

**It's Still
FREE**

BONAIRE Aug. 27-Sept. 10, 2010, Year 17, Issue 17
The REPORTER
Helping Bonaire Grow Responsibly

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**New Kids
New School
page 11**

On Friday, the 13th, Bonaire's planned referendum was postponed until further notice.



The Island Council adopted an amendment stating a referendum would be held "on a date to be determined later per Island Ordinance." The action effectively cancelled the Island Government's attempt to test the mood of the people prior to the integration of the island with Holland on October 10, 2010. The referendum's outcome in any case would not have affected the integration. The amendment was offered by independent councilman Anthony Nicolaas. Opposition leader Ramonsito Booi asked for a vote but his four-person faction got up and left without voting, leaving the amendment to be accepted by the four Democratic party members and Nicolaas. One of the matters that came up during the meeting was that the cost of conducting the referendum was estimated to be NAf 500.000. The budget approved earlier was only NAf 350.000.

► Even though the Bonaire Island Council seems to have indefinitely postponed the planned Bonaire referendum, according to published reports, the **Referendum Commission has not received instructions from the Executive Council on whether or not to continue preparations for the referendum.** Constitutional Expert Douwe Boerema was hired by the Executive Council as a consultant to chair the Commission. His fee has been the subject of discussion along with the cost of conducting the referendum.

► **WILLEMSTAD--The Antillean Parliament approved the amendment to the Kingdom Charter last Friday evening**

after much debate with a 17-4 vote margin. This was a step necessary to formalize the creation of new countries St. Maarten and Curaçao, allow the BES islands Bonaire, St. Eustatius, and Saba, to become part of Holland and dismantle the existing Netherlands Antilles on October 10.

A two-thirds majority was needed for approval. The members of Parliament from DP-Statia, the **Democratic Party of Bonaire**, and the two members of the Curaçao "Pueblo Soberano" Party voted against the charter change.

WILLEMSTAD — Keep your gas tank topped up. A shortage of fuel may be imminent for Curaçao and Bonaire. Despite contractual obligations from Venezuela towards Curaçao, the Isla refinery announced last Thursday that there was only 9500 cubic meters of fuel in stock. No fuel has been produced in Curaçao since its refinery has been closed because of technical problems. Curoil and the Board of Governors are currently looking for solutions. According to Curoil, the current stock is only sufficient for seven days.

However, it is possible to purchase the fuel directly from PdVSA or elsewhere, but that may result in a considerable increase in the cost price because **if fuel must be purchased on a short-term contract.** In addition, the local economy could be seriously destabilized if there is no fuel available, because aircraft cannot refuel and the power plant cannot produce electricity.

The imminent shortage of fuel locally is due to the Crude Distiller 3 (CD-3) unit not being started up yet. The CD-3 produces products such as gasoline, kerosene and diesel for the local market.

► **A decision on the BES Islands tax laws** is expected out of Holland by September 13, said Dutch State Secretary of the Interior and Kingdom Affairs Ank

► **The Dutch Ministry of Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment (Ministerie van Volkshuisvesting, Ruimtelijke Ordening en Milieubeheer- VROM) signed an agreement with the Bonaire Executive Council to provide a temporary waste water purification system.**

The waste waters from the hotels in the coastal area will be removed by vacuum tankers. Treatment will consist of aerating, silt removal and lowering the level of nitrogen. The treated water will be reused for the cultivation of fast-growing feed crops for goats. The temporary waste water treatment will be financed by Dutch Ministries. The installation will become island property and will be managed by WEB, according to an RSC press release.

The temporary waste water purification system is to bridge the gap until the installation of a municipal sewage system in the coastal area and a permanent sewage water treatment plant. The capacity of this plant – which will be financed by the EU and the Ministry of Transport, Public Works and Water Management (Ministerie van Verkeer en Waterstaat - VenW) – will be double that of the temporary installation. Florida Aquastore & Utility Construction has been named to direct construction of the temporary treatment plant. **More than three years ago environmentalists raised concerns that effluent from shore-side homes, hotels, restaurants and businesses was harming Bonaire's fringing reef by encouraging algae production. Despite promises for fast action it has taken until now just to get a contract.**

The new facility will be located on LVV (Agricultural Department) land and is to be operational next year. The Dutch Government had budgeted €50,000 for the project in 2009. Upon completion the facility will be the responsibility of the island government.



Bijleveld-Schouten last week.

► **THE HAGUE--The Dutch economy grew strongly in the second quarter of 2010, mainly through increased exports.** Annualized, the increase was 2.1%, compared with 0.6% in the previous quarter.

► **AMSTERDAM- Immigration of Antilleans and Arubans living in the Netherlands and emigration of people from the islands to the European part of the Kingdom were more or less balanced in the first half of**

2010, announced the Dutch Central Bureau for Statistics (CBS) last Tuesday.

In the first six months, 1,310 Antilleans came to the Netherlands while 1,127 people returned to the islands, an immigration surplus of 183 persons.

The CBS considers only immigrants who were born on the islands and as such they are not being blurred by migrating Dutch Europeans or foreigners who are moving via the Netherlands Antilles and Aruba to Europe and vice versa.

CBS doesn't specify the individual islands, but the majority

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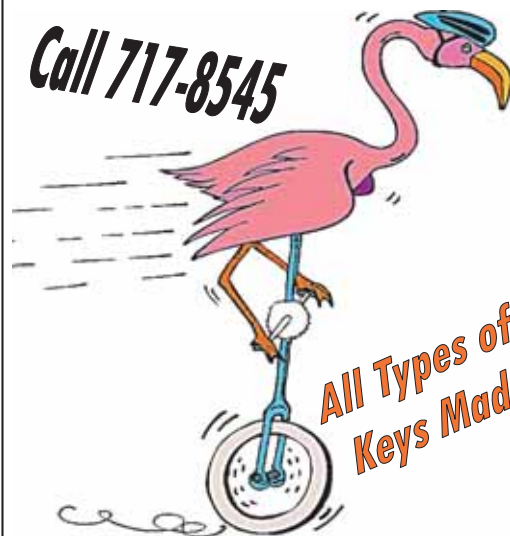
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POWER PLUS FOR BONAIRE



At 9 am on Friday, August 20, the new electrical power plant near BOPEC began commercial operation. At 9:09 am power failed all over Bonaire. "Embarrassing," said Hans Linkels, the manager of Ecopower, the owner of the power plant. "It happened because our protection circuits are very sensitive and the double power feed has not been hooked up yet. But in a few months everything should be adjusted and this won't happen." By 12:30 pm power was restored to all Bonaire. It was the second blackout in a little more than a week.

Think of what happened this way: If you have a short in your TV, the TV fuse should blow before your main house fuse. And the TV's failure should never cause your whole neighborhood to black out. But the Ecopower power plant "fuses" are so sensitive that when a truck hits a power line or a high voltage cable short circuits, the whole island goes out... not just the neighborhood. Two experts from Holland and Germany are here this week to correct

the problem.

At 11:09 am on Thursday, August 12, Bonaire was first supplied with electricity from the new EcoPower plant near BOPEC. At that time a test of the new facility was begun by WEB, Bonaire's island-owned utility. WEB's Aggreko generators at Hato and Trans World Radio are silent.

The following Friday a strong thunderstorm hit the island, the type which sometimes caused outages in the past, but the power continued uninterrupted.

The first blackout was on Tuesday, August 17, at 1:09. The problem was caused by a truck hitting a high tension line on Kaya Amsterdam. According to their press release WEB personnel quickly discovered the cause of the problem and began the steps needed to reconnect the WEB grid to the Ecopower plant. By 5 pm power was restored to all areas of Bonaire.

A high voltage cable short circuit near Warehouse Bonaire the next Friday, August 21, was the cause of the second outage. The SGB high school closed early because the temperature in the school was reportedly as high as 45°C (113°F) in some classrooms.

Only the oil-fired power plant is providing power. Ecopower has not switched in the wind turbines. This week an engineer from the manufacturer of the turbines will be on-hand for the phase in. Under normal conditions wind is expected provide around half of Bonaire's energy. Refer to past *Bonaire Reporter* series, "Power Plus



for Bonaire" for details of the new system.

The challenges of building a state-of-the-art power plant cannot be overstated. Consider Bonaire's hot, windy, salty air, the long lead time and distance to get equipment, basic logistics plus the fact that the island has to import virtually all the skilled people needed to do the technical jobs. The completed plant is highly automated, normally requiring only two operators per shift. The Ecopower staff numbers 19 people including maintenance, clerical and management people.


It should be worth it though. The combination of wind power, burning lower cost fuel and an improved distribution system is expected to result in lower electricity rates for Bonaireans. The cost of electricity to homes and businesses will be determined by WEB who is responsible for the distribution of power and water to the island.

WEB has also made improvements to their "grid" which should also bolster

reliability of the electrical supply.






Now that the Ecopower plant is in commercial operation it will be put up for sale. As a result of the recent world financial crisis, Ecopower's parent company, Ecocern, went bankrupt. But, under the terms of the contract, the Rabobank of the Netherlands guaranteed completion of the power plant. The fiduciary trustee of the bankruptcy proceedings decided not to liquidate the Bonaire Ecopower project but rather to see it to completion. The property is much more marketable as an operational plant. Several serious inquiries have already been made for its purchase. It would add to their prestige and to their "bottom line" as well to own a facility that can not only use biodiesel fuel but sustainable wind power as well.

Congratulations to the Ecopower and WEB staffs who are working towards making better and cheaper power possible for the people of Bonaire. Many of them have worked long hours to accomplish the successful switchover. □ G.D.



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On The Island Since...November 2007 - Jan Jaap van Almenkerk

“When I was six years old, my father who was in the military was stationed in Biak and so we moved from Holland to this small volcanic island near the northern coast of Papua, Indonesia. At the time it was under Dutch rule. In the mornings I went to school. We used to race off the mountain on our bikes. And in the afternoons my brothers and I went to the sea or into the jungle. In 1963 the island was transferred to the Republic of Indonesia and all the Dutch had to leave. I was 10 when we came back to Holland. It was fun, but when winter came we didn't like it that much anymore.

I always wanted to go back to the tropics.” *He smiles.* “It's that nostalgic feeling that you have... and... I am a freak when it comes to plants and nature. I've always been like that – even when I was a little boy. So, I studied tropical agriculture in Deventer and in Wageningen, Holland.

My career in Holland started when I became the coordinator of a children's farm and an environ-

mental center. Still, I couldn't get the tropics out of my mind. In 1983 I made a trip through the Caribbean where I visited some agricultural projects on Jamaica and I ended up on Bonaire. I lived here for six months while I was doing research for the LVV department testing the quality of the water in the wells and dams. I was living in Amboina and there wasn't much choice when it came to groceries. The only thing you could buy was white cabbage and sometimes a few tomatoes. The island was empty and quiet. I thought it was very small.

