

**It's Still  
FREE**

**BONAIRE** October 2-16, 2009; Volume 16, Issue 20  
**The REPORTER**  
*Helping Bonaire Grow Responsibly*

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**Success Story**  
**Jong Bonaire**  
**10 Years Old**  
Pages 10-11



Former members of Jong Bonaire who are planning the 10-year celebration this coming weekend are, (left to right front row) Juli Wangra, Bilha Thomas, former manager of the center who is now a part time youth leader, Zuli Marchena, Jonathan Clarenda, Farley Mercera, Reagan Nicolaas, Nilson Morillo, Juliandro and Echo Chirino (seated)

**New!** Much of the news that appears in this column can be accessed online as Raw News on *The Bonaire Reporter* website – [www.bonairereporter.com](http://www.bonairereporter.com).

**T**he Island Council of Bonaire passed a motion stating that a **new referendum on the process of constitutional change will be held within four months.**

The motion was presented by the ADB faction led by Jopie Abraham and supported by its coalition partner, independent (former UPB) councilman Anthony Nicolaas.

A referendum committee will now be installed that has to report by the end of September to the Executive Council on the question of content and an exact date. The five-person committee will have Lt. Governor Glenn Thode as chairman and it will include a faction member of ADB, one of opposition party UPB and one of the *Awor t'e Ora* (Now is the Time) movement that has been calling for a referendum for some time.

Several analysts questioned the capability and desire for another Referendum since Bonaire voted for a direct tie with The Netherlands, albeit without specifics, in 2004, and generation of those specifics is well underway.

► On Wednesday September 16<sup>th</sup>, the Council of Ministers of the Netherlands Antilles set the date for the elections to be **January 22, 2010.**

► For January-April, Bonaire had **16% fewer tourists than the same period last year**, 23,528 visitors, or about 5,000 fewer than last year for the period.

The decrease is in line with the other destinations in the Caribbean and North and South America. See related story on page 17. A slight improvement is expected

in the coming months as the number of pre-booked flights has increased.

Tourism from North America suffered a loss of 23%, Europe was 8% fewer tourists and South America 13%. After a record growth in 2007 and consolidation in the year after, the effects of the global economic crisis hurt Bonaire.

Dive tourism has remained fairly stable, but the number of dive tags sold dropped 12% compared to the same period last year.

Tjin-Asjoe Croes said construction of the Hilton hotel across the airport in the Azul Project will start next year. She added that the Divi Flamingo Sunset Project will expand in three phases with 75 apartments and 150 hotel rooms in the next year. Informed sources said these construction estimates were wildly optimistic.

#### Airline Updates

► **KLM will fly to Bonaire five instead of six times per week until December 14**, when the Christmas season starts. From then until March 6, flights will return to six times per week again. The cancellation of one weekly flight is due to less demand from the Dutch and/or European markets, KLM's Wim Iserief explained.

**However, the Tourist Corporation Bonaire (TCB) will continue negotiations with KLM to improve access to Bonaire.**

► Curacao-based airline, **InselAir, now has five aircraft in its fleet.** The new plane joins the airline's two prop-jet Bandeirantes and two other MD-80s. The new aircraft has 152 passenger seats: 15 in the Comfort Class, 137 in Economy. InselAir flies Bonaire-Curaçao and Bonaire-Miami. It will add a fourth MD82 to its fleet towards the end of the year **and will have a larger fleet than ALM had in its heyday.**

At the invitation of the Haitian government, InselAir will also fly the Miami-Port au Prince-

#### Update to Investigation Story in the Last Issue

► **There has been little progress made public about the investigation into drug smuggling, gold smuggling, money laundering and abuse of government power. One suspect has been cleared and freed, others remain in custody.**

The men who are currently jailed are listed as suspects. In the Court's "order for house search," former Minister and Commissioner Burney El Hage is mentioned as a suspect. El Hage was not arrested. UPB party leader Ramonsito Booi is mentioned in the warrant but not as a suspect.

According to the order the companies Questron, Independent Trust, Emphora Fisheries, Struijk Overzee, Kaya Grandi Corporate Service, Bonaire Precious Metal & Minerals, Bonaire Precious Metals Refinery, as well as the Bonaire Executive Council and the Island Government's Directorate of Economic and Labor Affairs (DEZA) are to hand over all records requested including documents relating to issuance of land leases, minutes of meetings, reports and conversation notations dating back to January 2006.

In addition, all administration regarding the Blue Lagoon pro-

ject must be confiscated, according to the order, as well as data on a number of properties in Nikiboko and Sabadeco.

During the international investigation, 18 house searches were carried out in Bonaire on Tuesday, September 8, and another four searches the day after. One house search was also made at the residence of UPB leader Ramonsito Booi, in addition to those at the residences of El Hage and others.

One of the suspects arrested was released after being held for nine days.

The search warrant copy reviewed by *The Reporter* does not state exactly what crimes each of the persons named is suspected of. The Public Prosecutor of the Netherlands Antilles is not revealing much detail about the specific charges.



*A boat and an airplane (above) were among the items confiscated.*

route intensively, just as the ALM used to be considered the "national carrier" for Haiti.

► **InselAir, signed interline agreements with US Airways and Colombia's Avianca** which gives passengers travelling on their routes the opportunity for one-stop ticket shopping to get to Bonaire and/or Curaçao. It becomes effective at the end of October 2009. It aims to keep connecting times to a maximum of one-and-a-half hours.

► **Currently most airlines flying to Bonaire offer free accompaniment of two pieces**

**of luggage**, but extra bags carry a high price. Check with your airline to be sure. It can be up to \$300 a bag!

► **A new website has been set up to track the break-up of the Netherlands Antilles.**

Currently only in Dutch, it will eventually be in Papiamentu and English as well.

[www.ontmantelingna.org](http://www.ontmantelingna.org).



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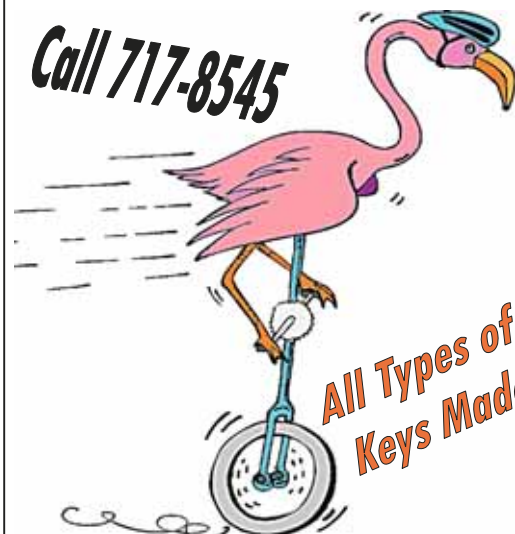
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# Bonaire Farm Tour

## A Future Direction for the Island



Commissioner Nolly Oleana with goat cheese farmer Aletta van Beeck



From these goats come the finest cheese



Bonaire's busy egg producers



At the Punta Blanku chicken farm, Commissioner Oleana, owner Anthony Emerenciana and Commissioner Frensel Janga

**B**onaireans were always proud to grow their own food. Commissioners Nolly Oleana and Frensel Janga totally agree: energy and money must be put in to stimulate and develop sustainable agriculture and the breeding of livestock on Bonaire. Bonaireans must become proud again of producing of their own food in a balanced ecological way.

Until about 35 years ago, Bonaireans produced a lot of food themselves, not only sufficient for Bonaire, but also enough to supply Curaçao. For the kids in Bonaire it was common to help with cultivating fruit or tending goats. In the past few decades Bonairean food production has lessened enormously, caused by, amongst other things, competition from Venezuela. The number of farmers with knowledge and experience of sustainable methods of agriculture has

declined. Luckily, on Bonaire there still are some good examples of this type of agriculture and livestock breeding, examples that are definitely inspiring.

### Discovering Bonaire Farms

Stimulating a type of balanced agriculture and breeding livestock is a subject of great interest now. Besides the Bonairean government there is Stichting Kibrahacha that is developing projects to improve nature, agriculture and the environment. Also, several *kwartiermakers* of the Regional Service Centre (RSC) are very interested in this subject. The stimulation of sustainable agriculture can have positive effects on nature, agriculture and the environment. As well, it can be significant for social-economic reasons and educational aspects. The farmers cooperative, Kriabon, is also involved.

To bring all these parties together and to show examples of ecologically balanced agriculture and livestock breeding on Bonaire, Rocky Emers, head of the Agricultural Department of Bonaire (LVV), invited Island Commissioners and the *kwartiermakers* Ton Akkerman (LNV/Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Quality) and Jozef van Brussel (VROM/Housing, Physical Planning and Environment) on an excursion with stops at several examples of agriculture and breeding livestock on Bonaire.

### From Goats to Chickens to Veggies and Fruit

Our first stop is at the goat farm of Aletta van Beeck. She is working at her modest *kunuku* in a balanced way to produce goat milk and goat cheese. The income is low though.

"I am constantly weighing things," Aletta says. "What do we really need and what is less important? To give you an example, we need a new piece of fence, but we don't have the money. We could sell a goat, but then again, we need her for the milk. So what do you do? It would be wonderful if there were funds which I could apply for. But to find your way to funding is also a full time job. I could use a volunteer for that!" she laughs.

Our next stop is the Punta Blanku chicken farm. With the background noise of 10,000 chickens Anthony Emerenciana tells us about the farm which provides nearly all of the eggs for Bonaire. Most of the chickens are in small pens, but there is also a more spacious coop.

