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# **BONAIRE** **The REPORTER**

*Helping Bonaire Grow Responsibly*

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Kunuku Shimaruku, P.O. Box 407, Bonaire, Netherlands Antilles, Phone 790-6518, 786-6125, email: [reporter@bonairenews.com](mailto:reporter@bonairenews.com)

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# Flotsam and Jetsam

**BONAIRE**  
**The REPORTER**

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### How to contact us

**Letters to the Editor:**  
Reporter@bonairenews.com  
**Story tip or idea:**  
info@bonairereporter.com  
**Print and Online Advertising:**  
laura@bonairenews.com  
**Archives:**  
Bonairenews.com, then click on "Go to Archives"  
**The Publisher:**  
George@bonairenews.com

**The Bonaire Reporter,**  
P. O. Box 407, Bonaire,  
Neth. Antilles.  
Phone 790-8988  
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On October 8, 2008, Bonaire became the second island of the Netherlands Antilles to pass a law that provides a comprehensive framework to **protect its environment both on land and in the sea**, taking into account all international agreements that the Netherlands Antilles are part of.

All islands of the Netherlands Antilles are required by national law to pass such legislation but until now only St. Maarten did so, back in 2003, but that island has not subsequently established any marine or terrestrial protected areas. Bonaire, of course has had a well managed marine protected area for more than 20 years, as well as the Washington Slagbaai Park on land. The new Bonaire Island Nature Ordinance will allow the island to update and strengthen the regulations that protect those areas.

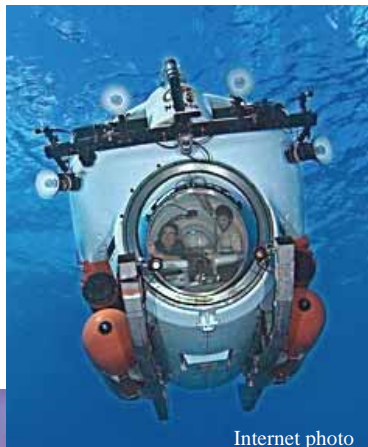
For more details on the new law see:

[http://www.mina.vomil.an/welcome/news\\_events/news.php](http://www.mina.vomil.an/welcome/news_events/news.php) where you will also find a link to the full text of the new ordinance as well as its Explanatory Memorandum-all in Dutch. A translator for Dutch to English or French is available at <http://>

Ank Bijleveld-Schouten stated in a report about her latest working visit to the Antilles that she submitted to the Dutch Lower House.

► **KLM passengers will benefit from a further fuel surcharge decrease** the airline announced on October 7. Citing the stabilizing of world oil prices, the company will reduce the fuel surcharge of flights within Europe by two euros, bringing the surcharge to 33 euros. For medium-haul flights, fewer than nine hours in duration, the surcharge will be 112 euros, down from 115 euros. A decrease of 15 euros will be applied to long-haul and very long-haul flights bringing this to 110 euros from 125 euros.

► **Promoters say they will**



Internet photo

**have a tourist submarine (above) that can dive to 1000 ft. (312 m.) operational in Curaçao** by the end of this year. Website [www.substationCuraçao.com](http://www.substationCuraçao.com) will soon have more details. For more information: call 09-663-8205 or email [simone@substation-Curaçao.com](mailto:simone@substation-Curaçao.com).



► **The Bonaire Animal Shelter will hold a Used Book Fair this Saturday, October 25, from 11 am to 5 pm** at the Shelter on Kaminda Lagun. Hundreds of books, both in English and Dutch, will be available for only NAf 2 each. You can choose from recent titles, fiction, non-fiction, classics, reference books, manuals, children's books, hardcover or paperback. Drinks and snacks will be available during the fair and you can also shop in the newly remodeled Shelter Gift Shop where you'll find all sorts of pet accessories including collars, leashes, carriers, treats, toys and much more. All

► The Bonaire Prosecutor, David van Delft, confirmed that the human remains found near a dump site in the Amboina area last Friday were of Marlies van der Kouwe. The 24-year-old pharmacist's assistant vanished on September 21, 2008, on her way home to Sweet Lemon apartments in Hato on her bicycle. Specialists from the Netherlands Forensic Institute conducted investigations at the scene all day. According to reports, the heavy rains of the past week helped to expose the remains. Her sandal and credit card were also found nearby.



Internet photo

Marlies Elizabeth van der Kouwe

In a press conference Van Delft said that the identification was based on dental records. The body was found Friday afternoon, October 17. A DNA test performed over the weekend confirmed her identity. The police will continue with the investigation. The body was found—according to van Delft—“thanks to brilliant tactical investigation effort.”

Four men are currently in custody in connection with the case. The main suspect, Ryan P., age 27, who was arrested three weeks ago, was transferred to the Bon Futuro prison on Curaçao. He denies killing Marlies van der Kouwe. Three other suspects remain jailed in Bonaire.

Van Delft says he expects additional arrests. He would not comment on how Van der Kouwe had been murdered. “We concentrated on finding the body. Now that we have accomplished that we can concentrate more of our manpower on solving the case,” he said.

Van der Kouwe's parents remain on Bonaire where they are being helped in dealing with the death of their daughter, Police Chief John Schagen said.

Dutch officials have guaranteed that all costs involving the investigation will be paid by Holland. “If Bonaire had to pay for the investigation we would have been bankrupt already,” Schagen said.

Also see article on page 8 for some thoughts and opinion on Marlies' death.

the funds raised will benefit the Animal Shelter. And, of course, all the Shelter animals will be there and you may find a dog or cat that you would like to adopt! Please pass by and browse, buy, eat, drink and enjoy the festive atmosphere at the Used Book Fair, Saturday, October 25, 11 am to 5 pm. (By Jane Madden)

► **The Dutch economy may book no growth in 2009 and 2010**, Dutch Central Bank DNB Director Henk Brouwer told a meeting of the Social and Economic Council SER in The Hague on Friday afternoon. “Zero growth is more likely than a plus. And a minus cannot be ruled out, even for 2010,” Brouwer was quoted as saying.

► **The International Monetary Fund, in its bleakest forecast in years, said last Wednesday the world economy was set for a major downturn** with the US and Europe either in or on the brink of recession.

The IMF said a still-developing financial upheaval—the most violent since the 1930s—would exact a heavy economic toll as markets wrestle with a

crisis of confidence and global credit is choked off.

In its twice-yearly World Economic Outlook, the IMF slashed its 2009 forecast for world growth to 3%, which would be the slowest pace in seven years, from a July projection of 3.9%, and warned that a recovery would be unusually slow.

At the same time, the combination of soaring food and fuel prices has pushed inflation to levels unseen in a decade, the IMF said, exacting an especially heavy toll in the developing world where families' spending on food is high.



JanArt Sketch

► Many people from around the world, including Bonaire, attend the “Beneath the Sea” dive show held annually in New Jersey in March. The sponsors of the show also have a club for young people called “Ocean Pals.” Every year they have a poster contest with a specific

theme relating to marine life. **They are now extending an invitation to international students to participate in the poster contest. The theme for this year's contest is “Coral Reefs: Nature's Underwater City.”** This should be an easy one for every student living in Bonaire!

The posters are displayed at the dive show entrance and hundreds of people will be able to see what great young artists we have in Bonaire. **If you would like to participate in the contest, please go to the website [www.BeneathTheSea.Org/](http://www.BeneathTheSea.Org/)**

(Continued on page 6)



Kadushi

babelfish.yahoo.com/.

► Last week the Associated Press reported that the US National Park Service plans to **place microchips into Arizona's saguaro cactus** in the Saguaro National Park to keep thieves from stealing them and selling them to landscapers, nurseries and homeowners for \$1,000 or more. Bonaire's Yatu and Kadushi cactus are very similar to Saguaro.

The NPS hopes that this will act as a deterrent, but if not, it will help them track down and identify stolen saguaros.

Each microchip will cost about \$4.50, and can be read by a special wand or scanner (which cost between \$500 and \$2,500). Let's hope this never becomes necessary in Bonaire.

► **The Dutch police are going to play an important part in the improvement of the police organizations**, State Secretary



# BES "Czar" Appointed Marine Park Investigations

Former Dutch Minister Henk Kamp (56) has been appointed Commissioner for the "BES islands" of Bonaire, Saba and St. Eustatius for three years effective January 1, 2009. Informed observers take the appointment as a sign that the Dutch are determined to make the "municipality" status of the three islands a success.

Kamp is currently a 13-year Member of Parliament for the liberal VVD party. In the past he served as Minister of Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment and most recently as the Minister of Defense. He will reside on Bonaire and be the right hand of Dutch State Secretary of Kingdom Relations Ank Bijleveld-Schouten to oversee the phase-in transfer of the three islands to the Netherlands. Interestingly, although he is a member of the opposition he was named to the key job. An appointment of a member of the opposition party to an important job is rarely made in Bonaire, on or any Antillean island for that matter.

Quality, speed and decisiveness have been identified as key elements that will be necessary in integrating the BES islands into the Netherlands. Kamp, with his experience in Dutch politics and contacts, should have the necessary qualities for the job.

Kamp's tasks will include "motivating the islands, the Antillean Government and the Netherlands to work on concrete solutions to transparent transfer." The Commissioner has to ensure that the plans and actions of the Dutch ministries match the daily practice on the three islands. He will channel the information requests of the Dutch departments.

He is expected to have direct access to those politically responsible at the level of the Kingdom Council of Ministers and also on the islands. Those factors are essential to



Henk Kamp

solve political deadlocks and issues of competence, explained Bijleveld-Schouten.

Kamp once served as an Alderman and Council member of a small municipality in the province of Gelderland. Before being elected to Parliament, Kamp was also a member of the Provincial States of Gelderland.

He has made personal visits to the islands in the past.

He sees his appointment as a challenge. "It is quite a special task to bring three islands into the Dutch Constellation. It is a task that will require cooperation with all involved."

Kamp, a tax controller by profession, will give up his seat in the Second Chamber for this project.

Asked by a member of the Dutch media whether this was a step down the ladder, he said: "No, this is a terrific and challenging job." ■ G.D.



