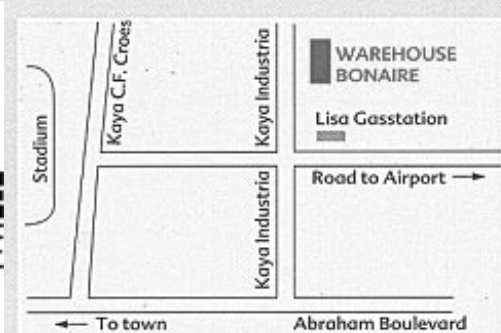
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Bonaire Windsurfer Ruben Reports

Browersdam Festival, Holland 07
Kona Worlds Gold Cup 2007



Ruben (right) and friends take the "Exocet Walk." Photos by Sebastian Schöffel

I arrived in Holland and hooked up with the Dutch Exocet distributor, Job Verbunt, to prepare. After loading up the trailer we drove from his office to Browesdam, Holland, where for the first time a Surf Fest was hosted in cooperation with Tonix, a German extreme sports company.

The Exocet stand was number two, right at the entrance. As we started to put up the famous blue Exocet flags Max Keurentjes, another sponsored rider, came along to give us a hand, then we had Kai Gefken, the German Exocet distributor, and his German assistants (Sebastian Schöffel, Sebastian Groitzsch and Ingo Meyer). We all worked together as a family, having lots of fun at the same time. The whole range of Exocet boards was available from the wave boards to the Kona Longboard collection. Later on Flying Dutchman Ben van der Steen and Belgium champ Wolfgang Verlaeck joined us. Here was a team who came together to represent the brand.

Some of us even took a ride on the Kona Mahalo, a tandem board, lots of fun too. Job Verbunt presented the Kona One to the spectators; later that afternoon I presented the I-style. So many people attending for a first-time surf festival in Holland shows that the interest in our sport is pretty much alive. A lot of visitors tested our boards and came back with positive vibes and smiles.

Because we were located at the entrance and the main stage was in the middle of the whole area we created a new interesting idea, "The Exocet Walk." We

just took a few boards and headed straight through the crowds, even hanging out in the children's playground and having a cold drink at the bar. It was so funny to see all these people's and photographers' faces. Well, what can I say? They never saw anything like this before. It was lots of fun with our talented camera guy, Sebastian Schöffel, who took lots of nice pictures during the walk.

Next day the wind kicked in and we decided to give the Kona Mini Tanker a spin. It's a light wind wave longboard. I was pulling out some freestyle moves with this board. Surprisingly it has a pretty interesting feeling and I'd really love to try it in some wave conditions. Then I took the I-style for a wild ride on the ramp. After watching how little kids struggled to get over the ramp I got a bit worried. But after the show in Switzerland I got addicted to this feeling, so I just went for it and pulled out some massive loops in front of the cameras. After that Brian Talma, Remko deWeerd and I were called to judge a freestyle event. It was super cool to see little kids ripping it up here in Holland, especially the Belgian styler, Ditrig. It was all together a great event. In the late afternoon it was time to pack and say good bye to the fans.. □ Ruben Petrisie (Loft, Exocet, Gsport, Reptile-Masts, Kamoana Clothing Co.)

Kona Worlds Gold Cup 2007

(Notes from Tor Bakke)
The second Kona Gold Cup was held in southern France with competitors from 12 countries and tactically demanding condi-

tions with light to medium winds. Ruben Petrisie is a freestyle specialist who did extremely well sailing on a long board with super light wind conditions. Ruben commented, "Well I never really joined a long board race, but I do remember years ago I used to try them out with Patun and Taty. For me it was like a really fun experience while at the same time experiencing different pressure points in your sail and wind shifts. I mean there's a lot going on when racing in such light winds." Ruben Petrisie, the Freestyle king from Bonaire, surprised himself and the rest of us by taking home the bronze in the heavy weight division.

For more info go to www.Kona-windsurfing.com □ Ruben Petrisie



Ruben in action

Young Chefs Thank You Dinner



Student chefs Norison Conquet, Samantha Clarinda, Elviene Sint Jago, Derrick Piar, Jobinella Winklaar and Robertico Bernabela

The young SGB student chefs, recently returned from four weeks studying cuisine, Italian style, gave a fabulous Italian dinner at Chez Nous for their sponsors last week. The sponsors rallied to their aid when AMFO rejected their funding request.

They were guided by teacher Vernon "Nonchi" Martijn in the kitchen. Guests were overwhelmed with the menu. The first course was a typical Italian antipasto complete with a selection of fresh breads baked in the Chez Nous kitchen. That was followed by a pasta Bolognese, a pork medallion with lemon sauce and rosemary potatoes and grilled zucchini. Dessert was homemade strawberry ice cream with a balsamico vinegar sauce and biscotti. Other students, under the guidance of teacher Liz Rijna, served the courses beautifully and professionally. Thanks to the ever generous Ruud Vermeulen for the abundant wines and Prosecco bubbly. □ L.D.

Bonaire Wins In Aruba



Ladies Double B players Marijke Maas and Yvette Hageman

Again Bonaire had a successful tennis trip to Aruba. The 26th International Veteran Tennis Classic had almost 160 participants from the Antilles and America. Bonaire sent a delegation of 26 people. The team left Aruba with many prizes:

Men's singles A (5.0 USTA); runner-up James Finies (w.o.)
Men's doubles A (5.0 USTA); winners Paco Veeris & James Finies
Men's doubles B (4.5 USTA); winner Silvio Hart & Andres Kock
Ladies doubles B (4.5 USTA); runners-up Yvette Hageman & Marijke Maas (Photo above)
Mixed doubles B (4.5 USTA); runners-up; Donna Shea (Boston USA) & Andres Kock

Ladies singles C (4.0 USTA); runner up Lupita St.Jago
Mixed doubles C (4.0 USTA) This Mixed Double C finals will be played on Bonaire with Rosalie Bierings/Ibi de Palm playing against Marijke Maas/Theo Maas on Friday, 23rd of November, 7 pm at the Harbour Village Tennis courts.

Please come and watch this match.

Also the team would like to thank BSC Pool & Spa/BSC Painting for 'Team Bonaire' shirts, Vespucci Restaurant, Humphrey Hose, Tournament Director and Renzo Hirschfeld for the organization of this successful tournament. □ Story and photo by Yvette Hageman

Rocargo Celebrates 25 Years



Managing Director Marisela Croes, Yardline Sint Jago and Ludsilla Rosario at the Rocargo press conference

For the last 25 years Rocargo has been there for us, making it easy to send and receive shipments without a lot of hassle. We've almost come to take them for granted. In September 1982 they began operations by unloading their first container. Their official opening was on December 8 of the same year. Since 2000 they have been certified by the International Standards Organization (ISO), which assures their customers that they meet a high standard of business practices. Currently only one other company on Bonaire (BOPEC) is ISO certified.

Managing Director Marisela Croes feels that Bonaire's young people must have more than just sports in their life so one of the events that Rocargo is sponsoring will benefit the community and emphasize the island's culture. This will be a Youth Talent Show on Sunday, November 25, at the SGB auditorium from 4 to 8 pm. Participating will be Kolegio Kristu Bon Wardador, Watapana School, Kolegio San Luis Bertran and Kolegio Papa Cornes students. There will be dancing, singing, drama and poetry and a fashion show. According to Croes, "There is a lot of enthusiasm in the schools in getting ready for the show." Rocargo is awarding prizes for best performances.

Another celebration will be a big end-of-the-year party on Friday, December 28, on Rocargo's terrace. Then, next year on March 28 there will be an exposition of "container art" portraying different sights of Bonaire. Another project for 2008 will be sponsoring the distribution of a book, "E Asuntu Di Florisol," a Tin-Tin (Kuifje in Dutch and Papiamentu) adventure, to Bonaire and Curaçao schoolchildren.

Here's to another 25, Rocargo! Keep up the good work! L.D.

Bonaire's Karate Kids Kids Visit



Bonaire's proud Karate Kids and their teacher Peter Silberie, upon arrival from a competition in Curaçao during the weekend of November 2, 3 and 4. The group of 13 kids (six to 17 years old) returned with a total of 10 trophies. Winning Girls: Miu-Ji Xuan, Amber Lensink and Kia-san Silberie. Winning Boys: Jean Paul Laragaviera, Everone Vrutaal, Leonard Janga and Marvelous Maingot. Prizes were won in different categories. Congratulations, especially to Peter Silberie for providing good training. □

Story & Photo by Dennis Lensink

Kids Visit JanArt



On October 18 more than 40 students, ages 5 through 8, from the Papa Cornes School visited the JanArt Gallery. Their teacher, Mrs. Zila Ignacio, wanted the children to experience and see art by people who are professional artists on the island.

Indonesian Meal and Art Auction

To Benefit the Bonaire Animal Shelter

It's time again. Friday, December 7, for the Bonaire Animal Shelter bi-annual fundraising event - an Indonesian meal followed by an art auction. It's all at the Sunrise Restaurant at Sand Dollar. All the proceeds will go to helping to keep the Bonaire Animal Shelter open for unwanted cats and dogs. The dinner is at 6 pm. The auction starts at 8:30 pm.



