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FREE**

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**The REPORTER**  
*Helping Bonaire Grow Responsibly*

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**A Magical Jazz Festival**

**pages 10, 20**

Henk van Twillert and Junella Nicolaas captivate the audience on Day 1

There is now a final ruling in the Netherlands Antilles confirming that US citizens in the Antilles have the same status as European Dutch citizens. This is due to the Friendship Treaty between the Netherlands and the US, which determines that citizens of the US in a part of the Dutch Kingdom outside Europe enjoy the same treatment as Dutch citizens who were not born in that part. In a final judgment, Judge Van Veen recently confirmed his statement of February in an interlocutory judgment regarding a court case in St. Maarten

**The US non-immigrant visa application fee for visitors and business travelers will be \$140**, a \$9 increase over the current fee of \$131 as of June 4. The US Department of State is increasing fees to ensure sufficient resources to cover the rising cost of processing non-immigrant visas, according to the US Embassy. Applicants for petition-based visas, like work visas, will now pay an application fee of \$150.

**Insel Air will institute legal proceedings against the service company that managed the office of the airline on Aruba.** A report of embezzlement also was filed against the manager of the company. All the personnel of Insel Air's Aruba office were sent home last week and replaced after a media report that the company had discovered fraud involving about half a million guilders.

**Last week Insel Air announced a 2009 profit of NAf 2.4 million**, 0.4 million more than the year before.

Revenues almost doubled from NAf 53 million in 2008 to NAf 97 million last year. In 2007 it had been NAf 26 million. 380,426 passengers were transported in 2009 – up 70% from the year before. The airline's fleet and route expansion resulted in NAf 44 million higher costs.

**In all their years of operation the state-run airlines, ALM or DCA, never made a profit. At one time they had more employees than the number of seats on**

**all their aircraft combined.** Insel Air currently has 214 employees and transported 380,426 passengers last year.



**The TCB announced that Expedia.com has just added the full flight schedule of Insel Air into their system.** Effective immediately, users of the website can book and purchase **Insel Air flights to Bonaire. Insel Air provides weekly non-stop service from Miami to Bonaire and back every Saturday.** Insel Air flight #908 departs Miami at 4 pm, arriving into Bonaire at 7 pm. The Bonaire-Miami flight is Insel Air #907, departing Bonaire at 11:25 am, arriving into Miami at 2:40 pm. Insel Air flies an MD 82 jet aircraft which carries 152 passengers. Insel Air also offers daily flights (Sunday through Friday) from Miami to Curaçao with convenient connections onward to Bonaire. Fares start at \$233 per person including government taxes and fuel charges. Departure taxes are not included

**On July 1st, Dutch Antilles Express (DAE) will officially introduce a frequent flyers program under the name "DAE V.I.P."** Companies as well as private persons may join, said sales manager Steve Sloop. DAE flies to Bonaire, Aruba, St. Maarten, Sta. Domingo, Caracas, Valencia, Bogotá and Cartagena. Panama will be added to this list shortly.

**PARIS--Air France-KLM posted record losses of 1.55 billion euros last week** as a shocking new book on its safety record added to the problems facing Europe's biggest airline.

The figures were released as the company's safety record came under harsh scrutiny with "The Hidden Face of Air France," an investigation by journalist Fabrice Amedeo into what he alleges are failures in Air France's management culture leading to a lax attitude towards flight safety. The

**Consumer prices were up 0.4% in the last three months, but overall Bonaire's rate of inflation is declining announced the Central Bureau of Statistics last Friday.**

Measured over the 12 months to February 2010, prices rose 2.7% over the same period a year earlier. Most expenditure categories increased in price: Beverages and Tobacco (+1.9%), Others (1.3%), Food (+0.8%), Housing (+0.8%), Healthcare (0, 1%) and Transport and Communication (+0.1%). The expenditure categories of Apparel and Footwear (-1.2%) and Recreation, Development and Education (-0.3%) fell in price, while Home Furnishings and Household spending remained stable.

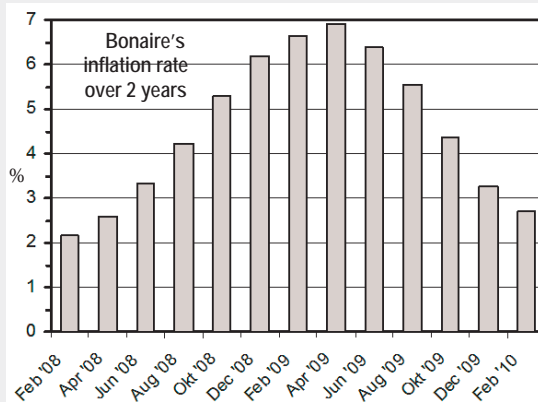
Within the Food category price changes were very diverse. Price increases were steep for Edible fats and oils (5.7%) and Potatoes, Vegetables and Fruit (+2.4%) with falling prices of other Dairy products (-2%) and Sugar and Chocolate (-0.9%).

Housing costs for Energy were up (+2.2%) as well as Maintenance (1.3%).

Household goods (-1.6%) were lower, but up on Household Appliances and Utensils (+1.6%) despite the fall in prices of Refrigerators and household Freezers by 4%.

Clothing and Footwear had two opposing price movements: first, an increase of 8.9% for Shoes and a decrease of 3.3% for Clothing. Socks, Stockings and Scarves with a drop of 10% significantly contributed to the latter.

Overall the price of Insurance was up by 1.7%. This is caused by the annual price increase of Health insurance, in this case 8%.



carrier rejects the allegations. According to a tally compiled by the Swiss-based website "Aircraft Crashes Record Office," Air France has been the second deadliest airline for passengers after Russia's Aeroflot.



**THE HAGUE--The Dutch government aircraft, KBX, the Queen's plane, has been completely overhauled.**

The job took nearly three years and cost 4.3 million euros to complete. KBX, is a Dutch acronym for Queen Beatrix.

On May 25 Bonaire attorney

Michiel Bijkerk announced that the political party he helped found will participate in the Bonaire Island Council elections of March 2011. The Party for Justice and Unity (Partido pro Justitia & Union -PHU) wrote to the Island Governor with this information and specified that their party "color" will be white.

**THE HAGUE-- Municipalities in the Netherlands will soon not be allowed to charge more than 36 euros (\$44.28) for a new driver's license**, news agency ANP reported last Tuesday. At the moment, prices vary from 23 euros to 65 euros. **When Bonaire becomes a municipality of the Netherlands on**

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# Biodiversity Bombshell

While Bonaire's biodiversity is celebrated at Lac, endangered species are wiped out at Playa

**L**ast week soil dumping and earthmoving that is a precursor to construction by the Harbour Village Resort destroyed a nesting colony of Least Terns (*Sternula antillarum*). A bulldozer destroyed 12 nests of this bird species which is protected under Antillean Law. According to Bonaire Naturalist Sipke Stapert this species has also been given an endangered/threatened status by the National Audubon Society, and the IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) has this bird species on their 2010 red list of threatened species. Nests of three other bird species were destroyed in the same area: Wilson's Plover, Snowy Plover and Black-necked Stilt.

Many other species of bird and crustacean are threatened by the unchecked earthmoving in this area of the salt pan/mud flat area of Salinja Vlijt. This "Salinja" is one of the closest to the hotel area of Bonaire and is home to 70 confirmed species of birds and 20 types of crustaceans.

Specifically a 400 m<sup>2</sup> area inside the north side of the Salinja was covered with fill inside of the high tide line, destroying 30% of intertidal mudflat of unique fiddler crab habitat and crab habitat in general. This is a vital feeding ground for a large number of bird species. Lost was a source of the crab larvae, which are an important planktonic basis of the food chain. It is an essential factor in the marine ecosystem on Bonaire's lee side and a contributing factor to the unique and very high fish diversity of two sites located close to the Marina entrance known to have the highest fish diversity on Bonaire and the Caribbean: Something Special with 340 species and Bari Reef with 388 species. Refer to [www.reef.org](http://www.reef.org), for confirmation. Sites like these are an important element in promoting Bonaire as a dive and snorkel destination.

In addition an area around 25 m<sup>2</sup> inside the northwest side of the body of water closest to the main road has been covered with blocks and chunks of limestone. That destroyed an intertidal piece of mudflat, home to a still unidentified species of fiddler crab which appears to be unique to Bonaire.

Intertidal flow has been further obstructed by limestone blocks and fill as well as a plastic tarp in the entrance of the canal leading to the Marina.

Biologists say that most sea life on Bonaire has its start in the mangroves, mud flats and salt pans of the islands. And it's the richness of the sea that brings the visitors that provide the economic support for the people who live on the island. Unchecked activities that destroy this chain of life can threaten all living creatures on Bonaire.

So far this year the Harbour Village Resort management has blocked the ramp access to local craft, evicted the local fishing boats and now appears to have begun a new development based on a permit granted years ago when environmental protection requirements were not as stringent.

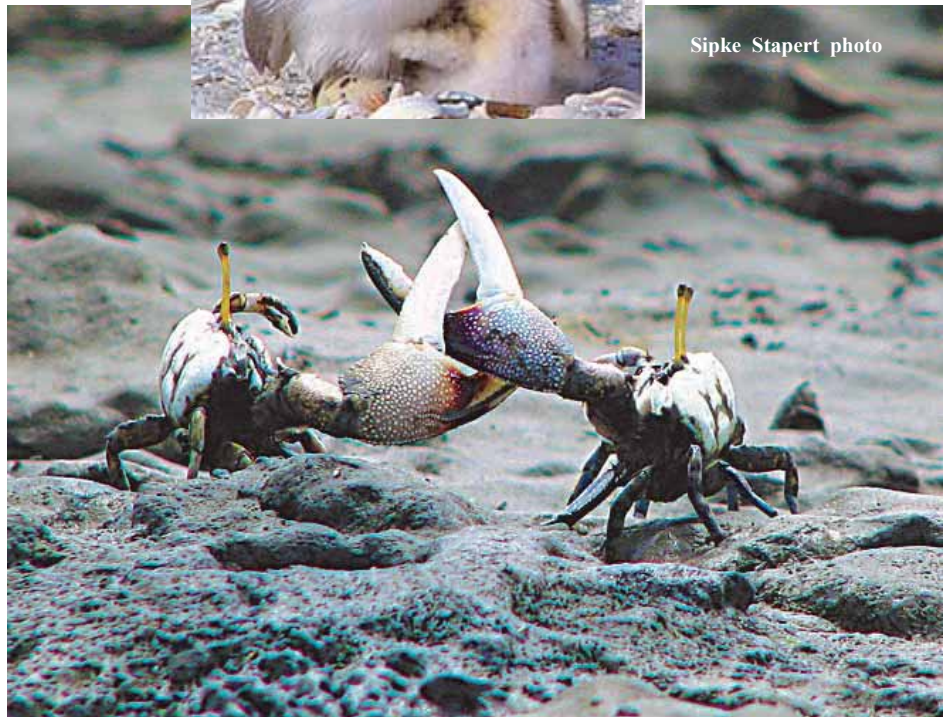
Environmental activists on Bonaire are asking all who believe this activity must be halted to contact, local Bonaire authorities, Dutch environmental organizations and international environ-



Nature Lore Photo

← Least Tern— 12 nests already gone. More to follow?

