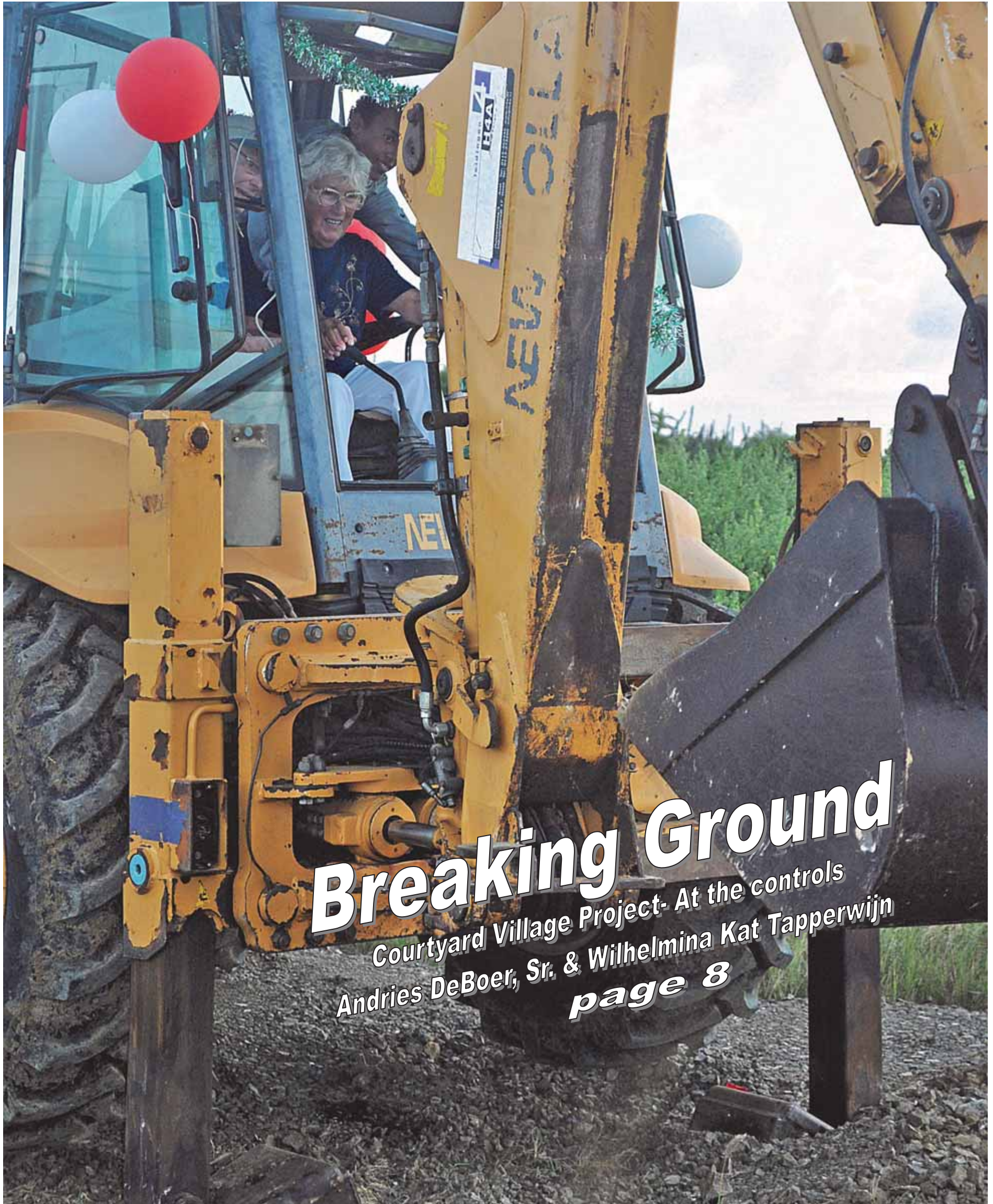


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# Breaking Ground

Courtyard Village Project- At the controls  
Andries DeBoer, Sr. & Wilhelmina Kat Tapperwijn

**page 8**

# Flotsam and Jetsam

## BOINAIRE The REPORTER



THE HAGUE—  
The Dutch Safety Board (Onderzoeksraad voor Veiligheid) expects to publish its report on the 2009 crash of a Divi Divi aircraft near Bonaire next month.

A spokesperson of the Safety Board confirmed this last week. The Divi Divi Air Britten-Norman BN-2 carried nine passengers and the pilot on the day of the crash, October 22. During the flight from Curaçao to Bonaire, one of the two engines stopped running and pilot Robert Mansell was forced to make an emergency landing in the sea 900 meters south of Klein Bonaire. Mansell died, but the passengers were rescued by boats that rushed to the scene. It wasn't until late November that the Dutch salvage company Smit salvaged the wreck from a depth of 170 meters with Mansell's body still in it. (photo above)

The Antillean Minister of Traffic and Transport requested the Safety Board to look into the crash. The Board, chaired by Pieter van Vollenhoven, is an independent institution that investigates all large safety incidents in The Netherlands.

The one-year term that the Safety Board usually takes to publish its findings has long passed. The Board's spokesman, Fred Sanders, explained that an international investigation always takes longer to complete. "Parties from several countries need to be heard. This usually takes a few additional months," he said. Sanders said that the drawing up of the report was in the last stages.

The Safety Board is currently also investigating the large fire at BOPEC in Bonaire which started on September 8, 2010, and lasted several days.

►The first elections since the new constitutional structure that dissolved the Netherlands Antilles and integrated Bonaire, Statia and Saba into The Netherlands will take place on **Wednesday, March 2, 2011**. The election is analogous to Dutch elections for the provincial councils. The "public entity" of Bonaire is responsible for organizing the Island Council elections and informing citizens about the process of this election. The RCN (Rijksdienst Caribisch Nederland) is responsible for encouraging citizens to use their right to vote. Therefore, The Netherlands and the Island government together provide information to the public.

For the first time, Dutch voting rules will apply. Under the slogan, "You also do it?" an intensive campaign will be launched, involving a range of media and a door-to-door leaflet.

►Foreigners residing on Bonaire legally five years or longer can vote in the Island Council elections in March. That's what the court ruled in a case filed by PHU President Rafael Santana against the government, which had earlier rejected his appeal.

The ruling means that long-time adult foreign residents can vote in municipal elections. The Dutch Second Chamber had approved an amendment presented by Member of Parliament Johan Remkes to forbid foreigners to vote in the new overseas Dutch BES Island municipalities because that would indirectly influence elections for the Dutch First Chamber. But because this amendment has not yet been introduced, the court found there is no justification to bar immigrants from voting, which would constitute unequal treatment under various international treaties.

►Bonaire's only "formal" brothel may have to close its doors if no solution is found to legalize the immigration status for the girls from Latin America who work as prostitutes at The Paradise Inn, better known



Sea turtle before



Sea turtle after

► **\$500,000 for a Sea Turtle!** On January 8, 2011, three men were apprehended by the Coast Guard for poaching two protected sea turtles, one of which had been killed. According to published reports the men were Colombian nationals.

The last time that poachers were charged with catching a sea turtle in Bonaire's waters was 1999. Those poachers came before the court in January, 2000, and were sentenced to a conditional fine of \$850. The conditional clause meant that the fine would be levied if the offenders were caught poaching a sea turtle within two years of sentencing. The maximum fine in 2000 was NAf 5.000 and/or one month prison sentence and/or confiscation of the car/boat or other object used to capture the turtle and transport.

Since that time the law has been changed, and the punishment is now much more severe, providing for a maximum fine of over \$500,000 with a jail term of four years for intentionally killing, catching, collecting and/or trading of sea turtles. Copies of the applicable laws and ordinances can be found in Dutch at [www.bonairegov.an](http://www.bonairegov.an) at topic *Natuur & Milieu*, under *Wet en Regelgeving*.

Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire (STCB) protects the sea turtles of Bonaire with financial support from WWF-NL, the Dutch Caribbean Nature Alliance (DCNA), and the community. You can find more information on the sea turtles of Bonaire at [www.bonaireturtles.org](http://www.bonaireturtles.org). Call 005-599-717-2225 for questions or to report suspected illegal activity involving sea turtles.

(Press release by Merel van Weel, legal officer at the Department of Legal and General Affairs of the Bonaire government (Juridische en Algemene Zaken van het Openbaar Lichaam Bonaire) and Marlene Robinson, Board member, Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire-STCB photos)

as Pachi's Place. The undocumented brothel workers were tolerated by Netherlands Antilles Immigration provided they stayed only three months had supervised medical checkups and lab tests. But the Dutch Immigration and Naturalization Department (IND) which took over border control now that Bonaire is a Dutch municipality says the prostitutes are illegal and must leave. Currently Pachi's is closed for renovation. Loopholes in the existing rules that would allow the red light to keep shining are reportedly being

discussed in government circles. Sex workers are legal and taxed in The Netherlands and many, not only men from the island, but also from visiting ships, want to see a regulated whore house on Bonaire. A female health care worker in a conversation with *The Reporter* recalls that in the past men, including ship's crewmen, tempted high school girls with cash in exchange for sex. Another woman told us she believed prostitution helped to reduce sex crimes.

(Continued on page 8)

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Benito Dirksz, front and center, leads the new MBL party

Last week Bonaire's political parties submitted their list of candidates for the Island Council elections on Wednesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>. It will be the first local election since Bonaire was established as a special Dutch municipality.

In addition to the two parties of long standing, the **PDB Demokrat (red)** and **UPB Patriotiko (green)**, three new parties submitted names. Confusingly, their letters were the same, but in a different order.

One new party, the "**Movimentu Lucha Boneiru**" (**Bonaire Light Movement**) -**MLB**, is headed by Eric Soleana. MLB's list was presented by Alejandro Wernet and Chirno Emerenciana, who are not among the candidates of the party. MLB is not even a political party,

according to Wernet, but a group of a dozen people who want change

"with space for new thoughts and a new system." Following Soleana the list includes Elsieo Cicilia, Giancarlo Frans, Liviana Frans, Regina Janga, Marcial Quispe Saldaña, Gabriel Pourier, Antonia Janga Frans, Leo Thielman, Efraim Arnold Amelia, Richard Jansen and Iby Seraus.

Benito Dirksz heads the new blue



Eric Soliana

# Here Come The Elections

party list of the "**Movimentu Boneiru Liber**" (**Free Bonaire Movement**) -**MBL**. The MBL note the different arrangement of initials- says it wants a "new style of more noble politics." Party leader Dirksz explained that there had been a lot of interest in getting on the party list, but they had had to stop at 25.

The present independent councilman and commissioner Anthony Nicolaas is not on the list, but is reported to support the MBL.