The price for the Indonesian meal is NAf45 per person. Tickets are available before the event. For the auction, no ticket is needed. Everyone is welcome! Sponsors and artists have contributed purely voluntarily and the Shelter wants to thank all these persons beforehand.

Come join and have a very nice evening!

Asecom NV, tel. 717 3207
 Jacobs Architekten NV, tel. 787-0466
 Babs Domburg tel. 786-1512
 Jan Kerklaan tel. 786-3454
 Animal Shelter Bonaire tel. 717-4989
 Or by email: paulwichers@flamingotv.net

The Bonaire Reporter is published every two weeks. Look for the next issue on December 6. And it's still

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Bonaire information

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The children made a tour of the art gallery and were shown many different mediums of art including watercolor, oil and acrylic paintings, clay sculptures, jewelry and driftwood art. After the tour the children were guided to paint their own art masterpiece by artist Janice Huckaby in her outdoor atelier. The subjects for the paintings were based on Bonaire's nature and included an oriole bird and oleander flowers.



After the class was finished you could hear sweet young voices singing Bonaire songs for Mrs. Huckaby-Baillie under the trees along with the local birds. It was a great art experience for all. □ Story & photos by Janice Huckaby-Baillie / Jan Art



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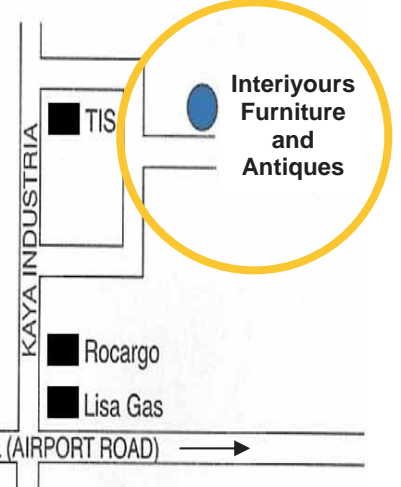
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500+ Students At Job Market



Laura Fermin, Arviene Wilson and Mairis Wooter try on the Coast Guard uniform

The fourth *Studie- en Beroepenmarkt* (Vocational Market) was organized by the foundation 'Ban Boneiru Bèk'. The foundation's credo is to help create a thriving community on Bonaire by means of a balanced structure, with people who care about the island and who can and want to give a lasting contribution. Celia Fernandes Pedra, Hans Evers, Javier Boezem (all three from *Ban Boneiru Bèk*), together with Lilian Paula, Han de Bruijne and Iveth Anthony have done their absolute best to make it a successful event. The acting Lt.

Governor, Mr. Ubaldo Anthony, declared the vocational market officially open at 10 am, Saturday, November 10. The market was, very appropriately, held at the youth center, Jong Bonaire. Some 33 organizations each set up a stand with folders, books, televisions, posters, candy, etc. Five organizations were from Curaçao, and seven (almost all of them colleges and universities) from Holland. All other participants of the vocational market were from Bonaire. Bon FM covered the event live on the radio.

Magic Ed Appears

Finally, after years of preparation Magic Ed Entertainment has become a reality. It all began May 4th 2001 as a young Ed Janga did his first show at a school talent show, and the dream was born. After years of practice and after finishing school in Aruba, Ed is ready for the challenge. So on November 8th was the official launching of "ME E!" where the press got more information about the company goals, staff and services.

This is a company offering mostly family entertainment on Bonaire, where the kids are the kings. "ME E!" will provide entertainment with magic acts, clown, live band, DJ. Besides all that, they also can do the decorations and even clean up after the party.

Ed would like to thank Sign Studio, Jong Bonaire (especially Rudsel Chirino), Alan Gross and all the people who have helped this dream come true. For more info about the services and reservations contact Ed @: 785-9802 or magic-ed@hotmail.com □ Press Release



SGB's VWO 5 class, with me as their mentor, assisted in the event. Among other things, the students moved a lot of tables and chairs to help build the stands, they interviewed the youth about their visit to the market and counted how many people entered the market. With a total of 525 visitors, the organizers hope to have made a positive contribution to the choices

the students of Bonaire have to make.

As Ms. Fernandes Pedra said in her opening speech, "The age of a culture or the amount of natural resources of a country does not determine the prosperity of a country, it is the attitude of its people that matters. We cannot just sit around waiting for something to hap-

pen; we have to be an active part in the progress of this island. So, *Boneiru su progreso, Ban p'e* (The progress of Bonaire; Let's go for it)! □

Story & photo by Mary Ann Koops

Koops is a Biology teacher at the SGB high school and writes frequently for The Reporter.

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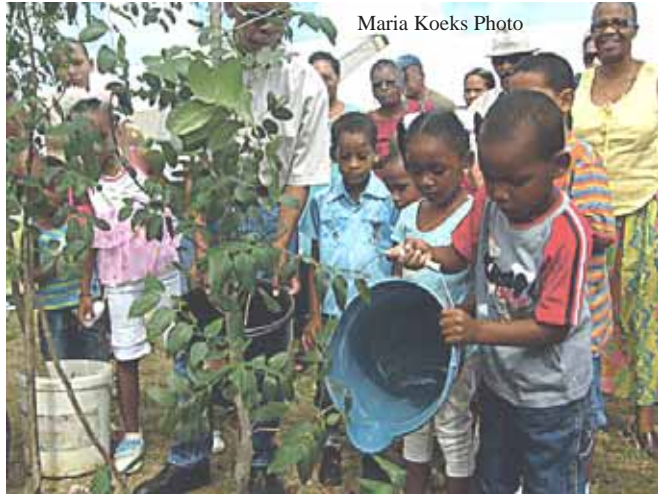
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Rincon Gets Greener

Thanks to a project of the Plataforma Rincon, Parke di Naturalesa Rinconero, STINAPA, LVV (agriculture department) and the people of Rincon, 60 trees will be planted in Rincon and Antriol. The first eight trees, all mahòk (mahogany), were ceremonially planted in front of the Luis Bertran School in Rincon last Saturday. As the first tree was planted by Deputy Boy Clarinda, assisted by students Ruliente and Marvionne, LVV head, Rocky Emers and Danilo Christiaan, a chorus of young singers sang an inspiring song composed by Yufrou Lènie, "Let's Plant Trees," accompanied by a rousing beat from a Boy Scout drum corps. Each of the eight trees was planted by two students together with a group (the elderly, different clubs, families). And each planting was done with sincere attention and love. The staff of LVV (agricultural department) was there to oversee the planting, provide the shovels, chapis and other equipment as well as a truck of water.

The trees, grown by nurseryman-taxi driver-plumber-welder, Steven "Saab" Frans, are all local trees: *mahòk*, *tamarind*, *kneppa*, *flamboyant*, *kibra hacha*, *shimaruku* and *wayaka*.

It was a festive day. Free drinks and snacks were passed to the visitors, plants and local food were for sale, information was offered by Mangazina di Rei and on gardening by LVV.



Maria Koeks Photo

A special thank you to Sra. Irene Vlitig, a member of the Parke Naturalesa Rinconero, whose aim is to make Rincon more green! And to Plataforma Rincon for procuring the money for this project from the Knap Funds. □



L.D./Maria Koeks



"Saab" Frans, the grower of the trees, with Aythel Isidora.

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Turtles On The Move



Andy Uhr from Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire writes, "Unfortunately it looks like we are no longer receiving signals from 'Darwina.' As you can see from today's tracking map, the last signal was received over 2 days ago on the morning of 14 November. The most likely explanation is that the antenna on 'Darwina's' transmitter has broken off and the device can no longer send signals. 'Darwina' was first fitted with her transmitter back on 24 July. She traveled extensively in between her nesting activities on the southern part of Bonaire, with a couple of journeys to Venezuela and Curaçao and to Los Roques. Her migration back to her home foraging grounds, which began on 29 September, took her over 2,200 km from Bonaire before her signal was lost. The actual path she covered exceeded 2,750 km. All told, since having the transmitter affixed, 'Darwina' traveled just short of 7,000 km!

For your information, we are still receiving signals from 'Elosie' that place her in her last reported position on the Albatross Bank off Jamaica.

We will continue to monitor the situation and if circumstances should change we will keep you posted." □ Andy Uhr

Bubbles from the Biologist

Did You Know...

Different species of sea turtles eat different things? If you look at the beak of a sea turtle, it will give you clues as to its food preference. The Leatherback sea turtle has a delicate sharp beak that is good for catching soft jellies. It also has many downward pointing papillae (spine-like projections) that line its throat to keep the slippery jellies from escaping once inside the mouth.



Hawksbill Sea Turtle

Adult Green sea turtles are mostly vegetarians and have a finely serrated beak that is perfect for slicing through tough sea grass and algae.

Hawksbill sea turtles have a small head and pointed beak that help them to get into nooks and crevices in the reef where they find their favorite food items: sponges and tunicates.

