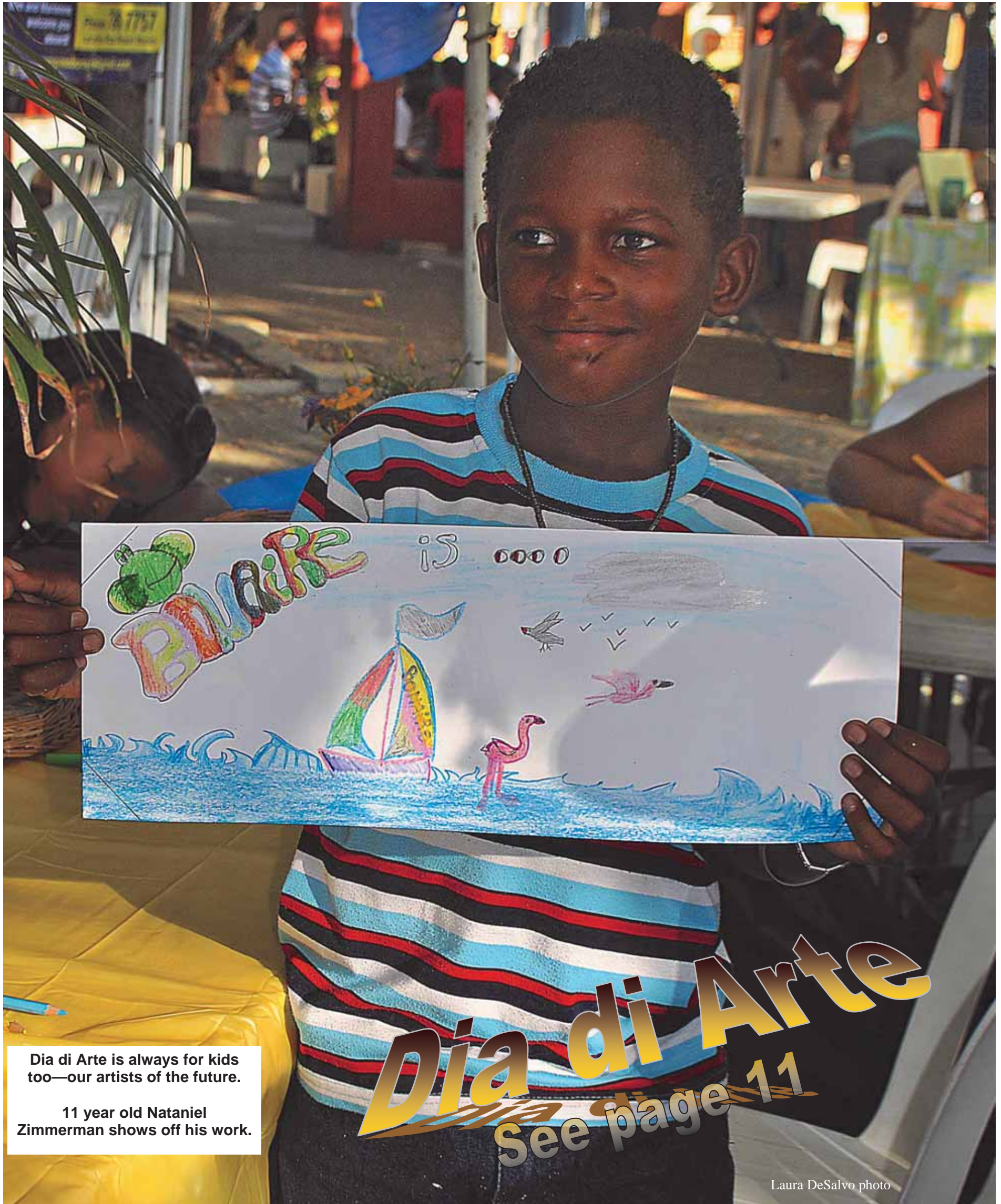


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**BONAIRE** July 8-22, 2011, Year 18, Issue 13  
**The REPORTER**

*Helping Bonaire Grow Responsibly*

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Dia di Arte is always for kids too—our artists of the future.  
11 year old Nataniel Zimmerman shows off his work.

**Dia di Arte**  
See page 11

Laura DeSalvo photo

# Flotsam and Jetsam

## BONAIRE The REPORTER

In a continuing campaign against parrot poaching and nature defilement Bonaire officials last week confiscated **14 endangered -species Loras and 113 Prikichis from a single individual.** Charges are pending.

► **Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands** (photo), her son **Crown Prince Willem-Alexander** and his wife **Princess Máxima**, will pay a formal visit to the **six Dutch Caribbean islands from October 28 to November 6 this year.**



► It's almost a sure thing that some of the most popular Internet cameras that show scenes of Bonaire known as "**Bonaire WebCams@**," will be closing down at the end of August, after 11 years of operation. From its pioneering start with the region's first underwater webcam it had a peak of 14 cameras operating in 2010. It is now down to about a half dozen. Bonaire's tourism benefitted from its numerous WebCams. Many visitors, and even locals while traveling, tune to the Cams to capture the unique essence of the island. The WebCams were never sponsored by the government Tourism Bureau (TCB). According to spokesman Jake Richter, unless a buyer can be found for the Bonaire WebCams before the end of August, 2011, it will shut down at that time. Anyone who has an interest in some or all of the Bonaire WebCam assets can contact Jake or email [info@caribbeanwebcams.com](mailto:info@caribbeanwebcams.com).

► **WILLEMSTAD- The Government of Curaçao has not begun action** to make the US dollar the country's official currency and has no plans in that direction, said **Finance Minister George "Jorge" Jamaloodin** to the Curacao Parliament. The Curacao government also decided that October 10, the date when the Netherlands was dissolved as a "country" last year, will replace December 15 as a public holiday. It's not a holiday in Bonaire.

► **THE NETHERLANDS-** Last week, to the disappointment of Jews and Muslims, **the Dutch Parliament voted to ban the non-anaesthetized ritual slaughter of food animals.** The final count was 116 ballots for and 30 against the move. Animals are killed using ritual slaughter techniques to obtain kosher and halal meats.

Jewish and Muslim representatives argued that animals do not suffer more in the process than by methods used in traditional slaughterhouses. Christian Democrats and the small, right-wing religious party, SGP, were both against the measure, calling it an infringement of the right to religious freedom. **Animal Rights Party MP Marianne Thieme** defended the ban, which she introduced.

► **MIDDELBURG, The Netherlands--The only coral to be found in European Dutch coastal waters has as good as died out, marine protection group Stichting Anemoon said.** The coral, known as Dead Man's Fingers, is still found on shipwrecks and the Klaverbank in the North Sea, which would be a good reason to give the area protected status, the foundation said. Bonaire's much more verdant tropical corals are under stress from warm sea temperature this summer.

► **Dutch city's** archivist Teun de Bruijn will visit the island together with Dordrecht cultural entrepreneurs Mimoun Himmit and Marieke Knol of the bureau "Mobility in Music" in early July to prepare a project to digitalize Bonaire's archives. The effort can begin at the end of 2011. Financial support will be from, among others, the Mondriaan Institute, according to the website [Dordrecht.net](http://Dordrecht.net)



Bòì Antoin

**During the past years, local historian, journalist and author Franklin "Bòì" Antoin has built up an extensive collection** on Bonaire's cultural heritage, consisting of pictures from the 20th century, video tapes, audio tapes, objects, books, newspapers and other documents. However, the material is currently stored in a 6 x 4 meter space and the storage conditions are far from ideal; the deterioration of the material is clearly visible, according to the website. The Heritage Center of Dordrecht, DiEP, will assist in the digitalization and opening up of the archives on Bonaire. Bonaire's *Plataforma Kultural* and *Fundashon Històriko Kultural Boneriano* originally took the initiative to have the present material digitalized and made available. They will work with DiEP, the National Archives in The Hague and the Institute for Image and Sound in Hilversum.

According to [Dordrecht.net](http://Dordrecht.net) the largest Bonairean community in The Netherlands lives in Dordrecht and this explains the close bond with the island. All parties involved feel a strong urgency to conserve **Bòì Antoin's archives.** The archives can be especially valuable to European Dutch residents so they can learn more about their new, exceptional "hometown."

► **Schools on Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba will receive more money from the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science in The Netherlands** this coming school year.



**Marja van Bijsterveldt Minister of Education** (photo) made the announcement just before the school vacation. She explained this to the Commissioners of Education on the islands in a video conference on July 1st and in a letter to the schools. The schools for Primary Education (formerly Foundation Based Education) will receive 10% more money. The schools for Secondary Education can also receive more money if they provide a clear overview of their income and expenses.

► **THE HAGUE--The Dutch Government is willing to provide, under certain conditions, incidental financial assistance to bring the public libraries on Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba to a level that equals the level of the basic library in The Netherlands,** while catering to local needs and circumstances.

Dutch State Secretary of Education, Culture and Science, **Halbe Zijlstra**, stated that his ministry would assist the libraries with **€150,000 per island.** The Island Governments will draw up plans in the near future to define how the libraries should look and operate, the steps that are required their own financial contribution for at least four years.

► **WILLEMSTAD--Insel Air made its inaugural flight from Curaçao to Charlotte, North Carolina,** last Wednesday. Bonaire residents can connect through Curaçao for the flight. Charlotte is a US Air hub and offers flights to numerous US cities. The flights are every Wednesday and Saturday, departing at 9:10am from Curaçao and arriving in Charlotte at 1:25pm. The return flights depart from Charlotte at 2:25pm, arriving in Curaçao at 6:40pm.

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(Continued from page 2)

►THE NETHERLANDS--Beginning in September, KLM flights between Amsterdam and Paris will run on used cooking oil. The route might be labeled "French Flies." The move is an important new step towards aviation sustainability, the airline announced last Wednesday. "KLM has again shown it is stimulating the development of biokerosene," said Managing Director Camiel Eurlings. "The route to more than 200 KLM flights will operate on bio-kerosene, biofuel derived from used frying oil and tested to meet the same technical specifications as traditional kerosene jet fuel.

►The Dutch National Ombudsman, who deals with complaints concerning the Police, tax authorities and Kingdom Service Caribbean Netherlands (Rijksdienst Caribisch Nederland -RCN), will visit the Dutch Caribbean in October 2011. Preliminary groundwork has already begun. An example of a problem may be non-responsiveness to a letter submitted or ill-treatment by an official. A person with a grievance should first contact the respective institution. If no solution is found, then contact the National Ombudsman. For additional information, call the free telephone number 0800-0555 between 7 and 11am.

