

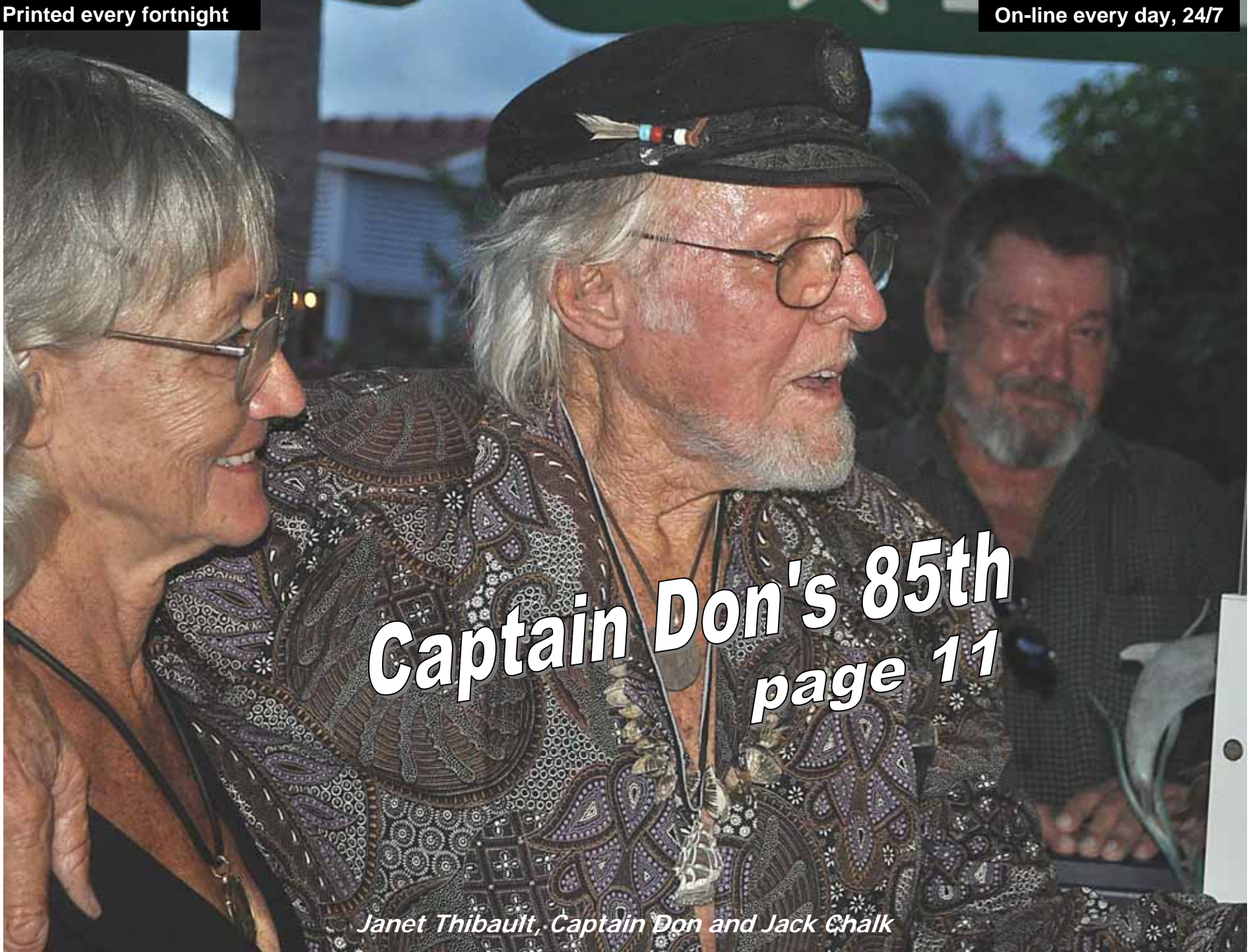
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BONAIRE July 2-16, 2010, Year 17, Issue 13
The REPORTER
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Printed every fortnight

On-line every day, 24/7

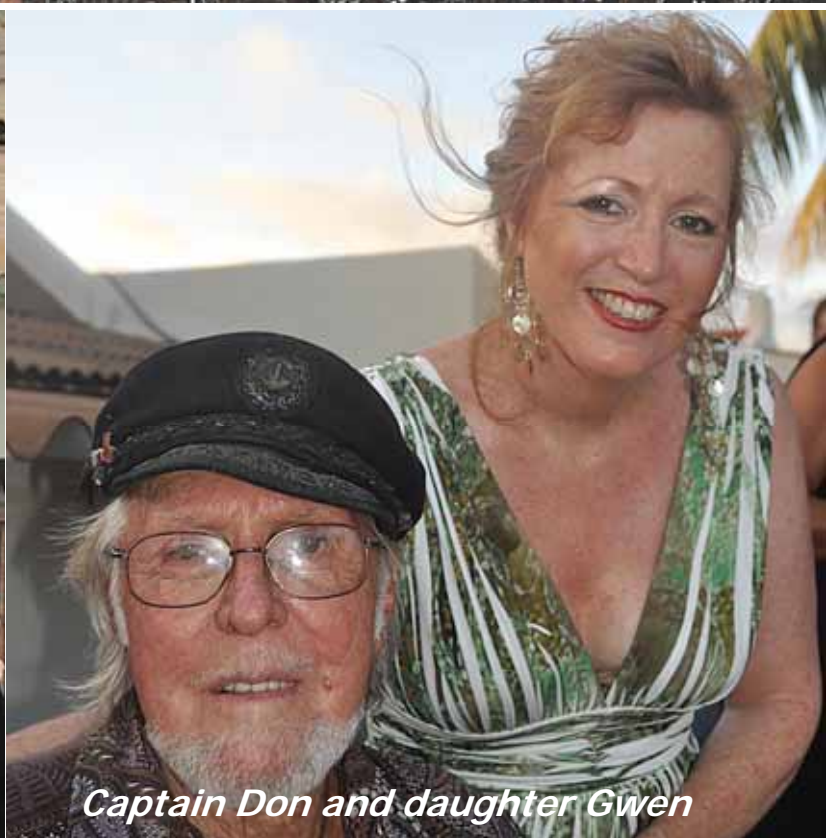


**Captain Don's 85th
page 11**

Janet Thibault, Captain Don and Jack Chalk

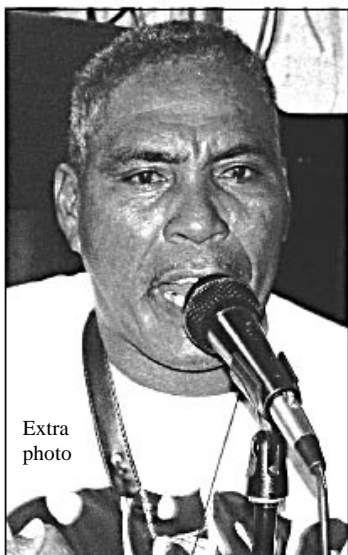


Habitat employees Baldwina and Esperanza with Captain Don



Captain Don and daughter Gwen

Sign of the times: Bonaire is preparing a Road Traffic Regulation, which defines the legal obligation to cooperate with a urine, saliva, breath (Breathalyzer), or blood test to determine if someone is under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Legislation is pending in the Netherlands to legalize this type of testing in the BES Islands It's part of the Third *Aanpassingswet*, one of the last BES laws to go to Parliament, and will include legislative proposals for the pensions of civil servants, the establishment of the Chamber of Commerce and laws regarding environmental protection and nature conservation.



Extra photo

► **Glenn Lugo, namesake of the Bonaire musical group "Glenn i su Gang," died last week** of an apparent heart attack. He was an extraordinary musician and a beautiful man. His group won international as well as local fame with their unique blend of Creole music which nurtured Bonairean culture. Glenn Gregorio Lugo was born in the barrio of Nort di Salina on January 26, 1963.

► **HAGUE--Dutch caretaker Minister of Transportation and Water Management, Camiel Eurlings, is visiting the Netherlands Antilles and Aruba this week.** Eurlings' working visit

ends in Bonaire where he will meet with the Executive Council, visit two local transport companies and perform the official kick-off for the renovation of the Flamingo Airport runway.

► **HAGUE--Dutch caretaker Prime Minister Jan Peter Balkenende is planning a farewell visit to the Netherlands Antilles and Aruba next month.** The program and agenda aren't completely defined and it is not yet known whether he will be visiting all six islands.



Johannetta Gordijnphoto

► **On Thursday, June 24th, ground was broken for a new school for SGB High School's academic track HAVO/VWO students.** The site was dedicated by Bonaire's Education Commissioner Nolly Oleana; President of the school board, Frans Lauxen; and Secretary General, Koos van der Steenhoven, from the Netherlands. The previous buildings were destroyed in a fire recently.