Last but not least we stop at a real fine example of ecologically balanced agriculture: the *kunuku* of Papa Lucia (See [On The Island Since](#) in the last issue of *The Reporter* for a profile of Papa Lucia). Here he and his wife grow vegetables and fruit in a sustainable and profitable way. Papa Lucia grew up with this lifestyle. "When I was a kid I helped my parents grow vegetables and fruit. And when we were young all the kids had little gardens (*schooltuintjes*) which we had to take care of ourselves. It is a pity that's not the case anymore today."

### Options For The Future?

One of the largest problems of agriculture and breeding livestock on Bonaire is water, or better put, the lack of it. Around May 2010 the new water purification installation for wastewater will be operational at LVV. With this resource, possibilities arise for re-using the

purified water for agriculture and livestock breeding as well as other things. This development offers opportunities for Bonaire to reinforce traditional, small scale agriculture and to support the production of food.

One of the ideas is to make ground available for agriculture close to the purification installation so the water can be used directly. An educational program could be linked to this to increase people's knowledge about agriculture. *Mangazina di Rei* and *FORMA* can be involved in this educational part.

Commissioners Oleana and Janga and Rocky Emers plan to get together very soon with Ton Akkerman and Jozef van Brussel of the RSC and with Jan Jaap van Almenkerk of Stichting Kibrahacha to work out a more detailed plan for the project. The financial means, probably NAf 500.000, can be from SEI money, the Social Economic Fund for Bonaire.

The commitment of all parties is evident and there is a close cooperation between them. *Kwartiermaker* Ton Akkerman is favorably surprised, saying, "Three weeks ago I arrived on Bonaire. Today we are having this useful excursion and next week we will talk about how to make this all really happen!" ■ *Story and photos by Inge Vos*

*Inge Vos is a recent arrival on Bonaire. She has experience in Communications.*



# On the Island Since... 1973 Celia Fernandes Pedra

“I was born into a big Catholic family in Aruba and my parents were very strict and protective. At 17 I left for Holland to study to become a teacher at a vocational school, and four years later I returned to Aruba where I worked till 1973.

When my ex-husband was offered a job on Bonaire we came to live here with our daughter. I couldn't work as a teacher here as the only domestic science school was very small so I started at the front desk of Hotel Bonaire and later on I did reservations. In 1976 I was offered a job at the Watapana School for special education in Rincon. I stayed for a year, then I started working at SGB high school as a social education teacher. During that period I became certified as an English professor... great!

In 1977 I got divorced and I took a lot of courses. I don't need a CV anymore- ha! ha!-so I lost track of all the studies I did! In the meantime I got married again to a Bonairean man and I had two children with him: my son is 28 and my daughter 25. They're both living in Holland. My eldest daughter, Mary Ann, has been living on Bonaire since 2003.

I stopped working for SGB high school in 2004, but Mary Ann is still working there - although not

for the time being because her baby will be born any day now!

February 28th, this year, my daughter in Holland made me a first-time grandmother. What a wonderful thing. Baby Joey is an absolute sweetheart, an easy going lovely little boy and such a happy child.

After my second marriage broke up, I was alone for 17 years. Then I met Hans Evers in 2002 on an American dating site on the Internet. I was his first match, but it took him three weeks to answer. He came to visit and that was it. We traveled back and forth to Holland for two years, then Hans moved to Bonaire.” *She laughs:* “Before we met both of us said, ‘Marriage...never again!’ But... we got married and now it's never again alone anymore. We do everything together and we have a wonderful and understanding relationship.

To go back to my career, around 1980 I was offered a seat on the child welfare board. I accepted and have been the chairman for 18 years now. Juvenile care on Bonaire is not what it should be; the organizations involved haven't been able to coordinate properly and therefore many children have slipped through the net. The social sector has been neglected for years and it has resulted in many dysfunctional families who need



Celia Fernandes Pedra

help to raise their children, but the parents themselves need help too. The child welfare board is like the

last resort; the very moment a child comes to our attention it's in fact too late. I hope once we've trans-

ferred to the new status, we will be able to work more efficiently. The problem is and has been that there are too few professionals on the island, people with a higher education and the right attitude who know the culture and who speak the language - Caribbean Dutch people.

And that's how we get to our  
(Continued on page 5)

“I would like to have a new referendum, but it should be explained clearly and ahead of time what can be changed and what certainly cannot be changed anymore.”



## City Shop









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*On the Island Since* (Continued from page 4)  
**Ban Boneiru Bek** Foundation, which we founded in 2007. After the referendum I feared that there was going to be an unstable growth considering the population of Bonaire, that we were going to be flooded with foreigners and that the local people would become the underdog. In my opinion, a number of crucial mistakes have been made.

First of all, the politicians at the time were actively campaigning to push the option through and they gave misleading information because at that time nothing had been discussed with Holland yet. Another crucial mistake I find, was that just a small majority, 56%, chose for the option. When it comes to radical changes like this, I feel that at least two-thirds of the population should agree with the option. Another issue I found very disturbing was that our people who were living in Holland were not allowed to take part in the decision; they were excluded. I wasn't happy with the outcome of the referendum— the basis was too weak. It was more about breaking up the relationship with Curaçao. Because... let's be honest... we don't love the *makambas* that much! We're still suspicious of being dominated and that's because of their behavior.

Some of the Dutch people who have come to live here recently spend a lot of money and they have this certain attitude about them – it stirs up bad blood. And they're a particular kind of people who don't add anything to the island. Even the European Dutch people who are involved in the well being of Bonaire are often ashamed of this group - like we are ashamed of our people who are misbehaving in the Netherlands; we don't want to be identified with those people either!"

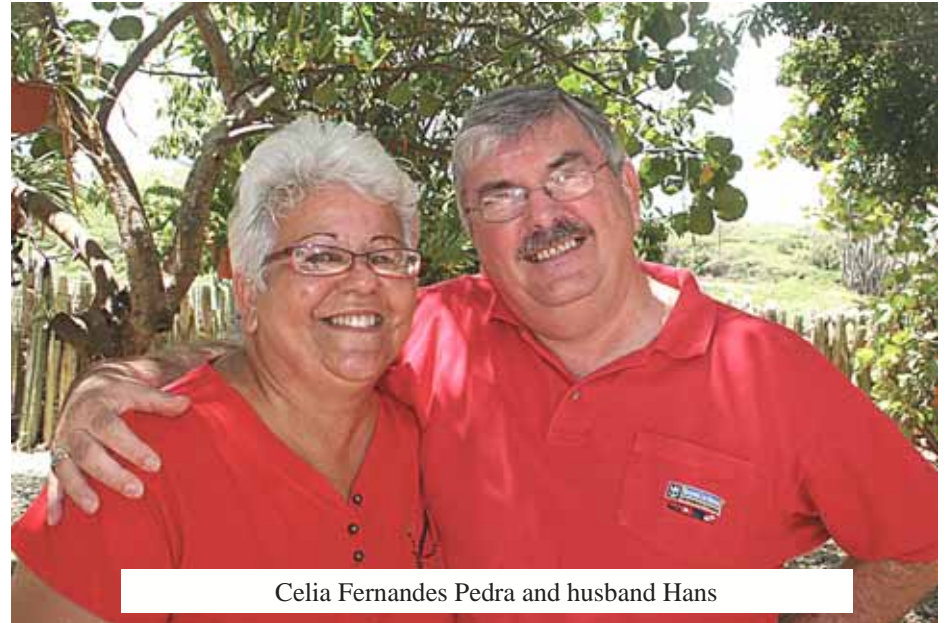
*Celia Fernandes Pedra is outspoken, energetic, well informed and worried. She's a lovely woman and a great conversationalist.*

*She's not prejudiced; she has a clear view, a good heart and the right intentions to make Bonaire a better place.*

The goal of our **Ban Boneiru Bek** foundation (Hans, my husband, is the Secretary, I am the Chairman and Javier Boezem is our Treasurer. That's it. It works fast.) is to help establish a balanced and prosperous growth for our community, with the help of people who have a heart for Bonaire and who are capable and willing to give a lasting contribution. It's very simple. It means that we want to see in all organizations - in trade and industry, in the island's government and in the Dutch group of officials - a reflection of the composition of the population. Let me explain. Suppose Caribbean Dutch people make up 68% of our total population then we should find that percentage back at all levels. That's crucial. If not, you'll get problems because people will feel like second class citizens. Only when this percentage is equally represented at all levels of our society will people identify themselves and feel involved in the growth and development of the island. If they are not equally represented they will step back and withdraw from the process.

Our foundation is helping to come to a solution with Holland and the local government. We're open to every possibility of cooperation. We're trying to get the best of everything for our people. We're an intermediary for both parties and often a catalyst as well.

Where we are now is 'direct ties' with Holland. That was the option and it was only filled in after the referendum. It was something new, a new and difficult situation for both parties. Of course, if you want to come and live with me, even if you're my child, the child Bonaire, we have to set the rules. But in this case the child is not in the position to negotiate, as it doesn't speak the same language and it doesn't have the same



Celia Fernandes Pedra and husband Hans

education as the parents. It's a crooked relationship.

Integration means that Dutch law will be enforced on Bonaire the way it is enforced in Holland. Many people didn't agree to that, especially because the old people's pension and social welfare won't be on the same level as it is in Holland. Because of this controversy the island government fell and now we have another party who wants to hold a new referendum. Whatever the outcome will be, the process of integration is unstoppable. I'm afraid that's how it is.

I would like to have a new referendum, but it should be explained clearly and ahead of time what can be changed and what certainly cannot be changed anymore. I also would like to know if this process is irreversible. Suppose we're blooming 25 years from now – could the child still move out of the house? And what if the combination with Saba and Statia doesn't work? Will we be stuck with them forever?

