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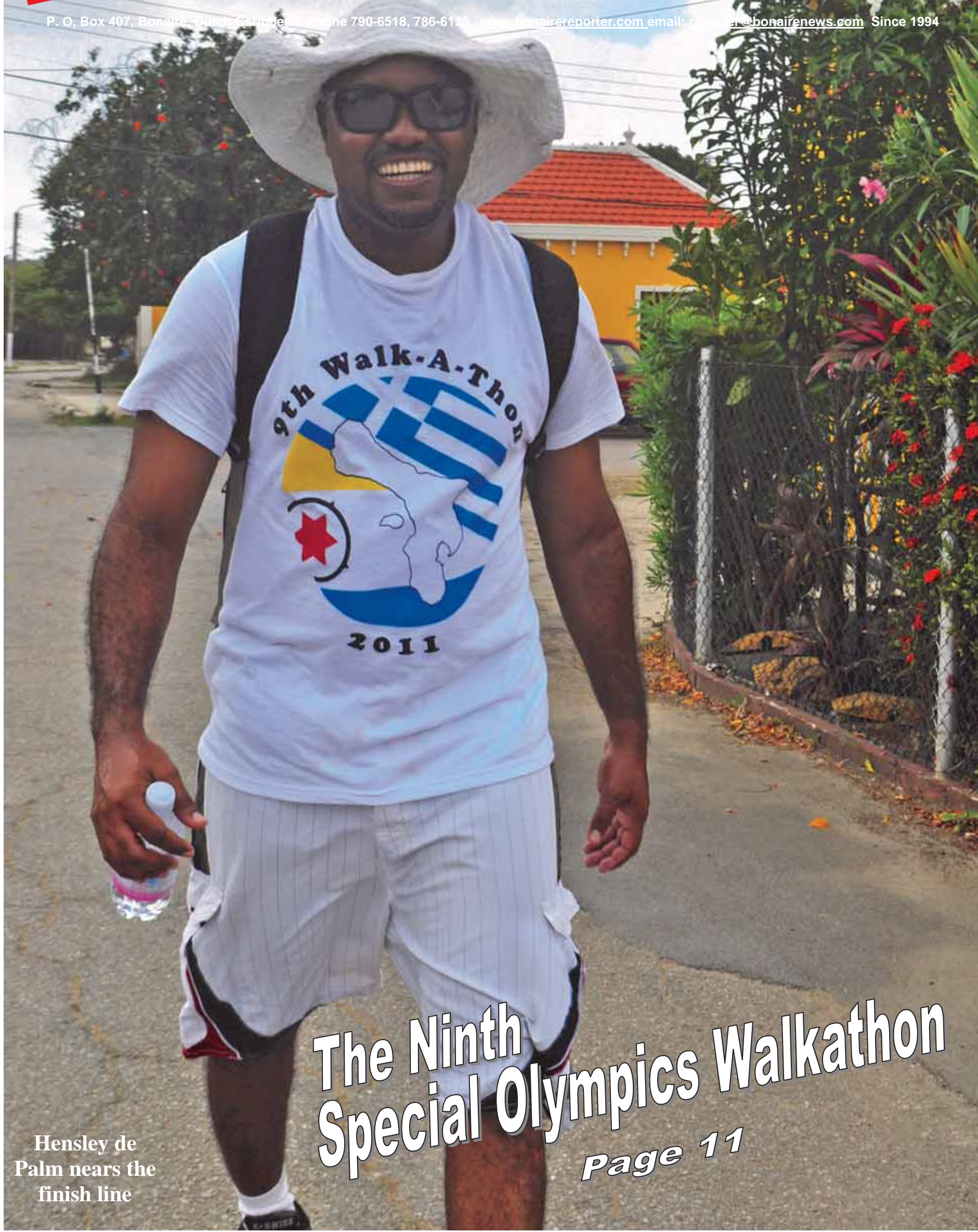
BONAIRE

April 8-29, 2011, Year 18, Issue 8

The REPORTER

Helping Bonaire Grow Responsibly

P. O. Box 407, Bonaire, Dutch Caribbean, Phone 790-6518, 786-6125, www.bonairereporter.com email: reporter@bonairenews.com Since 1994



**The Ninth
Special Olympics Walkathon**

Page 11

Hensley de
Palm nears the
finish line

Does Bonaire seem more expensive to live in Bonaire these days? The local government agrees with you and is trying to do something about it. Last week Bonaire's Lt. Governor Glenn Thodé and representatives of the Saba and Statia relayed the fiscal concerns of the business community to the Dutch Ministry of Finance. The delegation pointed out that the business sector and their island residents have been financially suffering as a result of the new tax laws that became effective the first of this year. As a result, civil servants of the Dutch Ministry of Finance will visit the islands this month to analyze the effects of the increased tax burden.

It was agreed that the island governments would submit more detailed information on the consequences of the new system.

A comparison will be made between the former tax system and the current one.

The ministry will provide a list of car types over which no import tax will have to be paid. There is a 25% import tax to be paid on passenger cars and four-door trucks. Only "very energy efficient" cars are excluded from this tax, but the specific vehicles haven't yet been identified.

The ministry will also get in contact with the Governments of Curaçao and St. Maarten to explore possibilities of neutralizing the double tax burden of sales tax for Bonaire, St. Eustatius, and Saba.

Reportedly, the Dutch Minister of Finance has the option to make adjustments to the laws within one year after the new status.

► In a related development **Members of the Dutch Parliament asked if it were correct that since January 1 the cost of living, hotel rooms, restaurant meals, fuel, transport, insurance, and other services have increased, whereas the income of the people remained the same.** And was it accurate that the 18.4% increase in mandated wage costs for businesses on the islands had come as a total surprise to the

► **The Bonaire Director of Tourism is a key job affecting the economy of Bonaire.** On March 28th The Tourism Corporation Bonaire (TCB) announced that **Lara Shawnte Chirino** (at right) was appointed to that position. She was born in The Netherlands, and is of a Bonaire family.

Ms. Chirino has over a decade of experience in marketing and customer relations. Previously she worked for the law firm of VanEps Kunneman VanDoorne in Curaçao as a Marketing and Client Relations Coordinator, where she was responsible for all marketing activities for the firm's four offices. Before that Ms. Chirino worked in The Netherlands, Australia, Hong Kong and France.

"I'm pleased to be joining the Tourism Corporation Bonaire and having the opportunity to utilize my skills and abilities to meet the challenges ahead," stated Ms. Chirino. "Fortunately, the foundation for Bonaire's commitment to sustainability is as strong today as it was in the past, and I will do my utmost to be equally committed since it was nature that called me back to the Caribbean. Providing continuity for activities such as the Carbon Neutral Program and Bonaire's Dive Into Summer, clearly reflect the island's determination to remain a world renowned dive destination and a leader in sustainable tourism practices, is a primary goal," she added.



TCB photo

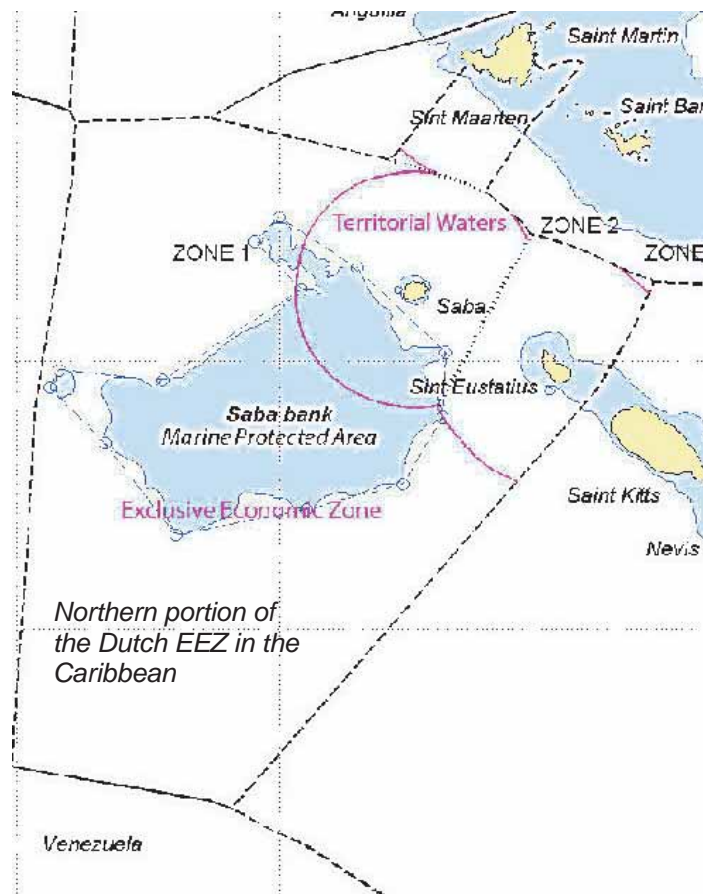
businesses, the government, and the Dutch civil servants stationed on Bonaire? - S. Koelega

► **THE HAGUE—Last week Dutch Minister of Home Affairs and Kingdom Relations Piet Hein Donner said that everyone who wants to acquire a Dutch nationality will soon have to give up their original nationality, if they can do it legally.**

Currently, people who marry a Dutch citizen can keep their original nationality if they decide to become Dutch. "Dutch citizenship caps participation and integration into (Dutch) society," Donner said in a statement, outlining plans to toughen up the rules on becoming Dutch.

The new measures were included in the coalition agreement between the liberal People's Party for Freedom and Democracy VVD, Christian Democrat CDA and Party for Freedom PVV. Minister Donner is also planning to introduce compulsory language tests for almost everyone.

New Dutch nationals will also be required to have a family income of at least the minimum wage and show that they have at least two years of work experience or some sort of professional qualification. In four weeks time, the draft legislation will be sent to the Council of State for its assessment, after which it will be submitted to the Second Chamber of the Dutch Parliament for approval.



► **LEIDEN—Marine biologists of the Netherlands and the Dutch Caribbean have initiated a national scientific platform for tropical marine biology called AcroporaNet.** The project combines knowledge of the North Sea and Frisian Sea in the Netherlands and the Caribbean Sea.

