

It's Still FREE

BONAIRE Oct. 22- Nov. 5, 2010, Year 17, Issue 20
The REPORTER
Helping Bonaire Grow Responsibly

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Bonaireans Want Their Own Beach!
page 3

Survey Results Among Antilleans Papiamentu Language Survey



The times are changing. **No longer do Bonaireans think the best use for beachfront property is a luxury hotel.** In fact 80% of the responses to a Papiamentu language survey circulated on the island said to preserve Sunset Beach and not sell it off for a large hotel building.

When there is a beach it can support “beach culture” activities that could provide jobs and income to Bonaireans, similar to what a hotel might do, but without the “middleman,” as well as support maintenance of the site.

Some ideas:

1. A water sports facility owned by locals, perhaps some of Bonaire’s windsurfing pros. People could rent chairs, umbrellas, snorkel and windsurf gear, paddle boats, take snorkel or windsurf lessons, etc.
2. A local *Snek* like *Maiky’s* or *Antriol Catering*, selling food, *Prisca’s* ice cream, *pastechis*, drinks, etc..
3. Art Gallery
4. A boardwalk so even the elderly and handicapped can enjoy the beach and the sea
5. A *Kresh* and a playground where people can leave their children to play near the sea
6. A protected swimming area and life guards for the entire beach
7. A boat ramp to launch small boats
8. A beach volleyball and games area
9. Keep the shade areas and local trees for a picnic area.
10. What are your ideas? More Sunset Beach on page 3...



Most of Bonaire’s beaches are “private.” even though access is allowed for all by law, it just doesn’t happen. Look at this map.

Google Earth photo– Alan Gross

Last week the BOPEC oil terminal was given the green light by the Bonaire Government to resume operation. All normal work was suspended since the fire of September 8 for safety reasons following a three-day-long fire in a naphtha storage tank.

However, according to unofficial reports, some of the critical items still remain to be corrected and there have been as many as five oil spills. Some were contained before oil leaked into the marine environment. There are eight salt pans, *salinjas*, that are critical to the marine environment near or adjacent to BOPEC. In the coming months the effects of the fire on the environment will be studied by independent observers. Recently some mortality of lichens was observed near the top of Wecua mountain.

According to a press release PDVSA, the national oil company of Venezuela, the owner of BOPEC, intends to invest in additional safety and security. Products with a higher risk, such as crude oil, will be removed from the site. Only works with refined products, like fuel oil, will be stored. In addition, agreements on joint exercises and training for firefighters between BOPEC and the island have been made.

►Rafael Damascus' Heavy Equipment Rentals NV at Kaya



Prior Commissioner Nolly Oleana presents Rafael Damascus with the permit. His son and grandson look on.

Korona 100 is the only Bonaire company authorized to collect used oil in a vacuum tank truck (V1349) in collaboration with the island's waste management com-

pany, SELIBON. Any company with large quantities of used oil should contact Damascus for collection. It will be picked up within two working days. The oil is trucked to BOPEC for storage and later disposal off island along with the "slops" from visiting tankers. Used motor oil is very harmful to the environment. There was an accident recently that released this type of oil into Salinja Vliet. Its proper disposal is essential to a healthy Bonaire environment.

►WILLEMSTAD- **The Netherlands Antilles no longer exists, but the bonds between families on the various islands still do.** However, there is as yet no cooperation arrangement between the new entities that allows easy passage between neighboring Dutch islands using only a *sedula* (ID card). *The Reporter* was informed that this is recognized as a problem and is being reviewed by the appropriate authorities.

►DEN BOSCH--**Local authorities in The Netherlands should not charge people for identification cards (*sedulas*)** because it is in the government's interest that people use them, a Court of Justice in Den Bosch ruled on Thursday. People are increasingly required to show an ID card to comply with government requirements, such as to start a new job, apply for social security benefits or open a bank account, the Court said. Does the ruling now apply to Bonaire where the charge for a *sedula* has been NAf 15? The decision is not applicable to driver's licenses and passports.

►Kingdom Relations Director Hans Gerritsen of the Dutch Ministry of Home Affairs and Kingdom Relations will serve as Representative of the Crown in the Caribbean Netherlands. Queen's Commissioner Henk Kamp has returned to The Nether-



Hans Gerritsen
Internet photo

"Pabien, Congrats, Gefeliciteerd. Nos ta den un Reino ku a renase. We live in a reborn Kingdom. We leven in een herboren Koninkrijk! With our will in the right direction, we will reap new fortunes..." Bonaire Governor Glenn Thodé on 10/10/10.

It was Saturday night. Bands were playing music. Some people were dancing. Other people were having a cold beverage. Important people were speaking on the stage. Well, it is now almost 12 o'clock at midnight. Almost everybody was curious to know what was going to happen when the children, the islands of the Dutch Antilles, separated and Bonaire became a public entity of Holland.

A local singer sang a very sad song in which he said goodbye to the Antilles. It was a covered song of Eva Peron. The original song is: "Don't Cry For Me, Argentina." The Antillean flag went down. Many people were dressed in black. Were they really aware of this or was it just a coincidence?

In a way we could say that there was a certain feeling of funeral. It is not that there was never a fight between the islands. However, there was still a feeling of "we." Now it feels as if the family has been torn apart. Everyone could see the beautiful fireworks in the sky. But one really could feel the nostalgia among the people. One guy tried to congratulate two other guys who were passing by. But they really did not appreciate this and they said that according to them there was no reason at all for congratulations. They even were ready to fight. In general, during the day of Rincon or other cultural events, the faces are happy. Unfortunately, on this day many people were looking very sad. There were even some people who could not hold their tears. I am one of those people to be honest. I feel that I have lost my brothers and sisters. In other words: the other islands.

The politicians have their reason to do what they are doing. But the most important thing that's affecting the local people is "fear." They are afraid because they say that they are not well informed. One can hear them talking in the local bars. Most of them do not have any idea of what this transition really means. Some think that the Dutch are taking over the place. Others think that they are about to lose their identity. Well, in general, one feels comfortable when a situation is predictable. Despite this we do not know what changes this transition will bring. It might bring positive things. So I guess that the best thing is to try to live in harmony with each other, give our contribution each day to Bonaire, and together we can help Bonaire to progress. If it progresses, all of us will pick the fruits. God bless our Flamingo Island.

-Special to *The Bonaire Reporter* by Norwin E. Leito
Norwin Leito is a journalist for Papiamentu language media.



The Antillean flag is ceremoniously lowered for the last time the Bonaire Government Building.

Bonaire government photo

lands where he has the position of Minister of Social and Labor Affairs in the Mark Rutte cabi-

net. Other members of the Rutte Cabinet have connections with

(Continued on page 17)

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How to contact us

Letters to the Editor:
Reporter@bonairenews.com
Story tip or idea:
info@bonairenews.com
The Publisher:
George@bonairenews.com
Box 407, Bonaire,
Neth. Antilles.
Phone 790-8988
Phone 790-6518 / 786-6518
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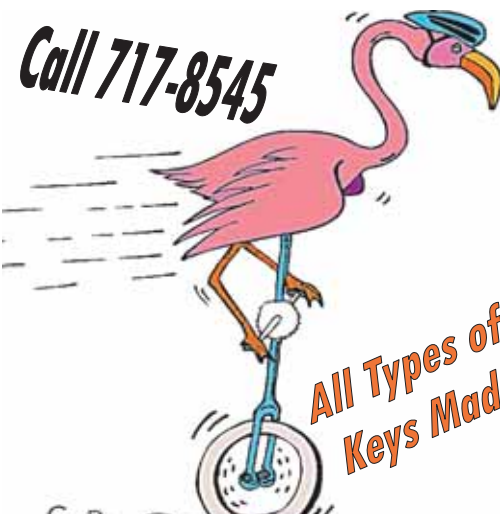
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Develop Sunset Beach for Bonaireans

Development of the Sunset Beach property can be done in a way that will provide jobs and business opportunities for Bonaireans -- without erecting a new large hotel.

Business for Bonaireans

"It would be really positive if the area could be developed so that Bonaireans could afford to open businesses there to serve the locals and tourists who would come to a public beach as we did in the past," said Sherwin Pourier, manager of a local bank.

From an economic point of view, Pourier continued, "such a small-business-oriented development would provide far more opportunity for our people than another hotel where many of the best of any new jobs would go to foreigners."

"Of course building a new hotel would create construction jobs," said Sidney Manuel, a local contractor and president of AKIB. "But would that contract go to a Bonairean company? I doubt it. And with the current tight market for construction labor, where would the workers come from? If the area was developed for small businesses there is a much greater chance that the work would go to local people and we would not have to import more workers."

Another Hotel Unnecessary

Currently the average Bonairean hotel is running at approximately 60% occupancy," said Bous Scholts, former Marketing manager of Plaza Resort and past president of BONHATA. "At that rate, the introduction of a new block of rooms could cause one or more of the local hotels to fail. Just to fill a hotel of 300 rooms would require another two flights per week to Bonaire at a time when airlines are severely reducing flights" Scholts added.

"I truly hope that the Sunset Beach area will be developed in a way that benefits our local entrepreneurs and workers rather than some foreign company," added Pourier.

A recent survey among both residents and visitors showed overwhelming support for preserving the beach as a public amenity. More than 88% of all respondents and 80% of all Antilleans chose preservation of the beach as opposed to a large hotel or luxury housing.

One resident commented in the survey, "Most of the money earned by large hotels on Caribbean islands goes to foreigners. Combine that with the fact that they pay very little in taxes and pay below minimum salaries to the majority of their employees and the result is that big hotels do not contribute

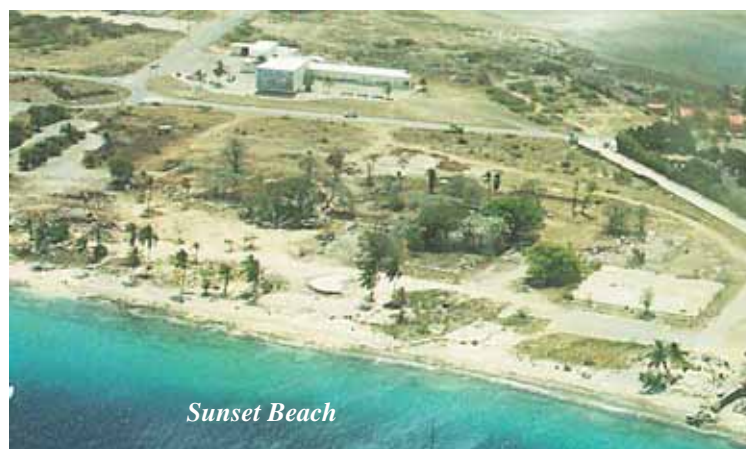
substantially to the financial health or to the prosperity of the islands."

"Mayoria di sèn ku hotèlnan grandi ta gana riba islanan di Karibe ta bai pa ESTRANHERO. Anto huntu ku e echo ku nan ta paga tiki impuesto i ku nan ta paga salarionan bou di mínimo na mayoria di nan trahadónan lokal, e resultado ta ku hotèlnan grandi no ta kontribuí nada sustansial na e salú finansiero ni na e prosperidat di e islanan di Karibe."

Relief from Environmental Pressure

Another respondent to the survey said, "This is a unique opportunity for the government to demonstrate that it has the interest of the Bonairean people in mind. There are few beaches on Bonaire that are adequate for families and tourists. Sorobon beach is an area that is fragile and receives more people than it can sustain during cruise season. This causes permanent damage to our environment and, at the same time, damages the place for our own people. If we can develop Sunset as a public beach we can provide a location for many people to enjoy and, at the same time, reduce the pressure on other sites and protect our island."

Esaki ta un oportunitat uniko pa demostra ku gobierno si tin interes pa e hende di Boneiru.