Unidentified Fiddler crab. Perhaps a new species now gone forever?



Sipke Stapert photo

mental protection groups.

A YouTube video made by ScubaVision has been posted about this situation: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kuVsa\\_dpobs&feature=digest](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kuVsa_dpobs&feature=digest) ■ G.D./Sipke Stapert.





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# On The Island Since January 5th, 2005 ... Monique Degenaar and Gijs Borsten

“Before we moved to Bonaire we’d come three times for diving. We stayed at an apartment which belonged to some acquaintances of ours from the city of Leiden, Holland, where we were living. It was an eye-opener. We thought, ‘Hey, it’s possible - a completely different life!’ And so, during our third vacation we both had job interviews, then we went home.

In Holland I had a higher professional education to become a certified nurse, and after that middle management training to become an executive. I started working as a district nurse and was also working at an infant welfare center. After becoming an executive, I worked as a ward manager at the psycho-geriatric ward of a nursing home, then as a ward manager at an institution for physically and mentally disabled people. At that institution I also set up a new ward for people who needed continuous artificial respiration.

Before I came to Bonaire I

worked as a manager of a shelter home for the mentality disabled. My partner Gijs was working at the Directorate-General for public works and water management.” *She smiles:* “It’s kind of funny because he is an art historian, but he’s never worked in that field.

Well, once we had ‘tasted’ life on Bonaire we started thinking what our life was all about at that time. We came to the conclusion that it was mainly about quantity - more and more of everything- but, it wasn’t about quality. So, when Gijs was offered a job at the audit office on the island we sold everything we had and moved to Bonaire.

One day after our arrival, January 6, 2005, we started taking Papiamentu lessons with Therese Rosier. I didn’t have a job yet, but if I wanted to work in the family welfare field, Papiamentu would be a first requisite. To practice, I went to work as a volunteer at FKPD (handicapped center) in Rincon. In November 2005 I was hired as a team leader for the

FKPD’s shelter home. It was fun and above all very instructive, especially because of the difference in health care between Bonaire and Holland. I worked there for two years and spent some very nice times with the clients as well as with my colleagues.

Gijs - whom by the way I’ve known since I was a child as he was a friend of my brother - had changed jobs too. Here on the island you take whatever comes your way. It’s not about career. If you like it, you do it. If not you don’t! He went to work for BoCar as a mechanic. All his life he’d been busy with his Harley and his cars, so he was doing what he liked best! Horseback riding had always been a hobby of mine, although” - *she laughs* - “I’d changed from horses to Harleys gradually, so I started doing horseback trail riding and I was also part of a team that took care of this fine and exceptional gentleman who was suffering from Parkinson’s disease.

In August 2007 I started working at the Bonaire Animal Shelter. It’s the best job I ever had! The animals, my colleagues and the volunteers - it’s just wonderful. I can put my whole heart into it. I love animals, every animal. We have three dogs and six cats here at home and I don’t want my dog



Gijs Borsten and Monique Degenaar

to kill an iguana or my cat to kill a bird.

I myself have been a vegetarian for 10 years now. I don’t want to eat any living creature that was killed because I chose to put it on my menu. I don’t eat meat and I don’t eat fish or seafood or chicken either.” *She laughs.*

“When you tell people you’re a vegetarian, they say, ‘Oh, you don’t eat meat? But you do eat chicken, don’t you! I wasn’t sure if I could keep it up here, but it’s no problem. The only thing I would like to see is that the restaurants on Bonaire offer a greater variety of dishes on their menu for vegetarians. In general they give

you some French fries, a salad and a fried egg - that’s it! **The only exception is Bistro de Paris.** Patrice is unique in that sense!” *Monique is a wonderful lady and a great professional. She’s quite private, but she always cares, whether it’s animals or people. Her heart is into it.*

“When you live here, you have to have a job,” *Monique says.* “Even if I were a *pensionado* (retired person) I would still be a volunteer and do something useful. You have to have a meaning to your life, otherwise you won’t make it.

(Continued on page 5)

“.. once we had ‘tasted’ life on Bonaire we started thinking what our life was all about at that time. We came to the conclusion that it was mainly about quantity - more and more of everything- but, it wasn’t about quality.”

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*On the Island Since (Continued from page 4)*

Gijs has his own car rental company now, with his partner Rob Landman, and they're doing well. They started off in April 2008 with five cars and now they have 25."

"We didn't suffer from the economic crisis," *Gijs grins*. "On the contrary, we're getting clients from countries I didn't know existed. Most of the time it's a fairly quiet existence. As long as you make sure all the cars are in good shape and well serviced, you have enough time left for yourself and your hobbies. Nowadays we're renting a lot of cars, long term, to people who are here for business, people who are involved in projects on the island. All in all, it's ideal – enough to make life pleasant. If I had nothing to do I would be bored stiff!"

"If everything goes the way it's going, we'll stay here," *Monique says*. "I would like to have a pied-a-terre in Leiden." *Gijs responds*: "I lived there for 20 years and we've been gone for six years now, but whenever we're walking through Leiden there's always someone yelling at us, 'Hey guys, good to see you back!' Well, thinking about it," *he sighs*, "it's only fun in summer because in winter everybody is rushing back and forth from home to work. And I would miss the colors of Bonaire: the blues of the sea, the greens of the trees and all the colors of all the different birds. Nine months a year Holland is black and white, or... it's grey really... So, yeah, no choice."

"I live here," *Monique says*. "Holland is no longer home. Whenever I go there – mainly to visit our parents who are getting older – I can't stay longer than two weeks. I feel alienated; I am homesick for my house, my animals, for Bonaire..."

*Gijs looks at her and says,*

"I don't mind going now and then. I love to roam the street markets, to eat a herring and to simply meet a thousand acquaintances that we've left behind, but once or twice a year is enough. You know what I miss here? To get into a car or on the motorbike and drive all day long on never-ending roads which lead you to all these beautiful places. There's always enough land. When we lived in Holland we traveled all over Europe on the motorbike, from Great Britain to Greece, from Poland to Portugal and to every country that's in between. Since we've been here we've done two tours organized by Orlando - one to Costa Rica and one to Curaçao - and... we rode 6,000 kilometers in five years going around in circles on this one island."

We don't travel that much anymore, but we do miss it. Southern Europe is definitely something you miss. I would like to pick it up sometime, take the Harleys and explore the US or South America."

"I agree with Gijs," *Monique says*. "But I have my work, my household and our animals. In Leiden we had a garden of 45



*Monique demonstrates puppy washing techniques at The Bonaire Animal Shelter*

square meters and here we have 1,200 square meters, so the garden has become a hobby too. We still go diving, but most of the time it's only when friends are visiting us. But I do want to swim and snorkel as often as possible. You see so many things – it really is fun! I'm working part-time and it's important to me to have time to go out with my dogs. I take them to the fisherman's hut at Sorobon – the beautiful colors, the fresh breeze. Whenever I'm free I'm there! On Sundays we go to the sea with friends. We take food and drinks, do a barbecue, we chat and relax. Those are wonderful days. Here I take life the way it

comes. I go with the flow and I'm satisfied, I've found peace.

There are lots of things you don't have here and there are plenty of things you can't buy here and you know what? You don't need them here. We can eat, we can drink, and we have a gorgeous place to live and be outdoors. What more is there to life?" ■

*Story & photo by Greta Kooistra*



					
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# Bondy On The Ball—2010.

Group E	Group F	Group G	Group H
Netherlands	Italy	Brazil	Spain
Denmark	Paraguay	North Korea	Switzerland
Japan	New Zealand	Ivory Coast	Honduras
Cameroon	Slovakia	Portugal	Chile

OK. Put your hands up for Bonaire if you are excited yet! Only a few weeks remain before football's biggest prize is up for grabs. That just about gives you enough time to stock up the fridge with Polar, Bright & Greenies. This week we will be looking at groups E through H.

Monday, June 14th, will be the day that Bonaire grinds to a halt as every bar with a TV will be tuned in to see the Netherlands take on Denmark. The biggest surprise here is the exclusion of **Ruud van Nistelrooy** from the squad. Even at 33, he is still a player who, given the opportunity, will get a goal. **Holland** as always has talent in spades, and with the return to fitness of **van Persie**, I back them to finish top of this group. For my money, they will be joined by **Cameroon** who has reached a record 6th final. Look out for **Samuel Eto'o** who will be a key player for the Africans.



Internet photo

In group F we can sit back and watch the game played as it should be - **Italian** style. Although it's fair to say that this team has passed its peak, they still have the ability to grind out results. Watch out for goalkeeper extraordinaire, **Gianluigi Buffon**, who will break the hearts of strikers in every game. While others will expect **Slovakia** to progress, my choice is **Paraguay**. They have a great World Cup pedigree as well as the **Manchester City Striker, Roque Santa Cruz**, who is looking to prove himself on the world stage.

**Dider Drogba** is on fire and holds the Golden Boot award in England's Premier League. I am going out on a limb and back them to qualify ahead of Portugal.

Finally Group H where we see the number one seeds, **Spain**. Their team has strength in depth and have spanked all comers in the qualifiers. The goal scoring machine that is **Fernando Torres** will scare opponents to death. They will qualify without question and I expect to see them in the final. The second qualifier from this group really is any one from three. **Chile** plays great looking football and has grown in confidence. For this reason, they are my tip to join Spain.

So there you have it. Eight groups, 32 teams and the greatest prize in soccer. Who could ask for more? Until next time, keep the game beautiful.... ■  
Tony Bond

Group G next and probably the toughest group of the lot. First, we have the mighty **Brazil**. There is a saying in football that, "The English invented it, the Brazilians perfected it," and few would argue. They look organized this year and deserve their joint favourite status. Look out for midfielder, **Kaka**, who is my candidate for player of the tournament. The other big name in this group of course is **Portugal**. **Ronaldo** still holds the accolade of star player for the team, but for me, they have not looked too convincing in this campaign. That said, dismiss them at your peril! A surprise qualifier in this group could be **The Ivory Coast**. Star striker,

Antony Bond, currently based in Scotland, is contemplating a return to Bonaire. He will use his love of the sport and international perspective to report on this year's World Cup.



## Helen Dovale "Elena" Exhibit at Kon Tiki



"Elena" with some of her work at a past Kon Tiki exhibition

Once again, Kon Tiki Restaurant at Lac Bai will host an exhibit of the wood assemblages local artist Helen Dovale Sargent, who signs her work, "Elena." She is a graduate of Pratt Institute in New York City and has spent most of her life in Curaçao and Bonaire. Elena will open her show at Kon Tiki on Saturday, **June 19 at 5 pm**. KonTiki will offer a welcome drink and snacks.

With 20 years in the advertising business and hundreds of layouts and brochures behind her, Elena's search for the artist within was fostered by the flotsam and jetsam collected while beachcombing Bonaire's once bountiful shores. Her collages have a sculptural, tactile quality which she attributes to many years spent doing all those layouts for newspapers and magazines.

A "find" on the seashore, a sidewalk or a parking lot plants the seed for a fun adventure into the world of fantasy and whimsical humor.