As a result of the dismantling of the Netherlands Antilles and the new status of Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba as Dutch "public entities," the Netherlands acquired a biologically very diverse sea territory that is larger than the Dutch part of the North Sea and Frisian Sea combined. The Ex-

(Continued on page 9)

This Week's Stories

New Tourism Director Chirino	2
More Dead Flamingoes	3
Government Direction Set	3
Bonaire is For Bikes	6
Contest di Fili (Kites)	6
Lifetime Connection George Kultura	6
Letters: Don't Eat Reef Fish, Disease	7
Art Tour Coming Up	8
ReWear	8
Ground Water Exploration	9
Obituaries: Bud Pearson, Maarten Maartense	9
Little Monty's 2 nd Chance Part 4	10
Ninth Walkathon (cover story)	11
Ana Karina Alamo Concert	17
Dushi Shoes Opens	17
Clean-Up Dive	17
Farmers Market	18
Pets Adopted	18
Poetry—Little Havana Street Dogs	18
Earth Hour at Mangazina di Rei	20
Where to Find The Reporter	20

Departments

Flotsam & Jetsam	2
Bom On Bonaire (Angelo Domacassé)	4
Bon Quiz #48 (Commander-Governor)	7
Bonairean Voices—The Bonairean Government	8
Latin Music Classics—Merengue	9
Bonaire On Wheels—Apache Pickup	12
Island Real Estate Reflections (new)	12
Classifieds	13
Tide Table, Sunrise & Sunset Times, Moon Phase	13
Shopping & Service Directory/Guides	14
Bubbles—Parrotfish	15
Picture Yourself (Western Sahara)	15
Masthead	16
What's Happening, Cruise Ship Sked,	16
Sudoku Puzzle	17
Sudoku Solution	17
Bon Quiz Answer	17
Body Talk—Don't Shoot the Messenger	17
Pet of the Week—Kevin	18
Sky Park (Awesome Arcturus)	19
The Stars Have It	19

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More Dead Flamingoes

Government Direction Set

There has been considerable follow-up to the dead flamingo story published in the last Reporter. Many more bodies of the island's national birds were found dead under the power lines along the same arrow-straight road (Karetera Statius van Eps) that runs from Belnem to Sorobon.



One of the many dead flamingoes

STINAPA Director Elsmarie Beukenboom reported that the next day they observed 22 dead flamingos. On Sunday there were 15 corpses along the road in the area and at least another 40 in the bushes. It's thought that the problem gets worse when the salt pans in the area get filled by rain.

It's not clear how to best solve the problem. In 2005 the Island Government made the government-owned power company, WEB, responsible to resolve the issue. In 2009 Commissioner Elvis Tjin Asjoe directed WEB to place high visibility balls on the wires. WEB agreed, but nothing has been done to date.

And there is some concern that placing the balls on the wires will resolve the prob-

lem. "From a human perspective it appears very odd that birds so often collide with large objects as if they don't see them," said Professor Graham Martin from Birmingham University. "However birds live in a different visual world to humans. "Previously most proposed solutions to bird collisions only consider a human perspective of the problem," said Martin. "Put simply, it has been a matter of finding a solution to bird collision problems based upon making the perceived hazard more conspicuous to human observers, not birds." His research reveals that a subtle set of interrelationships exists between a bird's visual capacities, the interpretation of sensory information and the behavior of birds when flying in open air-

space. Dr Martin explores how avian frontal vision is tuned for the detection of movement, rather than spatial detail. When a bird is hunting this detection may be more important than simply looking ahead into open airspace.

"Armed with this understanding of bird perception we can better consider solutions to the problem of collisions," said Martin. "While solutions may have to be considered on a species by species basis, where collision incidents are high it may be more effective to divert or distract birds from their flight path rather than attempt to make the hazard more conspicuous."

It may also be best to assume that birds are more likely to be looking down and to the side rather than forwards, meaning a signal placed on an obstacle may also be missed. Instead, alerting sounds or signals placed a suitable distance from the hazard may be more efficient.

Dr. Martin's theories are supported by Bonairean Christie Dovale, who had struggled to find a solution to the flamingo death problem when she was head of the Bonaire Amigu di Tera (Friends of the Earth).

One solution is obvious: bury the power lines in that area. It's already done in Bonaire's upscale residential neighborhoods. ■G.D.

A comprehensive accord, unprecedented in Bonaire history, labeled the Akuredo di Nieuw-Amsterdam to guide the Bonaire Government over the next four years, was endorsed last week by Bonaire's new three-party ruling coalition. It consists of 178 points.



Signing the accord for the *Partido Demokratiko Boneriano* (Bonaire Democratic Party) were Robby Beukenboom, Reynolds (Nolly) Oleana and Clark Abraham; for the *Partido pro Hustisia & Union* (Party for Justice and Union) was Michiel Bijkerk and for the *Movimentu Boneiru Liber* (Bonaire Free Movement), Benito Dirksz.

One of its first jobs will be to resolve the issues of providing reliable electric power to the island between WEB, who delivers the power to consumers, and Ecopower, who generates the electricity. ■G.D

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Born on Bonaire, January 23, 1974 - Angelo 'Ango' Domacassé

"I have only one brother and one sister. My father is Ronaldo Domacassé, my mom Signa Saragosa. So it was a small family I grew up in, but the Domacassé family is very large. We were born in Playa Pabou on the waterfront, but we grew up in Antriol.

Since the time I was very little I loved to dance and I loved to make decorations from cardboard, glue and lots of glitter! At Papa Cornes elementary school I joined a dance group founded by a girl named Magnolia Melaan. Magnolia was also managing a model group and she organized fashion shows as well. I stayed with the group for many years and when I went to high school and Magnolia left for Holland, I took over and became the manager.

In 1990, when I was 16, I organized my first fashion show and then the first Miss election, Miss Happy Teen Models.

Miss Happy Teen Models became a very successful yearly event; lots of people came to see the show and every year the audience grew and the event became bigger and bigger. Two years later we started with Mister Happy Teen Models and it was an instant hit! I was still at high school, doing Mavo and was also involved in the student government and organizing all kinds of activities.

When I was 19 I decided I didn't want to study anymore and so I started working at Bonaire Trading, a large holding company. I did administration, then I worked at Budget Rent-a-Car. Later I moved to the cargo department of KLM, then I worked as a ticket agent for KLM. All in all I worked for Bonaire Trading till 2004. I went to Holland where I took a course in administration and studied to become a dance teacher. I graduated from both and came back to Bonaire in

2005.

In 1991 I had started with Mama Modelo, a modelling contest show for all mamas in the age from 21 years and up. We're still doing it and it's one of the major events on the island, a tremendous hit! In 2001 Happy Teen Models changed its name to AD Produksjon, a foundation of which I am the president. Tica Sealy is the treasurer, Soulaica Rosario, the secretary. Board members are Jessica Frans, Selimah Agoustin, Bertha Campana and my mom, who's a great support in all our activities. Erone Rosario helps me, working the bar at every event and also on stage. And of course there are many, many other people like the stylist, the make-up artist, the costume maker and people who make the decors. We really have an outstanding team!

With AD Produksjon we organize Miss and Mister Modelo Bonaire and for children, Mini Modelo and Mini Galan (elegant) for boys. During the year we also organize big fashion shows with local boutiques.

In 2001 I founded a dance group, The New Generation Dancers, so this year we have our 10th anniversary. I do all the



Angelo and his mom, January 1st, 2011, when he received the "Premio Karko," a reward for people who've dedicated themselves throughout the year to organize music, sports and cultural events.

choreographies and design the costumes. There are different costumes for each performance." He grins. "It's quite expensive, but yeah... I don't dance anymore. I choose the music for the shows, teach them the dances and because I can't do it all at the same time I thought: I have to get out of the group to be able to guide them in a better way and also the age... I'm not that young anymore... eh! Hahaha! It's better this way. Now I can observe them and see if they're synchronized.

At this moment I am the only one on the island working at this level. I have 20 years of experience in farandula - show business - and I still love to do it. It's a lot of work but at the end of a show I always get so many positive reactions, so I immediately start thinking of the next one.

Usually I get my ideas when I'm in bed before I go to sleep, or at Washington Park sitting under a tree listening to the birds, but I also watch a lot of international

(Continued on page 5)

... I make sure that Bonaire is always the shining star at events because in the past they considered us the 'Cinderella' of the islands."

			
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Born On Bonaire (continued from page 4) shows on TV and then I think, 'That's what I want to do here!' I start with a tenth of what I saw on TV and then I create my own fantasy around it. Every event needs at least two months of preparations, but a big one like Miss and Mister takes four months. I teach the candidates a lot of things – how to present themselves, leadership, responsibilities, sexual education, cultural education, dancing lessons, protocol and etiquette – it's a whole package – so, it's not just about a pretty face. People have to have a whole lot more... Candidates who win our contests also go abroad to participate in different international elections and every time they go, they return with the crown for Bonaire. We won Miss and Mister Universe Top Model twice in Ecuador and in Santo Domingo we became second and third finalist with Miss Teen Model International, so it's obvious they get good training here.

We also have an event called Miss and Mister Beauty Pageant ABC, and not only had we won the two previous years but last year as well with Miss Johana Mata and Mister Kawei Yan. Bonaire is well represented. Every time we send someone they come home with a big prize! I make sure that Bonaire is always the shining star at events because in the past they considered us the 'Cinderella' of the islands, but now we've gained a lot of respect for our island and that's how it should be!

I love competition; the more competition, the better I feel. I am not afraid of it!" *Ango is a master in his field; he's a mellow, kind and fun-loving person, but when it comes to show business he's a*

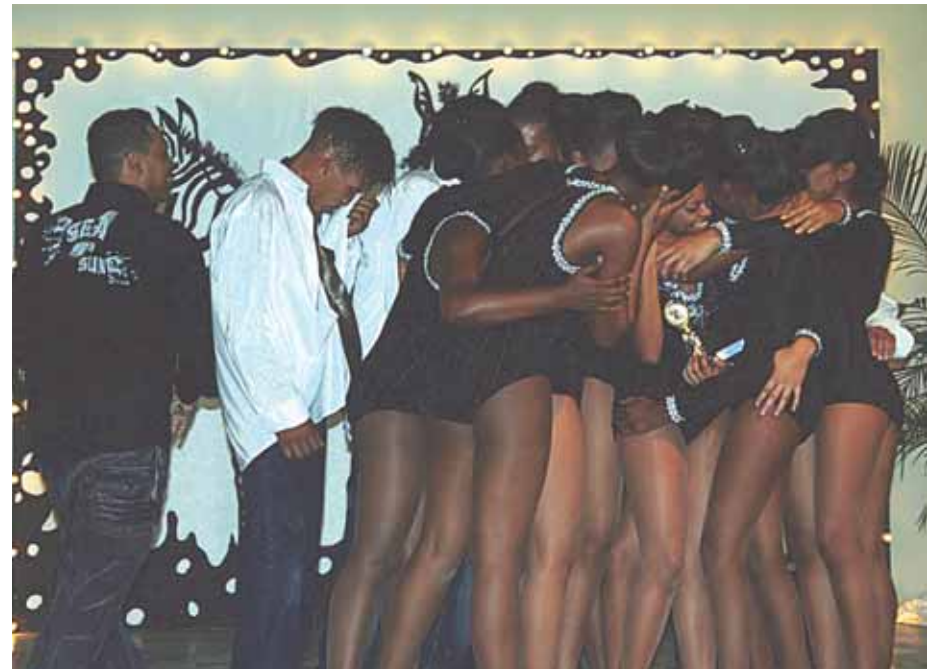
driven, passionate perfectionist. His shows are glamorous and full of excitement and the response of the audience is wild and hot!

"I love to do different things. I always liked to do administration and when I came back from Holland in 2005 I worked at the Island Council till 2008. Then I started working for TCB, the Tourist Office. It's really my thing; I work as Assistant Marketing and every day is exciting! I like working in tourism – I did it for Bonaire Trading for 10 years and now for the Tourist Office. You get a great feedback and you meet all kinds of people and the majority of the people who come here are nice!

My work is my work, but the whole showbiz thing is a hobby and the money we make goes back into the next event. We're a foundation – we're all volunteers and each one has their regular job.