Dead Spotted moray

Bonaire Marine Park Manager, Ramon de Leon, reported on the sudden increase in eel mortality along Bonaire's coast. He said in a STINAPA release on October 19 that the eels submitted to the biologists at Bonaire's CIEE (Council on International Educational Exchange) center indicated that a bacterial infection was a possible cause, but the results weren't conclusive. This week Dr. Ernest Williams, an expert in fish illnesses from the University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez, will be on island to assist.

Bonaire resident naturalist Jerry Ligon independently reported that he learned of 27 dead eels up to October 2. More have been reported since. Most were Spotted or Green Morays- no Golden-tail Morays - and only a single Chain Moray. These two do not spend much time directly on the bottom as the others do, but are usually seen up off the bottom sticking their heads out of coral heads two or three feet off the bottom. Live eels apparently in good health have also been seen.

Dive shop operators have been advised to collect dead or sick eels and bag them for later dissection. If shore divers find



dead eels they should do the same and please inform the Marine Park (717-8444/786-8444) or Dr. Rita Peachey at CIEE (786-7394). If the eel is recently dead, please preserve in newspaper and pack in ice if possible it and bring it the CIEE Center at Kaya Gob Debrot 61.

Last Thursday afternoon Manager de Leon began a formal assessment of the damage produced by the swells from hurricane Omar. All dive operators were requested to assess the damage on their house reef using a specially designed form. The assessment will check for capsized coral heads and an estimation of sand cover over coral heads. Preliminary results indicate there are few capsized coral heads deeper than 20 meters.

Volunteers who want to help please call Sabine Engel (788-0290) to coordinate which reef need to be surveyed. ■

G.D.

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# Profiles: Pauline Kayes: Helping To Save Bonaire's Reefs

I met Pauline on the beach; she had just come out of the water with her snorkel gear. She describes herself as "a proud snorkeler," enjoying the beauty of Bonaire's reefs for over 20 years. And especially because of this beauty on the reef, she has become alarmed about the rapid deterioration of the reef in the last five years. Pauline claims, "The destruction is accelerating; I actually see the difference from month to month."

Just recently here at Donkey Beach, Pauline came across a huge dead green moray eel in the shallows, one of many turning up in the past month. Such events only make Pauline more determined to continue her action to raise awareness of "saving the reef." "There is no scientific proof yet," she says, "of the cause of the death of these eels, but to me it's the 'canary in the coal mine' telling us something is terribly wrong." Pauline points to the "increasing pollution on the reef as stressing and compromising every creature of Bonaire's unique ecosystem."

"Up until last year, I very much believed in Bonaire's claim of pristine reefs, of being a 'divers' paradise,' but after attending a four-day workshop with marine biologist Brian La Pointe last summer, I became educated and radicalized about the reef's actual condition. As we traveled around the island, Brian stopped to point out all the evidence of nutrient pollution coming from waste water and sewage. The 'smoking gun' was particularly evident around shoreline properties, including, resorts, hotels and condos, most of which have septic systems seeping directly into the sea, which causes increased nitrogen, increased microalgae, smothering the reef to death."

A college English professor who just retired after 35 years of teaching in Champaign, Illinois, Pauline has been dedicated to environmental issues in her classroom, assigning students both research and writing on topics like climate change, overfishing, endangered species, and, yes, coral reefs. Because of the imminent threat to Bonaire's reefs from sewage, Pauline has recently focused on learning about sanitation and waste disposal. She laughs, "Actually I have learned more about sewage than I ever wanted to know. But it is a subject everyone on an island like this should be educated on and not just 'flush and forget'."

Growing up in an industrial area of Chicago, Illinois, Pauline saw plenty of pollution (and sewage) in rivers and lakes, which drove her to live closer to nature. And, her father's passion for the West Indies (he was stationed in Curaçao for two years during World War II) compelled her to travel all over the Caribbean looking for what she found on Bonaire 20 years ago: pristine and accessible reefs. Her love of Bonaire caused her not only to buy a house here but also to educate Americans about Bonaire when she went back to the States.

For elementary schools and adult education classes, she gave slide shows and informative presentations on the flora and fauna of Bonaire. She even played local music and taught words in Papiamentu. One year she hosted 10 students from the Illinois Math and Science Academy (Aurora, Illinois) at her house here so they could study the nature and culture of Bonaire. Besides educating Americans about Bonaire, Pauline has raised money to support two of Bonaire's non-profit nature projects, The Donkey Sanctuary and Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire. Pauline comments, "I feel like an ambassador, teaching potential visitors about the island and its fragile connection with nature, especially now when Bonaire's reefs are at the edge of no return, unless we take action immediately. And American tourists can indeed play a role in the rescue of Bonaire's reefs."

In order to alert both tourists and residents of the imminent crisis for Bonaire's reefs, Pauline became a member of the Friends of Bonaire's Reefs, which recently started a S (top) O (ur) S (ewage) Campaign to lobby shoreline hotels and other properties to truck their sewage away from the sea and to implement sustainable sanitation. Pauline feels that tourists can convince their hosts to "go green" by spending money at businesses that live up to the eco-oriented image of the island. Pauline argues, "Ecologically-minded tourists have a right to know if the dive shop or the hotel they are staying at is ecologically responsible and not contributing to the demise of the reef. After all, 'Leading by Example' should not just be an empty slogan."

Ultimately, Pauline sees the demise of the reefs as a moral and ethical crime to destroy millions of years of life underwater as well as the natural heritage of Bonaire: "If we don't act now, the reefs could be dead in the



next three years!" Unfortunately there are people on the island who react to the disappearing of the reefs with statements like, "So what? We'll do waterskiing, we'll do paragliding, we'll do casinos instead." Instead of being in denial about the serious economic repercussions Bonaire will experience if the reefs die, Pauline urges everyone—groups and individuals—to demand swifter action on the sewage problem.

**"After all, 'Leading by Example' should not just be an empty slogan."**

"Imagine", says Pauline, "when cruise ships dock here (and there will be many this coming season: 123 visits), "all those people who go ashore, imagine all the sewage they produce! Where will it go?" Pauline and her fellow friends of Bonaire's reefs claim the government's plans are totally inadequate and will not result in "zero outflow" of nutrients quickly enough to save the reef (completion is scheduled for 2016). Pauline looks very sad as she contemplates the reality ahead: "By 2016, Bonaire's reefs will be like those of the US Virgin Islands: all grey rock and no fish.

Unfortunately, bureaucracies are slow and inflexible. It is the same everywhere, but because Bonaire is so small, it would be manageable here within a year. The garbage disposal at Lagoen is another definite threat, leaking poisonous substances into the soil which ultimately reach the sea water. This is the time to invest, it will meet with a lot of resistance, but change never has occurred without it."

When I want to take Pauline's picture, she joins a group of children who are playing in the water, remarking, "The children will be the ones who are most affected; they will inherit what we have destroyed." ■

For more information contact: **The Bonaire National Marine Park**, 717-8444, email [marinepark@stinapa.org](mailto:marinepark@stinapa.org), website: [www.bmp.org](http://www.bmp.org). The Park is the repository of the latest facts, scientific studies, and expert analysis. Contact them for this type of information.

**Friends of Bonaire's Reefs** (consist of long-time visitors, divers, snorkelers and residents who love Bonaire and her reefs) email: [SOSBonaireReef@gmail.com](mailto:SOSBonaireReef@gmail.com)

Story & photo by Louise Rood



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# 10th Anniversary Underwater Cleanup



**O**n Saturday, September 20, a group of nearly 40 divers, snorkelers, and shore support representing several countries gathered to assist with the final underwater cleanup of 2008, conducted in an area of Bonaire's anchorage in front of Dive Friends @ Yellow Submarine.

During a complete briefing by Susan Davis of NetTech, it was explained what trash should be recovered and what should be left behind, as well as how to keep from damaging any marine animals. Shortly afterward, the divers entered the water, descended and began to fill their bags with trash. When filled, the

bags were brought to the surface to those working as shore support. There, Dive Friends crew and volunteers checked once again to be sure no marine creatures had been inadvertently included, counted and tallied the trash for statistics, and then disposed of it responsibly.

**It was exactly a year since this area of the anchorage had last been cleaned, and in that year, the following trash accumulated and was brought out of the water for proper disposal:** 1 paper bag, 3 plastic bags, 4 plastic beverage bottles, 71 glass bottles or beverage cans, caps and lids, 4 pieces of clothing, 12 pieces of monofilament

fishing line, 1 fishing lure, 3 pieces of rubber, 23 pieces of assorted plastic, 2 car parts, 7 pieces of building materials, 1 piece of carpet, 1 pair of glasses, 1 anchor, 1 key ring, and 6 pieces of wire.

After the dive all participants and their families were welcomed back for a Pot Luck BBQ. Dive Friends Bonaire and NetTech, the sponsors of the quarterly Bonaire cleanups, provided drinks and main courses, while participants supplied side dishes.

Since this particular cleanup, also held in conjunction with World Cleanup Day, marked the 10th anniversary of regular cleanups, four lucky winners were awarded raffle prizes that included free diving services with Dive Friends Bonaire or free Bonaire email accounts with NetTech.

Images from this cleanup are available online at the Bonaire Insider Photo Gallery at [http://www.bonaireinsider.com/index.php/gallery\\_bonaire/category/C63/](http://www.bonaireinsider.com/index.php/gallery_bonaire/category/C63/).

The next quarterly underwater cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, January 10, 2008. ■ *Story & Photo by Susan Davis*

## Selibon Scores



*Djurick Marchena and Papito Vlijt,*

**R**egatta is a fun-packed week and one of my favorite holidays. Every year, though, I am struck with disappointment by the amount of trash on the streets and in the sea. Saturday morning I went out before 7am to take some photos of the mess in an effort to get people to use the trash cans more in the future. Lo and behold, the Selibon team had already done their small miracle and cleaned the boulevard from end to end. Not a speck of trash to be seen. Only 100s of trash cans filled to the brim. I had been out the night before and the street was filled with trash and I simply couldn't believe my eyes! I spoke with **Djurick Marchena** and **Papito Vlijt**, two men from the Selibon team that I encounter often in the early mornings, and they said that 10 of them had been working since 4 am to clean up the mess. Way to go, employees of Selibon! You are truly heroes!