**Helen Dovale Sargent Exhibition Opening at the Kon Tiki Restaurant, Lac Bai Saturday, June 19, 5 pm.**

Exhibition will continue after the opening. ■ HDS/LD

## Three Anniversaries For Bonaire Law



David, Nicole, Lex and Carol Gonzales celebrate

Lex Gonzales, the principal attorney for Bonaire Law on Bonaire, celebrated the third year of the firm's offices on the island, its 10th year of practice on Bonaire and Lex's 5<sup>th</sup> birthday at a great party at Buddy Dive last week. Pabien! Bonaire Law is located at Caribbean Court. ■ G.D.



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# 'Cudas Clean Up In Barbados



The team returns from Barbados victorious: Diane, Alejandro, Astrubal, Ricky, Coach Valarie Stimson, Bonaire's Commissioner for Sport Nolly Oleana, Sampson and Luis. Not pictured Luigi

The Bonaire Barracuda Swim Club participated in the 19<sup>th</sup> Barbados Olympic Association Aquatics Centre International Invitational Swim Championships over the weekend of 21 – 23 May. Competing were 342 swimmers including three Olympians. Twenty-one teams from Barbados, Bonaire, Antigua and Barbuda, Grenada, St. Lucia, Trinidad and Tobago and Ontario, Canada, competed in a total of 130 events over three days. Though swimming is an individual effort, it is also a team sport. The top eight finishers can earn points towards team standings and the individual High Point trophy. The Barracuda team of **Samson Evertsz, Luigi Meriaan, Alejandro de Lima, Ricky Hormechea, Asdrubal Marcano Bravo, Luis Marcano Bravo and Diane Werdath** had a stunning finish as the 6<sup>th</sup> place team overall and 4<sup>th</sup> place overall Boys team with only seven swimmers.

**Samson** had the opportunity to swim against Olympian and Barbados backstroke record holder, Nicholas Neckles, and a member of the Canadian National Swim Team in the 200 meter backstroke event open to swimmers 11 years and older. Samson finished an impressive 4<sup>th</sup> with the fastest 200-meter backstroke time swum by a 13 – 14 male Antillean swimmer so far this year. Samson had six individual medals with gold in 100-meter backstroke, a silver and four bronze. **Luigi** earned seven individual medals with two silver and five bronze. Samson and Luigi tied in the 100-meter breaststroke event with identical times. **Luis** consistently finished in the top eight in Boys 11 – 12, earning team points that helped the Barracuda team finish so well.

The Barracuda Boys 13 – 14 relay teams took the gold in all three relay events, 4 x 100 meter medley relay, 4 x 100 meter freestyle relay and 4 x 50 meter relay. The team of **Samson, Asdrubal, Alejandro** and **Luigi** set a meet record in the 4 x 100 medley relay which was held by the Marlins team of Trinidad since 2004. **Ricky** swam for the Barracudas in the other two gold medal relay events. When the personal high point trophies were being announced, **Sampson**, hoping for 2<sup>nd</sup> looked disappointed when his teammate **Luigi** was announced for that place. As a surprised **Luigi** approached the trophy stand, and they began announcing first place, **Sampson** was astounded to hear Bonaire yet again and find out that he in fact was

first overall boys 13 -14 in the meet.

Sonia O'Neal, President of the Barbados Amateur Swimming Association (BASA), thanked the Barracudas for their participation noting that it raised the level of competition at the event. The Barracuda team and the parents who accompanied them to Barbados also had the opportunity to tour the island, visit some of its many museums and even learn to surf. We look forward to continued interaction between Bonaire and Barbados and plan to return next year.

The team would like to thank the many individuals and sponsors including **Budget Marine** and **Bureau Telecommunicatie en Post** for their help in making this athletic and cultural experience possible.

The Barracuda 11 and older swimmers are coached by **Valarie Stimpson** and the 10 and under swimmers by **Pam Werdath-Teitel**. They look forward to all interested swimmers to visit on Mondays by Kas de Arte at 5:15 to join.

The team is now looking forward to its next event: **June 13th the Barracuda Budget Marine Open Water Swim & Festival** with 5km, 2.5km, 1.5km and 0.5km open water races at Kas de Regatta. Please come down and swim, watch, cheer and support our team. This is a fund raiser for the floating pier project to provide a safe pool-like environment in the sea for training. See <http://sites.google.com/site/bonairebarracudaclub/home> for details and email [bonairebarracudas@hotmail.com](mailto:bonairebarracudas@hotmail.com) for local registration. ■

Story & photo by Pam Werdath-Teitel

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## Letters to the Editor

### GROWTH AND IMMIGRATION

Dear Editor:

The number 50,000 is symbolic. We do not know how much more the population of Bonaire can still grow. The point is that Bonaire may soon experience quite rapid growth. Growth in itself is not bad. It can be good or bad, depending on how we manage it. The world is full of people. Soon there will be seven billion in the world. They must all live and need space. Bonaire can still absorb some of them. We still have space.



The people will mainly be from the Netherlands and Latin America. Some Bonaireans will also return. The political party *Pro Hustisia & Union* (PHU) is willing to absorb and welcome them all. We have no fear of immigrants; we realize that we are all immigrants in this world. We walk around here a while and die. And we're all human. Borders are not created by God. During our lives we can treat each other well or badly. We can help build a free, humane and just society, or we can promote inequality and oppression, actively or passively. That is all.

PHU sees Bonaire as part of the world. For internal reasons, Bonaire may grow rapidly. We simply need more trade, tourism and industry. How can we build a prosperous society without economic activity? How can one have work without new investment and job creation? Yes, we need an environmentally sound way to grow, and respect Nature. But we can and should still grow considerably. Growth is necessary.

At the same time we must realize that the world cannot grow. This growth should not be stopped by large-scale abortion, but by using contraceptive measures, ie, "birth control." The world cannot grow, otherwise there will be no more room. If the current trends continue, we all will suffocate. Although Bonaire can still absorb a lot of people, there is also a limit.

Rafael Santana and Michiel Bijkerk

#### EDITOR'S NOTE:

According to *Bevolking, the Civil Registry, Bonaire is home to persons born in 106 different countries, up from 103 last year. (In the entire world there are 195 countries). That's out of a total island population of a bit more than 15,000.*

*As of the end of August, 2009, of the total population (15,414), 9,893 are Antillean born. That leaves the number of immigrants to be 5,521 or nearly 36% of the total population.*

*The Top Five nationalities represented in Bonaire's immigrant population are:*

1. Dutch from Holland 1,531
2. Dominican Republic 801
3. Colombia 698
4. Peru 533
5. Venezuela 413

*The greatest number of immigrants in 2009 were from Holland (226), followed by the Netherlands Antilles (170), Peru (90), Colombia (81), United States (71), Canada (54), Dominican Republic (49) and Aruba (44).*

*The two most popular neighborhoods for the new immigrants are Antriol Pariba (155 persons) and Nikiboko (144 persons). Many thanks to the staff at Bevolking who provided this information to The Reporter. Laura DeSalvo*

#### SALINA VLIJT THREATENED AGAIN (Ed.: See related article, "Biodiversity Bombshell," on page 3)

Dear Editor,

I'm a little bit worried about things I see happening around the Salina Vlijt (across from the Harbour Village marina. Ed.) area. Dump trucks and backhoes are busy with backfill activities in and around the borders of the Salina Vlijt.

As I understood, Saliña Vlijt is a very important area for natural and environmental reasons. It is one of the salinas of the island Bonaire.

The nearby Harbour Village is the long-lease owner of the whole (including the salina) area and responsible for these activities.

Is Harbour Village in possession of the proper permits? Is there a MER investigation executed to examine the impact of these activities and further developments (houses, commercial buildings etc.)?

FYI, MER means in Dutch "Milieu Effect Rapportage" or in English (Environmental Impact Report). The Island Government always said in official statements that for this area this report was an essential exercise before any development could even be started. I have my doubts. Is this another affront against nature? Or is this a big \$ issue. On Bonaire everything is possible, as we all know.

Johan Draaier

## 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.**

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

*Flotsam and Jetsam (Continued from page 2)*  
**10/10/10, will rules like this apply?** Price for a Bonaire driver's license is currently around NAf 50.

► **Commissioner for Health Marugia Janga will visit various health facilities in the Netherlands next month** with a delegation from Bonaire that includes advisor Peter Silberie; Selly Pourier, the head of the Department of Health and Hygiene; and quartermaster Marga Drewes.

The trip is in connection with the changes in health care that will occur after Bonaire is integrated into the Netherlands on 10/10/10.

► The Curaçao Island Executive Committee has accepted the business plan for construction of a **new hospital with 370 beds by 2015** to replace the 155-year-old St. Elizabeth Hospital (Sehos) in Otrobanda. St. Elizabeth Hospital is Bonaire's regional hospital equipped to handle all but the most complex illnesses.

The price tag is NAf 430 million. The hospital will be relocated more centrally at Jan Noorduynweg in Groot Piscadera, next to the University of the Netherlands campus and the Nursing School. The Hospital Fundashon Nobo (FHN), which is planning the new facility, has as its board prominent citizens like Curaçao oncologist Professor Herbert "Bob" Pinedo who is currently the director of the Cancer Institute in Amsterdam.

► The hurricane season runs from June 1 to November 30 and while Bonaire is south of the "hurricane belt" secondary effects like wind reversals and calms do affect the island each year.

Forecasters predict a busy season, similar to 2008 that had 16 named storms, of which eight became hurricanes. **However, with the recent rapid decline in El Nino conditions they are expected to upgrade their opinion.**

This season's forecasts vary between 15 and 18 tropical storms, of which seven or

eight could become hurricanes and four or five could develop into a major Category Three or stronger.

Names for the 2010 Hurricane Season are Alex, Bonnie, Colin, Danielle, Earl, Fiona, Gaston, Hermine, Igor, Julia, Karl, Lisa, Matthew, Nicole, Otto, Paula, Richard, Shary, Tomas, Virginie and Walter.

► **Invent a cocktail based on Bonaire Cadushy Liqueur and win a sightseeing flight** for three from the BonAeroClub. There are already several great recipes (check them out at [www.Cadushy.com](http://www.Cadushy.com)) but more are needed.

Cadushy of Bonaire is looking for the perfect **Green Bonaire Cocktail recipe.**

The recipe must meet the following conditions: the cocktail must be green; it must clearly contain Cadushy of Bonaire Liqueur; and it must taste like... Green Bonaire.

The prize is sponsored by Warehouse Bonaire, BonAeroClub and the Tempo employment agency.

You can send in your recipe (with a photograph of the cocktail) until July 20, 2010 to [Coctails@Cadushy.com](mailto:Coctails@Cadushy.com).

Look for the contest conditions on [www.Green-Bonaire.com](http://www.Green-Bonaire.com).

► **Correction: We would like to rectify a recent story about Junella Nicolaas**, winner of *Arte di Palabra* who also presented her work during the Jazz Festival Night of Jazz and Poetry. **Junella wrote all her own presentations.** They were not written by Sinaida Janga as previously reported.