Another thing we're working on is to have the jobs at the Regional Service Center equally divided. We want 65% of the jobs - or more - to be filled by Caribbean Dutch people. I want our own highly qualified people, Caribbean Dutch people, to come back from Holland and get the jobs here. Then you make a statement that the Caribbean Dutch people are as good in this position or... even better. We're not there yet as all the quartermasters (*kwartiermakers*) are European Dutch.

The key is to lift up the people of Bonaire with knowledge and information and to recognize Papiamentu as the official language. Then we can make a good start!"

■ *Story & Photos by Greta Kooistra*



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Flotsam and Jetsam (Continued from pg. 2)

► **The Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) announced that consumer prices in Bonaire in August 2009 were 1% higher than in June.** However, the rate of inflation declined from 6.4% in June to 5.5% in August. The price index increased from 110.6 to 111.7.

► **Dutch State Secretary of Kingdom Affairs Ank Bijleveld-Schouten arrived in Curaçao Monday (September 28)** for a week-long working visit that will be dominated by meetings to fill in details for the restructuring of the Antilles. A Kingdom Political Steering Group meeting is set for Wednesday. Speculation is that this meeting will be the one in which a date will be set to switch to the new structure. **There have been suggestions that, for symbolism, 10/10/10 be the target date.**

After consultations with Curaçao's island government on Thursday she will visit Bonaire for the Police Force Kingdom games and stop by the RSC office of the Queen's Commissioner for the BES islands. Her visit concludes on Friday.

► **Dutch Secretary Bijleveld-Schouten sent a package of some 125 Antillean laws to the Second Chamber last week Tuesday.** They will be applicable to Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba once they have become direct part of the Netherlands. The 1,920-page package moves the BES Island-Dutch link closer to reality.

► **There will be no transfer of BES Island public office holders to the Dutch system.** Public officials in Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba will keep their current jobs when the islands become part of Holland, at least until after the Island Council elections in March 2011. **Dutch Minister of Home Affairs and Kingdom Relations Guusje ter Horst** announced this in a letter to the Second Chamber. She also hinted in her letter that the retirement age on the BES islands will increase from 60 to 65, as it is in The Netherlands.

► **The academic departments of the SGB high school on Bonaire and some other islands will expand their offerings** thanks to funds made available by the Ministry of Education, Culture and Sports of the Netherlands Antilles. Education Minister Omayra Leeftang is releasing NAf 300.000 to HAVO and VWO schools from the cooperative funds from the Netherlands.

► **Princess Máxima gave her first speech in her new function as Special Advisor to UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon** for Development Finance. Speaking at the fifth annual Clinton Global Initiative meeting in New York,



she told delegates there was still a lot of work to be done because there were two billion people throughout the world without access to financial services, such as credit and insurance. Princess Máxima was appointed Special Advisor by Ban Ki-moon last Monday. She has been active at the UN in advisory groups on micro-credit for a number of years.

About 1,200 participants, including heads of state, US President Barack Obama, business leaders, humanitarians and celebrities participated in the fifth annual Clinton Global Initiative, which started last Tuesday.

► **The Dutch Ministry of Physical Planning and Environmental Hygiene, VROM, is preparing a new environmental law for the BES islands of Bonaire, St. Eustatius, and Saba.** The environment is one of the main issues in the transition. A policy for the islands is needed because currently Holland gives that responsibility to the Antilles Central Government. State Secretary Bijleveld-Schouten said the *kwartiermakers* (quartermasters) of various Dutch ministries, including VROM, are already working on the issues with the local government.

► **Delay is the biggest risk in the schedule for realizing the new relationships in the Kingdom,** said Dutch Justice Minister Ernst Hirsch Ballin last Friday. "The risk is great. I see a Netherlands Antilles that is dismantled halfway and the laws that regulate new constitutional relations are not ready. The legislative process needs to be completed in time."

► **Hero Brinkman, Member of Parliament for the anti-immigration PVV party in the Netherlands, acknowledged he has a drinking problem** and pledged to take steps to deal with it.

Brinkman, who has often voiced severe criticism of the Netherlands Antilles, allegedly hit a barman who refused to serve him another. He is best known in the Netherlands Antilles for severe criticism of the islands, which he described as corrupt and "a pack of thieves."

► **Fewer Hurricanes?** A new report out from two well respected South Florida

Entry Fee: NAF 25,-  
Kids NAF 15,-  
Includes lunch, drink + T-shirt

**Swim to Klein Bonaire**  
Sunday 4 October from Eden Beach Resort  
Be there at 7 AM

Tickets at Jong Bonaire,  
Bonfysiotherapie & De Freewieler

A Jong Bonaire fundraiser  
for anyone who can swim!

► **For the 9th year Jong Bonaire is organizing its annual fundraising event, the Swim to Klein Bonaire,** Sunday October 4, from the Eden Beach Resort, at the beginning of the Bonaire International Sailing Regatta.

Last year nearly 400 people swam to Klein Bonaire and most of them swam back as well. This time, again a record-breaking number of participants is expected. Last year the youngest participant was three years old and the oldest 73, so this is an event for all ages. The Klein Bonaire swim is not a race but a fun swim. For those who do not wish to swim back, there will be boats available to pick up people and return them to Eden Beach Resort. Participants can use fins, masks or even flotation devices.

KLM will provide presents for the first 25 people who swim to Klein Bonaire and back. All funding raised during this event will be used to professionalize Jong Bonaire's water sport activities (including the popular windsurfing activity) for Bonaire youngsters. See the above poster for details.

researchers shows that the world's oceans are in fact warming, but **a side effect of the warming means fewer hurricanes due to increased wind shear.** Interestingly, the researchers found that warmer temperatures in the tropical Atlantic decrease wind shear, while warmer temperatures in the tropical Pacific and Indian Oceans increase shear – but the winds produced over the Pacific and Indian Oceans are most important. To get a better understanding of the report read the full article on global warming causing fewer hurricanes as reported by the Associated Press. <http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2008/01/23/tech/main3742196.shtml>

► **Early last Wednesday morning a Special Security Services officer** spotted four men attempting to break into the Zhung Kong Supermarket in Hato. He contacted SSS headquarters which alerted the police who sped to the scene. One suspect was arrested and jailed. This is another example of the value of SSS's trained staff. SSS has been providing private security for Bonaire residents and businesses for more than 26 years. SSS thanked the Bonaire police for their help and fast response and its management praised the actions of its employee.

► **Wounded Warriors, six severely wounded troops from the US Special**

**Operations Forces Divisions,** are here to complete the final step in the process of obtaining their dive certification this week (September 26-October 3). Captain Don's Habitat will be providing complimentary accommodations for the group.

► **The new traffic circle at the intersection of Kaya Industria and Kaya International was opened last week. Remember that the traffic rules at both of Bonaire's circles now conform to international standards: traffic in the circle has precedence.**

► **Accolades to businesses in Playa like Cultimara, MCB and the new Orco Bank which are providing parking** for their clients. Lack of parking is a serious problem for downtown shoppers, especially during cruise ship season.

► **Welcome to new Bonaire Reporter advertisers Elcanet on page 15 and The Natural Way on page 10. Welcome back to the Outlet Mol and Eveline Body, Mind and Spirit.** See their ads on pages 18 and 6. Be sure to say, "The Reporter sent me." ■

G./L. D.

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**BONAIREAN VOICES**

### THE REFERERENDUM

The "Referendum" is a hot topic among Bonairean citizens today. But people, including me, might wonder what this word really means. Wikipedia explains that "Referendum is a direct vote in which an entire voting population is asked to either accept or reject a particular proposal. The result could be in the adoption of a new constitution, law or a specific government policy." It's good to know what people have to say in a democratic country.

I decided to interview a person who is in daily contact with all kinds of people. He has been our swim instructor for more than 30 years, a fisherman, sportsman, sports-caster, and above all, a real Bonairean. His name is Edmundo Franklin "Eddy" Cristiaan (58).

When I asked him if he thinks what most people understand the word referendum to mean, he answered, "No, most people don't understand the fundamental meaning of the word Referendum. They mix the word with a political issue and it is not. The word is far from being part of political matters. It is an opportunity for us to make the right decision to choose a direction for ourselves, our country and our future generations. People need to understand what the word referendum means based on what the proposal is all about and what the benefits are of making the right or the wrong choice. It's not like the referendum that we had in 2004, based on no content. There was no structure and it was more political. In my opinion we made a lot of mistakes by not informing the Bonaireans what the real negotiations were with the Netherlands. Now we have to take the lead to give the correct information.

Often political parties talk about three key points: **Association with the Netherlands, Integration into the Netherlands and Autonomy in the kingdom of the Netherlands.** But it is the people themselves who have to decide what is the best for them. Politicians in charge of governing this country have the role of consulting with the Bonaireans and others first and give out lots of information. How do we get this information? By getting to specific points, leading conversations in a respectful manner, being united, choosing firm points, and last but not least, thinking about our future generations. If we can't fulfill these points, we can never make people choose independently. At least 75% of all the citizens of Bonaire have to understand where we are going. For years we as Bonairean citizens have been pampered by other countries, especially the Netherlands. The Netherlands, in its turn, didn't prepare our politicians to lead the Dutch Antilles in a proper direction. We wasted a lot of time when politicians made personal attacks against each other, and they lost the vision of our independence. We've let others do things for us, like Curaçao who's always helped us. Aruban and Bonairean politicians were



Siomara Albertus photo

Edmundo Franklin "Eddy" Cristiaan

always skeptical of Curaçao and didn't want to work together. So it's our own politicians who helped dismantle the Dutch Antilles.

Now is time for us to do something for ourselves, first by seeking information. We have a very limited and short time and in this short time the referendum has to take place. The three key points mentioned have to be explained in every detail, but because there is not enough time to work on each point we have to make a different move. Put the proposal on the table for the citizens to decide to vote YES or NO. And if the citizens don't approve of what the negotiations are with the Netherlands right now, then you can ask the Netherlands for time to work on what is best for Bonaire.