For anyone who throws trash on the ground instead of finding a trash can, please don't leave it up to Selibon to clean. Much of the trash thrown onto the ground gets blown into the sea where it poses a risk to marine life. *Tene Boneiru Limpi.* ■ *Story & Photo by Caren Eckrich*

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*Flotsam and Jetsam (Continued from page 2)*

**opals.** On the website you will find the Official International Poster Contest Rules & Guidelines. You may also call 717-5246 or pass by the JanArt Gallery, Kaya Gloria 7, for the details.

The deadline for entries is December 22, 2008. Contestants in Bonaire also have the option of getting their poster to Ms. Janice at the JanArt Gallery by December 1, 2008.

The posters will then be transported together in one package by the deadline date at no cost to the participants. (By Janice Huckaby Baillie of JanArt)

► **Three evenings still remain to learn more about Bonaire's culture and history. All are free at the Kompleho Deportivo (the Sport Hall) on Kaya Amsterdam and start at 7:30 pm:**

October 22 – "The Bonairean People"

October 29- "The Economic Development of Bonaire"

November 5- "A Surprise Subject"

The presentations will be given by Franklin "Bòl" Antoin, whose passion is preserving Bonaire's traditions. To register or get more information call: 717-5021 or email management@matchconsultancy.com. The sessions are part of Bonaire's Tourism Awareness Program.



**Bòl Antoin**

► **The popular yachtie hangout in Spanish Water, Curaçao - Sarifundy's Bar Restaurant -and the premises behind it burned down last week.** "That is bad! My favorite pub is burning," said Sergei Boer, the winner of the Bonaire Regatta last week.

Nearby boats were taken to safety during the fire. Sarifundy's Marina began 22 years ago as a yacht-stopping place for sailors. The bar restaurant changed owners many times following the departure of its founder, Jos, and his family. It was also extremely popular with locals and tourists.

► **The construction of Bonaire's wind power park is well underway** on the northeast coast of the island. Excavation for the underground power line to connect the park to the new power plant near BOPEC stretches for kilometers, and the special sand for the concrete to form the foundations for the 12 turbines has been delivered. The wind park, together with the smaller turbine now operating at Sorobon, is expected to produce 40 to 50% of Bonaire's power needs, about 10.8 million watts (megawatts). The new WEB facility at BOPEC will have three (bio) diesel generators capable of providing 14 megawatts. The combination is designed to support all of the island's electrical needs.



*Turbine at Sorobon*

► Last week a contract was signed for **the purchase of beacons** to guide the air traffic that traverses Curaçao's airspace. The first beacon is on Aruba and the second one on Curaçao. The current one in Curaçao needs replacement badly. Traffic Minister Maurice Adriaens says, "I am pleased with this. As person with final responsibility for our aviation, I demand safety in our airspace."

The trans-Antilles air routes use two en-route beacons on Aruba and Curaçao. They send precise signals to an airplane so it can constantly monitor its course. Both current beacons are more than 20 years old and need to be replaced. The new beacons cost NAf1.6 million each. Aircraft using the service are charged a fee.

► Bonaire is experiencing an unusually early and wet rainy season which is providing luxuriant plant growth, plenty of grazing for the feral goats and donkeys and lots of wild cherries. But the standing water is also providing excellent breeding grounds for disease-carrying mosquitoes. One of the worst of these is the *Aedes aegypti* which breeds quickly in clear water. It transmits the always painful but rarely fatal Dengue fever. There is no vaccine for the fever yet available.

**Under the direction of the Commissioner of Health, Boy Clarinda, the Department of Health and Hygiene has started an education campaign to stop the spread of**



*Commissioner Boy Clarinda and head of government information service, Robert Sances*

**the mosquito.** We also observed increased spraying activity. Everyone can help to combat the spread of Dengue by eliminating their breeding places. Be vigilant about places where water can stand. If the water is for drinking, small mosquito-eating fish can be added with no health risk. Call the Department at 717-8323 (direct line) or 717-5330 Ext. 315 for more information.

► **The number of polluted "dead zones" in the world's oceans is rising fast** and coastal fish stocks are more vulnerable to collapse than previously feared, scientists said last Monday. The scientists wrote in the journal *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.

Such zones are found from the Gulf of Mexico to the Baltic Sea in areas where algae bloom and suck oxygen from the water, feeding on fertilizers washed from fields, sewage, animal wastes and pollutants from the burning of fossil fuels. Raquel Vaquer Suner of the Mediterranean Institute for Advanced Studies in Spain reported that the number of "dead zones" had risen to more than 140 in 2004 from almost none in the late 1970s.

► **Cruise Ship Season is back:** There will be **123 cruise ship visits this cruise ship season** between October 27 and May 6, 2009.

► **October 14's First Full Moon Meditation for Unity and Positivism** had to be cancelled due to storms. However, it's hoped that the meditation can be held on the next full

## BOOI TO STEP ASIDE

► If one person can be said to be the "Father" of Bonaire's new status with The Netherlands, it's Bonaire's Ramonsito



Booi. He was relentless in his goal of getting Bonaire out from under Curaçao's governance and becoming a direct part of Holland, first scheduled for July 1, 2007, but now set for this December 15<sup>th</sup>.

Last week Booi announced he is backing off from a leading role in government in favor of younger talent. He is 61 years old and has been in politics for 40 years. He wants more private time, he said. Booi will step down as a consultant to the island Council and Central Government chair but would stay on as UPB party leader and continue as an Island Council member.

moon, on November 13. There will be more information in the next edition of *The Reporter*, November 7.

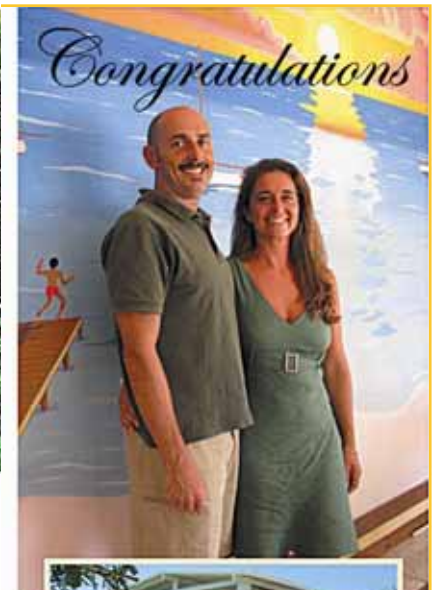
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# BONAIREAN VOICES

## OUR SCHOOLS

In the last column we learned how important education is.

To educate children they need to be in a proper building for their own well being. Parents shouldn't send their child to a school that's not safe or where the building is falling apart. Maybe the building needs to be repaired or maybe the school administration needs to set different disciplinary rules to help those who are causing problems at school to respect the school property. We have schools that have been newly built, others repaired, and others still in bad shape. We realize that the government needs lot of money in order to finance the building or rebuilding of schools. We are talking about millions of euros if the Dutch government decides to finance these projects.

In our community there are a lot of people who are very concerned about this matter and they have questions about it. Many parents send their children every day to schools where they have to confront class rooms in bad shape, the buildings filling with water in the rainy season, incomplete learning materials, and we can mention a lot more. The Commissioner of Education and SEK (service for education and culture), Maritza Silberie, is pretty aware of the situation.

One parent we interviewed said, "If we become part of Holland our whole education system needs to be changed: our buildings, our teaching process and our school hours. But definitely we have to start with the SGB (higher education school), separating the different levels of higher education in this school. It means rebuilding or building a new school which means more money. Is the Dutch government aware of this situation? They give millions of euros to renew the teachers' salaries and to adjust education here and there, plus rebuilding Papa Cornes Elementary School. But we must remember that when these kids finish elementary

school they have to go to the SGB. How long we can continue to ignore this situation at SGB? Remember, we all have daughters, sons, nieces, nephews and other relatives and acquaintances going to this school. What is the board of parents doing? Are they active or inactive? With everybody's input we can come up with a solution for this school, but it must happen now. We can't wait to long."

On the other hand we have different governmental departments that have the ability to make a report of the schools that need immediate assistance. Have these reports been made and do we know precisely how much the budget is? These are answers that we Bonaireans need.

Someone else said, "After we have all the educational needs budgeted we still don't have anything budgeted for the buildings themselves. And we need to start all over again. Every aspect of our education needs attention: the parents, the

children, the teachers, the school materials and... the buildings. These will contribute to a healthier community and country. If we demand that our children are in school, do their best and graduate, then we must consider in what kind of ambiance they are getting their education. Everyone who is concerned about this can do something about it - and don't let only the government officials brainstorm about this matter."

So the point is, we all must be concerned. And let's do something about it, if we really care about our children. Come together as a group or commission and make a change. ■ Siomara Albertus

Send your comments to *The Bonaire Reporter*, P.O. Box 407, Bonaire, or email reporter@bonairenews.



Siomara Albertus photo

SGB High School entrance

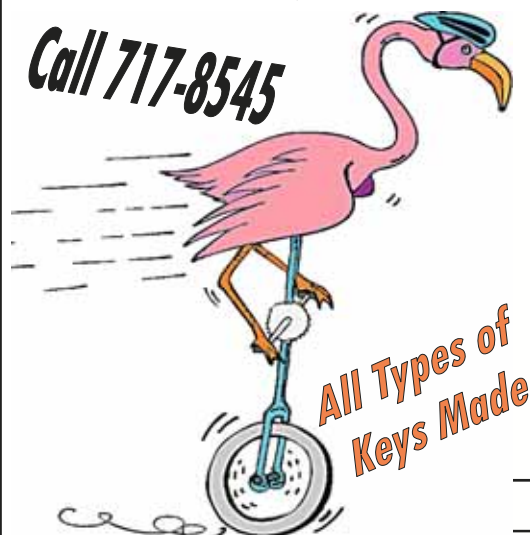
## DO YOU SUDOKU?