► **The euro is dropping.** This means that the advantage that Dutch investors have



► **The Public Prosecutor ordered police raids of homes and businesses in Bonaire and Curaçao on Friday, May 22, as a follow-up to similar raids and arrests of last September.** The raids are part of the "Fiji & Zambezi" corruption investigation. No one was arrested, but files and electronic media were confiscated in the latest action. The Prosecutor is not releasing any information on the progress of the case until the trial date now set for August 2010. To date no evidence has been made public. All but one of the suspects, gold dealer A. de G., arrested in September, have been released pending trial.

The new searches were of homes and office buildings on Bonaire and Curaçao. The office of the accounting firm Price-WaterhouseCoopers as well as the resi-

dence of one of the partners was searched. The firm is not suspected of criminal activities. The Bonaire raid was at Bonaire real estate agent, Living Joya, said to belong to Senator Ramoncito Booi. The searchers confiscated digital data, records and documents related to companies that could be linked to suspects living on Bonaire. The data was confiscated as part of the investigation.

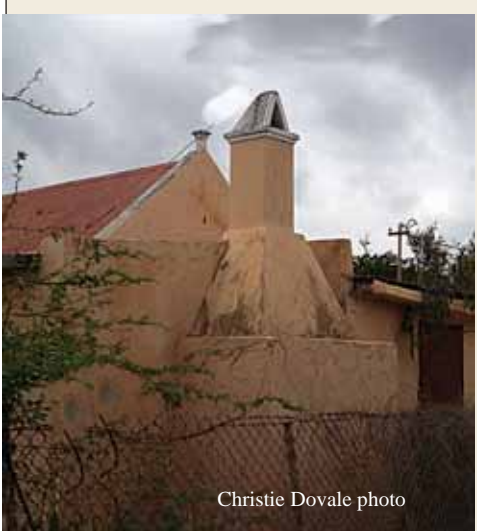
Ramonsito Booi and former Commissioner Burney El Hage, who are named as suspects, instituted summary proceedings against the Prosecutor's office because it is still not clear what they are exactly being suspected of although nine months have passed. The judge will decide on June 23 if the Prosecutor's actions are justified or not. He will not rule on guilt or innocence of the accused.

had on Bonaire in relation to the dollar-based exchange rate is diminishing. When the euro was introduced in January 1999 (it wasn't used in physical transactions until 2002) it was at roughly \$1.15. After flirting with dollar parity a couple of times that year, its value dropped below that of the greenback just over a year later and stayed there until mid-2002. From then on, the euro went on a long, more-or-less steady climb, culminating in July 2008, when it peaked around \$1.60.

Bonaire travelers will find that hotel stays, local transit and everything bought while abroad will be 15% cheaper than it would have been at the beginning of the year. Imported foodstuffs have a fast turnaround time; shoppers here could notice the deflated euro's impact in a month or less for perishable items if the retailers pass on the savings.

► **Don't forget to tell our advertisers, "I heard about you in *The Reporter*."** It's their support that keeps *The Reporter* free. ■ G.L. D.

## BonQuiz #30



Christie Dovale photo

**T**wo features of older Bonaire homes were especially important and necessary. Since there was no desalination plant, catching rain water was the usual way to obtain fresh water. Therefore a cistern and water catcher were mandatory for every home. The cistern did not begin at ground level, but was dug by hand deep into the ground to collect as much water as possible, storing it for the dry periods.

Along with these cisterns, ovens were also important. Cooking in the home was done over an open charcoal fire. Even today you can sometimes smell charcoal burning, and often times this is from a fire out in the yard, preparing something that takes a long cooking time, like beans, salt meat, pork tail, goat meat, to mention a few local delicacies.

**Q) Why do we see so many chimneys sealed off at the top these days?**

Answer on page 17

BonQuiz appears regularly in *The Reporter*. It's prepared by Christie Dovale of Island Tours. To arrange a tour, contact her via her website:

**IslandToursBonaire.com** Phone 717-4435 or 795-3456  
 Email: [christie-dovale@hotmail.com](mailto:christie-dovale@hotmail.com)



► When Harley Davidson named the month of May Women Rider's month all around the world women got together to ride. Bonaire may be small, but to those of us lucky enough to live here, she is so very special. **In support of Women Rider's Month, some of the "girls" on Bonaire got together on Sunday, May 24, to have a good ride and enjoy the beautiful island.**

The ride started at the Bonaire Motorcycle Shop on Kaya Grandi, where Orlando and Anna, the gracious owners, surprised everyone with a light breakfast. We toured up the coast road north, through Gotomeer, into Rincon, back down towards Playa, past Kontiki, and then back to town. (I'll bet we were the only motorcycle group lucky enough to have a black Cadillac stretch limousine as a support vehicle! Thank you, Orlando!) We ended the ride at Amuse Bouche for a fantastic lunch, courtesy of chef Esther.

We will try it again next year and hope to have a lot more women on Bonaire join the ride. ■ *Mary DiSanza*

**3<sup>RD</sup> BONAIRE BARRACUDA OPEN WATER SWIM JUNE 13, 2010**

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Bonaire Reporter- June 4-18, 2010



## Black and Chrome: Ford LTD Crown Victoria

The 71<sup>st</sup> of a series of Bonaire Reporter articles by J@n Brouwer, featuring some of Bonaire's interesting vehicles that are "on wheels." On course for 100+

Nort Salina/Bonaire –  
**A** couple of weeks have passed since I drove the four-wheel-drive CF Moto quad, lent to me for a day by Jack from The Bikeshop. With this useful four-stroke fun thing I discovered little parts of the island of Bonaire. The single-cylinder 500 cc vehicle brought me also to the paved and unpaved roads of Nort Salina and Republiek, situated more or less in the hilly centre of the island. And it was in Nort Salina that I was able to peep over a brick wall to discover a recently sprayed orange metallic Ford Mustang, a black sedan and some other interesting vehicles. I made a stop, asked for attention. Nobody there. Another mystery location and some mystery cars. Time for an investigation!

In my old grey four-wheel-drive truck I drove up the hills, trying to find the location again. Now I was lucky! A man was sanding the body of an Opel SUV to get her as smooth as possible before giving the car a paint job. I stopped my truck and in Papiamentu asked for permission to enter the gate. I introduced myself and explained my plans. His name is Stephen Lamidi. And soon we discover that Dutch is easier than Papiamentu. Stephen was born in Surinam and although he's already lived for some 17 years on the island he prefers to speak Dutch with me. (And the vocabulary of my *Srnangtongo*, the language from Surinam, exists of only about 15 words. Fah waka? Tanboe! So we stick to the Dutch. What a relief!)

Stephen Lamidi and his wife and kid live in a house at a corner of the Kaya Caribe in Nort Salina. The house is surrounded by cars under construction. Some cars are almost completely dismantled, some cars are somewhere half way and some cars are completely finished. Stephen loves cars and he is a very good painter. "Spraying cars is my hobby," he informs me immediately. Stephen is the owner of a neatly pimped Volkswagen Golf and a Ford Mustang under construction. A very nice Toyota 4-Runner is parked in the paint spray cabin. I have to come back here later. Stephen has fully documented histories about the pimped Golf and the metallic orange Mustang.

For now I would like to know more about the freshly sprayed and still smelling black sedan. Stephen did a good job. Later, at home, as I inspect the row of pictures I have taken, I can see myself in a pink shirt, taking photographs, mirrored by the black paint of the car.

It appears to be a Ford. And no, Stephen is not the owner. The car belongs to a client. It is a Ford LTD Crown Victoria, and the size of the vehicle is as stretched as its name. The car was built in 1979 and the former owner was a medical doctor who also had a job at the Bonairean court house. Small world... Five years ago I bought my house from

this same doctor and his wife. The LTD Crown Victoria is almost in showroom condition and Stephen did a very good job. The vehicle is fully loaded and heavy. The weight is over 2,000 kilograms. And that is because fully loaded in this case means very fully loaded. All the metal is mounted on a full size Ford Panther platform. Of course there is an impressive American 5.2 liter V8 under the hood. (Incidentally, the Ford "Crown Vic" has always been the favorite of American police departments—ed.)

To move a vehicle like this forward (and backwards) a six-cylinder would never be able to supply the energy. And then, it takes a huge V8 just to charge the battery of the car because of all the electrics. This LTD Crown Victoria has power brakes, power steering, power windows, power mirrors, power seats, air conditioning, a four-speed automatic gearbox. The car has an upper level trim package. What do we miss? I have to be honest; I did not check the power antenna.

Luxury all over. Nice seats, tinted windows, an over-complete dashboard, wide opening doors, a huge trunk. This four-door saloon has a Targa-like chrome band across the roof. Maybe the Ford was equipped with a landau\* vinyl roof before Stephen resprayed the car.



Stephen Lamidi from Nort Salina portrayed next to a just resprayed black Ford LTD Crown Victoria.


Unfortunately we cannot start the Ford and take it for a drive. There are no license plates on the vehicle. But I can imagine the smooth drive of the powerful car.

I shoot some more pictures of the car as material for my research. Then it is time to go home again. We shake hands and I jump behind the steering wheel of my metallic grey-sprayed truck. Then Stephen says, "That truck was owned by Rhonda! I resprayed it a couple of years ago!" Small world.

One day I will be back to write articles about the Volkswagen Golf and Stephen's Ford Mustang. And then, one day, my classic Range Rover will be technically restored and ready for a respray... ■  
 Story & photo by J@n Brouwer




\*A landau is a special variety of coachwork. The front part of the cabin or coach is closed by metal or wood; the back part of the roof can be opened, so it is a kind of a 50% convertible or cabriolet./jb






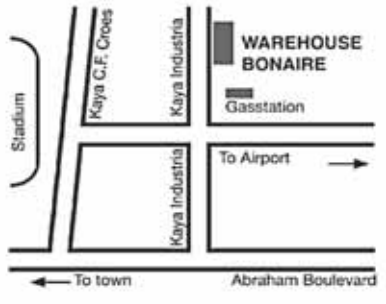
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# A Magical Jazz Festival

## THE STORMY JAZZ NIGHT

With all the broadcasts of possible bad weather heading for Bonaire before the Jazz Festival we were holding our breath for the Jazz nights. We did indeed have some lighting and powerful thunder on Friday night, June 28, during the performance of Manny Moreira and the Equator, but no rain.

The real storm was onstage, beginning Thursday, May 27, the Festival's official opening night. You could experience the feeling and expression of this storm, of dazzling and super talented artists, actors, musicians and singers who were able to rock you off your chair.

After Commissioner Nolly Oleana's speech he introduced Jeadon Crestian, a young boy of nine, who played *Mi Dushi Bonaire* on his *kwarta*, a four-stringed instrument smaller than a guitar. He was followed by the folkloric musical band named *Kaňa Brabu*, which means Wild Cane, but actually is another name for *Wild Bamboo Trees*. We had a cultural start.

The founder of this band, *Kaňa Brabu*, is Mr. Albert Crestian who is Jeadon's father. He's been in the musical world for 25 years and is one of the famous "Back to the 80s" DJs on Bonaire.

On this astonishing night we had the pleasure of meeting Miss Junella Nicolaas (17) who won the March, 27<sup>th</sup> ABC Island literature competition, *Arte di Palabra* (the art of words). She performed her three winning stories. The third story she dramatically presented was the fable, *Fiesta Di Compa Warawara*, a very intense story about animals going to a party held by Bonaire's majestic warawara bird. This story earned her first place in the *Arte di Palabra* competition.