Loggerheads and Ridleys have a very strong, heavy beak that crushes through mollusk shells as well as the exoskeletons of crabs and lobsters. With all of this eating going on, what eats adult sea turtles? Sharks and salt water crocs do. Sea turtles gave up their ability to tuck their heads into their shells in exchange for a streamlined form that allows them to race speedily away from predators. Sea turtles also have a hard shell (all but the Leatherback) and employ countershading. They are light underneath and dark on top so that when predators look up from below, their silhouette matches the light background of the surface waters. And when a predator looks down from above, their dark shell blends into the dark waters below making them harder to spot. So the next time you're lucky enough to see a sea turtle, take a good look at its beak and you will have a clue as to what its next meal might be. □ Caren Eckrich



Biologist-Author Caren Eckrich teaches Coral Reef Ecology and Scientific Diving to American University students at the CIEE Research Station Bonaire. She's also the Director of Sea & Discover, a marine education center offering interactive learning programs to kids and adults. You can reach her at 717-5322.

Enrique

Ecoswim 2007 Recap and Results



Brad Swanson photo

The 7th Annual Bonaire Eco Swim's field of 107 participants, its largest ever, was greeted by sunshine, beautiful skies and crystal clear waters. Bonaire is recognized as the shore diving capital of the world and a perfect location for fun, friendship, and fast open water swimming. This year's course was new, going north, taking the swimmers around a barge,

over spectacular and lively reefs, colorful tropical fish and several sea turtles.

Competitors represented over 18 US states, a large contingent from Venezuela and Bonaire. In addition to the event swimmers were very active socially with the traditional sunset cruise on board the *Samur*. Also well attended were celebratory dinners at

Capriccio with the best wine cellar in the Caribbean, and several nighttime snorkeling trips under the stars.

The sponsors that made this event possible include : Dutch Antillean Express, Capt. Don's Habitat, Sand Dollar Condominium Resort, Bonaire Dive & Adventure, Maduro & Curiels Bank Bonaire N.V., Golden Reef Inn, *Samur* Sailing Charters, Divi Dive, Budget Car rental Bonaire, Golly Guarana (energy drink) , Rum Runners Restaurant, Bonaire Hotel & Tourism Association, Tourism Corporation Bonaire, Bonaire Sailing Foundation, Aqua Moon Adventures, Swim

Paddles, STINAPA.

We would like to thank the volunteers for their hard work during the event making sure that all the participants in the water were safe during the competition:

Politie Korps Bonaire: Mr. Ibi Statie and his crew Mike & Jennifer from the boat *Heart-jump* , Susie from the boat *Wishful Thinking* , Mikel, Bill, David & Gonzalez from the boat *Summerset Cat*, the rangers of the Bonaire Marine Park, Jamal Trinidad, Pernilla Mansveld, Tarimar Thom, Sipke Stapert and Bruce Brabec.

□ BONHATA Press Release

Place	Time	Name	Age	Event
1	1:39:02	Binelli, Giada	16	5K Female fins
8	1:39:52	Winkel, Philip	15	5 K Male
1	53:32	Vasquez, Enrique	14	3K Male fins
2	53:38	Zweers, Pieter	50	3K Male
24	2:12:38	Bernabela, Carmen	50	3K Overall
1	25:55	Zweers, Christiaan	12	1K Male
2	26:38	Mostert, Jaimy	11	1K Female

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 Tel: (599) 717-8285 Fax: 717-8238
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SOLUTION TO DO YOU SUDOKU?

Puzzle on page 6

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

Bonaire Reporter Classifieds— Are still free Got something to buy or sell?

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Bonaire Images

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Reporters and feature writers wanted for *The Reporter*. Get paid by the word and for your photos. Stories waiting to be written. Send a sample of your writing to: info@bonairereporter.com or call George 786-6125

For Sale: Barchetta Strada, "high racer" style recumbent road bicycle, in excellent condition, with Shimano 105 components. Has upgraded fork, stem, carbon fiber Spinnergy wheels, and spare tires and tubes. NAf 3500. Brad Swanson 717-8814

USB Flatbed scanner, comes with original software and all cables, excellent working condition, NAf40.00, Call 717-2848

For Sale. Real American Double Pillowtop mattress set. Full size (135 cm X 190 cm) incl. cotton sheets and mattress pad. J.A. Abraham #10 (behind Cactus Blue)

If you have Scubapro Mk 16 or 18 first stage and have had problems with the high pressure seats, Carib Inn now has upgrade kits that make this into the newest Mk 17 style. Contact Bruce at the Carib Inn for pricing etc. 717-8819

For Sale: FIAT Barchetta 1.8 Cabrio, 2 seats, with hardtop, NAf 7.900. Tel. 796-5591.

Samsonite briefcase, almost new, with keys and code-locks, NAf 100, and a Samsonite beauty case, black, NAf 45, tel. 796-5591.

Fuji DL-8 camera with small HAMA bag, and 1 fresh colorfilm 28 pcs, NAf 25, tel. 796-5591.

Sudoku game-computer NAf 17,50, tel. 796-5591.

Houseboat for sale, newly furnished and great rental options. Spotless appearance with lots of space. Very complete w/AC and full kitchen. 40,000 euro. Call for further info. Phone 786-5212



The 23rd of a series of Bonaire Reporter articles by J@n Brouwer, featuring some of Bonaire's interesting vehicles that are "on wheels."

Sietse's SEAT Aperto Sport: A red rarity on Bonaire's roads.



Two photographs of the red sprayed unique SEAT Aperto. This fun car is used every day. It is cheap to run and quite reliable. (Photographs: J@n Bouwer)

Bonaire/Kralendijk –

Sietse, professional cook, lives with his family in a traditional Bonairean house along Kaya Gobernador Debrot. Sietse is probably the only owner of a SEAT on the island and definitely the only owner of a red SEAT Aperto Sport. Sietse likes his small Spanish manufactured car. It is a handy semi-open-air vehicle fitted with a powerful traverse mounted four-cylinder engine. The two-door convertible car might have been designed as a four-seater but this red sprayed cutie fits only two adults and a cooling box.

The car is in reasonably good condition. A sound and vivid engine is mounted in between the front wheels, a square body with hardly any rust, a nice vinyl top, light alloy wheels. The second gear of the gearbox is a bit stubborn, but after being the owner of this small car for a couple of years Sietse knows how to fiddle around with the gear shift lever to find the second gear, the third gear and the second gear again. Sometimes some teeth have to be brushed but the gearbox does its job and luckily the EP90 hypoid oil stays clear.

The trademark SEAT is an abbreviation. The name stands for: Sociedad Espanola de Automoviles de Turismo S.A. The factory was founded in 1950 and for decades FIAT models with expired licenses were made by the Spanish industries. Sietse's SEAT Aperto Sport ("aperto" is Italian for "open"/jb) is based on the SEAT Marbella. The SEAT Marbella is the Spanish equivalent of the Italian FIAT Panda, designed by Giorgetto Giugiaro. The SEAT Marbella has been in production from 1986 to 1998. The car is named after the popular Spanish seaside resort. The Marbella (and the convertible version of the Marbella, the Aperto Sport) are fitted with the engine of the FIAT 127. This four-cylinder engine measures 903 cc and produces 40 horse power (30 kilowatts). Because of its light weight the car uses only one liter of gas every 15 kilometers.

Sietse likes his unique car, and he does not consider selling it in the near future. Sietse even likes the challenging gearbox of his little gem. Happy trails Sietse!

□ J@n Bouwer

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Bonaire's NGOs Helping People Help Themselves

Saka Man Yuda Nos Gives A Helping Hand

Saka Man Yuda Nos is a non-governmental organization that encourages teenagers to do volunteer work for the senior citizens in their neighborhood. With adult supervision they help with chores in and around the house, such as cleaning the house and the garden, fixing small household problems, getting groceries, helping with manicures and pedicures, taking a walk or drive and so on.

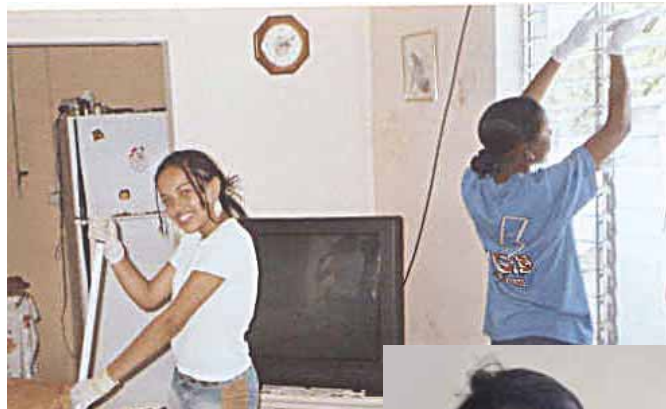
There are a lot of senior citizens on Bonaire who are no longer able to do some or all of their household chores and they really appreciate what this organization does. Not everybody has children or other family members on the island who can help them and it's not just the chores and little improvements around the house. It's the extra social contacts that are very valuable too, especially to those who live alone or are bedridden.