We have social problems that are worsening, education is failing, crime is increasing. We have a lack of moral and spiritual life and we don't respect each other. We have to do it right otherwise the consequences will be for ourselves. We have a lot of people in our community walking around like time bombs. They are very sensitive and waiting for the right moment to explode.

I will conclude like this. Now is time for those in charge to guide and to negotiate with the Bonairean citizens themselves and in a referendum, answer YES or NO."

I'm sure there are a lot of people in our community who want more information about the topics mentioned in this article. What about respectful and educational information nights for our Bonairean citizens? We can, as Bonairean citizens, ask for it. ■ Siomara E. Albertus

Send your comments to *The Bonaire Reporter*, P.O. Box 407, Bonaire, or email [reporter@bonairenews.com](mailto:reporter@bonairenews.com).



## American Diplomat Missing in Curacao

The Vice Consul of the US Consulate General in Curacao, 49 year old James Hogan, disappeared on Thursday evening, September 24, after he attended a reception at his Consulate.

A huge search was launched for the diplomat by the Curaçao Police Department, Dutch Coastguard, US Navy helicopter crew, and CITRO (Curaçao Citizen Rescue Organization). Five FBI agents have been on Curaçao involved in the search since Saturday. Family members and colleagues were questioned.

According to an official release, after Hogan reached home he told his wife that he was going for a walk. He usually walked in his Caracasbaai-Toni Kuchi neighborhood,



but he never returned. The police reported that blood stained clothing similar to that which Hogan was wearing at the time of his disappearance has been found.

On Sunday four dogs trained especially to find missing persons went to work and the clothes and traces of blood were sent to the NFI (Dutch Forensic Institute) in The Netherlands.

People calling themselves family members have meanwhile denied rumors on the Internet that Hogan had had an argument with his wife just before vanishing.

They say police should instead look for a woman who was recently fired at the consulate and has criminal connections.

The investigation site has been covered with a tent because of rain showers. The sudden disappearance of Hogan is of grave concern to the Antillean authorities. ■ G.D./Press releases

## DO YOU SUDOKU?

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 17. Supplied by Molly Bartikoski-Kearney

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

## BonQuiz #14



### Man Made Watering Holes.

Years ago, owning land on Bonaire meant pride and joy. One was honored and respected by having land. Properties were passed down from generation to generation, and the land was used and worked, not to be bought and sold. When families expanded, land was part of their heritage handed down the family tree.

Aside from government owned land, there was also privately owned land where an owner kept slaves. One of the many tasks of these slaves was to tend the crops and livestock. Their water came from the natural water holes, springs and caverns that retained rain water. Landowners would reshape these natural "watering holes" and keep them open and clean. There were those sites that were accessed by concrete or coral rock steps going down underground making it possible for the workers to easily haul water from below or allow access by their livestock.

■ Quiz & photo by Christie Dovale

One of the water access points is portrayed in the photo. Do you know where it's located?

Answer on page 15

BonQuiz appears regularly in *The Reporter*. It's prepared by Christie Dovale of Christie Dovale Island Tours. Contact her to arrange a tour, Phone 717-4435 or 795-3456 or email: [christiedovale@hotmail.com](mailto:christiedovale@hotmail.com).



# Early Park Visitors Return

**S**ue Felix looks over her scrapbook:

**27 July 1969**--A young Bonairean man took a young American woman, a Trans World Radio "summer worker," to the newly opened Washington National Park. The highlights of the park were a visit to the home and gravesite of the late Mr. Herrera, a view of the grazing savannah and a short climb to the lighthouse. The entrance tickets to the Park were taken back to the US by the woman and included in a scrapbook of memories of "The Summer of 1969 on Bonaire."

**June 2009**--The scrapbook was discovered when this same woman was going through old boxes of "stuff." What a surprise to find the 40-year-old entrance ticket to the 40-year-old Park!

**27 July 2009**--This same couple, Sue and Amado Felix, married for nearly 38 years and owners of Achie Tours and Transport NV, returned to the Washington-Slagbaai National Park Visitor's Center to buy a current pass to the Park.

We asked this couple about the Park's development and the changes they've noticed in all these years.

Sue says she's noticed many improvements. In 1969 there was practically nothing. Since then it's turned into a real Park, something to be very proud of. Just to name a couple of things: the yellow and green routes have been expanded, climbing Brandaris has been made possible, and Slagbaai has become a nice place to go and spend the weekend. She does regret that her favorite route to the back of Goto Lake disappeared, but she really

appreciates the major improvements of the roads. But above all she is very happy that the Park is kept natural like it has to be.

Sue's favorite place in the Park is Boca Kokolishi. One of her most memorable times was when she saw a caracara for the first time. It was walking in the sand dunes at Playa Chikitu--a beautiful sight of the stately bird on the unusual sand dunes.

Both Sue and Amado are very appreciative of the forethought of Mr. Herrera and his desire to create a National Park. Even though there was not much development on the island 40 years ago, he realized the need to put restrictions on some areas in order for future generations to enjoy the Bonaire that he loved so much.


The year 2009 is not only a very special year for Sue and Amado Felix, but also for Bonaire. STINAPA Bonaire is celebrating the 40th anniversary of Washington National Park (WSNP) and the 30th anniversary of the National Marine Park (BNMP). Throughout the entire year STINAPA has special events and activities to celebrate with the people of Bonaire.



# Happy Birthday







**W**hat can you give to a girl who has nearly everything? How about a street? Actually it was all a joke when a street was dedicated to Marian Walthie by her clever friends. But it sure fooled her for a time. ■ L.D./G.D.



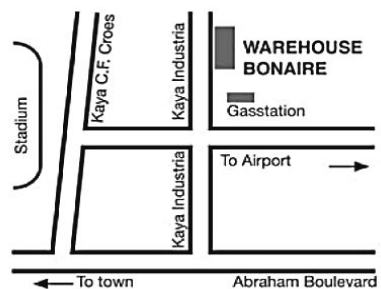
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# World Animal Day - October 4

## Pet Personals

Big Party at Parke Publiko!



The grandchildren of "Nachi" and Sabina Nicolaas from Nort di Salina visit the cat cage at the Shelter

Everywhere around the world October 4<sup>th</sup> is celebrated as the day that people give extra attention to their animals. It's like Valentine's Day for the animals! All year long they give us unconditional love and this one day we get the opportunity to show them how much we appreciate it.

On Sunday, October 4<sup>th</sup>, the Animal Shelter of Bonaire is organizing a big party at the Parke Publiko – the playground of the We Dare to Care Foundation – behind the hospital. There will be a huge book market from 2 to 6 pm and from 4 pm we're going to party!

Everyone can bring their pet and get a free consultation from a veterinarian. There will be a live demonstration of dog training by Bon Barking and people can visit the stands of all the organizations involved in animal care on the island.

For children there will be all kinds of games and a drawing contest, and the best drawings will be printed on a T-shirt, and Magic Ed will be there with his bouncer, cotton candy and popcorn!

Every pet owner can participate in a contest. Just bring your favorite pet and a jury will tell you why your pet is the sweetest, the best taken care of and the most beautiful pet in the whole wide world! And if you favorite pet is a horse, a pig or a mouse and you can't bring it, show the jury a picture.

There are lots of prizes to win: A trip with the Aqua Space for two persons, an hour's land sailing for two, a kayak tour through the mangroves for two people, lots of T-shirts, a four-hour tour with a STINAPA Ranger, a try out dive for two people at Dive Friends Bonaire, an animal



Madalief loves kittens

package and two tickets for the Butterfly Farm. Warehouse Bonaire is giving away a check worth NAf. 200- and Cultimara offers one minute of free shopping.

You love animals? You're invited to the party!

**Where: Parke Publiko, behind the hospital.**

**When: Sunday, October 4<sup>th</sup>.**

**Time: Book market from 2 to 6 pm.**

**Party from 4 to 6 pm.**

Info: Animal Shelter Bonaire, phone 717-4989 or [www.animalshelterbonaire.com](http://www.animalshelterbonaire.com) or [animalshelter@flamingotv.net](mailto:animalshelter@flamingotv.net) ■

Greta Kooistra

## Tutti Frutti In Holland

Di Boneiru in Rijswijk was a big party and all enjoyed Bonaire's Grupo Tutti Frutti very much: they were performing out of this world! ■ Dirk-Jan and Karin Echten



Want to meet the pet of your dreams? Then check out the dogs and cats listed below. They were especially selected by the staff of the Bonaire Animal Shelter for their fine qualities. See them and the other adoptees at the Shelter on the Lagoen Road, open Monday through Saturday, 9 to 1 and 3 to 5. Tel. 717-4989.

**Handsome teenage boy, in the midst of his puberty, is looking for a forever family.** I am a mellow guy who doesn't like fights and I respect a mature person's opinion. I love the outdoors - to play soccer or go for a swim - and it would be really nice if my forever family would have a boy my age, so we can hang out together and become friends for life.



**Beautiful baby girl with great potential, is looking for a loving family.** I'm an easy going little girl who doesn't throw herself into tantrums. I'm funny, smart and sweet and I love to be hugged and cuddled and I love to play, but I take a lot of naps too. As I'm still a baby I can't be alone all day, so I would really like my new mom or dad to spend a lot of time with me!



**I'm gorgeous, but I don't have the attitude that comes with it!** I'm not a girly girl, I don't mind getting dirty or working hard. I'm fun loving and I like to have people around me. To find a good home means everything to me. As I will be sterilized soon, my new family doesn't have to put up with boyfriends and all the problems that come with having a beautiful young girl at home. To tell you the truth: I know who I am and what I stand for... to me it's all about family and girl power! ■ Greta Kooistra



**MSF (mature sterilized female) seeks loving companion** to share candlelit tuna dinners and a soft sofa for long naps and loving caresses. My best features are from my Siamese heritage that gives me deep blue eyes and cream and brown complexion. My little secret is that I am blind in one eye from a childhood injury, but it is no handicap and even bluer than my other one!