Sunset Beach

Tin tiki bichnan na Boneiru adekua pa familianan i turistanan. Areanan hopi sensibel manera Sorobon ta risibi mas hende ku e por sostene (turista di krusero) Esei ta kousa danio permanente den nos naturalesa i ta dania e luga pa nos hende me ora. Si esaki lo bin komo bich publiko e ta bai duna mas luga pa hende por bai mes ora ku ta kita estres di otro lugarnan, ta yuda proteha nos isla

Elsmarie Beukenboom, Director of STINAPA, agrees. "During cruise season, the pressure on the beaches at Sorobon is intense. We are concerned about the impact of so many people and the expansion of the bathing areas there. A well-planned and managed beach at the Sunset site would reduce this threat to the sea grass beds and mangroves."

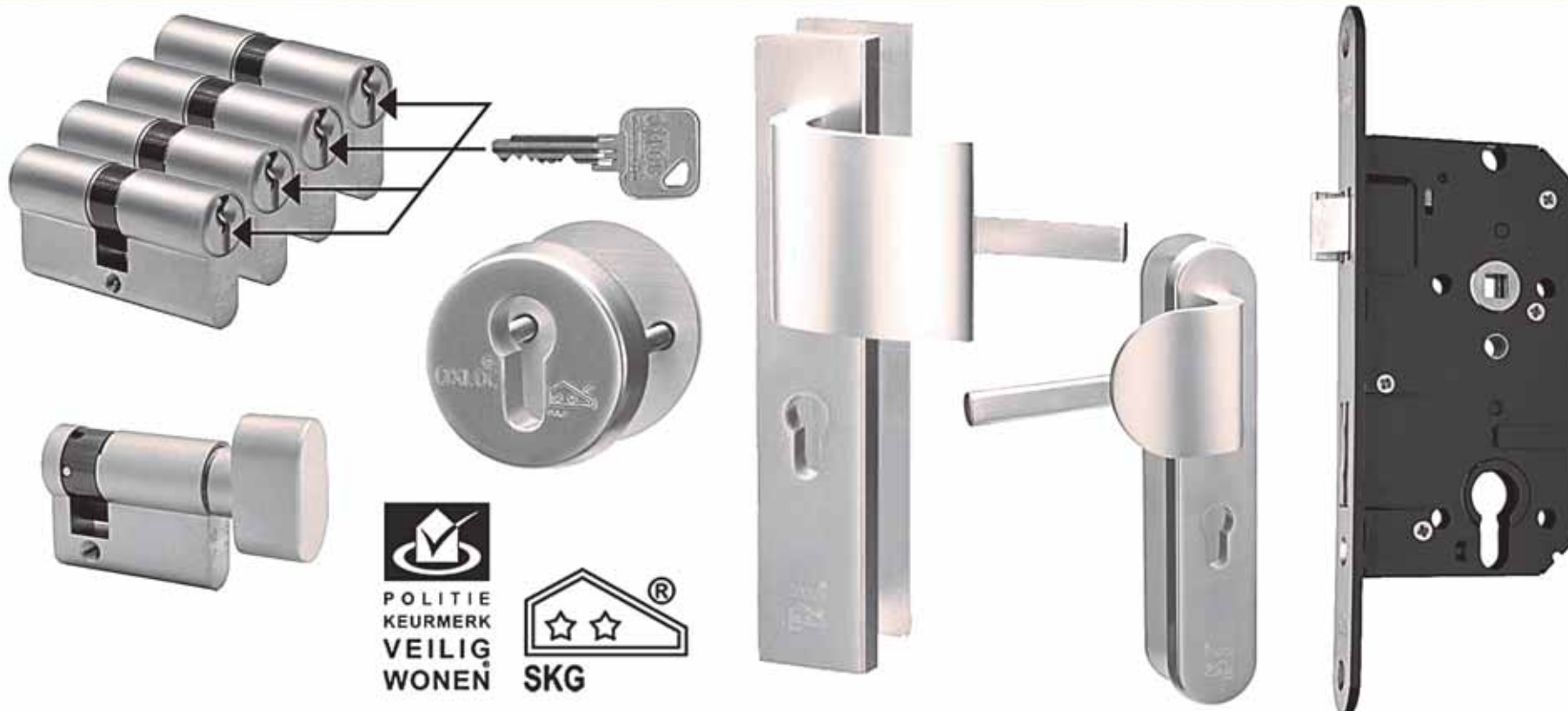
"We Used to be Able to Choose Between Many Beaches"

"The Bonairean community needs a substantial beach to provide the people with a place to enjoy the ocean. We used to have many beaches but most of them have been blocked by development and even though the government requires hotels and developers to permit public access to the sea, most of these traditional beaches are no longer welcoming to Bonaireans," said Manuel.

"Think about it. We used to be able to choose between many beaches along the coast but now all we have is ChaCha beach and Pal 'i Mangel. ChaCha is very small and Pal 'i Mangel can be dangerous for children with the fast traffic going past. We need to have a real beach with adequate facilities and safe parking where local people and tourists can all enjoy our natural blessing together," he continued. ■ Jane Townsend

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Born on Bonaire March 25th, 1953 - Engrasia Ansencion 'Gacha' Keller

“When I was born it was only my mother and father, one older sister and one older handicapped brother and me. Three of my brothers had left the house already. I grew up at the kunuku. We did have a house in Nikiboko, made of mud and straw, but we only spent the weekends there. So, after school, my sister and I walked from St. Bernardus School in Playa to our kunuku which was located in the neighborhood of Maiky’s Snack. Several years ago it was called ‘Jos’, a place where many Dutch people would hang out on the weekend but I don’t go there anymore.

As we had no running water, we had to get it at the well. We would put the empty drums on the donkey cart and drive to the well to fill them up. Later on the government truck would come and we could buy water but we had to be careful because once it was finished, we had to go to the well again and that was far away.

We had goats and chickens and donkeys. The donkeys we used for transport. We also went with the donkey cart to Lac to buy fish. Nowadays it’s prohibited to catch certain types of fish or karko (conch) - and I find that wrong - because for us it was our food - our life. Where else is there to go and buy things?

Starting from when I was about 10 I had to work after school. On Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays I went to clean houses - and the money I made I had to give to my mother. You know how much money? I was working in the house which later became ‘Blue Moon’ restaurant and in the house at the back of it, which is now ‘Casa Blanca’ restaurant. I know that house from the front to the back, from the back to the front. I worked there from 3 in the afternoon until 10 at night. Then the owners would take me home and I would get NAf 2,50 ... which I had to give to my mother - in her hand. I wasn’t allowed to buy candy; if I

did I would get a spanking.

The cleaning then was very different from now; I had to scrub the floors on my hands and knees with a brush and clean it up with a floor cloth. I had to use four buckets of water, clean and dry and clean and dry. Now everybody has a mop and a broom, but it was different for me. But... I am happy because I know how to clean a house!

On Sundays I had to wash my father’s, brother’s and my clothes and scrub them on the washboard. My mother would wash her own clothes. My sister had moved out. She went to live with an aunt in a house in Nikiboko which was called ‘Mi

Poron.’ I went to school until the fifth grade because then I didn’t have time to learn anymore. The moment

school was out I had to work and I could never ask my mom anything about the lessons, because then she would say: ‘Why am I sending you to school? What good does it do for you?’ My mom was very strict! So, after the fifth grade I started cleaning houses fulltime.

My mother ironed for other people - for many people on the island - and that’s how she found jobs for me. I’ve worked for many people, also for Stanley Beudeker and his wife Elba, very fine people who’ve taught me a

lot. I worked for them when their children were born. They’ve grown up now, but still, when they see me they are delighted and they say, ‘There’s Mama Pretu!’ (Black Mama) They respect me. The Beudeker family paid me NAf 100 a month - which was for my mother’s hand - and in December they would give me a big package with all kinds of goodies.

When I was 16 we moved to Nikiboko. My father went to the kunuku every day to feed the

(Continued on page 5)



Gacha with her sleeping grand daughter Edrivene (she didn't want to wake her up)

“My hobby was dancing – I love to dance – but now there’s no more discothèque or nightclub ... ”

							
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Born on Bonaire (Continued from pg. 4) animals, but they were stolen, one by one, and we ended up with nothing. On the land where the mud house was we built a brick house and then we went to live there.

I always stayed with my parents and my brother Pito. My father died 32 years ago and then my mom passed away 15 years ago. Pito is still alive and he lives with relatives. After my mother passed away I went to live in a house of the Fundashon. I already had five children: four daughters and one son. My daughter Helene was born in 1972, Denice in 1976, Faniska in 1977, my son Raul in 1980 and daughter Rika in 1982. Three of my daughters are married. I have 17 grandchildren and one great grandchild. All my children live on Bonaire and I don't want them to go far away – I want them to stay close to me!

Bisoen Djoegan is my husband. We got married in Surinam in 1997. He is an electro technician. I only went to Surinam once, to get married.

This year in July I went on a cruise, for the first time! My daughter Faniska was getting married and she paid for my ticket. I also saved money for the trip. It was great, really great. First we went to Miami and from there to the Bahamas and Turks and Caicos. But... after three

days I started getting bored.

There was nothing to do, just sit and sit and walk to the buffet and eat and sit. I would get up and collect other people's plates, you know, to do something!" She laughs. "People would tell me 'No, you don't have to do that!'"

Gacha is a lovely, hard working lady. She's petite and pretty and open minded. You can count on her; she sticks to her word and she's extremely punctual.

"I am still working. I've worked for CBS (Central Bureau for Statistics) for 26 years and for more than five years I've worked for Pasa Bon Pizza. It's a real good job and the team is just great – we are like family. Since I started working for Pasa Bon Pizza I don't clean so many houses anymore. The only person's house I clean is Barbara's, every Saturday – for 20 years now! By working for all these different people - private houses, restaurants and offices - I've learned to speak and understand English and Dutch. I do understand Spanish, but I cannot speak it very well.

I love Bonaire and I wouldn't want to live somewhere else, but it has changed a lot. There are very few beaches where we have access to the sea. I've heard that people want to keep Sunset Beach for the local people and I really want that to happen! More Bonairean people should stand

up and make an effort to keep Sunset Beach for the local people – to keep something from Bonaire for themselves.

My fantasy has been always to work on a cruise ship and to see all the countries, but I couldn't make it come true. Maybe... if I'd learned to work at an office it would have been a better life."

She smiles: "But...I can still walk and help people and when I don't work I am always at home and then I work there. My children ask me 'Mami, come with us to Sorobon and I answer 'yeah, yeah, you go, I'll come later!' But I never go – I don't have the time!

My hobby was dancing – I love to dance – but now there's no more discothèque or nightclub like in the old days. I used to go every weekend, but ever since I got married I am not going anywhere anymore. I go and see my brothers though. One is at the



Gacha's 'family' at Pasa Bon Pizza: Lisa, Juliana, Gacha, Blanca and Joe

Kas di Sosiego (the nursing home) and the other one lives in my parental home. This brother can do everything himself but if he needs any help, I'll do it. I also go and visit him.

I do pray a lot and I love to pray. I thank God every night before I go to sleep and every morning when I get up. And I thank Him for the food. I always tell my children to pray and thank God. That's what I always tell my children."

She smiles. "I do have some wishes, actually two wishes. I would like to

have a little car. It may be old and beat up but just a car of my own. I do have my driver's license, but I walk everywhere because I don't have a car.

And... I would love to have my own house, my own place. Those are my wishes, but I am happy with what I have now."