►THE HAGUE--The budget for Dutch world service Radio Netherlands Worldwide, RNW, is to be slashed from 46 million euros this year to 14 million euros, Foreign Affairs Minister Uri Rosenthal said after the weekly cabinet meeting. The effect of the cut on the RNW facility on Bonaire has not been yet determined. In addition, responsibility for RNW is being shifted from the Culture Ministry to the Foreign Office, and six million euros of its funding will come from the development aid budget, Rosenthal said. The focus of RNW's activities will shift to providing independent information in countries without a free press.

►Get moving! Exercise is like Miracle-Gro for your brain and body: It increases cognition, slashes your risk of Alzheimer's, protects your heart, dials down stress, builds muscle, strengthens your bones and boosts your immune system. What's more, brain chemicals called endorphins that are released during exercise yield a powerful feeling of happiness and well-being. Fitness has no age limits. Even if you've never belonged to a gym, it's never too late to start building aerobic endurance, muscle strength and balance. Bon Bida Spa is the place to do it... and it's air-conditioned during this hot time of the year. Start with a regular pedaling or walking

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Fire truck at Bon Bida Spa-- The Brandweer (fire dept.) trains here



►Correction: The ship that was "arrested" and chained to the pier because it had defects that threatened navigation, safety and the environment, is still in port. The vessel, Santa Paula sailing under the Venezuelan flag, had serious faults that made it a threat to navigation. It had come from Aruba with a consignment of cement for Bonaire. Work to correct the problems was underway last week. In the last edition we reported that the ship had departed.

►Did you know: The Antillean Wine Company (AWC) doesn't just sell wine? It's now associated with its in-house neighbor, "Le Garage." Added to AWC's already well stocked inventory of all kinds of glasses, decanters and more wine associated items, are things for the kitchen and house - place mats, clocks, rugs, pillows, containers, and more - and even toys for babies and children. Many of the items come from Ikea and are top quality and stylish too. Stop in and see for yourself. AWC and Le Garage are in the storage facility at Kaya Industria 23, other side of the street from Warehouse Bonaire. They're open from 9am to 12:30 pm, Monday through Saturday. Tel. 560-7539

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►BONAIRE--During the recent visit of Dutch State Secretary of Finance, Frans Weekers to Bonaire, a number of people demonstrated in Wilhelmina Park to emphasize their dissatisfaction about the economic situation on the island following integration with Holland. Contrary to the many promises that the living standard on Bonaire would improve, people are experiencing more difficulty with the cost of living. The island has become increasingly expensive in their opinion. The organizers of the protest said people are fed up with broken promises by The Netherlands.

►Ironically, the Tax Service of the Netherlands (Belastingdienst) won an award for its innovative Internet Communication Technology (ICT) scheme for Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba. Despite the award the people on these islands are unhappy with the new tax arrangements. Islanders believe their tax burdens have increased considerably since the new relations within the Dutch Kingdom took effect, while salaries were stagnant. There was a protest gathering on Bonaire during the visiting state secretary's visit. Former Democratic Party leader Jopie Abraham also sent an urgent letter to The Hague calling for a reconsideration of the island's present situation. One of the issues these three islands face is that they import almost all their products via nearby islands and those islands already have had duties imposed on the products leading to double taxation. (Curaçao for Bonaire and St. Maarten for Saba and Statia.)

►The State Secretary of Finance Weekers, during his visit to Bonaire on July 23 promised to take measures to relieve the

burden for the residents of the Dutch Caribbean. The State Secretary was made to understand that there is unrest and dissatisfaction regarding the way the new tax system is working out for the local people. He now shares these concerns and will address some adjustments for the short as well as the long term. Some ideas include: **Increase the tax free threshold** -The State Secretary has promised to increase the tax-free threshold with the inflation correction and possibility per July 1<sup>st</sup>. The tax-free threshold is currently \$9750. Furthermore it will be examined how to lower the increased burden for pensioners. **ABB (Sales tax)** -In the week of June 27<sup>th</sup> the State Secretary started discussions with representatives of the Curaçao and St. Maarten civil service regarding the double taxation which is now levied for the transit of goods. It will also be examined if the ABB on the costs of freight can be abolished. The accumulation of the ABB, which now exists in, among others, the horeca (hotel and restaurant) and construction sectors, will be looked at. **Short and long term** -In the coming weeks the State Secretary will examine which significant problems can be quickly resolved. Furthermore he will order research into the bottlenecks which must be addressed, however, this will require more time as it involves changes in the law, which require parliamentary procedure.

►In The European Netherlands the cost of buying a house has been cut. The special tax on house purchases - overdrachtsbelasting or conveyance tax - is to be reduced from 6% to 2% for a year in an effort to boost the housing market. The 4% reduction does not apply to the 5% overdrachtsbelasting recently introduced in the Dutch Caribbean as far as we can determine.

►WILLEMSTAD--The Parliament of Curaçao has unanimously adopted a motion urging the government to reduce or eliminate the OB turnover tax and import duties on fruit and vegetables. Some of Bonaire's fruits and vegetables come via Curaçao, and Bonaireans should also benefit. Currently the tariff varies between 5 and 10.5% for most vegetables and fruit. For "exotic" items there is a 27% duty.

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Advertisement for United Colors of Benetton. Text includes: BUY 1 PAIR OF JEANS AND GET 50% OFF 2nd PAIR; UNTILL JULY 9 2011; Kaya Grandi 29 | Kralendijk Bonaire | T. 717 5107. Image shows models wearing jeans.

# On the Island Since... 1997 & 2008 - Robert Smaal and Marjolein Rijpkema

“When I worked in England as a trainee to complete my physiotherapy studies, I found out how much I liked working abroad. While I was completing my study back in Holland I saw an ad in the paper which said ‘We are looking for a female physiotherapist with a minimum of three years work experience and preferably a specialization.’ Well, I had not graduated yet and,” he chuckles, “I could not meet the other preferences either but I applied and they hired me! I graduated on a Friday, on Saturday I flew to Bonaire and the following Monday morning I started working for Bonfysio in Kaya Grandi, with Simone Sweers and Imre Esser.

I had planned to stay for a couple of years and then go back to Holland, to my friends and family, but I stayed for six years. It was a magnificent time: the work, the clientele, the team and

Bonaire – a wonderful experience.

Then I found a practice for sale close to Amsterdam and I decided to go for it. I bought the place and worked there for three years, but after two and a half years I was invited to a friend’s wedding on Bonaire. I had the most incredible time... it felt like coming home! Back in Holland I looked out of the window and it was a typical Dutch winter day: dark and grey and drizzly and then I got very homesick, but where was my home?

I started thinking. My heart told me to go back to Bonaire, but I didn’t want to go back to what I’d done, I wanted to move on, so I thought, ‘I’ll go to Aruba.’ I applied for a job at a physiotherapy practice. They told me I could start as a substitute for four months. I thought, ‘Once I’m there everything will be all right.’ I sold my practice in Holland and

went to Aruba. I’d just started working when the Horatio E. Oduber Hospital contacted me and offered me a job. The hospital was reorganizing the rehabilitation ward and they wanted me to assist. As I didn’t want to let the other practice down I asked the hospital if I could do the job during morning hours for the first four months so I would be able to work at the physiotherapy practice in the afternoons and evenings. They agreed and I worked very long days but it was all worth it!

At the hospital, work was fascinating. I learned so much; the people were inspiring and the team was great. Then I organized a course for the Physiotherapists Association of Aruba. It was given by Dos Winkel, well-known on Bonaire and a very good friend of mine. When we went for lunch Dos told me, ‘Bonfysio on Bonaire is for sale... and I think it’s something



Robert and Marjolein at home

**“Both of us are fluent in Papiamentu and to me it’s a logical thing to be interested in the culture, the history and the customs of the Bonaireans. It’s a matter of respect for the country and its people.”**

for you!’ I’d been on Aruba for two years, time had flown and I was still enjoying every minute of it and so I thought, ‘It’s not the right time.’ Then a colleague of mine started asking me questions about Bonaire and Bonfysio and while I was telling him about my years on Bonaire it was like

somewhere in my mind a switch went on and I thought, ‘I should do it!’ I contacted Simone and bought Bonfysio. At the end of October 2007, I came back to the island. I enjoyed it tremendously, setting everything up.

(Continued on page 5)

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

In November 2010 we moved the practice to Hato where I'd bought Michiel Verhoef's building and we started with Bonfysio Bonbida. It's a magnificent and outstanding location and we've improved so much. I've never regretted it for one minute!"

Marjolein says, "I met Robert when I was still studying physiotherapy and the school had me work as a trainee at his practice close to Amsterdam. There was an instant click and we became friends. I had a good time working with Robert and his team and by the end of my studies when I was looking for my final trainee post, Robert advised me to do it on Bonaire, at Bonfysio. It didn't work out, but I had my mind set on going to the Antilles, so I decided to apply at the hospital on Aruba. I had arranged the trainee post in Aruba a year ahead of time and when I told Robert I was going to Aruba he told me he was going too!"

I went in June 2006. I'd just started working when I met Robert who was working at the hospital in the mornings. It was a very interesting and fun time and I learned a lot. In December, on the last day of my trainee period, I planned a farewell party to thank all my colleagues and at that party Robert and I fell in

love."

*They look at each other, blush and laugh and there's the old, old magic that makes them shine... They are one of the nicest couples I've met: very social, sweet and caring and absolutely passionate when it comes to their profession.*

"Well," Marjolein continues, "I still had a two-month vacation on Aruba so we spent a lot of time together and we got to know each other better. But I had to graduate in Holland, and when I left it was a very intense and painful farewell. All in all we were separated for one year. We had tremendous phone bills, we wrote very long mails, then I graduated and I got one job after another in Holland. At a certain point I was working six jobs while Robert was in transit between Aruba and Bonaire. I was working as a physiotherapist in downtown Amsterdam, I was giving medical fitness, I was giving hydrotherapy for heart patients in a pool, I was a free-lance masseuse and I was working as a personal trainer at the Okura Hotel in Amsterdam. It was very varied: one day I'd be giving physiotherapy to people of all different nationalities in the working class neighborhoods of Amsterdam and the next day I was at the Okura Hotel, the personal trainer

of national and international celebrities and members of the royal Dutch family. But... none of it was worth staying for as I was missing Robert terribly. Then he bought Bonfysio and the situation took a turn for the best: we could finally live and work together. I arrived on Bonaire February 2008." She laughs. "I came to give it a try and we're still trying but I'm not leaving! We fell in love in December, he asked me to marry him in December and we're going to get married this coming December."