The "**Partido pro Hustisia i Union**," (**Party for Justice & Union**) - the **PHU**, headed by Michiel Bijkerk also presented its list. It wants more equality within the Dutch Kingdom and also pledged to continue its fight for the rights of immigrants and retirees. The PHU assimilated the **POB (Workers party)** formerly headed by Theo 'Kabuki' Frans. Elias Bernabela took the spot and is number three on the PHU list which consists of Michiel Bijkerk, Rafael Antonio Santana Rodriguez, Elias Martinus Bernabela, Norbert Sjikr Taede Tadema Dam-



Michiel Bijkerk

man, Ruben Dario Crestian, Hernando Velandia Vargas, Maria Del Roser Navarro Garci, Marco Antonio Alvarado Villasis, and Francisus Petrus Henricus Soree.

The established parties- the "**Union Patriotiko Boneriano**" (**UPB**) and "**Partido Demokratiko Boneriano**" (**PDB**) are also participating in the election.

Longtime PDB leader Jopie Abraham retired and has been replaced by Robbie Buekenboom. But an Abraham anchors the list, Clark Abraham, Jopie's son. Other Demokrat candidates are Nolly Oleana, Mirugia Janga, Jerry Frans, Michael Pieters, Cedric Valero, Aaron Martis, Shermana Frans, Eko Albertus, Javier Martines, Miri Semeleer, Renny Winklaar, Din Domacasse, Alan Cicilia, Nira Dorothea, Moreno Zuniga and Monti Francees. Beukenboom said 11 of the 18 candidates were first-timers and that his PDB would not be "mud-slinging" in the campaign. The red party wants focus on the future to achieve improvements for the local population in every sense of the word, including "a critical evaluation together with The Nether-

lands," said Beukenboom.

UPB is still led by the twice-retired, twice returned, Ramonsito Booi who said the green's list of some 30 candidates was well balanced. (New election rules allow a greater number of names on the list than previously permitted..)

Booi said that his party wanted to re-establish peace on the island, "so that all fathers have the opportunity to work and care for their families. We will see to it that the agreements made with The Netherlands are actually happening." Ramonsito Booi, heads his party's list followed by James Kroon and Elvis Tjin Asjoe, Maritsa Silberie, Jeffrey Levenstone, Onnie Emerenciana, Gunter Seraus, Milena Winklaar, Burney el Hage, Eveline Anthony, Nolly Wilsoe, Djuni Piar, Euron Rosaria, Irva Pourier, Gino Martis, Jar Meeraan, Elinne Martis, Carina Chirino, Jonathan Clarendia. Also Verna Marchena, Liduska Reina, Soyla Kraal, Rutmila Thodé, Latifa Sint Jago, Milie Sint Jago, Nunu Josephia, Papito Thomas, Elvis Flores, Papi Cicilia and Yonchi Dortalina. ■ G.D.



Clark Abraham



Ramonsito Booi



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# On the Island Since... 2009 - Desiree Croes

"I was born on Aruba and as long as I can remember I was always fascinated by police work. I started at the police-training when I was only 17. In total I had three different law-enforcement trainings: two on Aruba and one in Amersfoort, The Netherlands. I'd worked on Aruba as a police officer for 11 years, then I left for Holland where I did the third training and worked as a sergeant for three years. In 2001 my granddad passed away, and it completely turned my life around. I had a very strong bond with him. I wasn't raised by a father - my granddad has been my father figure all my life, as my mom and I lived with my grandparents from when I was four. My grandfather, Juan Mario Odor, was a well-known person. He and Betico Croes founded the Numismatic Museum of Aruba in 1975. The Numismatic Museum was the larg-

est in all of the Caribbean and it housed a collection of more than 400,000 coins and paper money. It was subsidized by the Aruban government and international and local cultural organizations." *She smiles.* "My grandfather was a fascinating and passionate man and he passed his love and knowledge on to me. When he died, I left The Netherlands and came back to Aruba to work with my mother, my grandmother and my uncle at the Numismatic Museum. I became the director. The museum was an icon, not only in the Aruban tourist industry, but it was also famous internationally. HBO came and made a documentary about my granddad's life and the museum. It was a glamorous period. When my grandmother passed away and six months later my uncle, it was the end of everything. My mom and I were the only ones left and the rest of the

family decided to sell the museum and its collection. I was against it, but as the Juan Mario Odor Foundation was a family foundation there was very little I could do. I made a decision and resigned from my own job. My mom also quit and retired and the government stopped the subsidy and that was it. The whole collection sits in boxes and the family wants to sell everything. I don't want to have anything to do with it - it feels like selling my own grandfather. It was a historical monument and a national heritage! It's completely against my will and my mothers' that they decided to sell it. It belongs to Aruba! Well," *she looks at me and smiles,* "all my life I have loved nature, just like my granddad, who also was a passionate amateur archeologist. From the time I was a child we would go for long walks in the outback and he would tell me everything he knew. So, one day when I was surfing the internet, looking at all the Dutch Antilles because I



wanted to leave Aruba, but I didn't want to go to Holland, I saw the websites of TCB and STINAPA and various job-offers. I sent Ronella (Croes, TCB head) an e-mail including my C. Later on she told me that the moment she saw my CV on her Blackberry, she was having lunch with Elsmarie Beukenboom in New York and she told Elsmarie 'I guess this is something for you!' Luckily Elsmarie took it seriously and invited me for an interview in June 2009, and in August I started working for STINAPA as the nature and environmental education coordinator.

STINAPA has different activities prepared for elementary school-children and also for teenagers from Jong Bonaire. My job is to educate them through different events and activities like snorkeling, bird watching, plants and trees, turtles, diving, kayaking etc., etc. All these programs must have an educational element. To be able to do this job, you have to like it! I get my reward when I see their happy faces, their curiosity, the moment they start feeling involved and how they enjoy it! You have to sting them with the nature bee... and tell them

(Continued on page 5)

**"...the moment they start feeling involved and how they enjoy it! You have to sting them with the nature bee..."**

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

not to kill a wasp, a bee or a scorpion just because they are there. 'We are nature protectors.' That's the feeling I want to create with the group. For instance, when I tell them, 'The parrot fish is now protected,' they all ask 'why?' Then I tell them that the parrot fish is the alchemist, because he eats algae which grow on the rocks and every time he takes a bite, he also eats a chunk of the rock and when he digests it, it becomes our white sand. Children are open to learning, they want to know. They might not change the world right now, but they know the rules of the Marine Park, they know the protected species and how important it is to keep the island and the sea clean and... that's the future of Bonaire - its children. I always tell the children not to confront people with what they know - maybe they can tell their parents sometimes or some close family members - but I don't want them to become isolated - the wise guys - in their environment. They are children, and so I tell them: 'It's something you have to keep in your heart and let it grow with you. You can't change the world in one day by yourself; it's something you have to do together. And when you get really deeply emotional involved in nature - it

will change you.'

All the elementary schoolchildren on Bonaire - from the age of four - are involved in this program, and during the holidays I also get the crèches (day care). The school teachers are very important; they are the cornerstones of NME to make the activities successful, because I have to count on them. And I am very happy with the cooperation of the *Aqua Space*, *Divi Flamingo* boats and the *Woodwind*, who always have a boat available - for free - for my programs.

One of those programs for example is 'Sharks of Bonaire', where I go snorkeling out at sea with the teenagers. We enter the world of the sharks and I tell them how people kill sharks by the millions each year and how few people are killed by sharks in comparison, mostly by accident. Starting with the nine year olds I touch these themes with the children - the way people use and harm nature - and they really understand. They are so much smarter than we think they are. You have to plant a seed in their mind and through internet and TV it will come back to them and they will see the big picture fast - sooner than we did, because we spoiled it for them..."

*Desiree Croes is a beautiful person. She's passionate but soft spoken and in her quiet, gentle*



*Desiree Croes with her children of Bonaire in the sea and on land*

*manner she compels respect. She's a natural.*

"I do have a lot of experience working with children from my prior job as a police officer. You have to step into their world but still you have to have the authority. I like to listen and to hear what they have to say and then, in return, they pay attention back. It's a give and take like all relationships, but it's challenging. Somehow I'm doing it right because everywhere I go children recognize me and call my name...."

The children of Bonaire are very proud of their island and I help them realize what it is they are proud of. They have to see and learn how everything works and is connected in our environment. That way they can help with the

protection, because only by being grateful for;. My eldest son Arxen, 22, is studying at the University of Amsterdam - history and politics. I am very proud of him. Luckily I still have my baby here with me. Dayron is almost 15 and he's at SGB. He loves nature, just like me. This year I am turning 43 and the job keeps me fit, mentally and physically. I would love to do it for a very long time; it's healthy living and I am looking forward to seeing all 'my' children when they've grown up - I am sure they will make a change in the future..."

I've also put NME STINAPA on Face book - it's a network between children, parents, teachers and all other nature lovers, so people," she laughs "if you want, join us!"

I love Bonaire, because I love to live the simple life and be surrounded by nature. It's an unstoppable feeling of happiness... dushi! Yes, Bonaire is very sweet! I have everything to be

grateful for;. My eldest son Arxen, 22, is studying at the University of Amsterdam - history and politics. I am very proud of him. Luckily I still have my baby here with me. Dayron is almost 15 and he's at SGB. He loves nature, just like me. This year I am turning 43 and the job keeps me fit, mentally and physically. I would love to do it for a very long time; it's healthy living and I am looking forward to seeing all 'my' children when they've grown up - I am sure they will make a change in the future..."

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Story & photos by  
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# New Spotted Goatfish Behavior Reported

Bonaire resident Genady Filkovsky and Joseph T. Springer, working under the auspices of the Biology Department of the University of Nebraska-Kearney, reported new behavior by spotted goatfish, *Pseudupeneus maculatus*. The Spotted goatfish interacted by wriggling, touching, and twisting each other's barbels. This observed use of barbels by goatfish differs from their common uses in feeding, and from their previously noted use in courtship. This new behavior also suggests an interpretation for courtship as well.

A distinct feature of goatfishes is a pair of highly developed barbels. These are long, powerful structures with muscles, cartilaginous skeleton, and sensory organs. When not in use, the barbels are folded back inside grooves under the chin and gill covers. When in use, the barbels can be lowered as well as turned all the way forward, or rapidly and independently bent.

The goatfish barbels are considered to be chemosensory and tactile organs mainly used for feeding. All goatfishes are believed to use barbels in feeding by lowering them to the sea bottom to sense hidden prey. Goatfishes also use their barbels for feeding in various ways beyond sensory probing including disturbing and excavating sand or mud to reach hiding prey, or frightening, pushing, and pulling prey from holes and crevices. The new use of barbels by spotted goatfish was detected during data collection and subsequent analysis of the recordings.

Unlike previously reported uses, in these observations barbels were used mutually and simultaneously by interacting goatfish.

Considering general patterns of reef fish behaviors, the paired behavior observed could be interpreted either as spawning or as an encounter between two males.

The behavior was different from spawning. Goatfish spawning consists of a female rising in the water column, a male coming alongside her, and then both quickly swimming 2 m - 3 m at about 45 degrees up, spawning, breaking off, and returning to the bottom. The behavior observed here was different.

No eggs and milt were seen, while they are usually easily seen. The fish were similar in size and shape while male goatfish differ from females.