To me Bonaire is a quiet place, sometimes I feel it's a bit too small to accomplish the things I would like to accomplish, but still... it's my island and I want to put it in the spotlight. Nobody can say it's boring here. I have a full life and everyone can have it as long as they are willing to do something positive. There is a great need for volunteers on the island."

He smiles. "I am a good, quiet person. I don't have an attitude, I am just me. I try to be a good leader for the group and I am strict when I have to be, but also I want people to feel at ease and that's why my house is always full. We talk about problems, but also we're having fun; it's one big family!



Angelo Domacassé (left) in action with the New Generation Dancers during one of the Mama Modelo Shows.

I am a child of Playa Pabou and when I was little I spent a lot of time at Machi Dodo's, my grandmother. We used to swim a lot – maybe too much. Now I don't want to go into the water anymore. I like the beach, but just to recreate. I never liked sports, but to keep in shape I walk up to Seru Largo twice a week. I have to, otherwise I will end up looking like *Papa Pasku* (Santa Claus)! I love to eat – everything that has chicken in it is my absolute favorite and... it might sound weird, but I don't like fish! I can't cook; my mom cooks for me. I am living with her; she helps me and I help her. I do have plans for the future, but the future comes and

goes, still, I would like to see Bonaire have its own theatre – an entertainment center like they have on Curaçao. I am always willing to share any ideas that I have because I think together you can achieve more as long as you respect each other. I am not a professional – but everything I do, I do it like a pro!"

For more info: adpro-dukshon@gmail.com or angelodoma-casse@hotmail.com

Story by Greta Kooistra, photos by AD Productions



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Bonaire Is For Bikes



BBB Photo

Students, Guido Nijenhuis and Mark Roelofs, at right, presented their plan to Bonaire proponents of bicycling on Bonaire at the Sunrise Restaurant

Bonaire is known for its nature and peaceful character, distinguishing it from other Dutch Caribbean islands. To help keep it that way, Bonaire also wants to focus on sustainable development.

An obstacle is the number of motor vehicles which has increased considerably over the past years, causing more traffic, parking problems and environmental pollution. Enter bicycles:

Bicycling offers a green and healthy solution: it leads to less traffic, attracts environmental tourism and means more exercise, contributing to everyone's health. However, a thing or two has to be organized before there's any widespread bicycling on the island.

Students from the Dutch Technical University of Twente is helping Bonaire come up with a plan to help and the researchers recently explained which steps have to be taken to make bicycling more attractive.

The basis for the study lies in conversations with local interested parties, surveys of island students, parents and employees, as well as "findings in the street."

Two students, Guido Nijenhuis and Mark Roelofs, offered a presentation on March 23 about their research results regarding the construction of bicycle paths to stimulate bicycling on Bonaire.

The considerable road traffic and the poor condition of the roads make it unsafe now for bicycling. Furthermore, since motorists are not used to cyclists in traffic, they often don't know how to deal with them.

Improved road safety is one of the requirements for stimulating the use of bicycles. The key for this is creating a bicycle path network, in which the cyclers will be separated from motorized traffic as much as possible.

The proposal is to introduce a bicycle path network in phases. This way, investments could be spread over time and the success of the each one evaluated.

Phase 1 will focus on students, who - as it appears from the survey- would gladly ride a bicycle to and from school. The infrastructure at both schools for secondary education requires adjustment. Bicycle paths will be placed along Kaya Amsterdam so students can reach the school from the east and from the west.

Kontest di Fli Kites- April 17



It's high wind time now in Bonaire and every year for the last 32 years there has been a Kite Flying Contest (*Kòntest di Fli*). This year - the 33rd consecutive one - will be on Sunday, April 17, at the big soccer field behind Kooyman's starting at 9 am. It is one of the most fun activities on the island. You will see some of the most amazing kites, all original, created to hopefully win a prize. Teams of families and friends get together to put the kites in the air. Kites are judged for beauty, originality, biggest, smallest and even more. The action goes on all day. You can bring a picnic lunch and sit and watch. Drinks and snacks will be sold there too. Organized all these years by Iris Semeleer of the Flamingo Bookstore this event draws groups of families and friends together for prizes and fun. Iris says kite flyers will be coming from Curaçao as well and that Hiteess will be the featured sponsor this year.

Anyone can sign up to enter the contest at the Flamingo Book Store on Kaya Grandi #19. Entry fee for children is \$2, adult, \$4. For more information call Iris at 717-6586. ■

Laura DeSalvo

For the High School (SGB) in the center of Kralendijk, a bicycle path will be created on Kaya Hanchi Amboina To provide access from the north.

There will also be a safe zebra crossing for Kaya Nikiboko Noord for access from the southern districts.

Phase 2 will mainly focus on connecting the neighborhoods so people can cycle safely from one neighborhoods to another. This requires several zebra crossings at the busy roads. In addition, the boulevard in "Playa" (Kralendijk) will be made more recognizable as part of the bicycling network.

This should also make cycling more attractive for the tourists.

Phase 3, the final phase, a network will be completed so there's a cycling infrastructure within the neighborhoods.

This requires several connections as well as bicycle "parking."

Apart from the road safety, theft is also a huge issue. The island does not have any significant bicycle "parking" where people can store their bike safely. In the future, bicycle racks will have to be placed at schools, companies and tourist locations.

Financial Support For Bikes

Buying a bicycle is a considerable investment for most people, certainly for families with several children. This requires financial support in order to purchase a bicycle, in the form of subsidies, tax benefits or a bicycle payment plan via the employer.

Education

More attention will be paid to safe cycling because the local population is rather unfamiliar with bicycling. Pupils from elementary schools could be taught traffic rules specifically regarding cycling. Driving instructors should also draw people's attention to cyclists in the traffic. Safe cycling also means people have to train and leash their dogs. ■ Press release/G.D.

A Lifetime Connection



STINAPA Photo

George Thodé from Rincon has a long history with Washington-Slagbaai National Park. He began "work" in the Park when he was seven years old under its first supervisor, Eddy Frans. Then 30 years ago this month he joined the Park's staff as a ranger. Since then he's been totally connected with the Park and now is better known as "George Kultura" and is the Park's Chief Ranger. His employer, the National Park Authority, STINAPA, wants to take note of his anniversary.

When Kultura began the Park averaged one visitor per day; now it hosts about 20,000 visitors per year. He's seen many changes and improvements. He said, "I begin each day at 4 am and work into the dark. The Park is my home."

Kultura's relationship with environment is almost unparalleled in today's material world. He has a close and rare connection to the Park's natural world which benefits the Earth, the island of Bonaire, STINAPA and everyone who comes in contact with him.

Makubekèn, the STINAPA newspaper that is part of the "Nos Ta Biba Di Naturola (We Live From Nature)" campaign, gives special attention to this unique man in its current edition. Happy Anniversary, Kultura, from all of us at *The Reporter*. ■ Press release/G.D.

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Letters to the Editor

CAPTAIN DON SAYS PROTECT REEF FISH

Dear Readers,

Maybe you've seen the Captain Don poster at the airport, in *The Bonaire Reporter*, or on t-shirts. His message is, "Enjoy Our Reef Fish, Let's Not Eat Them." This letter explains what's going on, and frankly, it is just a small effort with big compromises!

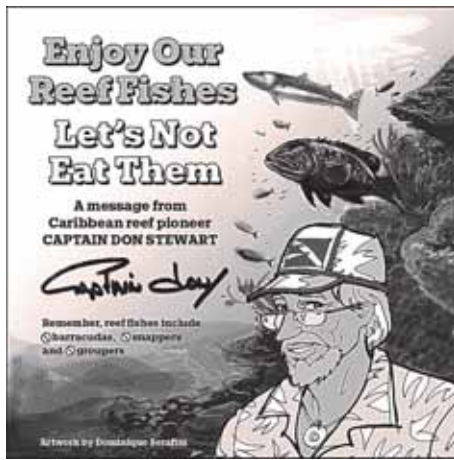
We're Brad and Mary Smart, visitors to Bonaire three months per year for 18 years, during which time we've seen progressively fewer and smaller fish on the reef.

A friend (Ted Waitt), who is on the National Geographic Council of Advisors and whose yacht has documented declining fish populations all over the globe, visited Bonaire in 2010. He introduced Mary and me to Dr. Ayana Johnson ("Dr." as of February), whose doctoral field data was on fishing in Bonaire and Curaçao. She made a terrific presentation at CIEE, and hopes to return in May for more presentations.

Ayana nicely suggested that if people would stop eating our reef fish, there is a good chance we'd see more of them and bigger ones (fish - we don't need to see bigger people). And Bonaire might become a more attractive destination because of protected reefs and increasing fish populations.

Mary and I are funding this small effort to let tourists and others know how they can help. Dominique Serafini contributed his skills to creating many design options; Catherine Salisbury has coordinated implementation with airport, printer, etc. There are other, bigger efforts along the same lines; the government has already outlawed taking or selling lobster, conch, and as of January, grouper. The Marine Park is enforcing no-fish zones and CIEE is educating people.

Mary and I are spearheading and funding this campaign; Captain Don is nice enough to lend his support. He and Ayana Johnson (and many others) feel strongly that the world's oceans are be-



ing depleted of most fish, and they won't eat any fish. So the poster is a compromise. Many of us (including tourists) are slow learners, and aren't ready to totally stop eating fish. When you see Captain Don, you might thank him for agreeing to support this small step toward protecting some fish, even if it is far from the ideal.

We felt a gentle, narrow focus would be most effective, to encourage people to not eat just a few species, but not discourage people from eating deepwater fish. The fishermen will continue fishing, and provide what the restaurants request - hopefully more deepwater fish.

The definition of "reef fish" at the bottom (**barracuda, grouper, snapper**) is also a compromise. Some snapper are deepwater; lion fish are reef fish and are okay to eat; apparently some tuna are reef fish; lobster and conch aren't fish; etc. etc. Making all the fine distinctions as to what fish are okay to eat (and not) would give tourists brain cramps; hence the simple definition.

We hope locals embrace this campaign and that someone picks up the ball and maybe asks schools to convey the message.

If you'd like to see more and bigger reef fish, you might consider buying a t-shirt with Captain Don's message. Several dive shops have said they would sell the t-shirts at close to cost (\$10).

Brad and Mary Smart

NEW DISEASE ON BONAIRE!

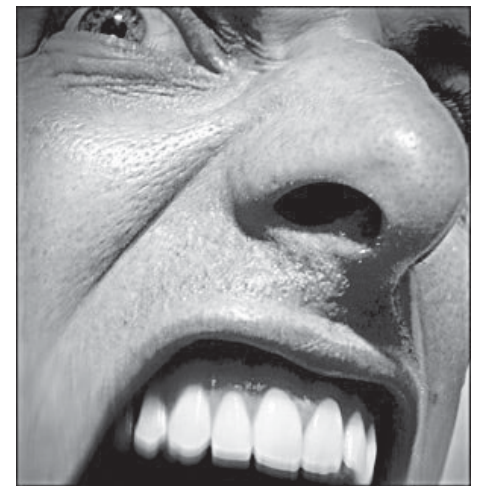
Dear Editor,

There is a relatively new social disease that is creeping onto the shores of Bonaire. Many people recognize it and will know what I am writing about.