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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. **Answer on page 9.**  
Supplied by Molly Bartikoski-Kearney

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# Island View

## SHE HAS BEEN FOUND

She has been found at last (Marlies van der Kouwe). And now we feel a bit relieved because she is no longer missing. However, now there is no more hope she will be found alive because it was her body that was recovered. So we feel sad at the same time. That is the ambivalent feeling the district attorney was talking about when he announced her remains found. The police will continue with the investigation so that we will hopefully know the truth of what happened to her. And her family can take her home so she can be buried.

What will her family think about at this point? I cannot begin to imagine their emotions and thoughts. My mother starts to hyperventilate when she tries to imagine this happening to one of her children. Every parent will have had thankful thoughts about it not having happened to their child. It may not have happened your child, but it has happened on our island.

There are some thoughts that keep repeating in my mind. One of them is: "How could this happen on Bonaire?" This is the island people come to experience tranquility and to have safe adventures. And now Bonaire has lost that innocence, and we can never go back.

Another thought in my mind is: "How is it possible that on this island with only 14,000 people, a rapist and a killer can occur?" Or in other words: "How did a Bonairean grow up to be able to act so inhumanely?" This island does not have

enough people for this to happen, you would think. You need a big country for that, like the US, which is notorious for its high amount of murders. There are 0.043 homicides per 1,000 Americans per year. On Bonaire this murder alone will give us a figure (0.071 per 1000 people) that is higher than the one in the States. Or should we now compare ourselves with the countries in the world with the most homicides, like Columbia (number one in that sad list with 0.62 homicides per 1,000 people)?

After we find out the true story of what happened to her from the police, what happens then? Do we say: "It was no wonder he did what he did, just look at his childhood, or look at his previous actions?" Or do we blame the circumstances: "Nobody should be on a bike so late at night?" Is there a way to avoid this from happening again? The only way is obviously to stop creating murderers, rapists, thieves and all the other miscreants that walk on this island. They are not born, they grow up with an urge to hurt people. We should educate ourselves on how these creatures come about and try to prevent that from happening. It is not normal that so many people are victim of a crime on this island, whether it be theft, violence, or in the worst case, murder.

Marlies left her home for Bonaire for a short training period. She was supposed to come back with stories, pictures and experiences. But not only can she not go home like that, this island will always be

## Current Homicide Statistics

#1	<b>Colombia:</b>	0.617847 per 1,000 people
#2	<b>South Africa:</b>	0.496008 per 1,000 people
#3	<b>Jamaica:</b>	0.324196 per 1,000 people
#4	<b>Venezuela:</b>	0.316138 per 1,000 people
#5	<b>Russia:</b>	0.201534 per 1,000 people
#6	<b>Mexico:</b>	0.130213 per 1,000 people
#7	<b>Estonia:</b>	0.107277 per 1,000 people
#8	<b>Latvia:</b>	0.10393 per 1,000 people
#9	<b>Lithuania:</b>	0.102863 per 1,000 people
#10	<b>Belarus:</b>	0.0983495 per 1,000 people
#24	<b>United States:</b>	0.042802 per 1,000 people
#51	<b>Netherlands:</b>	0.0111538 per 1,000 people

remembered by her tragedy. A few years ago not a lot of people knew where to find the Netherlands Antilles on the world map. Now almost everybody knows where to find Aruba, and it is not because of the collapsed Natural Bridge. Bonaire has also found its place on the map. It is so sad that is not because of the nature, the sea or the climate.

Her family will always remember Bonaire with pain in their hearts. And Bonaire will never forget the name Marlies van der Kouwe. Each has left a mark on the other, but unwillingly so. There is almost

an urge to apologize to her family: "We are sorry you have lost your child, when she had nothing to do with the problems on this island. We are sorry to have betrayed your trust when she decided for our seemingly peaceful island. We are so sorry there are killers on this island. We are sorry...." ■ Mary Ann Koops



Koops teaches Biology at the SGB High School. Her insightful commentary appears regularly in The Reporter.

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# Cover Story High School Students Helping Out

**S**GB High School students Lauriane Ammerlaan and Carlos Martis are donating 30 hours to working voluntarily on a social studies community project, in this case, the Bonaire Animal Shelter. Both VWO students are in the Nature and Health section of the school and have two years to go before they graduate. Here at the Shelter they bathe, clean, medicate and socialize with the dogs and cats. The students had other jobs from which to choose in their General Social Studies subject of working with non-profit organizations: working with the elderly, SEBIKI (young children), kresh (nursery school), Donkey Sanctuary, tutoring, reading at the primary school, STCB (turtles), flight simulator group and others. But Lauriane and Carlos chose the Animal Shelter because of their love of animals and their eagerness to learn more about them. Their biology teacher can attest to that and says that both students are hard working and serious.

Lauriane wants to learn about natural medicines and hopes to work in the health field in third world countries. She's already gaining information about natural remedies from some of the elderly people on Bonaire, most particularly from a 93-year-old lady from Tera Kora.

Carlos wants to be a doctor/surgeon. After SGB he hopes to continue his education in Holland. His dream is to open a good hospital here on Bonaire with all the facilities so that patients don't have to go to Curaçao for treatment; it can all be



**Lauriane and two cats needing adopting (Fred and Fabian) and Carlos with dog, Lars, who hopes to find an owner who likes running.**

done here.

Lauriane is holding two black and white kitten brothers, "Fred" and "Fabian." They're about two months old and so sweet and affectionate. Even with all the bad weather and rain in the cat cage these two kept their good dispositions.

Carlos is posing with "Lars," a big dog with a presence! Lars followed a runner from Republique to Hato, having a wonderful time. He so delighted the runner that the person wanted to keep him but couldn't because she already has two



dogs. So she brought him to the Shelter. He'd make a great "jogging partner," says Lauriane. And living on a kunuku would be good too as he could guard it well. Lars is about 1 ½ to 2 years old and is in excellent condition.

You may see these pets at the Bonaire Animal Shelter on the Lagoen road, open Monday through Saturday, 9 am to 1 pm, 3 to 5 pm., Tel. 717-4989.

More good news: "Kai," our Pet of the Week in the last issue, has been adopted.

Congratulations and all the best to the new owner and Kai for a long and happy life together.

**The Shelter will hold a Used Book Fair this Saturday, October 25, from 11 am to 5 pm** at the Shelter on Kaminda Lagun. Hundreds of books, both in English and Dutch. Drinks and snacks will be available during the fair and you can also shop in the newly remodeled Shelter Gift Shop where you'll find all sorts of pet accessories including collars, leashes, carriers, treats, toys and more.

Check out the new Shelter website, maintained by Shelter Co-manager Marlies Tiepel at:

[www.AnimalShelterBonaire.com](http://www.AnimalShelterBonaire.com) ■L.D.

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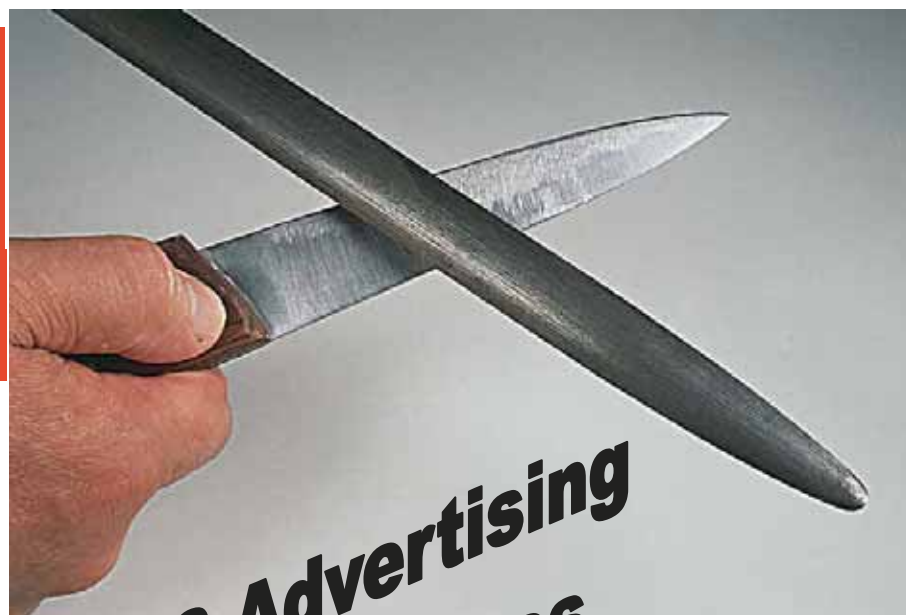
Puzzle on page 7

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# Storm Omar Raps Bonaire with Wind and Waves

“It seems like Nature was sick of what we were putting into the sea and threw it back at us,” said Laura as she viewed the littered west coast of Bonaire. Breaking seas generated by tropical storm Omar, 100 miles to the island’s north, deposited trash, coral rubble and under-sea creatures onto the shoreline as far as the eye could see. While there were no injuries, the damage was considerable –Bonaire’s acting Governor Eddy Thielman said the cost to repair the damage was in the range of NAf 7 million– it could have been a lot worse.

First, what is the condition of the reef? The Bonaire National Marine Park has begun a formal survey to assess the state of the coral (See story on page 3). However, anecdotal reports say there is not significant damage, certainly nothing like the damage done by hurricane Lenny in 1999. The live corals, including those weakened by warm-water bleaching, have already ejected the sand covering them. What then becomes obvious are the previously dead corals which remain sand covered. Additionally all the LMSP rainbow underwater monitors that sample the water quality were undamaged and remained in place. Fish are thriving but some herbivores look hungry.

Some of the island’s underwa-

ter and shore side webcams will be out of service until new components can arrive and be installed.

The undersea sculpture at Chachacha Beach was miraculously undamaged as it was surrounded by huge sunken timbers.

Most of the boats moored in Kralendijk Bay were taken to safety before the worst waves hit, but some were unlucky, including a Divi Flamingo dive boat and some local fishermen's boats.