The common element was mutual wriggling of barbels while other details varied. This use of barbels by goatfish differed from previously described because it constituted a new function of barbels that was not concerned with feeding, and because it was interactive.

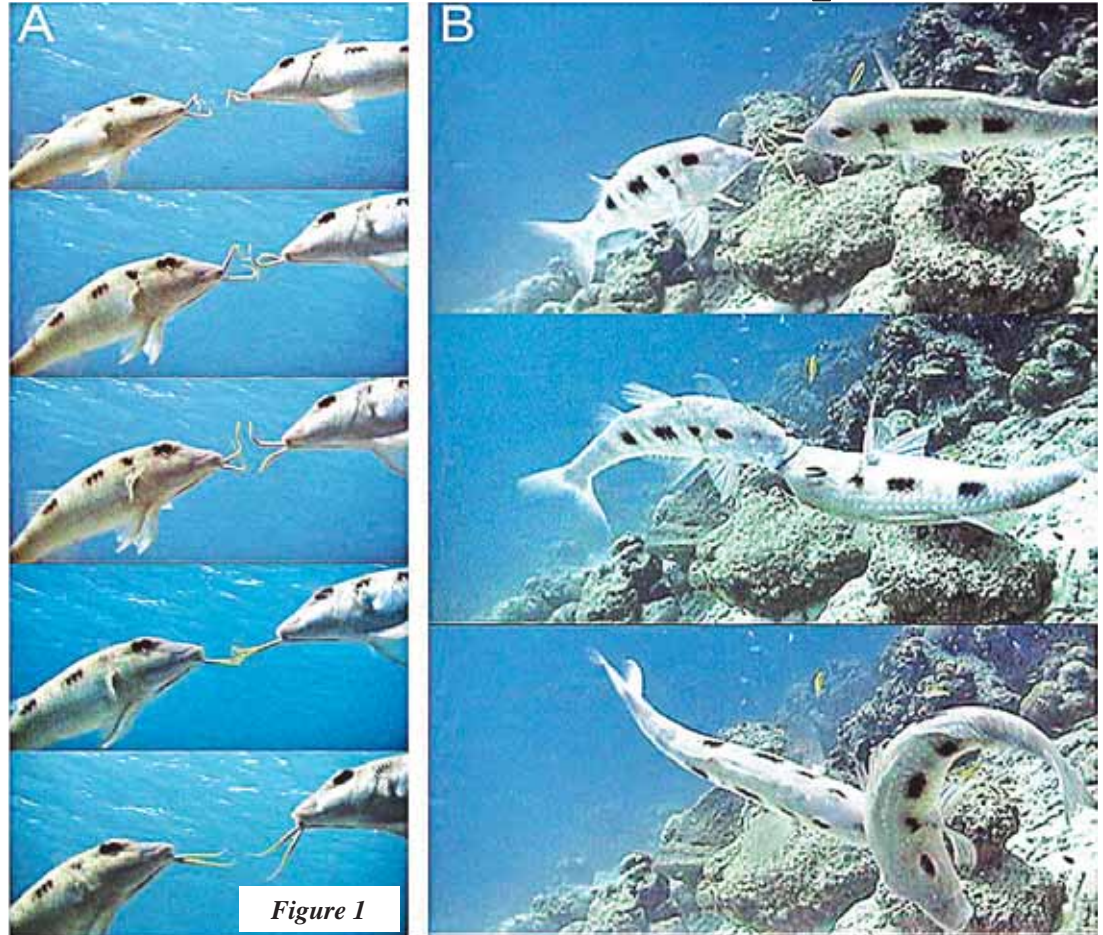


Figure 1

The original article is available at <http://www.bentham.org/open/tombj/articles/V004/122TOMBJ.pdf> . ■

Original article & photos by Genady Filkovsky /Intro by G.D.

Fig. 1 above. *Pseudupeneus maculatus* interact using barbels: (A, top to bottom) approach, twist, wriggle, touch, and separate; (B, top to bottom) wriggle, "rush", and dart. 1243 The Open Marine Biology Journal, 2010, Volume 4 Filkovsky and Springer





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# BONAIREAN VOICES

## WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HOLD?

As we think about all our desires for this year our main thoughts have been on the lack of stability of our Bonairean government. With the new changes it is very important for our Bonairean community—which includes all Bonairean citizens, no matter what nationality, religion etc.—to know where we want to go with our lovely Bonaire. Political leader, Mr. Ramonsito Teresita Booi (63), from the green party UPB (*Union Partriotiko Boneiriano*) gave some insights.

First it's good to know a little of the background of Mr. Booi. He was born of humble Bonairean parents, Mr. Ramon Booi from Nikiboko, and Mrs. Louisita Sille from Playa. His father was a navigator on board the ship, *Irene*, carrying gasoline barrels between Curaçao and Bonaire. Later he bought the ship, making it possible to start his own businesses. They built and opened "Kasa Ramon," which is now where Bonaire Sunshine Homes and Go Green Natural Shop are located. Ramonsito, the youngest of five children, left Bonaire for studies and graduated as an elementary schoolteacher.

Booi explains, "For 12 years I dedicated my life to teaching. During that time, around 1970 when I was 21, I decided to go into politics. So as you can see I've been a politician for over 40 years. I have held different positions: member of the local parliament, the central parliament and commissioner. As I never wanted to be a burden to the government budget, I took on a challenge in the Fast Moving Consumer Goods business (FMCG). I was the owner of Cultimara Supermarket for 15 years. We had grocery stores under the Cultimara name in Antriol, Amboina, Rincon and Playa. But politics was my passion. I sold three of the four stores; the only one left is the one in Rincon, which was bought by my brother Max under the name of Tusnara. My vision is to elevate the quality of life of Bonaire to levels acceptable within the Dutch community."

I told Mr. Booi that the government is going through some shaky times and asked why.

"We are like on a rollercoaster ride with all its ups and downs, where politics is not having its best moment. A lot of people don't understand that the current UPB government has been holding seats for less than four months. So in a very short time prior to the elections of March 2011, a lot of pending businesses has had to be handled, and we have to prepare for the election campaign during the Carnival festival season.



Ramonsito Booi

After the election of 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 2011, we will see what the people will decide and in which direction they want to go. We noticed that during the reign of the former government (one and a half years) nothing was done to uphold the agreements made with Holland and that's what gave Holland the chance to go astray. That's why we need to go back in, get Holland at the negotiation table and put the original drawing back on the table. Social Security, Health Care and the Fiscal system must be balanced.

Our government has only one and a half months left so we can't do much for the future. No matter which government it is we need to ask Holland to repair what needs to be fixed on Bonaire, for the welfare for all Bonairean citizens. The government needs to evaluate all the methods in the new situation. The assigned party, and not a coalition, has to make the changes. What we have now is not entirely conforming to the original plans, thus not good. We must make it better. If the negotiations with Holland do not end with an agreement, we can use other structural and legal ways in Holland itself, like state counselors, or the European Union Court."

Nevertheless we have the elections coming the 2<sup>nd</sup> of March, 2011. What will your choice be ?

■ Story & photo by Siomara Albertus

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



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# Latin Music Classics



Linda Ronstadt, born in 1946, is most famous as the "First Lady of Rock." She has earned 10 Grammy Awards, an Emmy Award and numerous gold, platinum and multiplatinum albums. In total, she has over 30 solo albums, 38 Billboard Hot 100 singles and one No. 1 hit.

Her father Gilbert came from a pioneering Arizona ranching family and was of Mexican descent. That's why Linda Ronstadt shows up in these editions of Latin Music Classics. Linda's early family life was filled with music and tradition, which influenced the stylistic and musical choices she later made in her career. Growing up, she listened to Mexican music, which was sung by her entire family.

In 1987, Ronstadt released an album of traditional Mexican folk songs, titled "Canciones de Mi Padre." Though not fully bilingual, she has a fairly good command of the Spanish language, allowing her to sing Latin American songs with little discernible Anglo accent. Ronstadt has often identified herself as Mexican-American. This album won a Grammy Award and became the biggest-selling non-English language album in US music history.

## Jody's Music Quiz

Last week's answer: Gloria Estefan has numerous hits. The winner is Norma Cole!

She can pick up the free CD at Jody's on Lagoen Hill #18.

This week's question:

**Give the title of Linda's No.1 Hit in the Billboard Hot 100.**

Please send your answer to: [info@jodysbonaire.com](mailto:info@jodysbonaire.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 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, Zuccherro, 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.

# BonQuiz #45



## Unknown Grave

On the road south just before the salt pier, there stands a single grave by the shore. When the salt crystallizers were being constructed, skeletal remains were found near this spot and were given this historical monument.

Q) What is the story behind this grave?

Answer on page 17

Christie Dovale

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

**IslandToursBonaire.com** Phone 717-4435 or 795-3456



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# 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.**

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

*Flotsam and Jetsam (Continued from page 2)*

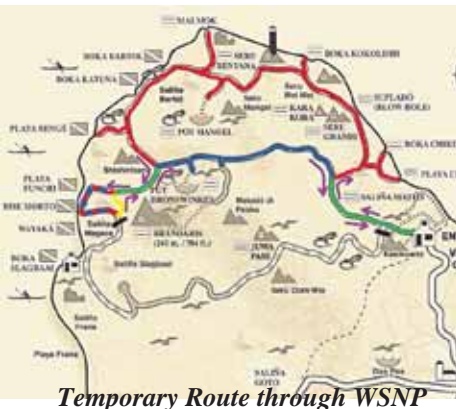
Prostitution is an unsavory business in any case and opposed by many in the community. Prostitution may continue with or without Pachi's. There are already prostitutes operating out of late night bars in the Kralendijk suburbs.

► **As of September 1 last year new rules applied to Bonaire for the protection of Bonaire's natural environment.** Additional rules came into force on January 1 for the protection of fauna, flora and natural areas on land and sea.

The rules are important for all residents and businesses on Bonaire. The government has issued special information sheets to explain the legislation about the environmental impact and the Bonaire Nature Commission in Dutch and Papiamentu. The full range of information sheets on the Nature Island Ordinance are available at DROB on Kaya Amsterdam 23, at STINAPA and on the web site: [www.bonairegov.an](http://www.bonairegov.an). They include:

- Data Island Ordinance Nature
- Data licensing procedure
- Data usage fees
- Water sport sheet
- Data protected species
- Data protected trees
- Data reef fishery
- Environmental Impact Data
- Data Committee Bonaire Nature

► **The NuStar oil terminal in St. Eustatius and BOPEC oil terminal in Bonaire will have to comply with stricter environmental regulations** once the Dutch Parliament has approved the environmental management law for Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba (BES islands). NuStar has a dated permit based on the St. Eustatius hindrance ordinance, while BOPEC has no permit at all. Both companies are in the process of requesting a new permit in anticipation of the new legislation. The new environmental regulations for the BES islands are a lot more stringent than under the current, dated Antillean and local legislation. However, regulations will be less stringent than the European legislation for the European part of The Netherlands.