**YSM (young sterilized male) looking for love and attention.** While having a mouse-free home, you will also be the proud companion to an extremely handsome, gray and silver stud muffin. My little secret is that despite my macho appearance, I love cuddling, kissing and baby talk!



**YSF (young sterilized female) seeks someone to appreciate her calm, loving temperament, regal beauty... and who enjoys watching Animal Planet.** My best feature is my extraordinary calico markings. My little secret is that I love to play with little balls and catnip toys. ■ Jane Madden Disko



## Read To Me (Before I Sleep) *Lesu ku mi prome mi drumi*



Some of the children who turned out for the monthly afternoon reading program, *Lesu ku mi prome mi drumi*, at the Public Library.

About 130 children turned out for the Public Library's monthly reading session of *Lesu ku mi prome mi drumi* on September 17. This month's special guests were young windsurfers Bjorn and Jorgen Saragoza with their father, Patun, who is Bonaire's past Olympic windsurfing champion.

Children of all ages love to be read to. The Library, in association with JePoBon, continues to promote this series of Thursday afternoon sessions from 3 to 5 pm every month.

Once a month a prominent person will read to the children from his or her favorite children's book. ■Sharon Bol

## History of Jong Bonaire

In addition to the 10-year celebration for the Jong Bonaire after school program, 2009 marks the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary for the existence of the Stichting. Originally named *Stichting Jeugdwerk Prinses Beatrix*, it later changed its name to *Stichting Jeugdwerk Jong Bonaire*.

The current *Sentro pa Hubentut Jong Bonaire* officially opened for activities in September 1999. On August 23, just before the official opening, Dutch Secretary of State at the time, R. v/d Ploeg, helped Gezaghebber Interino Orphaline Saleh and officials of Radio Nederlands and Maduro & Curiels Bank Bonaire dedicate the computer room.

Highlight of the opening year came in November of 1999 when Her Majesty Queen Beatrix and her entourage visited the youth center and met the 200 members, the staff and volunteers. Also during the first year, a mural was painted on the walls of the center by artist Tirzo Martha and the ten members, celebrating 500 years of Bonaire History

Before the official opening in August, the youth center had a two-month trial opening during May and June where teens attended for free as the staff and volunteers tested their plans and programs. "So there are members from that period who must also be found," says manager Jona Chirino. "We have some of the names but not all of them."

The original buildings of Jong Bonaire,

which are the gymnasium and auditorium, were constructed in 1959 and functioned as a youth center for a number of years. But by the 1990s they were little used and the roof on the gym had begun to collapse. With the funding from *Sede Antia* these buildings were repaired and a new classroom building and several sport fields were added for the current youth center. Primary funding to start the after school program at Jong Bonaire came from *Sede Antia*, but there were also large donations from Maduro & Curiel's Bank, Radio Nederlands, SABADECO, *Stichting Katholieke Noden*, *Juliana Welzijn Fonds*, *JENA/FAJ*, and *Reda Social*, along with 65 other companies and individuals.

Efforts to start the youth center began three years before the opening in 1999 with fundraising, construction and renovation of the existing buildings. Construction was not even complete until January of 2000. Community support has continued over the years with major funding from the Island Government, AMFO, *Samenwerkende Fondsen* and SNAYDP plus continued support from MCB, SABADECO, Rorcargo, It Rains Fishes and many other local companies and individuals.

ENNIA Insurance is helping Jong Bonaire find its former members and announce its activities for its 10-year celebration the first weekend in October by providing radio commercials, which were written and produced by former Jong Bonaire members. ■Alan Gross/Jane Townsend



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# Proof: Jong Bonaire Meets Its Goals



Some of the past and present members and current staff of Jong Bonaire

noon reading "Lesu ku min prome drumi mi", which took place on September 1  
 noon reading "Lesu ku min prome drumi mi", which took place on September  
 noon reading "Lesu ku min prome drumi mi", which took place on September  
 Special guests were: Bjorn and Jorgen Saragoza with their father.  
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 Special guests were: Bjorn and Jorgen Saragoza with their father.

As a part of its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, Jong Bonaire conducted a survey among its ex-members. The results clearly show that the after-school program for teens has been meeting its goals for the past 10 years.

Of the respondents 95% report that Jong Bonaire has helped them in their lives. Typical responses to the question: 'How has Jong Bonaire helped you?' were:

"Because of Jong Bonaire I was not on the street after school nor did I make bad friends I also didn't just sit at home with nothing to do." (woman, 22)

"I learned how to behave myself." (man, 23)

"It helped me develop as a person especially socially." (woman, 22)

"I got help with my homework, took

part in various workshops and activities that helped me develop personally and in my career." (man, 21)

"Jong Bonaire helped me a lot so that now I have respect for other people." (woman, 24)

"Jong Bonaire helped me find my hidden talents." (woman, 20)

"They taught me respect." (man 17)

"They spoke with me a lot and helped me with my character." (woman, 18)

"If I had not come to Jong Bonaire I could have walked the streets after school and done God knows what." (woman, 20)

"It helped me socialize more with other people and also taught me to be more responsible." (man , 22)

"Thanks to them I had a place where I could learn and do my homework." (woman, 26)

"I got a lot of motivation and encouragement." (woman, 18)

"I learned to work well in groups." (woman, 26)

"Jong Bonaire kept me off the street and gave me a chance to develop and express my abilities." (woman, 23)

"Discipline. That's what they taught me." (man, 20)

"Most of the friends I have today I met at Jong Bonaire." (man, 21)

Among all the responses there were three concepts that appeared most often: **Responsibility, Friendship and Respect.** Since these words reflect the goals of the program so well, Jong Bonaire has incorporated them into its logo as its slogan. More than anything else the young people mentioned the help they got with their

school assignments at Jong Bonaire.

There is still time for other ex-members to register their opinions. They can do so at the [website www.jongbonaire.org](http://www.jongbonaire.org) or at the office of Jong Bonaire. At the same time they can sign up for the Jong Bonaire Youth Conference: Our Voice Has Power" to be held on 03 October.

The Board of Stichting Jeugdwerk Jong Bonaire thanks all of the more than 150 ex-members who took the time to fill out the questionnaire and also the Youth Leaders since 1999 who have worked with the members. Thanks also go to the governments of Bonaire, the Antilles and the Netherlands, to AMFO and to the many sponsors who have made this program possible. ■ *Press release*

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**ISLAND TIME**

Dear Editor:  
 "I'm on island time" was the term we repeatedly heard about Bonaire. Now that we've been here for a while, we find the term does apply, though apparently mostly for the tourists. Our pre-conceived visions of the islanders pedaling bicycles, folks lying around under palm trees just ain't so. Fast new cars, fast new motorcycles, they must all be fast on their way to work to pay for them.

Not Buchi Carolus. No car, no motorcycle, no stress. Almost an octogenarian, there is little need to work. Though born in Curaçao, he's made our island his home for so long he's become an icon. He can't get around on his bicycle anymore, so friends and neighbors like us take him out shopping; it's his best chance at getting out there to visit the rest of the island, and believe me, he knows it all. Everyone knows him, too, but not everyone will stop by to visit these days. Too busy they are, just tooting the horn as they drive by, on their way to work, of course, to pay for their new cars.

He's a wealth of local information, still keeping up with the happenings around these parts. For us it is always a treat to share some of his homemade *funchi* and delicious *sopis* he just whips up in a snap. He should have had his own restaurant. Perhaps just as well,

for there are way too many restaurants on the island anyway. Why work if he doesn't have to?

Buchi is one of the kindest, most gentle, lovable and wonderful fellows around, always making new friends of anyone and everyone who passes by who will stop to chat. His charm and character befriends everyone instantly. In fact, if anyone can't get along with Buchi, they have some serious social problems.

When you're checking out the waterfront, just across from the South Pier, he may be there, sitting in his tree enjoying a cold Malta, or chopping one of his own now internationally famous coconuts, truly on "island time." Look for him. Say hi.

We're truly blessed and proud to have such a great neighbor.

*JP and Suzy*

**RAW NEWS ON LINE**

Dear Editor:  
 The Raw News (online) is a great additional feature to your reporting and especially helpful given that *The Reporter* is published only every 2 weeks. For English speaking property owners (resident and non-resident) trying to stay current with island news it is a valuable addition. Thanks.

*Nathalie Meyfarth*

**INTRINSIC VALUE**

Dear Editor:  
 Ship's bells sounded as the marketing body of the TCB called all hands on deck on Wednesday, to provide a very focused vision of what's in store for Bonaire's future in these difficult times. Capping it all up, though growth will be compromised, it clearly has given the TCB American, European and South American marketing arms the opportunity to re-define and re-structure and move forward with much more consciousness and creativity. Yes, occupancy is down, and airlift has become more challenging than ever (after losing two major markets like California and Florida that are strong foundations for the dive industry); and pocket books have gotten tight, and credit cards crunched. Yet, in a scenario where 'flat is now the new up', the good news is that economic indicators are now looking 'flat'. We've hit bottom. On Bonaire, that means: hit the reef. So where do we go from here? According to the TCB experts, we go 'green', we strive for sustainable eco-tourism growth, putting emphasis on the new paradigm of values that will inevitably revive the phoenix that recovers from the ashes that were a product of the unconscious moral and commercial overindulgence that has compromised the very survival of the

planet into the 21st century. Consensus at the meeting agreed that we are in the eye of the storm, and that the challenge of the moment is to 'batten down', call 'all hands on deck' and focus on a single vision: Mama's smile. But why is Mama smiling? Because she has faith in Bonaire and in mankind, to start making the right conscious 'choices', that have a 'quantum' impact, as co-creators of reality. Of course, she doesn't say it that way, but that wide honest smile should be a reminder that we all are all responsible for our actions, 'attract' according to how and what we 'vibe'.