Robert smiles. "It was meant to be! We are happy here. We enjoy this island; the people are so friendly and they're always grateful for what you do for them. Because of our work we see people of all different nationalities and from all walks of life. Both of us are fluent in Papiamentu and to me it's a logical thing to be interested in the culture, the history and the customs of the Bonaireans. It's a matter of respect for the country and its people. The language is a must, especially in our profession, because you have to know precisely what the complaints of the people are and they can only explain that in their own words. We have a multi-functional company. At Bonfysio we have three physiotherapists, a manual therapist and a pedotherapist and we're still growing. Bonbida is a spa and a



*You'll get a warm welcome at Bon Bida Spa and Bon Fysio*

fitness center where we have four instructors who do personal training, intake conversations and group training like Pilates, spinning and Caribbean dance. We also offer a great variety of massages, we have a sauna, showers and lockers. Others rent our space and they give Salsa, Zumba and Yoga and soon Tai Chi lessons. Fire fighters come to work out here and also employees of many private companies. Youngsters from SGB high school get a discount because we want Bonaire to become healthier and more sport minded. And we sponsor talented young people who excel in sports like surfing, biking, running, dancing and swimming and we're oh, so proud of them!

that you can help people to make them feel better. Often it is a real challenge, but when you succeed it's so rewarding! It's always different and it's always diverse. We love what we're doing and I am very excited about the future. We're going to get married and we have so many ideas and plans, personal and professional and... this island is our home. I couldn't think of any other place in this world where I would feel as much as home as I do here." Their eyes meet and Marjolein laughs. "I totally agree!"

Story & photos by Greta Kooistra



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# Grand Opening of Butterfly Garden and KishiKishi Lunch Café

Bonaire/  
towards Lac  
Cai –

So on that Sunday, the 26th of June I started my Bonairean blue-colored 600 cc single four stroke off road motorcycle to have

some extra fresh air forced into my lungs and mind. It was a dry and windy day and I really had the intention of enjoying the island and the elements. We rolled along the boulevard, the salinas, the airport and the barrio of Belnem to have a stop at Pink Beach. Then I continued my trip without goal. The ride was the goal. I passed the King William's Lighthouse and Sorobon Beach (too crowded). The road along the mangroves more or less curled in the direction of civilization again. I decided to turn right, towards Lac Bay, where the fishermen find their shelter. Then I noticed a hand-painted red and silver truck of friends of mine. So I followed them towards Lac Bay. After a couple of hundred yards my friends turned left.

They parked their vehicle and stepped out. They had been invited to the official opening of the new Butterfly Garden and I appeared to be more than welcome... An up-until-now-unknown lady, beautifully dressed, invited us in. Her name was **Dianne Lucassen** and together with **Georgie Rigault** they were the new owners of the



former Butterfly Farm Bonaire, now Butterfly Garden Bonaire. Nice people with a daughter named Edalina and son Julius plus Sunemy, a friendly helper.

The new Butterfly Garden Bonaire is an oasis in the outback of Bonaire. The covered tropical garden gives food and shelter to some 130 butterflies. The butterflies on exhibit come from private breeding and from farms in Costa Rica. In the center of the garden is a huge pond, giving shelter to dozens of Koi carp. The atmosphere is quiet and peaceful. It's a place to relax and to get in touch with nature and your own soul again. This Butterfly Garden really fits Bonaire. No noise, no music, just the ear tickling whisper of the trade wind...

Then I met Eva Loeffen and Kiki Cornelissen. Two lovely girls and driven students from Food Designs-Hertogenbosch, The Netherlands. These youngsters are *stageairs* (trainees). They set up and organized the new KishiKishi Lunch café, attached to the Butterfly Garden. (*Kishikishi* in Papiamentu stands for "itchy" or "tickly". I really wonder which girl came up with that

## Bubbles From the Biologist

TRUE LOVE

### Did You Know...

that it's possible to find true love in the tropics? Although a rare feat for other animals, most species of butterfly fish will have partners for life. As a couple, they are nearly inseparable and hunt, live, travel, and raise their young together. In fact, a separated butterfly fish will swim above the reef for a better view to find and reunite with its mate. And when one mate dies, the other may die as well. ■ *Lori Sako*

*Lori Sako is in her third year at Oberlin College in Oberlin, Ohio, and is a general biology major. She is currently studying at the CIEE Research Station in Bonaire.*



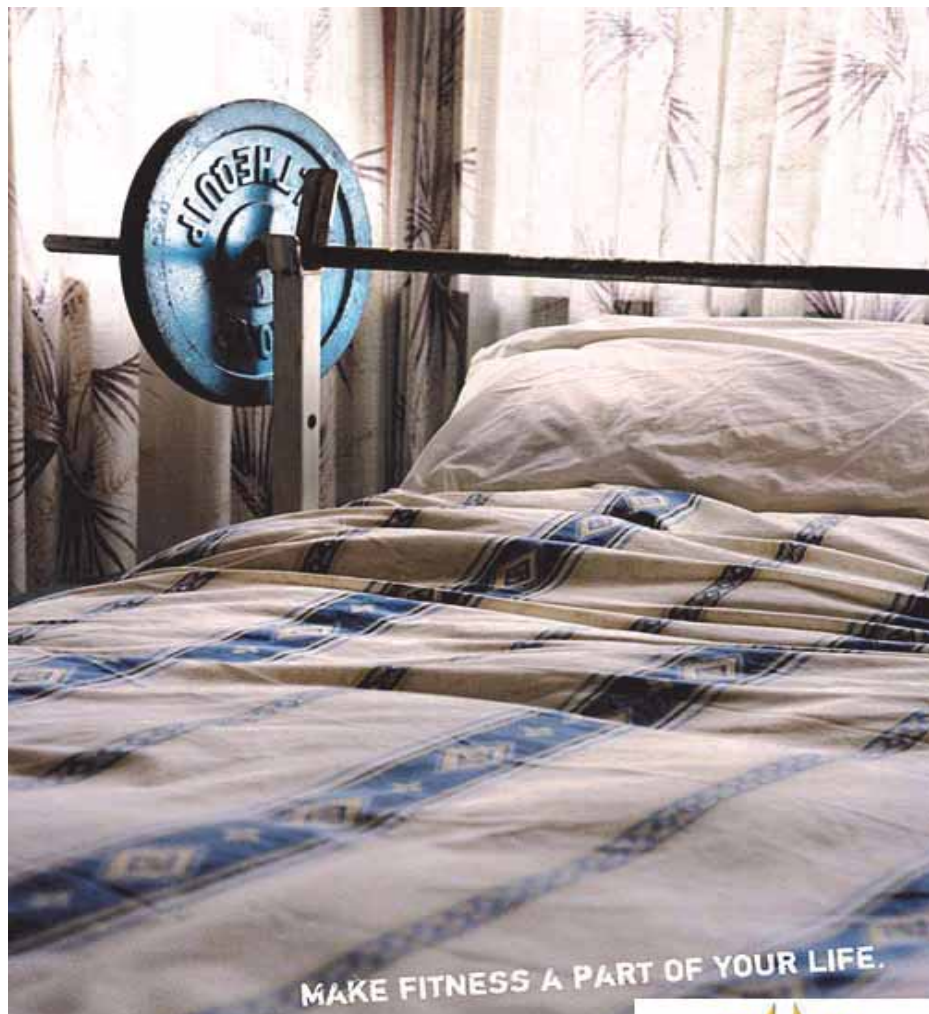
name! /jb)

In the KishiKishi Lunch café you can experience the real Caribbean feeling. KishiKishi combines typical local products and modern global cooking techniques in a peaceful surrounding. Within a couple of weeks Eva and Kiki will return to Europe again to finish school. Then Sharon Morales will take over the KishiKishi café.

It was Gezaghebber Glenn Thodé who did the official opening and speech. Live reggae music was played by a Jamaican/Bonairean

band, "Black Diamond." Some 50 persons enjoyed a lovely and relaxing afternoon and early evening. Well done, Dianne and Georgie, Eva, Kiki and Sharon and all other helpers. A wonderful opening!

The Butterfly Garden Bonaire is located at Kaminda Lac 101. Call: 795-8989 or visit their beautiful website: [www.butterflygardenbonaire.com](http://www.butterflygardenbonaire.com). The garden and café are open from Tuesday until Sunday, from 9 am until 5 pm. Butterfly Garden Bonaire and KishiKishi are part of the Awor Foundation,



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# Respect The Sabal Palm

SABAL 'SEKET BONAIREANO' PALM

About 20 years ago, when I was living on the island of Bonaire, my passion for exotic palm trees started after an adventurous search for the Sabal Palm of Bonaire.

In those days, my brother in law, Rob Seket, ran the Egreta Bar and restaurant, what is nowadays Kontiki. Rob had a history with flora; he'd lived and worked previously in Colombia and cultivated orchids, which were collected from the jungles of Colombia. Those were sold throughout the world to plant enthusiasts. At the end of the 80s Rob moved with his family to Bonaire.

He told me of the great Sabal Palms growing in the saltpan area of Bonaire. I was hooked from the start and we planned a day to find those Sabal trees and we had to stroll along notorious "Manzanillos," with its burning leaves. We eventually found a huge Sabal Palm tree, easily estimated to be over 100 years old, growing in coral rock. The bare trunk showed steps made by the locals that they probably used to cut the leaves for roof making or brooms. During further exploration on the island I found more adult trees in a garden in front of a house in Amboina and in an area closer to Belnem, which later was given the justified honorable name, "Sabal Palm."

Further investigation brought us to Curaçao's Christoffel Park where on a sole ridge of the mountain "Seru Biento", in a beautiful setting overlooking the coast of Curaçao, the Sabal Palms of Curaçao grow.

Sabal Palm tree species are among the most difficult to verify and most reveal their origin or differentiations at an adult state. Though earlier studies conclude the Curaçao Sabal is related to the "Sabal Palmetto," the Bonairean Sabal is somehow different. Where the Curaçao Sabal is grass-green the Bonairean Sabal has bluish-grey colored leaves.

It seems that the Bonaire Sabal is also



much bigger than its Curaçao neighbor. In my opinion it's more related to the "Sabal Uresana" from Mexico. Probably the Sabal on Bonaire was given to us by migrating birds, an idea supported by bird enthusiast Jeff, founder of <http://www.bonairebirds.com/>.

It is more than romantic to presume that the Bonairean Sabal Palm is a different species. For love of Bonaire I sincerely hope so, but in order to be a different species it should have been there for at least centuries. Nobody knows..... but on my next visit to Bonaire this coming January we will pick some seeds and leaf samples in an effort to have them studied and examined by the Botanic Garden and University here in Malaga, Spain. As a working title we will use Sabal 'Seket Bonaireano' in remembrance of Rob Seket, who has since passed away.