► **Some Bonaireans are upset that Dutch laws and rules will eventually apply to them after integration with Holland in October, specifically same-sex marriage, abortion and euthanasia.** There may be another issue waiting to break. **According to a press report in the UK newspaper, the Daily Mail, the Dutch allow witchcraft as an activity that ought to be subsidized with tax breaks.** According to *Daily Mail*, Dutch witches were "...guaranteed a financial treat

(Continued on page 8)

► The Bonaire Island Council has filed the draft **proclamation to hold a referendum to determine the opinion of the people who live on Bonaire about the deal struck with the Netherlands** that integrates Bonaire with Holland as a "special" municipality. The vote is tentatively set for **Friday, September 3, 2010.**



The voters will be able to answer Yes or No to the statement: **"I agree with the content and outcome of negotiations on the planned political structure of Bonaire."** A multi-week informational campaign will precede the vote.

The Bonaire local government most recently signed off on the structure that makes Bonaire a special municipality of the Netherlands on April 22, 2010. The specialness gives the island more freedom of choice than a normal Dutch municipality but requires acceptance of most Dutch laws including some of which offend the beliefs of some traditional Bonaireans like assisted euthanasia, same-sex marriage and legalized abortion.

Eligible to vote in the referendum are Dutch citizens who were legal residents 50 days before the date of the referendum, those 16 years of age or older. Foreigners who have been continuous residents for five years or more and meet the same conditions as the Dutch are also eligible to vote.

Votes may be cast in Papiamentu or Dutch. To make it valid 50% of the eligible voters must take part in the Referendum.

The Referendum results will not modify any existing agreements but will show the will of the people of Bonaire and color future relationships with the Netherlands.



Extra photo

► **Congratulations** to the five Bonaireans who recently graduated with a Bachelor's Degree from the University of the Netherlands Antilles:

Gino Obersi -BSc. Architecture and Civil Engineering; **Dietrich Winklaar**—BSc. Papiamentu; **Crystel Pourier** - BSc. Business Administration; **Emory Mercera**-BSc. Information & Communication Technology (ICT); and **Miles Mercera** -BSc. International Hospitality & Tourism Management.

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Available on-line at:
www.bonairereporter.com

**Printed Every Fortnight,
On-line Every day, 24/7
Next edition printing on
July 13, 2010**

**Story and Ad deadline:
July 10, 2010, 12 noon**



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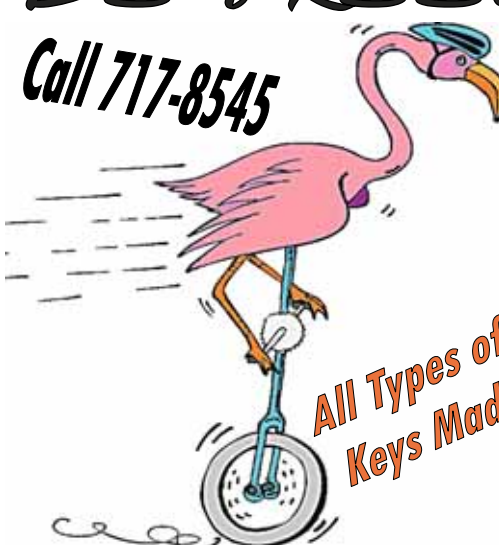
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POWER PLUS FOR BONAIRE



The Ecopower plant near BOPEC

There's a big new factory on Bonaire. And it produces something that nearly everyone on Bonaire needs—electricity. The “factory” produces high voltage for distribution to Bonaire’s present power company, WEB, which reduces the power to a level that we can use in our homes and businesses, just like a wholesaler divides bulk shipments for consumer use.

The power factory is “beyond state of the art,” says engineer Jan Spekkers who is in charge of getting the plant into production. That seems like an understatement when you consider that the plant can use four different fuels: wind, heavy fuel oil (HFO), light fuel oil (LFO) and biodiesel. It has backup and duplicates for all critical elements of its system: tanks, pumps, generators and even piping. It uses computer control, but in case of major troubles the equipment can be operated manually. It doesn't need seawater for cooling either. Say goodbye to the power outages Bonaire has been plagued with.

How can the island afford such a deluxe plant? It can't. But a private company, Ecopower, a consortium of Germany's MAN Diesel, Holland's Enercon wind turbine



The computerized control console

manufacturer and Envelop, the project leader, can. When the financial markets collapsed Envelop went bankrupt, but the funds for the plant were guaranteed by Rabobank so the project continues. When the plant is operational it will go up for sale.

Testing to date has been extensive. In fact the plant successfully provided reliable electricity to the entire island for several hours. According to engineer Spekkers the plant can theoretically supply four times the power that the island needs. In a pinch the wind turbines could do it on their own, but the plan is to use a combination of HFO and wind power until biodiesel becomes available.

The plant's emissions when burning HFO are said to exceed European pollution standards, but HFO is about five times cheaper than the alternative, LFO. This is an issue with island environmentalists.

In future edition *The Reporter* plans to provide details of how the system works. □ G.D.

Revitalizing the RSC

When Bonaire gets integrated with Holland in October the Bonairean world will tilt a bit. The functions and services provided by the Antillean Central Government in Curaçao will disappear. Bonaire will have to deal directly with the many ministries in The Netherlands for government services.

Navigating the Dutch Government bureaucracy is a skill that few Bonaireans possess. Consider that there are 14 Dutch ministries, all with their own minister. There are also several ministers without portfolio and about as many state secretaries. One of the reasons that the Regional System Center (RSC), under former Parliamentarian and Dutch Defense Minister Henk Kamp, was established was to ensure that vital ministerial services get established on Bonaire. To do that the ministries sent representatives, called *Kwartiermakers*, or Quartermasters in English, to determine Bonaire's needs and to ultimately replace themselves with local people.

The Bonaire operations of the RSC were hamstrung for a while when the new Bonairean Government delayed cooperating, but some things continued in the background. The accomplishments in improving Bonaire's education, health care, social services, fiscal administration and more were described in a story in the last edition of *The Reporter*.

When Bonaire did sign an administrative accord on April 22 of this year, things moved ahead more rapidly. Several local people have already been recruited to work at the RSC and will replace the Dutch *Kwartiermakers*. Bonaire Government workers are also receiving training to qualify them for their changing jobs.



RSC employees responsible for keeping us informed: Friso Fennema, the *Kwartiermaker* for communications, Lucia Beck and Atseline Winklaar. Not pictured, Alida Francis, communications coordinator for Saba and Statia.

In the past the RSC was criticized for poor communications.

That has changed. In just the last week five press releases have been issued by the new communications team. Newly appointed *Kwartiermaker* Friso Fennema is working with Bonaireans Lucia Beck and Atseline Winklaar to ensure good communication. As Ms. Beck told us, “people can contact us directly if they need information about RSC activities.” The phone number of the RSC is 717-8330. □ G.D.



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On the Island Since... 1973 - Edshel Martha

“My mother is Bonairean and my father is from Curaçao and I lived on Curaçao until I was 18. Then I came to Bonaire and started working and studying to become an electrician. Three years later I began to work at the Flamingo Beach Hotel in maintenance. I did that for 15 years, then I became maintenance supervisor and worked another 12 years until I had an accident and I was considered medically unfit.

I began to order plants and grow them because all my life I'd had the goal of planting as many fruit trees as possible on Bonaire. You see, when I first came here, I had a problem with my health. When I went to see Dr. Cervantes he told me I'd become ill because I wasn't eating enough fruits and vegetables, something I'd been used to on Curaçao – and that's why I'd gotten sick.

So when I couldn't work anymore because of the accident, I

started planting for myself and others.”

He looks at me in his quiet, philosophic way and says, “People say you can go to a shop and buy fruits and vegetables which come from various countries. But it makes a big difference when those fruits come from our own trees. We don't have to spray, but all the fruits and vegetables that are imported have been sprayed with a variety of things – not only with pesticides, but also with liquids to preserve them during transport. They're also sprayed to keep the colors fresh and crispy. There is a big difference in taste between the fruits that are imported and the ones you grow yourself. That's because they come directly from nature, from the soil where you live.

I also grow herbs which we use ourselves, but we sell them as well. You can use them when you cook, but also in a tea. Some of those herbs you can use as a medicine for all kinds of com-

plaints like headaches and stomach aches and there are even herbs that will give you energy.

I was born on a kunuku and I grew up with the old people. We were 13 children and we couldn't go to see the doctor for every little thing. My grandparents taught us to use what our soil was giving us. We used those plants and herbs in soups, teas or juices – the way the old people did it. That's how I learned it.

So, when I started for myself, I became so interested that I bought many books about all those medicinal plants. Every plant has its own use, but you can often use them for multiple purposes. There are things that I learned from books. Other things were taught to me by my father and God gave me two hands to use well.

Here on Bonaire and also on Curaçao there are many people who suffer from diabetic problems. I've heard from people who are using a plant called Fleira Kora, others are using the White Fleira, or the Neem tree – there are many different plants. For one week you eat some of the seeds of the Fleira when they're dry and then you repeat it again after six months. Try it and



Edshel in his garden.

see how it works out. And for instance, the pomegranate works well for people with cancer; the skin and the seeds – you can use them both. For good digestion you should drink anise tea after dinner and also when you can't sleep. Don't drink it like it's water. Take your time and think about why it is you cannot sleep – worries, problems. Mint tea is also good, but you have to be honest with yourself and look for a solution for your problems: change your track, look for a different road. Try to find a hobby because it's good for your life. Not all hobbies are good – like watching TV all the time or going to the casino.