Temporary Route through WSNP

► **Washington Slagbaai Park is open again. The roads are again passable at least in the main touring sections.** A temporary route has been set up as follows: Start and end at the main entrance of the Park. Follow the long route all the way to Wayaka. From Wayaka you take a short cut and go back to the main entrance through the short route.

This route hits all the points of interest with exceptions of Juwa Pass and Slagbaai as well as all the dive and snorkel sites with exceptions of Slagbaai beach. STINAPA is working diligently to open more of the route through the Park. Soon they will finish repairing another section of the roads which will give all visitors the possibility of

getting all the way to Slagbaai.

► **A sea level monitoring station for tsunami monitoring has been set up at the mega cruise pier in Curaçao.** The local Meteorological Service installed the system in cooperation with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the University of Hawaii's Sea Level Centre (UHSLC).

After the tsunami disaster in 2004 in the Indian Ocean, the International Ocean Committee/UNESCO set up three work groups, of which the former Netherlands Antilles had formed part.

Recent research has shown that Curaçao and Bonaire have been hit by tsunamis in the past. Apart from detecting tsunamis, the system installed will also be used by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) to measure climate changes.

► **For the 9<sup>th</sup> consecutive year, Bonaire has taken first place for Top Overall Diving in Scuba Diving magazine's Readers' Choice Awards.** Bonaire swept top honors, receiving four #1 Ratings, which is more than any other destination in the Caribbean/Atlantic category, while continuing its reign as one of the world's top dive destinations.

Bonaire received first place in three other Caribbean/Atlantic categories: Top Health of Marine Environment, Top Macro Life and Top Shore Diving, and also received second place in seven other Caribbean/Atlantic categories: Overall Destination, Value for Diving Dollar, Beginner Diving, Snorkeling, Visibility, Marine Life and Photography.

► **Bonaire's award-winning culture park, Mangazina di Rei, has gone modern** with appearances on the top social network web sites. Check them out on: Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/mangazinadirei> Twitter: <http://twitter.com/MangazinaDiRei> YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/mangazina>

► **The annual Lora (Bonaire parrot) count will take place on Saturday morning, January 29.** A breakfast is planned for the participants at the entrance to Washington Park following the count. Organizers are as usual DROB, *Salba Nos Lora* and STINAPA. They still can use volunteers. For the "novices" a training meeting is planned but date, time and place of this meeting are still unknown. Contact Peter Montanus at e-mail: [petter.montanus@bonairegov.com](mailto:petter.montanus@bonairegov.com) for more details.



► **Last week US President Barack Obama issued an executive order loosening more restrictions on US travel and money remittances to Cuba,** a further step in his efforts to reach out to the people of that country.

The latest measures, which stop short of lifting a ban on tourist travel to the island by Americans, are aimed at developing "people-to-people" contacts by allowing more travel for college professors and students, artists and church groups. If Cuba opens to US tourism it will change the complexion of Caribbean tourism ■

G./L. D.

Cover Story

## Ground Broken For New Homes and Apartments

Graphic display by J.P. van der Hoek




The people who brought you Bonaire Exclusief are now offering a new development of apartments and villas. On January 18, 2011, construction of the Resort Bonaire Courtyard Village began. The location is the "almost downtown but still close to the beach" corner of Kaya Serena and Kaminda Djabou.

A big ground breaking party was held with several political leaders in attendance. The first shovel of soil was a big one dug by a backhoe operated by the parents of the developers. (cover photo)


The resort is planned to be built in stages. There will be 44 apartments with 1, 2 and 3 bedrooms and 27 bungalows with 2, 3 or 4 bedrooms. Sustainable environmental practices include solar heated water and landscaping drip systems using recycled water. Prices range from \$120,000 to \$400,000. Sales information is available at Sunbelt Realty (see ad on the back page).

The overall design is by local architect, Augusta Elton. Construction is by Tony Marchena in collaboration with Multifunction Management. The shareholders and promoters of Bonaire Courtyard Village NV include Rob Cat, both Senior and Junior, and Andries de Boer. More information is at [info@courtyardbonaire.com](mailto:info@courtyardbonaire.com). ■ Press release/G.D.

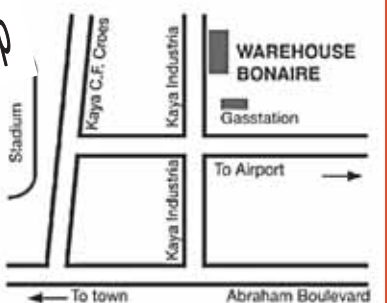


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# Letters to the Editor

## NEW YEAR HOPE

Dear Editor,  
 In December I sent a New Year's wish to my friends and think the readers of TBR might be interested in what had to say. It is about Bonaire's future and it ran more or less like this:  
 Our guilders become dollars;  
 All of us get health insurance;  
 We'll get a kidney dialysis centre;  
 And get more medical facilities;  
 State old age pensions will become US\$ 543;  
 The tax system will change. To our advantage or disadvantage?  
 The runway of the airport will be renovated;  
 Under construction the 23<sup>rd</sup> (!) church on the island;  
 No import duties any more; no inheritance tax;  
 8% sales tax;  
 Will we get entangled and strangled in Bureaucracy?  
 Let's hope for the best.

G.Vellinga

## DO NOT PAY ROAD TAX... YET

Dear Editor,

I suppose everybody has noticed the bad conditions the roads have been in for such a long time. Do we need to pay for this? Do we have to accept this?  
 How many more cars need to be taken to the garage to be repaired because of these bad road conditions? At those garages you need to pay ABB tax, so again the government is making money from us.  
 Diving may be the number one business on Bonaire but mangrove kayaking may be number two. Have you seen that road? Elly Albers from the mangrove kayak centre claims to have missed thousands of dollars because of car repairs, lost from tourists who got scared away when they saw the road. And because she could not transport clients properly.  
 The burden on cars is huge and intolerable. How much money is being lost because of this? Who cares anyway?  
 The worst thing is that the same govern-



ment who wants us to pay road tax allows big trucks to drive the back roads to take away part of our coastline (although this permit is very doubtful and does not meet the regulations which were set by the government.....but who cares hey...!) and they ruin the roads completely.

I also had a talk with Patrick Diepgrond from Caribe Car Rental. He mentioned to me that because of the bad roads and many potholes a lot of his cars are having troubles with the tires (being out of balance) and lots of problems with the suspension. And he was able to inform me that this was the case with most other car rental agencies as well.

And let us not forget a big group of people on Bonaire who can just make it every month. They drive in old cars and many of them cannot afford all the repairs needed to keep their holy cow on the road.

Very sad.  
 Big dump trucks full of diabase (a very short sighted practice) also ruin the roads in the kunuku. They ruin the roads and leave the people who live there with almost impassible roads.

And now I am not even writing about their highly disrespectful and dangerous way of driving (which is well known to the police but they cannot do anything.....they say) I always thought is was forbidden to destroy public property, but not on Bonaire. Sometimes water trucks and garbage trucks find it impossible to visit the kunukeros, but again who cares!  
 It is even necessary that I myself need to maintain the public road otherwise I cannot reach my own house. I cannot remember the last time I saw the government maintaining that road.

And for those people who venture out into the kunuku, be very careful where you drive, and do not think that a call to 911 will help. If you do not believe me, just try to call 911 and see what happens.  
 Now the big question is: Should we pay road tax?

Of course we should, but not now!  
 Hold it till the government comes with a solution or accepts their responsibility. And when they come with a good plan, great. Then it is time to pay. Somebody out there agrees?  
 Unfortunately I believe it is DROB who is responsible for this and they are not known for their quick acting.....if at all!

Hans Voerman

# An Evening With an Author and Three Legends of Antillean Music

On January 29 the Classical Music Board Bonaire will present a very special evening combining literature and music.



Chopin



Brokken

Jan Brokken, author of the remarkable book, "Why 11 Antilleans Kneel in Front of the Heart Of Chopin," will tell the stories about the origins of Antillean classical music (in Dutch and English) and three pianists and composers illustrate all of that with music of Antillean composers, European composers like Chopin and their own compositions

The three performers, Livio Hermans, Wim Statius Muller and Johnny Kleinmoedig, are among the best composers and pianists of the Antilles. They've already made several tours and concerts on this theme together with Jan Brokken in the Antilles, in Poland, Belgium and The Netherlands.

The Classical Music Board Bonaire is proud to present this very special evening to the public of Bonaire with thanks to the Prins Bernhard Cultuur Fonds, the main sponsor.

Jan Brokken will lead you through the history and origins of Antillean Music, and the pianists- who are the last living

performers and composers of this legacy- will make this evening a complete voyage of discovery for the audience.

Everybody who is interested in classical and light Antillean Music will be able to understand and feel the mixtures of musical cultures from Europe and the Antilles which resulted in music we listen to daily on our islands. The concert starts at 7:30 pm at the Cacique Hall at Plaza Resort. Entrance fee is \$20, presale, and \$25 at the door. Children with a school ID pay \$10. You can order your tickets in advance at: [www.classicalmusicbonaire.com](http://www.classicalmusicbonaire.com) or go to: Addo's Bookstore, Flamingo Bookstore or Plaza Resort

Visitors of the concert can buy Jan Brokken's book (including a 60-minute "must have" CD for a greatly reduced total price of \$25) and Jan Brokken and the pianists are more than prepared to sign the book you will buy.

See you there. ■ Press release

## BRA SALE

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Saturday, January 29, 2011, starting at 7.30 PM  
 Plaza Resort Bonaire, Cacique hall

## classicalmusicboardbonaire

LITERARY/MUSICAL EVENING

### Waarom elf Antillianen knielden voor het hart van Chopin

-JAN BROKKEN-

Dutch author Jan Brokken speaks about his very successful book.  
 On piano the Curacao composers and pianists:  
**LIVIO HERMANS**  
**JOHNNIE KLEINMOEDIG**  
 and **WIM STATIUS MULLER**  
 performing compositions of Chopin and Antillean composers

TICKETS: US\$ 20,00 (US\$ 25,00 at the door)  
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Thanks to the Friends of the Classical Music Board Bonaire for continuing to sponsor this fantastic program!

# Governor's Annual Open House Party

Perhaps one of the nicest holdovers from the colonial era is the annual post-New Years open house at the official residence of the Bonaire Governor. This year Glenn and Mechtild Thode hosted the party at their temporary official residence in SABEDEC. Here are some scenes from the party that included beverages, hors d'oeuvres and great DJ music.





 Rijkdienst Caribisch Nederland

## Elections

### Wednesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2011:

Changed voting rules!

**On Wednesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> you will elect the members of your Island Council.**

For these Island Council elections of Wednesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> some existing rules will be changed.