Thus, extending well deserved compliments to the TCB's crew I would just like to add the concept of INTRINSIC VALUE to do the very well accepted VALUE ADDED approach outlined at the marketing meeting.

Yes, we can add quality, convenience, service and eco-sustainability to our Bonaire product, but let's not forget to what may perhaps be the most important issue upon which all other things rest: THE HEALTH OF THE REEF.

It is common knowledge by now, that we are in another crisis that is not going to go away that



easy. At least not with a smile. In fact, many experts have already forecasted that in view of the present rate of decline, the reef that sustains most of the economic life on the island will be severely affected by improper waste management within the next 10 years. Possibly five.

It is also common knowledge that €25 million have been budgeted to address this crisis, but we're at an impasse, because bids have come back in excess of €40 million. So what now? We're also in that storm. Founder and sink? Not in your life! Let's take action!

Let's accept this as a challenge, not as a defeat. Let's re-structure the project. Let's allocate the available funds for temporary waste disposal plans, and selectively attack the most contaminating focal points along Playa and Hato with sewerage infrastructure. Let's buy time and save that rare gift of 'Intrinsic Value', just to make sure Mama and everybody else is smiling tomorrow.

*John Ashford*

**Body Talk**

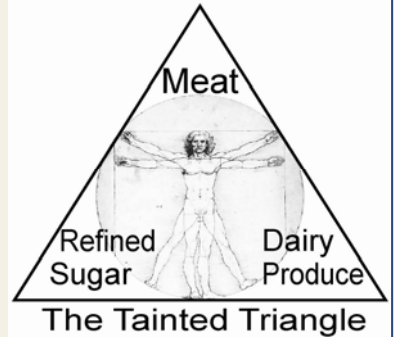
**YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED**

As promised, I will try to answer some of your questions regarding 'What to eat,' 'What not to eat,' and 'Is there anything left to eat?'

Probably the most frequently asked questions were "How can I possibly give up my cheese, or my yogurt?" Well, the answer is quite simple – do not give it up, but limit yourself. Remember, dairy products are highly mucus forming and constipating. When you have a cold or a respiratory problem, where do you think this clear, green yellow or brown mucus comes from? Contrary to popular belief, we only utilize about 20% of calcium from milk. Have you noticed how many dairy consumers also pop calcium supplements? Why not try our local spinach for calcium, it is inexpensive and it is NOT mucus forming.

Many of you had lots of questions about soy and soy products. My answer is quite simple – should I be stranded on an uninhabited island with soy protein and my lipstick, I'll go fishing. An interesting website to visit – [www.thedoctorwithin.com](http://www.thedoctorwithin.com), but do your own research on the internet on soy.

Most of you are aware of food additives, but do you really know what they are? Do you know that some additives are very cleverly disguised? Do you know about all those "hidden" sugars in your food? Of all the so-called unhealthy or bad things we can eat, refined sugar and those hidden sugars are probably the most destructive. Do you know those nasty chemical additives like aspartame in our diet drinks and candies or aluminum in our underarm deodorant or MSG in our salad dressing and tomato sauce or saccharin in our desserts and drinks. All of these are toxic and some of them are known neurotoxins. I believe these additives in our food account for so many "undiagnosed" illnesses nowadays. Do you sometimes wonder about your health? Do you some-



times wonder if the big C will get you?

Let me make this very clear – there are two certainties in this life. One is death and the other is disease. Only one of them is preventable.

Regardless of your age, it is never too late to change the way you eat. Get back into eating unprocessed foods. Stop drinking that soda you are so fond of. Have more fresh fruit and vegetables, stay away from all those carbs like pasta, rice and *funchi*, cut down on the dairy and meat and kick that sugar habit. By nature you have to "EAT TO LIVE." Unfortunately most of us "LIVE TO EAT" and then wonder why we have diabetes, or why our children are so angry and out of control, or why so many people have heart disease or stomach problems.

Remember, little problems like heartburn, painful joints, colds, headaches, constipation, bladder infections, excessive thinness, overweight, cholesterol, candida and fungal skin infections are mere symptoms of an over acidic digestive system. CHANGE THOSE TOXIC HABITS NOW or be prepared to suffer the consequences. ■ *Stephanie Bennett*

*Next issue: Minerals, Vitamins & Confusion*

*Author Stephanie Bennett was born in Cape Town, South Africa, where she studied herbs, minerals and nutrition. Before moving to Bonaire she continued her studies in UK, and now researches health issues that particularly affect people on Bonaire and other Caribbean Islands.*



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**Chevrolet double-cab pickup truck for sale.** Built 2006, has 50,000 km. Standard shift, add-on extras, grey metallic color. Available mid-October. NAf 18,000. Call 787-0091, email: hivanwouw@gmail.com

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**House for Rent Available November 15** - Santa Barbara: 3 BR/2 BA/Open floor plan with LR, DR and Kitchen Large porch with pool and beautiful garden, Internet, Cable TV, furniture and weekly cleaning service included in rent. Six month rental. NO PETS. \$1925/month excl cost of elec, water, telephone. Call 717 -8876

**Christmas in Amsterdam?** Dutch quiet couple wants to exchange houses in December. Preferably including cars. Pets are no problem. Ronald and Emmy, email: rvaalten@vaita.nl

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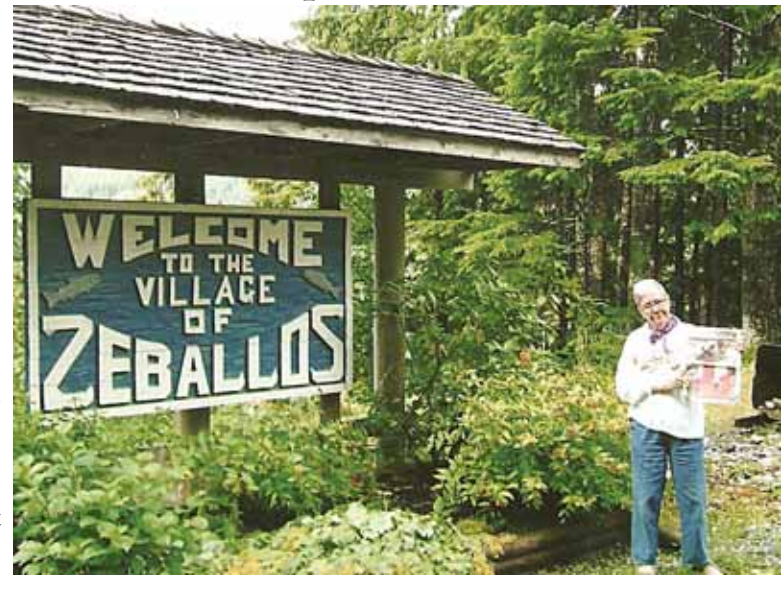
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**Picture Yourself With The Reporter... On The Road Vancouver Island**

Retired Bonaire teacher Gladys Peereboom poses with a copy of *The Reporter* somewhere on the road in British Columbia. She and her husband, Frits, the island dentist for many years, are touring with their truck-camper "comfort camp" as is their annual custom.



**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.

**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
10-02	5:03	1.1FT.	11:46	1.5FT.	17:55	1.2FT.	23:24	1.4FT.	65
10-03	0:05	1.3FT.	4:38	1.1FT.	12:04	1.6FT.	19:18	1.2FT.	74
10-04	1:16	1.2FT.	4:10	1.1FT.	12:31	1.7FT.	20:58	1.1FT.	82
10-05	13:11	1.8FT.	22:43	1.0FT.					88
10-06	13:52	1.8FT.	23:56	0.9FT.					91
10-07	0:59	0.8FT.	14:44	1.9FT.					90
10-08	1:48	0.8FT.	15:43	1.9FT.					86
10-09	2:27	0.8FT.	16:46	1.9FT.					79
10-10	3:02	0.7FT.	17:51	1.9FT.					70
10-11	3:35	0.8FT.	18:53	1.9FT.					62
10-12	4:00	0.9FT.	19:53	1.8FT.					57
10-13	4:20	0.9FT.	10:15	1.3FT.	14:05	1.2FT.	20:49	1.8FT.	57
10-14	4:34	1.0FT.	10:21	1.5FT.	15:41	1.2FT.	21:52	1.6FT.	64
10-15	4:38	1.1FT.	10:42	1.6FT.	17:04	1.1FT.	22:44	1.5FT.	73
10-16	4:27	1.1FT.	11:17	1.7FT.	18:22	1.0FT.	23:45	1.4FT.	82

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# WHAT'S HAPPENING

## HAPPENING SOON

**Thursday, October 1st - Election 'Miss Regatta 2009'** at Kas di Regatta, 8 to 10:30 pm

**Friday, October 2-Jong Bonaire Registration Party**

**Saturday, October 3- Jong Bonaire Youth Conference**

**Cargill Wellness Team Bike Tour 4-6 pm**

**11<sup>th</sup> 'Kopa Regatta' Domino tournament, 6pm-midnight**

**Saturday, October 3— Big Monthly Rincon Marche—** friendliest people on Bonaire selling gifts, crafts, local foods and drink, candles, more. Music and fun atmosphere. **6 am to 2 pm.**

**Flea Market at Parke Publico, 3 to 7 pm.** Everyone welcome to buy and sell. NAf 10 per selling table. (NAf 5 goes for Park upkeep). NGOs have a free table. More information call Vicky Bissessar 786-1592

**Sunday, October 4—Animal Day—** Children's activities at the Animal Farm, 10 am—noon.

**Animal Day celebrated at Parke Publico by the Bonaire Animal Shelter.** See page 9

**4th FCB Bicycle Tour 36km at Wilhelmina Park (start/finish) 6-11 am**

**6th Pia Pia Regatta Walk at "Kas di Regata" (start/finish), 6:30-9:30am**

**9th Jong Bonaire Swim to Klein Bonaire at Eden Beach (start/finish), 7 to 10 am**

**All Nations Parade in Kralendijk Streets to Wilhelmina Park, 6 to 8 pm**

**October 4-10— 42nd Bonaire International Sailing Regatta— go to**



[www.bonaireregatta.org](http://www.bonaireregatta.org) for details

**Tuesday, October 6—Free lecture "Advanced Buoyancy" by Carib Inn's Bruce Bowker.** CIEE Research Station, Kaya Gob. N. Debrot 26, 7 pm

**Thursday, October 8 to Sunday, October 11 VIERDAAGSE BONAIRE 2009 the Four-Day Walk.** Walk 110 km. in four days. For info : Tel. 697-1235 | E-mail: vierdaagse\_bonaire@yahoo.com

**Sunday, November 1- Bonaire Mountain Bike Race**

## REGULAR EVENTS

• 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 cooler evening hours.