The name *Saka Man Yuda Nos* means 'give a helping hand' and that is exactly what they do!

Now you would think that it's all about helping the elderly, but the teenagers also benefit from this arrangement. Their social skills improve and they learn a lot of different tasks, which will always come in handy. Also they learn how valuable volunteer work and the care for those around us is. They get to know the people in their neighborhood and see the way the elderly live, which strengthens the roots of the teenagers. The increase of mutual respect and understanding improves the atmosphere of the neighborhood.

Saka Man Yuda Nos was conceived by Trifina Offerman. She decided to reach out and help the elderly people in her neighborhood by getting youngsters to volunteer. They set up a structure to collaborate with the high school, church, a contractor, a health care specialist, a bus driver for transportation and lots of other volunteers. With a strong basis like this, projects have a bigger chance of being successful and that is exactly what happened. The first group of teenagers was so excited by what they did, they motivated Ms. Offerman to continue with this idea and make it a durable long-term project.

The teenagers are between 15 and 20 years old and come from the local high school. They are guided by adults who supervise voluntarily with the different chores. They try to get different groups involved, not just those kids who choose to learn more about health care, but also the students from the paint class and electronics class get to practice what they



Students clean house
Saka Man Yuda Nos photo



Trifina Offerman, Founder
Annemarie Klöne photo

learn in school in a real life setting.

Ever since the first project in 2004, the number of kids who participate has increased and now they visit at least five houses each week. People who are bedridden and need the most help get a visit every week; the others on a less frequent schedule.

Thanks to support from several places *Saka Man Yuda Nos* received some funding and materials to do a few small improvements, such as making a house wheelchair-accessible for someone who had lost his legs, changing regular light bulbs into energy saving ones to save on electricity bills and the placing of handlebars in the bathroom to prevent a fall.

Another project of *Saka Man Yuda Nos* is the fruit project. Whenever the financial situation allows it the organization puts little fruit baskets together and has preschool children deliver them to the elderly. Sometimes they add a few groceries, but the budget is very limited, so much even, that right now this project is on hold.

Ms. Offerman is very pleased with the positive response she always gets from both the youngsters and the elderly. "It is a lot of work, but they motivate me to go on. We want this to be a long lasting support system for the elderly and a regular part of the teens' educational program."

Saka Man Yuda Nos gets all age groups to work together, to learn from each other, to increase respect among all, and to develop valuable life skills. These volunteers and the work they do for the community is truly priceless!

If you want to help *Saka Man Yuda Nos*, you can donate cleaning supplies, tools and also canned goods at **Kaya Korona 64B**. This is the electronics store where you can find Ms. Trifina Offerman. For more information, or if you know of someone in your neighborhood who could use some help, you can send an email to: pietbea@bonairelive.com or call: 717-2030. □ Annemarie Klöne

Annemarie works at the NGO Platform Bonaire, where all of Bonaire's NGOs can come for information and support. You can find the office on Kaya Grandi

Pet of The Week

Meeet "Carlos," an alert, clever little pup who's about five months old. His owner brought him into the Bonaire



Animal Shelter because he had too many dogs. But because Carlos is so full of personality and is so healthy he's been put at the top of the list of adoptable dogs. Carlos is inquisitive and loves being around people and other dogs. You may just sit back and watch his antics. See him and the other pets up for adoption at the Shelter on the Lagoen Road, open Monday through Saturday 8 am to 1 pm and from 3 to 5 pm. Tel. 717-4989.

If you've ever introduced a new dog to those already living with you you'll understand what is meant by "the power of the pack." Much of your job of training the new pup gets taken care of by the resident dog

(s). Dogs learn by observing other dogs, cutting the time it takes them to learn the same task not merely in half but by as much as 15 fold. In one case study, a group of seven-week-old puppies watched another group of dogs learn, by trail and error, to grasp a ribbon attached to a cart that was loaded with food. It took the demonstrators an average of 11 1/2 minutes to figure out how to pull the food-laden cart into their cage. After five sessions the observers were given a chance to do the same thing. They solved the problem in nine seconds! (From *Applied Animal Behaviour Science*). □ L.D.

Lost Dog



Pumba is our sterilized Argentinean Dog, age 2, female. Missing since November 15 from the neighborhood of Kaya Opal, Republiek. He or she who brings her back safely to us can count on a good reward! Please be good to her!

Call us with any information:
701-5539 or 786-3933 or 717-3258. □



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|---|--|--|--|

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DINING GUIDE

See advertisements in this issue

RESTAURANT	PRICE RANGE / WHEN OPEN	FEATURES
Balashi Beach Bar Bar and Beach Service At the Divi Flamingo Beach Resort Waterfront	Open every day 8am - 8pm. Happy Hour, two for one, 6-7 pm.	On the beach Extensive snack/salad/burger menu available daily from noon.
Bella Vista Restaurant, Buddy's Pool Bar Sea Side at Buddy Dive Resort 717-5080, ext. 538	Moderate. Breakfast daily 6:30—10 am - . Lunch daily 11:30 Dinner on theme nights 6—10 pm	Buddy's Magnificent Theme Nights: Sat. - Steak Night; Mon. - "Dive and Dine;" Wed. - "Live Cooking by the Chefs;" Fri. - Free Rum Punch Party (5:30-6:30 pm) and All-u-can-eat BBQ for \$19.50 (7-10 pm)
Bistro de Paris Kaya Gob. N. Debrot 46 (half-way between hotel row and town) 717-7070	Moderate Lunch Monday - Friday 11 am—3 pm Dinner Monday - Saturday, 6 to 10 pm	Real French Cooking in an informal setting Superb dishes prepared with care and love by a French chef Owner-operated Eat in or Take away
Calabas Restaurant & Chibi Chibi Restaurant and Bar At the Divi Flamingo Beach Resort Waterfront 717-8285	Moderate-Expensive Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner Open 7 days	Biggest BBQ Buffet on Bonaire every Saturday from 6-9pm. Only NAf 28,50 or \$16.
Casablanca Argentinean Restaurant One block south of the Post Office 717-4433	Moderate Lunch Tues-Sat—11:30-2:30 Dinner 7 nights— starting at 6 pm	Indulge your whim—beef seafood, chicken, vegetarian Mondays—All you can eat and special slide shows starting at 6 pm Great value anytime.
Hilltop Restaurant At the Caribbean Club Bonaire—on the scenic Rincon Road 717-7901	Moderate Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner	Bar-Restaurant poolside—in Bonaire's hill country Frequent Dinner Specials Happy hours 5 to 6 daily, to 7 on Tuesday BBQ night.
Pasa Bon Pizza On Kaya Gob. Debrot ½ mile north of town center. 780-1111	Low-Moderate Open from 5-11 pm Wednesday-Sunday	Bonaire's best. The Real Thing! Freshly prepared pizzas made with the finest ingredients. Salads, desserts. Eat in or take away. Nice bar too. Call ahead to eat-in or take out 780-1111
The Bonaire Windsurfing Place At Sorobon Beach Get away from it all. 717-5091, 717-2288	Low-Moderate Open from 10am-6 pm daily,	A genuine sandy beach restaurant cooled by the trade winds Top quality food and friendly service. Reserve for the Wednesday Beach BBQ.

SHOPPING GUIDE

See advertisements in this issue



AIRLINES

Divi Divi Air. Bonaire's "on time airline" with 16 flights 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. Fast service and in-store financing too.

BANKS

Maduro and Curiel's Bank provides the greatest number of services, branches and ATMs of any Bonaire bank. They also offer investments and insurance.

BEAUTY PARLOR

Hair Affair. Expert hair cutting, styling, facials, waxing and professional nail care.

BICYCLE / SCOOTER/ QUADS

De Freewieler rents bikes, scooters and quads. Professional repairs on almost anything on two wheels. Sells top brand bikes. Have your keys made here.

CELLULAR SERVICE

Mio offers the clearest, most reliable signal on the island. And their personnel are trained and friendly. Check out their "rugged" phone.

DIVING

Carib Inn is the popular 10-room inn with top-notch dive shop and well stocked retail store. Best book trade on Bonaire. Good prices on regulator repair, dive computer H.Q.

Dive Friends Bonaire (Photo Tours Divers-Yellow Submarine) -low prices - on the seaside at Kralendijk, at Caribbean Court and the Hamlet Oasis. Join their monthly cleanup dives and BBQ.

Dive Inn—For your diving with a personal touch. Located in town at Chacha cha Beach. Drop ins and cruise ship passengers welcome

WannaDive - They make diving fun while maintaining the highest professional standards. In town at City Café and at Eden Beach.

FITNESS

Fit For Life at the Plaza Resort Mall. Classes in Pilates, Aerobics, TaeBo and more. Professional trainers, fitness machines and classes for all levels.

FURNITURE, ANTIQUES

Interiours—(formerly Plantation) New name, same owner and location. Has lots of beautiful, often one-of-a-kind furniture, antiques, crafts and accessories from mainland China and Indonesia.