■ Story & photos by Greta Kooistra



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Nature's Way Health Store

With the opening of Tina Woodley's new shop, Go Green, it's interesting to note that Bonaire can support more than one health food store. Glenda Pourier opened her Nature's Way in December 2009 on the second floor of La Terassa, up the stairs from the Botika Bonaire on the main street, Kaya Grandi, and it's been thriving. Both she and her daughter in Curaçao opened health food stores at the same time and order and import products together. Glenda says, "We wanted to have a store that provides people who care about health with products that are usually hard to find." With the prevalence of diabetes and obesity on the island, their main goal is to provide products for people to live healthy.

How lucky we are to have a choice and not have to travel to Curaçao, Holland or the US to find healthy and delicious products. ■ *Laura DeSalvo*



Suley-Mae and Glenda Pourier of Nature's Way

Go Green – A New Natural and Organic Shop in Playa



Joe Woodley, Tina Woodley, Akim Exner and Marion Lammers at Go Green

On Sunday, 10-10-10 Tina Woodley opened her new shop, Go Green, in the building in front of the church in Playa, next to Bonaire Sunshine Homes. Tina, a Certified Personal Trainer, was the 1985 international Female Body Building Champion and the first woman to become a champion in both sports-power lifting and body building at the same time in the same year.

With her background as a nutrition coach Tina decided to open her shop to offer healthful and tasty products, many of them from Tree of Life. On the shelves are products without milk:— soya yogurt and cheeses, a rice cheese, "Swiss Cheddar," that's soya free. There's Vegan mozzarella, many flours and cereals, organic soups, teas, protein powder, organic dressings and Kosher products. In the takeaway section, she offers cold salads of barley, corn and quinoa (Quinoa, "the gold," is an old grain that the Incas used. It's high in protein and nutrition and can be used like rice.), healthy sandwiches with lactose free breads, and an assortment of juices and smoothies.

Go Green is open Monday through Friday, 7:30 to 1 pm, Saturdays and Sundays 9 to 1. The address is Kaya Lib. Simon Bolivar #26. Tel. 717-2222. ■ *Laura DeSalvo*

Rotary's Breakfast in Schools

Program Adds Vitamins

Since 2005 the Rotary Club of Bonaire has organized the Breakfast in Schools (BIS) program for those children who do not get, for whatever reason, a breakfast at home.

Important issues in the development of young children, next to a good breakfast, exercise, playing and learning well, are, in some cases, adding some vitamins and minerals as a supplement to their daily nutrition.

Beginning this new school year the Rotary Club Bonaire will start up and manage a long-term fostered plan, thanks to an idea of member Larry Gerharts.

Rotary Club Bonaire will be able to give all the children in the BIS program for this school year a good nutritional supplement, thanks to the generous donation of Larry's good friend, Henri Henrichs, general manager of TEVA Nederland, a producer of medicines, vitamins and supplements. Every school day the children will be offered a tablet containing vitamins and minerals. Youngsters from eight to 12 years will be given a chewable tablet, making them easier to swallow. For those students over 12 there's a red coated tablet to be taken with water, milk or juice.

The brand name by TEVA Nederland is "Phital Multi." Information about safety, use and storage can be found on www.phital.nl

Distribution to participating crèches and schools will take place on a monthly basis and the supply will be more than sufficient to serve all children within the BIS program.



Pieter Groenendal, Rotary Bonaire's President, with a basket of vitamins.

The Breakfast in Schools (BIS) program was made possible in a great part by financial support from AMFO. The BIS program supplies breakfasts to 350 children, ages three to 18 at the participating crèches and elementary and secondary schools.

Unfortunately, this school year will be the last year AMFO will be able to support the program and the financial future for the BIS program has not yet been guaranteed or safeguarded by the Dutch or the Bonairean Government.

Ruud Vermeulen, pharmacist, is Chairman of the project. He can be contacted at ruud@fagro.com ■ *Press release*



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Picture Yourself With The Reporter... Arapahoe Basin, Colorado, USA



Terence de Haseth sent us this when he was with his brother in Colorado for two weeks for some snowboarding. He took a *Reporter* with him from Bonaire where he lives.

"The picture was taken in the Arapahoe Basin area which is a high ski area with lots of snow for some good snowboarding. The height where the pictures were taken is about 13,000 feet and it was pretty bad weather actually," Terence reported. ■

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

Business Expectations Down

Despite the opportunities afforded by Bonaire's integration with Holland fewer Bonaire companies are optimistic about the future and their hope to show a profit in 2010.

The initial results of the economic survey done by the Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) in June 2010 showed that fewer companies than previously expected to show a profit in 2010.

The business survey is conducted twice a year among all firms with 10 or

more employees. Firms with fewer than 10 employees are sampled.

Additionally 13% of businesses in Bonaire said there were significant investment barriers. This is the worst showing ever recorded by the survey. Obtaining the necessary permits is seen as the most important investment barrier. Barriers such as the functioning

(Continued on page 9)



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.**

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

Fitness Champion Tina Woodley welcomes you to her new healthy food shop

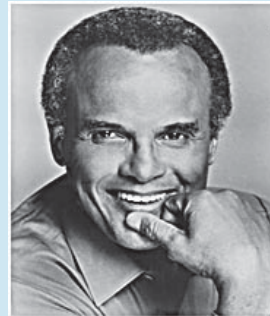
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Latin Music Classics

Harry Belafonte (born in 1927 as Harold Belafonete) is one of the most successful singers in history and was dubbed the "King of Calypso" for popularizing this Caribbean music style.



Belafonte is perhaps best known for singing the "Banana Boat Song," but throughout his career he's been an advocate for civil rights and he also worked as an actor.

His first released single was "Matilda" in 1953, and the breakthrough album, "Calypso," became the first LP to sell over 1 million copies. (The Bel in the Belnem neighborhood is named for him as he was a frequent visitor and investor in Bonaire.-Ed.)

The album introduced American audiences to Calypso music which had originated in Trinidad and Tobago.

Other famous songs are "Jump in the Line" and "Jamaica Farewell."

In 2000 Belafonte won a Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award. Due to his age he gave his last concert in 2003. Since then he has retired from performing.

Jody's Music Quiz

Last week's winner is Marc Sieverding! He can pick up his free CD at Jody's on Lagoen Hill #18.

This week's question:

Which song of Harry Belafonte has a relationship to Klein-Bonaire?

Please send your answer to: info@jodysonaire.com and be entered in a drawing to win a CD of your own choice in Jody's shop at Lagoen Hill #18.

The winner of this week's contest will be announced in the next edition.

Jody's

Column sponsor: Jody's Fashion & Music Jody's is the well-known Fashion-shop for men and women at Lagoen Hill.

In the collection they have 100% original brands like:

Nike, G-Star, Replay, Lacoste, Zucchero, A Prioro and Zulu.

At the cruise market Jody's Music is one of the stakeholders and always tries to bring in the best music for young and old at the right moment. ■ *Jo Bux*

BonQuiz #39

The Tick Seed



Mata di Karpata, *Ricinus communis* is a species of plant that usually thrives on the shore front and can be seen on the southwest and the northwest shores of Bonaire.

If allowed to grow it becomes a full, tall tree. This is not common in Bonaire.

While harvesting substances from this species, allergic reactions can occur, causing permanent damage to the nervous system.

The seed is crushed and the oil is cooked. Plantation Karpata on the North west coast of Bonaire was named after this species due to its abundance at this location.

Karpata in Papiamentu means "tick." When the brown hull is removed from the seed of this tree, it truly looks like a tick.

Q) What is the oil extracted from this seed called?

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:

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Email: christie_dovale@hotmail.com



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The Kunuku Kids



Kunuku Youth Foundation in cooperation with KibraHacha Jong Bonaire photo.

The rainy season has begun and seeds can be sown. Youngsters in this photo are sowing *maishi chikí* (sorghum), peanuts, watermelon and beans at the kunuku of Edshel Martha. Let's hope the rain keeps falling. This is a project in collaboration with Foundation KibraHacha Jong Bonaire. ■ Jan Jaap van Almenkerk

On September 7 the greenhouse with the apt name of "Paradise" opened. Now the young people of Bonaire can grow their own vegetables- like sweet corn, tomatoes and herbs- without the hassle of lizards, iguanas and birds that eat the plants and fruits. The "Youth on the Kunuku" project draws on the experience of older people, kunukeros and other professional growers. The work experience project "Youth on the Kunuku" is a project of KibraHacha Foundation in cooperation with

Jong Bonaire and SGB, made possible by funding from AMFO. Two groups of youngsters from Jong Bonaire go one afternoon a week to work under the supervision of *kunukero* Edshel Martha or visit other planting spots.


On November 6 there will be an open house at Kunuku Mata di Fruta. The young people will give explanations about their nursery and greenhouse and you may enjoy juice and healthy Bonairean snacks. ■ Senaida Janga

New Governments




Ministers from left: Edith Schipper, Melanie Schultz van Haegen, Uri Rosenthal, Jan Kees de Jager, Mark Rutte, Piet Hein Donner, Queen Beatrix, Marja van Bijsterveld, Maxime Verhagen, Hans Hillen, Ivo Opstellen, Henk Kamp and Gerd leers

The Netherlands- After four months of coalition negotiations, the Dutch government was sworn in last Thursday. As Queen Beatrix of The Netherlands led the new cabinet onto the balcony of the Huis ten Bosch Palace in The Hague for a formal group photo, there was a conspicuous absence from the ceremony: Geert Wilders, the strident anti-Islamic politician who holds the balance of power in the country. As the government begins ruling, however, there's no doubt Wilders' influence will be felt. And that has many citizens in The Netherlands worried that the era of famous Dutch tolerance is coming to a close. ■



HEALTH FAIR 2010

Sunday October 31st
9 AM - 1 PM
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FOR MORE DETAILS.

Be at the Saint James School of Medicine Health Fair on October 31 at the School from 9 am to 1 pm. It is totally free for all members of the public. They will be providing screening tests for a wide range of medical conditions. The senior medical students will be carrying out the tests and they will be supervised by the clinically qualified faculty. ■ Release

A scene from previous fair

A.T.C. Nicholas

A. C. Emerenciana

P. J. Kroon

E. E. J. Tjin Asjoe

Bonaire- The Commissioners/Deputadonan who form the Bonaire Executive Council (BC) were sworn in last week. Together with the Governor, Glenn Thodé, who is responsible for Elections, Disasters and the Fire Brigade, and Nerida Gonzalez, Island Secretary, responsible for the government work force, they form the Bonaire Island Government.

Commissioner (A. C. Emerenciana)

- Domain
- Traffic and Transportation (including seaport and airport)
- Information and Protocol
- Internal Affairs
- Central security service (SSV)

Commissioner (P. J. Kroon)

- Health and Hygiene
- Culture
- Housing, including *Fundashon Cas Bonaireano*
- Post & Archive
- Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries
- Registry and Population

Commissioner (mr. A. T. C. Nicholas)

- General and Legal Affairs including political structure
- DROB including Environment & Nature
- *Fundashon Wega di Number Bonaire* (FWNB)-Lottery
- Education & Sports
- Social Welfare & Business

Commissioner (ing. E. E. J. Tjin Asjoe)

- Economic and Labor Affairs
- Tourism
- Finance
- POI
- Public Companies ■ Press releases

Honorifics note: The Dutch title "ing." roughly translates into a Bachelor's degree, "mr." into a Law degree and "dr." into a Doctorate.



Fair Price Committee presents the first sticker to Charles Pikeur (center)

First Fair Price Award

On October 6 the Fair Pricing Committee of Bonaire (*Komishon di Prèisanan Hustu*) presented the first window sticker indicating the merchant has pledged to adhere to correct prices and procedures (Fair Pricing Code) during the transition from the Antillean guilder to the US dollar to owner Charles Pikeur, owner of the Antriol Barbershop – Kapsalon & Multiservices N.V.

The stickers are to serve as a guide for consumers during the upcoming changes.