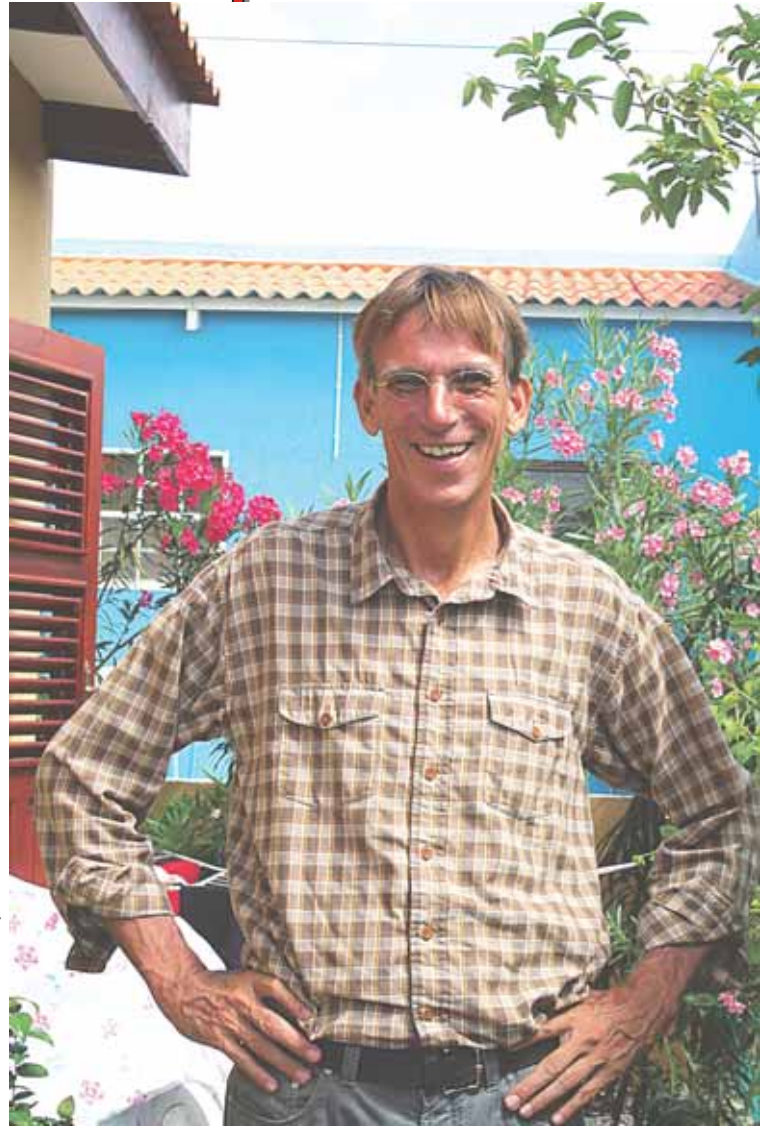
Before, I had lived two years in Surinam, working with the maroons in the inland and then with an Indian tribe close to the Brazilian border, a remote little village. Over land and by the river it took me 14 days to get there. And when I finally arrived my four Indian colleagues appeared to speak perfect Dutch! The official language in Surinam is still Dutch.

From 1985 till 1992 I've worked as a development-aid worker in Nicaragua where we set up an

agricultural research station deep in the jungle. The farmers would come on horseback from all over the region to our center where we would give practical three-day courses. I've taught local farmers how to pass on the knowledge to their colleagues. That's why the name of the project was 'Campesino a campesino' ('From farmer to farmer'). We would sit under a big roof, with tables and chairs during the daytime. At night about 20 hammocks were hung underneath the roof as the farmers went to sleep.

Well, after being abroad for over 10 years I wanted to know what it would be like to work in Holland, with Dutch farmers. I got a great job as an advisor for agricultural nature conservation and in 10 years I visited hundreds of farms in Holland. I took my bicycle on the train and went everywhere. In Holland it's so easy. However, the farmers would laugh when they saw me. They were used to seeing an official in a BMW! In Holland farmers are state-subsidized to create and manage wooded banks, puddles and bushes, to attract and shelter all kinds of plants and animals. It's a way to make the countryside more attractive for people and animals. Maybe...” *He smiles and his eyes light up* “it would be a good idea

(Continued on page 5)



Jan Jaap van Almenkerk

“In Holland farmers are state-subsidized to create and manage wooded banks, puddles and bushes, to attract and shelter all kinds of plants and animals. It's a way to make the countryside more attractive for people and animals.”

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On The island Since (Continued from page 4) if the *kunukeros* here could get the same subsidy. The abandoned *kunukus* could be revitalized and reactivated and some parts could be fenced in and planted with fruit trees, wooded banks of Yatu (Kadushi cactus) could be planted and the dams and tankis restored, so that not only people, but all kinds of animals could profit from the environment. But... yeah, that's a subject for the future..."

Jan Jaap is a boyish, mellow guy. He's bright, he has seen the world, he is enthusiastic and motivated and he enjoys life. He's also very energetic and a lot of fun and at the same time very basic. He and his partner, Maaïke Smal and their son Ingel make a very beautiful family.

"I met Jan Jaap in 1999 at a dance party at the COC in Deventer, Holland," Maaïke says. "I saw him immediately; he seemed very interesting and sweet and I fell for him instantly!" "The first time I saw Maaïke dancing," Jan Jaap says, "I knew she had Creole blood!" "We've been together ever since," Maaïke smiles. "And in 2007 Jan Jaap felt homesick for the tropics once more. We went to Indonesia to visit Jan Jaap's father who has been living there for over 20 years, and we considered moving there, but it did feel like a third world country with a very different culture. Then Jan Jaap went to see his brother who lives in South Africa. I didn't want to go with him because I thought it wouldn't work out anyway. But when he came back I had missed him so terribly, so I told him, 'I'll go wherever you want me to go!' By then he had already discussed Bonaire with his brother."

"I came with my brother to Bonaire," Jan Jaap says. "For my brother the island was a bit too small, but for me it held a lot of good memories and I thought 'this could be

it!' Two months later I came with Maaïke." "It was very exciting," Maaïke laughs, "because it was important that I would like it. From the airport we drove to town. First I saw the dry salinas with the dead and broken trees and I thought that was beautiful. Then we passed by a sort of industrial area and I felt, 'It's very small here!' But that was only that day, because then we talked to so many people to gather as much information as possible and the days flew by in no time. After a week I thought, 'I will never know - not even after a month - I have to live it!'"

When I was very young my parents were development-aid workers and I lived in Nepal from when I was three months old until I was three years old. My mother also lived for a short time on Curaçao and my grandmother is from Surinam. So, my family didn't think it was such a big deal for me to move here. The most important thing was and is that Jan Jaap and I get along real fine.

Well, when we arrived here, Ingel went to elementary school for the first time. Jan Jaap didn't have a job and neither did I! But soon enough I got a job with a computer firm and then Jan Jaap, Hans Faassen and I founded the Kibrahacha Foundation."

"I was visiting Rocky Emers of LVV," Jan Jaap says, "and I met an American who wanted to start a hydroponics farm on Bonaire - a special way to grow plants with water, not earth. I did research and worked for the Bon Bini Hydroponics farm for one year, then the economic crisis struck and the owners had to stop. However, they will restart the project in 2011 and they've asked me to manage it and I will. In the meantime I'd started another research project with DROB, LVV and the University of Wageningen, Holland, to analyze the dust problem on Bonaire. The outcome was that we do



Ingel, Jan Jaap and Maaïke

have dangerously high levels of dust. Even questions were asked in Dutch parliament. Hopefully sometime soon something will be done about it. Another project we're doing with Edshel Martha is to get SGB youngsters involved in planting, culture and nature. And I am also working as an advisor for a temporary waste water treatment plant which will be ready this coming February.

Next year we hope to run an educational agricultural program with LVV and FORMA for anybody who's interested in working on the land. If they get their diploma, they can get a lot of land to work on." He grins. "There's so much work to do that Maaïke has become the office manager of the Foundation. We wrote three projects, which are in the pipeline now. One more thing, the Tree Planting Festival will take

place November 21st. This year it's supported by STINAPA, Ban Boneiru Bek and TCB and for this project we're going to fence a piece of land in Washington Park, so that goats cannot come there. Eventually people will be able to compare and see the impact goats have on the vegetation."

Maaïke smiles. "After one year we were going to evaluate whether we should stay here, but that moment passed by just like that. We never thought about it anymore. Now we are going to buy a lot of land and build our house and plant our fruit trees." ■ Story & photos by Greta



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2010 Parrot Watch

Loras Grow-Up



Rowan Martin photo

down in trees, on the ground and on overhead wires, and seem to be oblivious to what danger there may be nearby. People have been known to knock young Loras from trees or from wires when they come to town in search for food with their parents, as it is not difficult to identify them. I have often heard young Loras begging their parents for food in

The Lora breeding season is almost at an end as the chicks are now, after 60 days of darkness in the nest, beginning to fledge.

The last fortnight of field work has revealed decreasing numbers of chicks in nests, and more and more empty nests. After 50 days in the nests keeping warm and getting fatter by the day, the chicks reach their "asymptotic weight." This is the heaviest they will ever be, around 320g. Once they are fully developed and sufficiently chubby, their parents will stop feeding them. So, at 50 days old, the chicks begin to lose weight and they will lose about one third of their body weight before leaving the nest. During this time, they start to climb around inside the nest, and if there's enough room, start stretching and exercising their wings. Some chicks are able to climb into nooks and crannies inside the nests where we researchers can't reach them, making our life rather difficult.

As clever and confident as they may be inside the nest, they find that the outside world poses all kinds of new and daunting challenges for them. It's a terrifying place for a newly fledged chick, despite being guided and fed by their parents for several months after fledging. **Having survived the risk of being poached while still in the nest, fledging Lora chicks are still vulnerable to this threat.** Fledglings are terrible flyers and pretty clueless. They will perch low

town, and parents will regurgitate food to them.

The young birds are very playful and socialise in groups and learn from each other how to tackle new obstacles like climbing trees and eating fruit. It seems that some of the young birds have quite a bit more blue on their faces than the older birds, and they also have darker eyes as opposed to the bright orange/yellow of the adults.

Some fledglings from the nests that we have been monitoring have rings on both legs. The rings are coloured, unlike the rings put on pet Loras. Fledglings from previous years have been sighted socialising in areas close to the nest they came from. Knowing the whereabouts of birds of different ages is important for us so that we have an idea of the population structure and what Loras of different ages get up to. This will help us to protect the habitats important to Loras at different stages of their lives to ensure a healthy population for the future.

If you see any Loras with coloured rings, don't forget to get in touch! info@parrotwatch.org ■ Story & photo by Rhian Evans

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



Picture Yourself With The Reporter... In Barranquilla, Colombia



Longtime Reporter associate Jaidy Rojas visited with family in Barranquilla, Colombia, last month. She was joined there by her daughter, Alejandra, a university student studying in The Netherlands. She travelled with her son Juan, a student at the SGB High School. Holding a copy of *The Reporter* is her niece, Julieth

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Letters to the Editor



tion of this plan, I left all my work in order to study the 420 pages of these important documents which will determine the future development of our island.

On page 49 of the mentioned plan, I found that the existing water areas (*waterpartijen*) – salinas and other rain water storage areas - have an important task of conservation, restoration and control of the natural and ecological values of Bonaire. In the plan, Salina Vlijt is called the area for storage of rain water, located south of the Kaya Amsterdam. In the color map, forming a part of the plan and showing the future destination of individual parts of the island, the Salina Vlijt area is light blue which means that it is one of the mentioned *waterpartijen*. In Article 48 of the Strategic Environmental Evaluation, with a headline "Water – Salina", page 186, I found the following (translated in English):

"In the areas, designated as Water – Salina, only structures, being no buildings, are allowed to be built for the benefit of the control of these areas. For execution of activities which could have consequences for the water management and the quality of the water a permission must be given by the Bestuurscollege. The Bestuurscollege may give this permission only when the water storage task and the ecologic values of the area will not be affected."

It is evident that according to the mentioned documents, after they will be finally approved by the Bestuurscollege, which is expected to happen soon (the deadline for comments and objections to the plan was August 8, 2010), the activities being currently executed in the Salina Vlijt will become illegal and have to be stopped unless permission to continue these activities will be given by the Bestuurscollege.

Jiri Lausman

PRAISE FOR POWER PLUS ARTICLES

Dear Editor:

Your article "Power Plus for Bonaire" is simply marvelous! I've seen superb reporting in Washington, D. C., New York City and London, but you beat them all. You and yours perform a very valuable service that is deeply appreciated by, and very valuable to, all those who enjoy it.