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. Now in new expanded location off Kaya Industria.

NATURE EXPLORATION

Outdoor Bonaire for individually guided kayaking, hiking, biking, caving, rapelling/abseilen and more reservations : 791-6272 or 785-6272 E-mail : hans@outdoorbonaire.com

PHOTO FINISHING

Paradise Photo in the Galleries Shopping Center downtown offers fast, fine processing for prints, slides, items and services. **Full digital services.**

PHOTO SERVICES

Capture Photo at the Divi Flamingo. Photo classes, camera rental, digital processing, all state of the art!

REAL ESTATE / RENTAL AGENTS

Caribbean Homes, "the Refreshing Realtor," specializing in luxury homes, condos, lots, rentals and property management.

Harbourtown Real Estate is Bonaire's most experienced real estate agent. They specialize in professional customer service, top notch properties and home owners insurance.

Re/Max Paradise Homes: Lots of Choices—International/US connections. 5% of profits donated to local community. List your house with them to sell fast.

Sunbelt Realty offers full real estate, rental, and insurance services. If you want a home or to invest in Bonaire, stop in and see them.

RESORTS & ACTIVITIES

Buddy Dive Resort offers diving, Adventure Fun tours including kayaking, mountain biking, cave snorkeling and exploration. Full service dive shop and photo shop too.

RETAIL

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

Best Buddies and Pearls—Stunning fresh water pearl jewelry, fashion, gifts, t shirts. Under new management.

Valeries Airport Shops — Convenient shopping for unique items, magazines, gifts and more.

SECURITY

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

SHIPPING

Rocargo Freight Air and sea shipments in/out of Bonaire. Customs agents. Professional and efficient. **FedEX agent.**

SUPERMARKETS

Warehouse Supermarket on Kaya Industria—Biggest air conditioned market with the, largest selection and lowest prices on the island.

WATER TAXI

Get to Klein Bonaire by Ferry. Ride the *Kantika di Amor* or *Skiffy*. Hotel pickup. Easiest landing on Klein

WINDSURFING

The Bonaire Windsurfing Place can fulfill all your windsurfing dreams and more. They offer expert instruction, superb equipment on a fine beach. Lunch and drinks too. BBQ and windsurf videos Wednesday nights.

WINES

Antillean Wine Company. You've tried the rest; now try the best: best prices, highest quality wines from around the world, kept in a cooled warehouse. Free delivery. Shop at Kaya Industria 23, Monday-Saturday 9 am-12 noon.

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Flotsam and Jetsam (Continued from page 4)

PriceWaterhouseCoopers will provide information and Jossy Lacle from Aruba will be the speaker of this evening.

Admission is NAf 75. Tickets are available from the committee members of Economic Platform foundation: Sidney Manuel (AKIB), Dirk Jan Methorst (Bonhata), Benito Dirksz (KvK), Richard Duijn (AKIB), Raymundo Saleh (AKIB) and Evert Piar (BBA). The evening is open to local entrepreneurs as well as citizens who have properties that can be attractive to foreign investors.

► **This Sunday, November 25, the Lions Club will host their 7th Windsurf Tournament at Lac Bai.** Categories are Slalom (New Kids boys; New Kids girls; Superkids; Kids; Big Kids; Juniors), Freestyle (Lions kids; Lions Prince; Lions King, Lions Princess), Women and Girls. Events start at 10 am and run until 4 pm. Awards are at 5 pm.

► **The Friday Weekly Markets at Wilhelmina Park, from 9 am to 2 pm, have been cancelled for the time being because of the cruise ship visits.** However, a crafts and gift market is open during those cruise ship visits, usually from 10 am to 2 or 3 pm in Wilhelmina Park.

► **The "We Dare to Care Foundation," which sponsors Parke Publiko Boneirano, is holding a Fundraising Dinner to celebrate its 2nd anniversary on Friday, November 30, at 7 pm at Casa Blanca Restaurant.** All proceeds will go

toward running the Park. Donation is NAf125 and includes a welcome drink, dinner and entertainment. Dress is casual-elegant. Call 786-1592 or 717-4992.

► **The SGB culinary school, Chez Nous, is now open to the public for multi-course, sit-down-with-white-tablecloth meals:** Dinner on Tuesday and lunch on Wednesday and Thursday. Call ahead for reservations- 717-8120 and ask for "Chez Nous" or email keesleeman@telbonet.an.

► **The Flamingo Rockers band is hosting a Musical Christmas Party at Jong Bonaire on Friday, December 15.** Many musicians from the island will be performing Christmas music, and an "All Star Christmas Jam" is planned. There will be food vendors, Christmas craft vendors and drinks for sale. This will be a great event for the whole family. The doors will open at 7pm. for food and craft sales; music starts around 8 pm. Santa will be there as well. The party will go from 7 pm. till midnight. For more info contact Thomas at 796-5352. See What's Happening, pg. 20.

► Bonaire will hold its annual **End of the Year Regatta** Dec. 15th For further information contact Elvis Martinus at 717 - 2288 for details. More in the next edition.

► **This Sunday, November 25, is Surinam Day.** The Bonaire Reporter would like to send its very best wishes to all our Surinam neighbors who give so much to the island of Bonaire. □ G./L. D.

KRALENDIJK TIDES (Heights in feet, FT)

Remember: Winds and weather can further influence the local tide's height and time

DATE	Time	Ht.	Time	Ht.	Time	Ht.	Time	Ht.	COEF
11-22	1:34	1.0FT.	10:44	2.0FT.	19:31	0.9FT.	23:42	1.1FT.	79
11-23	11:28	2.1FT.	20:36	0.8FT.					90
11-24	12:10	2.2FT.	21:48	0.7FT.					98
11-25	13:00	2.2FT.	22:43	0.6FT.					102
11-26	13:50	2.1FT.	23:30	0.6FT.					102
11-27	0:10	0.6FT.	14:42	2.1FT.					98
11-28	0:59	0.6FT.	15:39	2.0FT.					89
11-29	1:34	0.7FT.	16:32	1.9FT.					78
11-30	2:01	0.8FT.	17:33	1.7FT.					66
12-01	2:19	0.9FT.	10:03	1.5FT.	14:06	1.4FT.	18:24	1.6FT.	53
12-02	2:25	1.0FT.	9:44	1.6FT.	15:55	1.3FT.	19:28	1.4FT.	43
12-03	2:09	1.0FT.	9:50	1.7FT.	17:20	1.2FT.	20:17	1.3FT.	39
12-04	1:25	1.0FT.	10:04	1.8FT.	18:29	1.1FT.	21:32	1.1FT.	41
12-05	0:36	1.0FT.	10:23	1.9FT.	19:43	1.0FT.	22:51	1.0FT.	47
12-06	10:48	2.0FT.	20:35	0.9FT.					54
12-07	11:19	2.0FT.	21:27	0.8FT.					61
12-08	11:46	2.1FT.	22:14	0.8FT.					68
12-09	12:13	2.1FT.	22:49	0.7FT.					73
12-10	12:46	2.1FT.	23:21	0.7FT.					78
12-11	13:22	2.0FT.	23:54	0.7FT.					81
12-12	0:26	0.7FT.	13:55	2.0FT.					82
12-13	0:55	0.7FT.	14:35	1.9FT.					80
12-14	1:14	0.8FT.	15:21	1.8FT.					76

Who's Who on The Bonaire Reporter

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WHAT'S HAPPENING

HAPPENING SOON

Thursday, November 22—Fundashon Kuido pa Besta i Oido (Foundation to Aid the Blind & Deaf) Fundraising Thanksgiving Dinner, Chez Nous at the SGB, 7—10 pm. Donation: NAf55. For more information and/or to purchase tickets call 569-7610 or 785-0518

Friday, November 23—Tennis Mixed Double C Finals, 7 pm, Harbour Village Tennis Courts

Saturday, November 24 - Sanikolas arrives on Bonaire at the town pier (Waf Chiku Mercelina) around 10:30 am along with his sidekicks, Zwartepietnan (black Petes). Activities for children before and during the event at Wilhelmina Park. Sponsored by *Fundashon Ata Sanikolas i Zwartepiet* (FASIZ) and Fundashon SEBIKI. More on page 4.

Sunday, November 25 – Rocargo sponsors a Youth Talent Show at the SGB auditorium from 4 to 8 pm. Participants will be from Kolegio Kristu Bon Wardador, Watapana School, Kolegio San Luis Bertran and Kolegio Papa Cornes - dancing, singing, drama and poetry, a fashion show.

Sunday, November 25 -Lions Club's 7th Windsurf Tournament at Lac Bai. 10 am 4 pm, awards at 5 pm. More on page 19.

Friday, November 30 – Fundraising Dinner for Parke Publiko Boneirano, at 7 pm at Casablanca Restaurant. All proceeds will go toward running the Park. Donation is NAf125 and includes a welcome drink, dinner and entertainment. Dress is casual-elegant. Call 786-1592 or 717-4992. See page 19.