This is Junella's last year at the SGB high school. Next year she continues her studies in Curaçao at the Art School. She believes, as do we, that she is the best young story teller and actress on the island. She has a natural talented inspira-



Seventeen year-old Junella Nicolaas stole the show on opening night.

tional gift to write the stories herself, guided by her coach, Zenaida Janga at Jong Bonaire. To perform the way she does has to come from the inside; every-



Jeadon Crestian—a future Bonaire virtuoso

thing appears so natural and uncontrived.

She lamented, "It is sad for me to say that I have to leave Bonaire to follow my dreams. If Bonaire had an art school I wouldn't have to leave. I know there's a lot of talented young men and women who need some push to succeed in their performance. I love to help my school-mates. When we were preparing for the competition first at Jong Bonaire and then in Curaçao I was helping everybody to do their best. I feel sad that I have to leave this group. I know that in Curaçao they will be eager to have me compete in Curaçao for them, but I have a mixed feelings. I can't compete against Bonaire and my ex-schoolmates who work so hard to represent Bonaire. I have one wish, that when I finish my art schooling I'd like to open an art school here on Bonaire to help the Bonairean kids. I'd like every youngster have an opportunity to develop their art to develop their skills in acting, poetry and fables."

What a way of thinking for a teenager. She is jolly, happy and always likes to make you laugh. But this is not enough, for Miss Junella can make you have some serious thoughts too.

During the performance of the two Dutch musicians, Henk van Twillert and Tjako van Schie, piano and saxophone artists who played the most beautiful ballads, Junella had to dramatize a poem in English written by Henk van Twillert, "The Prayer."

She said it was a privilege for her to perform for the first time in English along with Henk, Tjako and percussionist Lonte Conradus. She added, "I was trembling inside because I was so nervous. It was a piece I learned just before the performance that night. I had to memorize the lyrics over and over again until I knew them by heart. On stage I felt the comfort the audience was giving me so I gave them my best. I felt it was important not to let go of my talent and my dreams. I say thanks to all who believe in me and Zenaida who helped me so much."

After Junella's performance Mrs. Merietza Haakmat, who was also the Mistress of Ceremonies for the evening, sang with her group: Mr. Hershel Rosario on guitar and Lonte Conradus on percussion.

This stormy night emphasized what was happening on the stage. Thanks to all the evening's performers and especially the talent of young Jeadon Crestian and the powerful voice of Miss Junella Nicolaas. Success to these Bonairean youngsters. We know you will have great success if you continue on the same track.

■ Siomara Albertus

**More Jazz Festival stories and photos on the back page**



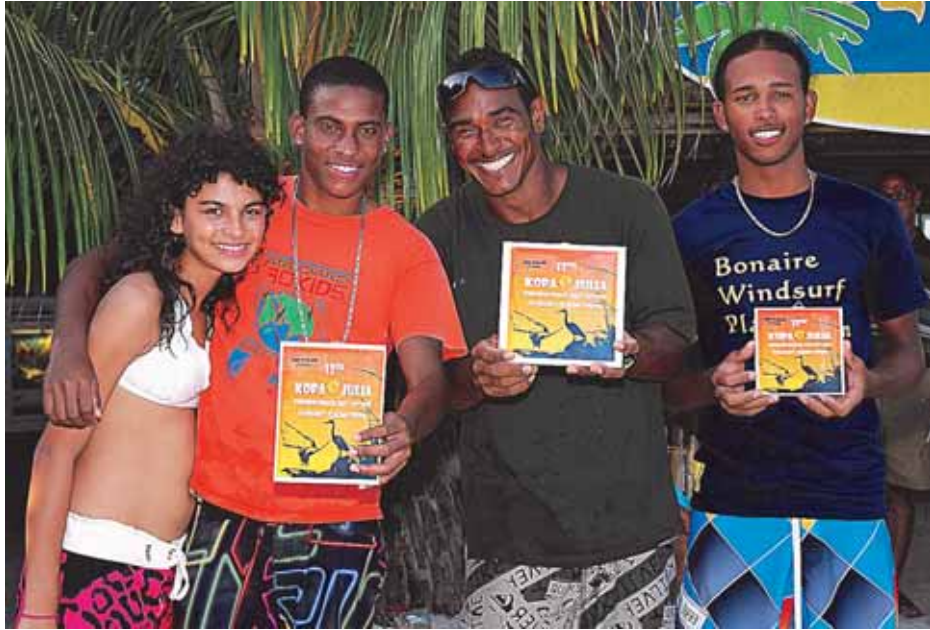
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# The 12th Julia Cup



Since Julia Martinus was a toddler windsurfing's Julia Cup has been held at Sorobon. Named after Julia (left in photo above with Bjorn, Tati and Andrew) the daughter of windsurfing pioneer Elvis Martinus and his partner, Susie Swygert, it is usually the event that starts Bonaire youngsters on windsurfing careers. Here are the results of the event held on Sunday, May 16:

#### Baby Kids Slalom

1 place Koleta Abrahamsz

#### New Kids Girls B Slalom

1 place Natascha van Swoll

2 place Niadra Kock

3 place Manuela Perez

#### New Kids Boys B Slalom

1 place Gabriel Sweers

2 place Lars van Bekkum

3 place Serginho Finies

#### New Kids Boys A slalom

1 place Nathan Finies  
2 place Oscar Etmon ( Curaçao)  
3 place Mitchell de Palm ( Curaçao)

#### Kids Girls Slalom

1 place Chanel Vrieswijk

#### Kids Boys Slalom

1 place Aron Etmon ( Curaçao )

2 place Jurgen Saragoza

3 place Rover Dullart

#### Teeners Slalom

1 place Amber Jasperse

2 place Maxime van Gent

3 place Daniela Simal

#### Juniors Slalom

1 place Amado Vrieswijk

2 place Dylan Robles

3 place Jeath Koeks

#### Women Slalom

1 place Beth Winkler USA

2 place Stephanie Todd ( USA. )



Government Press Office photos

During the last few weeks a film crew has been on island filming a documentary titled "Children of the Winds" which relates the history of the sport of windsurfing on Bonaire and how Bonaire youngsters became some of the top windsurfers in the world today. The film is being made by Peter Robinson who's worked on James Bond movies and with top Hollywood stars like Leonardo DiCaprio and Julia Roberts. They recently filmed a segment where Bonaire's Governor explained the feelings of the government. Here, two of Bonaire's stars, Taty Frans (left) and Amado Vrieswijk (right), receive awards from the Bonaire Sports Queen and Governor Thodé.

3 place Iris Jasperse

#### Men Slalom

1 place Elton " Taty " Frans

2 place Bjorn Saragoza

3 place Andrew Finies

#### Master slalom

1 place Constantino Saragoza

2 place Elvis Martinus

3 place Kenneth Abrahamsz

#### Freestyle

New kids Freestyle

1 place Oscar Etmon ( Curaçao)

2 place Serginho Finies

#### Kids Freestyle

1 place Shephard Gustowski

2 place Rover Dullaart

3 place Jurgen Saragoza

#### Freestyle Girls

2 place Maxime van Gent

1 place Andrea Simal

#### Freestyle Junior

1 place Amado Vrieswijk

2 place Felix Martina ( Curaçao)

3 place Youp Schmit

#### Freestyle Men

1 place Bjorn Saragoza

2 place Elton " Taty " Frans

3 place Andrew Finies

Compiled by Jessica Sint Jago



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# WHAT'S HAPPENING

## Cruise Ship Calls -Information provided by the TCB

Date	Day	Ship name	Time	PAX
Saturday	June 5	Explorer	0800-2300	Not listed
Tuesday	June 8	Ocean Dream	0800-1600	1000
Tuesday	June 15	Ocean Dream	0800-1600	1000

**Crafts Markets at Wilhelmina Park on Cruise Ship Visiting Days—usually 10am until ship departure.**

### CLOSE-IN EVENTS

**June 1—** Bonaire Dive into Summer. Until September 30.

**Weekends during June—** Magic Treasures Tour with Xemio Jacobs ("Magic Sounds") Goilo Promotions. Info at 522-7716

**Wednesdays: June 2, 9, 16, 23 -** Non-Violent Communication (NVC) class. At Bonaire Basics, 7:30 - 10 pm. phone 786 3341. Cost: NAf 150,- (incl handout & drinks) Language: Dutch

**Saturday, June 5—** Monthly Rincon Marshé, 6 am to 2 pm. Meet some of the nicest people on Bonaire. Music, drinks, local food, gifts, fruits and vegetables. A perfect island experience and super friendly atmosphere. Great local lunch served too.

**Saturday, June 5—** Panchito Free Kids' Movie— At Voyager Events, on the traffic circle to the airport. Showing: Planet 51 6:30-9 pm. Free

**Saturday, June 5—** Bingo Night, Club Patriotiko, 8 pm

**Sunday, June 6—** Jong Bonaire Mini Fun Triathlon. Starts at 7 am, City Café. Swimming, biking, running. Sign up by June 5, 6:30-8:30pm, City Café. Team: NAf 55; individual, NAf 25. Tickets also at Jong Bonaire, City Café, DeFree-wieler. More info: 717-4303, email: franklinveeris@hotmail.com

**Sunday, June 13—** Third Bonaire Barracuda Budget Marine Open water Swim Competition. Call 786-3451 for more info. (see page 8)

**Monday, June 14—** World Cup Soccer begins: Holland vs. Denmark. View at some local bars. (more on page 6)

**Saturday, June 19—** Helen Dovale Sargent ("Elena") exhibit of wood assemblages. Opening 5 pm, Kon Tiki. Welcome drink, snacks. Exhibition will continue. (See page 6)

**Sunday, July 4—** 18th Year Dia di Arte, Wilhelmina Park, 10 am—11 pm. Painters, authors, singers, art works, musical groups, entertainers, food, beverages. A real family day!

### REGULAR EVENTS

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

### 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

**Monday—** Dec Scarr's Touch the Sea Slide Presentation, Capt. Don's Habitat, 8:30 pm. 717-8529

**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 Condos.

**Wednesday -** Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire (STCB) presents an informative slide show: *Sea Turtles of Bonaire*, at 7pm, every **2nd and 4th Wednesday** at Bruce Bowker's Carib Inn (717-8819)

### 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

**Bridge Club - Wednesdays**, 7:15 pm— All levels, NAf2,50, call Renata at 796-5591 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.