Robert J. Patch

Note: The latest Power Plus article appears on page 3

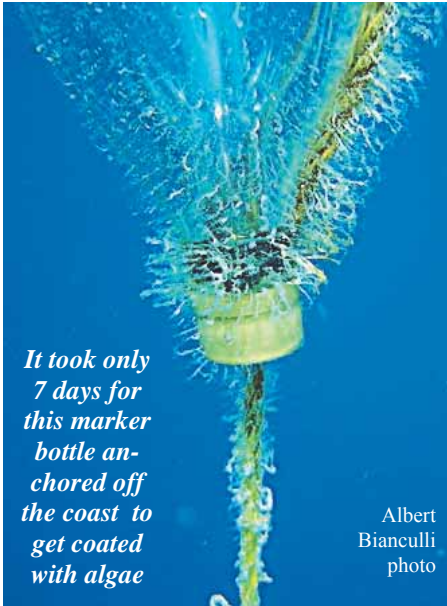
CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES IN SALINA VLIJT MUST BE STOPPED

Dear Editor:

Last Saturday, I passed along the Vlijt Salina, located opposite the Harbor Village Resort. I was surprised to see about 20 flamingos in the shallow water of this vast reservoir of rainwater. It reminded me of the thrilling story of Sipke Stapert in a June issue of BR about the ecological value of this unique area and about the enormous damage caused by the current development of it by Harbor Village Resort which has started by dumping large volumes of earth and rock in the water of the salina. It is happening because of a serious blunder of the government of Bonaire which, not realizing the ecological importance of this salina, did not declare it a protected area and gave it to the developer in a long term lease.

Wondering what data there was about the Salina Vlijt I found in the June 2010 agreed *Ruimtelijke Ordening Plan voor Bonaire* and particularly in the simultaneously released *Strategic Milieu Beoordeling* – Strategic Environmental Evalua-

NATURE REPORT



It took only 7 days for this marker bottle anchored off the coast to get coated with algae

Albert Bianculli photo

BONAIRE--

According to the recently released 2009 annual report from the **Committee for Nature Policy** the largest threats to the quality of seawater around Bonaire are from construction activities along the coast, sewage water from septic tanks (along with their nutrients and bacteria), and the soil from erosion. **This Committee provided the Executive Council (BC) with environmental advice 57 times in 2009. The Executive Council heeded the advice in 54 instances.**

It reported that the number of large reef fish and lobster has decreased drastically and that the first lionfish was seen in the waters of Bonaire last year. STINAPA has already caught more than 150 lionfish.

Over the past 10 years American scientist Robert Steneck, together with Bonaire National Marine Park, conducted various studies into the health of the coral reef. The report said the reef has deteriorated considerably.

Scientists have advised to purify the water from septic tanks as soon as possible because the wastewater along with the nutrients and other environment-damaging substances increased the growth of seaweed in the seawater.

The committee also suggested legalizing the moratorium, in effect since the 90s, on new diving companies.

The Committee for Nature Policy was set up as a result of the Nature Policy Bonaire Ordinance of October 2008. Its task is to advise the Executive Council on the protection and conservation of nature on the island. ■ Press release

BonQuiz #36



Sea beans

Many types of seeds are found along Bonaire's shores. These seeds are commonly called sea beans. They are carried from the continental rivers to the sea and drift for months until they reach shores like ours. These seeds are generally polished and made into necklace ornaments. (WP Armstrong)

They are part of the large legume family (*Fabaceae*) which contains an enormous amount of tropical vines, and some of the most interesting belong to the genus *Mucuna*. There are many species of *Mucuna* throughout the tropical regions of the world. Some of the most common are shown in the photo:

- E. *Mucuna holtonii* (cf. *M. argyrophylla*). Sea bean with velvety pods native to Belize.
- H. *Mucuna rostrata*. Sea bean from the Monteverde Cloud Forest of Costa Rica.
- I. *Mucuna urens*. Sea bean from Golfito, Costa Rica. (cf. *M. sloanei*).
- N. *Mucuna sloanei*. Drift seed from the Caribbean.
- Q. *Mucuna gigantea* Sea bean from Hawaiian Islands: Tan, unmottled bean from Maui.
- S. *Mucuna fawcettii*. Caribbean drift seed. Hilum thicker than other *Mucuna* species.

Q) What is the local name for this seed, and how were/are they used?

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



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.**

| | | | | | | | | |
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| | | | 2 | 7 | | | | |
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Flotsam and Jetsam (Continued from page 2)
of persons moving are from Curaçao.

The 2008, 2009 and 2010 figures are remarkably stable compared to the previous years. From 1995 to 2003 there was an immigration surplus with large numbers of Curaçaoans moving to the Netherlands. The peak year was 2000 when more than 10,000 persons left the islands.

Research has shown that Antilleans and Arubans mostly move to the Netherlands to study, or because they hope to find suitable work.



► **Beginning this week, Insel Air passengers can check in online via www.fly-inselair.com and offered a 10% discount to University of the Netherlands Antilles students.** Insel air is the first local airline company to offer this service and benefit.

A passenger can check in online 24 hours before the desired flight, choose his/her own seat, and print out and take along the boarding pass. The new service of online check-in is possible on all Insel Air destinations (Aruba, Curaçao, Bonaire, St. Maarten, Paramaribo, Kingston, Miami, Valencia and San Juan) with the exception of Port-au-Prince, Sta. Domingo and Las Piedras.

Passengers carrying only hand luggage only need to arrive 60 minutes before departure. Passengers with baggage could check this in at the drop-off counter up to 120 minutes before departure but do not have to stand in the check-in line.

► Bonaire's Muslim community joined the rest of the Arabic world in observing the holy month of **Ramadan** as of Wednesday, August 12. Ramadan is marked by 30 days of fasting and prayers to ask Allah for forgiveness and purity. Bonaire has a sizeable Muslim community that prays in the mosque on Hanchi Anboina.



► **The US White House is preparing measures that would expand opportunities for Americans to travel to Cuba and send money there,** congressional and Obama administration officials said last week.

The measures would make it easier for Americans to get US government licenses for cultural, educational and sports exchanges, according to congressional aides briefed on the new policy. They would not end the longtime economic embargo or the ban on US tourists visiting the island. Caribbean tourism destinations breathed easier.

► **Correction:** Despite what we published last issue, the next time we get five Sundays, Mondays and Tuesdays in August will be August 2021. Thanks to Genady Filkovsky for being the first to point this out.

► **Kriabon, Bonaire's farmers' coop-**

erative, has elected officers for the coming year:

- Sidney Manuel President
- Walter de Palm Vice- President
- Jasinto Frans Secretary/2nd Treasurer
- Itcha Coffie Second Secretary
- Willem Cecilia Treasurer

Supervisory Council:

- Arlette Verbeek
- Richinel Emerenciana
- Marjan Swagerman
- John Frans

► **The Bonaire Chamber of Commerce (Kámara di Komersio Boneiru)** has been reorganized. A new board has been named: **Evert Piar,** President; **Benito Dirksz,** Secretary; **Sherwin Pourier,** Treasurer; **Martien van der Valk,** Vice President; **Huub Groot,** Second Secretary .

► **Start training now.** For the 10th time, *Jeugdhuys* Jong Bonaire is organizing its annual fund raising event *Swim to Klein Bonaire.* This year it will take place on Sunday, October 3, at the beginning of Regatta.

Last year, almost 400 people swam from the starting point at Eden Beach to Klein Bonaire and part of them swam back as well. Again a record-breaking number of participants are expected. For those who do not wish to swim back (and for safety reasons) Jong Bonaire will provide boats to pick up people and return them to Eden Beach .

► **Congratulations to Special Security Services which celebrates its 27th year in business this month.** This fine company, headed by Benito Dirksz, not only protects its clients' homes and businesses from break ins but even assists the police often by apprehending criminals, before, during and after a crime has been committed. The actions of the SSS staff is definitely beyond the call of duty!

► **SEBIKI,** the organization for parent and childhood education, will again offer a **pre-natal course,** beginning September 1 to October 7, every Tuesday and Thursday nights at the SEBIKI center, Kaya Pedro P. Sillië # 4, from 7-8:30 pm. Prospective mothers who are 16 weeks or more pregnant are invited to join. The course will give guidance and information for the future mothers on: pregnancy, nutrition for mother and child, teeth care and more. As well as informative lessons there will be exercises. All lessons are under the guidance of a professional and there will be informative material available. For more information call SEBIKI at 717-2436.



► **Don't forget to say to our advertisers, "I heard about you in The Reporter."** It's their support that keeps *The Reporter* free. If you have a favorite shop that does not advertise remind them that they can improve their business if they do. ■G./L. D.

► **The US Department of Homeland Security (DHS) will introduce a fee for Electronic System of Travel Authorization (ESTA) beginning September 8.** All foreigners travelling to the US must have ESTA Authorization. The fee is comprised of two parts:



- Processing Charge - All applicants requesting an electronic travel authorization are charged \$4 for the processing of the application.
- Charge determined by Travel Promotion Act (TPA) - If your application is approved and you receive authorization to travel to the US under the Visa Waiver Program (VWP), an additional \$10 will be charged to the credit card. If the electronic travel authorization is denied, only the application processing fee will be charged.

The fee must be paid by credit card at the time of enrollment at www.pay.gov. Some debit cards may be used for payment but only if they do not require a numerical PIN. Pay.Gov uses advanced encryption to protect transactions while applicants are logged in. When accessing a profile, any account numbers applicants have entered will be masked on the screen. DHS is exploring the possibility of adding other payment methods in the future. Existing ESTA registrations remain valid for travel through their expiration date or until the passport expiration date if it expires sooner.

DHS also announced the elimination of the paper arrival/departure form (Form I-94W) for authorized travelers from nations participating in the Visa Waiver Program, which includes citizens with a passport issued by the Kingdom of The Netherlands. All travelers seeking entry to the US with valid visas still have to complete Form I-94 Arrival/Departure Record. All travelers (travelling both on ESTA registration and on visas) still have to fill the customs declaration (CBP form 6059B).

Q. Where can I find The Bonaire Reporter?
A. Just about everywhere!

| | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| Airport: Divi Divi Air DAE Air EZ Air Insel Air Valerie's Airport Shop Banks: MCB (Playa & Hato branches) ORCO Bank Giro Bank Restaurants: Bistro de Paris Capriccio Casablanca China Nobo City Café Eli Deli El Mundo It Rains Fishes Lover's Ice Cream-Hato Pasa Bon Pizza Patagonia Dive Shops: Blue Divers Carib Inn Tropical Divers WannaDive Shops: Antillean Wine Company Benetton Best Buddies | Botika Bonaire Botika Korona Budget Marine Chat 'n' Browse City Shop DA Shop DeFreewieler Digicel Exito Bakery Green Label INPO Kooyman Napa Paradise Photo Playa Trading Hotels: Belafonte Bel Mar Buddy Dive Capt. Don's Habitat Carib Inn Den Laman Divi Flamingo Eden Beach Plaza Resort Roomers Sand Dollar Supermarkets: Cash & Carry Cultimara Joke's Mini Market More for Less Progresso | Sunshine Market TIS Warehouse Bonaire Zhung Kong Market, Hato Government: Bestuurscollege RSC-APNA Building Customs Parliament BVO Others: Bonfysio Botika Bonaire Botika Korona Budget Marine Caribbean Laundry Centro di Medico Dentist Office Von Egmond Digicel Office Extra Newspaper Office Fit 4 Life - Green Label Hair Affair Harbour Village Marina Health & Fit- | ness Center- Mio Cellular Napa Photo Tours RSA Insurance Rocargo San Francisco Hospital TCB Telbo WEB office Bookstores: Addo's Books & Toys Flamingo Bookstore Realty Offices: Bonaire Partners Bonaire Sunshine Homes Caribbean Homes Harbourtown Realty Re/Max Paradise Homes Sunbelt Realty RINCON: Chinese Store Joi Fruit Store Rincon Bakery Rose Inn Tusnara Market |
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School has started. Children go back to school all dressed up in their school uniforms, with their bags loaded with books. Parents, of course, expect their children to give their best performance in school. What parent is not concerned about his or her child's ability to study and get good grades? I suppose all parents have that concern. Have you as parents ever thought about playing chess? This sport is a kind that increases your ability to think in order to make the right move.