From the end of January till the beginning of March, you, who are entitled to vote, will be informed about the most important changes. This way you will know what awaits you on March 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**You'll be voting too, right?**

**For more information:**  
[www.rijksdienstcn.com/eilandsraadsverkiezingen](http://www.rijksdienstcn.com/eilandsraadsverkiezingen)

# Bonaire's Fish Farm To Harvest Soon

The next time you are driving out to Sorobon, keep your eyes peeled for a large green building on the right side of the road. It's Elijah Fish Farm, the only fish farm on the island. The farm, which first opened in November of 2009, is a joint venture between a Curaçao-based company and HESY Aquaculture B.V., a European company that constructs fish farms all over the world. Right now, only one species of fish is being farmed, the *Rachycentron canadum*, better known as Cobia.

Native to the waters of Bonaire, the Cobia is a pelagic fish that can be found in tropical waters all over the world, from the Gulf of Mexico down to South America, all the way to Africa, Asia and Australia. Typically a solitary fish, the Cobia likes to frequent docks, buoys and wrecks as well as estuaries and mangroves. They live on a diet of shrimps and other crustaceans and the females usually spawn in large batches between the months of June and August.

Daniel DeAnda, the Plant Manager for Elijah Fish Farm, says that soon, Cobia will be available for consumption in Bonaire, possibly as early as May or June, when the farm will sell its first batch of mature fish to commercial vendors on the island and to vendors in Curaçao. Nutritionally, Cobia is very low in calories (only 87 calories for a 100 gram serving) and is a great source of protein, vitamin B6

and potassium. DeAnda compares the taste of Cobia as being similar to the Mahi Mahi or the Dorado; "It fits in nicely as the catch of the day that we already have in Bonaire. It's a white filet, a flakey fish. Even though it's not already on the market I think it will fit in well and it will be something that we don't already have on the menus."

Before the Cobia find their way to Elijah Fish Farm, they are bred in Miami and are then shipped over to Bonaire from Miami or Ecuador. DeAnda explains that with each generation, good males and females are selected to mate, which results in a stronger generation than the last. "That way they don't

have to keep going out and selecting more fish. By doing that, each generation tends to be better. In Miami they are now on their third or fourth generation." Before the Cobias are shipped, they undergo some testing to ensure that they are healthy. Once they arrive at the farm, they are placed in a separate holding tank for the first few weeks before they can join the



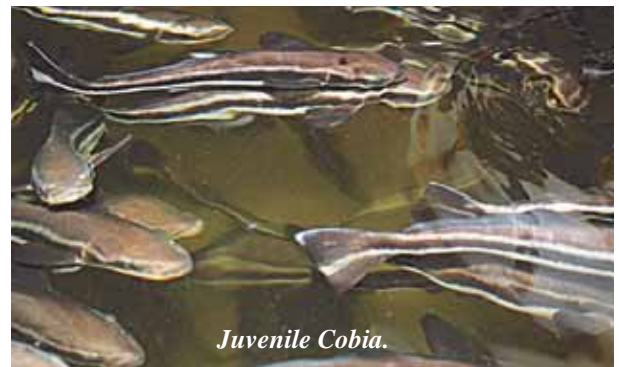
Plant Manager Daniel DeAnda and his colleague, Raimundo Vargas, with a net full of juvenile Cobia.

other fish in the main tanks. This helps prevent one fish from possibly spreading a virus to the others. According to DeAnda, all of the fish have been healthy so far, but it's a good precaution to take.

In order to raise the Cobia from juveniles to adults, DeAnda, who has a Bachelors in Biology and a Masters in Aquaculture, and his colleague, Raimundo Vargas, who

has been trained in running fish farms, work constantly to ensure that the Cobias are well fed and that their water is clean. It sounds simple enough, but the task itself is an extremely large production that requires manual labor and an advanced water filtration system that helps recycle the water. Since the farm is inland, all of the water is pumped from a well that is connected to the ocean. With the inland setup, DeAnda is better able to control the salt water that is coming in. "By being away from the ocean we have what you call 'bio-security.' If I were next to the ocean, you never know, the water changes every day. If you get a little algae bloom or a storm, all of those things are going to affect your intake water. If you have a well, it is more isolated and the water usually does not change very much." Once the water has gone through the system it goes to a sedimentation pond and after that it goes to Cargill and helps aid the production of Bonaire's salt. "There is a slight increase in biological load (waste from the fish) and that actually helps the salt crystallize," says DeAnda.

For now, Elijah Fish Farm has



Juvenile Cobia.

not seen a profit since production is still in the early stages. "Right now we are just growing the fish, but eventually we will be processing, packing and shipping in about six to eight months. I think our first official harvest will be sometime in May, and then we will start building up production consistently. By next year we will have a consistent production every week." Once the farm has a steady production, Elijah Fish Farm plans to add several more employees to assist with its growing operations.

In the future, DeAnda says that the farm may consider growing a second species, the Almaco Jack, another fish that is found in Bonaire's waters. But for now, DeAnda's only concern is raising healthy Cobia and possibly getting rid of the scent from the fish and their feed, which he says is the only downside to the job. "After a long day's work, we really do smell!" ■

Story & Photos by Mallory Smith



## Perfect Home with Pool in Belnem



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# Hospital Partnership

This year, Fundashon Mariadal, Bonaire's main hospital, will be undergoing some extensive changes now that Bonaire is officially a municipality of Holland. As of January 1<sup>st</sup> 2011, Fundashon Mariadal has formed a partnership with two university hospitals from Amsterdam: Central Medical Academy and VU Central Medical. With this new agreement, which was just signed last week, Fundashon Mariadal will soon have six new doctors on Bonaire who specialize in different areas of medicine, including surgery, gynecology, psychiatry, internal medicine, anesthesiology and pediatrics.



Dr. Giovanni J.M. Frans and Macha Le Poole

So far, two of the six specialists are already on the island, an anesthesiologist and an internal medicine doctor. Under this new program, once the specialists have arrived they will stay on Bonaire for three to six months and can even stay for up to a year if they choose. After their rotation is over, a new colleague will come from Amsterdam to take their place. According to Macha Le Poole, Secretary of the Board of Directors at Fundashon Mariadal, these specialists will not only treat patients on the island, but also teach hospital staff through various educational programs. "There will be opportunities for our employees, be it nurses or management, to further educate themselves through workshops and other programs that are offered within these university medical centers." Le Poole says that these specialists will not be replacing doctors that are already on the island, but will be developing their area of medicine into an individual program.

Having a number of specialists on the island should be a welcome change for locals. In the past, patients would have to travel to Curaçao depending on their medical issue, or they would have to wait for a doctor to fly from Curaçao to Bonaire. Now, that has changed. "This is health care on the island that we were not able to provide up until now," says Le Poole, adding, "We had specialists coming in from Curaçao for one or two days a week. They would have patients to see and then they would leave. Now we will have specialists on the island 24/7 so we will not have to rely on sending patients to Curaçao."

Although the program has just started, Le Poole has already gotten some feedback from the two specialists that are on the island which, she said, has been very positive so far. However, like any new partnership, Le Poole says that there may be a few bumps along the way as the university doctors adjust to Bonaire. "They come from a very different setting, a medical center where everything is state of the art and where they do things a certain way, so it will be interesting to see how it works." Le

Poole also hopes that the specialists will form a favorable opinion of Fundashon Mariadal and of Bonaire, which she hopes will make the partnership more successful. "Of course we want to make a good impression on them so that they go back to The Netherlands and talk to their colleagues. The more positive they are about the hospital, about Bonaire, about their experience here, the more likely we are that there are going to be more specialists signing up for the program."

In addition to the specialists, Fundashon Mariadal will also be getting new, state-of-the-art medical equipment over the next few years. Dr. Giovanni J.M. Frans, Head of the Board of Directors for the hospital says that the island will soon be getting new digital machines for x-rays and ultrasounds, adding that the hospital has also just placed an order for a CT (CAT scan) machine. Le Poole hopes that the introduction of this new equipment will also help in furthering the education of the hospital's staff, saying that "Now it will be possible for the people working here to develop their skills and their knowledge further with this new digital equipment."

Over time, Le Poole hopes that the staff at Fundashon Mariadal and its patients will begin to see the benefits and the improved quality of care from this new system, "These specialists will be building up their area of expertise structurally. They will not just come in, do the work and then leave. They will be building a department for the future. In time I think this will result in visible improvements that patients will see."

Dr. Frans agrees, "We gave a lot of autonomy, sacrifice to become part of Holland, so we can have improvement in education, social security and healthcare. The objective is that we are going to bring up the level and quality of healthcare to the Dutch level of healthcare, so it should become much better. If not, we are not doing our jobs right." ■

Story & photo by  
Mallory Smith



## Picture Yourself With The Reporter In... The Pyramids, Egypt



Here is a spectacular photo of Louis Petrich and his family with *The Reporter* in Egypt. They lived on Bonaire in 2009-2010. Pictured are: (right to left) Louis Petrich, Eileen McFarren, Louie Petrich (son).

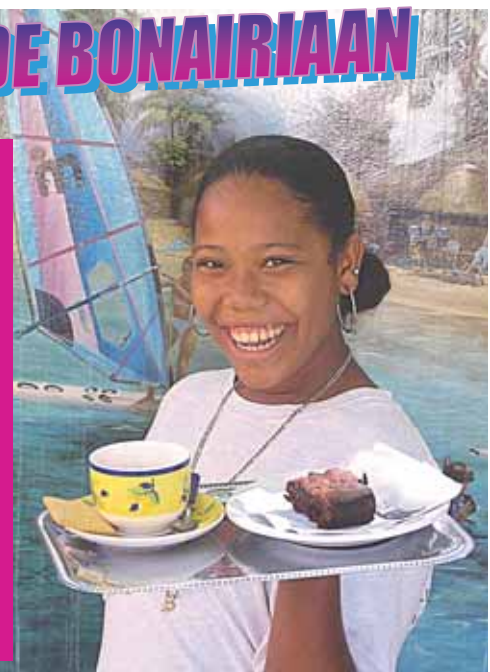
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## Bonaire: Garbage Paradise?



The cruise ship, "Star Clipper" dumped its garbage on Bonaire on its visit last week. They almost filled a Dumpster with hundreds of garbage bags. Fortunately, the larger cruise lines for years have tried to keep the amount of waste they produce to a minimum and don't leave their waste on the island (except of course for *Freewinds*-ed). Several companies have signed a protocol to leave no waste on the islands that they visit and not throw waste overboard at sea. Bonaire waste is a growing problem and it is completely unacceptable that cruise ships abuse Bonaire by dumping their waste here. ■ *Photo & text by: Gerard van Erp*

**Editor's comment:** Who provided the Dumpster on the town pier? How can island authorities charge locals for dumping and complain that Bonaire's landfill is short on space when they accept waste from passing ships?