If as a businessman you will pledge to adhere to the Fair Pricing Code, apply to the *Komishon di Prèisanan Hustu*, Kámara di Kòmersio and Industria, Kaya Korona 3, Kralendijk for a sticker. ■ Press Release



Committee members Rudy Gomez, Roosje van der Hoek, Jose Cieremans, Raymundo Saleh with Charles

Body Talk

KNOWLEDGE IS POWER

Yes, a very old cliché, but very true indeed. How unfortunate, that where it concerns the health of people, they are kept in total darkness in regard to their particular health problem or problems. Most have no idea what is causing their high blood pressure, or why they have kidney problems, or why they have a potassium deficiency, or why they cannot lose weight, or why they have cholesterol.

Has our medical profession become so arrogant that to share basic knowledge would empower the patient to ask more questions, therefore taking up more of the physician's time? Why do patients not question their physician or

their medication? I have seen clients taking high blood medication for years, without knowing what exactly is causing the problem. Most people with high blood pressure do not realize that with a few blood pressure measurements, a urea test and a specific gravity test the cause of their high blood pressure can very easily be determined. In most cases it is the eating of protein that is the actual culprit.

Improper digestion leads to the production of amino acids that cannot be used, and the liver converts these unusable proteins to non-toxic insoluble urea, that could later turn into soluble urea salts of nitrate and ammonia nitrogen and will affect your blood pressure.

This process is heavily depend-



ent on potassium levels. Potassium is dependent on having proper levels of nitrogen in the body which in turn is derived from protein in the diet. Signs of poor potassium uptake are headaches or migraines, sudden drop in mental activity, depression, mood swings, seizures and thyroid function related to weight gain problems.

Out comes the blood pressure medication, and at no stage is the individual's mineral imbalance addressed. Sometimes they are told to cut out or avoid salt (rightly so!) but most people have

no idea that all processed foods contain salt (as a preservative), and only cut out their table salt.

How could you even begin to manage this problem, let alone permanently solve the problem if you do not know what is the cause of the problem? This applies to any health issue, not just high blood pressure.

The number of blood tests that I see from clients when they have been told by their physician "everything is good" or "there are no problems" is staggering, when it is very clear from just the BUN (Blood Urea Nitrogen) test that protein utilization is an issue.

Are you one of those people who regularly have blood tests done, and would like to know what your results mean, or do you rely on your physician's educated opinion although he/she has not taken the time to compare the results with previous tests, or even worse, does not explain to you what those 'out of range' readings actually mean?

When it comes to the medical profession we are all treated like a mushrooms – kept in the dark, and fed on b*****! Begin to understand exactly how your body is functioning and why!

NEVER STOP ASKING QUESTIONS! ■ *Stephanie Bennett*

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



(Business Expectations Continued from page 7)

of the market and interest rates play a much less prominent role.

The percentage of companies that indicate their confidence in the future is slightly decreased from 57% to 55%. The percentage of companies having no confidence in the future is virtually unchanged, from nearly 18% to over 17%. A slightly higher percentage, over 27%, over the prior

period indicated no opinion about the question (almost 26%).

The view on the investment climate has become slightly less positive. This was already low; over 19% of the companies in December indicated that the climate is good. In June this figure dropped to less than 18%, the lowest rate ever recorded. The percentage of companies indicating that the investment climate is poor increased from 17% to 21%.

This is the first time that "bad" scored higher than "good."

The investigation further revealed that only 57% of companies expect 2010 to achieve an operating profit (profit before payment of taxes). This is a much smaller proportion than the previous period (69%). By comparison, in Curaçao this percentage is 71%.

Over 43% of firms expect an operating loss. (Previously 31%). ■ *G.D./press release*



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*Cholesterol problems?
*Always tired, cannot cope?
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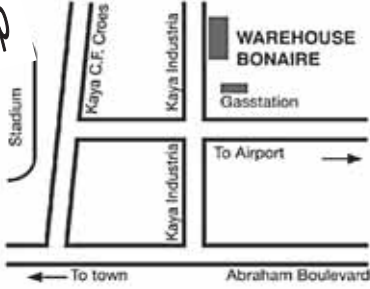
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Introducing Echo, A New Foundation for Bonaire

Echo is a new conservation foundation working with Bonaire's endangered Lora. This new foundation will build on the parrot research and conservation work developed by Dr Sam Williams, Dr Rowan Martin and Ms Rhian Evans over the past seven years.

The parrot team may be better known for their "ParrotWatch" and "Ask Olivia" articles. The core of their work involves studying the Loras' breeding biology. This will continue and they have developed management strategies based on their findings. In addition to studying parrots and their ecosystem Echo's goals include developing creative conservation techniques and stimulating sustainable use of nature.

The foundation's name, "Echo," was inspired by Sam's long involvement with the world's most successful parrot conservation project in Mauritius. Through hands-on conservation management the echo parakeet recovered from a population of only 8 individuals in the 1990s to over 500 today. Evans adds "An echo is also something that comes back and Echo will be working to bring back the balance of nature on Bonaire."

Sam first visited Bonaire's Loras in 2003, but the parrot project really took off when he and his colleague, Rowan Martin, returned in 2006. In their doctorate studies they looked at parrot behaviour and the threats to Bonaire's Lora population. Their work has become well respected, leading to invitations to talk about the project and Bonaire in places such as Brazil, Canada, USA and South Africa. The World Parrot Trust supported the research work and continue to support the parrot work on Bonaire.

"Bonaire provides great opportunities to develop world-class conservation work that benefits Bonaire's Loras, but also other endangered parrots," explained Williams. "This year **Jose Antonio Diaz**, who is working with another endangered parrot joined our team. His sponsors wanted him to come to Bonaire so he could learn from our project and take those skills back home." In 2010 the Parrot Project hosted two masters students and will continue providing training like Jose experienced but also to work with research students too. In 2010 Echo hosted two Masters students from England. One of these students, **Danielle Parks**, looked at fruit eating Loras and whether Cara Cara shaped kites could keep the Loras away. The results of Danielle's great study will be presented soon. Echo is an independent organisation, but the parrot team have worked closely with Salba Nos Lora and STINAPA previously and hope there will be more opportunities to do so in the future. The foundation also intends to join and be active in Aliansa, but Williams admits "It's such a busy, exciting and scary time. If people want to help us get started we'd love to have their support through: www.parrotwatch.org." ■



Parrot-Watch photo

Press release

Sunfishers To Worlds



Sunfish Team: rear: Artie, Sipke, Ruben, Ton, Shair; front: Jason, Santiago, Juan

If you are a Sunfish sailor the Sunfish World Championships are the Holy Grail. So who among Bonairean sailing talents will be going to the Sunfish Youth Championships in Curaçao in June next year?

Bonaireans have shown enormous talent for windsurfing, but now it has a new group of athletes: young Sunfish sailors.

Five boys between the age of 13 and 17 have been practicing fanatically during the last months in order to qualify for the Sunfish Worlds to be held in Curaçao.

Three of the five boys will represent Bonaire in Curaçao in 2011.

The selection will be among :

Jason Carter
Shair Theodora
Juan Alvarez
Santiago Alvarez
Ruben van Eldik

In Regatta the three boys named above in bold did best, but all sailed well.

Please support our boys on their long journey to the Worlds. The Bonaire Sailing School Association has opened a special account for donations. Contact Treasurer Rosalie Bierings at email: bssa.bestuur@gmail.com for details. ■

Press release/ G.D.

Klein Bonaire Swim



Jong Bonaire photo

There were 316 participants this year in the Jong Bonaire 10th annual swim to Klein Bonaire. They had to swim against the west current and wind due to a wind reversal. First to finish was Barracuda Swim Club champ **Samson Everts**, 2nd place, pharmacist **Pieter Zweers**; 3rd: **Tirza Richards** The youngest swimmers were five-year old **Elena Werdath** and **Enzo Bougie**. The oldest swimmers were all women age 71: **Meta v/d Zwaag-Karpes**, **Aukje Stokmann**, and **Laura De Salvo**. At the end of the swim participants were treated to a delicious breakfast snack, juice and fruit. About 340 tickets were sold to benefit the Jong Bonaire Youth Center. ■ L.D./ Press release

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The Pelikaan School – A Dream Fulfilled

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“It all started with one child whose parents were not sure which elementary school would be the best for her. The language was never an issue as the child was going to a crèche where the instruction language was Papiamentu and the parents were satisfied with the crèche except for a few – to them – essential issues,” says **Wilma Böhm-Sandig, principal of the Pelikaan School.** “So, they came to me for advice. At the time I was an educational counselor at SEK (the government’s educational and cultural service). I told them that every school had something special and positive, but when it came to the point there wasn’t one single school that would meet the expectations of the parents. It became very clear to me that the parents were looking for a school which didn’t exist on Bonaire.

We wanted a school with a safe educational climate in which a child can unfold its own specific talents and the line of development is supported by the teacher. The pillars of this type of education are relationship, competence and autonomy. In the Netherlands this specific type of education is called ‘development addressed education,’ and on Bonaire it’s called ‘foundation based education with cross age learning’ – the children learn from each other, also socially, so each child will feel safe.

The most important issue was there should be a mutual confidence between the children and between the children and the teachers. No power over, but power with... Like a co-ownership when it comes to agreements.

We did a survey to see if more people would be interested as it is impossible to start a school for only one child, and surprisingly half of the leaflets came back! Inge Berben said it was just great!”

I’m talking to two very passionate ladies: Simone Sweets, chairman of the board of the Pelikaan School, and Wilma Böhm-Sandig, principal of the Pelikaan School. Together with Margon Muller they were the founders of the school.

Simone: “Margon got us a classroom in the TWR building and we had a sponsor who guaranteed Wilma’s salary. There had

been several other initiatives to found a new school, but without any result as people would say: ‘We need so many subscriptions and then we will start...’ We said: ‘We need a classroom and a teacher and we will begin...’

August 1st, 2004 we started with 25 children in the ages between four and nine. The starting point was to be a regular elementary school with Dutch as the instruction language – but that was because Wilma was Dutch. If she would have had another nationality it could have been English or Spanish. Wilma, who had been the principal of a school in Holland and who was working for the Bonairean government at the time, gave up her pension and all her financial securities to start this up. One year of salary – that was all she had, and.... a dream to fulfill...”

Wilma: “I didn’t come to Bonaire to start a school, but I do get very inspired when I believe in something and then I go for it! **February 14th, 2005, we started a second group and there was the possibility of enrolling children, aged nine to 12 as well**

Every six months we hired a new teacher until we had six groups; then we had to put it on hold. We had children on the waiting list but no location, no facilities. We were already working from two different locations. It’s been hectic!

In August 2010 we allowed ourselves to grow to eight groups, because now we’ve got a better location... our own building! And again there’s a waiting list!

As of August 1st, 2009, we finally got subsidized by the government which means that the parents don’t have to pay the school for the children any more (we’d started at NAf 1.250. - per month and it went to NAf 1.425. - per month). At last we are equal to all the other elementary schools on Bonaire.

When in June 2009 Nolly Oleana became the deputy things finally started moving and for the first time in five years we became an item on the agenda. Nolly really bent over backwards to make it happen and one of our most important objectives was reached: This school is for everybody!

Now we are part of the island’s educational department and we’re no longer



Wilma Böhm-Sandig, principal of the Pelikaan School, and Simone Sweets, Chairman of the Board of the school

subsidized by the Foundation for Dutch Education Abroad. It was this foundation which ordered the Dutch school inspection to evaluate us. You can’t just mess around. The foundation gives you a little money, but their help is great.

The Pelikaan School doesn’t have a specific religion. We do discuss all spiritual movements, but we want children to make their own choices.

I am lucky to have a fantastic board; they’re all volunteers: Jan Gielen, who’s the treasurer, Esther van Blerk is the secretary and Simone the chairman – these three people have moved a mountain to make this all come true.”