The head landscaper at one of the biggest resorts said, “There’s been a lot of damage, but we’re already cleaning it up and it won’t take long.” Dive shop docks lost some of their planking but were soon operational. The waterfront restaurants and businesses closed during the storm but re-opened the day after.

Many of the illegally constructed piers fronting waterfront homes were demolished.

Tourists were disappointed by the two days of rain from Bonaire’s usually sunny skies but after the storm were able to dive the island’s east side and pronounced it untouched. KLM and local air-taxis continued to fly, but American Eagle cancelled flights primarily because of the threat to its San Juan hub. School children celebrated and parents grumbled as the school system

shut down for two days.

The island’s Internet, telephone system, cell phones, electrical power and water distribution functioned flawlessly during the storm. It was only during a thunderstorm a few days later that week that the WEB electrical service went out for a few hours.

There was some damage to the island’s shipping wharfs. Inter-island traffic using the roll-on/roll-off was unaffected. Investigation is underway to see if the cruise ship arrival schedule will be affected by needed repairs.

The heavy rains, up to 6 inches in some places, caused cactus and trees to topple. *The Bonaire Reporter’s* wind generator tower blew over when its concrete anchors came loose in the wet ground.

Bonaire seemed to weather this bad weather better than it ever has. The Red Cross, municipal employees, their managers and even the Public Works commissioner were on the scene during the worst of it. However, it is good that Bonaire is out of the path of hurricanes. The island simply does not have the safe harbor or shelter facilities for safety of life and property. ■G.D

*Photos by Huub Marsman, Herman van Leeuwen, Asdrubal Marciano, Johanna Gordijn and The Reporter staff. Thank you all. Search Bonaire storm on You Tube for more photos/video.*



*Waves breaking over the road along the seaside promenade were a common sight. Flimsy structures disintegrated from the force of the battering seas.*



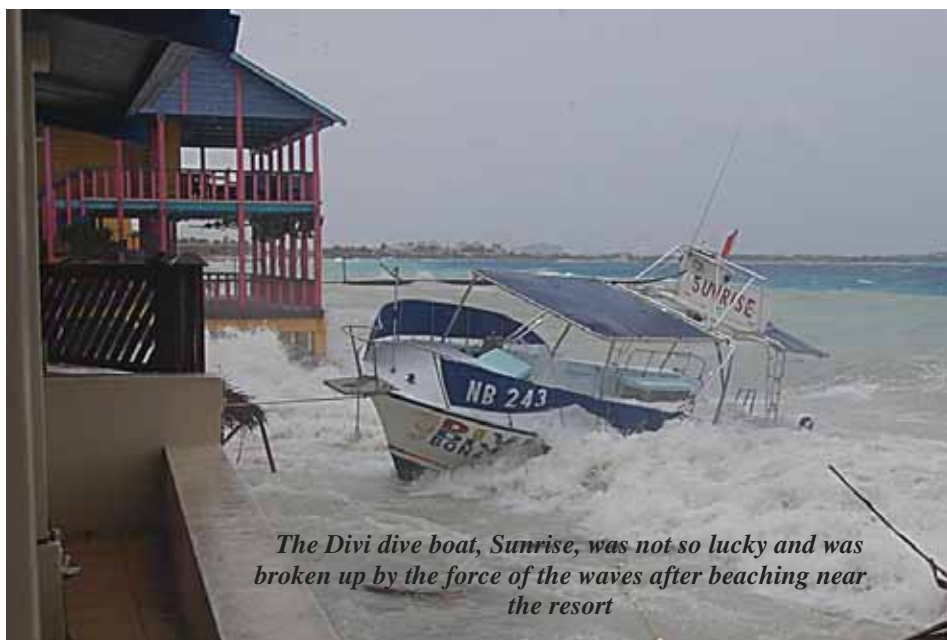
*Tons of debris covered shore side roads, much of it from trash washed into the sea but also some weeds and soft corals.*



*Surprisingly few fish and other marine creatures were hurt by the waves*



*The Bonaire-registered boat Scramble did not get off her mooring in time and was driven ashore north of Regatta House. Thanks to fast action by Jos’ crane and volunteers she was hauled out relatively unscathed*



*The Divi dive boat, Sunrise, was not so lucky and was broken up by the force of the waves after beaching near the resort*



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Island officials met to plan storm damage recovery actions



↑Young windsurfers found the storm conditions ideal



Meet Frans Roefs, the man who swam through the breakers and the storm-tossed debris to cut the jammed mooring line of a speedboat so it could be towed free ↓

## Picture Yourself With The Reporter After Hurricane Ike

**T**hink we had it bad from storm Omar? Consider this picture from Dianne Forthman, of Galveston Bay Texas. She is standing in the wreckage of her home caused by hurricane Ike.

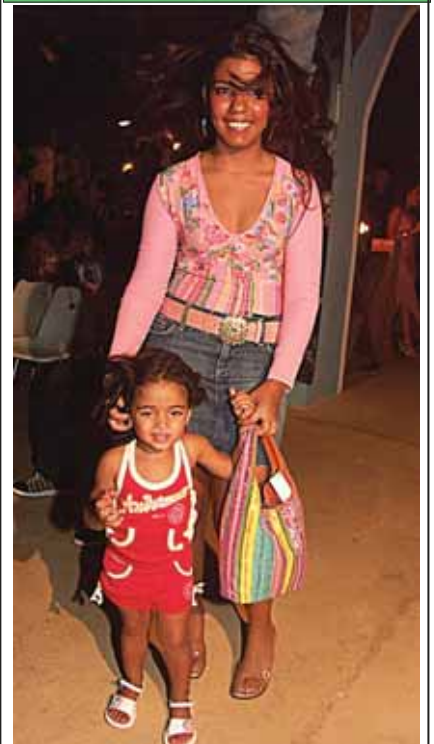
She lost half her house in the hurricane and was jealous of the neighbors who had two "new" houses deposited in their front yard while she was left with just half of hers!

Diane and her family recently spent more than a month in Bonaire enjoying its wildlife, especially the loras.

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## Not for sale: Two-toned 1949 Chevrolet Skyline De Luxe Coupe

The 38<sup>th</sup> of a series of Bonaire Reporter articles by J@n Brouwer, featuring some of Bonaire's interesting vehicles that are "on wheels."



Hato/Bonaire  
Some eight years ago Mr. Giskus became the proud owner of an almost completely original two-toned Chevrolet Skyline Deluxe Coupe, manufactured in 1949 in the US. Early in the morning, Johan, busy as usual, welcomes me at the gate of his house in Hato. One of his four American cars is parked inside the gate. The car fits really nicely in this slightly older neighborhood of Bonaire: Hato, most of the time quiet and peaceful... We walk to the vehicle and Johan Giskus opens the bonnet of the car. A solid straight six-cylinder engine is fitted: a cast iron bottom, a cast iron head, 12 overhead valves, an original W1 Carter carburetor, an oil sump air cleaner, an old fashioned oil filter with a cartridge, a mechanical fuel pump made of metal and glass. This is the real stuff! Johan shows me everything and explains, "I refurbished this car completely. I used lots of parts that I found on my own island. I know two other cars that have been parked in the outback forever. They supplied me with most of the parts I needed to restore my beauty."

Johan shows me the 12-volt alternator under the hood, the supplier of the electricity of the car. "Of course," he continues, "this is not the original device. In those days cars were fitted with six-volt generators. I recently found one and I shall replace the modern alternator for the original generator. It is really fun to work on an old car like this. No fuzzy modern things. No power brakes, no power steering, no power windows, no electronic ignition, no power windows. A real no-nonsense car. Not even an automatic transmission!"

The two-toned lady stands smiling in the morning sun, shiny lashes above her eyes. She is waiting, she is patient, she is happy. Johan continues, "Her original color was black. They don't make that original paint anymore. It is impossible to find the right

paint and color. So I had it re-sprayed. The top is metallic blue and the body is painted metallic olive. It suits the car fine, especially with the white wall tires."

Giskus, an independent business consultant and interim manager, got his education in Curaçao and in Rotterdam, the Netherlands. He is an electronic engineer and worked in the energy sector for 28 years. His father, born in Surinam, married a Bonairean lady. Johan (58) was born on Bonaire and lived part of his life on Curaçao (where his father was a police officer) and in Europe. He's been living on Bonaire again since 1984 and he loves his house and the neighborhood of Hato.

"I always loved cars," Johan says. "My first car was a real Dutch-made DAF 44: an air cooled opposed piston two-cylinder with a very special variomatic gearbox. The most special car I owned was a 1958 Mercury Montclair. It had an ignition key and a button to start it. Modern cars do have this gadget again mounted on the dashboard. The car I like the most is the hand made British Morgan. This car is built on a wood chassis! A friend of mine had a car like that, those days on Curaçao."

Johan Giskus is well informed about his car. "I own a workshop manual, a parts manual and a parts reference manual. This third book informs me about the parts of my car that are used in other types of other brands. And I have the original driver's manual and the original maintenance manual!"

Giskus is an open and friendly man. "If anyone wants to know something about my car or if anyone needs any parts, he or she can always contact me. I always want to try to help them. There is only one thing I won't do, that is, sell my Chevrolet. My son would never forgive me!" ■ Story & photo by Jan Brouwer



## New Minister Has Plans

The Congregation of the church at the Wilhelmina Plaza has asked Reverend Ernst Stutterheim to serve as their new minister. He was installed by his friend and partner in faith, D'arcy Lopes. Rev. Stutterheim hails from Canada, where he had made his living as a businessman. There he and his wife Matty started a family with two daughters and one son.

Spirituality and Christian ministry were always a passion for Rev. Stutterheim, so for many years he took one day a week off to take courses at the local university. In 1988 the Stutterheims sold their home and business and pursued full-time studies at Canadian Theological Seminary, an affiliate of the University of Regina, where Ernst graduated with a Masters of Divinity. Experience in preaching, pastoral counseling and music was gained in Edmonton Alberta, where the Stutterheims lived for eight years.