## 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
January Fri 28		01:39 / 0.13 ft	08:23 / 1.11 ft	16:46 / 0.18 ft	21:03 / 0.14 ft	7:01	18:36
Sat 29		02:17 / 0.10 ft	09:10 / 1.11 ft	17:44 / 0.20 ft	22:05 / 0.11 ft	7:01	18:36
Sun 30		02:54 / 0.05 ft	09:57 / 1.07 ft	18:42 / 0.19 ft	23:12 / 0.09 ft	7:01	18:37
Mon 31		03:30 / 0.00 ft	10:44 / 1.00 ft	19:39 / 0.17 ft		7:01	18:37
February Tue 01	00:30 / 0.10 ft	04:04 / 0.05 ft	11:31 / 0.91 ft	20:31 / 0.14 ft		7:00	18:37
Wed 02	02:02 / 0.13 ft	04:40 / 0.12 ft	12:17 / 0.81 ft	21:18 / 0.12 ft	<b>New Moon</b>	7:00	18:38
Thu 03	03:32 / 0.20 ft	05:38 / 0.19 ft	13:05 / 0.71 ft	21:56 / 0.08 ft		7:00	18:38
Fri 04	04:16 / 0.27 ft	07:33 / 0.25 ft	13:54 / 0.60 ft	22:26 / 0.05 ft		7:00	18:38
Sat 05	04:42 / 0.35 ft	09:34 / 0.27 ft	14:46 / 0.50 ft	22:49 / 0.02 ft		7:00	18:39
Sun 06	05:03 / 0.43 ft	11:12 / 0.23 ft	15:41 / 0.41 ft	23:08 / 0.00 ft		7:00	18:39
Mon 07	05:24 / 0.52 ft	12:26 / 0.17 ft	16:36 / 0.34 ft	23:24 / 0.02 ft		6:59	18:40
Tue 08	05:47 / 0.60 ft	13:23 / 0.11 ft	17:27 / 0.27 ft	23:40 / 0.02 ft		6:59	18:40
Wed 09	06:12 / 0.69 ft	14:11 / 0.04 ft	18:13 / 0.22 ft	23:59 / 0.01 ft		6:59	18:40
Thu 10	06:40 / 0.77 ft	14:56 / 0.01 ft	18:54 / 0.17 ft			6:59	18:40
Fri 11	<b>First Quarter</b>	00:20 / 0.01 ft	07:12 / 0.84 ft	15:38 / 0.06 ft	19:33 / 0.13 ft	6:58	18:41

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

## ART & GALLERIES

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

## BAKERY & CAFÉ

**Exito** offers fresh homemade breads and pastries, fruit shakes including fresh orange juice maker on the island, freshly made sandwiches, an expanded salad bar and other take-out items—at affordable prices.

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## ON & IN THE WATER

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

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

## HEALTH

**Go Green**—Tina Woodley's new shop, in the building in front of the church in Playa, offers healthful and tasty products, many of them from Tree of Life

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



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

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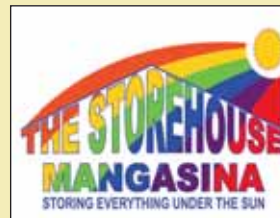


**RE/MAX Paradise Homes** on Kaya Grandi has extensive listings and is backed by the worldwide RE/MAX support.

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## Military Land Rover Defender

The 83<sup>rd</sup> of a series of Bonaire Reporter articles by J@n Brouwer, featuring some of Bonaire's interesting vehicles that are "on wheels." On course for 100+



(Photograph: J@n Brouwer)

A photograph of a Land Rover Defender 110 diesel, loaded with secret radio-equipment. Ready to help in case of emergencies. These aluminum made vehicles can reach the age of 90. Connoisseurs assume that some 75% of all Land Rovers ever produced are still on the road or in the mud and in a running condition!

Bonaire/Tolo/Kralendijk – So about a week ago the members of the Gentlemen's League, a group of senior male divers (women more than welcome) were surprised by the presence of a bunch of green/gray inflatable boats, controlled by marines. The members of the group of divers did not really understand what the "sea soldiers" were doing, maneuvering their boats, inspecting and exploring the coastline in the Tolo area, near Karpata. Later that week I discovered that the marines and their boats had something to do with members of the Dutch land forces, situated temporarily at the location of the VKB, the *Vrijwilligers Korps Bonaire* (Bonairean Corps of Volunteers/jb).

"Since August 2010 the soldiers of the Dutch land forces stationed on the island of Curaçao are here," the sergeant-major explains to me. "Every time a crew consisting of some 40 persons is here for five days. Now we are here with the marines from Aruba. They were the ones with the inflatable boats. They are here to explore the coastline and they want to find out where there are possibilities to land with their sea craft."

A group of some 40 military personnel is temporarily on the quiet island of Bonaire for defensive reasons. Apart from that they are here to explore and to get to know the island. They want to exercise on the island because they want to assist the island in case of calamities such as severe storms or floods. "We will be here, only on command," the sergeant-major explains. "If the government asks for assistance we are prepared to serve the people of the island."

So the men and women from Curaçao and Aruba brought a lot of material with them in a military cargo vessel. A couple of DAF YA 4-ton trucks, a whole bunch of Mercedes vehicles and some Land Rover 110s. All vehicles are 4 X 4s but in my opinion the Land-Rovers are the best 4 X 4s by far.

So, very late that Monday night, during my third visit to the VKB, it is time to find out about my beloved vehicles: the Land Rovers. I am right on time because the next morning all gear will be shipped to Curaçao

and Aruba, transported by a military vessel known as *Pelikaan*.

The Land Rovers are long-wheel based. The model range is known as Defender and there are several versions: the short ones with a 90-inch wheel base and the longer ones with a wheelbase of 110 inches. The heavy duty vehicles are equipped with a reliable turbo diesel engine and a five-speed gearbox. Four-wheel drive is always engaged. A snorkel has been fitted to the air inlet of the diesel by the factory in Solihull, England. These vehicles are almost fully waterproof. The chassis is slightly higher than the chassis of the civilian 110 version and high 7.50X16 tires are mounted on the heavy duty rims. High coil springs connect the chassis to the stiff front and rear axles. These vehicles are equipped with power brakes and power steering and a 24-Volt system. No nonsense, no air conditioning, no windows powered by an electric motor, not even roll up, roll down window, just sliding windows. The impressive vehicles are quite high but they are designed that way so that the gravity point is still low. The chassis is made of high quality steel; the top is riveted together and made of aluminum. These cars will last 90 years!

Unfortunately I will not be able to drive one of those admired-by-me drab green Land Rover 110 Defenders. Everything is military and especially the fitted for radio version is equipped with a lot of secret devices. And, even more unfortunate, the British made Defenders are not for sale!

The next morning I drive my own old leaf-sprunged, goat-like ride short-body Land Rover in the direction of Kralendijk. We pass the buildings and the terrain of the *Vrijwilligerskorps Bonaire*. They all have left: the men and women, the DAF trucks, the small Mercedes vehicles and the Land Rovers. My Land Rover has the same intention as I have: get healthy and happy at the age of 100, together with my wife! ■ J@n Brouwer



## Clean-Up Dive Success

J@n Brouwer photo



Bonaire/Kralendijk –

On Sunday January 16<sup>th</sup> a clean up dive was organized by Dive Friends of Bonaire and Net Tech. Over 75 volunteers helped to make it a very successful event.

Get together was at the Dive Inn at 9:30 am. Dive location was the underwater world in front of the South Pier. Air tanks were supplied for free. Hundreds of kilograms of glass, iron and parts of boats and gear were collected. Miles of fishing line and a lot of re-usable lead.

After the diving part of the event there was some time reserved for a clean up of the divers and other volunteers. A little time was left for an afternoon nap.

At 5 pm all volunteers gathered together at the Yellow Submarine – location of Dive Friends of Bonaire – to enjoy food and drinks. For the first time durable and re-usable plates and cups were used. Thank you volunteers! Thank you employees for washing the dishes! "Without blue there is no green..." ■ J@n Brouwer

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# WHAT'S HAPPENING

## Cruise Ship Calls -Information provided by the Craft Market

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

Day	Date	Ship	Arrive	De-part	PAX Cap	Line
Fri	Jan-28	Sea Princess	0800	1800	2016	Princess
Mon	Jan-31	Aida Vita	0800	1600	1260	Aida
2 ships		Ventura	0800	1800	3100	P & O
Thu	Feb-03	Caribbean Princess	1100	2000	3100	Princess
Fri	Feb-04	Grandeur of the Seas	0700	1600	2446	Celebrity
2 ships		Oceana	0800	1800	1950	P & O
Sun	Feb-06	Maasdam	0800	1700	1258	HAL
Wed	Feb-09	Constellation	0800	1600	2034	Celebrity
Thu	Feb-10	Emerald Princess	1200	2000	3100	Princess
2 ships		Club Med 2	0800	1900	392	Club Med
Fri	Feb-11	Sea Princess	0800	1800	2016	Princess
Sun-Tues	Thru Spring 2011	Freewinds	0630	2200	150	Scintology

### CLOSE-IN EVENTS

**Thursday, January 27 –29 - It Rains Fishes International Sports Fishing Tournament.** Contact Robur de Vries 786-1070, 516-1070 and confirm by email: info@itrainfishesbonaire.com.

**Friday, January 28— Opening of Kas Cadushy garden and distillery in Rincon, 5pm.** Also exhibition "First of 11" by artist Nochi Coffie. Live performances, snacks and drinks!

**Saturday, January 29 - \*Farmers' Market,** behind Go Green Natural & Organic shop, front of church in Playa, 8am-2pm. All products grown or made in Bonaire. Food & drinks. Info call Tina (700-5488), Papa (786-7776), Nery (796-6777) \*Lora Count. See page 8

\*Literary Classical Concert. See page 9.

**Saturday, February 5— \*Animal Shelter Book Fair & Flea Market,** 11am-5pm at the Shelter on the Lagoon Road. More page 18. \*Big Monthly Rincon Marché. Gifts, crafts, local food, drinks. 8am-2pm.

**Wednesday, February 16—Three Baritones.** Presented by the Classical Music Board Bonaire, 7:30 pm, on the beach at Plaza.

### REGULAR EVENTS

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

• **We Dare to Care Park children's playground** open every day into the cooler evening hours.

#### Saturdays

• **Rincon Marshé**—8am-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 (NAJ17,50) 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 Koeke 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.

#### Tuesdays

**SGB High School Chez Nous Restaurant**— 6 pm, multi course dinner, \$20. Reservations 700-4628.

#### Wednesdays

**SGB High School Chez Nous Restaurant**— 12:30 multi course lunch, about \$12. Reservations 700-4628

#### Thursdays

• **SGB High School Chez Nous Restaurant**— 12:30 multi course lunch, about \$12. Reservations 700-4628

• **Bonaire Chess & Draughts (checkers) players get together** on from 19.00 till 21.00 at the SGB-school: Kaya Frater Odulfinuz z/n.

### Fridays

• **Jong Bonaire Chess & Draughts** players get together from 17.00 till 19.00 at the SGB-school. Kids can start at age six. Tourists are welcome. Contact Serapio Pop, at 701-9660

### FREE SLIDE/VIDEO SHOWS

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

**Monday -- Touch the Sea** -- Dee Scarr, honored as a member of the Women Divers Hall of Fame conducts Bonaire's Touch the Sea programs of personalized dive guiding. She presents a unique perspective on critters and corals, plus an updated Bonaire lionfish report, every Monday she's on-island at 8:30 pm in the Aquarius Conference Center at Captain Don's Habitat, Call 717-8290.