Simone: “We are the board, but everything you see here and the realization of the idea – that’s Wilma. She created something that didn’t exist. The building we’re in now was paid for by a loan we got from the bank. We’ve tried to accomplish something like this for years but we never had a building as a security. So, we are very grateful to Trans World Radio who has helped us always throughout the years and who has given us all their support.

They’ve been very accommodating and lenient when they sold this building to us. And the parents have also been fantastic in helping us to renovate this building completely in four months’ time.”

Wilma: “In the future it’s the government’s plan to realize a multi-functional

accommodation where the Pelikaan School and the Papa Cornes School will be sitting under one roof – each with their own administration and identity – but with the possibility of sharing certain facilities. That’s for later...

Right now I feel very lucky and grateful because so many people have accompanied me in realizing this dream. **We are 167 children and 10 teachers** – a very good team throughout all these years. The way we communicate with the children and with the teachers is a fantastic experience. We are all equal and there’s a mutual respect and space for everyone’s feelings and needs – whether big or small. For us it’s all about non-violent communication.

Our mission has always been as follows: The Pelikaan School guides children in their development to become independent and responsible people who are capable of living with their own potential and in harmony with their environment.

And believe me... working with children is so beautiful and inspiring. It gives you all the strength and motivation to offer them the best education possible.”

■ *Story & photo by Greta Kooistra*



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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
Tue	Nov-02	Emerald Princess	Arrives 0700 Departs 1400	3100

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

CLOSE-IN EVENTS

Saturday, October 23-Classical Music Board Bonaire presents **Hans Odin Fassen on Piano**, 8 pm, Plaza Resort. See page 15

October 24 -Bonaire Xtreme Duo Mountain Bike race

Thursday, October 28 – BONHATA's 30th Anniversary Celebration, 6 – 10 pm, Playa Fontana, Harbour Village. Information and to RSVP: call 717-5134 or email marion@bonhata.org

Saturday, October 30 & Sunday, October 31- Visit the Nightmare Crib haunted House at Captain Don's Habitat. See page 20.

Sunday, October 31—Health Fair 2010, sponsored by St. James School of Medicine, 9am-1pm, Plaza Juliana #4, Kaya Sabana

Sunday, October 31- Halloween, Boo

Thursday, November 4 – CIEE Lecture "Imaging the Twilight Zone: The Morphology and Distribution of Deep Reef Features, a Case Study from Bonaire" by Bryan M. Keller of the University of Delaware 7 pm Kaya Gob. N. Debrot 26

Saturday, November 6 - Book Fair and Flea Market at the Animal Shelter Bonaire Hundreds of books in English, Dutch, only NAf 2 each, 11am - 5pm, at the Shelter on Kaminda Lagun 26. More information call 717-4989.

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 Fest.

Saturday, November 27 – Arrival of Sanikolas (aka Sinterklaas), 10 am, Wilhelmina Park. Activities for children begin earlier.

Saturday, December 11 – Animal Shelter Fundraising Auction

REGULAR EVENTS

- **Rooi Lamoenchi Kunuku Park Tours** \$21 (includes tax). Discounts for residents and local people. Tel. 717-8489, 540-9800.

- **Parke Publico** children's playground open every day into the cooler evening hours.

Saturdays

- **Rincon Marshé**—6 am-2 pm. Enjoy a Bonairean breakfast while you shop, fresh fruits and vegetables, gifts, local sweets, snacks, arts, handicrafts, candles, incense, drinks, music. **Big Marché first Saturday of the month**—www.infobonaire.com/rincon.

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

- **Soldachi Tours**—See the real Bonaire and be transported back in time. Learn about the history, culture and nature by Bonaireans from Rincon. Call Maria Koeks for more information—796-7870.

Mondays

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

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

Fridays

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

FREE SLIDE/VIDEO SHOWS

Sunday- Creature Feature- John and Suzie Wall of Buddy's Digital photo center present a multimedia slide presentation about Buddy's House Reef - pool bar Buddy Dive, 6:30-7 pm, 717-5080

Wednesday - Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire (STCB) presents an informative slide show: *Sea Turtles of Bonaire*, at 7pm, every **2nd and 4th Wednesday** in the conference room at Captain Don's Habitat (717-8290)

BONAIRE'S TRADITIONS

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, 12:15-2 pm - Divi Flamingo Beach Resort in Peter Hughes meeting room upstairs above the dive shop. All Rotarians welcome. Tel. 701-1100.

Toastmasters Club meets every **two weeks**. For more information call Crisita de Palm at 786-3827 or Lucia Martinez Beck, at 786-2953.

CHURCH SERVICES

Protestant Congregation of Bonaire: Kralendijk, Wilhelminaplein. In Papiamentu, Dutch, English, Sundays, 10 am.

Rincon, Kaya C.D. Crestian, in Papiamentu, Sundays, 8:30 am.

Children's club, Saturdays, 5 pm, in Kralendijk

Sunday School, Sundays, 4 pm, in Rincon. Bible Study and Prayer meetings, Thursdays, at 8 pm, Kralendijk.

New Apostolic Church: Centro di Bario Nord Saliña, Sundays, 10 am. Services in Dutch. 700-0379 .

International Bible Church of Bonaire, at SGB High School auditorium (Kaya Frater Odulfinus, off Kaya Korona.) Sunday services in English at 9 am; Sunday evening prayer meeting at Por's home, 7 pm. Fridays, 6 to 8 pm, Light & Life Club, children 5 to 12 yrs. Tel. 717-8332.

Catholic: San Bernardus in Kralendijk – Services, Sunday at 8 am and 7 pm in Papiamentu, 717-8304.

Our Lady of Coromoto in Antriol, Saturday at 6 pm in English. Mass in Papiamentu on Sunday at 9 am and 6 pm. 717-4211.

Assembly of God (Asemblea di Dios): Kaya Triton (Den Cheffi). In English, Dutch & Papiamentu on Sunday at 10 am. Wednesday Prayer Meeting at **7:30 pm**. 717-2194

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

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

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

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

Who's Who on The Bonaire Reporter

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Bonaire-Sun Rise/Set, Moon Phase and Tides

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

Day	High	Low	High	Low	High	Sunrise	Sunset
October Fri 22	01:42 AST / 0.28 ft	04:09 AST / 0.27 ft	12:14 AST / 0.83 ft	21:44 AST / 0.06 ft	Full Moon	06:26 AST	18:13 AST
Sat 23	12:52 AST / 0.89 ft	22:33 AST / -0.01 ft				06:26 AST	18:13 AST
Sun 24	13:33 AST / 0.95 ft	23:14 AST / -0.08 ft				06:26 AST	18:12 AST
Mon 25	14:17 AST / 1.00 ft	23:49 AST / -0.12 ft				06:26 AST	18:12 AST
Tue 26	15:02 AST / 1.04 ft					06:27 AST	18:12 AST
Wed 27		00:21 AST / -0.15 ft	15:48 AST / 1.06 ft			06:27 AST	18:11 AST
Thu 28		00:50 AST / -0.16 ft	07:14 AST / 0.33 ft	09:20 AST / 0.32 ft	16:34 AST / 1.05 ft	06:27 AST	18:11 AST
Fri 29		01:17 AST / -0.16 ft	07:10 AST / 0.39 ft	11:00 AST / 0.32 ft	17:20 AST / 1.01 ft	06:27 AST	18:10 AST
Sat 30	Last Quarter moon	01:44 AST / -0.15 ft	07:30 AST / 0.48 ft	12:23 AST / 0.31 ft	18:08 AST / 0.93 ft	06:27 AST	18:10 AST
Sun 31	Halloween	02:11 AST / -0.13 ft	08:01 AST / 0.61 ft	13:45 AST / 0.29 ft	18:58 AST / 0.82 ft	06:28 AST	18:10 AST
November Mon 01		02:38 AST / -0.10 ft	08:39 AST / 0.74 ft	15:08 AST / 0.25 ft	19:52 AST / 0.67 ft	06:28 AST	18:09 AST
Tue 02		03:06 AST / -0.06 ft	09:20 AST / 0.88 ft	16:35 AST / 0.19 ft	20:54 AST / 0.51 ft	06:28 AST	18:09 AST
Wed 03		03:35 AST / -0.02 ft	10:05 AST / 1.01 ft	18:02 AST / 0.10 ft	22:09 AST / 0.36 ft	06:29 AST	18:09 AST
Thu 04		04:06 AST / 0.04 ft	10:54 AST / 1.11 ft	19:24 AST / -0.01 ft	23:42 AST / 0.26 ft	06:29 AST	18:09 AST
Fri 05		04:38 AST / 0.10 ft	11:45 AST / 1.18 ft	20:37 AST / -0.11 ft		06:29 AST	18:08 AST
Sat 06	01:32 AST / 0.21 ft	05:12 AST / 0.16 ft	12:37 AST / 1.21 ft	21:39 AST / -0.19 ft	New Moon	06:29 AST	18:08 AST
Sun 07	03:26 AST / 0.23 ft	05:52 AST / 0.22 ft	13:31 AST / 1.21 ft	22:34 AST / -0.24 ft		06:30 AST	18:08 AST
Mon 08	04:57 AST / 0.28 ft	06:50 AST / 0.28 ft	14:24 AST / 1.18 ft	23:23 AST / -0.26 ft		06:30 AST	18:08 AST

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6 november 2010
Klup Patriotiko
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3. Letter H	200,-	8. Letter O	250,-
4. Letter L	250,-	9. Kuater Skina	200,-
5. Full Card	1000,-	10. Full Card	1000,-

PORFABOR PAGA prome ku 31 di oktober 2010

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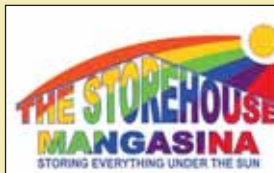
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BOINAIRE ON WHEELS

Land-Rover Defender 127

The 78th 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+

Kralendijk-Flamingo Airport area/Bonaire –

In the beginning of the month of October of the year twenty ten my friend Rob and I were invited by John and Jennifer to test their British made 3500 cc V8 Land-Rover all terrain vehicle. The car had suffered from some small technical problems and the late September mud in the remote Bonairian areas, caused by the very heavy rainfall, was a little bit too much for this traditional British made state of the art. It got stuck! Shame on... We could not blame the vehicle, nor the driver...

So this time the car was very well checked and prepared. Five brand new Maxxis Bravo A/T sixteen inch tires, an impressive tow rope of some twenty meters, two big shackles, a special high jack to lift the vehicle, water, a first aid kit, plenty of super gasoline and all oils and other liquids controlled and topped up.

This type of Land-Rover is one out of two on the island of Bonaire. Both vehicles are built in 1992 and served as people carrier. Their color is of white now but underneath there is still some olive drab visible. These vehicles might have served in Germany those days for the British army as crew carriers. A detail like the screw-on-screw-off lenses on the front and on the rear expose their military heritage to the connoisseur. For a Land-Rover this one is quite modern. The vehicle is equipped with power brakes and power steering and comfortable coil springs. Of course there is no air conditioning, seats are square and primitive, not adjustable. Windows are sliding windows, not electric. The fuse box is slightly bigger than a matchbox...

So we were well prepared and I pulled out the two knobs to engage the choke of the two huge SU vacuum carburetors, controlled by two separate cables and damped by springs and oil. I pressed the throttle a few times, put the gearbox in neutral and turned the ignition key. (This car is produced in Sollihull, England, so everything is on the "wrong" side of the steering wheel. To the English left is right and right is left. It takes some time to get used to it. Inexperienced drivers start the wipers when they intend to go left or right and the other time indicator lights are engaged when they have the intention to wipe the raindrops from the windshield. Let's suppose this is part of the character of the vehicle.)