The disease is called LVBI. This is a modern age texting way of saying "Loud Voice Break In." This is when a person walks into a retail establishment and simply walks up to the salesperson and starts talking to him or her without regard for the customer who is being helped at the moment. I have even started to see this in restaurants.

Although a rude and simple act, this results in a gradual downslide of social standards of behavior. I have seen this happen on many, many islands. This disease will gradually spread to other areas of social behavior such as cutting into waiting lines and much more aggressive driving habits.

Starting tomorrow, it can be stopped. The front line of defense for this disease is not the medical or police community, but rather the *retail community!* Two simple basic rules will solve the whole issue. First, the person with the loudest voice is simply annoying and does not put them at the head of the line. Second, Finish with the customer you have and THEN go on to the next customer. Simply and politely tell the person



with LVBI that you are currently helping a customer and will be with them as soon as possible.

After all, you don't reward a dog for doing the wrong thing!

Know that you will receive the silent thanks and gratitude of the majority of your customers, build good will towards your establishment, and most importantly, each time you do this you will be keeping Bonaire the island and community we all love.

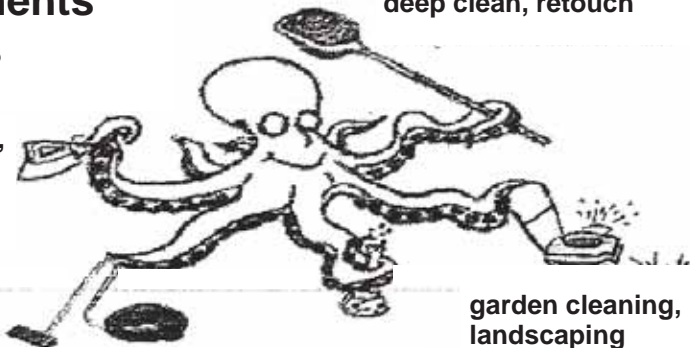
Robert Tseng

Bob Tseng has had 30 years of experience training sales people, 3 years on the Dacor Retail Council, 3 years on the PADI Retail Advisory Council and was a founding Member and advisor of DEMA.

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BonQuiz #48



The Island Government Administration Building located at Wilhelminaplein in 'Playa' was built in 1837. It also served as living quarters for the Commander of the Island. Later the Commander's title was changed to Governor. In 1959 the building had to be vacated as it was in bad shape and needed to be renovated. A new residence was built at a different location with Dutch Government funds.

Q) In what year was the title of Commander changed to Lt Governor?
Answer on page 17

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

IslandToursBonaire.com Phone 717-4435 or 795-3456





BONAIREAN VOICES

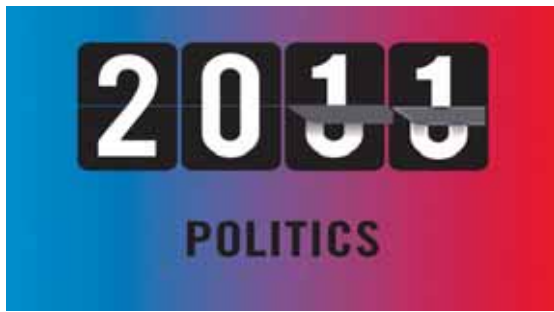
THE BONAIREAN GOVERNMENT

Talking about age, religion, government or politics is one of the last things we like to do. But unfortunately we are talking a lot about politics these days. The elections in Bonaire were a big issue on 2nd of March, 2011. The result is known and now we are waiting for the outcome of a new government.

When you go to several online dictionaries you find different definitions for "Government," for instance: "Political parties in a parliamentary system or the persons who make up a governing body." But the one I like the most is: "The administration or management of an organization, business or institution." When you understand the sort of administration the organization is delivering, then you can understand what kind of government we have. We don't have to go far to understand that. We are part of a government. Citizens have the right to learn more about their government and express themselves. The basic thoughts of the people should come forward, and then they will learn what their government is doing about it.

Most people you ask about what they think about our government have a different answer. Some might say that they are doing their job right; others have mixed feelings; and you find those who are very skeptical. Comments that you hear are: "What the government does is thinking about themselves, having more power and control. They forget about the people who voted for them. They think more about their financial problems and how they can solve them."

"In my generation I still haven't experienced any appropriate government that has really satisfied my needs. I had to work hard, raise my children all by myself and see the one I voted for take advantage of my tax money. They buy off people with nice words and when it comes to the reality it's a fatal fault or promise that they can't fulfill. We need a government that works for the people, all kind of society - rich, poor, middle class, upper class - everyone."



"We tried for more than 50 years to fulfill our constitution, but every time we failed. Now that Holland took over to bring some changes, we are not ready to be on our own. We fight each other too much. We don't know how to sit at a conference table or address ourselves to our political partners in a decent way."

"The Dutch government is taking over little by little. We don't see the changes right away, but they are coming. Maybe we can learn from them and then... we can be ready to do it our selves."

Others are concerned with Holland mingling with our business and taking away our rights and freedom. Others complain, "Can we do it ourselves? In the past our ancestors knew how to do it. They raised cattle, worked in agriculture and did a lot more. How you are going to explain to an 84 year old man who can take care of himself that there will be some changes in the near future? My question is, are we preparing for that future?"

Through these days we will learn more about the present and the future plans of our new government. Keep informed about what is going on in our Bonairean government. ■ Story & Photo by Siomara Albertus.



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

Art Tour Coming Up



On Sunday April 17, take the Art Tour. It will be the 6th Kaminda di Arte since the activity began.

On that Sunday from 11am to 5 pm, 19 artists of the island will open the doors of their houses and studios. They invite you to come and see their works and meet the artists in person.

Artist Monique Reekers

The Kaminda di Arte began last November and has proven to be very successful. More than 500 visitors have taken the tour: tourists, locals and even people from Curaçao.

A new activity from the Kaminda organization is coordination with the Classical Music Board of Bonaire. When there is a concert scheduled for the Plaza Resort there will be works from one or two participants of the Kaminda project for viewing on stage or the walls. Check it out at the next concert on April 16. More page 14.

ReWear

Let's clean up our closets, collect what we don't wear anymore and share with others. Drop off on Saturday the 9th of April and Saturday the 16th of April 10.00 - 14.00 At Hotel Roomer EEG Boulevard 97 phone 717-7488. More on page 13, bottom.



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Exploratory Research Into Soil And Groundwater Contamination

The Dutch Ministry of the Environment in collaboration with the Department of Nature and the Environment of DROB has currently commissioned an exploratory research into the **contamination of the soil and groundwater** on the three islands of the Caribbean Netherlands. The research is needed to determine the nature and extent of contamination. Also the risks for humans and the ecosystem will be mapped.

It is also the intention to develop a soil policy specifically for the islands. Dutch norms and policy are not directly applicable due to the difference in circumstances.

Because there is little industry present on the islands, researchers expect the risks for humans to be less than expected. In Bonaire about 30 soil drillings are being performed up to five meters deep at various locations. A list of sites was prepared with the assistance of staff of DROB and *Polis Ambiental* (Environmental Police). Soil and groundwater samples are being taken at the trenches at the LVV site where wastewater is discharged, at the waste dumping sites at Lagun and Morotin, the WEB site, airport, radio stations, garages, car-washes, paint shops, gas stations, dry cleaners, the asphalt plant and other locations. Also locations where these types of activities used to take place are being



investigated. Businesses subject to license obligations where there are possible soil risks, such as Bopec and Curoil, will have their own responsibility and obligation to conduct soil research once the Caribbean Netherlands Public Housing, Spatial Planning and Environmental Management Act enters into force.

The researchers take samples of the soil and groundwater at every soil drilling site for further analysis in The Netherlands. A level indicator will be placed at the location of the soil drilling. That is a lockable hollow tube that makes it possible to take groundwater samples again in a simple way in the future.

The results of the research will be available in about eight weeks.

The research is conducted by Management & Independent Consultancy N.V. (MIC) in collaboration with Grontmij Nederland B.V. and Damascus Heavy Equipment Rentals N.V. ■

RCN press release & photo

Flotsam and Jetsam (Continued from page 2) clusive Economic Zone (EEZ) surrounding Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba measures 83,000 square kilometers (km²), whereas the Dutch part of the North Sea and the Frisian Sea measures almost 62,000 km². According to the press release, the authority of the governments of the various countries in the Dutch Kingdom to make decisions in the field of marine policy should be based on proper knowledge of the sea territory in question. That is one of the major reasons for launching AcroporaNet.

► **Last week on Friday in Bonaire the Commissioners of Education and the school boards of Bonaire, Saba and St. Eustatius together with Dutch Minister Marja van Bijsterveldt put their signatures on the first Education Agenda for the Caribbean Netherlands.**

The aim of the Education Agenda is to strengthen education on the islands in the coming years. The approach will focus on improvement of students' language and mathematical skills and enhancement of the quality of teachers and school boards. If so required, "school coaches" will be employed to help the schools make the quality changes.

Apart from school coaches and extra attention to language (Dutch, English and Papi-

mentu) and arithmetic, a student tracking system will be introduced.

► **WILLEMSTAD--The Caribbean Internet Exchange (CAR-IX) on Curaçao recently signed an agreement with Google to connect to its network.** The equipment of Google arrived earlier this week in Curaçao. This will be the first Google server in the Caribbean area.

Anyone typing a request to Google or requesting a film on You Tube will receive a response more quickly, because the Google server has that information locally on the CAR-IX network.

► **It's back: The monthly flea market at "We Dare To Care Playground.** It was held last Saturday, April 2 from 2 pm – 6 pm and will return on the first Saturday of every month. Want to sell: The rent for a table is \$ 10. For more information call Marissa Jansen (Tel: 701-1103) or Kim de Raadt (Tel: 787-1475)

► **The next Bonaire Reporter will be available on April 26,** a week later than normal. This is in keeping with the twice a month publication schedule and to accommodate the Easter Holidays. ■

G./L. D.

CLAYTON BAIRD (BUD) PEARSON, JR.



A lovely memorial service was held for Bud Pearson last Thursday, March 31st, at a gathering at Sunset beach. He passed away unexpectedly on March 18 following a brief illness. He was born on 7 August 1947 and is survived by his wife Karen Pearson and three sisters living in the USA.

He made many friends and acquaintances as owner/operator of Sand Dollar Grocery from 1989 - 2009.

Bud's life was celebrated by his many friends during the memorial service. The eulogy by Dr. Dick van der Vaart was especially moving.

You may make charitable donations in Bud's memory to: The Bonaire Animal Shelter, Sea Turtle Club or the Bonaire Marine Park

Condolences to the family may be sent to: unclebuddy89@gmail.com.

Rest in peace, many of us will miss you. ■

MAARTEN MAARTENSE



Maarten Maartense, the beloved Notary of Bonaire, passed away on March 23 following a lingering illness.

He was born in Amsterdam on March 12, 1952.

He leaves behind his wife Solange-Panneflek Maartense and children Sarah-Ann and Max

Maarten was very active in the Bonairean community, among others, in Rotary, with donations to FORMA to teach adults reading and writing, and was a contributor to the *Kuifje* book in Papiamentu. He was interviewed, the youngest ever, on the "Herensia" program by Bòi Antoin, where he told about his life.