**Wednesday - Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire (STCB)** presents an informative slide show: *Sea Turtles of Bonaire*, at 8pm, 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, NAJ2,50, 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.

**JCI - First Wednesday of the Month**— Junior Chamber International Bonaire (JCI Bonaire, formerly known as Bonaire Jaycees) meets at the ABVO building, Kaminda Jato Baco 36 from 7:30 to 9:30 pm. Everyone is welcome. Contact: Renata Domacassé 516-4252.

**Kiwanis Club** meets at APNA Plaza, Kaya International, every other Tuesday, 7 pm. Tel. 717-5595, Jeannette Rodriguez.

**Lions Club** meets every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month at 8 pm at Kaya Sabana #1. All Lions welcome. For more information call 510-0710.

**Rotary lunch meetings Wednesdays,** 12:15-2 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 Crusita 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, 10am. 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 Odulfinuz, 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 Antrioi,* 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 Alexandrin # 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 /6518

### Who's Who on The Bonaire Reporter

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

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## CPR at BonFysio/ BonBida

Last week the personnel of BonFysio & BonBida completed a CPR course. The very informative course included theory, mouth-to-mouth breathing, heart massage and the use of an AED (Automatic External Defibrillator), an apparatus which can save one's life during a cardiac arrest.

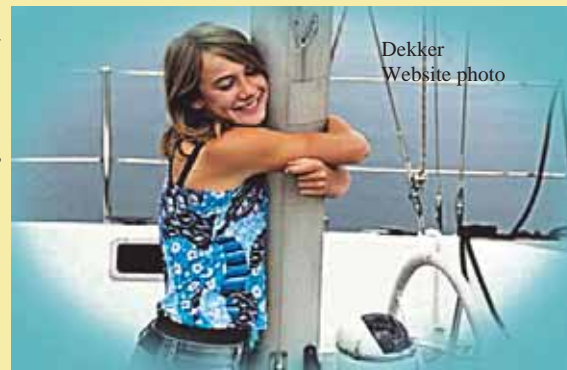
With an AED on site and certificated personnel patients and clients of BonFysio and BonBida know they are in good hands!

The course was given by certified instructor Mrs. Annemieke Heutinck of the Heart for Bonaire Foundation. The aim of this foundation is to make Bonaire "heart safe" by means of providing information and giving courses. Interested? Call 7863627 for more information. ■ Press Release/ Bon Bida photo.



## Will Laura Stop In Bonaire?

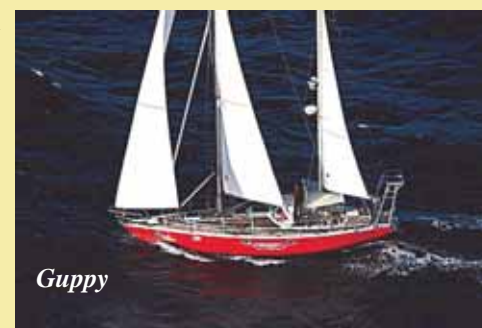
In August 2009, Laura Dekker announced her plan for a two-year solo sailing voyage around the globe. She ran into bureaucratic difficulties that prevented her early departure but she is now underway. If successful, she could be the youngest person to have done it. Currently Australian Jessica Watson is the youngest with 16 years and 362 days. Dekker must finish before July 2012 to be the youngest. Currently, she is in St. Maarten following a fast trans-Atlantic passage and about to head south along the chain of the Lesser Antilles islands. It is hoped she will stop in Bonaire, which was in her original plan. If you want to help with her reception in Bonaire contact: [laura-sponsoring@hotmail.com](mailto:laura-sponsoring@hotmail.com) or *The Bonaire Reporter*.



Dekker Website photo

Dekker is sailing a seagoing 38ft-long Jeanneau Gin Fizz ketch named *Guppy*. The boat is equipped for long-distance sailing and adapted for solo-circumnavigation. The route is planned to go from Portugal westwards, cruising the Caribbean, go through Panama and past Indonesia. Then she plans either to go past Somalia to the Mediterranean, or around Africa if piracy is of concern. She plans around 26 stops.

At 14 locations Dekker will be met by a support team that follows the same route. It will also help her along difficult spots such as the Panama Canal. An Iridium tracking system onboard will allow a team in The Netherlands to monitor her course closely. She will avoid the stormy roaring 40s, and she will avoid the hurricane season during which she'll fly home to study. Her education is conducted through the *Wereldschool* (World school), an educational institution that provides her with material for self-learning. More information in Dutch and English is available at <http://www.lauradekker.nl/Basis.aspx?Tid=5019&Lid=44&Lit=TEKST>. ■ Press release/G.D.



Guppy

## Body Talk

### CAN WE SLOW THE AGEING PROCESS DOWN?

If you do not have at least as much energy (mentally and physically) now as what you had when you were in your 30s, the aging process is fast catching up with you!

Quote – Price G.M., et al. Nitrogen homeostasis in man: Influence of protein intake on the amplitude of diurnal cycling of body nitrogen. *Clin. Sci.* 1994, Jan; 86 (1):91-102

"This study shows that one of several ways to maintain a high amplitude in the diurnal cycle is with increased dietary protein intake. Based both on nitrogen and amino acid balances, the amplitude of the diurnal cycle in human adults increases with increasing dietary protein intake, and decreases with inadequate protein intake. In other words, increased dietary protein has neither an anabolic nor a catabolic effect – it increases the amplitude of both phases of the diurnal cycle."

Countless studies show that following a night of reduced/interrupted sleep not only is wakefulness adversely affected, along with performance in activities during the day, but the overall amplitude of the diurnal rhythm is flattened and we are stuck feeling 'flat' the entire day.

The hypothalamus will maintain the highest possible amplitude of your diaphasic cycle in response to the appropriate light and dark stimulation. Here we refer to natural light or sunlight! Do you remember the regular power-cuts we had? No electricity, no computer and no TV. What did we do – most of us went to bed early! It is exactly this abundance of electricity in our 'civilized' world that is the biggest culprit! At about 8pm it is time for the human body to prepare for repairing, rebuilding and recharging. Yet, how many of us (myself included!) extend our 'day' till very late at night by either watching television or by looking at a computer monitor, hop into a shower, into bed and then find it difficult to understand why we cannot sleep! How often have I heard – 'I only need 5 or 6 hours of sleep a night!' The body must have as much as 8 hours of sleep a night, every night, and bedtime should be about the same time every night to restore your diurnal cycle.



Studies conducted on 'night shift workers' showed a very large percentage of burnt-out individuals! Are you surprised?

The next issue that influences the diurnal cycle is protein or rather the lack of protein in the diet, combined with an over-consumption of carbohydrates. Very few of us have an adequate protein intake, and almost always, where the main meal of the day is consumed at lunch-time, the evening meal almost always consist of a carbohydrate of some kind, usually bread. A high carbohydrate diet devastates the hypothalamus (overstimulation), and thereby decreases vital reserves and accelerates the ageing process. So many people are stuck in a high carbohydrate diet, which is certainly one form of energy production, but is also the main cause of a yeast overgrowth, or fermentation!

So those of you that have no energy, or feel all the aches and pains of 'old age', think again! Change your diet, prepare your body for sleep by not watching television or a computer monitor late at night, get your eight hours of sleep and you will have your reward every day! More mental and physical energy and a better memory will keep 'old age' away from your door! ■ 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 the UK and now researches Bonaire health issues. She is the owner of the *Essence Nutritional Center*

### Sudoku Solution

Puzzle on page 7

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

### BonQuiz Answer



Bon Quiz (from page 7)

Q) What is the story behind this grave?

A) It is said they may be Indian or slave remains.

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# Pet of the Week

This foxy looking dog with the light colored fur and beautiful light eyes is "Ralph," a recent arrival at the Bonaire Animal Shelter. He was homeless and skinny, looking very lost and miserable when someone discovered him and brought him into the Shelter. After being checked over by the vet, given his tests and shots and cleaned up he's a "new dog," happy to be alive. What a transformation a little love and attention can create. Ralph has impressed the Shelter staff with his sociability with people and other dogs and is a "keeper," they say. He's about a year old, young enough to train to your way of life, but past the sometimes



"Ralph"

destructive puppy phase. You may see him at the Shelter on the Lagun Road, open Monday-Saturday, 9 to 1 and 3 to 5. Tel. 717-4989.

Good News: Our last Pet of the Week, "Jaap," was adopted after his new owners saw him in *The Reporter*. Congrats to all!

**SHELTER BOOK & FLEA MARKET,**  
on Saturday, February 5, from 11 am to 5 pm.

BOOKS galore (only \$1.25 per book/4 for \$5), clothing, household and garden things, plants, food and drinks., Everything has been donated so all proceeds go to keeping the Shelter open for unwanted animals. Tell your friends, spread the word. It's party time! ■ *Laura DeSalvo*



Shelter manager Marlies and volunteer Gitta scrubbing down a new arrival who came in covered with mites. He was afraid of the hose sprayer so they had to use water in a bowl.

# Neighbors in Business

## The New Exito Bakery & Café



Rafael, Dalia, Mireya and Susan holding the "sculptured" cakes. Wow!

We've known it for years—since 1982 actually - but today Exito is more than it ever was. It's a real Bakery-Cafe! Not only has it had a facelift but it offers new products: Dutch and other international fresh homemade breads and pastries, fruit shakes including the only fresh orange juice maker on the island, the Zumex, a wider variety of freshly made sandwiches, an expanded salad bar and other take-out items— at affordable prices. An extra added attraction are the new "sculptured" cakes (see photo)—for every occasion. "We can do weddings, anniversaries, new house (with the house sculpted) birthdays, even bachelor's parties," Manager Mireya reports. "It's a business founded on friendship and heart," Mireya explains. The joint venture began with their neighbor and close friend, Dalia Martinez, who has owned Exito since 1985. Mireya, her husband, Eric, and Dalia

all got talking about the shop and came up with lots of new ideas. They spent hours researching new concepts for bakery-cafes on the internet, finding new ideas, then throwing them out - going for a change, lots of different ways to improve the ambiance. And they've succeeded. The new Exito is bright, open, it has a new vibe, tables and chairs, improved service, new products that make it even more attractive to those it serves, like the people working in Playa, those who don't have a lot of time and want affordable meals, as well as the tourists and residents. They hold workshops for their employees, raising their levels in service, baking and even language. A special note: The attractive logo on the new Exito sign was designed by Mireya's 17 year old son, Victor. Exito is open every day from 7 am to 8 pm. ■ *Story & photo by Laura DeSalvo*

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# BONAIRE SKY PARK\*

\*to find it... just look up

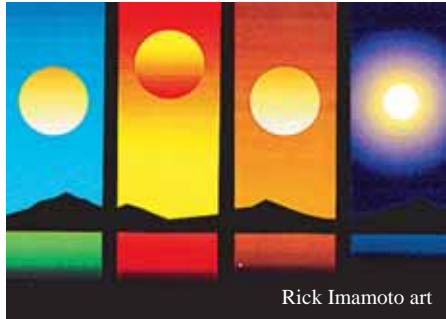
## "The Moon Shows You the Way to Venus and Mercury. Plus Which is The Shortest Season?"