So I turned the ignition key and the engine got cranked around. The sound of a lovely and smooth running V8. I put it in reverse and we moved backwards. We drove in the direction of Nikiboko South to get off the paved roads somewhere more or less in the area of Maiky Snack. (One of the very best local restaurants, serving delicious goat stew prepared on wood fire!jb) The unpaved roads were still muddy here and there and deep tracks showed us that a lot of vehicles had got stuck some two weeks ago as a

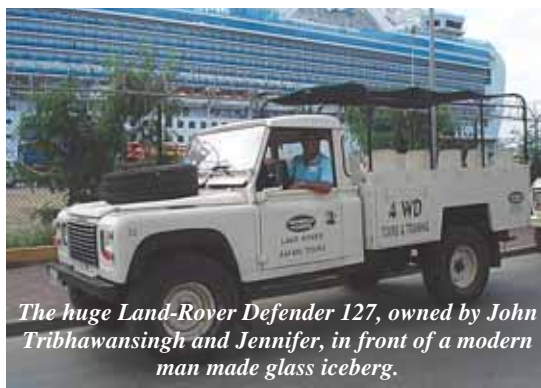
result of the very heavy rain-fall.

We tried to find our way to the direction of Yatu Baku, Bará di Karta, Malpais, Bricat—locations a lot of people have never heard of. No road indicators, no signs, no traffic lights, no roundabouts, no nothing—just the always changing spider web of unpaved roads connecting kunukus and mondis and nothing to nothing leading to nowhere. Somewhere I stopped and climbed a water mill to find out our position and our direction. Maps are not very useful in this area and although the global positioning system works, the island of Bonaire is not really on the digital maps yet so a GPS is able to show you the latitude and the altitude but then it only shows numbers. There is no back up map developed yet.

The plan was to drive over the cliffs of the former reefs in the direction of the Washikemba area. Sometimes we really had to drive land inwards to get to the coast. Weird but true. We did not really get lost but every now and then a path just stopped or just was blocked because of the very fast growing plants and trees. The Land-Rover is a very multi functional vehicle. However it still cannot swim, float or fly. So every now and then we had to put it in reverse and drive it back for several hundreds of meters. No space to turn the vehicle...

Then, low revving, second gear, we climbed the cliffs and my wide and beloved ocean became visible; the eastern rocky terrace and the huge 10-ton boulders, positioned on the terrace forever by one of the three big tsunamis we had in history.

Low speed, low revs, third gear, we followed a kind of a track or something. Then a weird sound exposed itself. Exhaust, muffler? I stopped the Land-Rover and crept underneath it. Some parts of the



The huge Land-Rover Defender 127, owned by John Tribhawansingh and Jennifer, in front of a modern man made glass iceberg.

exhaust system were on their way leaving the vehicle, trying to be independent and live their own life.

jb.) All donkeys and goats immediately escaped from the wide eastern plains! Apparently the ignition of the V8 was set correctly because the now completely open two manifolds did not produce any backfire. Low revs, low noise. We enjoyed the sound of a big boat-like engine for almost an hour. That was sufficient. In the end you really get tired and fed up because of the high volume. Slowly we drove home and showed the owner the pipe that fell off. The Land-Rover could not help it. She did a very good job and gave us the impression of being very reliable.

Later that day the exhaust system was repaired. The pipe was replaced but a complete muffler was missing. The next day we did the same trip with the silent smooth runner but we never found he missing part... Ashes to ashes, dust to dust. Earth had taken back the iron and the rust to produce bog again. ■

Story & photos by J@n Brouwer at the wheel of the big Land-Rover



Rob decided to walk to the coastline to try to find some floating iron wire to re-attach the pipe system to the vehicle. Of course there was a lot of wood and plastic spread over the coastline, distributed by the waves from the continent. No metal, however, no useful material to splint the exhaust pipes. The first aid kit did not deliver any relief either. So I crept under the chassis again and with a lot of "elbow grease" I removed some hanging parts of the exhaust system.

We restarted the engine. The sound of a Second World War Spitfire fighter airplane! (The first Land-Rovers were produced in the former Gloster Meteor aero plane factories/

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Saturday
October 23, 2010
8.00 PM
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Highlights of the Tax Legislation for the Caribisch Nederland



As an integral part of The Netherlands taxes in Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba will yield about US\$50 million annually which is more or less the same as it was under the Antillean tax laws. The islands have about 10,000 tax payers, most on Bonaire.

On the 6th of October 2010, the tax legislation for Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba was approved by the Dutch Second Chamber while the First Chamber has yet to consider and comment on the draft legislation, passage of the law as described below is considered likely.

What will change for private individuals?

Lots of taxes... but under a greatly simplified system and at a lower rate for most people. Individuals may face *loonbelasting* (payroll withholding tax), *premieheffing* (premium contributions), *inkomstenbelasting* (income tax) and *vastgoedbelasting* (property tax). This article will use the Dutch nomenclature for better accuracy.

For Income tax and Payroll Withholding tax the most important changes:

The adjustment of the income tax rates. Currently tax rates range from 12.5 to 47.5%, including a 25% surtax. This will change to a single rate most people: 30.4%, including retirement and health levies (AOV/AWW and the *zorgverzekering*). Mortgage interest is deductible for these people.

Incomes over \$250,000 will be taxed at 35.4% but for them mortgage interest is deductible at a different rate.

Income from *Aanmerkelijk Belang* (Substantial Interest in a business) is taxed at 5% and does not fall within the general tax.

Exemptions and Deductions Income up to \$9,750 (NAf. 17,453.-) is exempt from taxation. This sum can be increased

by: \$1,250.- (NAf. 2,238) per child, up to two children.

Also a deduction of \$200.- (NAf. 358) is allowed for those who are 60 years of age or older.

Deductions like mortgage interest allowances, home maintenance, various personal expenses and extraordinary expenses remain.

Income from rented properties will no longer be taxed as income but as *vastgoedbelasting* at 25% of the estimated rent proceeds. The Island Government is permitted to charge a surtax on this rate.

Note: The estimated rent proceeds are automatically determined to be 4% of the fair value of the property. Once every five years, a valuation from B/CN will be issued. If *vastgoedbelasting* is payable for a property, then no *grondbelasting* will be levied.

Income from interest and dividends will be tax-free up to \$5,000 (NAf. 8,950.-).

The scheme for pensioners (*penjonados*) will disappear over a transition period of four years. In 2015 current *penjonados* will have to pay at the normal tax rates.

One's own home (that is the home which serves as the main residence) does not fall under *vastgoedbelasting*.

Additionally, a sole proprietor's business assets do not fall under *vastgoedbelasting*. These remain within the businesses income tax.

Also, for properties of residents of the Caribisch Nederland which are valued at less than \$50,000.- no *vastgoedbelasting* will be due. This is particularly intended as relief for "kunuku" houses.

Individuals may also be the subject of other taxes, but not as a tax on their income. They may well be the subject of other taxes

when spending their income.

What will change for those in business?

Those in business may face taxation on profit (benefits) and other business related taxes:

Profit Tax

Depending on whether the business is run in the form of a sole proprietorship (EZ) or a limited liability company (BV, NV), those who run businesses will be subject to *inkomstenbelasting* or *opbrengstbelasting*. *Winstbelasting* (Profit Tax) will be abolished next year.

If the business is run as a sole proprietorship, the rules for determining profit remain in force under the new tax rates.

As a rule, it can be assumed that running a normal, active business within the Caribisch Nederland will fall within the Dutch corporate income tax provisions.

In the event that the business is run other than in the form of a sole proprietorship, it may be that the *Nederlandse vennootschapsbelasting* and *dividendbelasting* or provisions under the new *opbrengstbelasting* (Dutch dividend and corporate income taxes) will be applicable. Details will be supplied in a forthcoming brochure on *opbrengstbelasting*.

If the business falls within the *opbrengstbelasting* provisions, the dividend payments to shareholders and others who are entitled will be taxed.

The tax rate for *opbrengstbelasting* is 5%. At the end of the calendar year, the company is required to submit financial statements to the tax authority.

Other taxes which are of importance to those in business-

Irrespective of which form the business takes, the following taxes are of importance to those in business: the *vastgoedbelasting*, the *algemene bestedingsbelasting* (ABB- sales/general use tax), the *overdrachtsbelasting* and the *loonbelasting*.

Vastgoedbelasting (business) This tax is exactly the same for both corporations and private individuals.

The Algemene bestedingsbelasting *Algemene bestedingsbelasting* (ABB) replaces the *omzetbelasting* (OB-Bonaire) and the *belasting op bedrijfsomzetten* (Company turnover tax on Saba and St. Eustatius).

ABB- "Sales Tax"

This new legislation for the ABB specifies three points where

Tax Rate Summary

Specific Tax Item	Bonaire	Saba and St. Eustatius
Sales Tax	8%	6%
Insurance	9%	7%
Private cars	25%	25%
Low emission cars	0%	0%
Income Tax	30.4%	30.4%
Tax rate for high earners	35.4%	35.4%
Transfer Tax	5%	5%
Corporate Tax	5%	5%
Normal Imports	0%	0%
0 or low emission cars	0%	0%

charges occur:

1. Charge on importation

The tax chargeable on import applies to business and private individuals. **There will be no import duties on Bonaire except for normal vehicles which will be 25%.** Energy efficient vehicles will be exempt from this 25% tax. The definition of Energy efficient and zero pollution vehicles has yet to be provided.

However, for the import of gasoline and diesel fuel, excisable goods like liquor and cigarettes for example, excise taxes will be levied. Rates have not been specified on these items as yet.

2. Charge on the supply by local producers

The charge when goods are supplied by local producers is important so that the local production is taxed in the same way as the importing of products. Supply by those others than producers is therefore not taxed.

3. Charge on the provision of services

In this context (for instance), one must think of the professional services and performance of lawyers, architects but also providing, for instance, a car service.

The algemene bestedingsbelasting (ABB) has exemptions for necessities like bread, grain, potatoes, rice, public transport on roadways, non-commercial education, hospital services etc.

It will be controlled similarly to the present OB tax. At the end of this year, all tax payers of ABB will receive a handbook which contains the most important aspects of this tax.

The overdrachtsbelasting (Transfer Tax) There is a levy for *overdrachtsbelasting* when there is a transfer of property or ships.

The notary plays an important role in respect of this tax. He/She ensures that the taxpayer makes the correct payment to the tax authority. It is the **buyer** of the property or ship who is required to pay the *overdrachtsbelasting*.

From 1st January 2011, the tariff will be 5%.

The loonbelasting (withholding agent)

must observe the tax adjustments from the tax tables at a flat rate of 30.4%. This tax of 30.4% consists of *loonbelasting*, AOV/AWW and employee's contribution to *zorgverzekering* (health insurance).

SVB Replaced

The tax authority has taken over the job of collecting medical insurance premiums from the SVB (Social Insurance Bank). It will levy and collect the premiums for *ziekte- en ongevalverzekering* (health and accident insurance), premiums for "de Cessantia" and the employers' contribution to *zorgverzekering* (health insurance).

There will be a "regular wage" for the employee who has a substantial interest in a company. This standard wage is based on an assumed "salary" of \$20,000 a year, but it may also be determined to be higher or lower. This will apply, in any event, to startups with a commercial profit of less than \$20,000.-

At the end of this year, all the withholding agents will receive a handbook on *loonbelasting* and premiums, which contains the most important aspects of this tax and premium contributions.

The Tax Legislation becomes effective January 1st 2011. The three laws are the fiscal system (*Wet Belastingstelsel BES*), the Implementation Law (*Invoeringwet BES*) and the Customs and Excise Law (*Douane en Accijnswet BES*). ■

This text, transcribed from RCN releases, is not official. By law only the Dutch version can be considered official. Beginning next week, the Belastingdienst/ Caribisch Nederland (hereafter referred to as B/CN) will provide brochures containing a more comprehensive explanation of the new legislation and any amendments to existing legislation.