In 1999 Rev. Stutterheim was asked to candidate at the International Bible Church of Bonaire. After spending a month ministering in Bonaire, Ernst decided against a ministry with that church, but with a strong sense that he would once come back to Bonaire. Instead the Stutterheims were called to minister at Ebenezer Church on Curaçao, where Matty worked as a teacher at one of the international schools. People knew Ernst also as the Chair of the Council of Churches, from "Curaçao Sings" and as a promoter of ministry to young people.

The Stutterheims stayed in love with Bonaire and its people and visited this beautiful tranquil island regularly to get a breath of fresh air and to find relief from the busy-ness and noise of Curaçao. Rev. Stutterheim had the honor of serving at the induction service of Rev. Jan Jonkman. He also served as coach to Rev. Kenneth Kross. When "Domi Kenneth" decided to leave Bonaire for Surinam, he asked Rev. Stutterheim to consider becoming the new pastor. Initially the answer was "no." Good and important work was being done on Curaçao! Yet, during the next nine months it became very evident that God wanted the



Reverend Ernst Stutterheim

Stutterheims to serve on Bonaire.

That will take quite some adjusting for both Ernst and the people of the congregation. Many people of the church are traditional, liturgical and conservative. Reverend Stutterheim is known for wanting to make improvements, for an up-beat style and an evangelical approach to church life. Yet everyone wants to follow Jesus and to be biblical in their thinking and behavior. A solid Christian spirituality is desired by all. People of great diversity are challenged to be one in spirit.

Many dreams, plans and ideas are already being considered. There will be a great sing-along for people of all faiths on October 31st from 7.35 till 9 pm at the church on Wilhelmina Plaza. There are plans for "Saturday Night Live," a get-together in English, with contemporary songs, discussion, prayer and food. Even the founding of a multilingual-Christian school is being considered. ■ E.S.

Rev. Stutterheim can be contacted at [nos.kerki@gmail.com](mailto:nos.kerki@gmail.com) or Sundays after the 10 am service. Also check out [kerki.hyves.nl](http://kerki.hyves.nl)

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# Unicolllege Students Give Raffle Prizes



Last week, Friday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, the students from UniCollege gave out the prizes to the winners of their Fundraising raffle drawn on September 29 at the Notary's office.

The 1<sup>st</sup> prize winner of a laptop and laser printer donated by Obersi Electronics was **number 826**.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> prize winner of 6 months free of MiTV donated by Telbo was **number 694**. UniCollege is holding the prize on behalf of the winner who, apparently, is not on the island.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> prize winner of a Samsung mobile cellular phone donated by Digicel was **number 787**. All members of UniCollege Bonaire thank Obersi Electronics, Telbo and Digicel, the sponsors of the prizes, and the people of Bonaire for having helped to make the raffle a success.

■ Press release

## Dia di Grasia (Day of Thanks)

Bring your castoffs, clothes, canned food, furniture, appliances, etc. to The parking lot of St. Dominicus School (across from Caribbean Fasteners) for distribution to Bonaire's poor people

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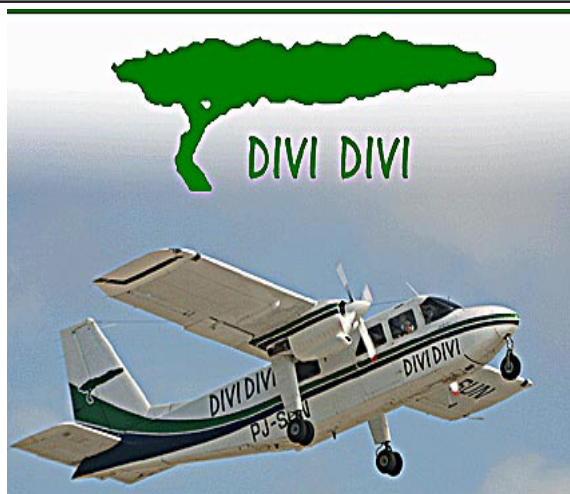
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DATE	Time	Ht.	Time	Ht.	Time	Ht.	Time	Ht.	COEF
10-24	4:16	1.0FT.	10:25	1.5FT.	16:00	1.2FT.	21:36	1.6FT.	56
10-25	4:13	1.1FT.	10:39	1.6FT.	17:24	1.1FT.	22:28	1.4FT.	63
10-26	3:45	1.1FT.	11:06	1.7FT.	18:38	1.1FT.	23:24	1.3FT.	71
10-27	0:26	1.1FT.	2:30	1.1FT.	11:37	1.8FT.	20:03	1.0FT.	78
10-28	12:06	1.9FT.	21:30	0.9FT.					82
10-29	12:41	1.9FT.	22:44	0.9FT.					83
10-30	13:23	1.9FT.	23:37	0.8FT.					82
10-31	0:25	0.8FT.	13:59	1.9FT.					79
11-01	1:10	0.7FT.	14:41	1.9FT.					74
11-02	1:44	0.7FT.	15:27	1.9FT.					67
11-03	2:13	0.7FT.	16:08	1.8FT.					60
11-04	2:36	0.8FT.	17:01	1.8FT.					52
11-05	2:53	0.8FT.	17:47	1.7FT.					45
11-06	3:02	0.9FT.	18:37	1.6FT.					39
11-07	2:58	1.0FT.	10:09	1.5FT.	14:41	1.4FT.	19:34	1.5FT.	37

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## Bubbles from the Biologist



Algae bloom

### Did You Know...that algae are thought to be the future of biodiesel?

Millions of years ago plant and animal matter was buried and compressed deep in the ground to make crude oil. If oil was created from plant and animal matter over millions of years it must take about that time to make more of this limited resource right? Wrong. It has already been proven that biomass from plants (switchgrass and corn) can be transformed into biofuel (ethanol and biodiesel). Now, scientists are currently working on converting certain algal species that are high in oil content into biofuel.

Not only can this plant replace crude oil consumption, it cleans the air by using up carbon dioxide (a major greenhouse gas). Scientists now believe that "feeding" or pumping the algae with even more carbon dioxide yields an even higher percentage of oil by weight. Essentially, algae rids the air of greenhouse gas emissions and recycles it through photosynthesis to make oxygen and increase oil content in its biomass. There are many advantages to using algae instead of other plants such as switchgrass and corn to make biofuel. For example, algae can produce up to 15 times more oil. Another advantage is that algae doesn't need soil to grow and can be grown in ponds or in areas not suitable for commercial agriculture.

Algae can also grow in fresh or salt water and scientists even theorize that algae increases oil content when grown in water full of organic material (sewage). The future of this planet is in biofuels and something as simple as algae could be the answer to cutting down and recycling harmful emissions and our dependency on a finite energy source. ■ *Story & photo by Lauren Pacheco*

*Pacheco is from Arvada, Colorado, and currently is in her fourth year majoring in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at the University of Colorado at Boulder. In her free time she enjoys traveling, hiking, camping, rafting and swimming. She is currently studying at the CIEE Research Station in Bonaire.*



## Who Is Monique Meijer-NB 28?

The windsurf contingent at Bonaire's 41<sup>st</sup> Regatta was 23 strong, representing fleets in Freestyle, Slalom and Formula racing. One of the newest members of the Bonaire Sailing Team is Monique Meijer. Monique is attending her third Regatta, competing as the only woman in the Slalom division. Monique has been training hard for Regatta having just returned from European events in Italy and Turkey.

Last month she was interviewed by Bonaire windsurfer-on-tour, Ruben Petrisie. Here's some of what she had to say:

"Let me first introduce myself to your readers. My name is Monique Meijer. I've been living on the island of Bonaire since July 2006. I learned the basic steps of windsurfing a few years ago at Sunny Beach in Bulgaria. After I moved to Bonaire in the summer of 2006 I really fell in love with windsurfing. You can find me almost every afternoon at Sorobon. Besides my normal work (as a physical education teacher at the SGB) I'm helping out at the Aquaspeed Club Bonaire and Jong Bonaire."

Then Ruben asked her, "How did you end up racing on the PWA Tour?"

"After I came back from a windsurf competition in Italy I was not sure yet what my place was in the windsurfing world as I was surfing in the master class and not in the women's class. Taty Frans told me to go to Turkey. It had similar sailing conditions like Sorobon and that it would be a nice event to participate in."

Ruben then asked her about her first race experience.

"It was a very nice experience. I arrived as one of the first racers in order to train a few days ahead to get used to the conditions there and of course to overcome the jet lag. In Alacati, Turkey, I met you, Ruben Petrisie, again. You helped me around and gave me a lot of information about the event."

When everyone arrived it was a very nice atmosphere, everyone getting along very well and sharing their passion. I met a lot of new friends and gained lots of new experiences on the water. After the start (when the green flag goes up) it's a pretty hard competition. No fear-No rules. But after the race everyone is friends again."

Monique placed 12th at her first slalom PWA event in Turkey.

Her training coach is the best, former Olympian Patun Saragoza. Sailing three days each week Monique and Patun practice starts, jibing around buoys and course racing. Her training has taught her to be



aggressive on the course. In this year's event Monique is competing against some of the island's fastest sailors including Juvannie Thielman, Choko Frans and Taty Frans.

Monique expressed frustration on the lack of wind and no fellow women competitors, but she's optimistic that her training will help her rise to the occasion.

Monique hopes to place in the top three. *(She placed fourth against the men. Ed.)* Her aspirations will take her on the 2009 Professional Windsurfing Association Tour representing Bonaire on her sail NB28. Monique is sponsored by Bonaire Windsurf Place, Sign Studio and Princess. ■

*Ann Phelan/ Ruben Petrisie*

Capture Photo  
Divi Flamingo Dive Resort, Bonaire



...." Pretty in Pink" ..