## Saturdays

• **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](http://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. NAf10 per selling table. (NAf 5 goes to up-keep the park). NGOs can have a free table. More information and reservations for a spot call **Vicky Bissessar - 786-1592.**

• **Wine Tasting at Antillean Wine Company's warehouse** on Kaya Industria, **second Saturday of the month, 7-9 pm.** Snacks and tasting of six wines for \$10 (NAf17,50) per person. Tel. 560-7539.

• **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.

## Mondays

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

## Fridays

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

## 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

**Tuesday-- Bonaire Land and Ocean** presentation by Fish-Eye Photo staff, 7pm on the big screen inside the Sunset Bar and Grill at Den Laman Condominiums.

**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.

**BONAIRE'S TRADITIONS**  
**Kas Krioyo 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 December 25th. and January 1st. **Call 788 - 9015 or 796 - 5681**

## CLUBS and MEETINGS

**AA meetings** - every Wednesday at 7pm. Phone: 786-4651 or 786-7971

**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, 7:15 pm—** All levels, NAf2,50, call Joop at 786-6003 to find out the evening's location.

**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. For more information call 510-0710.

**Rotary lunch meetings Wednesdays, 12 noon-2 pm** - Divi Flamingo Beach Resort upstairs in Peter Hughes meeting room above the dive shop. All Rotarians welcome. Tel. 717-2066

**Toastmasters Club** meets every two weeks. For more information call Cruscita 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](mailto:reporter@bonairenews.com)  
Tel: 790-6518, 786-6125  
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## Who's Who on The Bonaire Reporter

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# Bubbles from the Biologist



## Did You Know...

That the lionfish can be as voracious a predator as the mammal from which it gets its name?

These bright red and white striped fish are flashy and fearsome. They are large fish with poisonous spines embedded in their dorsal fins which make them one of the most venomous fish in the ocean. Even in their native region of the Indo-Pacific, these fish have very few natural predators because of this significant defense mechanism. The lionfish do not use their spines to capture prey but rather corner it by fanning their large fins and herding the smaller fish before striking and swallowing them.

These attractive fish are a popular aquaria species, and it is believed that it was through this trade that they were first introduced in the Atlantic Ocean during the 1990s. Because native herbivorous fish have never before encountered a predator similar to the lionfish and because overfishing has significantly reduced the numbers of larger predatory fish such as grouper, the lionfish is spreading virtually unchecked across the temperate waters of the Atlantic and Caribbean. Since their introduction in this area, they have invaded and devastated areas from as far north as Rhode Island all the way down into the Southern Caribbean.

A study coming out of Oregon State University suggested that the arrival of lionfish into a coral reef environment can spell disaster for the ecosystem since these fish are reported to reduce juvenile reef fish populations by up to 80%. One large fish was documented as eating 20 small fish in a 30-minute period!

Bonaire is known as having one of the healthiest reefs in the Caribbean and is lauded for its longstanding marine protected area. To keep the status of our reefs, we must be vigilant and protect our be-

loved habitat from the threat the lionfish pose. Please help the Bonaire National Marine Park by monitoring for the presence of lionfish in our waters. If you make a sighting please provide as much of the following information as possible:

- **Date**
- **Dive site (distance from the mooring in meters or minutes diving)**
- **Depth**
- **Approx. size**

Please report any specific references that can help to locate it.

Thanks for your help and please do not hesitate to contact the Bonaire Marine Park for more information:

Ramón de León, Manager - Bonaire National Marine Park

P.O. Box 368, Bonaire - Netherlands Antilles. Phone: (599) 717 8444; Fax: (599) 717 7318

E-mail: [arinemark@stinapa.org](mailto:arinemark@stinapa.org)

■ **Lauren Saulino**

*Lauren Saulino is the recent recipient of a Master in Environmental Sciences with an area of concentration in Environmental Management from Miami University (Ohio). E ta sinti kontentu ta biba na Boneiru. El a bini Boneiru pa traha ku CIEE komo un intern.*



Reference: "Lionfish Decimating Tropical Fish Populations, Threatening Coral Reefs." *Science Daily* (July 21, 2008). <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2008/07/080717164319.htm>. Date accessed: Sept. 24, 2009.

Journal Reference: Albins et al. **Invasive Indo-Pacific lionfish *Pterois volitans* reduce recruitment of Atlantic coral-reef fishes.** *Marine Ecology Progress Series*, 2008; DOI: [10.3354/meps07620](https://doi.org/10.3354/meps07620)

## BonQuiz Answer

### Question (from page 7):

One of the water access points is portrayed in the photo. Do you know where it's found?

**You'll find it in Bakuna, the east coast terrace area.**

## Als er nu wat crasht... ...waar zijn uw bestanden dan?

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# SHOPPING and SERVICE GUIDE

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**Divi Divi Air.** Bonaire's "on time airline" with 16 flights a day between Bonaire and Curaçao. Your first choice for inter-island travel. Now flying to Aruba.

## APPLIANCES /TV/ ELECTRONICS/ COMPUTERS

**City Shop,** the mega store, has the island's widest selection of large and small home appliances, furniture, TV, computers, cell phones and more. 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

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**ScubaVision** - Document your Bonaire vacation above and below the water with a custom DVD by Bonaire's top videographer, Hendrik Wuyts

**WannaDive** - They make diving fun. In town at City Café, at Eden Beach and Windsock Apartments .

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## GARDEN SUPPLIES AND SERVICES

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## HEALTH

**Harmony House**—The herb and mineral center. Help your body heal itself.

## HOME CARE

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## INTERNET AND CELLULAR SERVICE

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**Mio** offers by far the clearest, most reliable phone signal on the island PLUS WIRELESS HIGH-SPEED INTERNET almost everywhere on Bonaire.

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

## REAL ESTATE / RENTAL AGENTS

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**Caribbean Homes,** "the Refreshing Realtor," specializing in luxury homes, condos, lots, rentals and

property management.

**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.

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

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## WINES

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To learn more about these businesses check their ad in this issue of *The Reporter*

Let visitors and residents know about your business or restaurant with an ad in *The Reporter*.

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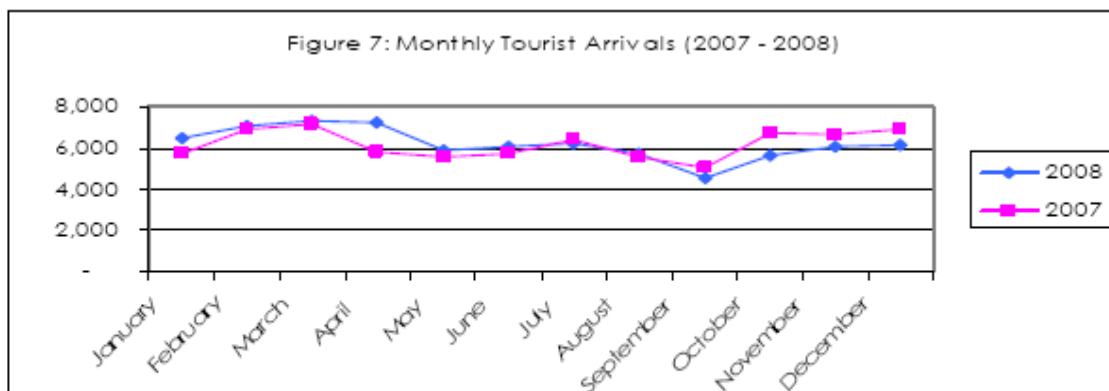
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# TCB Annual Marketing Meeting

## Bad News But No Surprises



What's the busy season on Bonaire? According to TCB statistics, perhaps surprisingly, last year it was in April. August-October is the slowest season as shown above.

Figures are produced by Tourism Corporation Bonaire

On September 16, Tourism Corporation Bonaire (TCB) held its annual Marketing Meetings with stakeholders. The meeting was well attended by all sectors, and the Bestuurscollege even postponed a meeting so that three of the four Deputies could attend – a rare happening. Deputy for Tourism, Pancreatic (Pancho) Cicilia opened the meeting with a call for close cooperation among all players to address the current situation. In his words, “I don’t want to have to stand here next year and announce such negative numbers.”

As expected, much of the news was disappointing owing to the economic crisis and the severe drop in tourism worldwide. One interesting finding was that the impact of the loss of service from American Airlines was far greater than the actual number of lost seats would predict.