Flotsam and Jetsam (Continued from page 2)
the islands as well.

Gerritsen will take over Kamp's job until a permanent Representative has been found. Gerritsen, as Director of Kingdom Relations, was closely involved in the constitutional change process in the Kingdom and in the negotiations between The Netherlands and the island governments.

► **Last week Bonaire finally had some wind, and the wind turbines were able to supply a peak power of 4 MW** (about 1/4 of the typical need). This value is not as high as can be expected because the turbines are still limited by EcoPower and not allowed to generate full power because they are still in test.



A spokesman for EcoPower said that Bonaire's recent power outages were unrelated to wind power and the EcoPower operation.

► **The detention of former Bonaire Commissioner Jeffrey Levenstone** has been lifted, confirmed his lawyer. The suspect in the "Zambezi" investigation into money laundering, fraud and corruption had been hospitalized with health complaints for a week.

Another suspect, Albert de Groot, has been locked up at Bon Futuro prison in Curaçao for 13 months and is still a suspect in the related "Fiji" investigation into drug trafficking and gold smuggling.

At the end of this month **the Bonaire prosecution must formalize its case against two other suspects:** UPB-leader Ramonsito Booi and Burney El Hage, a former UPB commissioner.

► **THE HAGUE--The Dutch Central Bank, DNB, this week launched a separate website for its involvement on Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba,** www.bes.dnb.nl. With the new constitutional status the Dutch Central Bank will supervise the financial markets on the is-

lands. DNB will also take over the responsibility of monetary transactions and money transfers from the Bank of the Netherlands Antilles. The three islands have agreed with The Netherlands to have the US dollar as their currency on January 1, 2011.

The euro was rejected because 65% of all payments on Bonaire already take place in US dollars. DNB will monitor the transfer from the Antillean Guilder to the US dollar. The website is in Dutch, but there is also information in English, Papiamentu and Spanish.

► **Have you a question on the integration of Bonaire into The Netherlands?** You can dial a special RCN phone number **08 008 101010**, free of charge for 717 exchange numbers. The RXN is working to make dialing from UTS and Digicel cell phones toll-free too.

► KLM has launched a new mobile Website www.KLM.com for mobile phones. **You can perform most of the same ticketing and scheduling tasks as you can on a regular computer... but from your phone.**

► **At the recent Curaçao Youth tennis games Bonaire fielded eight players in two different tournaments.** The kids played well against the best young players from South America, the Caribbean, US, Netherlands and Italy. They returned with two **Champion** titles and one second place; a very good performance by Bonaire children. Bonaire was represented by; Merry Lomp, **Jerry Lomp**, Rutshainia Holder, **Yannick Finies**, Kaile Finies, Denzel elHage, Arnd Chirino and Asdrubal Marcano,

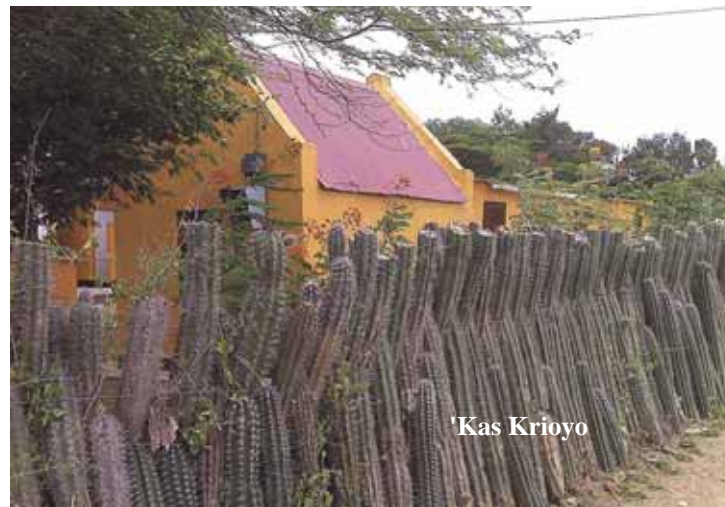
► **Hans Faassen (right) loves Bonaire. And this coming Sat-**



urday, October 23, he will share that love and his love for music at a unique concert at the Plaza Resort.

Unique because Faassen will exhibit his skill in Classical Instant Composing, a musical art form performed by only a few musicians. Although he has long experience in this form of composition, he continues to find it challenging and exciting. Much depends on the inspiration of the moment and interaction with the audience, so be a part of it! Faassen's style is diverse, ranging from classical romantic/ impressionistic, realistic 19th and 20th century and jazz. He mixes styles to create special character. For more details on the evening's program, schedule and prices see the poster on page 15.

► Bonaire has always been a hotbed for radio amateurs. **To mark the occasion of Bonaire's integration into Holland a group of radio amateurs from several countries joined forces to make special transmissions from Bonaire between October 10-24.** The primary focus is on all HF ("shortwave") bands. Various locations on the island are being used, but the primary location is the Radio Netherlands shortwave transmitter site. Its impressive antenna park provides up to 20 times improvement in signal strength. The radio amateurs have



► **We are sad to report that museum 'Kas Krioyo Rincon' has been closed.** "It's really a pity but we could not handle it anymore. The finance has been an obstacle," Maritza Juan Pedro told *The Reporter* on behalf of the 'Fundashon Desaroyo Rincon'. The old home is an authentic cultural experience, not a Disney-ized version of a past way of life. Perhaps that's why it didn't attract sufficient financial support. **Certainly there must be an organization somewhere else in The Netherlands (yes, Bonaire is now in the (Caribbean) Netherlands) that can support this genuine, grassroots effort of the people of Rincon** to support their cultural heritage. Contact *The Reporter* at reporter@bonairenews.com or Maritza Juan Pedro at juanpedromr@telbonet.an if you want to help.

been granted use of the antennas during their "dead hours" on the HF bands, between 1230 and 1830 UTC.

► **In preparation for the arrival of Sanikolas and Zwartpiet Foundation SEBIKI is selling t-shirts for children.** They're only NAf 8,50 with a choice of two designs. Sizes 2 to 16. Proceeds will go to SEBIKI, the organization for early childhood education. Call 717-2436 or stop by SEBIKI.

► If you like the content of this edition and want *The Reporter* to be "Still Free" remember to remind storeowners to place their ads here. ■ G./L. D.

Bonaire Regatta



Boatbumm blog photo



Wind was elsewhere during this year's Bonaire Regatta. But there was enough to have races daily, albeit on shortened courses. Regatta is changing. Spectacular performances in the light air by featherweight multihulls (which didn't even exist when the Regatta began) and the lack of the Bonairean Fishing Boat class, the boats that started the tradition, prove it. In fact the only Fishing Boat that sailed was the newly restored *Girema* (formerly *Laurita*) sailed by British owner Edward Leask. The competitors and winners of the Regatta are too numerous to list in this edition but can be found at www.bonaireregatta.org under "results."

The Regatta festival was spectacular with a dramatic stage, "jumbotron" video and famous groups as well as the popular local bands all performing. Fuelled by school holiday weeks in Bonaire and Curaçao, in the evening the waterfront streets were filled with enthusiastic people having a great time. The Regatta tipped its hat to the "New Bonaire" with an impressive flag dropping ceremony at the close. ■ G.D.

Sudoku Solution

Puzzle on page 7

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

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BonQuiz Answer



Bon Quiz (from page 7)

Q) What is the oil extracted from this seed called?

A) Castor oil

Pet of the Week

“Karel” is a Doberman lookalike, otherwise known as a Bonairean Doberman. He’s spent a lot of his one year of life at the Bonaire Animal Shelter, impressing the staff with his intelligence. Karel is what you would call, “pack savvy.” He knows how to get along with the other dogs in his kennel and he loves to play, not only with the other dogs but with people as well.

Nothing bad has ever happened to him and this shows in his gentle demeanor. He’s a quick learner and can be a fine, loyal companion for the right loving owner. And of course he is in perfect, robust health. The dog adoption fee of NAf 105 includes his shots, tests, worming and sterilization. You may meet Karel and the other pets up for adoption at the Shelter on the Lagoen Road, open Monday through Saturday, 9 to 1 and 3 to 5. Tel. 717-4989.

■ Laura DeSalvo



Special Animal Shelter Announcements

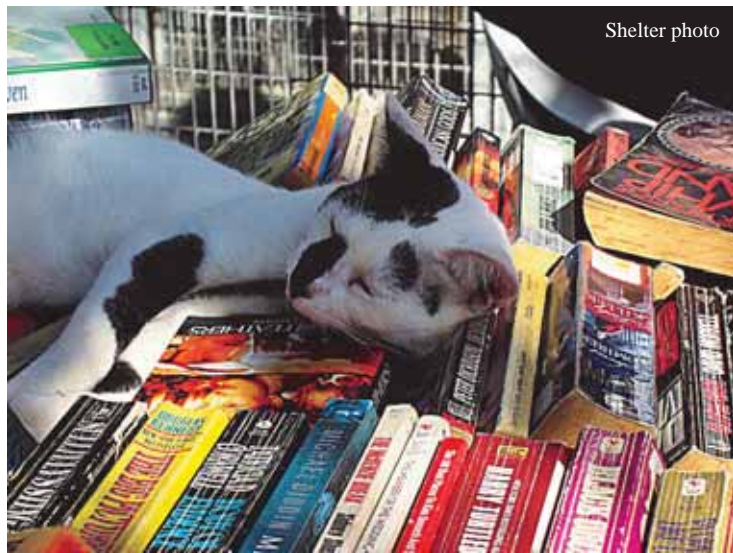
On Saturday, November 6, 11am - 5pm, the Bonaire Animal Shelter will present a Second-hand Book Fair and Flea Market at the Shelter on the Lagoen Road. Hundreds of books will be for sale with a price of only NAf 2 per book.

All the funds raised will benefit the Bonaire Animal Shelter.

Food, snacks and drinks will also be available.. Please drop by and bring all your friends!

There will be an **Animal Shelter Fundraising Auction at Eddy’s at Sand Dollar Resort on Saturday, December 11 at 7 pm.** With the auction the Shelter wants to raise money for the renovation of the kennels and fences.

One of the auctioned specials will be for the winner to **have his or her own pet featured in The Bonaire Reporter’s “Pet of the Week” column**, with a story and photo. The Shelter staff says, “We hope that the *Bonaire Reporter’s* Featured Pet of the Week story will raise a few hundred dollars!” ■ Laura DeSalvo



An earlier Shelter flea market with Mona, the Shelter cat, enjoying the books

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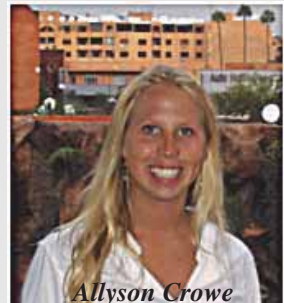
Bubbles From the Biologist

Did You Know?...

There is a jellyfish here in the Caribbean that lives most of its life upside down. It lives in the mangrove swamps and is called the upside-down jellyfish. Its bell is on the bottom and its tentacles point upwards. There is a reason for this silly behavior: symbiotic algae live within the tentacles. The jellyfish needs to be upside-down for the algae to get sunlight and produce food. The jellyfish gets food from the algae and the algae, called *zooxanthellae*, get a place to live and protection. The jellyfish have stinging cells on their tentacles called nematocysts, so next time you are snorkeling in the mangroves, don’t get stung! Look for upside jellyfish in an ocean near you. ■ Allyson Crowe



Photo: zettesworld.com



Allyson Crowe

My name is Allyson Crowe and I am originally from California and now attend the University of Colorado at Boulder. I have always loved the ocean and studying here in Bonaire with CIEE has opened my eyes to future plans in the field of marine biology.