**The Hash House Harriers** running and walking club meets every **second Wednesday** for a one hour walk throughout Bonaire. The location changes each week. The contact number is **700-4361**

**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 Crisita 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 Por'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: Call 701-9522 for Infor-

Send event info to:  
**The Bonaire Reporter**  
 reporter@bonairenews.com  
 Tel:790-6518, 786-6125

### Who's Who on The Bonaire Reporter

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LIVING ACCOMMODATIONS Rentals

**\*STUDIO Apartment for rent \***  
Nikiboko South. No pets, excl. utilities. Call 795-3456

**FOR RENT Comfortable 2 bedroom apartment** with private garden. Quiet location in Belnem, including TV + Internet. \$ 800.-- excl. utilities. Phone 717-8405

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View on Seru Largu & Seru Grandi. Two bedrooms, bathroom, small size living with kitchen and porch Downstairs large covered space. Electricity is included (sun panels with wind charger) Rent NAf 800,- per month Two months deposit **Tel: 717- 2427**

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**Apartment For Rent Available Immediately.** Downtown Area (behind Church of Playa): Kaya Madrid 8-A One bedroom, Living room, bathroom, Porch, Dining room, Garden, Kitchen NAf 1075 p/m includes: Garden Maintenance 1x p/m, Excludes: Water & Electricity. **Call 795-2022**

MISCELLANEOUS



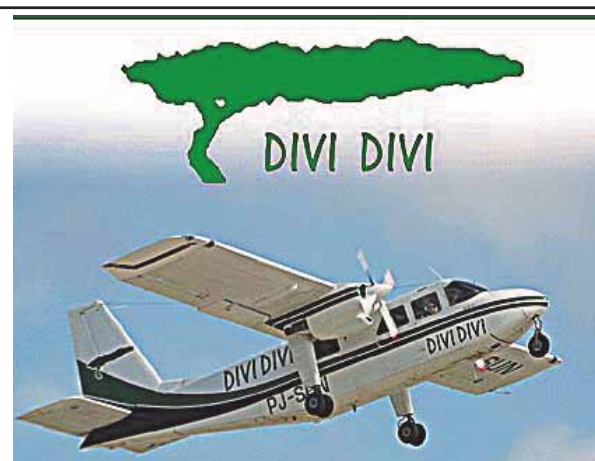
**For sale: Anton Heyboer painting - 'Boat' - in yellow and black.** Size 1.22 x 0.93 meters. NAf 2.500.- **Phone 786-3117.**

Note: Anton Heyboer's paintings are on exhibit at the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco, Harvard University Art Museums, Massachusetts and the Rijksmuseum Twenthe, Enschede, Netherlands

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**June**

Day	High	Low	High	Low	High	Sunrise	Sunset
<b>Fri 4</b>		2:35 AM / 0.44 m	5:55 AM / 0.45 m	2:01 PM / 0.30 m	9:07 PM / 0.46 m	6:07 AM	6:55 PM
<b>Sat 5</b>		4:01 AM / 0.40 m	6:53 AM / 0.42 m	1:44 PM / 0.32 m	9:06 PM / 0.50 m	6:07 AM	6:55 PM
<b>Sun 6</b>		5:05 AM / 0.37 m	7:58 AM / 0.38 m	1:10 PM / 0.33 m	9:25 PM / 0.53 m	6:07 AM	6:56 PM
<b>Mon 7</b>		6:00 AM / 0.33 m	9:07 AM / 0.35 m	12:56 PM / 0.32 m	9:51 PM / 0.56 m	6:07 AM	6:56 PM
<b>Tue 8</b>		6:49 AM / 0.30 m	10:23 AM / 0.32 m	12:54 PM / 0.31 m	10:21 PM / 0.59 m	6:07 AM	6:56 PM
<b>Wed 9</b>		7:38 AM / 0.27 m	12:06 PM / 0.30 m	12:32 PM / 0.30 m	10:53 PM / 0.62 m	6:07 AM	6:57 PM
<b>Thu 10</b>		8:26 AM / 0.24 m	11:29 PM / 0.64 m			6:07 AM	6:57 PM
<b>Fri 11</b>		9:14 AM / 0.23 m				6:07 AM	6:57 PM
<b>Sat 12</b>	12:08 AM / 0.65 m	10:01 AM / 0.21 m	New Moon			6:08 AM	6:57 PM
<b>Sun 13</b>	12:49 AM / 0.65 m	10:45 AM / 0.21 m				6:08 AM	6:58 PM
<b>Mon 14</b>	1:33 AM / 0.64 m	11:24 AM / 0.21 m				6:08 AM	6:58 PM
<b>Tue 15</b>	2:21 AM / 0.61 m	11:57 AM / 0.22 m				6:08 AM	6:58 PM
<b>Wed 16</b>	3:11 AM / 0.58 m	12:24 PM / 0.24 m				6:08 AM	6:58 PM
<b>Thu 17</b>	4:07 AM / 0.53 m	12:42 PM / 0.27 m	8:40 PM / 0.44 m			6:08 AM	6:59 PM
<b>Fri 18</b>		12:47 AM / 0.44 m	5:09 AM / 0.47 m	12:53 PM / 0.29 m	8:02 PM / 0.49 m	6:09 AM	6:59 PM

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**FOR SALE: 1 portable massage table 300 NAf, nice clothes size small, high heel shoes and sport shoes size 36/37, electric depilatory machine (maquina electrica para depilar las piernas) 100 NAf, beautiful marine travel bag big size 70 NAf, 1 SAIL 4.2m NORTHSAIL 200**

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## DIVING

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

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

## GARDEN SUPPLIES AND SERVICES

**Green Label** has everything you need to start or maintain your garden. They can design, install and maintain it and offer plants, irrigation supplies and garden chemicals. Now in new expanded location off Kaya Industria.

**Captain Don's Plants, Trees and More** sells genuine acclimated Bonaire plants. Take a 30-minute tour too. Strong plants for strong Bonaire gardens.

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

**Natural Way Health Store**—The place where all the hard to find natural and healthy products are. Upstairs from Botika Bonaire, on Kaya Grandi.

## HOME CARE

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

## INTERNET AND CELLULAR SERVICE

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

## LIQUEUR

**Taste a Cactus when you try Cadushy of Bonaire Liqueur.** Available in many shops and markets it makes the perfect souvenir of the island.

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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.

## RETAIL

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

**Best Buddies and Pearls**—Stunning fresh water pearl jewelry, fashion, gifts, t shirts. Wonderful service, free gift wrap.

## STORAGE

**The Storehouse (Mangazina** in Papiamentu) offers Secure Storage For Vehicles, Household Items, Diving And Sporting Gear, Business Files or Inventory. Across from the northern hotel row.

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

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## SUPERMARKETS

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

## ISLAND TOURS

**Christie Dovale will personally take you on a fascinating tour of the island.** Contact her via her website: **IslandToursBonaire.com** Phone 717-4435 or 795-3456. You will remember it always.

## WATER TAXI

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Dive gear specials

Bruce Bomber's

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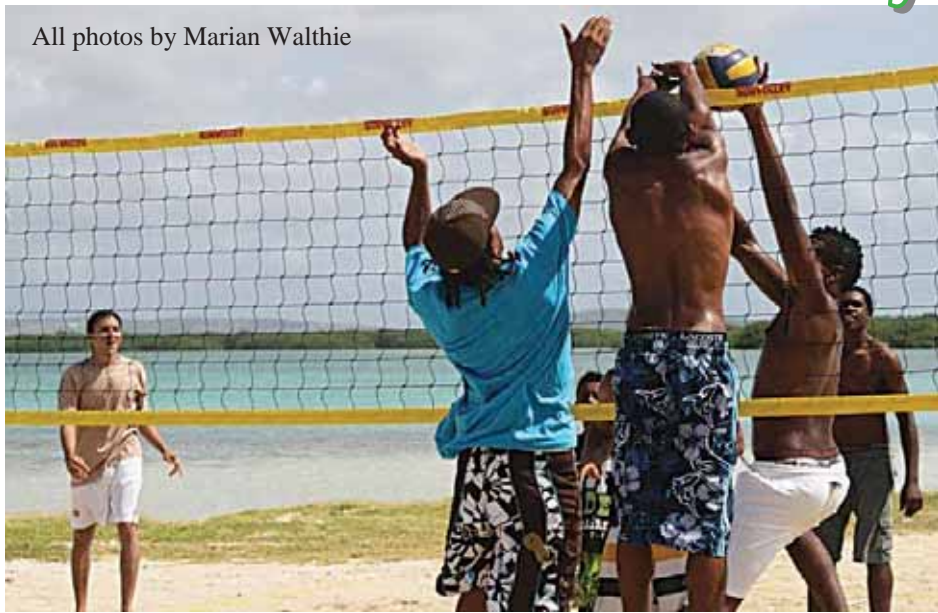
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# Bonaire Celebrates Biodiversity

All photos by Marian Walthie



On Saturday, May 22, STINAPA organized a full day of activities at Lac Bai to celebrate the International Day of Biodiversity. All the Caribbean islands that are part of the **Dutch Caribbean Nature Alliance** have environmentally protected areas that contribute to the biodiversity of the planet. To call attention to the value of biodiversity a day of celebration was held.

At the Lac celebration 623 people participated in games, eating, drinking and swimming. It was indeed a very sweet day. Thanks go to a diverse group of Bonaire organizations for a successful event: **TCB** for organizing the day; to **STCB** for collecting a sack of many kilometers of fishing line from under the sea; to **CIEE** for motivating the visitors to write in different languages, "No Entry" on rocks to be placed around Lac where vehicles are not allowed. The volleyball group, **Galaxia**, organized volleyball games and **MCB** gave a prize to the the winning team.

Thanks to all who participated. ■  
Elsmarie Beukenboom



Artist Nochie Coffie's art celebrates Nature



STCB's Mabel Nava points out the dangers of fishing line to turtles



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Reef Windows will be available in reputable book stores and shops around Bonaire  
by Captain Don

Travel back to the exciting, early days of Bonaire diving. To make you part of these adventures, I have included my Captain Don red ribbon depth gauge as a handy bookmark. Come diving with me and learn the true stories behind the names of Bonaire's dive sites.

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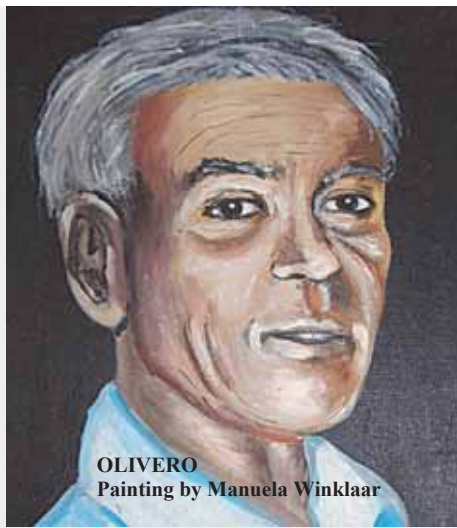
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# Olivero

Every day I see him and he sees me, but he is not there anymore. In the living room of my house there is a painting on the wall, a gift from Manuela, a painter who was also fascinated with Olivero, "Robé," or "the man with the cardboard box under his arm." It is as if he wants to speak to me from this painting, tell me something, share something with me, maybe just greet me. I feel that he wants to tell me something. Every day he tries, and it wouldn't surprise me if one day I hear the sound of his voice in my house.

Olivero is one of the persons who crossed the path of my life. My work as a writer for a newspaper and my passion for history and culture has thrown many remarkable and strange characters in my lap. One of them is Olivero. He was born, lived and died in the village called Nort di Salina, the son of Nene and Belika.



OLIVERO  
Painting by Manuela Winklaar

Nene was a Venezuelan man who arrived on Bonaire around the year 1900. His trade was cabinetmaker, fine carpentry as they say, specialized in building beds, closets tables and other home furniture.