We interviewed Mr. Serapio Pop (54), the famous Bonairean champion chess player who also plays checkers (also known as "draught"; "dam" in Papiamentu) and dominos. In the domino tournament they call him "Mr. Computer." Mr. Pop has plenty to tell us about his own experiences.

"In 1983 I started watching chess playing videos and showed these videos to an audience to get young and older people involved in the game. People only came once in awhile to the classes. In 1987 I participated in a chess tournament on Curaçao. By then I decided that when I came back to Bonaire I'd concentrate more on the youth. With the help of BSV (*Bonaireaanse Sport Vereniging*) a sport federation founded in 1988, we got the youth going in a chess tournament. In 1989 Bonaire got its first chess champion, Mr. Anthony Nicolaas, today a deputy in the Island Government. In 1991 Elly Willem was three times champion, once in Aruba. Angelo Montero won the first and second place in Aruba. We have youth champions like Michelangelo Pop, Lorenzo Sille, Xuwen Zen, and more youngsters are developing their talent in playing chess."

Mr. Pop continues, "Today we have 19 children registered and after six years of full training they become advance leaders. On Thursday nights at SGB (*School Gemeenschap Bonaire*) high school, from 7 to 9 pm, we have the adults and advanced youth training. On Friday evenings, from 5 to 7, there's youth training for beginners. The fee for a full school year is NAf 50. The monthly fee is NAf5. If children like to play checkers they are also welcome.

In 2010 at the ABC championship in

Curaçao, Bonaire became champion in two categories: Children age 6-9 was won by Jaden Crestian, and in the second category, Children age 10-12, it was Micheal Santaris. The overall youth chess player was Lorenzo Sille in fourth place. For the upcoming tournament in Russia this fall, Bonaire has been selected by the International Chess Federation to be part of the Dutch Antilles delegates: two ladies from Bonaire, two ladies from Curaçao and one as a substitute. The ladies from Bonaire are Nadyniela Coffie (12) and her mother, Rudselia Coffie. Both of these well trained ladies will participate in the Chess Olympics in Siberia, Russia,

from September 20 to October 4. The county where they will be playing is called Khanty-Mansiysk. Men's teams participating will come from 105 different countries and women's teams from 90 countries and every single lady will play. We also have the Central American games to focus on for other youngsters and the first Aruba Tournament in November 2010.

The goal of chess is to help you time, plan and listen to your game. It's a combination of mathematics and relaxation. As it normalizes your heart beat, you become more efficient in reading, explaining your opinion, challenging your ability for the game, taking notes and learning how to cope with lost games.

I'd like to have workshops for teachers and introduce chess in schools and in all the neighborhoods, even in Rincon. Many people play chess at home. On September

4 we will have a quick public chess activity. Mr. Norwin Lau, Bonaire champion in checkers, is also able to help.

We know that chess can be of great help for subjects like mathematics, accountancy, reading, logical thinking, analysis and articulation. In chess also you may achieve diplomas: the Pawn Diploma for the basic level, Rook Diploma for second level and King Diploma for third level." So parents, this can be a great opportunity for your child to enhance his or her intelligence.

■ Story & photo by Siomara Albertus

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



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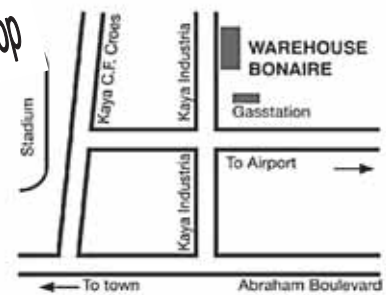
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Tonky Frans Named Ambassador for the Stitching Project

Last week world freestyle windsurfer Tonky Frans was on hand at the teaching restaurant, "de Bonaireaan," as the official Ambassador of the Stitching Project. Tonky says he supports the Stichting Project's programs that give young people "in danger of falling out of the boat" a new chance. "This is something I have wanted to do for a long time," he says, "to help young people who are struggling. In this way if I can make a contribution, then I love to do it."

Mick Smit, Director of the Stitching Project, asked Tonky to be the Ambassador for Stichting Project. "I was in Fuerteventura (for the windsurfing competitions) last month and I saw how great guys like Tonky, Tati and Kiri perform, not only with their performances in windsurfing but also their presentations to the public.



These guys are top athletes in the world of windsurfing. Hundreds of people in Fuerteventura enjoyed their actions on the water. Afterwards autographs were handed out and everyone wanted to be photographed with them. And all the speeches they give when they're on stage are a great advertisement for Bonaire. In short we believe that we now have role models on Bonaire. So I think it's great that Tonky Frans said 'yes' when I asked him if he wanted to be an ambassador for the Stitching Project." ■ *Press Release*

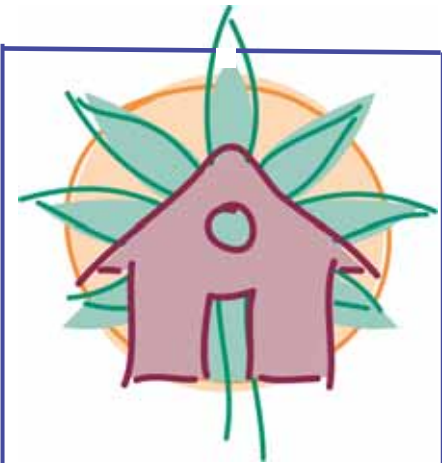
Congratulations "Daysi"



In addition, Marcelo "Chaly" Anthonie, President of the government workers labor union ABVO, presented her a gift from the members and an ABVO pin. ■ *Press release*

Congratulations to Daysiree ("Daysi") Digna Thode-Martinus who on August 18 celebrated 30 years of service to the Bonaire Government. Over the years she's held critical jobs in Archives, Legal and Economics departments.

Commissioner Marugia Janga (above right) representing DEZA, presented Daysi with the customary envelope. In



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Three Generations of Pianists



Renowned Antillean pianist and composer, Wim Status Muller, returned to Bonaire at Plaza Resort's Cacicque Hall Friday, August 13th, for a classical evening in concert with two other members of his highly talented family. Living up to his reputation as grand winner of the Aruba International Piano Festival of 2007, Status Muller's grandson, Alexander Kraft van Ermel, began the evening with flawless solo recitals of selections from the works of Chopin, Debussy and Prokofiev, among others. Kraft van Ermel was followed at the piano by his mother, Annette Status Muller, who played spirited selections from Albeniz, Debussy and the Calypso "El Curaçao" Op. 2 nr. 4 in e-minor by her father, Wim. Wim Status Muller brought the evening into the finale with selections from his own "Antillean Dances," played with the virtuosity that his audiences have come to expect. Not without its comedic side, Wim Muller departed from the "Dances" into two recognizable classical preludes, which quickly evolved into "Happy Birthday" tributes to a local 15-year old music student at Bonaire's *Kasa di Musika*. Perhaps the highlight of the evening came with a piano duet by Wim Status Muller and grandson Alexander, who brought the audience into the charm of the moment in their very special musical relationship, easily understood by the audience in the shared smiles and winks between the first and third generation Status Mullers. The "Three Generations Concert" was sponsored by the Classical Music Board Bonaire. ■ *Story & photo by Bob Gilmour*

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Cover **New Kids** Story **New School**

In August 2004 the Pelikaan School opened with 25 students. This August, 2010, the school opened its doors to 185 children in their new accommodations at the old International Bible Church/ activity building of Trans World Radio building on Kaya Amsterdam. The other good news is that the school will now be 80% subsidized by the government.

According to Principal, Wilma Bohm-Sandig, it was a miracle that the school was able to be completed sufficiently to receive students by the opening of the semester on August 11. After having requested funds from the MCB bank in order to buy the building from Trans World Radio, the school got its okay for the loan in April. There was a lot of scrambling to prepare the building, to turn it into a school with classrooms, a teachers' room, bathrooms and office. The floors, the windows, the roof, the playground – all needed work or replacement. The school board, the parents and the construction company, Bonned, all came together to work, putting in overtime even on the weekends. Time was running out and there was still so much to be done. Finally, on Friday, August 6, the school got permission to move in. "On that Saturday and Sunday," explains Ms. Böhm, "we moved all the stuff from the old school over to the new one. But there was still more to finish before the students could be here, set for Wednesday, August 11. Even on Tuesday people were still working here until 10 at night, finishing up putting the toilets in the bathrooms!"

To a visitor's eyes, the school is a delight – light and airy thanks to the original high ceilings, panoramic windows, pastel shades on the walls, colorful driftwood "sculptures" with each child's name, bright posters - and surprisingly, it's relatively quiet and serene.

The Pelikaan School students, ages 4 to 12, are divided into eight groups with nine teachers, plus a gym teacher. Principal Böhm also teaches if someone is ill. (At the



moment there are two openings at the school: a full time Papiamentu teacher and a teacher for Dutch as a second language. Contact Ms. Bohm info@pelikaanschool.com) Volunteers are there for reading, helping on school excursions and other tasks.

Classes may consist of different aged students. If a child excels in math, he or she is allowed to progress to the extent of his or her ability. If the student needs more work in a subject then he or she will be in that level group, not necessarily with his or her age group. But what about students criticizing another student who's slower in a particular subject? "We don't allow that," Ms. Böhm says. "The children are encouraged to offer to help the slower ones and to consider that a challenge. And that's what happens!" Maybe that's because there is a big emphasis on the principals of "Non-Violent Communication." Thanks to Annemiek LeNoble and Ms. Bohm, both the students and the teachers have been indoctrinated into its principles.

At the moment the school can accommodate up to 200 students. The grades 1 to 6 are full, however, there are spaces for children in grades 7 and 8 (ages 10, 11, 12). For more information call the school at 717-4301. ■

Laura DeSalvo

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Welcome Back, Champion Nazario

Nazario Alberto, the "North Salinja Roadrunner," has done it again but even more! He just returned to Flamingo Airport last Saturday, having completed his sixth* "Four Days of Nijmegen (4 Dage di Nijmegen) International walking event" (50 k per day for four days) in Holland...and... not only that but he entered and completed the one day-100-km International Kadee Dodentocht walking classic in Belgium. He was greeted at the airport by friends, family, walking companions, government officials and *The Reporter* (who have been long time fans of Nazario's). Now, at age 62, this man cannot be stopped! Nazario has proved it's never too late. At 49 years old he gave up cigarettes and caffeine, "cold turkey," he says, and started walking. He changed his life style, started walking all over the island, including the Tower to Tower walk with Boi Antoin, joined the walking group *Plataforma Kunuku Bieuw*. Nearly the whole island has been covered by those flying feet. He trained seriously and in 2003 he completed his first 4 *Dage di Nijmegen*. The Four Days event in July, which has been going on for more than 80 years, is considered the most prestigious international walk. After Holland Nazario was off to the 100 km



Nazario (center) was greeted by family and a crowd of friends

Kadee Dodentocht in Belgium, held on August 13 this year. This event has been going on for the last 40 years. Starting in 1970 with 69 walkers the Dodentocht has now, according to them, "grown into the largest and most famous 100 km walk throughout Europe. More than 20 nationalities are represented. The beautiful walk goes over three provinces, a combination of busy village centers and quiet places." The theme is "Walking for a Better World." Nazario did this walk between 13 and 14 hours! He's an ambassador for Bonaire and always shows our flag wherever he goes. One wonders, what challenges are next for Nazario? ■ *Laura DeSalvo*

*Add a year to that as in 2006 he arrived in Holland only to find the 4 *Dage di Nijmegen* was cancelled due to the scorching hot weather.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING

Cruise Ship Calls -Information provided by the TCB

| Date | Day | Ship name | Time | PAX |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|-----|
| Every Sunday through Tuesday | From now through Spring 2011 | Scientology ship <i>Freewinds</i> | Arrives 0630 Departs 2200 | 150 |

CLOSE-IN EVENTS

Friday, August 27 – Taste of Bonaire, Wilhelmina Park. Theme: Celebrate our Planet. Stands selling specialties from Bonaire restaurants, 6-9 pm. More info at info@tourismonbonaire.com

Saturday, August 28 Frank Reyes, one of the best known *bachata* artists, performs at the Plaza Resort, 7 pm. Tickets: \$30-\$120, call 702-7594

Saturday, September 4– Miss Bonaire Finals at the Plaza Resort

Sunday, September 5- Local Fishing Tournament

Sunday, September 5- Duo Fest International Competition

Monday, September 6 -Bonaire Flag Day *Dia di Boneiru* (legal holiday) Celebrations in Nikiboko all day

35th Anniversary of Glenn & Friends –A series of concerts and events (mostly free) by Glenn & Friends to celebrate their 35-year anniversary and to thank the Bonairean community for all their support for the last 35 years, which began on Sunday, August 15, in Tera Kora.