Saturday, December 1—Bodybuilding Competition. Call Judel, 786-0290

Sunday, December 2- 2nd BWC Mountain Bike Race

Sunday, December 2 – Opening of the Art Exhibition by Frans Booi and Winfred Dania at the Kas di Arte, 5 to 8 pm. Everyone invited. Exhibition continues through December 31. Open daily from 10 am. See page 4.

Friday, December 7 - Bonaire Animal Shelter bi-annual fundraising event - an Indonesian meal followed by an art auction. Sunrise Restaurant at Sand Dollar. All the proceeds will go to the Bonaire Animal Shelter. Dinner (NAf45 per person) is at 6. Auction starts at 8:30 pm (auction is free). Tickets sold in advance at: Asecom NV, (717-3207), Jacobs Architecten NV, (787-0466), Babs Domberg (786-1512), Jan Kerklaan(786-3454), Animal Shelter Bonaire (717-4989) Or by email: paulwichers@flamingotv.net. See page 9.

Crafts Markets at Wilhelmina Park on Cruise Ship Days, 10 am—2 pm: Fri., Nov. 23-Aidavita; Wed., Nov. 28 -Crown Princess; Fri., Nov. 30-Club Med 2; Tues., Dec. 4-Sea Princess, Veendam; Friday, Dec. 7-Wind Star

Now until December 31—MCB's 45th Anniversary Celebration—See page 4

Saturday, December 15— Flamingo Rockers Christmas party to benefit the Reina Beatrix School. Performers: Flamingo Rockers, the Four B's, Moogie Nation, Kreator (a 20-person choir) Tin Foil, Three Colors and Monkey Suit. Tickets: Adults (18 & over) NAf 20 in ad-

vance, 25 at the door. Ages 5 - 17 NAf 5. Children 4 and under free. For more info contact Thomas at 796-5352. At Jong Bonaire. See page 19.

Saturday, December 15 -End of the Year Regatta For further information contact Elvis Martinus at 717- 2288.

REGULAR EVENTS

- The popular SGB High School restaurant, **Chez Nous**, has recently reopened to the public. Four-course dinners with welcome cocktail on Tuesdays. Seating begins at 6 pm. Lunches on Wednesday & Thursdays. Call 717-8120, ask for Chez Nous or email: keesleeman@telbonet.an

- HH 2 for 1 (all beverages) 6-7 pm, **Divi Flamingo Balashi Beach Bar**
- HH—50% off- **Buddy Dive Resort**, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

- Divi Flamingo Casino** open daily for hot slot machines, roulette and black jack, Monday to Saturday 8 pm— 4 am; Sunday 7 pm— 3 am.

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

- Parke Publico** children's playground open every day into the evening hours.

Saturdays

- Steak Night On the Beach** (a la carte) with live mariachi- **Buddy Dive Resort**, 6—10 pm

- Rincon Marshé**—6 am-2 pm. Enjoy a Bonairean breakfast while you shop, fresh fruits and vegetables, gifts, local sweets, snacks, arts, handicrafts, candles, incense, drinks, music. www.infobonaire.com/rincon. **Extra big Marshé 1st Saturday of the month, 6 am-2 pm.**

- All You Can Eat BBQ at Divi Flamingo** with live music, 6 to 9 pm. Call for reservations 717-8285 ext. 444.

- Wine Tasting at AWC's** warehouse, **2nd Saturday of the month**, 7 to 9 pm, Kaya Industria #23, across from Warehouse Bonaire. Great wines. NAf20 per person for 6 to 8 wines.

- 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 Koeke for more information—796-7870.

- Flea Market every first Saturday of the month** from 3 to 7 pm, Parke Publico. Everyone welcome to buy and to sell. NAf5 per selling table. For more information and reservations for a spot, call 787-0466.

- Mountain Bike Training for riders of all levels (also Tuesday) at 5pm.** Bonaire Wellness Connexions, Eden Beach, 785-0767, email info@bonairewellness.com

Sundays

- Live music 6-9 pm while enjoying a great dinner** in colorful tropical ambiance at the **Chibi Chibi Restaurant & Bar, Divi Flamingo**. Open daily 5-10 pm

- Chill Out with the Flamingo Rockers** at Den Laman's Reef Restaurant. 4 pm. and goes to 7:30. Hear your favorite Rock 'n Roll, Reggae, Soul, Country and Calypso.

Mondays

- Dinner and a Show at Casablanca Argentinean Grill—Reporter writer Albert Bianculli presents his Multi-Image Production "Bonaire Holiday"** at 6:30pm, 7:30 pm & 8:30pm

- "Dive & Dine"** **Buddy Dive Resort**, 6:30 –9:30 pm

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

Tuesdays

- Margarita & Taco Tuesdays!** With \$2.50 Margaritas and a Taco bar! Plus Live music by the Flamingo Rockers, 6-8pm **Divi Flamingo, Balashi Beach Bar**

Wednesdays

- Beach BBQ & music at The Windsurf Place at Sorobon**, 7—10 pm. Reserve ahead. Tel. 717-5091, 717-2288. (see back page)

- "Live Cooking by the Chefs"** with live music by the Flamingo Rockers Unplugged - **Buddy Dive Resort**, 6-10 pm

Thursdays

- Flamingo Rockers, at "Admiral's Hour" for yachtsmen and others**, Vespucci Restaurant, Harbour Village Marina. HH drinks, gratis tapas, 5-7

Fridays

Le Boulevard Restaurant, open 9 –10:30 am. Only on Fridays. Coffee, tea, homemade baked goods. Stichting Project. Kaya J.A. Abraham#27

- Mixed Level Yoga** 8:30am, **Buddy Dive** 786-6416

- Harbour Village Tennis, Social Round Robin** 7 - 10 pm. \$10 per person. Cash bar. All invited. Call Elisabeth Vos at 565-5225

- Friday Weekly Market at Wilhelmina Park** with local art, music and food; summer fashions, jewelry, glasswork, Bonaire pictures, driftwood art, paintings and all kinds of Bonaire souvenirs, 9 am to 2 pm.

- Swim lessons** for children by Enith Brighitha, a Dutch Olympian, at Sunrise Poolbar and Sportsclub, for children 0 – 18.

- Manager's Bash**—free Flamingo Smash & snacks, Live music by Flamingo Rockers, **Divi Flamingo**, Balashi Beach Bar 6-7 pm

- Free Rum Punch Party** (5:30- 6:30 pm) with Moogie Nation, followed by all-u-can-eat BBQ, 7-10 pm, **Buddy Dive Resort**

FREE SLIDE/VIDEO SHOWS

Saturday- Discover Our Diversity slide show-pool bar **Buddy Dive**, 7 pm, 717-5080

Monday- Land & Ocean Bonaire by Fish-Eye photo staff, 8 pm on the big screen in front of Bonaire Dive & Adventure.

Tuesday—Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire presents the *Sea Turtles of Bonaire Slide Show*. Every 1st & 3rd Tuesday, Buddy Dive Resort, 7 pm—717-3802.

Wednesday— Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire presents the *Sea Turtles of Bonaire Slide Show*, every 2nd & 4th Wednesday at Bruce Bowker's Carib Inn (717-8819) at 7pm.

Wednesday—Diving Facts And Fiction - An Evening with DIR slide/video show by Caribbean Gas Training, 8 pm, Bonaire Dive & Adventure,786-5073

BONAIRE'S TRADITIONS

Kas Kriyo Rincon—Step into Bonaire's past in this venerable old home that has been restored and furnished so it appears the family has just stepped out. Local ladies will tell you the story. Open Monday thru Friday, 9 –12, 2-4. Weekends by appointment. Call 717-2445.

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

Bonaire Museum on Kaya J. v.d. Ree, behind the Catholic Church in town. Open weekdays from 8 am-noon, 1:30-5 pm. Tel. 717-8868

Washington-Slagbaai National Park, Museum and Visitors' Center. Open daily 8 am-5 pm. Closed on some holidays. 717-8444/785-0017

CLUBS and MEETINGS

AA meetings - every Wednesday; Phone : 560-

7267 or 717-3902.

Al-Anon meetings - every Monday evening at 7 pm. Call 790-7272

Cancer Survivor Support Group Majestic Journeys Bonaire N.V. Lourdes Shopping Center 2nd Level Kaya LD Gerharts # 10. Call 717-2482/566-6093.

Weekly Bonaire Talker Gathering and Dinner at Gibi's - Tuesday - 6:30 pm - call 567-0655 for directions.

Bridge Club - Wednesdays, 7.30 pm at Sunrise Pool Bar. all levels, NAf2,50. Call Joop 717-5903 or be there by 7:15. **Darts Club** plays every other Sunday at City Café. Registration at 4, games at 5. Tel. 717-2950, 560-7539.

JCI - First Wednesday of the Month- Junior Chamber International Bonaire (JCI Bonaire, formerly known as Bonaire Jaycees) meets at the ABVO building, Kaminda Jato Baco 36 from 7:30 to 9:30 pm. Everyone is welcome. Contact: Renata Domacassé 516-4252.