He will be deeply missed. ■

Latin Music Classics

Merengue is a type of music from the Dominican Republic, but it's popular all over Latin America. Merengue was created by a Dominican called Nico Lora in the 1920s and became the country's national music and dance style.

The old saying is that if you can walk, you can dance the Merengue.

Dancing the Merengue is like marching where you step left, right, left, right, left, right in time to the music. With one step taken to each beat of music, the basic step is very easy to learn. Being so easy to learn, Merengue is a very popular dance style.

By the 1980s Merengue was so big it was even

beating out salsa on the airwaves. Since that decade, musicians like Juan Luis Guerra, Eddy Herrera and Tono Rosario have brought Merengue even further abroad, truly internationalizing the music.

Jody's Music Quiz

This week's question: Who is the singer of the famous Merengue hit: "Suavemente?"

Please send your answer to: info@jodysonaire.com and be entered in a drawing to win a CD of your



own choice in Jody's shop at Lagoen Hill #18.

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

Last week's answer: "La Camisa Negra" was the biggest Hit of Juanes. This week's winner is Carin Zengerink!

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

In their collection they have 100% original brands like: Nike, G-Star, Replay, Lacoste, Zucchero, A Priori 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.



Jody's Fashion & Music

Jody's is the well-known fashion shop for men and women at Lagoen Hill.

Little Monty's Second Chance

Previously in *The Reporter*: Monty joins the other confiscated illegal pet birds in the large aviary at LVV. Monty gets excited to be with all the other Loras but then finds it's actually a bit dull. Two men put Monty and eight of his friends in boxes, they go to a new aviary surrounded by trees.

Monty and the other Loras screamed with joy and excitement. It was all green around them. This new aviary was different from the last one, it stood as tall as those green trees so Monty and his friends could see all around the area where they were. The others had also now spotted the strange Lora doors and there was a tangible tingle of nervous excitement. "What do you think they are for?" "We're going out into the real world, aren't we?" "I'm so excited I feel like I do when I've have too much coffee," "Will I get to see my mum again?" "I want to go now, let's go!"

The next few days passed peacefully as Monty and his friends settled in. They liked their feeding schedule and quickly got accustomed to the new routine. They could see crops growing in the distance and there were prikechis feeding on the seeds. A family group of sleek black birds, the Smooth-billed Ani, fed near the aviary and the Loras watched with interest. And then one morning Monty heard wild Loras in the distance. He shouted and then his friends who also heard them shouted too. Although they couldn't see them they could hear the wild Loras getting closer and then they appeared. They circled the aviary and landed without fuss or mishap right on top. Monty and his friends could not believe it. It was amazing.

Here were two real live, wild Loras.

Monty thought they spoke funny! Every birdy made polite introductions, but then in a moment they were gone again. They had to forage they said. Monty was shocked, humbled and inspired. Even in such a brief encounter he had noticed that these two wild birds were in perfect condition. Their bodies were toned, they had arrived after flying some distance yet they were not out of breath. They flew with precision and their feathers were nothing short of perfect. The wild Loras had to forage because after all their food was not brought to them in a stainless steel bowl each morning.

Monty became pensive. He realised he himself and indeed all the others were in no shape to be free. They flew like Kakapos, which of course, dear reader, is the heaviest and most flightless of all parrots, weighing in at up to four, yes, four, kilograms! Monty decided, in much the same way that young couples preparing for their wedding day photos now do, that he must go on a diet and adopt a strict training regime in preparation for his day of freedom.

Any possibility of not adopting a new training regime was taken from him and his friends the very next day. The nice man who brought food each day, just as he had that morning appeared at the aviary with "The Pillowcase of Doom." Having been caught at LVV by The Pillowcase of Doom Monty and his friends already knew this was not good. The man entered the aviary, their home, and waved The Pillowcase of Doom at Monty. He and the other Loras flew as quickly as they could away from the man

and... The Pillowcase of Doom. This was not enough because the man chased after them. This continued for another few minutes and then as quickly as he arrived the man stopped and left along with The Pillowcase of Doom. Monty decided he didn't really like the man any more.

This strange and scary event happened each day for longer and longer times and by different humans. At times it was more tortuous than a spinning class but equally and almost without realising Monty was getting fitter, leaner and tighter with each passing day. Monty was inching closer to being the supreme athlete he would need to be in order to survive in the wild.

There were times when Monty wondered if it was all worth it. This Long Walk to Freedom was so hard. Maybe being an accountant wasn't so bad. When the scary human came it was so much worse than accounting, it was like writing grant applications, and Monty didn't like it one bit. He longed for the day he could land in those trees outside the aviary. The day he would be free. He just wanted all the stress and strain, the endless lack of privacy, and the aviaries imposing boundaries to disappear so he could lead a simple and happy Lora life. He just wanted to be with his family, with his loving mother and caring father whom he had not seen in so long. It would just have been so much easier if he had not been knocked from that wire. Poor Monty had had such a hard life. No Lora deserved to endure such things.

Monty was an optimist by nature and he always managed to pick himself up from

Wild Loras visit the aviary



these down moments. It was hard but he was doing so well. It was just that he longed so much for the day those Lora doors would open. And then without warning or invitation that day arrived.

Again, dear reader, we must end our story before Monty steps out into the world. We will have to continue rather embarrassingly with a part five of this misnamed two-part tale. but rest assured that in the very next edition of *The Reporter* the incredible moment when Monty has his Second Chance will be revealed. ■

Story & photo by Sam Williams



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Thanks to the Friends of the Classical Music Board Bonaire for continuing to sponsor this fantastic program!



Special Olympics Walkathon #9

A large group of intrepid souls started out on foot and on bikes this last Sunday at 5 in the morning in the dark. Their goal was to reach the Pasa Dia di Carino in Rincon, 30 kilometers away. They were greeted by a lovely morning with high clouds, not too much sun, high winds and no real rain as in other years. Along the way volunteers had set up stands and offered water, fresh oranges, pan dushi and lots of encouragement. Other participants, some with children, set off from their homes or a midpoint, but nearly all arrived at the Pasa Dia where they received a certificate of participation, soup and a hot meal.

It's estimated that there were about 150 walkers and 150 on bikes (the bikers do have to take a longer route). So nearly 330 other tickets were purchased by individuals and groups who did not make the trek but wanted to support the Walk-a-Thon anyway.

The Walk-a-Thon started in 2003, when 290 tickets were sold. Last year about the same number of tickets as this year were sold, 630. Last year there were 215 walkers and 220 bikers.

All funds raised from this event will help our Special Olympics Team Bonaire to participate in the Special Olympics Games in Greece this year in June. Bonaire will be sending eight athletes with a total of 14 going in the delegation.

Main sponsors are Digicel, MCB, Fatum, J.C. Herrera, Fundashon Wegu di Nomer, Malta Polar. There were so many other sponsors and volunteers that there is not enough space in this whole issue of *The Reporter* to list them. Thank you to all. ■ L.D.



1st walkers to arrive in Rincon: Nazario Alberto (The North Salina Roadrunner) and Herman Winklaar – 3 hours, 30 minutes.



↑ Love at the finish line: Jana Isazs & Jasper Beune



The Green Label Garden Center palm completed its 3rd Walkathon. Young Yorick (9) helped (?) dad.



← Iron-woman Linda Baker at the finish.



The always well-stocked Bonaire Bikers rest stop



↑ Every convenience was provided for ↓ Happy Riders group



Fastest ladies (not in order): Yke, Esther, Macha – 4 hours, (running for 2 hours, walking for 2 hours)



Martine and Tico (Bonaire-born) Keijser sailed all the way from Holland to Bonaire during the last 8 months but walked all the way from the slave huts to Rincon.



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The 80th 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+

An Apache On Bonaire



The Apache, Joop Robben and Audrey Groenenboom

Bonaire/Kralendijk –
About one year ago I saw the slightly lowered light blue colored American pick-up for the first time. So I stopped the vehicle and explained to the female driver about my intentions: writing an article about this special vehicle for *The Bonaire Reporter*. The lady had just arrived on the island and she was very busy. So I handed over my business card, started the engine of my motorcycle and disappeared. One year later *The Bonaire Reporter* received an email. The owners of the pick-up truck were ready for it now. Location: the wooden house along the Kaya Finlandia, "Casa Ca-lexico."

The light blue sprayed truck appears to be a Chevrolet Apache C10, made in the USA in the year 1960. And the owners are Joop and Audrey Groenenboom from The Netherlands. Joop bought the Apache in June 2002. The car was imported from Arizona, a desert state. The vehicle was solid and not showing any rust. Those days, way back in 2002, Joop was an employee of the professional Fire Brigade of Tilburg, a city in the South of Holland. In his spare time Joop rebuilt the engine and the drive line of the Chevrolet. The V8 350 cubic inches/5.7 liters engine was modified. A lower four bolt/double bearings block was used and built up. A new Blue Racer Grey camshaft was installed; gearbox and differential were modified to produce the right speed at the right revolutions. Now this Apache is a fast, reliable and smooth runner, equipped with an Edelbrock four barrel 650 carburetor and a 350 three speed automatic gearbox.

The car was a little bit lowered by turning the torsion bars in the front and installing lower springs in the rear. Joop converted the front drum brakes into disks. In the rear there are still two drum brakes. The vehicle is equipped with power steering. And apart from the immense power produced by the engine that is the only extra power this Chevrolet Apache has. No power steering but a huge steering wheel, no power windows, no power locks, no power nowhere.

This, in fact, is a very stiff and sturdy full metal vehicle. It is hard to find plastic parts

on this American kid, born some 50 years ago. Most of the dashboard is made of metal. The glove apartment lid is made of chromed metal. The outside and the inside of the doors are fully made of metal. All grabs and handle bars are made of metal. In the rear of the car you can find some wood. The bed is made of wood and an impressive "toolbox" made of wood is installed. The toolbox hides an immense liquid propane gas fuel tank that was useful in The Netherlands, but not in Bonaire. This fuel is only available in tanks here on Bonaire. Luckily to the ideas of Europeans gasoline is still cheap on our island...

The Chevrolet Apache is parked on the driveway of Casa Ca-lexico. The face of the vehicle looks cute and a little mean, showing two pairs of eyes looking out under two eyebrows. Joop and Audrey position themselves next to their beloved vehicle because of the shooting of some photographs. Then it is time for Joop to pick up some clients from the airport. He throttles a little bit and then turns the ignition key. A very deep boat-like sound escapes from the side pipes of the Chevrolet: "Gloh, gloh, gloh.gloh." And that is only the sound of 50% of the engine. Joop selects the "R" by maneuvering the gearshift that is mounted on the steering column in the right position. Slowly the light blue phenomenon rolls back from the driveway. Then Joop selects the "D" and slowly the four Cooper Cobra Radial G/T rubbers roll the vehicle to the airport. This Chevrolet Apache C10 is a nice contribution to the slowly disappearing quiet life of Bonaire...