There are so many beautiful places on Bonaire – along the coast or on a hill – where you can find peace of mind. Or... come to see Edshi, sit at my table and read one of my books about health. You can do that too.

Because of the accident I had at work, something in my back was broken and I couldn't walk. It also appeared that I was having heart problems, and because of the medicines I had to take for my heart they couldn't operate on my back. Nowadays I don't take medicines anymore, nothing at all, but I go to see the doctor every now and then – whenever I feel something that doesn't seem

(Continued on page 5)

“ I put the bottle in front of me on the table and told it, ‘I'm not going to drink you.’ ”

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On the Island Since (Continued from page 4)
 right. Go and see the doctor first. My wife Miriam and I eat very healthily and if ever I eat out, it's because I was invited.

At school I learned carpentry and painting. I also went to a special school where I learned how to weld and worked as a trainee in Miami specializing in aircos and refrigerators. I still work as an electrician and as a plumber, but I also make furniture and Miriam paints it. However, my true love lies with the plants.

There was a time when I was drinking and smoking way too much. It wasn't good for me and I became a nuisance to myself and others. I quit. It's hard. Some people have a relapse after a year or so. I put the bottle in front of me on the table and told it, 'I'm not going to drink you.' Every day I saw that bottle standing there, but I wasn't going to drink it. There comes a day when you don't see it anymore – you don't feel like it at all anymore."

Edshel Martha is a man who thinks before he acts or speaks. He has a very beautiful way of thinking. He has patience and wisdom and he is someone you can totally rely on.

"Some time ago I met Jan-Jaap van Almenkerk who came to buy plants from me. Jan-Jaap is working for the Kibra Hacha Foundation and he asked Jong Bonaire if there were some children between 13 and 16 years who would be interested in planting. Then he came to me to ask if I were willing to have the children use my kunuku. I thought it was a great idea. I serve them food or juice I make myself from my plants and they eat

and drink it. After that we tell them about those plants and fruits and teach them all there is to know. Twice a week, every Tuesday and Thursday, they come to the kunuku. Sometimes we also go to visit other foundations or organizations, like the Butterfly Farm, the Animal Shelter, the Fish Farm at Sorobon, or we go into the *mondi* to look for seeds or cuttings which we plant here. All in all it's a successful program and the children love it!

I also have five children of my own and six grandchildren. My daughter Shami works at Aquamarine School in the daytime and at night at Donna & Giorgio's. My daughter Edsheline works at the tax-free perfume store at the airport. Daughter Brigitte works at Lion's Den. Daughter Loreanne works at Bonaire Gift Shop and my son Edshel just finished high school. I have wonderful children; they are just great people.

I work every day and I take time for God and to read the Bible. That's also good for your life. I work for people and I work in nature, and at night I don't watch television. I sit outside and there's always something to do before it's time to go to sleep and... time passes by before you know it... fast!



Edshel and his wife Miriam

Yeah, it's important that everyone on Bonaire starts planting, at least one or two fruit trees. There are many trees which you have to water for only one year. After that they can do it on their own. They give you shade and delicious fruits and you enjoy the oxygen – that's the best. Some people say that fruit trees are for the Loras, but... those birds have to live too. We have to live together. If everyone has a fruit tree the Lora cannot go to all those trees at the same time. Think about it.

Animals are so much wiser than people, because people do things they can't turn around. Birds and animals live with na-

ture; they know when a hurricane, an earthquake or a tsunami is coming. People drill a hole in the bottom of the ocean floor and they cannot reach it when disaster strikes and the hole needs to be plugged. They didn't think about that and that's a sin, because the earth does not belong to you or to me – it belongs to every living creature..."

■ *Story & photos by Greta Kooistra*



					
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2010 Parrot Watch First Lora (Parrot) Eggs Hatching



First Lora chicks

R. Evans photo

The 2010 Lora breeding season has been well underway for a while, and a Parrotwatch update is well overdue! The only excuse is that it has been a very exciting and hectic season for the team this year with so many new projects and research interests. We have been continuing to monitor the reproductive efforts of the Lora by recording how many nests are active from the areas we know. We then record the numbers of eggs laid, chicks hatching and continue monitoring the growth rate of the chicks until they fledge. There was some concern this year about whether the Loras would breed at all, or to what extent, as the Bonairean “winter” or wet season didn’t quite materialize between the previous November and March. With no rain, the food supply for the Lora would be limited in the *mondi*, and we thought that this may have delayed or even halted breeding attempts for this year. In many other long-lived bird species like the Lora (that lives for at least 30-40 years), if the female birds are not in good enough condition leading up to the breeding season, they simply won’t breed.

If they do, it will cost them too much physiologically, and it may jeopardize their future reproduction or even their survival. However, the Lora proved us wrong, and like clockwork, they initiated the 2010 breeding season on time. Clearly, they’re much tougher than we thought. The team have noticed some strange patterns that may be the result of abnormal weather patterns.

- Firstly, some Loras, especially in northern areas of the island, have initiated their nesting much earlier than others. While some chicks are starting to develop some strikingly beautiful feathers already, some eggs are still yet to hatch in other nests! This may reflect the variation in rainfall distribution and food abundance.
- Secondly, we suspect that the average clutch size (the number of eggs laid) is smaller on average. This could be because the parents have not been able to invest as much energy in large clutches due to lack of food over the winter. These are all very interesting observations that we will be able to draw conclusions from at the end of the season when all of

our data is drawn together. These findings are important as they reflect how the Lora might fare in years of severe drought such as El Niño years and other large-scale climate phenomenon. Joining the team this year are two Conservation Science Masters students from Imperial College London. They are working on very different projects involving Bonaire’s Lora. **Danielle Parks** has already appeared in *The Reporter* (4th of June) looking for candidates to participate in her study on crop damage caused by Loras. She is currently experimenting with methods of deterring Loras from damaging mango crops and looking at attitudes of fruit growers towards the Lora while trying to provide a solution. **Matthew Richards’** project looks at the effect of temperature and humidity on hatching success within different Lora nests. He will be comparing these variables with previous years and this current year’s nest success. This will provide us with information on the best conditions for incubating baby Loras that can be replicated in nest boxes that we build. Both Matt and Danni are contributing greatly to our knowledge of the Lora in the wild, and are a great help in the field now during the busiest part of the season! □

Rhian Evans
Evans is leading the Parrotwatch project team in its 5th year on Bonaire.



Nutritional Center Opens

Essence
[ˈes. ənt se] n
“all that makes a thing what it is”
Opening Thur. 1st July

Essence opens on Bonaire on July 1st as a nutritional centre, concentrating on awareness of lifestyle and diet and the effect this has on your health. Essence is owned and operated by Stephanie Bennett, well known to readers of *The Reporter* for her regular articles on health and the human body (“Body Talk”). Stephanie says, “The dictionary definition of essence is ‘all that makes a thing what it is,’ and that gives you a good idea of what to expect. In Essence I am combining state-of-the-art technology- which enables accurate measurement of body fluids - with products which, among other things, correct any imbalance, improving the state of mind and restoring balance. Whether our services and gifts are for yourself or someone else, they are there to enjoy, amuse, reflect, uplift or to encourage. Finding the essence is up to you.” In Essence you will find an amazing array of teas. Herbal teas, Green teas, Black teas, Caffeine-free teas, Traditional blends, Fruit and Flower teas and much, much more. The teas are either organically grown or wild harvested and they can be purchased loose

(Continued on page 7)

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BONAIREAN VOICES

ART DAY-DIA DI ARTE

On Sunday, July 4th Bonaire will celebrate its 18th Dia di Arte -Art Day. It's a day when all artists of Bonaire can exhibit their artistic skills to the public in Wilhelmina Park. The important and valuable person behind this event is Mrs. Emma Sint Jago (59), a pioneer who has promoted our Bonairean artists on many occasions.

Emma herself has many different talents that she's shared since she was a very young girl of eight years old. Emma tells us, "I liked to get singing and speech lesson from different well known people in the music business. At the opening of a radio station here in Bonaire when I was only eight years old they wanted me to give a speech. I had the courage and I did it! When I was 12 my mother wanted me to sing in a church choir. By the age of 15 I was singing in a band called 'The Beat Band.' Then I started singing with Mr. Milton Koeks as a duo in 'She and Me.' Milton was on his keyboard and I was a singer. It was fun. Even today people still remember me as part of the 'She and Me' duo. Since then I've kept pushing myself to promote my Bonairean talent. From 1980 to 1987 I participated in different festivals like the ones put on by Bonaire Trading and the Bonaire Petroleum Company and also festivals in Curaçao, Puerto Rico and Venezuela. In 1990 I organized Duo Fest to promote our Bonairean talent, our artists and composers. The main purpose of the Duo Fest was to encourage couples to compose their own songs and become composers. The last Duo Fest I organized was in 2007 on the ship *Freewinds*.