The above photo, courtesy of Miriam Geerlings of Kontiki beach, shows a majestic Sabal palm planted by Rob.

Please respect Sabal Palm trees. They are very sensitive to transplanting so please leave them in their natural habitat. Enjoy them for what they are and more importantly, where they are. Just remember that they are Bonairean! ■

Peter 'Palm Nuts' Lensvelt

# WAR GAMES AND MORE

The men in military uniform you've seen along Bonaire's roads and shores are Dutch Marines and some British Royal Marines taking part in a large military training exercise named Caribbean Archer 2011. All three ABC islands are involved. In Aruba the marines are training for high level ground operations against an equivalently armed foe. In Curaçao's Oostpunt special operations similar to an action in Afganistan are being simulated. On Bonaire the troops are training for amphibious ops and a non-combatant evacuation. They are being supported by the Royal Dutch Navy's largest vessel, the amphibious transport ship *Hr. Ms. Johan de Witt* (L 801). She is one of two Landing Platform Docks (LPD) of the Dutch Navy with a length of 177 meters designed to transport a fully equipped marine battalion with materials. It has extended command facilities and sophisticated electronics and weaponry.

The ship is operated by a crew of 124, including 13 officers. Accommodation is also provided for a fully equipped marine

*Hr. Ms. Johan de Witt*



Landing craft downtown

battalion of up to 613 troops. Hr Ms Rotterdam has facilities to transport 170 armored personnel carriers, or 33 main battle tanks, and also docking facilities for up to six landing craft plus extensive water-making capability and hospital facilities with a medical treatment room, a medical operating theatre and a medical laboratory. The ship was delivered to the Dutch Navy around 2006/2007. **Performance:** Cruise Speed 6 mps (12 kt), Max Range 18,500 km (9,989 nm), Top Speed 10 mps (20 kt). ■ Press release/G.D.

## BonQuiz #54



### ARCHITECTURE

In Playa and Rincon there are several buildings from the 1960s era. And this particular structure is included in that category. Architecturally they present a design unique to that period and catch the eye. They include the former Super Corner (now Lee's Bar), the building opposite it, the tourist office and the building south of that. In Rincon there is Tusnara Supermarket, and around the corner from Plasa Komerse, a bit down the road on the right also stands a magnificent building, sadly deteriorating

Q) Another downtown building is depicted in the photo. What was it used for? Where is it? Answer on page 17

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

IslandToursBonaire.com Phone 717-4435 or 795-3456  
Email: [christie-dovale@hotmail.com](mailto:christie-dovale@hotmail.com)



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A message from  
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**CAPTAIN DON STEWART**

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Artwork by Dominique Serafini

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# Tasty, Simple and Healthy!

Marie Salsbach publishes her vegetarian recipes in a Birthday Calendar: "Sabroso, Simpel Saludabel" (Tasty, Simple and Healthy!)

Marie Salsbach is well known for the first health shop and restaurant on the island, "Je-Mar," that she operated in the 90s on Kaya Grandi. There were healthy choices on the menu. Lunch time always included a vegetarian choice. Since then she's wanted to show everyone that a healthy diet, high in fiber,



Marie with her husband Papachi and daughter Angelique at the opening



The Salsbachs with Honored Guests: Commissioner Delno Tromp, Advisor Marugia Janga, Geraldine Dammers, Alvin Clemencia

fruits and vegetables can be very tasty.

She was fanatic in converting all the local snacks like *pastechi*, johny cakes, pancakes, even cakes, into healthy whole grain versions with lower fats. She made everything that came from her oven, believe it or not, indeed very tasty!

After closing the restaurant, Marie cooked for small groups, but she's always wanted to publicize her vegetarian recipes, especially since many people don't know how to prepare a well balanced vegetarian meal.

With this first publication coming to fruition, Marie wants to encourage people to a healthier eating habit. Research shows that vegetarians suffer less from many of the diseases associated with the typical western diet, including obesity, coronary heart disease, hypertension, type II diabetes, diet related cancers, constipation, etc. These health benefits are due to the nutritional value of a vegetarian diet that is rich in vitamins and minerals, poly-unsaturated fats (the healthy fats) and fibers. A typical vegetarian diet reflects most of the dietary recommendations for healthy eating.

This nice publication combines the recipes with a Birthday Desk Calendar Recipe Book which gives easy-to-make soups and dishes, showing different ways to substitute meat - using beans, tofu, eggs, or soya meat. It's simply for those who want to have a healthy and meatless variation. Each

recipe comes with its nutrition value per serving.

With this Birthday Calendar-Recipe Book Marie shows how to introduce a meatless dish into their regular week's menu or have some healthy variations in their cooking - in an easy and simple way.

It's also worth mentioning that these recipes are adequate for most diets such as weight control, cholesterol control, blood pressure control, diabetes, constipation relief, etc.

At the Birthday Desk Calendar-Recipe Book presentation last Saturday, guests were invited to taste some of the dishes from the book. Honored guest, Commissioner Delno Tromp reported, "Everything - all the bites and tastes - were fabulous, especially her cashew nut spread. We were totally pampered by Marie."

These Desk Calendar recipes can have a suitable place in your kitchen. They're available at Bonaire Essentials (behind Best Buddies), Flamingo Bookstore, Books and Toys (next to Best Buddies) or at Marie Salsbach at cel# 7950109 of 7860551.

They are in Papiamentu, but are easy to understand. They make a lasting and memorable gift.

This is Marie's first publication with the intention of having more in the future. Enjoy it. ■ Angelique Salsbach/L.D.

# Egypt Bound

I was overjoyed to welcome two very close friends back to Bonaire this past week! Mel McCombie and husband Harris Friedberg are long time annual visitors to our island and have made many friends among the locals and expats as well. Additionally they have been property owners since 1997. After the customary hugs and greetings I was informed that they would not be returning next year!

Of course Mel had had a sly grin and Harris remained stone faced while I was informed that they would be spending a year in my ancestral homeland of Egypt! "I was awarded the 2011-12 Fulbright Scholarship in American Studies for the American University in Cairo. I will be teaching starting in early September 2011. Courses will include postwar American culture, the history of photography, American advertising history, and the art history survey," she explained.

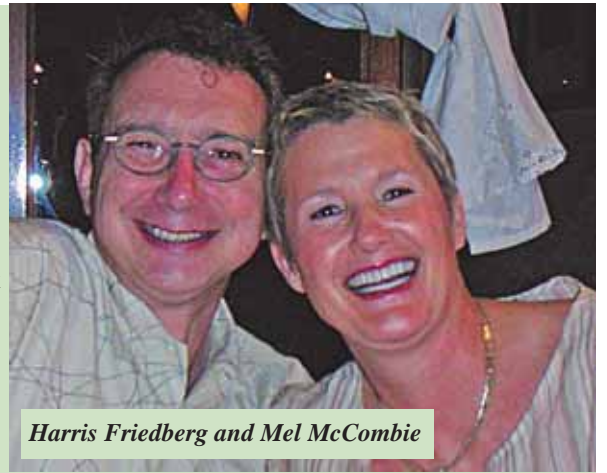
The Fulbright Program is the flagship international educational exchange program sponsored by the US government and is designed to increase mutual understanding between the people of the US and the people of other countries. The primary source of funding for the Fulbright Program is an annual appropriation made by the US Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. Participating governments and host institutions, corporations and foundations in foreign countries and in

the US also provide direct and indirect support.


Recipients of Fulbright grants are selected on the basis of academic or professional achievement, as well as demonstrated leadership potential in their fields. The Program operates in over 155 countries worldwide. Since its establishment in 1946 under legislation introduced by the late US Senator J. William Fulbright of Arkansas, the Fulbright Program has given approximately 300,000 students, scholars, teachers, artists, and scientists the opportunity to study, teach and conduct research, exchange ideas and contribute to finding solutions to shared international concerns.

Mel's husband Harris Friedberg, associate professor of English at Wesleyan University, will be joining Dr. McCombie in Cairo and will be giving several lectures on poetics, and conducting his own research. Both McCombie and Friedberg will miss Bonaire—"it's doubtful that the warmth and hospitality of the Egyptians trumps Bonaireans—but we plan on frequent diving in the Red Sea and in Zanzibar," she said. ■

Story & photo by "Mike" - LMG






Harris Friedberg and Mel McCombie


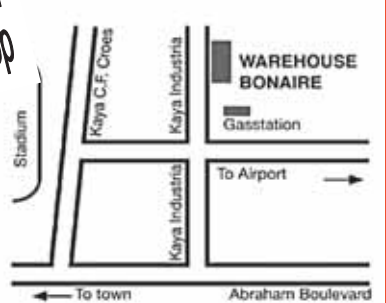


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# Body Talk

## BRAINWASHING LIMITS YOUR CHOICES

Most people have been brainwashed into believing only prescription medication can “cure” high blood pressure! More people are worried sick about their cholesterol, not understanding the problem! More people are given antibiotics for the most ridiculous reasons, including things like menstruation and ear infection in babies!

If you are fortunate enough (and have not been brainwashed enough!) and have an enquiring mind perhaps you realize there is always a choice where your health is concerned. You do your research, ask for a second or even a third opinion, and in short, take CONTROL of your health! The flip-side of the coin is also your attention seekers. Sadly, they would like to be told the name of their “problem,” what to take for it, do some tests in Curacao and possibly also go to Columbia! When these same people are told to change their diet and lifestyle and to stop consuming alcohol and sodas, it all seems too much like hard work!

I do not want you to misunderstand what I am saying; there is a time and place for chemical drugs! Emergency and certain life sustaining medication have a very important role to play! I want to give you an example of being locked into a medication. Mr B (age 62) goes to the doctor because he is feeling sick. The doctor takes his blood pressure and it seems to be elevated. Ah, that is your problem, high blood pressure! Now Mr. B has a name for why he is feeling so bad. Mr. B is prescribed the standard blood pressure medication, and 6 years later, Mr. B is still taking the medication, but in the meantime Mr. B has a few other problems added to the original problem. Cholesterol, treated with more medications on top of the blood pressure medication, very often can lead to sexual

dysfunction. Now Mr. B’s wife wants to leave him and he is depressed!

Let’s start with the original problem. Blood pressure fluctuates throughout the day, and one isolated reading does not establish high blood pressure. To establish true high blood pressure and whether cardiovascular disease is involved, readings should be taken over a period of time. If, at that point the BUN (blood urea nitrogen) test was done, it would have been very clear that Mr. B does not produce enough hydrochloric acid and therefore cannot metabolize his proteins adequately. Undigested proteins form ammonia nitrogen that is very, very often responsible for an elevated blood pressure! A course of the correct amino acids, a few dietary changes and Mr. B would have been as right as rain!