Joop Robben and Audrey Groenenboom, owners of the above described Apache, visited the island of Bonaire in August and November 2009 to find out about the possibilities of starting a little, independent guesthouse. On the 5th of February 2010 they returned and immediately started working like hell to create their little lodge in and around the wooden house along the Kaya Finlandia. They named their guesthouse: "Casa Ca-lexico." Ca-lexico is the name of a little village near the border between Mexico and Arizona. There also exists a music band named Ca-lexico. The main house is surrounded by five lodges, each equipped

Bonaire Real Estate Reflections

Several times a day we are asked, "How is the real estate market on Bonaire now?" The truth is the market has changed dramatically in the last two years. It is irrelevant whether Bonaire caught up to the world economy or the world economy caught up to Bonaire. It is 2011 and the world of Bonaire real estate is the 2011 world, not the world of 2008

Today's market is fantastic if you are a buyer and looking to move to Bonaire or to just have a vacation home or condominium. This is the best buyer's market Bonaire has experienced since tropical storm Lenny.

If you are a buyer you have lots of great choices. Many, though certainly not all, sellers are aware of the stalled economies in America and Europe and the rising price of oil because of Middle East political unrest.

These sellers are no longer drawing negotiating lines in the sand. Many sellers have lowered prices and increased the quality and value of their property with improvements, repairs, appliances, furniture, landscaping, and lots and lots of TLC.

A great buyer's market is not a bad seller's market. The seller's market has actually improved in the past few weeks. We have experienced an increase in interest, offers and sales contracts. The market has improved because earlier there was no market. That was because sellers and buyers had dramatically different views on the value of Bonaire property. The sellers in general were wrapped up in the giddy days of 2005-2008. They were still dreaming and thinking about prices increasing 5-10% a year.

The buyers were reading all the gloom and doom reports about the world, American and European economies, rising oil, falling Euro, falling dollar, potential collapse of the economies of Portugal, Ireland, Italy, Greece and Spain.

The reality is that in 2011 housing is in the doldrums in America and Europe. But the housing market seems to have hit bottom. The Case Schiller housing reports for the last two months indicate it is at or within 2-5% of a bottom. There is no magic moment that when reached translates to a red flag announcing the econ-



There's new development near the start of the Tourist Road adjacent to Hilltop

omy is at a top or bottom. The nice thing about hitting bottom is the only place to go is up.

The realization by Bonaire sellers that we are in 2011 and the realization by the buyers that the world is not going to end even next week have changed the Bonaire real estate market. The change is for the better for buyers and sellers.

This does not mean that sellers can start raising prices or that if you buy property today its value will increase 5% by year end. It does mean that many sellers are willing to adjust prices to reflect current fair market value. It does mean that more buyers are willing to pay fair market value.

The inventory of homes for sale is still large and the demand by buyers is still small. Based on our personal experiences with sellers and buyers in the past two months, the Bonaire real estate market is functioning again. ■ **Anna & Art Kleimer** Anna and Art Kleimer are founding partners of Bonaire Island Real Estate, B.V. In 1993 they were "America's Outstanding Realtors." Email: Anna@Bonaireislandrealestate.com or Art@Bonaireislandrealestate.com



for two persons. The sphere is cozy and a kind of tropical/dry/Mexican. To get an impression you can surf to the website: casa-calexico.com

Joop: "On Saturday, April 9, a special will be broadcast on television: NED 1. Telbo (MiTV) has NED 1 on channel 4. The special is about Audrey and me leaving The Netherlands, heading to Bonaire." Audrey adds, "And on Bonaire we stay!" ■

Story & photo by J@n Brouwer



Classifieds continued

For Sale

Cruising chute / spinnaker 43 feet x 23 feet never used and very good condition, has some water marks but NO rust. US \$ 800.00. Email: trixievon@yahoo.com.au

Surfboard, by Clayton South Africa, 6 feet 3 inches, best offer, US\$ 350 trixievon@yahoo.com.au

Silver Bereber tribal armband. Original from the Desert tribes of Moroccan Africa. This item is very heavy and solid. Can send photo if interested. US\$ 350. trixievon@yahoo.com.au

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LIVING ACCOMMODATIONS

Located at Hato studio single, furnished . After April 14th Dishwasher, boiler, gas, water, electricity included. \$490 no airco Possibility; TV & internet, linen. 4 months or longer. **717-2529**

Garden studio at Hato Single furnished \$425, included gas, water, electricity. Possibility; TV & internet, linen 717 2529 Minimum stay 4 months. After April 14th no airco **717-2529**

Apartment for rent from 1st May, 2011 Location: Santa Barbara/Republik. 36m², Cable TV, Airco, Pool, Internet, 2 bedrooms, kitchen, bathroom, porch with sea view. US\$720.00 all incl. Between 16th and 30th April call **525-8766 – other times email: bauer.paul@t-online.de**

MISCELLANEOUS

Perfect island car for sale. 2008 Chevrolet Spark, like new, only 8000 km. Automatic, Ocean Blue colour, owner moving off island. \$8700.00 **Phone: 795-0058**

Bookcase, 6 dining room chairs, 2 matching couches, coffee table, side table. Only available April 1-13. Email for photos cathsalis@gmail.com. Or call **786-3336**.

Used dive tanks for sale while supply lasts. 80's and 63's. \$85. Will need hydro soon. Call Carib Inn **717-8819** from 8 am to 5 pm.

Petsitters/Housesitters available June 11-June 25th. Donna and Jack Dempsey/ Island reference available. Contact jack-dempsey77@gmail.com

Funny and useful **herbal plants** for sale, like several kinds of basil, lemon balm and eye-ball plant. Other items too. Visit the stand of Marjan at the Market of Kriabon on 23rd of April. marjanswagerman@gmail.com



Big Yard and Shop Sale
Sunday, April 10, starting at 9 am
Kaya Gob. Debrot #18

FOR SALE : Lot # 19 in the quiet neighborhood of Lagoen Hill. 1,086 sq. meters of privately owned land. Asking price \$ 65,000 buyers cost. Call Rick **786-2590** or Kathy **700-4635**

Let's clean up our closets and collect what we don't wear anymore and give them to others less fortunate. Bring clean and undamaged clothing on Saturday, April 9 from 10 to 2 and Saturday, April 16 from 10 to 2, **Hotel Roomers, EEG Boulevard 97** Phone **717-7488**

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
Fri 08	04:10 / 0.78 ft	13:07 / - 0.23 ft	19:12 / 0.16 ft	21:41 / 0.15 ft		06:28 AST	18:47 AST
Sat 09	04:51 0.81 ft	13:36 -0.24 ft	19:14 0.17 ft	22:50 0.12 ft		06:27 AST	18:47 AST
Sun 10	05:33 0.83 ft	14:04 -0.24 ft	19:29 0.21 ft	23:55 0.10 ft		06:26 AST	18:47 AST
Mon 11	06:15 0.81 ft	14:31 -0.23 ft	19:54 0.27 ft		First Quarter	06:26 AST	18:47 AST
Tue 12		01:01 0.08 ft	07:00 0.76 ft	14:59 - 0.22 ft	20:28 0.37 ft	06:25 AST	18:47 AST
Wed 13		02:11 0.07 ft	07:47 0.68 ft	15:27 - 0.20 ft	21:08 0.48 ft	06:25 AST	18:47 AST
Thu 14		03:28 0.05 ft	08:40 0.56 ft	15:58 - 0.17 ft	21:54 0.61 ft	6:24	18:47
Fri 15		04:52 0.02 ft	09:40 0.43 ft	16:31 - 0.13 ft	22:43 0.73 ft	6:23	18:47
Sat 16		06:20 - 0.05 ft	10:54 0.29 ft	17:08 - 0.09 ft	23:36 0.84 ft	6:23	18:47
Sun 17		07:46 - 0.14 ft	12:22 0.19 ft	17:50 - 0.04 ft		6:22	18:47
Mon 18	00:32 0.92 ft	09:02 - 0.24 ft	13:59 0.15 ft	18:40 0.01 ft		6:22	18:48
Tue 19	01:29 0.98 ft	10:08 - 0.32 ft	15:29 0.15 ft	19:40 0.05 ft		6:21	18:48
Wed 20	02:26 1.01 ft	11:05 - 0.39 ft	16:42 0.19 ft	20:48 0.09 ft		6:21	18:48
Thu 21	03:22 1.01 ft	11:56 - 0.42 ft	17:39 0.24 ft	21:58 0.11 ft		6:20	18:48
Fri 22	04:17 0.98 ft	12:43 - 0.42 ft	18:28 0.29 ft	23:06 0.12 ft		6:20	18:48
Sat 23	05:08 0.92 ft	13:26 - 0.39 ft	19:12 0.34 ft			6:19	18:48
Sun 24	L Quarter	00:11 0.13 ft	05:58 0.84 ft	14:06 - 0.34 ft	19:54 0.39 ft	6:19	18:48
Mon 25		01:15 0.14 ft	06:45 0.74 ft	14:42 - 0.27 ft	20:34 0.44 ft	6:18	18:48
Tue 26		02:19 0.14 ft	07:31 0.62 ft	15:13 - 0.20 ft	21:11 0.49 ft	6:18	18:48
Wed 27		03:26 0.14 ft	08:16 0.49 ft	15:40 - 0.12 ft	21:47 0.54 ft	6:17	18:49
Thu 28		04:38 0.12 ft	09:04 0.37 ft	16:00 - 0.05 ft	22:21 0.59 ft	6:17	18:49
Fri 29		05:57 0.09 ft	10:02 0.25 ft	16:14 0.02 ft	22:53 0.64 ft	6:16	18:49

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SHOPPING and SERVICE GUIDE

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APPLIANCES /TV/ ELECTRONICS and COMPUTERS

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

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.

BEAUTY PARLOR

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DINING

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

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

ON & IN THE WATER

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

Dive Friends has four dive schools and three retail shops so you always get the best deals and can be assured of top notch training.

Kaminda di Arte (Art Trail) April 17 and every third Sunday of the month until June 2011, 11 am to 5 pm. Visit artists' homes and studios. Information: Karel de Regt: 717-5785 / 788-4477, karel@flamingotv.net, or Fred v.d. Broek: 788-2536, fredvdbroek48@hotmail.com



UNDERWATER VIDEO

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

GARDEN SUPPLIES AND SERVICES

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

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

HEALTH

Go Green—Tina Woodley's new shop, had relocated to the former Dew Point Appliance shop, Kaya Lib. Simon Bolivar 9, offers wholesome, tasty products and healthy take-away sandwiches.

Harmony House—Using science to find the problem. Using natural products to correct the problem. Also ESSENCE range of herbal teas & handmade soaps. At Kaya Papa Cornes 2

HOME CARE

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

PHOTO FINISHING

Paradise Photo in the Les Galeries Shopping Center downtown offers fast, fine processing for prints, slides, items and services. **Full digital services.**

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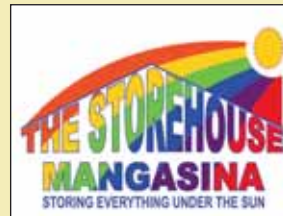
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SUPERMARKETS



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

(ISLAND) TOURS

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

WATER TAXI

Get to Klein Bonaire by Ferry. Ride the *Kantika di Amor*. Hotel or downtown pickup The only water taxi to Klein Bonaire with built-in ramp

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Picture Yourself With The Reporter In... The Western Sahara, Africa



Marcel Damen, living in The Netherlands, is also a home owner on Bonaire. On February 12 this year he and his buddies Rob Berns (also a Bonaire home owner), Martijn Schuurmans and Dave Truijens (who are regular Bonaire visitors) drove the Amsterdam Dakar Challenge together with 48 other teams.