Within a short time Nene was successful at integrating himself into Nort di Salina and had mastered Papiamentu, but an accent in

his way of speaking always betrayed his Venezuelan roots. He was a very proud man. On Bonaire he married Belika and from their union Elvia, Laura, Guillermo and Olivero were born.

Olivero liked his alcoholic drinks and the drinks liked him too. He didn't just have one or two, but a series of drinks, whether it was rum, gin, wine or simply beer. I even think that he dared to dabble with Bayrum and Alcolado (Glacial), because two of his close friends were Yanshi Glacial and Marco Bayrum, two persons in the Bonaire of the past, who used to consume these liquids.

He used to move around in Nort di Salina and Antriol, but sometimes you also could have seen him walking around in Playa with a cardboard box under his arm. When he drank too much, which happened almost every day, you found him laying on the side of the road with his cardboard box, like two faithful friends next to each other.

My first contact with Olivero happened in this way. One night I was informed that there had been a car accident. The sirens of the ambulance were blaring. The lights of the ambulance were glaring all around. The police arrived. A car had run over a man. The victim was Olivero, by then an older man already.

As it turned out, it wasn't that serious, depending, however, on how you looked at it. Only his wrist had been fractured. The driver had not seen him lying on the side of the road and drove over his right wrist. The result was that Olivero had to walk around for a few days with his wrist in a cast in order for it to heal, because it is not pleasant to have to walk around for the rest of your life with a broken wrist.

A few days afterward he was drinking the same way again or maybe even worse than before. He hadn't learned a lesson. Drinks containing alcohol were his life. He sailed from bar to bar, snack to snack, always with his cardboard box under his arm.

Late one Saturday afternoon, already dark, Olivero staggered past my house totally drunk headed in the direction of a pond, which in the rainy season was flooded with water. But that day the water had almost dried up and the surface of the pond consisted of black, stinking mud which smelled horribly. He walked into the pond, but could not successfully cross over to the other side; just about half-way he got stuck in the mud. Suddenly he fell into the mud and continued to flounder just like how fish behave when out of water in a pond that is drying up.

With much attention I watched from a distance and observed the antics of Olivero, without being able to do anything to help him. I could only give him a few instructions. I could have left him there to sleep in the mud. Then the following day, when he was in his right mind again, he could use his mental faculties and power to get out again. But I didn't think this was fair, so I called the police. Two police officers managed to pull him to the side and lead him to my house, where we used a hose to spray water on him and try to purify his body from the mud. We were not completely successful. Even so, the police took him to the station, gave him a free room, and the following day they let him clean the police car that he had dirtied with mud, as he himself told me afterward.

Of course I wrote about the happening in the newspaper. Olivero loved the publicity he received from it and started to visit me at home regularly just to sit and chat. His regular visits caused me to always have a bottle of rum or bols in the cupboard, so that I could give him one or two glasses, as he would say, to heat the veins.

This Olivero was a chatterbox. He could talk for hours without taking a breath, but

often repeating the same thing. "My father is the daddy rooster, my mother is the mommy rooster and I am the son rooster," he had a custom of saying.

He told me that once he chatted out his mouth so much at a snack bar in Antriol that one of the other patrons, totally disgusted, turned and asked him if he never got tired of talking. Olivero told me he answered that idiot: "I don't get tired of talking the way you get tired of listening."

To me Olivero was not merely a drunkard, as many people saw him. To me he was a philosopher. He was a poet. He also liked to sing; a man with a kind of contagious charm. In a few minutes he could fabricate a rhyme or a song with his own words. Content was not very important to Olivero, as long as his poem rhymed and his song was heard. What a pity that I wasn't able to keep any of them..... He took them to his grave.

I remember how one Sunday morning, during a heavy rainfall, a friend of mine, Yeschi, who also followed Olivero with much interest, organized a visit to his house for us to record something about him on video. An upside-down house, full of cardboard boxes. I interviewed him while Yeschi filmed, but as it turned out, Yeschi lost this video cassette afterward. Even though Olivero wasn't in a very good mood that morning, he spoke to us for at least two hours. Without taking a breath.

It was during that first and only visit to the house of Olivero that I came to discover what he had been carrying in his cardboard box under his arm. In the box he had a very beautiful hat stand, the work of a six-star carpenter. He said it was his work. He had learned the cabinetmaker trade from his father Nene. But it seemed to me that this hat stand was also the first and only thing that Olivero had ever made. He did not want to sell it, but he showed it to people. "This is for me to show a 'demonstration' of what I can do," he always stated. It was therefore a type of 'traveling' exhibition. The box also contained a cloth, which he used to polish this hat stand almost every day so that it would always shine. "At Shell they refine oil and on Bonaire, Olivero refines wood," he would boast, referring to his woodwork.

At the time when I became close with Olivero he was 74 years old and I was 30. But he was strong on his feet and clear in his mind, better than many his age. You were almost inclined to think that alcohol, instead of harming your body and mind, conserved the human body and nourished the human mind.

Death, like a thief in the night, stole Olivero from me and from Bonaire. The sirens of the ambulance are blowing, red lights are flashing, a multitude of people on the street, cameras are flashing lights, a car with a shattered windshield. In front of the car, laying in a pool of blood was my friend Olivero. In one of his every-day carousings, a car had struck him. The impact was fatal. I could not take his picture. I became emotional and tears started to flow from my eyes.... Suddenly the man with the cardboard box under his arm wasn't there anymore. ■ *Bòì Antoin*

*This story was the entry of journalist Bòì Antoin of the extra Papiamentu language newspaper entered last month in the 'Krusa Laman' (literature festival) in Curaçao. It's a wonderful word portrait of a man now gone.*



**Panchito Kid's Corner**  
Sharpen your Papiamentu and English language skills with this puzzle from the creator of Bonaire's top kids' website, [Panchitobonaire.com](http://Panchitobonaire.com). Tony Angila, "Tio Tony."

## Panchito Kid's Corner (Papiamentu)

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SAME	MEAN	DIFFER	MOVE	RIGHT	BOY	OLD
TOO	DOES	TELL				

Solutions on page 17



# New Reporter Staff



Welcome young Ava Wuyts to the staff of *The Bonaire Reporter*. Ava will be helping in the circulation department where she specializes in putting the newspapers into envelopes for mailing to overseas subscribers. If you want to subscribe to *The Reporter* send an email to Ava at [subscribe@bonairenews.com](mailto:subscribe@bonairenews.com) or click the subscribe link at [www.bonairereporter.com](http://www.bonairereporter.com).

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*The Reporter* pays top rates for stories and photos. ■

# NOT An Oil Spill



Photo by Ryan

When a slick was sighted along Bonaire's coasts last weekend most people thought it was oil, perhaps even coming from the oil well blowout in the Gulf of Mexico or leaking from BOPEC. The phones and emails at *The Reporter* and Marine Park went mad. "Do you smell oil?" asked Park Manager Ramon deLeon? "No? Then it's something else."

CIEE biologist Caren Eckrich looked at it under the microscope and identified it as cyanobacteria. "It is probably a species of *Trichodesmium* (see inset from Caren)– 'sawdust of the seas.' I always find it in my plankton samples, but never in this concentration. I imagine it collected near the shore due to the wind direction and shape of Bonaire. I saw other plankton swimming around in the sample, so it's not toxic when alive. When it decays, it will break down and smell and possibly change the chemistry of the water." ■ G.D.

# BonQuiz Answer

Bon Quiz (from page 8)



Q) Why do we see so many chimneys sealed off at the top these days?

A) As the old ovens have been replaced by gas ranges, the stove chimneys have been sealed off to keep bats from flying into the house.

## Sudoku Solution

Puzzle on page 7

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

# Picture Yourself With The Reporter... On an iPad in Chicago, IL, USA



Joop van Galens, who runs Bonaire's fabulous Butterfly Farm, flittered into Chicago for a visit to get an "overdose of culture, go to museums, shops, check out the latest gadgets, lots of REAL coffees and the Apple Store." While there he used an iPad to access the latest edition of *The Bonaire Reporter*. Getting a photo of it was a first for the "Picture Yourself with *The Bonaire Reporter*" section of *The Reporter*. And he received it on-line even before it came off the printing press in Curaçao.

Joop has lived on Bonaire since 2007. Part of his visit to Chicago is work-related as he is visiting wholesalers and the big butterfly exhibit in the animal museum.

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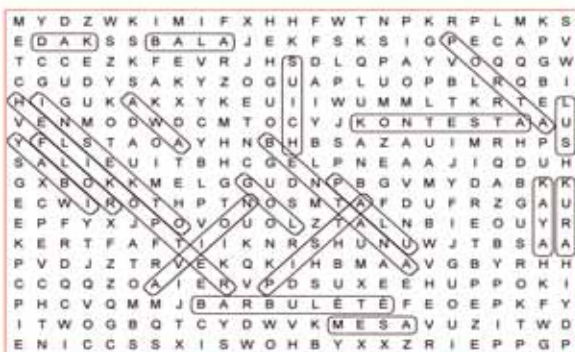
Puzzle Solutions

Puzzle on page 16



## Panchito Kid's Corner (Papiamentu)

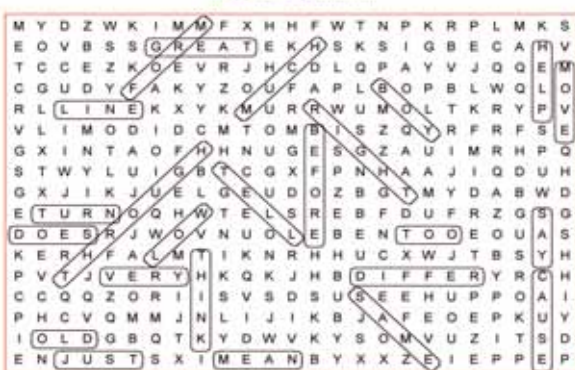
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# Pet of the Week

Here's Bonaire Animal Shelter Volunteer Hettie Holian showing off one of the 15 adorable kittens now available for adoption. (We think it's 10-week-old "Gibby.") What a choice of beautiful kittens right now – all under three months old. As Shelter volunteer Jane Madden tells us, "It's a supermarket of kittens.



Hettie Holian and "Gibby"

They come in all colors – red, red and white, black, black and white and everything in between. And they're all wonderful!" All these robust little guys and girls are full of fun and love to be cuddled. If you've been thinking about getting a kitten to love, now's the time to make your choice. The NAf 75 cat adoption fee covers all: testing for feline leukemia, vet exam, shots, worming and sterilization when they're old enough.

Meet these kittens and the other pets up for adoption at the Shelter on the Lagoen Road, open Monday through Saturday, 9 am to 1 pm, 3 to 5 pm. Tel. 717-4989. WWW.BonaireAnimalShelter.com.