Kiwanis Club meets at APNA Plaza, Kaya International, every other Tuesday, 7 pm. Tel. 717-5595, Jeannette Rodriguez.

Lions Club meets every 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month at 8 pm at Kaya Sabana #1. All Lions welcome.

Rotary lunch meetings **Wednesday**, 12 noon-2 pm - 'Pirate House', above Zeezicht Restaurant. All Rotarians welcome. Tel. 717-8434

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

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Bonaire Arts & Crafts (Fundashon Arte Industrial Bonaireano) 717-5246 or 7117

The Bonaire Swim Club- Contact Valarie Stimpson at 785-3451; Valarie@telbonet.an

Bonaire National Marine Park - 717-8444.

Bonaire Animal Shelter -717-4989.

Donkey Sanctuary - 560-7607.

Jong Bonaire (Youth Center) - 717-4303.

Sister Maria Hoppner Home (Child Care) Tel. 717-4181 fax 717-2844.

Special Olympics— Call Claire 717-8290

Volunteers to train children in sports. Contact Quick-Pro Track and Field - Rik 717-8051

CHURCH SERVICES

Protestant Congregation of Bonaire: Kralendijk, Wilhelminaplein. In Papiamentu, Dutch, English, Sundays, 10 am. **Rincon**, Kaya C.D. Crestian, in Papiamentu, Sundays, 8:30 am.

Children's club, Saturdays, 5 pm, in Kralendijk

Sunday School, Sundays, 4 pm, in Rincon. Bible Study and Prayer meetings, Thursdays, at 8 pm, Kralendijk.

New Apostolic Church: Kaminda Santa Barbara #1, Sundays, 9:30 am. Services in Dutch. 717-7116.

International Bible Church of Bonaire: Kaya Amsterdam 3 (near the traffic circle) Sunday Services at 9 am; Sunday Prayer Meeting at 7 pm in English. Tel. 717-8332

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints: Kaya Sabana #26, Sundays 8:30 - 11:30am. In Papiamentu, Spanish and English.

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. Wednesday Prayer Meeting at **7:30 pm**. 717-2194

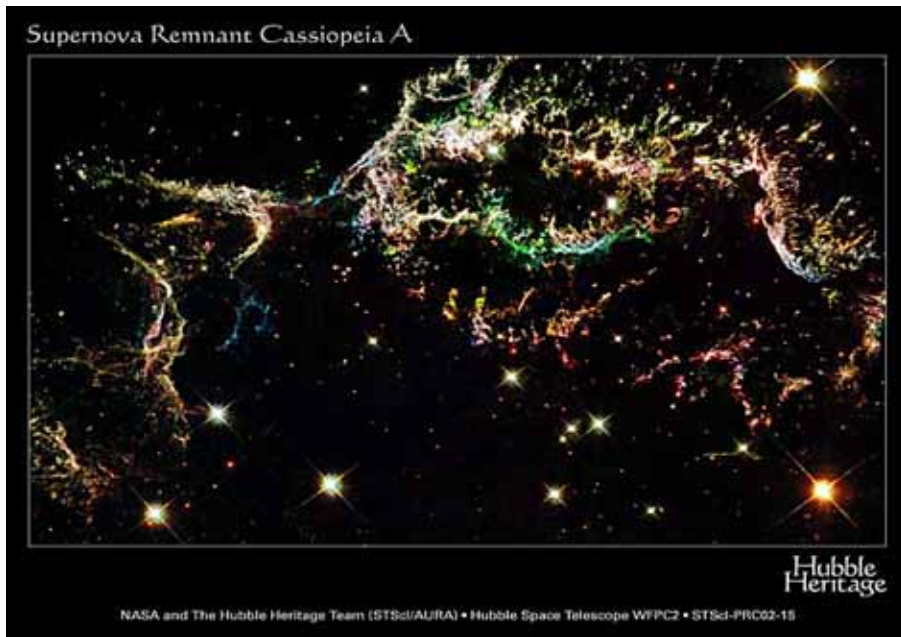
Send event info to:

The Bonaire Reporter
Email reporter@bonairenews.com



BONAIRE SKY PARK*

*to find it... just look up



"A Super Easy To Find Constellation: Cassiopeia the Queen"

Some constellations in the Sky Park are easy to find and some are difficult. One of the easiest to find was named long ago for a legendary queen of exceptional beauty, Queen Cassiopeia of Ethiopia. Let me show you. If you go out any night in November between 9 and 10 pm and look due north directly above the **North Star** you will see five bright stars which if you connect with lines trace out a squashed out letter m. This is Cassiopeia. Now if you add a dim little star below the crux of the m you can trace out a nice stick figure of Cassiopeia's throne, which at this time of year and night would require Cassiopeia to wear a seatbelt because she'd be hanging face downward over the North Star.

Now if you look directly opposite Cassiopeia on the other side of the North Star close to the horizon you will see the **Big Dipper**. And one of the nifty things about Cassiopeia and the Big Dipper is they circle endlessly around the North Star, always opposite each other like the hands of a clock. As the night passes you'll notice that Cassiopeia's throne is almost upright and the Big Dipper has moved to the right of the North Star. Six hours later Cassiopeia is beneath the North Star and the Big Dipper is above it. And on it continues like a great celestial clock, which incidentally is one of the functions these stars served to our clock less ancestors.

But why, you may ask, would people long ago put a great queen on her throne when her throne is so often upside down in a precarious position? Well, it seems that Cassiopeia was used as an object lesson on vanity. You see she was extremely beautiful but she made the fatal mistake of boasting that she was more beautiful than the **Nereids**, the sea nymphs who were considered to be the hotties of their time. The jealous Nereids, it seems, complained to their father **Poseidon**, the god of the seas, who made Cassiopeia's life a living hell resulting in her being finally punished for her vanity by being placed in the heavens on her throne, forced to ride around the North Star for all eternity, sometimes in a queenly upright position and at others in a less dignified posture. Thus Cassiopeia still serves as a cosmic object lesson to mere mortals who brag of their personal beauty. Today we see five bright stars in Cassiopeia.

But 435 years ago this month, in November 1572, astronomers all around the world watched a new star grow in brightness here, which outshone every star in the sky for many weeks and was visible for over a year. We now know that it was a giant exploding star called a **supernova**. And if you look at this spot through a good telescope you will see the ghostly remains of its shattered remnants. So get thee out and look for an ancient super star beauty queen who once had a super star visitor, long ago. □ *Jack Horkheimer*

Cafe Astrology

For December 2007



Aries Focus this month is on branching out, expanding your interests, higher education, adventure, and perhaps some travel. Venturing beyond your routine is something you're itching to do now. In fact, an opportunity to travel to somewhere exotic, a chance to reach a wider audience in the work you do, a financial break, or a publishing deal could drop into your lap this month.

Taurus An insurance settlement, tax rebate, or an inheritance could come your way, and this is an excellent month in which to work on financial planning and strategy. Financial gains may come through a partnership. Sexual and romantic opportunities abound in December, or your focus on one partner becomes more expansive, warm, and intimate. This is a brilliant month for coupling and working cooperatively with a special partner.

Gemini December is a month in which you could see dazzling changes to a partnership. You can negotiate more successfully than ever, and, if applicable, win in negotiations or legal matters. Challenging problems from the past can be resolved, and more casual disputes can be settled. Good publicity may come your way this month with a positive, winning attitude.

Cancer December is a month in which you enjoy important, positive changes to your health or your job. It could also be a time when you receive a healthy bonus or promotion. Your winning attitude and display of confidence on the job will go a long way towards advancement and satisfaction.

Leo Your love life and creativity thrive in December! Creative projects could possibly even bring some type of recognition or reward mid-month. Coming out into the open with a personal interest or hobby can figure now. Love and romance may enter your life or existing ties are deepened and enhanced. Social engagements and recreational activities abound.

Virgo December is a power month for you when it comes to positive changes to your family and home life, as well as to your basic sense of well-being and security. Some form of reward may be offered to you now. Don't pass up on any opportunities that come your way. Opportunities to buy or sell real estate for financial gain may present themselves.

Libra This month, you find much joy in communicating, learning, and socializing, dear Libra. You may decide to buy a new car, or transportation opportunities present themselves, making it much easier for you to get from point A to point B. Gifts and opportunities may come through visits, short trips, messages, emails, or through contacts with siblings, classmates, and neighbors.

Scorpio A strong financial month is in store for you, dear Scorpio. Monetary problems from the past may clear up, especially in the first three weeks of December. A major purchase or sale is very possible. A significant gift or bonus could also come your way. This is a good time to rally for a raise, apply for a loan, or take part in various dealings with financial institutions.

Sagittarius A fabulous conclusion to Jupiter's transit through your sign occurs this month, when personal influence and prestige is very strong. Events occur that help you overcome problems that previously seemed challenging or even insurmountable. The impression you create on others is distinctive. You feel considerably more free to be yourself, and others tend to accept you more readily.

Capricorn The first half of December is a power period for you when you could uncover awesome opportunities that were previously hidden or unrecognizable. Work that involves serving others may begin now and bring you much joy. Help seems to be there when you need it. Work and career matters prosper, friends are especially helpful, and business income is strong.