And they brought a copy of *The Reporter* with them to the Western Sahara Desert. The teams are named: Team Bonaire 1 & Team Bonaire 2. Both cars even have old Bonaire license plates on the top box. For more go to their website www.teambonaire.nl

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

Bubbles From The Biologist



Did You Know... Rainbow Parrotfish, found in the waters around Bonaire, are considered the largest herbivorous (plant eating) fish in the Atlantic Ocean?

Adult males have been recorded up to 1.5 meters in length and can weigh as much as 20 kg. Juvenile Rainbow Parrotfish are commonly found in the sea grass beds and mangroves of Lac Bay, while adults are most commonly found on the reef. They have caves or deep recesses they retire to when they are frightened or sleeping. Rainbow Parrotfish are currently listed as a threatened species and seeing one is a special occasion.

One of my favorite dives on Bonaire was seeing three adult Rainbow Parrot-

fish swimming together in the shallows at Karpata. All three were about 1 meter in length and they stayed around long enough for us to get a good look. Rainbow Parrotfish are known to be quite skittish. You'll always be able to recognize a Rainbow Parrotfish because of their beautiful blue/green and orange bodies. ■ *Story & photo by Michael Hansen*

Hansen is from a small town in Northwest Iowa but now attends the University of Minnesota and is the manager of a SCUBA shop in Minneapolis where he's also a PADI Instructor. He came to Bonaire to study Marine Biology with the CIEE Research Station.



New Location

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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	Leave	PAX Cap	Line
Wed	Apr-06	Constellation	0800	1600	2034	Celebrity
Thu	Apr-07	Sea Princess	0800	1800	2016	Princess
Fri	Apr-08	Friday market	0900	1400		
Mon	Apr-11	Emerald Princess	1200	2000	3100	Princess
Thu	Apr-14	Caribbean Princess	1100	2000	3100	Princess
Fri	Apr-15	Grandeur of the Seas	0700	1600	2446	Celebrity
Tue	Apr-19	Star Princess	0700	1400	2600	Princess
Wed	Apr-20	Constellation	0800	1600	2034	Celebrity
Fri	Apr-22	Friday market	0900	1400		
Thu	Apr-28	Caribbean Princess	1100	2000	3100	Princess
Fri	Apr-29	Grandeur of the Seas	0700	1600	2446	Celebrity

CLOSE-IN EVENTS

Saturday, April 9 – Clean up Dive sponsored by Dive Friends. Meet at 12:30 pm at Yellow Submarine. Area to be cleaned is in front of restaurant It Rains Fishes. Air and a BBQ following the dive are free for participants. Non-participants may enjoy the BBQ for \$10. RSVP at Dive Friends Bonaire: 717-2929 or email: cleanup@dive-friends-bonaire.com.

Saturday, April 16 - Piano Concert. Ana Karina Alamo, soloist. Plaza Resort. Tickets \$20. Make reservations at www.classicalmusicbonaire.com. More on page 10 & 17

Sunday, April 17 – Kontest di Fli (Kite Flying Contest) – 9 am – all day. Incredible, imaginative kites designed and flown by individuals and groups. In the soccer field behind Kooyman's. Sign up at the Flamingo Book Store, Kaya Grandi #19. Entry fee f\$2, children, \$4. For more information call Iris Se-meleer at 717-6586—more on page 6

-Kaminda di Arte (Art Trail) 11 am to 5 pm. Visit artists' homes and studios. Infor: Karel de Regt: 717-5785 / 788-4477, karel@flamingotv.net, or Fred v.d. Broek: 788-2536, fredvdbroek48@hotmail.com

Friday, April 22 – Good Friday, Earth Day

Saturday, April 23 -Kriabon Open day and Farmer's Market, home grown fruits, vegetables, local products, 8 am-noon. Go Green , LVV and SKAL participating. More page 18

Sunday, Monday, April 24, 25 – Easter Sunday and Monday

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.

• **Monthly flea market at "We Dare To Care Playground, 1st Saturday of the month, 2– 6 pm.** Rent a table for \$10. Information: Marissa Jansen (Tel: 701-1103) or Kim de Raadt (Tel: 787-1475)

• **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 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: 790-7001 and 796-4931

Al-Anon meetings - every Monday evening at 7 pm. Call 790-7272

Bridge Club - Wednesdays, 7:15 pm— All levels, NAf2.50, call Renata at 796-5591 to find out the evening's location.

Darts Club plays every other Sunday at City Café. Registration at 4, games at 5. Tel. 717-2950, 560-7539.

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

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

Lions Club meets every 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month at 8 pm at Kaya

Sabana #1. All Lions welcome. For more information call 510-0710.

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

Toastmasters Club meets every two weeks. For more information call 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 Antriol, Saturday at 6 pm in English. Mass in Papiamentu on Sunday at 9 am and 6 pm. 717-4211.

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

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

Prayer and Intercession Church, in English. A full Gospel Church located temporarily at Kaya Alexandrit # 20, Santa Barbara, Republik. 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.

Foundation Fountain of Living Waters, Centro Fuente, Service Sunday at Kaya Aruaco 4 at 6 p.m. Preaching in Papiamentu and Spanish. For Marriage Counseling, contact 717-2161

Who's Who on The Bonaire Reporter

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Venezuelan Piano Soloist Ana Karina Alamo to Perform on Bonaire, April 16



Internationally acclaimed piano soloist, **Ana Karina Alamo**, will perform at Plaza Resort Bonaire's Cacique Hall on Saturday, April 16 at 7:30 pm. The young Venezuelan pianist has performed with renowned orchestras in various venues in Europe as well as in prestigious halls in North and South America.

A child prodigy, Ana Karina Alamo performed before an audience of 500 at the tender age of six. At nine she was the featured solo pianist of Venezuela's famous youth orchestra, Jovenes Arcos Orchestra. At age 11, she was invited to join the Venezuelan Symphony Orchestra for a CD recording, "Pequena Fantasia," performing a piece composed especially for her by Alexander Slobodyanik. Ms. Alamo has won several first prizes in international piano competitions and has played at the personal invitation of President and Mrs. George Bush at the White House as an encore to her successful performance at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C.

On Bonaire, Ms. Alamo will interpret romantic works by Beethoven, Schumann and Scriabin, and she will also perform works by lesser known but powerful South American composers.

For more information see the web site of the Classical Music Board Bonaire: www.classicalmusicbonaire.com, where tickets to the April 16 performance may be reserved. After April 1, tickets are also available for purchase at the Plaza Resort reservations desk and on Kaya Grandi at Flamingo Book Store and Addo's Books and Toys.

Master Class

On Friday evening, April 15, at 6:30 pm, Ms. Alamo will offer a master class, open to Bonaire's advanced piano students, also at Plaza Resort's Cacique Hall. The public is invited to attend gratis.

Next Concert

The next following concert organized by the Classical Music Board Bonaire will feature "Vento do Norte," a group of nine saxophonists who will perform a program of classical music on May 29, 2011, also at Plaza Resort Bonaire. ■ **Bob Gilmour**

Dushi Shoes



Dushi Shoes' Sales Staff: Caroline, Liliann, Daniek and Mary in front of the showcase of awesome shoes

Last Saturday afternoon when Dushi Shoes opened their doors, customers piled in and the cash register was ringing. Maybe it was because of the popular name brands like Birkenstock, Nike, Cobian, Reef, Crocs and Ocean Minded were in stock in so many attractive styles for men, women and children in nearly every size. Prices are reasonable.

Dushi Shoes is Dive Friends' third retail outlet. The other two are Divers' Discount and Divers' Retail Outlet, both on Kaya Grandi. Dushi Shoes is right around the corner from the Banko di Caribe at Kaya Almirante Pedro Luis Brion #1. They're open Monday through Saturday 8:30am to 12:30 pm and from 1:30 to 5:30pm. ■ **Laura DeSalvo**

Clean Up Dive Saturday



Dive Friends is hosting another **Quarterly Clean Up Dive on Saturday, April 9**. The Clean Up focuses on the removal of new trash rather than disturbing the flora and fauna that may have taken up residence in older trash. On each dive a different area of Bonaire's coastal reefs is selected.

Meet at 12:30 at Yellow Submarine. Air is free. The clean up area this time will be in front of the restaurant It Rains Fishes. The BBQ following is free for volunteer divers. Raffle tickets are also free for them. Non-divers may purchase a BBQ/Raffle ticket for \$10. RSVP at Dive Friends Bonaire: 717-2929 or email: cleanup@dive-friends-bonaire.com.

Dive Friends received an Environmental Award from PADI at the DEMA convention in Las Vegas recently because of their hosting Quarterly Clean Up Dives. Dive Friends (along with NetTech) has been sponsoring this event since July 2005. ■ **L. D.**

Body Talk

DON'T BLAME THE MESSENGER

Oh no! Not some more bad news you ask! Well, it depends how you look at it. Is it really bad news when you are given the facts instead of believing what Big Pharma wants you to believe? Is it bad news to once and for all put an end to myths and mass brainwashing? You decide, because this article is on the killer oils Omega 6 and Omega 3!

Now we have been told (for a very long time) that Omega 3 and Omega 6 are essential to health - against arthritis, asthma, cancer, prostate problems, lowers triglycerides, thins the blood?, against inflammation of the gastro-intestinal tract, it prevent strokes? And against heart attacks, to name a few uses.

The most common omega 6 fatty acids are primarily derived from seed oils - soy oil, corn oil, canola oil, peanut oil, cottonseed oil, sunflower oil, sesame oil etc. Now back in the 1950s Agri-business began to wonder what it could do to generate cash from the millions of acres it planted in soy beans every year. Soy beans were an essential rotation crop because the cash crop - corn, so totally depletes the soil. The vast acreage necessarily planted in soy beans every year, produced little except livestock feed. Agri-business came up with the idea of promoting soy oil as a way to generate cash from soy beans. The competition with soy oil in the concentrated fat market was from butter and from palm and coconut oil.

Agri-business came up with a brilliant idea and financed the research "proving" that saturated fats (as in butter, palm and coconut oil) cause cardiovascular disease. They then spent a fortune promoting the results of this "research" to the public, quite effectively convincing us that not only were saturated fats killing us, but that the fatty acids in soy oil were "essential" to protect us and to maintain health!

The seed oil industry got two unexpected boosts to its popularity, one small and one large. A nice little booster came from the

health food industry, always prepared to hop on any pseudo-scientific band wagon it can ride for profits, aggressively promoting vegetable oils because they contain even more "essential" fatty acids than common soy oil.

The bigger boost came from the rapidly growing fast food industry and in the 1950s we saw the birth of McDonalds and all its successors. Nothing makes fast food faster than deep frying in a vat of soy oil, or slopping soy oil on the grill. Burgers and fries replaced roast beef and mashed potatoes as staples in the average diet. Agri-business is fat and happy - Mr. Average American is fat and dying!