Now let us talk about “natural” cures, or “natural” medicines. The only things naturally present in the body are vitamins, minerals and amino acids. Yes, some plants and herbs have amazing properties for healing, but you still have to supply the body with the basics. Very few (if any) shop-bought multi-vitamins contain amino acids!

It is this indiscriminate use of store-bought nutrition that has contributed to the brainwashing of the masses together with the very successful strategy of the FDA and Big Pharma and ultimately our doctors, in making people believe that prescription medication is the only way! It is not, of course, but it does take a lot more work! ■

Stephanie Bennett

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



## Award Winner

Fadilah Ali, Master of Environmental Science from the University of Southampton, was the recipient of the **Bill Wildin Volunteer Internship Travel Award** at CIEE last week. The award was presented by Praxphan Wildin. (left). ■ Photo by Hendrik Wuyts

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## In Memoriam

Sara Brandsen

\* Lelystad 24-09-1986 † Almere 23-06-2011



Sara came to Bonaire in September 2005 and began working for Buddy Dive Resort shortly afterwards: first the reception and reservations, then she transferred to Belmar Apartments where she worked as Assistant Manager. She qualified as a Divemaster at Belmar beginning in May 2009. She became a Dive Instructor in December 2010. Unfortunately she became ill this January and in February she was diagnosed as having a rare and aggressive Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma. She fought her cancer for a long time but it was an unfair fight which she lost on Thursday 23-06-2011. Since she was diagnosed she never gave up hope of winning the fight and she stayed the positive and caring person she always was. - Joep Goode

## Latin Music Classics

**Julio Iglesias**, (born in 1943) is a Spanish singer who has sold over 300 million records worldwide in 14 languages and released 77 albums. Julio is one of the best selling musical artists in history. In 1971, he married Isabel Preysler and had three children, one of which is Enrique Iglesias. His career started in 1968 when he won the Benidorm Song Festival. After this event he signed a deal with Columbia Records. He represented Spain in the 1970 Eurovision Song Contest, earning fourth place. Shortly after he had a number one hit in many European countries with "Un Canto A Galicia." That single sold more than 1 million copies. In 1979, he moved to Miami and started singing in different languages such as English, French and Portuguese. In the 1990s, Iglesias returned to his original Spanish melodies, with several albums which became super-sellers all over the world. Last year Iglesias continued to travel around the world with his "Starry Night World Tour" to promote his 42 year career.

**Jody's Music Quiz**  
Last week's answer: "Julio Iglesias" is the father of Enrique Iglesias.



This week's winner is Cathy Forehand. She can pick up the free CD at Jody's on Lagoen Hill #18.

**This week's question:**  
**Who is the singer of the famous hit: "If I Had A Hammer?"**  
Please send your answer to: [info@jodysonaire.com](mailto: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*. ■ Jo Bux



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

In their collection they have 100% original brands like: Nike, G-Star, Replay, Lacoste, Zuccherro, A Priori and Zulu. At the Friday crafts 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.

# Lora News Update From The Echo Foundation

Lots of rain = lots of eggs so many of the Lora pairs have had clutches of four eggs. This is probably due to the wet winter and the abundance of food for the wild Loras. The trial driftwood nest box that the Foundation installed was one of those nests and there are now four rapidly growing chicks in there. They are going to have a vote for names on Facebook and provide weekly updates on their development.

The nest monitoring work continues relentlessly with researcher Jose criss-crossing the island checking on chicks and finding new nests. Catherine Wensink (planning and admin) and Sam Williams both get to escape from office jobs and try to help Jose once a week. Phil, the Master's student from Imperial College, is also with the Foundation and working on his research project.

The Foundation has also been working with the Dutch Caribbean Nature Alliance (DCNA) and the Dutch Government representatives (RCN) on the island to develop future monitoring efforts. Echo's plan is a comprehensive program that would show how the Loras are doing and whether the things they are doing have an effect on their numbers.

Readers who have been following the Lora articles in recent *Bonaire Reporters* should be glad to know that Monty (May 27-June 24 edition) and his friends have gone wild! The released Loras have done great. Monty flew off for a few days and Sam was worried, but after four days he nonchalantly flew in for breakfast. This was a huge relief and it goes to show the release has been a success. Only three other released birds hang around the aviary now. They are Harry, who is a good friend of Fat Sally, and "The Darling." Sally is not exactly flying yet but she did manage a rapid wing assisted scurry across the aviary floor when a Cara-

ca flew directly overhead. Equally it seems that it's only at those moments when Harry (who has been released) chooses to fly. At most other times he can be found on the aviary roof.

Loras, Isla and Johan, got together soon after being released. They started to play house at a nest box on the release site and much to our surprise they even laid an egg. It's really amazing to think these Loras were stuck in small cages and now they are living freely and even (trying to) contribute to the wild population.

## Conservation Action

Echo has received further support from the World Parrot Trust and Natural Encounters for Conservation Action and in the near future will be working to create more nest boxes from driftwood trees. Echo will also be installing motion sensing cameras at nests to try and catch images of predators and poachers. They've already got an amazing series of pictures where a cat predated the nest, "Far Far Away."

The Foundation is also planning to move chicks from regularly poached nests and foster them into more secure nests so they can fledge and join the wild population.

Outreach efforts continue with regular Lora stories in the local papers and online. The Foundation is also going to achieve some outreach with local school children thanks to a developing partnership with Desiree Croes, education officer at STINAPA (the NGO that manages the National Parks on Bonaire). Echo is growing rapidly! Sam Williams was interviewed by Charlie Moores who hosts Talking Naturally.

Two Ambassadors from the Dutch Post-code Lottery who were traveling with WWF -Netherlands (World Nature Fonds, WNF)



Sam Williams photo

Lora family

came out to see Loras. Guiding the two Ambassadors was Bente van der Wilt from WNF who wrote a nice blog about Echo. And Echo was featured on *Globe Trekker*, a TV series that is broadcast in 40 countries and which has a global audience of 30 million people! When we find out where the show can be seen we'll let you know.

Catherine has created an EchoBonaire YouTube channel too. That feeds into a new page on the Echo. There will be more movies going on there over the coming weeks.

The Echo Foundation has been looking for a permanent location that is central to the Lora work and that will give Echo the opportunity to develop a conservation center of excellence and provide a location to host eco-tourists. It's the intention that this be a sustainable development by partnering with Mangazina di Rei (the Bonaire cultural park and learning center). The plan would involve securing a piece of land that is recognized by BirdLife International as an

"Important Bird Area." It has a dry forest, a beautiful rocky hill with Lora nests, a lake with flamingos on it, and an historic building. Initial feedback on the idea has been very promising and it's hoped to have more news for you in the next update. ■ Sam Williams and Echo team

Conservationist Sam Williams has been involved with Bonaire's Loras for over seven years. Find out more



The Echo Foundation is supported by contributions from the storehouse Mangazina and Rent O Fun Drive



Landhuis Bloemhof proudly invites you to the opening of

## Caribbean Queens

An exhibition of paintings by Henk Roozendaal

June 18, 2011 5:30 pm

Opening words by the artist

The exhibition will remain open until July 23, 2011

Opening Hours: Tuesday to Saturday from 9 am to 2 pm



Two Saturdays ago artist Henk Roozendaal's solo show, "Caribbean Queens," opened in Landhuis Bloemhof, Santa Rosaweg 6, Willemstad, Curacao. Most of the paintings on exhibit are large format and were specially made for this show. The theme is Girls and Women (in a Caribbean setting). The show will run until July 23. Visit. It will be worth it to see the latest works by one of Bonaire's best loved artists. There's more information at: [www.bloemhof.an/exhibitions\\_display.php](http://www.bloemhof.an/exhibitions_display.php). ■ Press release./G.D.- photos provided by Henk Roozendaal



Opening reception at Landhuis Bloemhof



Henk Roozendaal

# 19th Dia di Arte - 2011

## Cover Story

Bonaire's 19th Annual Dia di Arte was held last Sunday at Wilhelmina Park. It was packed with Bonairean artists, musicians and writers, along with some international stars. There were exhibitions of art, local dancing, painting for the children. All day there were live bands, singers and dancers. You could buy recordings of the music, paintings and hand-crafts, sample delicious Creole dishes, seafood, home made candy, cakes, drinks and much more.

Thanks to the Bonaire Foundation for Art and Culture for a truly great day! L.D.



Bonnie and Annabelle, always improving their art.



Janice Huckaby of Jan Art with her "Gates of Bonaire" painting



Compass Captain Wim Malder can also make perfect Poffertjes!



Artist-writer-health advisor Stephanie Bennett (right) with artist daughter Charleen Bosch



Winner of the Jan Art contest, Dara with her mom, Judith



Erick Nicholson poses with his incredibly detailed and beautiful designs made from coconuts.



A lace worker extraordinaire, Jannie Koning, creates traditional and modern lace designs.



Originator and organizer of Dia di Arte, the multi-talented Emma Sint Jago.



Nos Kosecha ladies can't help dancing

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After decades of innovating  
Bonaire's diving Captain Don is  
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Lagun  
(road to Lagun)  
(Look for the blue  
rock and dive flag)

Phone: 786-0956



**LIVING ACCOMMODATIONS  
Studios for rent at Hato, (\$490-530)  
see Kaya Utrecht 25**

**For rent: Fully furnished cozy apart-  
ment in Belnem** near the ocean. Hot  
water, a/c, full kitchen, patio, terrace  
with garden. 110 & 220 volt and internet.  
**Phone: 796-5530**

**Town house for rent:** Fully furnished 2  
bedrooms, 1½ baths, A/C in bedrooms,  
washing machine, screened porches,  
alarm system, 1 block from Bachelor's  
Beach in Belnem. \$800/month utilities  
not included. **Call 717-6126.**

**Furnished Studio apt for rent**  
for single, as of Aug 31st 2011 in  
nikiboko~Pagabon~MITV/Internet  
call **795-3456 or 717-4435** after 6pm

**One bedroom apartment for rent**  
furnished or unfurnished. \$450 per  
month. **Call Phil 788 3766**

**Fitness Business Opportunity**

The fitness company Top Health  
Bonaire BV and its fitness equip-  
ment inventory at La Hacienda are  
**available for sale or rental.**

**For Sale:** This is a special and  
unique opportunity to invest in an  
expanding business sector.

**For Rent:** It's possible for a fit-  
ness instructor to start off without  
an investment because all the  
equipment is already in place and  
pay only the rent and utilities.