Speaking about art actually means mostly



everything that has to do with a talent. In 1993 I decided to start with the first Dia di Arte because when I used to visit different homes of Bonairean artists I found that they didn't know how to exhibit their work to the public, and they had some wonderful hand made art pieces. So together with some artists we organized our first Dia di Arte. It was just a try out, but then it became a reality. We had singers, dancers, handcrafters, painters and many more. That day was so fun and such a success. In this way I started with EMROSE production. On many occasions we've had Venezuelan dance groups performing during the Dia di Arte Day celebrations. After three years of celebrating Dia di Arte we started the Foundation Art and Culture Bonaire. It creates different dance groups, singers and poetry tellers. Our main goal was and still is up to this day to promote the Bonairean artist and then to send them out to participate in different international festivals. In 1997 Bonaire participated in the Caribbean Gospel Festival and twice Bonaire won." (Emma Sint Jago selects the partici-



pants for these festivals.) "My dream for the future is for Bonaire to have its own national theater. Since 1989 we have been longing for that but without any success. To build a theater for Bonaire lots of funds are needed. In this theater we can give lessons in art, music and singing, helping our Bonaireans to grow in their talent. I encourage our youth to take our artistic work seriously and help Bonaire progress. We middle aged persons are not here forever and our youngsters need to learn from the grown ups now. On the 4th of July we are waiting for you to visit the 18th edition of Art Day in the Wilhelmina Pak." ■ Story & photo by Siomara

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



Essence Opens (Continued from page 6) or in tea pillows (Bleach-free of course), mixed gift packs or sample quantities as well, so that you can try out a few "Mood Teas" and decide which you want a larger amount of next time. Of course teas are only at their best if made correctly. With each tea you will find useful information about how to do this in the form of tea cards. Our range of hand-made soaps are all made on Bonaire using organic fragrances, colourings, herbs and flowers from around the world, including locally grown herbs from our own garden. There are also some wonderful novelty soaps which make bath-time fun for kids (small and large). Essence can be found in Antrion on the corner of Kaya Papa Cornes and Kaya Gloria, with the entrance in Kaya Gloria. There is plenty of parking space. Opening hours are 8am to 2pm, Monday to Friday. On Saturdays, 9 to 12. The informal Open Day is on Thursday, July 1, 8am to 2 pm. Join us for tea sampling. Literature will be available (free of charge) on various health issues and Saturday mornings will be used for on-the-spot pH and Vitamin C tests. No appointment will be necessary. Telephone Stephanie on 788-0030 for more information. ■ Press releasae

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.**

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

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BONAIRE
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Flotsam and Jetsam (Continued from page 2) when the Leeuwarden District Court reaffirmed their legal right to write off the costs of schooling up to several thousand dollars in deductions.”

► The US Consulate General in Curaçao announced an **Online Visa Information Web Service to better meet the needs of visa applicants** in the Netherlands Antilles and Aruba. This service is available to the public 24 hours a day from anywhere in the world. Applicants have two options now: the new online service for a \$10 fee paid via the website using either Visa or MasterCard, or the current live telephone service with a customer service representative (001-602-567-9833) for a \$19 fee.

You may access the new web service at <https://www.usvisa-info.com/en/selfservice>

Applicants are able to schedule an appointment for a non-immigrant visa and obtain information regarding non-immigrant and immigrant visas to the US and all associated application requirements.

► **Private forecaster Weather Services International (WSI) said on Tuesday its latest forecast called for a more active 2010 Atlantic hurricane season.** It's calling for 20 named storms, 11 hurricanes and five intense hurricanes of a category 3 or greater. The forecast adds two storms and one hurricane to a WSI prediction released in May. The forecast is significantly above the long-term average taken between 1950-2009 which shows 10 named storms, six hurricanes and two intense hurricanes.

► **The first tropical storm of the Atlantic season, "Alex," headed overland** toward the Gulf of Mexico early Sunday, drenching Belize, northern Guatemala and Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula with torrential rains. Hundreds of tourists and residents fled low-lying islands off Belize on Saturday as Alex swept in with torrential downpours and winds of 60 mph (95 kph).

► As of July 12, **Tiara Air is more than doubling its flights between Bonaire and Aruba.** On Monday, Wednesday and Friday it has flights from AUA to BON at 10:20 am and 7:30 pm, with returns 1 hour 10 minutes later. On Sunday the have a single flight leaving AUA at 7:10 pm, returning at 8:25 pm. Aruba's many visitors can now enjoy the delights of Bonaire a lot more conveniently.

► Four officers of the US Transport Security Administration (TSA) performed an audit of the Bonaire International (Flamingo) Airport (BIA) at the end of last month to **verify that BIA complies with all international security regulations** and with the supplementary regulations of TSA for flights to the US. TSA verified documents, procedures, processes, training and qualifications. TSA was satisfied with the result of the audit.

► **Read your favorite Bonaire English language newspaper wherever you go.** Just click on: www.bonairereporter.com. The on-line edition has all the same stories and ad-



Rotary photo

► **Rotary Club Bonaire has named a new board for the 2010 – 2011 session:** Anita Groenendal, **President Pieter Groenendal**, Suzi Joukes, **Secretary Philip Joukes**, Lena Domacassé, **Treasurer Herbert Domacassé**. Not pictured: Incoming **President 2011-2012 Richard Hart**, **Asst. Secretary Addo Stuur**, **Asst. Treasurer Rosalie Bierings** and **Sargent-at-Arms Ruud Vermeulen**



STINAPA photo

► Chief Ranger of the Bonaire Marine Park, **Edwin "Din" Domacassé**, is here between the **two new BoCar Grand Tiger pickups**, one for the Marine Park and one for Washington Park. The trucks were purchased in part from Din's award of the 'Gouden Vandel' which included a cash stipend of €20.000 from the Dutch *Nationale Postcode Lotterij*.



Jong Bonaire photo

► **Rotary Bonaire has once again provided financial support for the popular Jong Bonaire Kids Calendar project.** **President Huub Groot (right) presented a check to Jong Bonaire Treasurer Alan Gross at the weekly Rotary meeting at Divi Flamingo Resort.**

vertisements plus a "Raw News" section with the latest Bonaire developments. **It's still free too...** although donations are very welcome.

► Jan Arnold Franken's Foundation for Family Development Project invites young people and families to a **free seminar to learn about how young people can cope with stress.** The next session is on July 1 from 7-9 pm at the North Salinja Sentro di Bario. Call 788-2728 for information and to register.

► **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 #32

Cauldron



Christie Dovale photo

Take a good look at this cauldron and imagine it actually in place and in use years ago on plantations. These cauldrons came from Europe and were used on Bonaire in several locations. Plantations that produced and exported this particular product used these huge pots. The product was harvested and a certain part of it was cooked in these pots. It was heated to a certain temperature, cooled, then placed in lined boxes and exported from Bonaire. It has been said that the last harvest that took place on Bonaire of this product was in 1973. It has also been said that the quality of the Bonairean product was the highest in the whole Caribbean!

Q) What is the product that was cooked in these cauldrons?

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



Don't Forget Art Day- Sunday, July 4, 11am-11pm Wilhelmina Park waterfront

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Bonaire's Future Mapped Out

Environmental Development Plan for Bonaire Now Available

The Draft Environmental Development Plan for Bonaire (ROB) is out for comment. It was presented last week by Environmental Commissioner Anthony Nicolaas; the head of DROB, Miguel Martis; and advisor to the Lieutenant Governor, Niels Bots. The Island Council will vote on it after informational evenings and public hearings.

Bonaire is the first Antillean Island with such a complete plan. The ROB will be available digitally on line as well as in the offices of DROB. Deputy Anthony Nicolaas said, "On the internet, people can zoom in on a parcel on the plan and view exactly what can and cannot be built there." He thanked all co-workers of the many services that had worked on the plan. The ROB is effective for the next five years.

Martis explained the ROB: "It is designed to reflect the nature and identity of Bonaire. What is the vision for Bonaire and what are the population's wishes for the development of the island are questions that were important in formulating this plan. The project is named 'Huntu pa un Boneiru balansá' ('Joined Together for a Balanced Bonaire')."

On the chart you see large green areas for a nature reserve, which also includes the five so-called Ramsar-areas: Lac, Pekelmeer, Gotomeer, Klein Bonaire and Washington-Slagbaai. Some purple can be seen here and there, mainly outside the built-up area, where industrial activities are permitted. The kunuku areas also have their own color, light green. The entire east coast and the Bolivia area is light purple, which stands for 'open nature reserve'."