So what exactly make these oils so damaging to the human body? HEAT! The heat of standard processing makes vegetable oils noxious by causing the double bonds in the PUFAs (poly-unsaturated fatty acids) to migrate along the carbon chain, creating bizarre unnatural acids that are entirely pathological in their effect. Now let us move to Omega 3 oil.

The three PUFAs now highly promoted by the health industry are ALA, EPA and DHA. ALA is found in flax and a few other seeds, and EPA and DHA are predominantly found in fish oil. Now fish oil is so subject to oxidation that, without antioxidants, it is almost totally degraded within 48 hours. That spontaneous oxidation is what makes fish oils useful as varnish and in paint! ■

Stephanie Bennett

To be continued.....

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 Esserence Nutritional Center



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.

Sudoku Solution

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

BonQuiz #48 Answer

Q) In what year was the title of Commander changed to Lt. Governor?

Answer: 1848

Question on page 7



Pet of the Week

“Kevin” is a recent arrival at the Bonaire Animal Shelter and is one of the most beautiful, long haired tabby cats the Shelter has ever seen. He is only seven months old and will grow to be a fairly large and stunning young man with distinctive gold, black and brown markings and long, luxurious whiskers. Kevin is shy on first approach, but once you begin stroking his long, soft fur he melts in your arms, the purr engine starts and he begs for belly rubs! He is quiet and very laid back, not particularly interested in interaction with other cats but coexists very peacefully with his current 27 roommates. Kevin is ideal for someone looking for a companion cat... a cat that is affectionate and actively desires human contact. Kevin is ready to come into your heart and your home. ■ *Story & photo by Jane Madden*



Kevin

To meet Kevin and the other adoptees, visit the Bonaire Animal Shelter on the Lagoen Road, open Monday through Saturday, 9 am to 1 pm and 3 to 5 pm. Tel. 717-4989. WWW.BonaireAnimalShelter.com

TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE SHELTER: You may make a **General Donation** to the Shelter, **MCB Account #102.37800**; or **RBT #23.10.139**. To donate to the **Sterilization Fund: MCB Account #10616410** (“Sterilization Fund”). US citizens may use **Support Bonaire, Inc.** WWW.SupportBonaire.org (Support-Bonaire-News-Newsletter-20031118.html) for on-line credit card donations. And there are always the **Shelter Donation boxes** in shops around town. ■ *Laura DeSalvo*

Inspired To Poetry

The two “part time resident” dogs at Little Havana, Disney and Meisje, inspired Professor Pauline Kayes to write this poem:

DISNEY AND MEISJE

Loyal to one another to the bitter end,
(well, maybe he more than she), Disney and Meisje
Protect their streets,
Catch a snooze in the gravel,
And guard Havana and La Guernica
From real and imaginary enemies
On two bicycle wheels.

He—with feminine shrill,
She—with masculine hoarseness,
Both sound the alarm to warn
The tipsy revelers that trouble is afoot.
Their reward?
A snack seduced from a willing hand,
A leather couch for a nap before the dance.

In the wee hours of the morning
They disappear, only they know where,
Keeping the secrets of the street dogs
of Bonaire. ■ *Poem & photos by Pauline Kayes*



Farmers' Market

Get ready for the biggest event in Bonaire agriculture in years. It's the “Open Day” and *Simadan di Aleluya* on April 23 at Kriabon on Kaminda Yato Bako (continue past Amboina on the Nikiboco North road). Organizing the day are the Bonaire Department of Culture (SKAL), LVV (Agricultural and Animal Husbandry extension Service), the Farmers' Cooperative-Kriabon and the Go Green Farmers' Market.

The market should have more products than ever with the multiple sponsors and additional local growers. You never know what you'll find but in past months there were several kinds of vegetables, local agave brewed tequila, herbs, homemade pasta, landscaping plants, honey, fertilizers, crafts and more. ■ *G.D.*



At the last Farmers' Market: It's not Coca Cola in those bottles but a nutrient-rich solution for your plants formulated by Agronomist Manuel Simbaña Vargas (on left).

Pets Adopted

Wonderful news: These two “best friends,” “Sunshine” and “Cocoa,” who were featured in Pet of the Week in the last issue of *The Reporter* have been adopted when Sandra and Wim made them part of their family after seeing them in *The Reporter*. Not only that but they have a new “brother,” old cat “Tommy.” All the best to animals and people. May you have many happy years together. ■ *L.D.*



Photos by Marlies Tiepel

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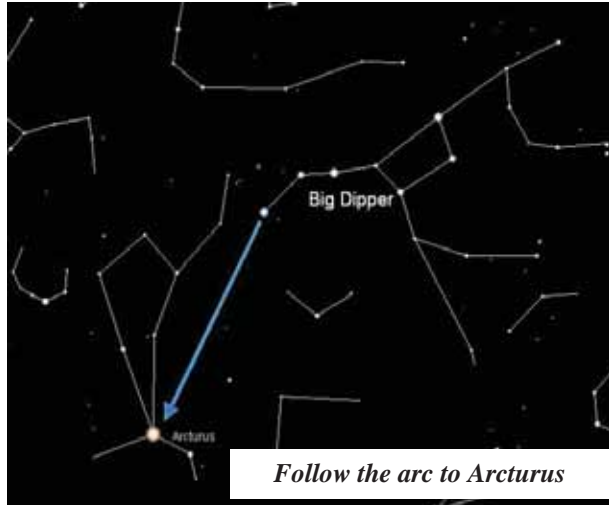
*to find it... just look up

Awesome Arcturus, Star Of A Million Years

How often have you heard the term "fixed star?" Often, I'm sure, because when we look up at the constellations at night we essentially see the same star patterns which our ancestors saw thousands of years ago and which our descendants will see thousands of years hence. And indeed, for all practical visual purposes the stars are fixed, but in reality they are not. Indeed, they are all moving at incredible speeds throughout space in all different directions. But because they are so incredibly far away it takes many lifetimes to notice any changes in their positions relative to one another, except for a couple of them.

In fact, Edmund Halley for whom **Halley's Comet** is named, discovered almost 300 years ago that the star called **Arcturus** had changed its position from its location in older star charts which made Halley wonder if perhaps the stars were not as fixed as everyone thought. And he was indeed right for we now know that Arcturus changes its position among the fixed stars faster than any **bright star** other than **Alpha Centauri**. But that's just one of the extraordinary things about Arcturus. And before I tell you more let me tell you how to find it.

Simply go outside any clear evening, look north for the **Big Dipper** and then use it as a guide, because to find Arcturus all you have to do is shoot an arrow through the handle of the Big Dipper and that arrow will land smack dab on Arcturus, the brightest star in **Bootes**. Or as any amateur astronomer will tell you, arc to Arcturus. Now once you've found Arcturus think of this: although all the other stars are in reality moving in different directions at different speeds, Arcturus' direction and speed is



special because Arcturus' real space velocity is almost 90 miles per second and is moving toward the constellation **Virgo**. And at that incredible rate it will change its position among the stars as seen from our **Earth**, by the width of one full **Moon** every 900 years. That's fast!

So, **Bootes** is the one constellation that is changing its visual shape faster than all the rest except for **Centaurus**. So fast that I like to think of Arcturus as the star of a million years because it was only half a million years ago that Arcturus first became visible to the eyes of man. And incredibly, in just a half million years more it will disappear from naked eye view altogether. You see, although ancient records listed Arcturus as the **6th brightest star** in the heavens, we now see it as the **4th brightest**. And in fact we who walk this planet now are seeing Arcturus as bright as any humans ever will, because right now **Arcturus is about as close as it will ever come to our planet Earth**. Indeed it will soon, cosmically speaking, pass us by and fade away into the void forever. Just think of it, Arcturus, one of the brightest stars of our time, was invisible to our ancestors a mere half million years ago. ■ *James Albury*



THE STARS HAVE IT

By Astrologer Michael Thiessen
Month of April 2011 Horoscope

ARIES (Mar. 21- April 20) You can convince others to follow suit. You must not lead someone on or show interest in them for the wrong reasons. You may find that your boss is not delighted with your work lately. Don't hesitate to voice your opinions at a group meeting; however, keep your thoughts to yourself at home. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Tuesday.

TAURUS (Apr. 21- May 21) Find out what they're up to, and see if you can pick up where you left off. If they're too demanding, reconsider this union. Try to avoid serious discussions with loved ones. Your best efforts will come through making changes in your home. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Friday.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21) Channel your energy into projects that will enhance your home. You will find travel and lectures most stimulating. Strengthen your position among your peers. You can help a close friend find solutions to personal problems. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Sunday.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) Take on positions that offer on the job training or pay for courses related to the business. You can put in some overtime and make extra cash. Channel your energy into decorating or household chores. There'll be difficulties if you spend too much. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Tuesday.

LEO (July 23-Aug 22) Your mate will be pushing you to do things that you really don't want to do. Exaggeration or deception coupled with overindulgence might be a problem. Travel could be in order. You will upset your partner if you have spent money on things that aren't necessary. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Friday.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) Plan to do things with your faithful pet or with youngsters who have interesting hobbies. New romantic ties can be made; however, you must make sure that your motives are not selfish before you make your move. Don't let children hold you back from doing things you enjoy. It might be time for you to take a quantum leap from one career to

another. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Saturday.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) Your partner may be erratic this month if you haven't paid enough attention to him or her. You can enhance your reputation if you treat family and friends with respect and dignity. Deception will play an important factor in relationships. You must watch your tendency to spend whatever you make. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Sunday.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) Get help to finish a project if you need it. Entertainment should include your whole family. Do not ruffle feathers if possible. Listen and formulate your course of action. You will be indecisive. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Thursday.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) Compromise if you wish to have any fun at all. Make any necessary changes to your insurance policy. Although upsetting, changes in your domestic situation will be favorable. Don't be too eager to spend what's left over; more unexpected expenses are evident. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Saturday.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) Relatives may be less than easy to deal with. Your involvement in organizational events could open doors to new and exciting opportunities. Don't let relatives stand in the way of your personal plans. Your courage and willpower will enable you to get rid of destructive habits as well. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Friday.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) You need to do more research before you make your final decision. Put your efforts into being creative. Secret enemies may be holding a grudge that you're not even aware of. Don't make excuses. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Wednesday.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) You may have to take a short trip to visit someone who hasn't been well. Be aware that a female you work with may be trying to hold you back. If you have to deal with large institutions, be careful not to make waves. You will have a little more energy than usual. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Saturday. ■

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Earth Hour at Mangazina di Rei



Picture taken by Herman van Leeuwen last week at Mangazina di Rei.

The Tourism Bureau and Mangazina di Rei organized an “Unplugged Candlelight Concert” on March 26th in connection with Earth Hour. The concert was free and lasted from 6 until 10 in the evening. Visitors enjoyed music, poems and paintings. The latter was also meant to collect money for the conservation of Mangazina di Rei, the oldest cultural building of Bonaire, which is also an open-air museum.

Earth Hour started in 2007 in Australia. Approximately 2.2 million people and over 2000 companies turned off their lights for one hour, protesting against the rising temperatures on earth. ■ *Johannetta Gordijn*

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

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April, 2011