- **Sunday, September 12- Wilhelmina Park, 4-to 9 pm.**

- **Wednesday, September 15 – fundraising Bon Kune at the Credit Union Lourdes in Rincon 4 – 9 pm**

- **Sunday, September 19 – Sentro Bario in Antriol, 4 to 9 pm.**

- **Sunday, September 26-Sentro Bario Nort Salina, 4 to 9 pm**

- **Sunday, October 3 – BBQ from 11 am – 3 pm at Kaya Milon 9 NAF 12,50**

- **Saturday, October 16 – Big 35th anniversary celebration, Rincon 7:30 pm until dawn.**

Sunday, October 3– Jong Bonaire Swim to Klein Bonaire

October 24 -Bonaire Xtreme Duo MTB race

Sunday, November 14- Dia di Gracia– 10th Annual Thanksgiving Free Giveaway– donations being accepted now at Termotek, Kaya Korona tel. 717-4658, Meredith 786-2024, Jella 510-7412 or Mamita Fox 717-2953/ 796-1919

November 21—Tree Planting Festival

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](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

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 **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

Take The Reporter Home—1-year subscription: By mail to US \$75; By mail to Europe \$170. By Internet, Free (asking a \$35 donation.) For information about subscriptions, stories or advertising in **The Bonaire Reporter**, PO Box 407, Bonaire, Netherlands Antilles; phone (599) 790-6518, 786-6125, E-mail: info@bonairereporter.com

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Reef Windows
Opening Bonaire's Dive Sites
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.

LIVING ACCOMMODATIONS, Rentals, Property

For sale in Hato: The house with the patio, Kaya Gobernador Nicolaas De-brot 166, look for the signs. Email: digitalis1956@hotmail.com

FOR RENT Spacious 2 bedroom apartment in safe neighborhood. Good location on Punt Vierkant, Belnem. free wireless internet. \$790.—per month excl. utilities **Phone 717-8405**

For SALE: Private lot past 1,000 m2. Excellent location near Kralendijk's city center. Good investment opportunity. Price Euro 65,000.— excl. buyers costs. Further information: **TEL. 09-5603734 TEL. 09-5176774**

MISCELLANEOUS

For sale in Hato: 12 feet inflatable Achilles boat, including 15 hp Yamaha twin outboard engine and trailer. Asking price: **Ang 4000**, Kaya Gobernador N. Debro 166, digitalis1956@hotmail.com

For sale, 4x ob engines, Tohatsu 30HP. Brand new, 30 hours. S2000 p/p. **phone 700 7357**

For sale, 4x Catamaran boats incl. ob engines, **Tohatsu 30HP** Brand new, 30 hours. \$4000 p/p. **phone 700-7357**

For Sale - Sherwood Profile Dive Computer - NEW \$175 USD. console type. call **Kim 788-1939**. no voice mail messages please.

FOR SALE: 2002 MX-5 Mazda Miata Convertible- Excellent Condition, **5600** Actual Miles, Red/w black top/black leather interior. \$19,950 Phone: **786-1016**

For Sale: LG 6.5 kg washer, queen mattress and box, matching grey 2-seater couch and 1 seater chair, LG 29" TV, Teak furniture: coffee table, antique TV cabinet, 2 bar chairs, 2 three drawer side tables, two drawer side table. **ALL items 1 yr. old** and in great condition. Happy to negotiate prices of individual items or all items together. **Call 788-5604.**

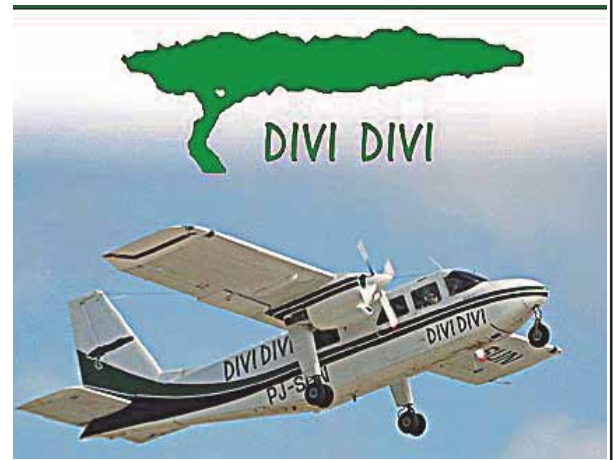
For Sale: 2009 Cannondale F5 mountain bike (cherry red) with Rock Shox, tubeless tires, and SPD pedals. Well maintained. **NAf. 1500**. Call 788-5604 or view the bike at De Free-wieler.

FOR SALE: FULL bed size 140 x 190 Hotel quality brand. Price \$250. **TEL: 796-5530**

FOR SALE Double bed 2 persons, mattress + box spring + frame \$ 250. **Phone 717-8405**

Pinball Machine -Jokerz - NAF 495 **Call 717-8819** from 8 am to 5 pm

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Lac Bay-Sun Rise/Set, Moon Phase and Tides

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

Aug.

| Day | High | Low | High | Low | High | Sunrise | Sunset |
|--------|-------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|---------|--------|
| Fri 27 | 03:02 / 0.43 ft | 09:59 / 0.18 ft | 16:05 / 0.55 ft | 23:35 / 0.20 ft | | 6:25 | 18:49 |
| Sat 28 | 04:10 / 0.37 ft | 10:12 / 0.19 ft | 16:29 / 0.64 ft | | | 6:25 | 18:48 |
| Sun 29 | | 00:31 / 0.13 ft | 05:09 / 0.32 ft | 10:26 / 0.19 ft | 16:57 / 0.74 ft | 6:25 | 18:47 |
| Mon 30 | | 01:17 / 0.06 ft | 05:55 / 0.28 ft | 10:46 / 0.17 ft | 17:29 / 0.84 ft | 6:25 | 18:47 |
| Tue 31 | | 01:57 / 0.01 ft | 06:31 / 0.24 ft | 11:13 / 0.13 ft | 18:05 / 0.93 ft | 6:25 | 18:46 |
| Sept. | | | | | | | |
| Wed 01 | Moon Last Quarter | 02:36 / -0.03 ft | 07:03 / 0.22 ft | 11:47 / 0.09 ft | 18:43 / 1.00 ft | 6:25 | 18:46 |
| Thu 02 | | 03:13 / -0.06 ft | 07:34 / 0.21 ft | 12:28 / 0.05 ft | 19:23 / 1.05 ft | 6:25 | 18:45 |
| Fri 03 | | 03:51 / -0.07 ft | 08:10 / 0.22 ft | 13:15 / 0.03 ft | 20:06 / 1.06 ft | 6:25 | 18:44 |
| Sat 04 | | 04:28 / -0.06 ft | 08:53 / 0.25 ft | 14:09 / 0.03 ft | 20:52 / 1.04 ft | 6:25 | 18:44 |
| Sun 05 | | 05:06 / -0.06 ft | 09:44 / 0.31 ft | 15:12 / 0.06 ft | 21:41 / 0.97 ft | 6:25 | 18:43 |
| Mon 06 | | 05:44 / -0.04 ft | 10:41 / 0.39 ft | 16:27 / 0.10 ft | 22:36 / 0.86 ft | 6:25 | 18:42 |
| Tue 07 | | 06:23 / -0.02 ft | 11:43 / 0.50 ft | 17:56 / 0.13 ft | 23:38 / 0.73 ft | 6:25 | 18:42 |
| Wed 08 | New Moon | 07:04 / 0.01 ft | 12:45 / 0.63 ft | 19:36 / 0.12 ft | | 6:25 | 18:41 |
| Thu 09 | | 00:51 / 0.59 ft | 07:48 / 0.04 ft | 13:46 / 0.76 ft | 21:14 / 0.06 ft | 6:25 | 18:40 |
| Fri 10 | | 02:13 / 0.48 ft | 08:35 / 0.07 ft | 14:45 / 0.88 ft | 22:37 / -0.03 ft | 6:25 | 18:40 |

Antiques and Collectibles Call **795-9760**

Wanted- Looking for a carousel slide projector in good working condition. **Call 795-9760**

Wanted- Airline Approved Large Dog Kennel. Call **786 3134**

Te Koop keramische kookplaat \$76. Schuifpui zoNAfsluitende gordijnen nu \$150. **Tel.717 2529** Bonaireverhuur.

Te Huur vrijstaand huisje op Hato, 2 slaapkamers alle luxe all in \$900 of excl \$690. **tel. 717 2529**

For Sale. BC \$150-Fins for shoes \$70-Belt \$10-Mask \$24-Weight from 2-8 lb. **tel 717 2529**

For Sale wreckaged (sic) paintings with and without frame. **tel 717 2529**

Can you teach an old dog New Tricks?
I would like to learn how to play guitar but I don't have the time or patience. Can you teach me to play specific songs? Gordon Lightfoot? Have guitars, have piano, just no talent. **Please call Brian 717 3527 or 701 3527**

NV for Sale. IT, Hosp, Mktg, Inactive since purchase. Best offer over NAf 5.000 plus buyer pays transfer costs. Owner on island 8/21-9/4. aggie18d@yahoo.com

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SHOPPING and SERVICE GUIDE

AIRLINES

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

APPLIANCES /TV/ ELECTRONICS and COMPUTERS



City Shop, the mega store, has the island's widest selection of large and small home appliances, furniture, TV, computers, cell phones and more. Free service and in-store financing too.

ART & GALLERIES

The Richter Art Gallery, located in Belnem, is Bonaire's only fine art gallery, and features original paintings, limited edition archival art prints, and hand made jewelry created by long-time residents Linda, Jake, and Krystyana Richter.

BEAUTY PARLOR

Hair Affair. Expert hair cutting, styling, facials and facial waxing.

BOOKS

Reef Windows is Captain Don's latest book and features the true stories of the naming of many Bonaire dive sites. A great souvenir as well.

CARS AND BIKES

BoCar sells several top brands of cars and provides maintenance and mechanical and body repair for your car no matter what brand.

De Freewieler sells bikes and all kinds of bike accessories. They do professional repairs on almost anything on two wheels. **Have your keys made here too.**

DENTURE REPAIR

All Denture Lab—for the best denture care by an experienced professional. Repairs while you wait. Next to Botika Korona on Kaya J. G. Hernandez.