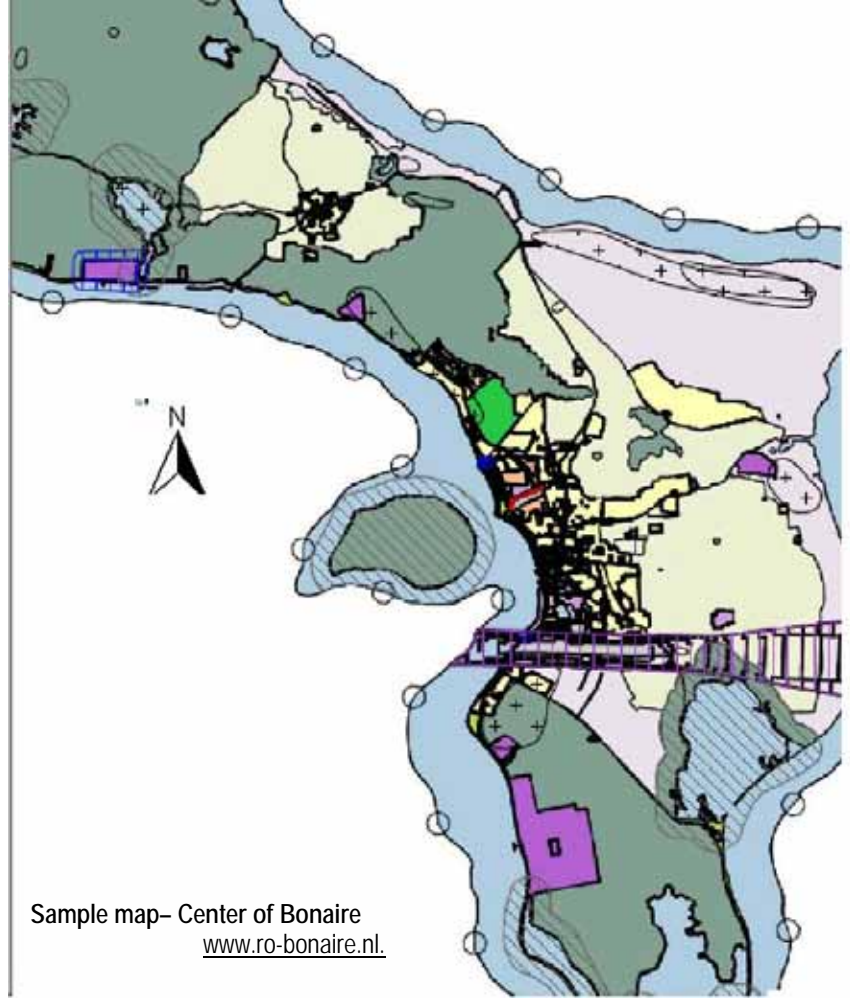
The plan envisions a maximum doubling of the population until 2015 –from more than 15,000 to 30,000.

However, the study groups advised that investment in the infrastructure will be necessary if the population expands. Currently 10% of the island is currently built on or developed. Martis expects this will probably increase to approximately 18% in a number of years.

The first public meeting to discuss the ROB was held on June 29th at Jong Bonaire, and the second on July 1st in the *Sentro di Bario of Rincon*. The plan will be open to public inspection for one month, and two more public hearings will be held at the end of September to consider objections on zoning in the ROB. Nicolaas expects that the Island Council will have discussed and approved the plan in October and then it will come into force definitely. For him, it was important to have the ROB ready in any case before 10-10-10 so that the Netherlands will have no say in this.

Opinions and objections to the plan can be expressed following the public hearings.

From July 8, 2010, the draft plan will be available for a period of 30 days for review at the Department of Physical Development and Management (DROB) at Kaya Amsterdam 23, second floor. Also, the plan is available digitally through the Bonaire government website www.bonairegov.an or directly at www.ro-bonaire.nl.



Sample map- Center of Bonaire
www.ro-bonaire.nl

Comments must be in writing, provided with the sender's name and address, and sent to the Island of Bonaire, Head of the Spatial Development and Management, Kaya Amsterdam 23. □ Press release/G.D.

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Young Talent Exhibition

“The “Young Talent” exhibition at Kas di Arte during the weekend of June 18 to 20 showed the works of SGB students in their final year. These students love to paint, photograph and – in their own words – do weird, arty stuff. There is a lot of young talent on this beautiful island and we feel that these talents should be nurtured, motivated and cherished. And above all: they should be seen! Unfortunately, not all their work could be shown here. Due to a fire that earlier this year destroyed, among many things, the art classroom and everything in it. This is also the reason that we decided to add some exceptional works of students from the pre-exam classes.

We hope you enjoy the exhibition and we hope that Young Talent will become an annual tradition!

Students who have contributed to this exposition are:

Rhonda Celestijn, Julivienne Anthony, Joshua Carter, Enrique Vasquez, Benazir Berends Charles, Shaina Tokaay, Renata Martiszoon, Hillianthe Valerio, Candice van Esveld, Andrea Simal, Xuelian Wu, Timo van der Veen, Devany Domacassé, CyAngela Pourier, Margaux Tellez, Andriana Rodriguez, Louise Martijn and Farahnaz Cecilia.

The exhibition was made possible with the cooperation of Kas di Arte and the support of the Rotary Club Bonaire.” □

SGB Teachers



Photograph of Andrea Simal by Xuelian Wu



Enrique Vasquez with some of his photographs



Some of the talented exhibiting students with art teacher, Karen de Wit (at left)



Guitarist Luis Gorrin with singer Devany Domacassé



Shaina Tokaay with her first book



The Janga girls enjoyed the show

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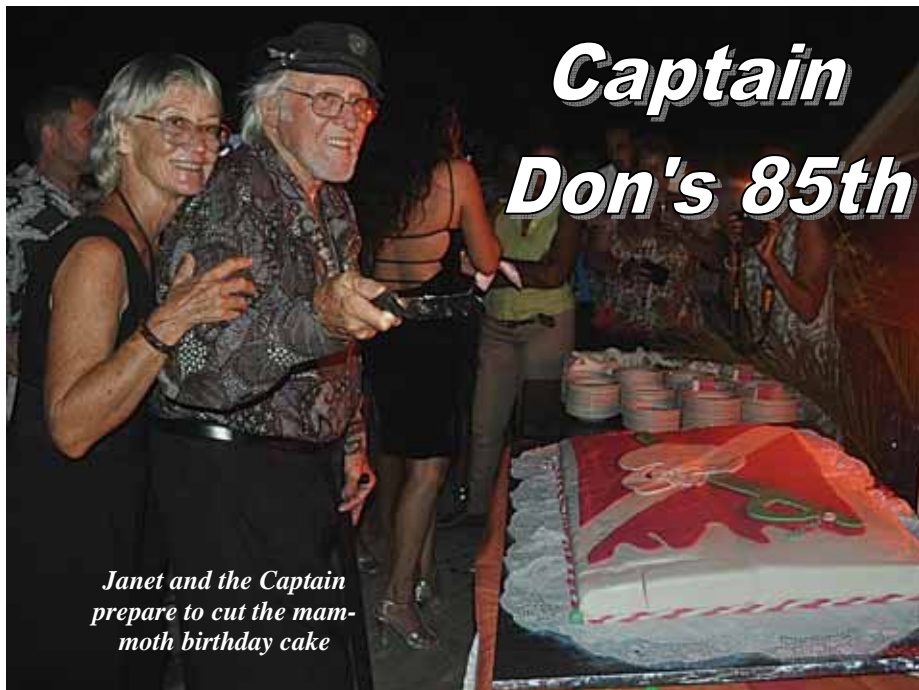
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“Elena” Art Exhibiton



The Art Exhibit of Helen Dovale Sargent, who signs her work “Elena,” opened with a festive party at Kon Tiki Restaurant on Saturday, June 19. Art lovers, buyers and well wishers, many of them friends and artists themselves, came to view the artist’s latest works. Kon Tiki’s chef and staff provided an outstanding series of creative and delicious hors d’oeuvres as well as an exotic punch presentation which was an art piece in itself.

Elena’s work is featured in “Elena’s Corner” at Kon Tiki. ■ L.D.



Janet and the Captain prepare to cut the mammoth birthday cake

The TCB and Captain Don’s Habitat Resort put on a mammoth bash for the 85th birthday of the founder of Bonaire’s dive industry, Captain Don Stewart. The Captain was honored with a Lifetime Achievement Award presented by Commissioner Anthony Nicolaas and a gift of a beautiful sculpture from the employees of the resort.

On hand to celebrate was Captain Don’s daughter, Gwen, who spent her formative years on Bonaire living with her parents. So many old friends were greeting The Captain that he exclaimed, “I feel like they are passing by my coffin to pay their respects.”

The Silver Bullet steel band, unlimited food and drinks made it a very joyous occasion. □ G.D.

Washington-Slagbaai Archaeology

Dr. Jay Havisser is continuing archaeological field research in Bonaire’s Washington-Slagbaai National Park.

The research was initiated by STINAPA Bonaire with cooperation of Leiden University’s Archaeology Department and Aruba’s Archaeology Institute, Bonaire’s Archaeological Institute Bonai and Simarc.

This field study is a first example of an archaeology project organized by an island of the Netherlands Antilles where Dutch institutions, such as Leiden University, have been invited to assist. Up until now Dutch institutions selected sites and led the research with the assistance of local/Caribbean organizations.

The Bonaire Public Works Department (DROB) is supervising the field research which will be conducted under the first application of the Malta Treaty on archaeological research. The treaty defines the procedures and process that all archaeology research must follow including permits, rules for collection and ownership of artifacts. **It will apply to all applicable new construction sites on Bonaire to ensure that important historical artifacts are not inadvertently destroyed.**

The research in Washington-Slagbaai National Park has been ongoing for the past month (see the last edition of *The Reporter*). The final days of the fieldwork, now underway, consists mainly of updating pre-historic sites in the park and hunting for new ones.