You can help the Shelter by purchasing one of the most "in" tee shirts on the island – a Bonaire Animal Shelter tee shirt or tank top. Kids' shirts are \$8, adults' are \$12. See them at Carib Inn, at the Shelter Gift Shop or at the "Meet the Captain" party on Mondays at Capt. Don's Habitat. Also for sale are the ever useful Birthday Calendars by artist Anna Marie Kroes who's created endearing sketches of some of the Shelter residents. Calendars are only \$6. ■ Story & photo by Laura DeSalvo

# Bonaire Rotary Supports Historic Digitalization



Rotary photo

Rotary's Peter Groenwald presents a big check to Archivist Bò Antoin

Bonaire's Rotary Club gave substantial financial help to FuHi-KuBo, the Bonaire Historic Cultural Foundation, so that now this foundation can start with the digitalization of a large amount of audiocassettes containing interviews conducted in the 1980s and 90s with the elderly of Bonaire.

In the meantime many of these elderly have passed away. These recordings were in danger of getting lost but will be rescued and saved now with help of the digitalization technology.

During mid-1980 Arthur Sealy and Bò Antoin started interviewing the elderly people of Bonaire. The themes were Navigation, Simadan and Maskarada, and they provided a great amount of audiocassettes with recordings of stories about the history and culture of Bonaire.

Bò Antoin continued this work with Max Sint Jago. Max Sint Jago passed away a few years ago, but Bò carried on.

Besides these interviews there are also many audiocassettes with interviews that other investigators have done with people of Bonaire. Among these investigators are Pater Brenneker, Ellis Juliana, Rosemary Allen together with Angel Salsbach and other staff members of AAINA.

(Archeological Anthropological Institute of the Netherlands Antilles) At the end of the 1990s Els de Haan renewed a large amount of these recordings and trans-

ferred them over to new audiocassettes. The original cassettes were sent to the National Archive in Curaçao. With the advances in technology it was necessary to digitalize these recordings so FuHi-KuBo requested financing for this project from the Bonaire Rotary Club.

Following the request, Bò Antoin was asked to give a presentation to the members of the Rotary Bonaire, where he explained why this project was so important and how it would be carried out. Three weeks after the presentation Bò received an invitation and a check to buy the computer and accessories to begin with digitalization of the many recordings of these numerous audiocassettes. This work will take about two years because of the volume of recordings.

On behalf of FuHiKuBo Antoin thanked all the members of the Rotary Club Bonaire for the support of this important project.

He also explained that he makes use of volunteers and also people who have received community service sentences to do the work. ■ Press release

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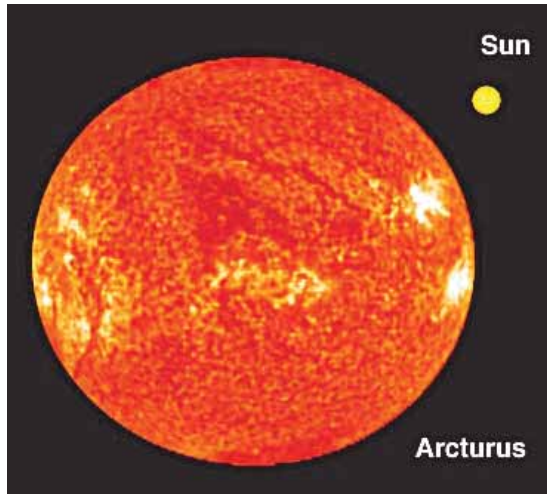


# BONAIRE SKY PARK\*

\*to find it... just look up

## Awesome Arcturus: The Now You See It, Now You Don't, Star

Do you know that when we look up at the stars at night we see the same star patterns which our ancestors saw thousands of years ago and which our descendants will see thousands of years from now? Indeed, the star patterns we see every night appear to be never-changing and fixed in their positions relative to each other. But in reality they're not. In fact all of the stars we see are moving at incredible speeds throughout space in every conceivable direction. But because they are all so incredibly far away it takes many generations to notice even small changes in their positions relative to one another, except, however, for a couple of them. And it was **Edmond Halley** for whom **Halley's Comet** is named who discovered this,\* when almost 300 years ago he discovered that the bright star **Arcturus** had changed its position from its location in ancient star charts. This made him wonder if perhaps the stars were not as permanently fixed as everyone thought. Of course, he was right, because we now know that all the stars are moving and that Arcturus just happens to change its position among the stars faster than any bright star except **Alpha Centauri**. And that's just one of the extraordinary things about Arcturus. But before I tell you more, let me tell you how to find it.



Go outside any clear evening in spring, look north for the **Big Dipper**, then use it as a guide, because to find Arcturus all you have to do is shoot an arrow through the handle of the Big Dipper and that arrow will land on Arcturus, the brightest star in the constellation, **Bootes, the herdsman**. And once you've found it, think of this: while all the other stars are moving in different directions at different speeds, Arcturus' direction and speed are very special. You see, Arcturus is moving almost 90 miles per second toward the constellation, **Virgo**, which causes it to change its position among the stars one full **Moon** width every 900 years. That's fast!

So Bootes is the one constellation that's changing its shape faster than all the rest, so fast I like to think of Arcturus as the star of a million years because it was only one-half a million years ago that Arcturus first became visible. And although it's very bright right now, in only one-half million years more it will no longer be visible to the naked eye. In fact, although ancient records listed Arcturus as the 6th brightest star in the heavens, it has moved so much closer in the past 2,000 years that it is now the 4th brightest.

Indeed, we who walk this planet now are seeing Arcturus as bright as any humans will ever see it because right now Arcturus is as close as it will ever come to our planet **Earth**. In fact it will soon, cosmically speaking, pass us by and speed away into the void forever. Think of it, Arcturus, one of the brightest stars of our time, invisible to our ancestors only half a million years ago, will be invisible once again half a million years from now! Find Arcturus now while it's still there! ■ *Jack Horkheimer*

\* **Arcturus** was the first star discovered to have proper motion. In the 1600s, Halley was perusing the 1500-year-old star charts of Ptolemy and noticed Arcturus was not in the same position. The only logical conclusion was that Arcturus had moved over the eons.



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## THE STARS HAVE IT

By Astrologer Michael Thiessen  
For June 2010

**ARIES** (Mar. 21- April 20) Be aggressive and colorful, and you will get your way. Give everyone in the house a physical chore that will help burn off some of the excess energy. Depression may result if you don't get to do things your own way. Look before you leap. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Monday.

**TAURUS** (Apr. 21- May 21) Your mind will be on matters that deal with secret affairs. You will feel tired and run-down if you have allowed yourself to get into a financial mess. Limitations at work might set you back. Renovations or purchases made for your home will pay off. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Friday.

**GEMINI** (May 22-June 21) You might have a problem juggling your time. Do something special for them. You have more than enough on your plate already. You can accomplish a lot if you deal with other people's money or possessions this month. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Tuesday.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22) Do not make rash decisions about your personal life. Your honesty will not only win you points but also respect. Romantic opportunities will be plentiful if you go out with friends. Investments are best left alone this month. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Wednesday.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug 22) You can make money if you are careful not to let it trickle through your fingers. You are best to ask questions if you aren't certain about issues that are confronting you. False information is likely if you listen to idle chatter or gossip. Social events will be rewarding. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Tuesday.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) Social evenings at your place will be highly successful. Abstain from getting involved with married individuals. Socializing will be more than just entertaining. You may be torn between two possibilities. This has left you in a confused and uncertain state. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Wednesday.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) You need to do something that will make you feel better about yourself.

Go over your finances and figure out a solid budget. Deal with in-laws this month. You will have the ability to capture the interest of others. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Saturday.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)

Help elders in your family. Your partner may be reluctant to tell you how they feel. Make love, not war, and all will be fine. Don't say things that could be damaging later on. Cut loose. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Thursday.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21)

Problems with your partner could be reaching a high level of concern. Try spending the day catching up on any responsibilities that need to be taken care of. Pamper yourself; the self esteem it brings you will be most gratifying. Get involved in jobs that require creative input. You can win points with both peers and superiors. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Thursday.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec 22.- Jan. 20)

Investments that deal with property will be lucrative; however, upsets with family members may be likely. Keep your thoughts to yourself for the time being. You can make excellent investments if you are in the right place at the right time. Too much too fast will be the attitude surrounding your home environment. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Wednesday.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19)

Travel will stimulate your need to experience exciting new things. Your goals will be in reach if you direct your energy wisely. Sudden good fortune will help you cover your debts. Put your efforts into making constructive improvements to your environment and to your state of mind. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Wednesday.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20-Mar. 20)

Romance may be better than you ever thought possible. You need to do more research before you make your final decision. You will be emotional about money matters. Take care of matters involving institutions or government agencies. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Monday.

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# All That Jazz



## What Is Jazz Anyway?

There are as many descriptions and definitions of “jazz” as there are musicians and songs. And at Saturday evening’s Jazz Festival, the audience was not only moving and grooving to the sounds of the Silver Bullet Band, Beku, and Arturo Sandoval but also waxing poetic about what is so special about jazz. *The Reporter* asked a few of the people in the audience:

**Carl Rienhart**, who comes from Curaçao to attend Bonaire’s festival every year, says “It’s the vocals, the words, the combination of musicians that go straight to my heart.”

**Vincia Phelipa**, who has lived 30 years on Bonaire, declares, “I just like the music. You listen and are

drawn into the world of music, and you think only about that.”

**Tjako van Schie**, a musician from the Netherlands who performed at Thursday evening’s concert (with Henk van Teillert), explains that “Jazz is about sharing feelings. Listen for the beauty, and if you don’t hear it, listen again.”

For **Corine Gerharts**, a music aficionado from Bonaire, jazz “gives musicians the space and the freedom to play and to improvise.”

For **Michael Gaynor**, of Chat ‘N Browse, “Jazz is fluid, eclectic, and ecumenical. All colors, cultures, and social backgrounds are united by jazz.”

And then there are those, like **Ron and**

**Dawn Sewell**, transplants to Bonaire from England, who are intent on watching the musicians for “the smiles on their faces. They have so much fun playing.”

**Razia Mirza**, medical student at St. James, concludes jazz is about background and history: “I’m from Chicago, and you’ve got to love jazz there.”

Judging by the size of the audiences at festival concerts, Bonaire can now join Chicago as a haven for jazz-lovers. ■

*Pauline Keyes*



*Arturo Sandoval lived up to his reputation as “the best trumpet player in the world.” His power and dynamic performances dazzled the Bonaire audience. His companion world class musicians, in particular Ed Calle on sax, performed so hard it seemed they’d explode. Sandoval surprised us with his ability on the piano and his throaty singing voice.*



*Antillean music doesn’t get any better than that played by the festival’s lead-off act, Kana Brabu (Wild Cane). They featured young Jeadon Crestian, the son of one of the band members (see page 10).*



*Henk van Twillert and Tjako van Schie performed versions of the haunting Portuguese Fado but then brightened the audience with their wit.*



*Some in the audience enjoyed dancing to the jazzy music* Johannetta Gordijn photo



*Was it the weather? The audience? Whatever? Bonaire’s Silver Bullet Steel Band pulled out all the stops and brought the music to a towering level.*



*BEKU brought together incredibly talented musician friends: Moogie Stewart, Gaby Mercera, and Carlos Jimenez from Bonaire with Americans Aaron Heick, Will Barrow and Leo Traversa. Appearances were made by Alfred Ronde and Manny Moreira. And the audience was mesmerized by the spontaneous duet by Moogie and Merietza Haakman.*