DINING

Bistro di Paris A real French restaurant with great food, affordable prices and friendly Bonairean ambience. **Owned and operated by a French Chef On Kaya Gob. Debrot 1/2 mile north of town**

Pasa Bon Pizza is Bonaire's best. Freshly prepared pizzas made with the finest ingredients. Salads, desserts. Eat in or take away. Nice bar too. **780-1111** Call ahead to eat-in or take out, Next to Bistro (above)

Lunchroom de Bonairiaan—Breakfast & lunch prepared and served by Stichting Project students under professional guidance. Monday-Friday, 9-2. Kaya Gob. N..Debrot, opposite Divi Flamingo.

ON & IN THE WATER

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.

GLASS BOTTOM BOAT

Get a glimpse of Bonaire underwater without getting wet. Safe, comfortable new boat, open bar, free snorkel and mask.



UNDERWATER VIDEO

ScubaVision - Pro video of your Bonaire vacation, above and/or below the water with a custom DVD by Bonaire's top videographer, Hendrik Wuyts

FITNESS

Keep in shape at **The Health & Fitness Center Bonaire**. It is the only Real Les Mills Health Center in the Caribbean.

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.

HEALTH



Harmony House—Using science to find the problem. Using natural products to correct the problem.

Also our **Essence** range of herbal teas & hand-made soaps. At Kaya Papa Cornes 2

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.

PEST CONTROL

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PHOTOGRAPHER

Bonaire's creative video and still photographer for the wedding or other important events in your life. **ScubaVision**, Kaya Grandi 6, see website scubavision.info or YouTube

REAL ESTATE / RENTAL AGENTS



Bonaire Sunshine Homes is the realtor with a local touch. Ask them to show you the good value homes they list. Call them if you are thinking of selling your home.



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Sunbelt Realty

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.

The Health & Fitness Center Bonaire is the official Nike outfitter on the island. Footwear and gym wear is available.

STORAGE

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



SECURITY

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SHIPPING



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SUPERMARKETS



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

TRAVEL

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(ISLAND) TOURS

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WATER TAXI

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WINES

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

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Underlining the importance of cruise ships to the local economy the Tourist Corporation Bonaire (TCB) gave a cruise ship service training course for 150 participants on August 10. Attending were partners in the cruise ship tourist industry. The course focused on the importance of the human role which is key to the success of a destination.

Speaking were Tourism Deputy Anthony Nicolaas and TCB Director Ronella Tjin Asjoe-Croes.

Workshops were held to develop "Excellent Service" and "Taxi Pride." Participants received a "Seal of Quality" from the TCB, to go on their car, badge or store.

More information may be had from TCB's Evelain Marchena, Rolando Marin or Helen Thode. Tel. 717-8322. ■ *Press Release*

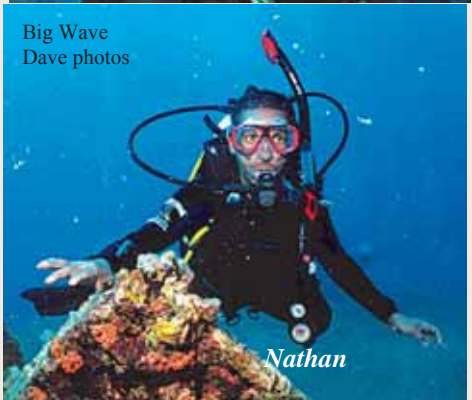
Wounded Warriors Visit A Success



Andy



Joe



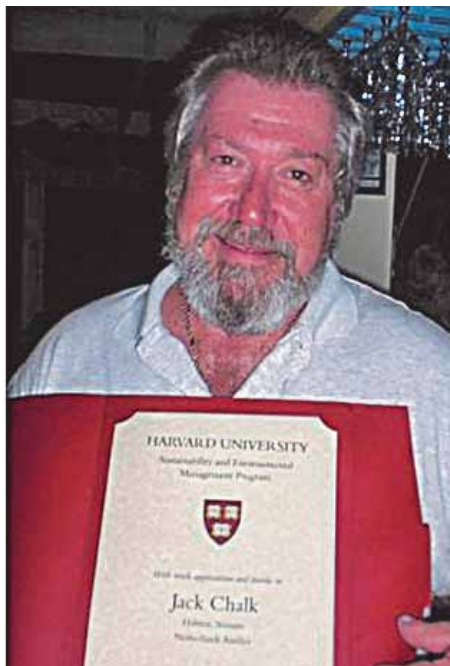
Nathan

Bonaire should be proud of its hosting the recent visit of Wounded Warriors, disabled servicemen and their families: Joe and Andrew Serna Jr, Dan Carlson, Dillon and Lee Behr, Nathan Cruz, Andy and David Kubik, Victor Sassoon and Dickson Perez. The warmth and welcome from individuals and businesses was heartening. See the previous edition of *The Reporter* for a list of those involved. ■ *G.D.*

Honored



George "Clam" Buckley looks pleased with the attention he's getting from BONHATA's Marion Wilson and Sara Matera



At the same event, it was Harvard University's pleasure to present Jack Chalk, general manager of Captain Don's Habitat with a certificate of appreciation from their Sustainability and Environmental Management Program for all that Captain Don's Habitat does in these fields. Congratulations, Jack! ■ *Press release/ G.D*

On July 15th, BONHATA recognised long time friend of Bonaire, George "Clam" Buckley, on the occasion of his 100th visit to the island with the Golden Flamingo Award. George is the Coordinator for the Certificate in Environmental Management program and the Research Advisor to the related Master of Liberal Arts (ALM) program at the Harvard Extension School. He assisted in the campaign to get Klein Bonaire back in the hands of the Bonairean people, performed extensive marine research in the waters and reefs of Bonaire as the Director of the Marine Ecology Project here and many other tasks of benefit to Bonaire. Additionally, George brings down groups of students three or four times a year to assist in carrying out research projects.

You can sign up for one or more of George's courses. They are available on-line (see below) at <http://www.extension.harvard.edu/2010-11/courses/11925.jsp?caller=dce> ■ *Press release/ G.D*

| Term | CRN | Course Number | Title/Instructor | Day/Time | Location |
|-------------|-------|---------------|---|-----------------------|------------------|
| Fall 2010 | 11925 | ENVR E-101 | Environmental Management I George D. Buckley | Wed 7:35 - 9:35 pm | Harvard Hall 104 |
| Spring 2011 | 21784 | ENVR E-110 | Sustainable Ocean Environments George D. Buckley | Mon 7:35 - 9:35 pm | Harvard Hall 104 |

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Panchito Kid's Corner (English)

www.panchitobonaire.com
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M Y D Z W K I M M F X H H F W T N P K R P L M K S
 E O V B S S G R E A T E K H S K S I G B E C A H V
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|------|---------|--------|------|--------|-------|-------|
| VERY | THROUGH | JUST | FORM | MUCH | GREAT | THINK |
| SAY | HELP | LOW | LINE | BEFORE | TURN | CAUSE |
| SAME | MEAN | DIFFER | MOVE | RIGHT | BOY | OLD |
| TOO | DOES | TELL | | | | |

Solutions on page 17

Body Talk

SO WHAT CAN WE EAT!

Having spent so much time (and still do) on telling everyone what they should not eat, or what is bad for them, I have been asked to write an article on what is left to eat. Mistakenly, I thought it was quite obvious what we should be eating, or not. I am aware that the world is over-run with fad diets, misleading supplement information, or eating according to your blood type, or just ordinary caring people, trying to help.



The problem we are all facing is the media. Today, red meat is good for you, next week it's wine, next month it's this or that supplement. Next year – who knows? Are you being spoon fed, or have you forgotten to listen to your body? You know what is good for you and what is not, which foods make you feel good or which foods make you feel bad. Eat your meat; the body needs protein. The mistake we make is by overcooking the meat before we eat it. Another mistake is the bulk of our protein for the day is usually in one meal – at night. Not a good idea.

Most meals are so high in carbohydrates and so low in protein, year in and year out, that the body starts breaking down. Whether you get your protein from meat, fish, chicken or eggs – it does not matter. In most diets, it is the shortage of protein and the excess of carbohydrates that is the problem. Try this: Take your body weight in pounds and divide by 15. That is how many ounces of protein you MUST have per day. Divide this figure by 3 and this is the number of ounces of protein you should have per meal. Most people already consume this much protein, but in one meal.

As good as fruit is for a person, if you have a sugar handling problem (not necessarily diabetic) too much fruit could be a problem. How do you feel after eating fruit? Do you have it after a meal? The second most important issue after what you eat, is when you eat it.

I have people telling me that they do not buy fruit or vegetables from the market "because they use pesticides in Venezuela." If you think Venezuela is the only place using pesticides, think again. The ONLY way on Bonaire to avoid pesticides etc. is to grow "it" in your own yard. Pesticides and modern farming go hand in hand. Besides, your body is equipped to deal with all kinds of "nasties" although this does not mean you have free range to do what you want.

So, my answer is quite simple – EAT ANYTHING THAT YOU THINK IS GOOD FOR YOU. Your biological individuality will determine what is good or bad. Just watch for the signs. Stay away from processed foods and meats. The reason they can survive on supermarket shelves for so long is that they are full of polyunsaturated oils, preservatives and salt. That is what is bad for the body. Get back to basics and stop eating processed foods. Remember, the processed food industry is not concerned about your health, only their pockets. ■ *Stephanie Bennett*

Next: If you have a weight problem, you are MALNOURISHED!

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*



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|--|--|

BONAIRE ON WHEELS
Vanessa's Muddy Red Off-Road Land-Rover Discovery

The 75th 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+

Antriol/Bonaire –

Almost always the muddy red metallic Land-Rover Discovery, owned by Vanessa Smits, is parked in front of Duijn Bonaire/Duijn Blokkenfabriek, situated along the Kaya Industria. Vanessa works at the office of Duijn. This location is easy to find. Then, if you want to visit Vanessa at home, meet her in her own house, this is something completely different. The name of the road is very hard to find on the map. You have to drive along the Kaya Korona in the direction of Rincon, turn right in the direction of Antriol North, find your way to Bario Mexico, follow the tarmac, then cover an unpaved track and try to find a yellow wall... So it took a little time.

Luckily the red Discovery is huge and impressive and distinct from a lot of other vehicles. The car was parked in front of the yellow wall. Now I only had to yell and become friends with a couple of big German shepherds.

Vanessa has been on the island of Bonaire since December 2008. She started with a little white Suzuki Samurai which appeared to be completely nothing compared to the variety of Land-Rovers she was used to. The tiny Suzuki "jeep" could not really cope with the Bonairean terrain. The vehicle changed color from white to brown, lost more and more weight and finally collapsed. Time for something real now.

Way back in time in The Netherlands, once, one of Vanessa's colleagues invited her for an off-road ride in his Land-Rover Freelander. That day Vanessa got completely

hooked on off-road driving and on the British made Land-Rovers. They went to Germany and France to practice and develop their skills. It takes a lot of experience and a lot of knowledge to cope with unknown and unpaved terrain. Always go down a hill in the same gear as you climbed it, never press in the clutch pedal and be very careful and polite with the brakes.

Then, still in Europe, the Land-Rover Freelander was replaced by a metallic grey Range-Rover and a Land-Rover Defender 110. Same color. Later on they had a Range-Rover sport. The Defender, the well known traditionally shaped square model is Vanessa's favorite. But as Vanessa is not the only person who really loves the Defenders they appeared to be to expensive and hard to get on the second hand market. So on Bonaire she had to get used to the flake-metal Suzuki Samurai, but the car did not pass the test.

Vanessa and her friend checked the internet and they found a very nice example of a Land-Rover Discovery at Ter Horst, a company in the eastern part of The Netherlands, dealing in four by four vehicles and recycling Range-Rovers. The vehicle was not even that expensive because it was too huge and too heavy for the Dutch customer. The tax that had to be paid for a vehicle like this was too high and fuel consumption wasn't that low. On Bonaire the road tax system is different, fuel is relatively cheap compared to Europe and distances are short. So the Discovery was bought and the company shipped it to Bonaire.