Havisser had carried out the original survey of the sites in 1988. All the some 3,000-



year-old prehistoric sites mapped by Havisser have so far been reconfirmed by the latest field research and the remains of an early 17th century cannon battery on the heights above Slagbaai has been uncovered. A key goal of the excavations is to collect samples for radio carbon dating. Samples will be sent to the Netherlands for testing. Havisser is one of the founders of Bonai which has taught high school students with interest in archaeology the basics and inspired them to pursue studies in this and related areas.

The Executive Council of Bonaire directly requested Havisser’s involvement in the field research from the Executive Council of St. Maarten, Havisser’s current employer. The Mondriaan Foundation is a primary sponsor of the Bonaire fieldwork □ Press release/G.D.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING

CLOSE-IN EVENTS

Until September 30 -Bonaire Dive into Summer.

Thursday, July 1—Opening of Essence Nutritional Center, Antriol, corner Papa Cornes & Kaya Gloria. 788-0030. More on page 6

Thursday, July 1—Bonaire Development Plan (ROB) info gathering, Sentro di Bario, Rincon. More on page 9

Friday, July 2—Open House Caribbean Court Villas, 4-6 pm. See ad on page 20

Saturday, July 3- Marshe Di Rincon, Famous Rincon street market from 9 am-4 pm

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!

Tuesday July 6th - Intermediate Vinyasa Yoga Class starts. Power yoga that makes you sweat. At Bonaire Basics, Kaya Korona 47, 786-3341.

Friday, July 9—Free seminar: “How Young People Can Cope With Stress.” North Salinja Sentro di Bario. 788-2788 for information and registration.

Saturday, July 10 -Dive Friends Underwater Clean Up. Meet at Dive Friends at Yellow Submarine dive shop at 1 pm

July 12 - 17 - 1st IFCA Windsurf Slalom World Championship - A week-long event with professional competitions, happy hours, BBQs and more. At Sorobon

Saturday, July 17 - Taste of Bonaire Experience food, culture, local handicrafts and all things offered on Bonaire. Taste signature dishes of well-known restaurants offered at special prices. Wilhelmina Park starting at 6 pm.

July 28 - August 1 - 6th Annual Starboard Pro Kids Freestyle World Championship. A week of activities with special focus on young children participating. An internationally recognized windsurfing competition which is the meeting point of different countries around the world. For more information: www.prokidsfreestyle.com

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 (NA\$17,50) 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](http://www.bestislandtour.com)

- **Meet the Captain Night at Captain Don's Habitat Bar**— Get up close and personal with Bonaire's dive pioneer. The Captain will autograph your copy of his newest book [Reef Windows](http://www.ReefWindows.com).

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

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, NA\$2,50, 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 **2nd and 4th Thursday** of the month at 8 pm at Kaya Sabana #1. All Lions welcome. For more information call 510-0710.

Rotary lunch meetings Wednesdays, 12 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 information

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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The Bonaire Reporter, George DeSalvo, Publisher. Laura DeSalvo, Editor in Chief. Address: P. O. Box 407, Bonaire, Neth. Antilles. Available on-line at: www.bonairereporter.com **Published every two weeks**

Reporters: Siomara Albertus, Stephanie Bennett, Tony Bond, Christie Dovale, Rhian Evans, Johanna Gordijn, Jack Horkheimer, Kamal Kapoor, Greta Kooistra, Panchito (Tony Anglia), Ruben Petrisie
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Distribution: Yuchi Molina (Rincon), Elisabeth Silberie & Georgina Sanchez (Playa), Divi-Divi Airline

Housekeeping: JRA. **Printed by:** DeStad Drukkerij, Curaçao

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July

Day	High	Low	High	Low	High	Sunrise	Sunset
Fri 02		00:12 / 0.34 ft	04:26 / 0.51 ft	12:32 / 0.13 ft	19:09 / 0.56 ft	6:15	19:04
Sat 03		01:36 / 0.28 ft	05:11 / 0.41 ft	12:45 / 0.10 ft	19:25 / 0.66 ft	6:15	19:04
Sun 04	LQ moon	02:46 / 0.20 ft	06:00 / 0.31 ft	12:57 / 0.08 ft	19:46 / 0.76 ft	6:15	19:04
Mon 05		03:48 / 0.12 ft	06:50 / 0.21 ft	13:11 / 0.07 ft	20:13 / 0.86 ft	6:15	19:04
Tue 06		04:45 / 0.04 ft	07:42 / 0.12 ft	13:26 / 0.08 ft	20:43 / 0.95 ft	6:16	19:04
Wed 07		05:39 / 0.04 ft	08:37 / 0.05 ft	13:45 / 0.09 ft	21:19 / 1.03 ft	6:16	19:04
Thu 08		06:32 / 0.10 ft	09:38 / 0.01 ft	14:08 / 0.10 ft	21:58 / 1.09 ft	6:16	19:04
Fri 09		07:22 / 0.15 ft	10:49 / 0.04 ft	14:36 / 0.09 ft	22:42 / 1.12 ft	6:16	19:05
Sat 10		08:08 / 0.20 ft	12:15 / 0.04 ft	15:11 / 0.06 ft	23:28 / 1.12 ft	6:17	19:05
Sun 11	new moon	08:49 / 0.23 ft	13:50 / 0.01 ft	16:01 / 0.00 ft		6:17	19:05
Mon 12	00:18 / 1.08 ft	09:26 / 0.25 ft	15:02 / 0.11 ft	17:34 /		6:17	19:05
Tue 13	01:11 / 1.00 ft	10:00 / 0.26 ft	15:50 / 0.25 ft	19:37 /		6:18	19:05
Wed 14	02:07 / 0.89 ft	10:34 / 0.26 ft	16:33 / 0.41 ft	21:38 /		6:18	19:05
Thu 15	03:08 / 0.75 ft	11:07 / 0.25 ft	17:14 / 0.59 ft	23:25 / 0.19 ft		6:18	19:04
Fri 16	04:12 / 0.61 ft	11:41 / 0.24 ft	17:57 / 0.76 ft			6:18	19:04

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Antillean Windsurfers In Europe



Other freestylers flank Aruba's Saraquita Offringa and our reporter, Ruben Petrisie

Orange Freestyle Cup, Marseilles

This extreme sport event brought competitors from all over Europe including some high ranked skate boarders from the US, a few selected European kites and a few selected windsurfers such as Aruba's Saraquita Offringa and myself.

The event was an expression event. There were several sessions where we would show off some windsurf tricks in front of the spectators in Marseilles who came to enjoy the beach vibes and the music festival held from June 16th through the 19th.

I have been to Marseilles before, but I've never visited this spot which offers great windsurf conditions with winds blowing up to 40 knots sometimes. The atmosphere was great and the locals were super friendly.

On day one, I got to watch young kids doing amazing tricks on their skateboards which gave me a kick to try to get into skateboarding again.

On the second day they placed a ramp in the water for the windsurfers. I didn't go on the ramp because it didn't look too safe with all the waves moving it from side to side and also did it not have too much protection. So traveling with only one board I decided not to go for it. Instead I busted some high forward loops on the waves and some sliding freestyle tricks close to the

beach.

At night we could enjoy several live acts by some famous French bands while we were served some traditional French food including sea food tapas.

On the third day the schedule looked almost the same as the day before, only the winds blew even stronger than the previous day. The kites and windsurfers did a half day session, and for the afternoon we went to watch the pro skate boarders riding the bowl which looked like a selection of empty rounded swimming pools with nice graffiti art on the inside.

Music was pumping and the skate park was full of spectators.

Later that night I prepared some tracks for a DJ session at the after party where I performed one of my tracks, "Have Some Fun," featuring Sandra Elsfort from Denmark. It was a great evening.

On the last day of the event winds blew up to 40 knots in the gusts.

We had a morning show afterwards followed by a stand-up paddle trip about 3 km along the Marseille, this time rough, coast line. It was very tricky with waves and winds. I must say I had a real hard time keeping my balance. I ended up paddling the last 500 meters on my chest! Ha! Ha!

In the end it was skaters, kites and windsurfers all together— a relaxed event.

Stay tuned for the second leg of the PWA world cup and interview with current tour leader, Taty Frans himself. □ Ruben Petrisie NB-50

Bonaire's Top Teachers



These are the teachers nominated for the Top Teacher Award of 2010. They are joined by judges Governor Glenn Thodé, Franklin "Bòl" Antoin of the extra newspaper and Marieke Serruys of the Amigoe newspaper

Mystery Megayacht



The megayacht "A" at the Town Pier is owned by Russian energy billionaire, Andrey Melnichenko. It attracted the most correspondence and photos to The Reporter of any ship call in Bonaire history. Thanks to all who contacted us: Johannetta Gordijn, Alan Gross, Greta Kooistra, Barbara Mason, Herman van Leeuwen and Sam Williams.