AA fell from bringing about 16% of visitors in 2007 to about 12% in 2008. But the impact was much worse in the first months of 2009 when there was no service at all. Analysis of the importance of AA showed that access to Bonaire from many of our traditionally strong markets was severely restricted when AA stopped many flights to San Juan. This had an effect even before the

complete cancellation of American Eagle flights late last year.

Another impact of the loss of mid-week flights was that the average stay of US visitors has slipped from 8 to 7 days – a 12.5% loss of income on top of lower total numbers of visitors.

Plans for the coming year include efforts to support all carriers to the island and to try to re-establish AA service to Bonaire either from San Juan or Miami along with targeted consumer efforts in key markets. These need to start quickly as for the first time both California and Texas (both major diver states) fell out of the top 10 sources for Bonaire visitors. In addition, the audience was given a brief look at some upcoming website improvements – another program that needs to get moving quickly

since most bookings are now on the Internet. Cruise arrivals are expected to be about the same as 2008. In all, there do not seem to be any great changes in store for Bonaire marketing but an emphasis on some targeted areas. ■

Alan Gross

## Wedding Bells



Congratulations to the newly wedded couple, John Ceballos and Maaikje Storteboom. They were married amidst the beautiful surroundings of the Eden Beach Resort on September 9<sup>th</sup>.

Feel free to visit their slide show and upload some of their wonderful wedding pictures taken by Scuba Vision Films’ Hendrik Wuyts. Visit: <http://www.bonairefilmproductions.com> and go to the wedding page. We wish the couple many happy years to come. ■

Press release

### Sudoku Solution

783 216 594  
 214 958 376  
 695 743 281  
 927 681 435  
 136 574 928  
 548 329 167  
 452 837 619  
 379 165 842  
 861 492 753

Puzzle on page 7

	2006	Share %	2007	Share %	2008	Share %
CONTINENTAL AIRLINE	6,164	9.70%	11,009	14.82%	13,476	18.13%
AMERICAN EAGLE	10,296	16.20%	12,524	16.85%	9,128	12.28%
AIR JAMAICA	6,400	10.07%	7,126	9.59%	1,186	1.60%
ARKEFLY	374	0.59%	4,071	5.48%	4,483	6.03%
INSEL AIR	n/a	n/a	167	0.22%	613	0.82%
KLM	22,104	34.78%	20,226	27.22%	19,805	26.64%
DELTA AIR LINES	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	6,757	9.09%
DUTCH ANTILLES EXPRESS	13,797	21.71%	14,438	19.43%	12,471	16.78%
DIVI DIVI	2,350	3.70%	1,880	2.53%	2,085	2.80%
TIARA AIR	350	0.55%	956	1.29%	2,060	2.77%
AVIA AIR	10	0.02%	338	0.45%	1,280	1.72%
CHARTER FLIGHTS	895	1.41%	655	0.88%	219	0.29%
PRIVATE FLIGHTS	805	1.27%	918	1.24%	708	0.95%
OTHER AIR	7	0.01%	1	0.00%	71	0.10%
TOTAL	63,552	100%	74,309	100%	74,342	100%

How do people fly to Bonaire? The table above shows the airlines that fly to Bonaire based on the latest figures from the TCB. The reduction of flights followed by the total loss of American Eagle last season was discouraging. Next week the Bonaire Government will reopen negotiations with American Airlines to see whether the service can be restored.

# The Changing Bonaire Scene

The new face of Bonaire: Modern wind turbines contrast with the grazing goats and cactus fence of our traditional agrarian island.



On Saturday September 19, Soldachi Tours organized a *kaminata* (walk) with some Rincon residents and Co and Ellen Kers, repeat guests and friends from Holland.

Since all the windmills are now installed, it was a good time to take a look, and experience the change of this part of Bonaire.

It was a real exciting tour, and everyone was glad to see the progress of Bonaire's move to renewable alternative energy.

On the other hand it was clear that never, ever more can we see this part of nature as pure as it was without human impact. The photo shows the participants on this tour early in the morning at 6 am. ■ Story & photo by Maria Koeks

## Turtles On The Move



The two turtles being tracked by the STCB are headed in opposite directions. Turtle Doris is cruising in front of Cabo de la Vela in la Peninsula of La Guajira off Colombia. Hawksbill turtle #52049 is now 322 km away from Klein Bonaire and 40 km north from Isla de La Tortuga ( Turtle Island, Venezuela). ■ Mabel Nava

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# BONAIRE SKY PARK\*

\*to find it... just look up

## The Harvest Moon Illusion

This Sunday, October 4th, is the official night of the **Harvest Moon**. And along with it comes the great **Harvest Moon illusion**, which you can prove is an illusion in two fun but weird ways. But just what is a Harvest Moon anyway? Well, according to the dictionary a harvest is simply the act of gathering in a crop or the harvested crop itself. And for centuries at this time of year across North America and Europe the fall harvest took place.



Now traditionally the **Full Moon** closest to the first day of fall, the **Autumnal Equinox**, is called the harvest moon. And since this year the autumnal equinox occurred on September 22nd the full Moon this Sunday is the closest to the equinox and thus the Harvest Moon. Simple. But there is more to a Harvest Moon than that because even though there is only one official night of the Harvest Moon the visual effects last for three nights, October 3rd, 4th and 5th.

You see, normally the Moon rises approximately 50 minutes later each successive night, except for the Harvest Moon, which rises only 20 to 25 minutes later each successive night. The reason for this is that the path of the full Moon closest to the autumnal equinox makes a much smaller angle with the horizon than at any other time of year. Now before the invention of electric lights this was very important to farmers at harvest time because it meant that they could work after sunset for at least three nights in a row gathering in their crops by the bright light of the harvest moon. Today mechanized farming is all done with artificial lighting so that aspect of the Harvest Moon has lost its original significance. But what it will never lose is its incredible beauty in early evening. Because for three nights we will see it rise just before or just after sunset. And all rising full moons always look much bigger and more colorful than when they're overhead.

Now the reason the full Moon looks more colorful as it rises is because we see it through thicker and dustier layers of our **Earth's** atmosphere than when it's overhead. Now the reason the full Moon always looks bigger when it's closer to the horizon than when it's overhead is one of the grandest illusions of nature, which you can prove is an illusion yourself this Saturday, Sunday and Monday. Simply take a 10 cent guilder coin, hold it at arm's length when the Harvest Moon is close to the horizon just after sunset and again when it's at its highest around midnight and you'll see that your 10 cents will cover exactly the same amount of the moon.

But an even more fun way to prove this illusion is to bend over at the waist and watch the rising Harvest Moon upside down between your legs. Because, bingo, it will instantly look smaller than when you look at it right side up. The reason for this is still being argued. But believe me it's one heck of an illusion.

For those that haven't noticed, **The Bonaire Reporter's cover date is either on a full moon or new moon day.** The current issue is full moon. ■ *Jack Horkheimer*



# THE STARS HAVE IT

By Astrologer Michael Thiessen  
For October 2009

**ARIES** (Mar. 21- April 20) You may find that doing odd jobs around the house will be successful and appreciated by loved ones. Remain calm and you'll shine. Passion should be your goal. Be careful not to hurt someone's feelings. You need to spend some time getting to know this person all over again. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Sunday.

**TAURUS** (Apr. 21- May 21) You haven't been watching your spending habits and you may have been neglecting your duties. You haven't been totally honest with yourself and it's time to review your motives. The talk you have may be eye-opening with regard to your present situation. Your colorful conversation may attract new mates. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Sunday.

**GEMINI** (May 22-June 21) You may make someone else look bad. If you've been really busy, try to schedule some time to spend with loved ones. You will find that superiors may not see situations as you do. Do not lend money to friends, or contribute more than necessary to groups unworthy of your cash. Your luckiest events will occur on a Tuesday.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22) Try not to be overly generous. Set aside any decisions regarding your personal life this month. Go over your finances and figure out a solid budget. Travel should be on your agenda. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Friday.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug 22) You may be sensitive to a point of absurdity. You can get a promotion if you put in a little extra detail. Be careful not to show your temper when dealing with the boss. Don't share your dilemma with those you work with. Your luckiest events will occur on a Monday.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) You may exaggerate your emotional situation. Delve into your work if you can't make amends at home. Someone you live with may feel totally neglected. Don't give out any personal information that you don't want spread around. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Monday.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) Personal problems may be hanging over your head but don't confront the situation. Do not hesitate to help elders with legal docu-

ments that are too confusing for them. Hassles with close friends or family will put a damper on your day and result in isolation and loneliness. Insurance pay outs, tax rebates, or just plain luck. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Thursday.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) Be careful not to get involved in other people's personal affairs. Be sure to look into travel opportunities that will provide you with mental stimulation. Try to be considerate in your personal obligations. Take whatever time you can to get to know each other all over again. Your luckiest events will occur on a Tuesday.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) You will be uncertain of your feelings. Try making some changes to your appearance and your attitude that will reinforce just that. Hassles with close friends or family will put a damper on your day and result in isolation and loneliness. You can get a great deal accomplished if you bring work home. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Friday.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) Don't make a move; your confusion has caused this dilemma and you are best to back away and reassess the situation. Communications with loved ones may be strained. Try not to lend or borrow money this month. Your ability to take hold of a situation will surely bring you popularity and leadership. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Sunday.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) Do not let your mate annoy you; patience will be the key. You can make or break your personal relationship this month. You can become obsessed with detail and must be sure to divide your time appropriately. However, you should be concerned about what they want in return. Your luckiest events will occur on a Monday.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) Major moves will be emotional and not necessarily to your benefit. Be precise in your communications to avoid any misunderstandings and arguments. Your practical approach to life may charm someone who has been observing you. Don't allow personal problems to conflict with professional duties. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Tuesday. ■

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