Since the summer of 2009 the Bonairean traffic has been en-

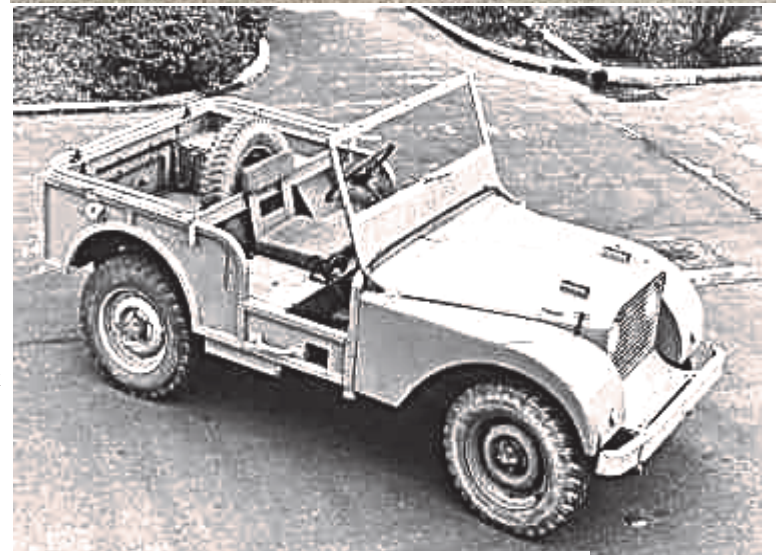
riched with Vanessa's property. It is not a Defender but at least it is a Land-Rover. This Discovery has a body with a lot of light alloy parts. It is mounted on a sturdy chassis and there are four coil springs mounted between the chassis and the ridged axles. The original Land-Rover five spoke aluminum rims carry the vehicle and impressive 16-inch B.F. Goodrich mud/terrain tires are mounted (light truck 255/85R16). Under the hood a huge 3.5 liter V-8 is spooned in. On the rear door it reads V8i Catalyst. The engine is connected to a five-speed gear box and of course there is high gear and low gear. The four-wheel drive is permanent. The whole car is converted to a real off road vehicle. The tires are high and ballooning, suspension is high, a snorkel is mounted to the fuel injection system to avoid water getting into the combustion chambers.

Vanessa is very proud of her Discovery. "My car is a real work horse. It is very reliable. I did not even have a single flat tire! (Knock on wood!/jb) Just recently I drove the unnamed unpaved track that leads from the unpaved Broertje Janga road to the coast. Fun to do and no problem for my Land-Rover!"

And indeed, Vanessa loves her car. The only "problem" is that she does not like to clean the vehicle. The inside is a little messy and the outside is muddy and dirty. Luckily some employees of Duijn Blok-



Vanessa's Off-Road Rover



A pre-production 1947 Land Rover. Its dimensions were the same as the wartime US Jeep

fabriek also fell in love with the vehicle and on a more or less regular base they grab the hose and sponge and they clean the car. Lucky Vanessa, lucky car! ■

Story & photos by J@n Brouwer



Dogs Banned From Beaches

Because the presence of dogs on public beaches "causes inconvenience to visitors and the overall safety of beach goers as well as threaten turtle nests and the flamingo colonies" certain Bonaire beaches were closed to dogs by a newly approved law: Bonaire Regulation 1997 (AB 1998, No. 6), signed into law by the Governor on May 2, 2010.

- The beaches are:
- Playa Lechi (formerly Sunset Beach);
 - Playa Lechi South beginning at the Boulevard (north);
 - Playa Chachacha;
 - Playa Pal'i mangle (Airport Beach);
 - Forni Kalki (Bachelor's Beach) "
 - The area from Salinia (Salt Pier) to the Williamstoren (Lacre Point);
 - Kabaye (White pan) (Pink Beach)

(and surrounding area)

- Pelike and surrounding area Sorobon;
- Cai;
- Nukove;
- Tolo;
- Piedra haltu (Trapi) (Thousand Steps);
- Andrea 1 and 2;
- Klein Bonaire.

By implication all other Bonaire beaches are open to dog walkers. These include Playa Frans, beaches off the marine reserves, Playa Grandi, Lagoen and others. ■

Press release/G.D.



Panchito Kid's Corner

Puzzle Solutions

Puzzle on page 16

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 info@bonairereporter.com

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 SAY HELP LOW LINE BEFORE TURN CAUSE
 SAME MEAN DIFFER MOVE RIGHT BOY OLD
 TOO DOES TELL

BonQuiz Answer

Bon Quiz (from page 7)

Question:

What is the local name for this seed, and how were/are they used?



Answer:

Juku
 Kept in a money purse, it maintains cash flow. When scratched on a hard surface several times, and you touch your loved one with it, you are meant to stay together forever!

Sudoku Solution

Puzzle on page 7

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

Pet of the Week

Jane Madden, one of the spokespersons from the Bonaire Animal Shelter's cat cage residents, writes about our Pet of the Week, "Elizabeth."

"Elizabeth is a very rare beauty! Red and white female cats are quite uncommon...and Elizabeth carries her colors with regal bearing. She is only five months old but already has a strong and sturdy physique unlike most female cats and will be a beautiful adult queen. Her exceptional beauty is accentuated by amber eyes that are deep and soulful. Elizabeth has a gentle and loving demeanor and loves to be handled and carried...but bring out the toys and the royal robes are off and she's a fun-loving kitten at play. She loves other cats, dogs but is perfectly happy with just human companionship."

The adoption fee for cats is NAf 75 and that includes tests for feline leukemia, shots, worming and even sterilization. You can be assured you're getting a healthy and sociable pet when you adopt from our Shelter.

Don't forget to drop by the Shelter gift shop on the Shelter grounds. You'll find all sorts of animal toys, leashes, collars, art work and of course the most "in" Shelter tee-shirts – great for gifts or for yourself.



"Elizabeth."

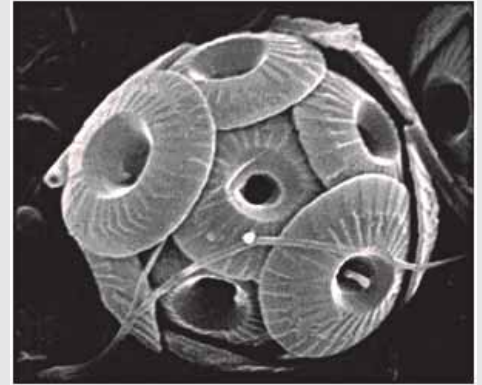
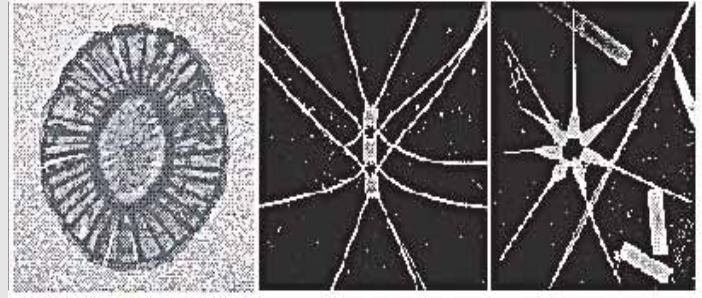
The Shelter on the Lagoen Road is open Monday through Saturday, 9 am to 1 pm and from 3 to 5 pm. Tel. 717-4989. Website: www.bonaireanimalshelter.com.

Laura DeSalvo/Jane Madden

Bubbles From the Biologist

Did you know...

that there is a type of plankton that, when abundant, is visible from space? They are called **coccolithophores** and they are tiny, single-celled **phytoplankton**. Phytoplankton use sunlight to **photosynthesize** and create food for themselves. They live in the upper most layer of the oceans, which is why, when there are large blooms of coccolithophores, they are visible from space. They are the most abundant plankton in the ocean and have a larger population than any other plankton on earth. When these organisms die, their calcareous body parts sink. This has created, over thousands of years, a thick layer of ooze at the bottom of the sea. As you are out scuba diving you probably have never realized that there are thousands of these tiny plankton drifting around you because they are microscopic in size!



photos-<http://www.windows2universe.org>



Katy Brown

Katy Brown, a senior Biogeoscience undergraduate from the University of Tulsa in Oklahoma, studied with CIEE Research Station Bonaire this summer.

Shelter Flea Market Success



Greta Kooistra photos

Eva-Lisa, gave the contents of her piggy bank to Marlies for the Shelter.

Shelter Staff member, Greta Kooistra writes that the Animal Shelter Flea Market on Saturday, August 14, earned NAf 2.500 with the sale of books, household items and clothes. And NAf 168 was donated. All this money goes to help keep our Shelter open for homeless cats and dogs. Old friends met, new people made friends, the animals were delighted with all the attention and five dogs and five cats found loving homes so it was a wonderful day for everyone! Thanks to all who participated and especially to all those volunteers who got all the hundreds and hundreds of items organized and together and managed the day! ■ L. D./Greta Kooistra



Volunteer Quentje took care of the bar and the money - she did a great job

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*to find it... just look up

Celebrate September the Cosmic Way With a Giant Triangle of Stars Overhead

Do you know that every weekend in early September three very bright stars, which make a giant triangle, shine overhead?

Let me tell you how to find them. Simply go outside between 9 and 10 pm, Sky Park, time and look straight up almost overhead. You will see three extremely bright stars, which if we connect with lines make a huge stellar triangle which is traditionally called the **Summer Triangle** because every year these three stars can be seen rising over the eastern horizon in early evening at the beginning of summer.

But since the stars change their position with each season, by the time September rolls around this triangle has changed its position so that in early evening it is almost directly overhead and makes an almost perfect must-see September tradition. Now each star belongs to a separate constellation. So not only do we also have three wonderful stars we have three equally wonderful constellations. The brightest star is **Vega** and it belongs to the small constellation **Lyra the Harp**. The second brightest is **Altair** in a much larger constellation called **Aquila the Eagle**. And the dimmest of the three is **Deneb** which marks the tail of a huge constellation called **Cygnus the Swan**.

Now if we compare each of these three stars with the star we call our **Sun** you'll be in for a big surprise. Our Sun is the closest star, only 8 1/3 light minutes away, which means it takes its light 8 1/3 minutes to reach us, so we see it not as it actually exists now but as it existed 8 1/3 minutes ago. Altair is the closest triangle star and is 17 light years away, which means that it takes its light



17 years to reach us. So we see it not as it exists this September weekend but as it existed 17 years ago. Vega is slightly farther, 25 light years away which means that it takes its light 25 years to reach us so we see it as it existed 25 years ago. Deneb, however, is so incredibly far away, 1500 light years, that it takes its light 1500 years to reach us so we see it as it existed 1500 years ago! Super wow!

And talk about size and brightness! Altair is 1 1/2 times the diameter of our almost 1 million-mile-wide Sun and 9 times brighter. Vega, however, is 2 1/2 times the diameter of our Sun and is 58 times brighter. But you ain't seen nothing yet because Deneb is a super 116 times as wide as our Sun and 60,000 times brighter! In fact if it were as close as Vega and Altair it would be the brightest star in the night sky!

So there you have it. Three bright stars forming a giant triangle almost overhead in early evening every weekend in early September. So why not make viewing this brilliant threesome a tradition? ■

Jack Horkheimer



Café Astrology September 2010

Aries (21 March - 19 April) Relationships are a strong focus for you in September, dear Aries. Tending to a partner's needs is important now, and it would be wise to put some of your own personal projects on the back burner in order to focus on a significant partnership. The 8-14 brings romantic excitement, important news, and money opportunities. Increased public recognition and professional success can be had now.