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Opening Bonaire's Dive Sites

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Panchito Kid's Corner (Papiamentu)

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PLAY	SMALL	END	PUT	HOME	READ	HAND
PORT	LARGE	SPELL	ADD	EVEN	LAND	HIGH
FOLLOW	CHANGE	NEED	WENT			

Solutions on page 17

FUNDASHON ARTE I KULTURA

TA INVITA (INVITES YOU)



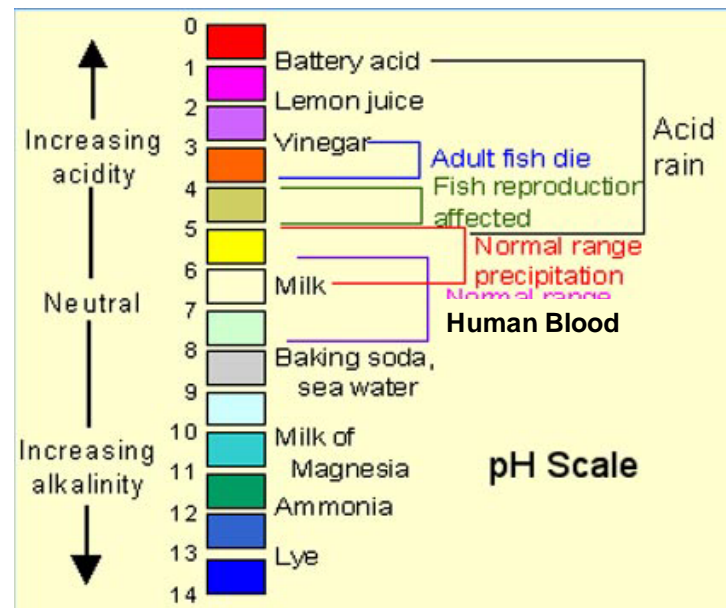
Bo(so) pa ta presente na nos di 16 "Dia di Arte"
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Dia (Day): 6 di Yüli 2010-July 6, 2010
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Bo(so) presensia ta altamente apresia
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Body Talk

WHAT IS THE COMMON FACTOR BETWEEN A SWIMMING POOL AND HUMAN BLOOD?



They both have a perfect pH zone between 7.3 and 7.4, slightly alkaline.

If a swimming pool goes green and brown, with bubbles oozing up to the surface, you know the pH is off. If the pH is not corrected, the problem gets worse overnight and the pool water takes on a life of its own.

Your body is 70% water, with organs floating in it just like fish in an aquarium. If your pH goes off, your organs will suffer, sometimes fatally. Unfortunately, when your pH is off, the signs are not as obvious as in a swimming pool. Perhaps if it was, you would take much more notice of just how important a correct pH is to your health. The central concept of your health revolves around the balance of the acidity and the alkalinity of your body fluids. When your pH is out of balance (in most cases – too acidic) there are some very definite signs. Which ones can you identify with? Wandering aches and pains throughout the body, including arthritis, inefficient energy production – resulting in sugar cravings to maintain energy levels, yeast overgrowth resulting in fungal nail infections or skin conditions like psoriasis and eczema, depression, negativity and/or anger, back pain, acid reflux, allergies, bladder infections, bloating after meals. As you can see, the list is endless.

An interesting quick survey I conducted shows that about 80% of my clients have low pH readings (meaning they are too acidic). At the same time very few clients were too alkaline and even fewer had a good pH.

Regular readers of my column will know that I am always harping on about acidity and how it is linked to what (and when!) you eat. The truth of the matter is that a low pH affects every cell of every organ in your body. If unchecked, will make your life miserable and eventually destroy organs. Oh, and do not forget the yeast and fungus in your body- an acidic environment is exactly what they need to grow and do their nasty work.

Let's talk about pH and brain function. The function of our brain and nervous system depend on water. The brain and nervous system consist of very alkaline tissue (pH of 8.0) and they are very fragile. The brain is a very soft organ that sits in the skull surrounded by a watery fluid (cerebrospinal fluid – pH of 7.3). This fluid helps to create an antigravity environment for the brain so that it has its own protective watery cushion. The brain, being the most alkaline organ in the body, is also the most sensitive to any variations in the pH. Have you ever over-indulged in a big meal or alcohol? How did you feel afterwards or the next morning? Had a headache? If you had one, this usually means the pH of the brain tissue was off, meaning more acidity, creating more heat, which the brain does not like. If you are a regular headache sufferer, start keeping a diary of what you eat and regularly check your pH, especially after meals. In no time you will have the answer!to be continued. □Stephanie Bennett

Author Stephanie Bennett was born in Cape Town, South Africa, where she studied herbs, minerals and nutrition. Before moving to Bonaire she continued her studies in UK, and now researches Bonaire health issues. She is the owner of the Essence Nutritional Center (see page 8).



Bondy On The Ball—2010.



Internet photo

Nelson Mandela holds the World Cup

Wow with a capital W. How else can I sum up the events of the last few weeks? It has become like World War Two with the French and the Italians surrendering early, the Americans coming in late and grabbing the glory and the English battling the Germans! For the first time in history both the title holders and the runners up are eliminated in the first round. Pundits (me included) have been left with egg on their faces and all possible superlatives have been exhausted. Let's have a look at what happened in group A.

Sadly we have to say goodbye to our congenial host South Africa, but they leave with their heads held high after a great victory against France. The French have been dire and there was nearly a revolution in the dressing room. Manager Raymond Domenech has managed his last game and even President Sarkozy is demanding answers. Sacre Bleu! Uruguay and Mexico are the deserved group winners with Diego Forlan scoring for fun. There was a time when he couldn't have scored in Pachi's Place!

In Group B, Nigeria was left propping up the other teams which saw South Korea and Argentina progress to the last 16. South Korea have been as industrious as expected while Argentina have been.....Well, brilliant! My tip for player of the tournament, Lionel Messi, is delighting everyone including manager Maradona who stated, "Messi is as good as me." Praise indeed.

Group C next and I have been spending a lot of the time behind the sofa. Firstly, my hat goes off to the USA who have played superb football. Landon Donovan has been inspirational. Although England finally made the cut, they have not done it with any conviction. They meet Germany next and we all know how that usually ends.

In Group D we were treated to a display of German precision as they destroyed Australia 4-0. Despite a hiccup against Serbia, they look strong and focused. Joining them in the knockouts is Ghana who will delight the nation by carrying the African flag a little further.

Group E and probably Bonaire's most anticipated group saw the "Orange Men"

sweep their neighbours Denmark aside with consummate ease. After dispatching two more sides in the group, they came out top with a full 9 points. An impressive Japan will join them into the next round. I had previously told a friend that if the Netherlands win the cup, I will run naked through City Café. I am sure that I am not the only one now hoping that they don't win!

Group F saw another shock when holders Italy were sent crashing out. Dismal draws

against New Zealand and Paraguay left them needing a win in their last game to proceed. Unfortunately, Slovakia didn't read the script and won 3-2. Great stuff! They join Paraguay into the next round.

No surprises in Group G with Brazil and Portugal moving forward. One of my highlights so far was seeing the North Korea squad training in a public gym and visiting the zoo. They tried hard with few resources and were what the World Cup is all about.

Finally group H where once again, it came down to the wire for a big club. Spain has always been my tip for the final but Switzerland surprised us all by beating them 1-0. In the final game they needed a win to progress and despite a bright start from Chile, David Villa took advantage of an overzealous keeper and put Spain ahead with a delightful chip from 40 yards. The game ended in a 2-1 victory for Spain against a 10-man Chile. Despite their defeat, Chile finished second in the group.

So there we have it. The knockout stages are amongst us and we are getting closer to seeing who will lift the FIFA World Cup Trophy. I still fancy Spain to come good but Argentina, Brazil and Holland all look impressive. It's time for me to re-stock the fridge, unplug my 'phone and enjoy! COME ON ENGERLAAAND! Until next time, keep the game beautiful. ■ Tony Bond



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.

BonQuiz Answer



Bon Quiz (from page 8)

Q) What is the product that was cooked in these cauldrons?
A) The Bpmaore Aloe, *Aloë Barbadensis*. It looks like a cactus but is related to the lily.

Sudoku Solution

Puzzle on page 7

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

Panchito Kid's Corner

Puzzle Solutions

Puzzle on page 16

Panchito Kid's Corner (Papiamentu)

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Picture Yourself With The Reporter... In Japan



En-route to Bangkok, Thailand, Alan "Jay" Silverstein stopped off in Japan to adjust his biologic clock and to see a part of the world he had never seen before. Luckily for us he remembered to bring *The Reporter* along. Alan plans to become a resident of Bonaire this fall. Through jdate.com and Skype he met and fell in love with a woman living on Bonaire. □

WIN GREAT PRIZES! Take a copy of *The Bonaire Reporter* with you on your next trip or when you return to your home. Then take a photo of yourself with the newspaper in hand. THE BEST PHOTOS OF THE YEAR WILL WIN THE PRIZES. Mail photos to *Bonaire Reporter*, Box 407, Bonaire, Netherlands Antilles (AN). E-mail to: info@bonairereporter.com.

SGB High School Poetry Contest Winners

The winners of the poetry contest for students in Artie de Vries' and Johanna Gordijn's higher-education preparation classes were honored recently. The contest came about as a result of classes on poetry presented by guest teacher, Pauline Kayes, Professor of Humanities at Parkland College in Champaign, Illinois. A total of 54 poems were submitted from four classes. At the ceremony, Kayes told the students that their work was "phenomenal," considering that English is not their first language. She provided the prize money to the top three winners in the hope that they can see "how writing can make money" and encouraged them to include writing in their future career plans.