Aquarius The achievement of a long-term goal is likely to occur this month, dear Aquarius. You may have opportunities to join or lead clubs and groups. Group activities and associations could be avenues for fulfilling your own goals. Your inclination to believe that "if you wish it, it will be" truly takes you places in December. Income from your business or career is likely to increase.

Pisces December is a power month for your career, professional influence, and reputation. Some form of reward and recognition comes your way now. This can be a time of achievement, career advancement, and success in business. There could be a promotion, new job opportunity, a diploma or other form of major award, or possibly even a marriage. An event may occur that expands your career or professional interests. The more willing you are to put yourself in the limelight, the more positive the rewards--this is not the time to be a shrinking violet! □ *Annie C.*

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Picture Yourself With The Reporter

At DEMA, Orlando, Florida, USA



Suzi Swygert (left) sent us this picture of herself with Ramon DeLeon, Bonaire National Marine Park Manager, and Bonaire dive guide and naturalist Dee Scarr in front of the Park display at the Dive Equipment Manufacturers Association (DEMA). By the way, that's Suzi on the cover of *The Reporter* she's holding.



Sara Matera (left) sent us this group picture of quite a number of Bonaire hoteliers and dive professionals at the DEMA meeting in Orlando, Florida, earlier this month. They had plenty of copies of *The Reporter* to show and hand out at the conference. In case you were wondering where all of Bonaire's dive pros and hotel management were earlier this month, now you know... at DEMA.

VOTE FOR YOUR FAVORITE "Picture Yourself" ENTRY. Mail your vote to *Bonaire Reporter*, Box 407, Bonaire, Netherlands Antilles (AN). E-mail to: info@bonairereporter.com. (All 2007 photos are eligible.) Winners will be announced in January 2008

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, Netherlands Antilles (AN). E-mail to: info@bonairereporter.com. (All 2007 photos are eligible.)

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Sailing and Cooking Throughout the Caribbean

Saskia Romeijn Vermeer is a cookbook author, artist, sailor, wife and mother of two. Her beautiful little hardcover book, *Sailing and Cooking throughout the Caribbean*, has recently come out on Bonaire.

Banana/Musa Genera

Bananas originated in South East Asia and have grown in the tropics since ancient times. They are not a seasonal fruit so they're available throughout the year.

Types of bananas:

- Standard dessert banana
- Apple banana (Colombia)
- Green banana
- Plantain

After peeling and slicing bananas, sprinkle them with lemon juice to prevent discoloring. Banana leaves are soft and can be folded or rolled into packages to keep fillings moist and succulent. Apart from looking attractive they impart a delicate flavor to the food. When bananas ripen, brown spots will appear on the outside. At this stage the flesh is very soft and sweet, which makes it perfect for mousses, banana sandwiches or cooking.

Baked Fish in Banana Leaves with Coconut Milk

Saskia says: "Here is my favorite recipe. You may use any fish but the best works with white fresh fish, red snapper, mahi mahi or wahoo."

What you need:

- 4 fish fillets
- 1 cup/250 ml coconut milk
- 2 Tab curry powder
- 3 Tab soy sauce
- 5 lemon grass leaves, torn
- 6 oz/175g shredded carrots and leeks
- 4 pieces cleaned banana leaves or aluminum foil

-For garnish use 2 green onions and 2 hot red peppers, cleaned and sliced lengthwise

What to do:

Preheat the oven to 200°C/400°F. Set a gas oven to 5. Combine the coconut milk, curry powder, soy sauce and lemon grass in a shallow dish. Add the fish and marinate for 15-30 minutes. Mix carrots and leeks and place a quarter of the mixture on a banana leaf. Place a fish fillet on top and moisten it with a little of the marinade. Wrap the fish by turning in the sides and ends of the leaf and securing the package with cocktail sticks. Repeat with the remaining leaves, vegetables and fish.

Bake for 20-25 minutes or until the fish is cooked. Alternatively, cook the packages under a grill or on the barbeque. Just before serving, open the package, wrap the leaves

under the fish fillets and garnish the fish with a sprinkling of sliced green onion and hot red pepper.

Banana Fritters

What you need:

- 2 ripe bananas roughly diced
- 2/3 cup milk
- ½ tsp vanilla essence
- 2 cups flour
- 1 egg
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 2 Tab granulated sugar
- vegetable oil for deep frying
- icing sugar for dusting

What to do:

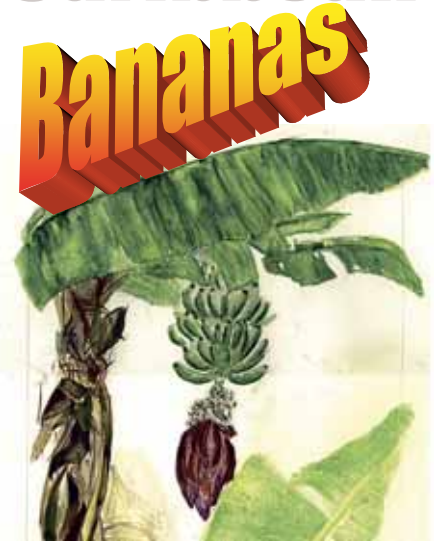
Place the egg, bananas, milk, flour, baking powder, vanilla essence and sugar in a bowl and mix well. Add some milk if the mixture is too thick. Set aside for 10 minutes. Heat the oil and when the oil is hot carefully pace a spoonful of the mixture in the oil and fry for 3-4 minutes until golden brown. Remove from the oil and drain well on a paper towel. Dust the fritters with icing sugar and serve immediately.

Banana Chips

What you need:

- vegetable oil
- 2 green plantains
- sea salt
- cayenne pepper

What to do:



Heat the oil in a large frying pan over medium heat. Peel the plantains and cut them into thin round slices. (You may use a vegetable peeler.) Fry the plantain slices in the heated oil for about 3 minutes turning regularly until golden brown. Remove from oil and drain well on some paper towels. Sprinkle with sea salt and cayenne pepper. Serve and enjoy. □



Recipes & Art by Saskia Romeijn Vermeer

Pick up a copy of *Sailing and Cooking Throughout the Caribbean*. It's for sale at Antillean Wine Company, Buddy Dive Shops, Flamingo Bookstore, Island Fashions, Jibe City Surf Shop, Kontiki Beach Club, Photo Tours retail, Sorobon Resort and Valerie's Airport Shops

Bin mira esaki!!

Talentonan skondí na Boneiru, deskubrí dor di Mama Smile i e Programa di Konsientisashon Turístiko (TAP)!



Mama Smile ta invitábo pa un Eksposishon di Arte ku partisipantenan ku a finalisá e tayernan di Tourism Awareness Program (TAP) Bonaire a produsí. Lo entrega 5 premio atraktivo pa e obranan ku e hurado a selektá komo mihónan!

Dia: Djabièrnè, 23 di Novèmber 2007

ora: 17:30 pa 19:30

Lugá: Kas di Arte (Playa Pabou)

Lo bo ta asombrá di e kreativitat, talento i orguyo pa nos isla bou di habitantenan di Boneiru !!

E obranan ku ta bai eksponé e dia aki ta trahá dor di partisipantenan na e tayernan di e Programa di Konsientisashon Turístiko (TAP), en konekshon ku diferente enkargo komo parti di e programa:

1. Laga mira kiko bo ta haña úniko na Boneiru?
2. Traha un poema tokante un Boneiru bunita, seif, & trankil i e importansia di esaki
3. Deskribí un persona den bo besindario di kende bo ta haña

ta esun di mas hospitalario. Siguiementemente skibi bon kla kiko e ta hasi ku ta pone bo pensa ku e ta esun di mas hospitalario.

4. Deskribí kiko bo por hasi diferente pa mehorá servisio den bo ambiente (trabou òf priva)?
5. Skèts ku imágen òf ku palabra kon turismo na Boneiru lo ta aki 20 aña?

!!Pa 6 pm ta kuminsá e parti ofisial di e anochi! Wak pa bo no pèrdè nada!

RESIDENTIAL HOME Kaya Gloria

~ Located in a quiet residential area ~

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Lay out:

Entrance via the front porch into the spacious living room with open kitchen. From the living room you will have entrance to the hallway leading to the two bedrooms which share one bathroom. In the back yard one finds a small wooden shed. The garden surrounding the home offers several possibilities such as the construction of for instance a garage or a small guest house.

Unique selling points:

Spacious home
The quiet neighborhood
Close to town
The very favorable price

Specifics:

Year of construction: 1995
Building area: 140 m² (approx. 1,506 ft²)
including porches excluding small wooden shed which measures 10 m² (approx. 107.6 ft²)
Lot size: 391 m² (approx. 4,207 ft.²)
Built on freehold land

ASKING PRICE: NafI. 226.950,- / US\$ 127,500



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RESERVATIONS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

Dinner starting at 6:00P.M

Lunch, Tue. - Sat. , 11:30 to 2:30P.M.

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