**Call 795-5578 or email:  
[benito.dirksz@gmail.com](mailto:benito.dirksz@gmail.com) for  
more information.**

**MISCELLANEOUS**

**GE Profile side by side fridge  
freezer.** White, 69.25" high; 35" deep;  
36" wide; 26 cubic feet capacity - \$400  
or nearest offer. **Magnavox 27" colour  
TV** - \$200 or nearest offer. **Please call  
717-8454 or 785-1790**

**Mitsubishi L 200 pick up for sale** 1995,  
in good condition. Never used as a dive  
truck, airco, CD, radio, 4 new tires call  
795 3456 after 6pm **717-4435**

**For sale 1997 Chrysler V6 3.3L Mini-  
van,** 156 kMi, new radiator and rack &  
pinion, no reverse gear, asking \$1650  
obo. New transmission can be supplied  
for \$800. **Call 796 3637, or mail [digitalis1956@hotmail.com](mailto:digitalis1956@hotmail.com).**

**For sale: dive tanks,** hydrostatic test  
valid till Jan. 2013, for \$90 ea.; all three  
for \$250. **Call 796 3637, or mail me at  
[digitalis1956@hotmail.com](mailto:digitalis1956@hotmail.com).**

**For sale: porch set** consisting of a large  
(200x90 cm) table with lava stone inlay  
and five chairs. Asking \$800. **Call 796  
3637, or e-mail  
[digitalis1956@hotmail.com](mailto:digitalis1956@hotmail.com).**

**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
<b>JULY</b>							
<b>Fri 08</b>	First Quar- ter moon	02:18 0.07 ft	06:14 0.34 ft	12:54 -0.21 ft	19:33 0.99 ft	6:16	19:04
<b>Sat 09</b>		03:28 -0.03 ft	07:18 0.23 ft	13:27 -0.19 ft	20:16 1.10 ft	6:16	19:04
<b>Sun 10</b>		04:33 -0.11 ft	08:24 0.14 ft	14:02 -0.16 ft	21:01 1.16 ft	6:17	19:05
<b>Mon 11</b>		05:35 -0.17 ft	09:32 0.08 ft	14:38 -0.13 ft	21:48 1.18 ft	6:17	19:05
<b>Tue 12</b>		06:36 -0.21 ft	10:46 0.04 ft	15:15 -0.08 ft	22:36 1.16 ft	6:17	19:05
<b>Wed 13</b>		07:35 -0.23 ft	12:09 0.04 ft	15:52 -0.02 ft	23:26 1.11 ft	6:18	19:05
<b>Thu 14</b>		08:31 -0.24 ft	13:44 0.07 ft	16:31 0.06 ft		6:18	19:05
<b>Fri 15</b>	00:16 1.03 ft	09:21 -0.23 ft	15:26 0.15 ft	17:18 0.14 ft	Full Moon	6:18	19:04
<b>Sat 16</b>	01:06 0.93 ft	10:05 -0.21 ft	16:31 0.24 ft	18:51 0.23 ft		6:18	19:04
<b>Sun 17</b>	01:56 0.81 ft	10:43 -0.18 ft	17:06 0.34 ft	20:50 0.29 ft		6:19	19:04
<b>Mon 18</b>	02:46 0.70 ft	11:14 -0.15 ft	17:36 0.43 ft	22:38 0.30 ft		6:19	19:04
<b>Tue 19</b>	03:37 0.59 ft	11:40 -0.11 ft	18:02 0.53 ft			6:19	19:04
<b>Wed 20</b>		00:09 0.27 ft	04:28 0.48 ft	12:02 -0.08 ft	18:27 0.62 ft	6:19	19:04
<b>Thu 21</b>		01:22 0.21 ft	05:18 0.39 ft	12:22 -0.05 ft	18:53 0.70 ft	6:20	19:04
<b>Fri 22</b>		02:23 0.15 ft	06:07 0.31 ft	12:40 -0.03 ft	19:19 0.78 ft	6:20	19:04

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Incorporating - under one roof

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Clinical nutrition focussed on biological individuality

**The Natural Way Health Store** - Glenda Pourier

Gluten free, organic and natural products for the  
healthy kitchen.

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From deep tissue massage to lymphatic massage  
or simply de-stressing!

**Opening Hours**

Monday - Friday 9am - 6pm  
non-stop

Saturday 9am - 1pm

**Telephone 717 4588**

Kaya Grandi 32B  
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email: [info@essentialsbonaire.com](mailto:info@essentialsbonaire.com)

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(5999 839-1515)  
Or (5999 563-1913)**



# Bonaire Real Estate Reflections

## BONAIRE'S OPPORTUNITY

People ask every realtor two questions. The questions are really the same side of the same coin. Sellers always ask, "How much is my house worth now?" Buyers always ask, "Is this the right time to buy?" Each question is asking "Is this the time for me to profit, and are the financial wheels of fortune turning in my favor?"

Today is the very best time in many years for people to buy on Bonaire. Let me be very clear and remove all doubt from your mind: Bonaire is a buyer's market, a fabulous buyer's market. Today's real estate on Bonaire is a rare moment in real estate time.

Years from now people who have taken this opportunity will have very big smiles on their faces and be very happy. Those who do not take advantage of this buying opportunity will look back to 2011 and wistfully say, "Why didn't I buy on Bonaire then?"

We have always been very cautious and careful in assessing real estate market conditions. In combination we have more than 80 years of experience in real estate market analysis. We have been following the Bonaire markets since 1988.

We bought and sold for our personal use several times, and like you, had a personal choice to make. The choice: to buy when the market is a seller's market or when it is a buyer's market.

Buying in a seller's market is easy. Values are going up, often very rapidly and you feel comfortable knowing that your investment is "safe." Of course it is "safe" only if you buy very, very early in a seller's market.

It is emotionally much harder to buy in a buyer's market especially a "bad" buyer's market. It is also very, very profitable! When you buy in a buyer's market you are trading emotional worries for long-term financial security.

It is not easy to gauge the bottom of the market. Just as there are no fireworks or flags announcing the top of a market there are none announcing the bottom. Highs and lows are a matter of hindsight unfortunately, not of foresight.

When the world real estate bubble burst in 2006 it passed Bonaire by. While real estate values and economies in Holland, America and most of the world collapsed in the financial clouds of securitized mortgages and credit swaps created by the financial gnomes, Bonaire real estate continued to increase in value.

There are several solid reasons why Bonaire's real estate values increased while others suffered. All of those good reasons supporting Bonaire were not sufficient to ride out the financial and real estate hurricane and tsunami. In 2009 and 2010 the world's economic issues became our economic issues.

Real estate values began to sputter. As



the excitement of 2010 helped values, political uncertainty hurt values. The real estate tides on Bonaire seemingly were going in opposite directions at the same time. There was no uncertainty in the rest of the world in 2009 and 2010: the real estate tide was going out for sellers and going out fast, very fast.

If you look carefully at Bonaire and abroad, there is a slack tide changing to a buyer's tide. There is still a great deal of concern and worry with the Euro because of the Greece, Portugal, Ireland, Italy and Spanish crises. There is tremendous concern over the American debt and deficit issues. There is also a faint and distant light at the end of the tunnel. Issues which are being addressed. Job growth is increasing. Unemployment is falling. Confidence is slowly returning to the real estate world.

We are experiencing more buying interest from sophisticated buyers, those who buy low and sell high. We are definitely seeing increasing reality by many sellers. These sellers know markets do not turn on a dime. They know it will take time for the real estate pendulum to swing 180 degrees. These sellers have growth plans for their money.

The wise buyer and the wise seller understand how to take advantage of time. Each understands that this is opportunity time on Bonaire. ■

Anna & Art Kleimer

The Kleimers are founding partners of Bonaire Island Real Estate, B.V. In 1993 they were "America's Outstanding Realtors." Email:



[Anna@Bonaireislandrealestate.com](mailto:Anna@Bonaireislandrealestate.com)  
or [Art@Bonaireislandrealestate.com](mailto:Art@Bonaireislandrealestate.com)



## Picture Yourself With The Reporter in... The Smithsonian Washington, DC USA



Diane Rowan and her husband, Jim, of Newtown, Pennsylvania, discovered the Bonairean Box Jellyfish in the Smithsonian National History Museum in Washington, DC. After reading about the discovery of the Box Jellyfish in the February 11-25, 2011, edition of *The Reporter* they drove 3 1/2 hours from their home in Bucks, County, PA, along with their copy of *The Bonaire Reporter* to check it out. They plan to return to Bonaire in 2012.

And

## Spenge, Germany

### Aus der Karibik nach Spenge

Veronika Kolbe reist zum Ehemaligentreffen der Volksschule Spenge an

VON JULIA GESEMANN

■ Spenge. 8.000 Kilometer hat sie mit dem Flugzeug zurückgelegt. In neun Stunden von der Karibik über Amsterdam nach Spenge. Der Grund: „Ich wollte meine ehemaligen Klassenkameraden wieder treffen“, sagt Veronika Kolbe, geborene Pahl. Denn nach 40 Jahren traf sich der Entlassungsjahrgang 1971 der Volksschule Spenge wieder. Veronika Kolbe hatte von ihnen die weiteste Anreise.

Die Freude über das Wiedersehen unter den ehemaligen Klassenkameraden ist groß. 17 von den ehemals 31 Schülern sind gekommen. Gemeinsam mit ihrem damaligen Klassenlehrer Horst Pieper lassen sie die Erinnerung an alte Zeiten wieder aufleben. „Er war immer streng, aber auch sehr gerecht“, erinnert sich Beate Nienaber an ihre Lehrerin. „Für das Leben hat er uns geschult, hat uns gezeigt, dass wir Verantwortung für uns und für andere übernehmen müssen.“ Horst Pieper spricht



Zeitung aus der Heimat: Zum Klassentreffen hat Veronika Kolbe (l.) das Blatt „The Reporter“ mitgebracht und zeigt es ihrem ehemaligen Lehrer Horst Pieper. FOTO: JULIA GESEMANN

nicht mehr losgelassen.“ Nun leben die beiden auf Bonaire Island, einem Paradies für Urlauber.

bis 27 Grad Celsius. „Im Sommer dann zwischen 30 und 40 Grad.“ Unannehmlich sei das

froh, dass ich alle wieder sehe.“ Auch Beate Nienaber freut sich, alle wieder einmal an ei-

Steffen Kolbe writes: "Attached you will find a photos of Veronika Kolbe, who has a home on Kaya Kuadria. She visited Spenge in Germany for a 40<sup>th</sup> class reunion and, of course, brought a *Bonaire Reporter* along. Her photo and story appeared in the local newspaper."