In the last issue of *The Reporter* we printed the top three poems. Choosing the best was a very difficult task. The following are honorable mentions. Read and be totally amazed at what these youngsters are capable of.

SOUTH AFRICA



By Timo van der Veen

South Africa 2010 it's the place to be,
One cup, 32 teams the race to lead,
Uniting the world, playing and supporting our team,
Teamwork, respect and a little bit of self-esteem,
Having the cup is not only my selfish dream...
All nations shouting and cheering, laughing and crying,
Fighting and training even though it's still spring,

Referees giving cards and sometimes their whistling,
International preparation they set their minds on winning,
Cause everyone thinks the same in the beginning,
Africa 2010 we are coming to win this thing!

The Long Awaited Fall



By Sarah-Ann Maartense

They're staring at me from down there
I can't help but notice their stare
Filled with concern and pain
More uncertainty I gain

As unsure as I am
I don't know where I'll land
Praying for myself and the damned
And unknown answers I demand

It takes one step to end it all
One move for me to fall
To fall and move on
For your sake I'll be gone

All that will be left of me
Are some broken bones and a memory
Soon they'll all fade
Fade by your despise and hate
This is the fantasy you once made
You'd always wish I'd suffocate

This is what you wanted
And this is what you got
We never really bonded
So I took the final shot

Pet of the Week

Our Pet of the Week, "Trixie," is shown in total heaven – cuddling up with a very friendly human, in this case Shelter staff member Monique. What a sweet and loving dog she is. Trixie is about two years old and has been well treated, fed well and trained to have good manners. She loves company, especially, especially to be able to hang out on a warm lap. And as a guard dog she's a winner – She has a big voice but short legs so you don't have to worry about her being one of the Bonairean jumper dogs! Trixie comes with brown and beige fur set off with beautiful, soulful golden eyes. To meet her is to love her. And of course she's in top health, having been checked out by the vet, given her tests and shots and sterilization. You may see Trixie at the Bonaire Animal Shelter on the Lagoen Road, open Monday through Saturday, 9 am to 1 pm and 3 to 5 pm. Tel. 717-4989. Website: WWW.BonaireAnimalShelter.com ■ Laura DeSalvo



Monique and Trixie

Darkness covers my eyes
And I know I'm falling
This is what you got for your despise
I was done with stalling

Couldn't you ever see
That this is what you've done to me
We were never friends
So in this long awaited fall,
Is where it ends.

your tired eyes, they open
and you smile that familiar smile
I hold your fragile arms
and guide you through the archway
into the garden,
your sanctuary.

Under the Streetlight



By Qipeng Wu

The sun has set
Darkness surrounds me
I could only see what has been lit
By the streetlight.

The chirp of crickets reaches my ears
The sound of the waves relaxes me
A couple of bicyclists pass by with a ringing bell
Ah – what a night.

My date has not arrived yet
The music from nature closes my eyes
I dream of a far away beach
With a boy sitting on a bank
Under a dimly lit streetlight.

Sparkling Water



By Geruliane Booi Hub

The waves peacefully crashing onto a pebble beach
The sweet serenity is breathtaking
The sounds of childhood
your warm grip on my fragile arms
a breath of fresh air
you hold my hand ever so softly
and me through the waves
you lift me up
I feel safe in your arms
I fall asleep

morning comes
I awaken you from your dreams
and fit my fingers into the empty spaces
between yours
good morning sunshine
the lines on your face have deepened
since yesterday
your body weak and weary

Look for more Honorable Mention poems in the next edition of *The Reporter*

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BONAIRE SKY PARK*

*to find it... just look up

Earth at Aphelion and Start Your Three-Planet and a Great Star Watch

Believe it or not, on Tuesday, July 6th, the Earth will be at its farthest point from the Sun for the entire year, only 94.5 million miles away which is 3 million miles farther than it was when it was at its closest on January 2nd. So why is it hotter right now if the Sun is farther away in July than it was in January? It all has to do with the Earth's tilt. In July our Earth is tilted so that the Sun's rays are aimed more directly at the northern hemisphere than they were in January. Just the opposite is true for the southern hemisphere. Think about it.



But now I'd like to tell you about three planets and one great star which you can see just after it gets dark out on the 4th of July. You can watch them move toward each other all month long with a spectacular meeting on July 30th. This Sunday night, the 4th of July, just after dark, face west where the brightest thing you will see will be planet #2, the brightest planet of them all and same size as our planet Earth, 8,000-mile-wide Venus. And just up to its left you'll see a much less bright object which is Regulus, the star which marks the heart of Leo the Lion. And up to its left a steadily glowing rouge gold light, planet #4 and half the size of planet Earth and Venus, 4,000-mile-wide Mars. And up to its left planet #6, the lord of the rings, 75,000-mile-wide Saturn. They will look as if they are lined up in a row and indeed they are because all the planets travel on a narrow pathway around the sky called the ecliptic, so named because it is also the pathway along which eclipses always occur.

And now here's the fun part. Make a mental note of where Venus is in relation to Regulus. Then watch every single night because Venus and Regulus will move toward each other at the rate of one degree each night, which is the equivalent of two full Moon widths and which is really dramatic. You'll get your reward Friday night when Venus and Regulus will be at their closest- only one degree apart- which means only two full Moons could fit between them. Then if you continue to watch every night you will notice that each night Venus moves a little closer to Mars and Mars moves a little closer to Saturn. On Friday, the 16th, Venus and Mars will be 15 degrees apart while Mars and Saturn will be only 7 1/2 degrees apart. But continue watching and a week later on Friday, the 23rd, Venus and Mars will be only 11 1/2 degrees apart and Mars and Saturn only 4 degrees apart.

It gets even better because during the last week of July they'll continue moving closer to each other and have an exquisite meeting on Friday, July 30th, when just after sunset Venus and Mars will be less than 8 degrees apart and Mars and Saturn less than 2. And all three will form an isosceles triangle. Wow! Once again this Sunday, July 4th, Friday, July 9th, Friday, July 16th, Friday, July 23rd, and Friday, July 30th! Start your planet watch on the 4th of July. ■ Jack Horkheimer



Aries Astrology March 21-April 19 Possibly you may find yourself among the well reputed and famous people. If, you are a regular investor or new in share market, you may earn good profits this month. You may go for a vacation during the 2nd phase of the month. Holidays on an island could be slightly possible.

Taurus Astrology April 20-May 20 If planning to start a new business then you will get excellent initial support. Contacts made during this period will benefit you throughout the month. You'll be well-placed to make an impact on decision-makers, especially at month's end. You'll get encouraging support throughout. Children will fare extremely well in their respective fields of activities

Gemini May 21- June 21 There is a danger of hot arguments between you and your senior/boss/management. Hence, you are highly recommended to control your anger. This is an excellent time to make steady, practical progress in your life.

Cancer June 22-July 22 Disputes and misunderstandings would take place between you and senior authorities. Unnecessary controversies are quite possible. Situations will turn in your favor from July 16. You and a mate or lover can have the opportunity to enjoy mutual interests and find satisfactory solutions to any problems that might arise now.

Leo July 23-August 22 Mutual aspect combination between Jupiter and Sun may be a source of sudden and unexpected gains. Investments in the stock market would be very beneficial. Due to fabulous transiting of noble Jupiter over the 5th house, you or your loved one may be especially revealing with regard to affectionate feelings and communications.

Virgo August 23 -September 22 The month of July sees you successfully obtaining loans. Your links overseas will be totaling up to possessions available with you. Communal interactions will augment and the work executed by you is probable to be of the uppermost standards. If you're going to appear for any important interview

or exam you should do pre-planning and pay full attention.

Libra September 23-October 22 This month is likely to be better for business people compared to those who are in the service sector. The month will help you consolidate your fortunes. Your spouse or partner may be a source of disappointment when their behavior falls short of your expectations.

Scorpio October 23-November 21 The month of July is likely to be very good for you. There will be much accomplished with little effort. Works that require administrative sanction move at a faster pace. Money inflow is likely to increase substantially during this month.

Sagittarius November 22-December 21 Due to transiting 2nd lord Saturn over the 9th house along with functional benefic planet Mars and aspect of ascendant lord Jupiter, this month will be very good and will give you a healthy life experience. Essential topic this month is relationships. You should be focused on putting your personal life in order. Leisure interactions with loved ones and friends are indicated.

Capricorn December 22-January 19 It will be a time of accusations and counter accusations. Even if you wish to, you will not be able to break away. Financial gains will not be affected and you are likely to create savings too. In education related matters, you should try to control yourself. Only your pre-planning and hard work may help you.

Aquarius January 20-February 18 Due to negative influences, there will be increased pressure of work and you may delegate some of it. One major achievement towards month end is foreseen. Domestic disputes will continue for some more time. Personal relationships should take on new depths at this time.

Pisces February 19-March 20 Working as an association would likely yield better results. Exercise control over harsh speech and keep your opinions and reactions to yourself. There will be health problems for spouse and he / she may be going through a disappointing phase professionally. ■

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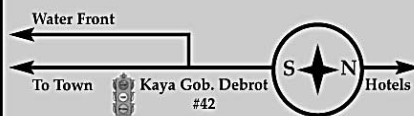
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