This weekend is a great time to enjoy the **Moon** near **Venus** and **Mercury** in pre-dawn skies. The best four days will be Friday January 28 through Monday January 31.

On Friday morning just before sunrise look in the southeast and find the brilliant planet Venus. A skinny **waning crescent Moon** will be about 20 degrees up to Venus' right, Saturday it will be skinnier and just to the right of Venus. Sunday it'll be just below Venus and skinnier yet. And then on Monday an even skinnier Moon will be down and to the left of Venus. The toughest day will be February 1, Tuesday morning about half an hour before sunrise. The morning sky will have started to get bright, but just above the horizon an amazingly skinny Moon will be just above Mercury. It'll be tough to find and you'll need a clear flat horizon, but it will be an impressive sight if you can find it.

Now I bet that most of you are under the impression that the **four seasons** are equal in length, when in fact none of them are the same number of days and nights long. So which season is the longest and which is the shortest? Well I'm sure most school children would say that summer is the shortest because it seems to just fly by. But is that true or is it simply a matter of human perception? Let's find out.

O.K. now everyone knows that our **Earth** makes one trip around the sun once a year. In fact, astronomically speaking that's exactly what a **year** is ... **the amount of time it takes for any planet to make one trip around the Sun**, and one Earth trip is 365 1/4 Earth days long. Now according to **Kepler's laws of motion** the closer a planet is to the Sun the faster it will travel ... The farther it is from the Sun the slower it will travel. So, because our Earth's orbit is not a perfect circle, but is a slightly stretched out circle called an **ellipse** and since our Sun is not at the center of this ellipse our Earth actually varies its distance from the Sun during the year. When it's closest to the Sun it travels fastest and when it's farthest it travels slowest. Now believe it or not our Earth is actually closest to the Sun in



Rick Imamoto art

January and farthest in July. So our Earth actually travels faster when it's winter in the northern hemisphere and slower during the summer.

On the first day of **Spring** our Earth is traveling at a speed of 66,900 miles an hour and is moving farther from the Sun and slowing down. Therefore it takes 93 days to go from the first day of spring to the first day of summer, so spring is 93 days long. Then the Earth continues to slow down until it is at its farthest point from the Sun the first week of July when it reaches its slowest speed of 65,500 miles an hour. Thereafter, because it's starting to move back closer to the Sun it slowly starts to speed up. Even so it takes 94 days for our Earth to travel from the first day of summer to the first day of fall, which makes summer 94 days long. Then as it moves closer and closer to the Sun it picks up more speed day by day so that it takes only 90 days to travel from the first day of fall to the first day of winter. Thus fall is 90 days long. And our Earth continues to speed up until it reaches its closest point to the Sun the first week of January, zipping along at 67,600 miles an hour which is over 2,000 miles per hour faster than its speed in July. In fact, it takes only 89 days for our Earth to go from the first day of winter to the first day of spring.

So even though summer feels like the shortest season to any school kid, winter is actually five days shorter and is the shortest season of the year for the northern hemisphere. And summer is the longest. In the southern hemisphere it would be just the reverse. And look at the Moon by Venus and Mercury next weekend. ■

Dean Regas, Cincinnati Observatory



## Café Astrology February 2011

**Aries (March 21 to April 20)** You are on a roller-coaster ride of positive self-expression and abundance, together with as well some sense of limitation and restriction. Always charging full speed ahead, you must sometimes run into a wall, that's natural, Aries. But these days you bounce right back. A mini-crisis of some kind, or engaged moment of truth, is likely by Full Moon, when relationships with significant others in your life spur you on in your journey.

**Taurus (April 21 to May 21)** You are something of a mystery these days, Taurus, even to yourself. So much energy and positive thinking. Yet you stand behind and off to the side from the face you show the world. Back there behind your mind you are full of inchoate dreams and visions, especially these last month. The timing of Full Moon both engages you and also distracts you into the dreamland of your innermost desires and secret places, where it all comes out right in the end.

**Gemini (May 22 to June 21)** You just love to network, Gemini, and you've had plenty of opportunity for that lately. You charge forward into vital connection with all the beings in your ever-widening sphere of contact. You also may feel pulled back inside yourself these days, since you are going through something of a review and reconsideration of the past 30 years or so of your worldly efforts. This month end, leading up to Full Moon, you feel poised for vital self-expression inextricably tied to friends and associates, and plans for a vibrantly charged electric future.

**Cancer (June 22 to July 22)** Sweet and sensitive is really working for you these days, Cancer, especially on the job, and is leading you into responsible communication with friends and associates as well. You may feel torn between your public persona and the stay-at-home side of your personality over the month end, leading up to Full Moon.

**Leo (July 23 to August 21)** On Thursday the electric other lights up your sense of who you are, Leo, even though you are usually so full of your own perspective. Then over the month end, leading up to Full Moon, you are reminded that communication holds the key to connecting with those ideas of travel or perhaps philosophical issues of higher mind that you have been so preoccupied with of late. Meanwhile on the job you may be feeling both enthused and somewhat stuck.

**Virgo (August 22 to September 23)** Forthright romantic communication lights the way for you this month end, Virgo, as the time approaches for Full Moon in your house of resources. The question is, who's resources are being developed, yours or your partner's, or someone else's? On January, those dreams and

visions you've been having for travel plans or issues of higher mind may be hitting a few snags.

**Libra (September 24 to October 23)** You seem quite full of romantic thoughts and feelings these days, Libra, as creative intimacy to the max propels you forward into more and more depth of connection. When push comes to shove, there are some limitations to overcome, as always, but your progress is an upward spiral. By Full Moon, you find yourself bringing it all back home to your personal self. **Scorpio (October 24 to November 22)** Your house of partnership has rarely been more active, Scorpio, and you might feel yourself caught between the lows and the highs of it all. It is a conscious act of service and sharing that propels you forward, but you are tempted as well to pull back into retreat mode this month end, leading up to Full Moon. Then the next month, brings you right back into the action. Storm the walls of tempestuous sharing once more, and give it your best shot!

**Sagittarius (November 23 to December 22)** Ideals of service and painful realizations of the limits of that mode of behavior are simultaneously springing forth in your psyche these days, Sagittarius. Meanwhile your mental process and artistic creativity are truly amazing to behold. This month end, leading up to Full Moon, your excitement reaches such a fever pitch that you are ready to fully share your secrets with the universe of groups and for the sake of friendship and the future. There may be some setbacks in the aftermath and you may pull back into retreat mode, but nothing can hold you down for long!

**Capricorn (December 23 to January 20)** Home and family are a source of both mental and aesthetic delight these days, as you struggle to ground your creative vision in practical reality. You feel more energy for this process over the month end as something deep inside yourself is changing with the flow toward making it more and more concrete. Full Moon brings out the need to go public with it as well as to enjoy the fruits of your labors in the peace and tranquility of home.

**Pisces (February 20 to March 20)** Issues of communication are "up" for you these days, Pisces, as you feel caught between expansion of your contacts with others, and other quite different feelings of limitation and pulling back. This month end, brings intimate sharing with significant others into the picture, and asks the question, do I want my values represented or someone else's? This month you may be making travel or educational plans but look out for some resistance to your mobility. The inner journey demands your truest attention this time. ■ Astrologer Avani

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**Hato,  
Kaya Gob. N. Debrot 150**

This spacious family home provides an abundance of porches, terraces and nooks to read a good book or snooze in a private atmosphere. The amount of storage space makes this property the perfect place for a large family or allows you to have your own tool shop or leisure room. Lay out: entrance via covered front porch, living room, kitchen, pantry, covered side porch, storage room, master bedroom with en suite bathroom, two bedrooms, bathroom. Lot size: 10,491 ft<sup>2</sup> (975 m<sup>2</sup>). Living area: 2,410 ft<sup>2</sup> (224 m<sup>2</sup>).



**Asking price US\$ 280,000**

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**Kamara di Komersio i Industria Boneriano  
Kamer van Koophandel en Nijverheid Bonaire  
Chamber of Commerce and Industry Bonaire  
Camara de Comercio e Industria de Bonaire**

**Openbaarmaking nieuwe tarieven Handelsregister**

Categorie	Eigen vermogen meer dan (USD)	doch niet meer dan (USD)	1ste inschrijving (USD)	Jaarlijkse bijdrage (USD)
1	0,00	8.379.89	60,00	60,00
2	8.379,90	27.932,96	85,00	85,00
3	27.932,97	41.899,44	100,00	100,00
4	41.899,45	55.865,92	135,00	135,00
5	55.865,93	83.798,88	185,00	185,00
6	83.798,89	111.731,84	220,00	220,00
7	111.731,85	279.329,61	260,00	335,00
8	279.329,62	558.659,22	590,00	435,00
9	558.659,23	1.117.318,44	590,00	580,00
10	1.117.318,45	1.675.977,65	600,00	580,00
11	1.675.977,66	2.234.636,87	600,00	600,00
12	2.234.636,88	2.793.296,09	600,00	600,00
13	2.793.296,10	en meer	600,00	600,00

**Openbaarmaking nieuwe tarieven Handelsregister**

Recentelijk is de Handelsregisterwet 2009 BES van kracht geworden. De invoering van de nieuwe wet heeft onder meer als consequentie, dat de tarieven van de Kamer in dollars komt te luiden. Daarnaast heeft de Kamer de tarieven per 1 januari 2011 aangepast. Bij de inschrijving van een onderneming, rechtspersoon of nevenvestiging, en daarna jaarlijks, zijn op basis van het aanwezige eigen vermogen, aan de Kamer verschuldigd de navolgende bedragen in de tabel hiernaast weergegeven:

**Inzage, afschrift of uittreksel**

De wettelijke tarieven voor het inzien van het handelsregister en de documenten die daarbij krachtens wettelijk voorschrift zijn gedeponereerd, zullen ook per 1 januari 2011 veranderen. Voor het verstrekken van een afschrift van of uittreksel uit hetgeen in het Handelsregister is ingeschreven of krachtens wettelijk voorschrift daarbij is gedeponereerd, is verschuldigd de volgende bedragen:

- Voor fotokopieën van opgaven of van documenten uit inschrijvingen: USD 0.50 voor de eerste bladzijde en USD 1,00 voor elke volgende bladzijde per dossier;
- Voor uittreksels: USD 11,00 voor ieder uittreksel;
- Voor een schriftelijke mededeling met betrekking tot hetgeen in het handelsregister is ingeschreven of daarbij is gedeponereerd: USD 8,00 per mededeling;
- Voor het verstrekken van een overzicht van categorieën van in het handelsregister ingeschreven ondernemingen, rechtspersonen of nevenvestigingen, USD 0.50 per onderneming, rechtspersoon of nevenvestiging, met een minimum van USD 8,00 per overzicht.

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