**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](mailto:info@bonairereporter.com).

# SHOPPING and SERVICE GUIDE

## AIRLINES

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



## APPLIANCES /TV/ ELECTRONICS and COMPUTERS

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

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

## CARS AND BIKES

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

## CONSTRUCTION

**Total Home Sustainable Building Products** stocks a large collection of European quality hardware. **Call 701-7011**, above Caribbean Homes Realty

## DENTURE REPAIR

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

## DINING

**Norca's Deli Café**, upstairs above Botika Bonaire on Kaya Grandi offers lunch plus a special "after hours" Rijsttafel dinner if you call ahead: **717-4376**

**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. **(closed in July)**

## 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.

## 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 and WELLNESS - Also see Spa & Gym

**Essentials**—New health center brings together nutrition, health food and massage in a single location downtown. Beautiful new courtyard location just off the main street.

## HOME CARE

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

## PHOTOGRAPHER

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

## REAL ESTATE /RENTAL AGENTS

**Bonaire Island Real Estate, B.V.** Brings personal attention, experience and integrity to property transactions. In 1993 they were "America's Outstanding Realtors."



**Caribbean Homes**, "the Refreshing Realtor," specializing in luxury homes, condos, lots, rentals and property management. And now Yachts!



**Sunbelt Realty** offers full real estate, rental, and insurance services. If you want a home or to invest in Bonaire, stop in and see them.

## RETAIL

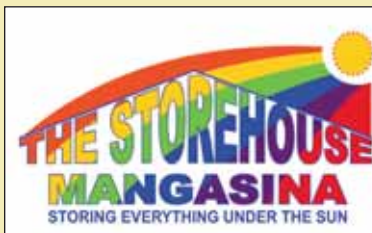
**Benetton**, world famous designer clothes available now in Bonaire at prices less than those in US. For men, women and children.

## SECURITY

**Special Security Services** will provide that extra measure of protection when you need it. Always reliable.

## STORAGE

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



## SHIPPING



**Rocargo Freight** Air and sea shipments in/out of Bonaire. Customs agents. Professional and efficient. **FedEx agent.** **What would we do without their superb services?**

## SPAs/GYM

**BEVERLY Bio Aesthetics**—Offers several methods for treating skin challenges like Skin Tags, Facial Cholesterol Deposits, Milia, Acne Pimples, and more as well as massage and beauty care.

**Bon Bida Spa & Gym World** Class fitness and health facility—Classes, top notch machines, trainers. Day, monthly or annual rates.



**Nubia's Face and Body-** Professional massage therapy, facials, reflexology, lymph drainage, Shiatsu, deep tissue massage and other body and facial treatments

## SUPERMARKETS

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

## More for Less

Bonaire's "boutique" supermarket with a wide selection, specializing in organic vegetables, unique products and hard-to-find items. On the Nikiboko Road North

## (ISLAND) TOURS

**Christie Dovale will personally take you on a fascinating tour of the island.** Contact her via her website: [IslandToursBonaire.com](http://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



## WINES

**Antillean Wine Company.** You've tried the rest; now try the best: best prices, highest quality wines kept in a cooled warehouse. Free delivery. Kaya Industria 23, Mon.-Sat. 9 am-1 pm.

**Fortnightly Advertisers in The Bonaire Reporter are included in this guide. Free!**  
To place an ad call **790-6518**, **786-6518** or email [laura@bonairenews.com](mailto:laura@bonairenews.com)

# 14 Medals For Bonaire's Special Olympics Team

Late breaking report from the Special Olympics World Summer Games 2011 in Athens, Greece:

On July 3rd, the last games were played. During the games **Bonaire won 14 medals**, an impressive achievement for our small team. On the last day Bonaire's Special Olympics Team received **Two more Gold Medals: Revelino Engelhart and Kenneth Piar**—playing Doubles Bocce **And three more Silver Medals** were won by: **Marion Melaan**—100m Athletics and **Swinda Offerman and Magriet Anthony**—in Doubles Bocce  
The photos show some exciting moments for our team. ■ *Delno L. A.*



Upstairs  
Above  
Botika  
Bonaire  
on Kaya  
Grandi



## Rijsttafel

Rijsttafel for early dinner on request by reservation only  
Minimum 2, Maximum 12 people

Regular hours 8 am-6 pm  
non-stop, Mon-Sat  
Call 717-4376 for reservations

**New Stock: Green Label field grown palms!!**

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Kaya Industria 28, Behind T.I.S  
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Around the corner from  
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+599-717 29 29

# WHAT'S HAPPENING

## CLOSE-IN EVENTS

**Saturday, July 9—Wine Tasting at Antillean Wine Company's warehouse on Kaya Industria 7—9 pm.** Snacks and tasting of six wines, \$10 per person. Tel. 560-7539.

## 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 in 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](http://www.infobonaire.com/rincon).
- **Bonaire Animal Shelter's "Garage Sale" every Saturday**, 8am-5pm. At Kaminda Liberador Simon Bolivar, across from Branderis Café. Tel. 717-4989
- **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 Koeks for more information—796-7870.

### Mondays

- **Soldachi Tours of Rincon**, the heart of Bonaire, 9 am-noon. \$20- Call Maria, 717-6435-[best island tour value](#)
- **Meet the Captain Night at Captain Don's Habitat Bar**— Get up close and personal with Bonaire's dive pioneer. The Captain will autograph your copy of his newest book [Reef Windows](#).

### 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**— 12:30pm - 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 Odulfinus, off Kaya Korona) Sunday services in English at 9 am; Sunday evening prayer meeting at Por's home, 7 pm. Fridays, 6 to 8 pm, Light & Life Club, children 5 to 12 yrs. Tel. 717-8332.

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

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

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

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

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

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

**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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**TO GET A LIONFISH...**



Dear Editor,

I see lots of tools going around to use to catch lionfish: spear guns, nets, and I even read a story of a *canasta* (fish trap) baited with lionfish eggs!

However, if you have nothing with you but your bare hands and you spot one, there is a trick.

A lionfish is not very aqua-dynamic, for the abundance of decorative poisonous fins and pins cause drag. So with snorkel and fins you are able to keep pace with it. Chase the lionfish until it gets tired and slows down. If it's under a rock, knock the rock with a stone and the sound will scare it out into the open.

Within three minutes you will get a chance to corner it and knock it out with a rock!

This works in shallow sandy areas where you find few reefs like between Punt Vierkant and Red Slave.

Larry Gerharts

**TIMELESS BONAIRE**



Dear Editor:

So this is how it went... Bonaire slowly became a home away from home: the place that you stay in and have no particular interest in exploring. Rather, you explore other places from it and return to its comforts. The place you know and feel local, but also the place that you have never cared to fully know.

Little discoveries here and there.

Not unlike the little sandy "I'a kai beach" (our name for it), by KonTiki, with an old wooden bench or two, right by the lazy shallow water, where a mind and heart opening drink, cognac with orange juice, was invented. With stories and secrets by friends, shared with the warm breeze only.

Bonaire was windsurfing at first, pure and simple.

The best place I know anywhere. Warm, crystal clear water, un-crowded, except for occasional sweating cruise ship herds being dumped by small vans and taxis at Lac Bay beach for couple of hours in cruise ship season. Rushing into inviting bay waters and soon shouted out of it.

The Hangout Bar where you could have fresh food, lunch, dinner almost, with a mix of locals and not-so-locals. A place where there are not only no days of the week, no months, no seasons, but "open" and "close," daylight and nighttime. The place where you would be asked and not surprised by:

- What do we have now, is it end of May or something? It really happened and it was so honest in Bonaire.

How would it compare with "real" home?

It would not. It is life in a different bracket, parallel to the one we've known for so long.

I am not sure how, but it is even difficult to have an argument with someone in Bonaire, certainly between us, few friends who go there often, but also with the others on the island.

Somehow, for whatever reason, an argument and Bonaire do not mix together well.

It is a place, where you would stop at a house, outside of town, to ask for directions to the nearest bar, and that house would become a bar.

Smiling owner would pull out a bottle of good whiskey and share it with you, with his kids running around, treating you as a friend. Just like that.

It really happened and was so innocently natural in Bonaire.

Could you become a better person living there? It certainly seems that way.

Back to Lac Bay, its water and windsurfing. There is nothing like it.

Wind or no wind, sitting tired or relaxed on a board in the middle of the bay makes you think of nothing.

Or, walking in thigh-deep warm, calm water all around the bay, splashing, sitting on a sandy bottom and doing plenty of not doing anything. Not noticing the passage of time, a rare feat indeed..

How used are we to running out of time, at home. A norm really, rushing to the next thing, and another, and the one after. But there, on Lac Bay, we actually enjoy time running by and away, with absolutely nothing pending.

Where else can time be so timeless?

Further into Lac Bay, closer to the reef, water up to your waist, warm, pristine. Liquid glass-like quality.

Doing nothing, stepping on a sandy bottom raising sand clouds, watching uninterested fish swim by, sometimes a turtle, occasional barracuda that may scare you until you know its habits.

Lazy snorkel, chat with friends, and still nothing to worry about, nothing pending.

Until you get hungry or until it gets dark.

No other time markers.

Do you know another place like this?

Bonaire... So..., this is how it goes.... quiet home away from home....

Mark Marchelewicz

(Thanks to the TCB for alerting us to this letter)

**OUR APPETITE: KILLING MANGROVES**

Dear Editor:

What have a platter of jumbo shrimp, murdered fishermen, impoverished coastal communities and disastrous hurricanes have in common? **Mangroves.**

On Bonaire we really care about our mangroves and rightly so. Maybe we should not only care about our own mangroves.

Most people (including myself until some years ago) do not realize that every time we eat those great tasting garlic shrimps we are actually take part in killing mangroves somewhere else in the world.

In 2001 an estimated 52% of global mangroves were lost to aquaculture, of which shrimp farming is responsible for a staggering 38%. (Editor's note: There is no longer shrimp farming on Bonaire)

Those mangroves are CO<sub>2</sub> consumers, they release oxygen, produce carbohydrates, they hold carbon (very interesting because



Mangrove seedling

they minimize the greenhouse effect), filter water and nutrients, are buffers for coastlines, maintain the quality of coastal waters, are fish nurseries and bird havens, support an enormous biodiversity and are the supermarkets and protection for hundreds of millions of coastal people.

And still they cut down mangroves so more shrimp farms can grow shrimps who will find their way on peoples' platters who really don't need to eat those fat shrimps anyway.

Those shrimp farms do not only take away very valuable land, but they poison it with the use of antibiotics and other ways so they need to cut down more mangroves after four to five years to continue production.

And if local people want to claim their lost land they have to fear for their own lives. Most of them are being pushed into poverty.

And all this because we want to eat shrimp that are totally unnecessary for us.