Taurus (20 April - 20th May) In September, there is a flurry of activity surrounding work and health matters, dear Taurus. Nevertheless, romantic matters are strong, and might be found on the job. Income from foreign sources could also figure this month. The 10-14 is a strong period for work, health, romance, and money. Take advantage!

Gemini (21 May -21 June) Financial gains may come through a partnership or there may be an increase in a partner's income in September. A friend comes to you in the first week of the month, whether this is a new friend or one from your past. The 12-14 represents an opportunity period for you, particularly in the areas of romance, children, and friendship.

Cancer (22 June - 22 August) A busy home life figures strongly this month, dear Cancer. Entertaining in your home is especially successful now. The lines of communication open up between you and a special someone. Sharing daily events and goings-on with one another gives you much pleasure. Pleasant and surprising news arrives around the Full Moon.

Leo (23 August - 22 August) Practical matters and communications are a big focus for you in September, dear Leo. More security in your job is likely to boost your confidence. The 4-5 brings romantic and creative opportunities; while the 12-13 can be tricky when it comes to relating with a significant other

Virgo (23 August - 22 September) Finances are in focus. Love, love affairs, and other social activities help to enhance a healthy self image. You are feeling less private and more open about your opinions and experiences now. The 15th brings surprises from a partner.

Libra (23 September - 22 October) Opportunities seem to fall into your lap this month, particularly involving education, travel, and relationships. Material profits come from communications projects. 10-14 presents stellar opportunities for partnerships, negotiations, and positive reinforcement in general. The 15-

16 brings surprises surrounding work and health matters. The 22-23 is strong for personal finances, gifts, and acquiring new possessions.

Scorpio (23 October - 21 November) Although you may find yourself in demand socially from time to time in September, dear Scorpio, most of your activities are behind the scenes. Relationships with a partner and with friends are low-key and private. A flurry of activity surrounding romance or children occurs around the 15th. Chances are excellent that you will find a lovely confidante this month.

Sagittarius (22 November - 21 December) Stimulating friendships and group activities, as well as increased energy, figure strongly for you in September, dear Sagittarius. Personal projects bear fruit, and practical matters are especially favorable. It's an excellent period in which to ask for a raise, before the 24th. You may have more resources to invest into your career or business. Being in a position of responsibility or authority is something you place a high value on this month.

Capricorn (22 December - 16 January) Others are likely to turn to you for advice this month, dear Capricorn, as all eyes turn to you. If you feel that others are judging you for what you have and haven't done this month, you're probably correct! Romance may be found through your career and business activities. A private project can pay off.

Aquarius (20 January - 18 February) A spirit for adventure and intrigue takes hold in September, dear Aquarius, when the humdrum simply doesn't satisfy! Singles will find romance when they are out and about, away from home and typical activities. Help seems to be magically there when you need it, and your own awesome strength and faith is always there to draw upon. An epiphany regarding money or possessions occurs around the 15th.

Pisces (19 February - 20 March) Dear Pisces, career matters moves forward this month, and the focus is on increasing business income. An awakening of emotional consciousness occurs around the Full Moon in your sign on the 15th. Stellar days on the 17-22 offer opportunities in the areas of relationships, negotiations, personal income, and family. Partnering with a friend in some tangible way can be part of the picture this month. ■

Annie

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Progress Toward the 10/10/10 Integration

On August 3, 2010, Commissioner for Bonaire, Sint Eustatius and Saba H.G.J. "Henk" Kamp issued a progress report titled "Nog tien weken" (Ten weeks to go), detailing the status of the changes underway to integrate Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba (the BES Islands) into The Netherlands.

The more-than-9,000-word report provides answers to many of the questions in the minds of BES islanders. A complete copy in Dutch, Papiamentu or English can be obtained from the RSC, although only the Dutch copy is considered "official." On this page we have extracted a few of the items of most concern to Bonaire.

The RSC will become the employer of all (about 600) Kingdom civil servants on the BES Islands. About 400 of these are workers transferring from central and local government jobs. A recruitment campaign has been started to fill the remaining 200 slots. Preference is given to Antillean residents or Antilleans living in Holland.

Mr. Kamp's position, Commissioner for The BES Islands, will transition into the position of **Representative of the Kingdom (RotK)**, based on the "Wet openbare lichamen Bonaire, Sint Eustatius en Saba" (The law on public entities Bonaire, Sint Eustatius and Saba-WolBES). The Kingdom Representative is the governmental link between Dutch Government and the public entities and is a governmental body with legal responsibilities that have been partially mentioned in the WolBES. **Essentially the RotK is the ultimate authority for the BES Islands** because "some of the island ordinances will have to be approved by the Kingdom Representative before entering into force. In case of negligence of responsibilities the Kingdom Representative may replace the Executive Council or Lieutenant Governor."

The Ministry of Economic Affairs has plans for improvements of the electrical power grid and the contribution for the purpose of a strategic oil reserve on the island.

The Central Bureau of Statistics-CBS in the Netherlands has taken the necessary steps to take over the tasks of the CBS of the Netherlands Antilles.

Upon initiative of the Ministry of Economic Affairs, a plan has been prepared to upgrade and modernize the Bonaire Chamber of Commerce (see related item in Flotsam and Jetsam on page 8), and update the Commercial Registry on the three islands.

Mail delivery- The Ministry has had research done and agreements will be made on the concession for mail delivery on the three islands after October 10th.

Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality

As a co-initiative of the Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality (*Ministerie van Landbouw, Natuur and Voedselwaliteit- LNV*) – assisted by the IMARES institute of the University of Wageningen- two conferences were held in Bonaire in December 2009 and June 2010 as a preparation of a management plan for the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). **This plan will be aimed at the conservation of the rich marine biodiversity and sustainable fishery.** The Coast Guard is taking preparatory measures for the management of the EEZ.

Upon request of LNV, IMARES on Bonaire in collaboration with the environmental conservation organization STINAPA and the island agency for spatial planning and management (DROB), has researched the **threats to Lac Cai**, a unique natural area with mangroves, sea grass and coral reefs. An action plan will be prepared.

Ministry of Defense

Since 2005, The Royal Netherlands Military Constabulary (*De Koninklijke Marechaussee - KMar*) has supported Customs at the Bonaire airport. **Starting from the transition date the BES-islands Caribbean Brigade unit of KMar will be responsible for border control.** Collaboration with customs will be intensive to achieve as efficient a border crossing as possible.

Ministry of Youth and Family

For each of the three islands a tailor made plan has been made for a **Youth and Family Center**, possibilities for positive leisure activities, youth care and protection. **During the year 23 additional staff members**, as much as possible with an Antillean background, were recruited for the implementation of the plans. As per transition date, the three Courts of Guardianship (*Voogdijraden*) on the BES-islands will be clustered to **one Court of Guardianship and housed at the RSC.** To be able to execute the legal responsibilities properly, the staffing of the Court of Guardianship will be expanded and the work processes will be professionalized.

In order to further promote positive leisure activities, **the Jong Bonaire Foundation has received a grant to further develop both the location and the**

range of after school activities offered.

Bonaire will receive a direct labor market push by enabling **20 local youth workers to further school themselves** by earning an HBO-level in social – pedagogic help services. This project will be executed by the *Christelijke Hoogeschool Ede*.

Ministry of Justice

Due to the past suspension of Dutch aid, the Custodial Institutions Service (*Dienst Justitiële Inrichtingen - DJI*) has experienced significant delays. **Since April 2010, efforts have been made to work off the backlog as much as possible and to increase the capacity of the existing jailhouse by the transition date.**

The local recruitment, selection and training of additional staff is in full swing. However, it is expected that it will still be necessary to **send DJI-staff from the Netherlands to Bonaire** this year.

In the meantime, the Government Buildings Agency and DJI have already taken the preparatory measures to **build prisons on Bonaire and St. Eustatius.** Current thinking has them built in 2013 at the earliest.

As per transition date the BES Public Prosecution Department (*Openbaar Ministerie BES*) will come into being. Together with the Curaçao and Sint Maarten Public Prosecutor Offices, **the BES will have one common Public Prosecutor.**

Police Department

On July 1, 2010, a new police chief was appointed to the Bonaire Police Corps, who will also act as the "kwartiermaker" for the to-be-established BES Police corps. With support of the RSC a regional recruitment campaign for more police was started at the beginning of July.

Fire Department

The recruitment of a general Head for the new BES Fire Departments has been started. In anticipation of the transition date, the fire brigades of Bonaire and St Eustatius have enabled their staff to acquire the required aircraft firefighting diplomas. The Governments Buildings Agency has been requested to take care of the management and maintenance of the fire department buildings on the three islands. Bonaire's fire department is purchasing a new "crash truck" and a new fire department building should be ready in 2012. On Bonaire an extra broadcast installation for better connection with the emergency services is in place.

Governance

The "kwartiermaker" government is supporting the island



"Top Guns" in the BES Islands: Bonaire Governor Glenn Thodé, Queen's Commissioner Henk Kamp, St. Eustatius (Statia) Governor Gerald Berkel and Saba Governor Jonathan Johnson.

governments with the implementation of the new laws and regulations.

The Island Councils can start drafting the ordinances for the island taxes they wish to introduce. For the levy and collection of these taxes, completely updated registries are required of the buildings and installations and individuals on the islands. The work necessary for this is currently in a finalizing phase. At the establishment of the new public entities, ceremonial aspects are important. **Bonaire and St Eustatius have decided to preserve their current island coats of arms in the new constellation.** The Netherlands will handle the production of the chains of office for the Lieutenant Governors. **Furthermore, new ID-cards (sedulas) will be introduced after the transition.**

Transport

On the transition date the Dutch minimum international safety norms of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) will be introduced for the airports of Bonaire, Sint Eustatius and Saba. **A master plan has been prepared to further develop the Bonaire airport and have it comply with these ICAO-norms.** Renovations of Bonaire's runway will be paid by Holland. It is expected that the to-be-selected contractor will start the work around January 1, 2011. The analysis by Royal Haskoning on the best location for a **new freight port in Bonaire has been finalized.** The actual construction of the port will require an amount of about €15 million.

Schools

It's recognized that Bonaire's schoolchildren are not as well educated as those in Holland. Although progress has been made at the elementary level the level at the High School has declined. In consultation with the Executive Councils and the schools involved, programs have been prepared to use extra funds for the improvement of school build-

ings and for the most urgent needs. **On Bonaire it includes construction of a new school with neighborhood facilities; construction of a new school for HAVO/VWO higher grades; urgent facilities for the instruction class rooms of the SGB High School.**

It was agreed with the island governments that the Dutch educational system will be the model for BES education.

Health, Welfare and Sports

The Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sports (*Ministerie van Volksgezondheid, Welzijn en Sport - VWS*) wishes to gradually allow the level of healthcare on Bonaire, St Eustatius and Saba to grow to be equivalent to that in the European part of the Netherlands. On January 1, 2011, the Ministry will introduce the BES-health insurance, **which grants all legal citizens of the three islands equal right to medical and long term care.**

The privatization of the general practitioners (House Doctors) on Bonaire is supported.

The increase of the number of basic specialties in the Bonaire hospital will take time. Contract-based purchase of basic specialty care will be arranged for **internal medicine, surgery, anesthesiology, gynecology, pediatrics and psychiatry.** The expectation is that around October 10 the first medical specialist will be working in the Bonaire hospital and that in the course of a year the other specialists will gradually become available.

A **dialysis center** is planned to for Bonaire at the Bonaire hospital. At the same time the possibility of home dialysis will be included.

Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment

plans to raise the monthly retirement benefit on January 1, 2011, from NAf 800 to NAf 900. The present retirement age of 60 will be increased to 65 over the next 10 years. ■

Information from RSC press release/G.D.