Three Turtles Being Tracked

Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire is very busy. There are three sea turtles transmitting their position in nearby waters

First there is Caric. Of the 21 satellite-tracked journeys of Bonaire’s sea turtles, green turtle Caric is the second to travel to the Los Roques archipelago. It’s too early to tell if she has arrived at the end of her nesting migration; sometimes turtles stop on the way to their foraging home to replenish energy after nesting season is over. We’ll wait and watch her movements, and in the meantime we’d like to share information about her current stop and Bonaire’s links to Los Roques.

Interestingly, the first turtle tracked from Bonaire to Los Roques was a female hawksbill named Heit. Her journey was made in the 2006 nesting season. Heit had been first flipper-tagged on Bonaire during the year 2004, and her transmitter was deployed in 2006.

Valley and Piffie

The two tracked female hawksbills, Valley and Piffie, are resting off the shore of Klein Bonaire close to the area where



STCB photo

Hawksbill Piffie with transmitter

they nest. We expect Valley to return to shore and lay her next nest on the night of Saturday, the 16th of October, followed by Piffie on Wednesday, the 20th.

Female sea turtles typically lay multiple nests during one nesting season. The interval time between nests is 14 days for hawksbill turtles. This is a behavior that helps to ensure the survival of the species by producing enough numbers of eggs to assure that some young turtles will make it to maturity and reproduce. ■

This year’s tracking volunteers are Zsuzsana, Suz for short, and her husband, Leo Hoogenboom, They are producing the tracking maps and stories about the journey of those turtles being tracked from Bonaire this year.

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The Morning Star Returns and the Moon Shows You Saturn

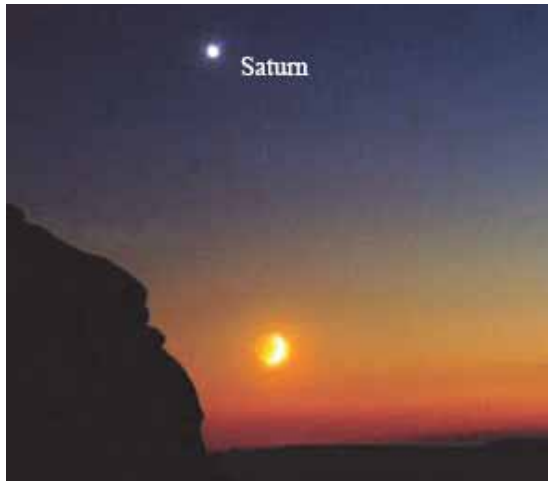
An old crescent Moon and the prettiest planet Saturn will put on quite a show in the pre-dawn skies next week plus the morning star will reappear.

On Wednesday November 3rd before dawn face east in the Sky Park. And if you can drag your lazy bones out of bed you'll be able to see a beautiful, very thin crescent Moon low in the eastern sky. Down to its left you'll find the ringed planet Saturn which not that long ago was in the western sky at sunset. The next day, Thursday the 4th, the Moon will be even thinner and down to the right of Saturn. The light from the Moon will take a little over one second to get here but the light from Saturn will take almost an hour and a half!

Saturn is an amazing object in even a small telescope. Many professional astronomers will tell you they can still remember the first time they saw the rings of Saturn when they were kids. Saturn is the second largest planet in our Sun's family, measuring about 75,000 miles across its middle. It's one of four planets that astronomers call gas giants. Saturn is not a solid rocky planet like our Earth but has a rocky core surrounded by tens of thousands of miles of gas. In fact Saturn's density is so low that if you could find a big enough tub of water Saturn would float in it. Its rings are about as wide as two Jupiters.

The rings are mostly water ice and reflect a lot of light from the Sun. Recent space probes have sent back so many images of Saturn and the rings that it is sometimes hard to remember that it wasn't that long ago that we knew very little about them. When Galileo first saw Saturn through his small telescope he thought Saturn might be a triple planet. We now know Saturn is mostly hydrogen and like Jupiter it radiates more energy into space than it gets from the Sun. The view of Saturn will actually get better over the next few years as its rings will appear to get wider through 2017.

There will probably be a flood of UFO



reports starting next week as the morning star makes its appearance in the pre-dawn sky. Now you may remember that we had an evening star that was seen in the evening sky all summer long. Now we have a morning star and could it be that the evening star and the morning star are the same object. Well, yes, such is the case. Indeed the name we now give to the morning star and the evening star is the name the Romans gave it, Venus. And although our ancestors thought Venus was a star we now know that it is an 8,000-mile-wide Earth-sized planet.

All summer long Venus was to the east of the Sun as seen from Earth and was visible as the evening star in the west after sunset. It sank lower each night throughout September and finally disappeared below the horizon. Then on October 27th it passed directly between our Earth and Sun and then it rapidly moved to the west of the Sun and is now visible as the morning star rising in the east before sunrise. Venus is the brightest planet because Venus reflects the most light of any planet in our solar system. Why? Well Venus is completely enshrouded by a brilliant cloud cover, which acts like a giant 8,000-mile-wide mirror that reflects much more sunlight back to Earth than say Mercury or Mars.

So, see the crescent Moon and Saturn in the morning sky on November 3rd and 4th and watch Venus reappear and dominate the morning sky throughout November. ■ Chris Trigg

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October

2010



Aries March 20 - April 19 Much of the planetary action this month implicates other people. Whether on a business or personal level it's those you're involved with closest who figure most prominently. There are still some issues that you'll need to address. Though cosmic influences lie behind this it doesn't need to be a random process. There never was a more suitable occasion for reviewing your relationship interactions.

Taurus April 20 - May 20 By now, you are more than aware of what is wrong with your circumstances. You have thought extensively about this downside, so as the celestial conditions lighten gradually, it's good to know the chance to improve these areas of dissatisfaction soon becomes easier to grasp. Clearly it's going to take plenty of dedication and determination on your part, but perhaps this is not a struggle that you need to deal with all by yourself.

Gemini May 21 - June 20 The emphasis remains on your working life, which might not sound very exciting, only that's far from the truth. If you love your job and it fulfills you personally, prepare for improving prospects by looking at the detail of what you do and making certain systems are in place to support the achievement of your wider ambitions. The same applies if you're busy with other things that don't always count as employment, but that still require the same degree of dedication, like running a home and coping with your family.

Cancer June 21 - July 22 The residue of problematic relationships can't influence your outlook forever. Sooner or later you have to move forward, carrying what you've learned with you, while not allowing guilt or blame to prejudice the success of your associations in future. It's a fine line, because although you can't ignore what has gone down, neither can you allow it to damage your self-image permanently. You don't have room for associations characterized by control issues, jealousy, power struggles and an unhealthy complexity.

Leo July 23 - August 22 The importance of the lion's den is legendary. Lion cubs are vulnerable, so the female rears them in seclusion, hidden from predators and other threats. You mimic this when the world seem too harsh and dangerous a place, withdrawing into a safe and private environment away from prying eyes, to lick your wounds and get ready for another try.

Virgo August 23 - September 22 Love is accented, but the progress of events is dependent on how things stand already. If you're single, your lonely days could soon be over. If you're committed already but your relationship lacks a little something, maybe you'd be right considering a family or a more meaningful interaction with your existing offspring?

Libra September 23 - October 22 The majority of the planets highlight your inner life and encourage some deep introspection. This features a reassessment of your priorities, or at least a close look at what matters most to you, to ensure you have these factors figured out correctly. Your personal security is important, but not if that makes you terrified to take any material or emotional risk, so you finish up lonely and isolated in consequence.

Scorpio October 23 - November 21 Relationships are complicated and stir up numerous feelings you wouldn't expect to deal with if you kept yourself isolated. This doesn't need to be in a physical sense; it is possible to cut yourself off emotionally even more effectively. The price for maintaining your invulnerability and avoiding the peaks and troughs of human experience is that you miss out on the rapture, and not only the misery.

Sagittarius November 22 - December 21 You are known for your optimism, but your depth is often underestimated. It's true smiling in the face of adversity is your specialty, while finding the silver lining in every cloud is a natural talent. You'll take outrageous gambles and get away with them, come a cropper and emerge unhurt. But this doesn't mean adverse circumstances have no real impact, only that it's the pressure of minor incidents that eventually gets to you, rather than one big event.

Capricorn December 22 - January 19 Review the preceding few years and it soon becomes clear, there are more possibilities than you'd ever have considered. Some are appealing and others less so, while a number seem totally unsuitable, at least on initial inspection. But the consequences of what you have already been through serve as a reminder, that the criteria by which you have assessed your prospects beforehand are not necessarily the most accurate measure of what is achievable.

Aquarius January 20 - February 18 By pursuing your professional interests you are harmonizing with the stars. This doesn't necessarily imply work or business from a conventional point of view, but with favorable financial trends happening simultaneously, these everyday concerns are particularly highlighted. Innovative ideas and techniques never go amiss, so be sure to explore every angle and include these in your routines whenever you can.

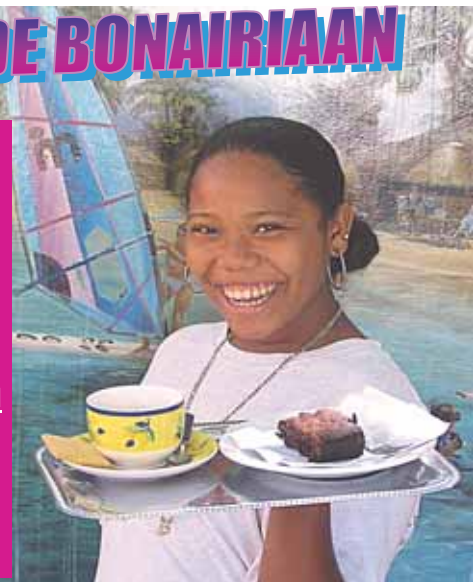
Pisces February 19 - March 19 Sometimes it's smart to get some distance, when you've tried the different permutations and still haven't pinpointed a solution. A few days away from your worries works wonders. A faraway location help ensure the space you need, to digest the deluge of events that has so unsettled you and to gain some emotional perspective on it all. This intellectual decampment has the added advantage of being almost entirely solitary. ■ Paul Wade

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SATURDAY 30th of OCTOBER 2010
from 09.00 pm till MIDNIGHT
at HOTEL ROOMER

\$15,- ENTRANCE FEE INCLUDES a FREE DEEP RED CAIPI ONE COCKTAIL and SCARY CANDY

The Nightmare Crib

Presents its 5th halloween house of horror
location is at Capt'n Don's Habitat
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COME IN IF YOU DARE
Haunted Hours from 8 pm till 11 pm
Sat 30 and Sun 31 oct

Net for this event: 25. All proceeds go to charity!!

Halloween On Bonaire

Be sure to head for the **great Halloween Party on Saturday night at Hotel Roomer** in Belnem. Think up a special costume and scare your friends. There will be great music, a free drink and scary candy. Be there and be scared!

And the Haunted Homies are doing it again, I don't know how those ghouls at Habitat and their creepy friends do it, but they've gotten together to put on another – the 5th – the Nightmare Crib Haunted House. They apparently really like doing it and as always all the proceeds go to charity. They say it's going to be even more scary this year. They do this to raise money for charities close to our hearts - to help the children of Bonaire. Last year they used the funds to buy car seats for every child whose family cannot afford one. If you would like to donate funds, time, and/or frightful items that can be used for props, contact either Karen Chalk or Margaret Romijn at Habitat. 717-8290 or email Karen

There will also be an underwater pumpkin carving contest on the 31st. Prizes will be awarded. Entrance fee goes to charity. Divers must be certified. Preregister to Karen@habitatbonaire.com – Karen needs to know how many pumpkins to buy. ■

Karen Chalk/Laura DeSalvo