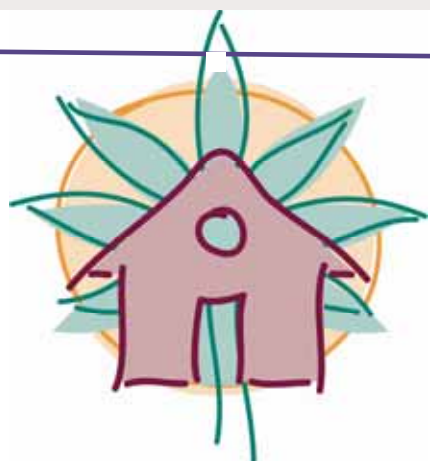
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<b>De Bonairiaan Restaurant</b> Kaya J. A. Abraham Blvd., #21 (nearly across from Divi Resort) 717-6921, 786-6816	Inexpensive Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 9 am—2 pm Breakfast, Coffee, Lunch	<b>De Bonairiaan Restaurant</b> is a unique restaurant run by the students of the Stitchting Project with their advisors. Each day a different menu.
<b>Hilltop Restaurant</b> At the Caribbean Club Bonaire—on the scenic Rincon Road <b>717-7901</b>	Moderate Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner	<b>Bar-Restaurant poolside—in Bonaire’s hill country</b> Frequent Dinner Specials Happy hours 5 to 6 daily, to 7 on Tuesday BBQ night.
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SHOPPING GUIDE

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Professional trainers, fitness machines and classes for all levels.</p>	<p><b>Top Health Bonaire Fitness and Health Center</b> Modern workout rooms and machines, professional trainers and low prices make it easy to lose weight and get fit.</p> <p><b>GARDEN SUPPLIES AND SERVICES</b> <b>Green Label</b> 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.</p> <p><b>PEST CONTROL</b> <b>Professional Pest Control.</b> Call Peter to get rid of all those nasty pets like termites, fleas, ticks and ants that want to invade your home. Call now and save your investment in your home.</p> <p><b>Pool and Spas</b> <b>Sunshine Pool Care</b> is “All About Pools and Spas” - Building them, caring for them, providing service, supplies and equipment.</p> <p><b>PHOTO FINISHING</b> <b>Paradise Photo</b> in the Galleries Shopping Center downtown offers fast, fine processing for prints, slides, items and services. <b>Full digital services.</b></p> <p><b>PHOTO SERVICES</b> <b>Capture Photo</b> at the Divi Flamingo. Underwater photo classes, camera rental, digital processing, all state of the art!</p> <p><b>REAL ESTATE / RENTAL AGENTS</b> <b>Caribbean Homes</b>, “the Refreshing Realtor,” specializing in luxury homes, condos, lots, rentals and property management.</p> <p><b>Re/Max Paradise Homes:</b> Lots of choices in real estate—International/US connections. 5% of profits donated to local community. List with them to sell fast.</p> <p><b>Sunbelt Realty</b> offers full real estate, rental, and insurance services. If you want a home or to invest in Bonaire, stop in and see them.</p> <p><b>Bonaire Sunshine Homes</b> is the realtor with a local touch. Ask them to show you the good value homes they list. Call them if you are thinking of selling your home.</p> <p><b>RESORTS &amp; ACTIVITIES</b> <b>Buddy Dive Resort</b> offers diving, Adventure Fun tours including kayaking, mountain biking, cave</p>	<p>snorkeling and exploration. Full service dive shop and photo shop too.</p> <p><b>RETAIL</b> <b>Benetton</b>, world famous designer clothes available now in Bonaire at prices less than those in US. For men, women and children.</p> <p><b>Best Buddies and Pearls</b>—Stunning fresh water pearl jewelry, fashion, gifts, t shirts. Wonderful service, free gift wrap.</p> <p><b>SALT</b> <b>The Salt Shop</b> offers uniquely special Bonaire sea-salt crystals at its shop in The Rochaline and also at Best Buddies and the airport shop.</p> <p><b>SECURITY</b> <b>Special Security Services</b> will provide that extra measure of protection when you need it. Always reliable.</p> <p><b>SHIPPING</b> <b>Rocargo Freight</b> Air and sea shipments in/out of Bonaire. Customs agents. Professional and efficient. <b>FedEx agent. What would we do without their superb services?</b></p> <p><b>SUPERMARKETS</b> <b>The Island Supplier (TIS)</b>-Enjoy shopping the “Caribbean Way” – fresh, open air feeling with reasonably priced produce, frozen meats, canned goods, wide selection of beverages and juices. Good rum selection.</p> <p><b>Warehouse Supermarket on Kaya Industria</b>—Biggest air conditioned market with the, largest selection and lowest prices on the island.</p> <p><b>WATER TAXI</b> <b>Get to Klein Bonaire by Ferry.</b> Ride the <i>Kantika di Amor</i> or <i>Skiffy</i>. Hotel pickup. Easiest landing on Klein Bonaire with built-in ramp</p> <p><b>WINES</b> <b>Antillean Wine Company.</b> 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.</p> <p><b>Fortnightly Advertisers in <i>The Bonaire Reporter</i> are included in the guides. Free!</b></p>
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# WHAT'S HAPPENING

## HAPPENING SOON

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**Wednesday, October 22-** Bòl Antoin Culture Lecture, "Bonaire People," Sport Hall on Kaya Amsterdam, 7:30 pm, Free, 717-5021, email: management@matchconsultancy.com ( more on page 6)

**Saturday, October 25—Book Sale, Bonaire Animal Shelter on the Lagoen Road (English, Dutch, more) Food & Drinks, 11 am-5 pm** Hundreds of books, both in English and Dutch, will available for only NAf 2 each.

**Wednesday, October 29 – Bòl Antoin Culture Lecture, "Economic Development of Bonaire,"** Sport Hall on Kaya Amsterdam, 7:30 pm, Free, 717-5021, email: management@matchconsultancy.com ( more on page 6)

**Friday, October 31—"Bonaire Sings."** Join in singing the most beautiful spiritual songs in English, Dutch and Papiamentu, at the Protestant Church, Wilhelmina Plaza, 7:35-9 pm. All faiths who like to sing are welcome

**Saturday, November 1—Big monthly Rincon Marché,** 6am to 2 pm. Music, stands selling local food, gifts, candles, plants, more. A real Bonairean Tradition!

**Saturday, November 1 – Flea Market at Parke Publico** every first Saturday of the month, 3 to 7 pm. Everyone welcome to buy and to sell. NAf5 per selling table. More information and reservations for a spot call 787-0466

**Wednesday, November 5 – Bòl Antoin Culture Lecture – "A Surprise,"** Sport Hall on Kaya Amjsterday, 7:30 pm, Free 717-5021, email: management@matchconsultancy.com ( more on page 6)

**December 1- Bari Festival Period. Song, dance, drink and the traditional Beating of the Drums** (Bari) are the highlights of this celebration which recounts the year's happenings.

**Cruise Ship Season is back:**  
Arts & Crafts Markets at Wilhelmina Park on Cruise Ship Days, usually 10 am to 2 pm:  
Monday, October 27 (Emerald Princess)  
Wednesday, November 6 (Caribbean Princess)  
Tuesday, November 11 (Ventura)

### REGULAR EVENTS

- Happy Hour—50% off- **Buddy Dive Resort**, 5:30-6:30 p.m.
- 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**, 6-10pm
- **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. **Big Marché first Saturday of the Month**—www.infobonaire.com/rincon.
- **Flea Market at Parke Publico** every first Saturday of the month, 3 to 7 pm. Everyone welcome to buy and to sell. NAf5 per selling table. More information and reservations for a spot call 787-0466
- **Soldachi Tours**—See the real Bonaire and be transported back in time. Learn about the history, culture and nature by Bonaireans from Rincon. Call Maria Koeks for more information—796-7870.
- **Mountain Bike Training for riders of all levels (also Tuesday)** at 5pm. Bonaire Wellness Connexions, Eden Beach, 785-0767, email info@bonairewellness.com

### Mondays

- **"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

### Wednesdays

- **"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 pm

### Fridays

- **Harbour Village Tennis, Social Round Robin** 7-10 pm. \$10 per person. Cash bar. All invited. Call Elisabeth Vos at 565-5225
- **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**
  - Flamingo Rockers playing at **Sunset Bar and Grill**, from 6 - 8pm. **FREE Rum Punch** goes from 5:30 - 6:30pm. BBQ starting at 6:30pm. **Den Laman Resort**

### FREE SLIDE/VIDEO SHOWS

**Sunday— Creature Feature—** John and Suzie Wall of Buddy's Digital photo center present a multimedia slide presentation about Buddy's House Reef - pool bar **Buddy Dive**, 6:30-7 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, 6:30 pm—717-3802.  
**Tuesday—Diving Facts And Fiction -**

**An Evening with DIR** slide/video show by Caribbean Gas Training, 8 pm, Bonaire Dive & Adventure, 786-5073

**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 6:30pm.

### 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 at 7pm; every Sunday at 5pm. Phone: 786-7699 .  
**Al-Anon meetings** - every **Monday** evening at 7 pm. Call 790-7272  
**Weekly Bonaire Talker Gathering and Dinner at Gibi's - Tuesday - 6:30 pm** - call 567-0655 for directions.

**Bridge Club - Wednesdays**, 7.30 pm ) All levels, NAf2,50. Call Joop 717-5903 for venue.

**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 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> **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.

### 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: Centro di Bario Nord Saliña**, Sundays, 10 am. Services in Dutch. 700-0379 .  
**International Bible Church of Bonaire**, at SGB High School auditorium (Kaya Frater Odulfinus, off Kaya Korona.) Sunday services in English at 9 am; Sunday evening prayer meeting at

Pastor's home, 7 pm. Fridays, 6 to 8 pm, Light & Life Club, children 5 to 12 yrs. Tel. 717-8332.

**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

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

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

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

Send event info to:

**The Bonaire Reporter**

Email reporter@bonairenews.com

Tel:790-6518, 786-6125

or 790-8988

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**F**reestyle windsurfing is one of the favorite spectator sport events. During Regatta when slalom and formula racing heats are run they are held off-shore making it impossible for the crowd to enjoy but creating a challenging sport for the competitors.