And this again is possible because in a lot of countries mangroves do not have any economic value so they can produce shrimp inexpensively.

If people really did value mangroves for what they are really worth, then shrimps would soon disappear from the supermarkets and restaurants because they will be unaffordable. Enjoy your meal!

Hans Voerman

People interested in this subject are recommended to read the book: "Let them eat shrimp-the tragic disappearance of the rainforests of the sea" by Kennedy Warne ISBN-13:978-1-59726-683-3

**BonQuiz #54 Answer**

Q) What building is in the photo?

A) The former Technical School, then the former Ontvanger's (Collector's) office on Kaya J.A. Abraham Blvd.

Question on page 7



**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.

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

**Sudoku Solution**

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

# A Big Heart

When “Snowy,” a small, white curly dog, died during the delivery of her six puppies, four of the pups survived.

Doctor Jan, the vet, taught Miss Radinka Thode (11) how to feed the babies. Alas, only one survived and Radinka named her “Teddy.”

For four long weeks Radinka would feed Teddy every three hours, first with a syringe and later with a baby bottle. Every night the alarm clock would go off in the middle of the night and Radinka would get up to feed her puppy. And so it happened that she saved her life. Teddy is eight weeks old now and she’s doing fine! She’s had her first vaccination and when



Radinka and Teddy

she’s six months old she’s going to be sterilized, for sure!

Radinka and Teddy are inseparable, where Radinka goes, goes Teddy. They shop, they play and sleep together, they are forever friends! ■

Story & photo by Greta Kooistra

# Animal Shelter Fair

Last Saturday was another successful Book and Flea Market Sale at the Shelter. And much of its success was to the energetic and enthusiastic volunteers – more than 10 of them, most of whom volunteer at the Shelter during the week! Another thank you goes to the people who donated the items to sell. (It seems that there are more books at these sales than at a big library in the US or Holland.) Visitors always have a good time at these fairs, meeting new friends and chatting with old ones. One dog was adopted during the festivities and a number of other people showed a lot of interest in becoming pet owners. The drinks were ice cold and the pastechis made by Yachi were mouth watering! If you missed the market, not to worry as most of the things will be brought down to the Shelter’s Weekly Garage Sale Shop at Kaminda Liberador Simon Bolivar across from Brandaris Café. Volunteers staff the shop from 8 am to 5 pm every Saturday. ■ Laura DeSalvo



Young Norvile reading a book at the Shelter Fair.

# Pet of the Week

Sammy Sellars from San Diego, California, made his first visit to Bonaire last week and one of the things he wanted to do was to visit the Bonaire Animal Shelter, especially the cat cage. Sammy has his own tuxedo cat, “George,” at home.

At the Shelter right now there are so many cats to choose from – kittens, young cats, older cats, all different colors. It was difficult for him to pick one to pose with. But here he is with darling “Holly,” a beautiful young black, white and gray kitten who’s like a purr machine. She cuddled up with Sammy and really hoped he’d bring her home with him on the plane. That didn’t happen but everyone had a good time anyway. Holly has a brother, “Harry,” and the two of them together are a fun loving pair. All the cats up for adoption are healthy and sociable. They’ve been examined by the vet, given their tests for feline leukemia, wormed, given their shots and will be sterilized when they’re old enough. All this is included in the cat adoption fee of \$55.



Sammy and Holly

After his Shelter visit Sammy got a Shelter T-Shirt, that are for sale at the Shelter gift shop. They are very cool shirts and it’s a great way to help support our Shelter. There are all colors and sizes, adults and children. (Note: A number of animals have been adopted from the Shelter and brought home with their new owners to Europe or the US. The Shelter can take care of nearly everything, including putting in a micro chip.)

**Shelter Alert:** There is a big need right now for volunteers to come in and socialize with the animals. The cats love having people around to cuddle them and play with them. The dogs would like to have someone to walk them on a leash, maybe teach them how to sit and just have fun. If you can spare a few hours, call the Shelter at 717-4989. You’d be doing a great service – and have a good time as well! The Shelter is on the Lagoen Road, open Monday through Saturday, 9 am to 1 pm and 3 to 5 pm. ■ Laura DeSalvo

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# BONAIRE SKY PARK\*

\*to find it... just look up

## A Special Sky for July

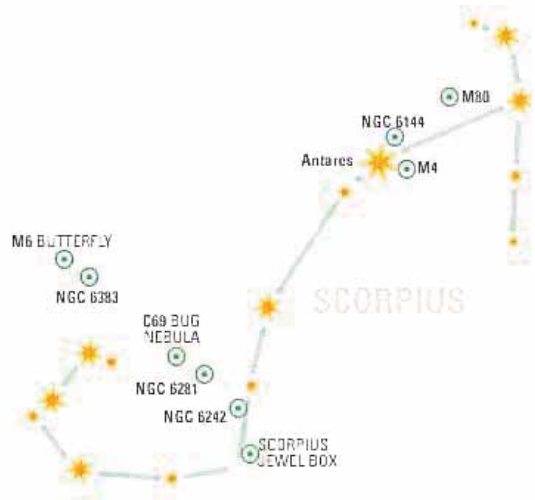
In early July look south at 11 pm. You'll see **Scorpius**, one of the few constellations that actually looks like its namesake. You won't need to strain your imagination to see a scorpion in these stars. Scorpius is visible above the southern horizon as a long fishhook shape. This curve of stars marks the scorpion's tail and stinger. You need more imagination to see the body, heart, and claws of the scorpion, but the stars in this region tie together so nicely. As the night moves on, the scorpion appears to crawl from left to right, or westward, along the southern horizon. The brightest star in Scorpius is a beautiful red star named **Antares**. The brilliant tint of this star has inspired observers for thousands of years. Antares means "Rival of Mars" because of its similar hue to the red planet.

But it's nothing like **Mars**. Antares is one of the largest known stars in the galaxy. Look at the entire orbit of Mars would fit inside Antares. But at around 600 light years away, it's still about the same brightness as the much closer and much smaller planet Mars. With its flickering red light, Antares looks like it's the beating heart of the sinuous scorpion.

But watch out for his stinger! At the end of the hook you'll spy two stars that are almost on top of each other. The brighter one is called **Shaula** and the dimmer one is **Lesath**. Together they were known as, "the sting" in ancient Arabic and are the brightest stars to appear so close together in the night sky.

In mythology, Scorpius is the slayer of the mighty **Orion**. It took just one sting to fell the great hunter and send him to the underworld. Legend has it that Orion never wanted to see that darned scorpion again - and they're never visible at the same time.

Orion presides over the winter sky



while Scorpius reigns over the summer. **Binocular alert!** Just above "the sting" are two open star clusters just at the edge of 20/20 vision. These clusters are called **M6 and M7** (the "M" stands for the inventor of this catalog system, Charles Messier). Even with the weakest binoculars, both clusters make a beautiful sight. M7 is also called **Ptolemy's Cluster** since he wrote about the nebulousity of this region almost 2000 years ago. M6 is nicknamed the **Butterfly Cluster** because the stars resemble outstretched wings. As the night rolls on and we get closer to midnight you'll notice someone hunting the great scorpion - but it's not Orion out for revenge. Just to the left of the scorpion stands **Sagittarius the Centaur Archer** who has his bow firmly aimed at Antares. Sagittarius is recognizable more as a teapot-shape than an archer. The spout of the teapot marks the bow and arrow and the dipper shape forms his body. When you look at Sagittarius, you are looking into the center of our galaxy, the **Milky Way**. If you're observing from an extremely dark sky site, you will see the cloudy band of the Milky Way stretch across the sky from north to south ending in Sagittarius. This also makes a great place to look with binoculars. The Milky way is really "billions and billions" of stars. Better than the best fireworks show the stars of Scorpius and Sagittarius will make you say ooh and aah all summer long. ■ *Dean Regas*



# THE STARS HAVE IT

By Astrologer Michael Thiessen

July 2011

**ARIES (Mar. 21- April 20)** Your talents are likely to be discovered. You can anger others quickly this month. Avoid overspending on items for your home. You may need a good friend to lean on. Don't forget family obligations. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Saturday.

**TAURUS (Apr. 21- May 21)** Don't be afraid to make additions to your house. Problems with in-laws may cause friction in your personal relationship. If boredom has set in, find new and unique directions that offer interesting friendships. Unpleasant situations concerning family members will be unnerving. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Wednesday.

**GEMINI (May 22-June 21)** Be careful not to take on other people's problems. You may find yourself in a financial bind. You mustn't make promises that you won't be able to keep. You may have some difficulties with someone you live with. Your ability to organize and get everyone together will enhance your popularity and bring interest from potential mates. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Tuesday.

**CANCER (June 22-July 22)** Take advantage of the opportunities that present themselves. The home environment will be unpredictable this month. You'll communicate easily and develop new friendships. Use your head and do things to your liking. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Tuesday.

**LEO (July 23-Aug 22)** You need some rest. You can make financial deals that will bring you extra cash. Someone may be trying to damage your reputation. You should be on the road. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Friday.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23)** Don't divulge secret information. Don't hold back; go with the flow and take a bit of a chance. Don't lament to a friend about any grievance regarding your mate, or it may be hard to rectify your relationship. You will be able to enlist the help of colleagues who believe in your ideas. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Monday.

**LIBRA (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23)** You have been stagnating for some time now and you need a change of pace. You can make

changes that will enhance your appearance. Don't let someone talk you into parting with your cash unless you can truly see the benefits of doing so. Arguments with employers or colleagues will be to your detriment. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Sunday.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)** Don't rely on others to do your work. Opportunities to make advancements through good business sense are evident. You are best to do something energetic with friends instead. Pleasure trips will induce exciting and passionate encounters with those of foreign extraction. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Monday.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21)** If you address those in a position to grant you favors you should get the support you require. Stop telling others about your problems. Minor fevers or infections will develop if you're over-stressed. Don't hesitate to look for alternatives that will enable you to raise the kind of donations you need to do the job right. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Tuesday.

**CAPRICORN (Dec 22.- Jan. 20)** Take advantage of the opportunities that present themselves. Be sure that the person you're drawn to is not already involved. You can make a difference if you offer your help at functions that involve children. Don't give up what you have until you can be certain just what it is you're getting. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Saturday.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19)** Secret affairs will only lead to heartache. You can open up to your mate and let them know what you expect out of this relationship. Be careful; you may upset someone you live with if you don't consult with them. You should regain some of your self-esteem if you get involved in organizational functions. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Monday.

**PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20)** You need to do something energetic and different. Involve yourself in group endeavors. Good day for romance. Try to visit friends or relatives you don't get to see often. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Tuesday. ■

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