On Regatta Wednesday the crowds and freestylers were in for a usual treat. Mother Nature brought in an incredible weather system creating onshore winds, high winds and massive chop in typically quiet Kralendijk Harbor. Early in the day the freestyle kids and adults grabbed their small sails and headed into the waves. Water spray was coating the shoreline, dousing spectators with water and spray. Children were frolicking in the rolling sea that turned the harbor into a washing machine of water. Tricksters Youp Schmidt, Endro Finies, Bjorn and Jurgen Saragoza and Choko Frans were amongst the freestylers reveling in the crazy wind reversal. It was the makings of a perfect freestyle event. Heats were held and the



Kiri Thode

Ann Phelan photo

crowd was dazzled by an array of moves including Switch Stanch Chochos, Table Tops and Goiters.

In the end the best of the day prevailed. Mother Nature could not have been kinder on what was a memorable freestyle event at the 41st Regatta.

Results:

**Freestyle Kid**

Amado Vreisiwijk  
Youp Schmidt  
Jurgen Saragoza  
**Freestyle Prince**  
Bjorn Saragoza  
Hendrick Balentien  
Archuendro Finies  
**Freestyle King**

Taty Frans  
Choko Frans  
Jeager Sint Jago. ■ Ann Phelan

## Weird Winds Dominated

**R**egatta 41 was a bit bizarre. This year's edition of the Caribbean's oldest sailboat racing and street party was a week of brooding skies, big swells, wet sailors, stoked windsurfers and lots of little boats. A great time was had by all thanks to the professionalism and flexibility of the organizers.

The 41st Regatta honored Edgar 'Kachan' Soliano by dedicating the 41st edition of the sailing event to him. Having been born into a family of fishermen, he loves the sea, and during the 1969 Regatta he was *matroos* (crew) on Juan Margarita's sailing boat, *Felicity*, for the first time. Since then he has participated in many regattas, until his boat sank north of Klein Bonaire. Kachan sailed on many other boats, until he discovered the Sunfish about 10 years ago. (*Port Call*, now *The Bonaire Reporter*, was his sponsor). Now, at 63 years of age, Kachan is still sailing.



Regatta photo

'Kachan' Soliano

There were 189 entrants, down from last year's record number of 216. The 27 yachts that took part, about an average number, hailed from Aruba, Bonaire, Curaçao, Great Britain, The Netherlands, the US and Venezuela. Besides the yachts there were classes for catamarans, Sunfish, Lasers, Splash, Optimists, fishing boats, and microboats. A record number of microboats, 111, including an innovative multihull class, participated. Disappointingly, only two traditional fishing boats participated, down from 27 two decades ago.

Pre-Regatta festivities enjoyed clear skies, but when race Monday dawned there was no wind and lowering skies. The organizers decided to postpone the Round-Island race to later in the week and instead run round-the-marks races instead. It was a good choice as some good competition was possible.

Tuesday was a bit better but when the scheduled "lay-day" dawned the winds were the best of the week and instead of rest there were races.

There were a few collisions, protests and torn sails but lots of prizes too. For a complete list of winners go to [www.bonaireregatta.org](http://www.bonaireregatta.org). ■

G.D.



Jumenda Nicolaas photos



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# Tech Diving

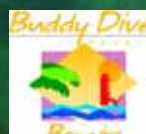
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# BONAIRE SKY PARK\*

\*to find it... just look up

## How to Use the Moon to Find the Ringed Planet Just Before Sunrise

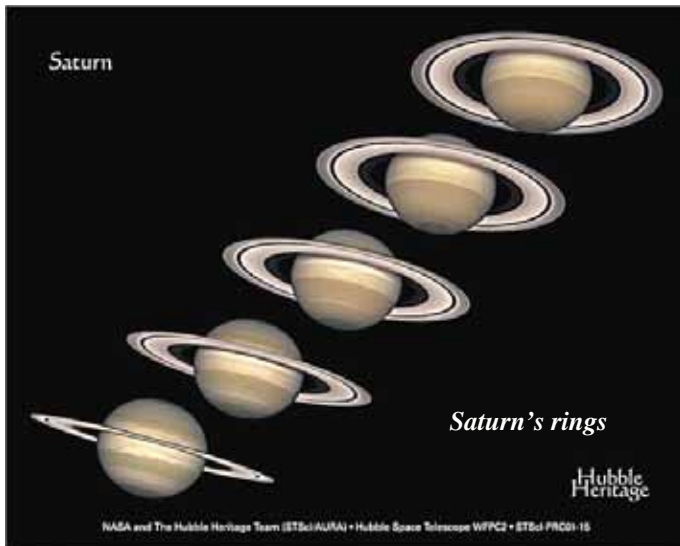
As most of you readers know my second favorite planet after planet #3 is planet #6, the giant gas planet with all the rings, exquisite **Saturn**. And just recently it has returned to morning skies and can be seen just before sunrise. And you can use the **Moon** to find it on

Friday, Saturday and Sunday, October 24th, 25th and 26th. Plus, believe it or not, Saturn will be losing its rings soon. So see them now before they're gone.

This Friday morning October 24th, 6 am your local time, face east where you will see an exquisite breathtakingly beautiful 25-day-old waning crescent Moon, which means that it is getting skinnier and skinnier, rather than a waxing crescent, which means getting fatter and fatter. And if you look closely you may notice that there will appear to be a grayish black full Moon nestled within this crescent, which is called **Earthshine** and which can only be seen during times of a waxing or waning crescent Moon. Look just above this beautiful Moon and you'll see **Regulus**, the brightest star of **Leo the Lion**. Then look an equal distance below the Moon and, voila! you'll see slightly brighter yellowish Saturn. The next day Saturday October 25th the Moon will be just past Saturn and even skinnier and will still sport some lovely Earthshine. And 24 hours later on Sunday the 26th the Moon will be well past Saturn, and Saturn will be equally spaced between the Moon and Regulus. Once again Friday the 24th, Saturday the 25th and Sunday the 26th.

And while you're out there please, if you or a friend have a small telescope, use it now because by Christmas Eve Saturn's rings will almost disappear. Why? Well, it takes Saturn 29 1/2 **Earth** years to make one orbit about the **Sun**. And as it does so its rings constantly appear to change position as seen from Earth. On April 9, 2003, they appeared wide open as astronomers say and we were looking up at Saturn from underneath, so to speak, at the south side of Saturn's rings. But ever since then they've been slowly closing month after month year after year, slowly tilting downward, so by January of this year they looked like the middle illustration above. On Christmas Eve December 24th they will almost disappear.

After which they will slowly reveal a bit more of themselves in kind of a tease. But after next summer they will do a magic act and on September 4th of 2009 they will disappear in all but the biggest of Earth's telescopes. Then they will slowly open once again and be wide open in October of 2017 when we will then be looking at the ring's northern side. But this is all an optical illusion. Saturn's rings do not actually tilt. It's a matter of perspective due to where our Earth and Saturn are in their orbits. When we are in this position we look up at the southern side of Saturn's rings and from this position we look down at the northern side of Saturn's rings. And in between Saturn's rings disappear. So catch Saturn now before they disappear like the white rabbit down the famous rabbit hole. ■ *Jack Horkheimer*



# StarPower

By Jenny  
Lynch

October-2008 (end)

### ARIES: March 20th - April 20th

A full Moon and Mercury retrograde in your house of partners indicates some change is needed in your relationships. No real worries here; having your ruler Mars in the insightful sign of Scorpio, gives you the strength to do what's necessary. By the end of the month, you'll be delighted with new developments!

### TAURUS: April 20th - May 21st

Mercury retrograde in your house of work could cause you to miss deadlines or make mistakes. Once you straighten things out, you'll be ready to focus on your personal life. With a new Moon in your house of partners, you'll enjoy the romance!

### GEMINI: May 21st - June 21st

Having your ruler Mercury retrograde in your house of romance could cause some confusion. Don't waste your time imagining something is wrong or trying to figure things out. Keep focused on work and allow others some time to reveal themselves.

### CANCER: June 21st - July 22nd

What you need right now is some recognition and with your ruler, the Moon, traversing your most public sector you're sure to find it. Others will appreciate your leadership qualities and talents more than ever now. Don't be shy to take charge!

### LEO: July 22nd - August 23rd

Having the new Moon in your most personal arena, will assist you to make positive changes. This could be in your home or in your attitude. With Venus in your creative house it's a good time to socialize, throw a party or even fall in love. Exude your charm this month!

### VIRGO: August 23rd - September 22nd

The combination of the full Moon and Mercury retrograde in your money house could make you feel strapped for cash. This is certainly not a time to daydream about winning lotto and with Saturn in your sign you can't depend on others' usual help. You can, however, depend on the full Moon to keep you busy sorting things out!

### LIBRA: September 23rd - October 23rd

This month's new Moon inspires your drive to succeed, but best to wait till mid month before implementing new plans. With Mercury retrograde in your sign, you may uncover important information. You benefit from travel and conversations.

### SCORPIO: October 23rd - November 22nd

Consider yourself blessed! The new Moon in your sign teams up with your ruler Mars and offers a marvelous opportunity to get ahead. Sometime wonderful is about to happen. Since Venus is also in your sign, this is true for your love life as well!

### SAGITTARIUS: November 22nd - December 21st

The combination of Venus entering your sign and Mercury retrograde in house of friends could cause a whirlwind of social activity! You may not have to time for every invitation, but try your best. The new Moon at the end of this month will allow you plenty of down time to recover and savor the amazing events that have just taken place!

### CAPRICORN: December 21st - January 20th

Your hard work is about to pay off! Expect some excellent new developments to occur concerning past projects which have been delayed for sometime. Romance looks exciting; especially if you allow others to simply be themselves! Freedom and love come hand in hand now.

### AQUARIUS: January 20th - February 19th

You wish you had more money because you realize the freedom it brings. You also wish you were anywhere but where you are! Yet, things could change in a moment, once you remember it's not what you know but who you know. And with Venus and Mars at the top of your chart, you can make those right connections now!

### PISCES: February 19th - March 20th

Sure you feel the need for deeper understanding, but you won't find it in a book or on your own. With Venus and Mars in your house of knowledge, perfectly matched to your ruler in the networking part of your chart; you'll find by traveling or through the help of a friend! Go somewhere you haven't been and meet someone new! ■



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