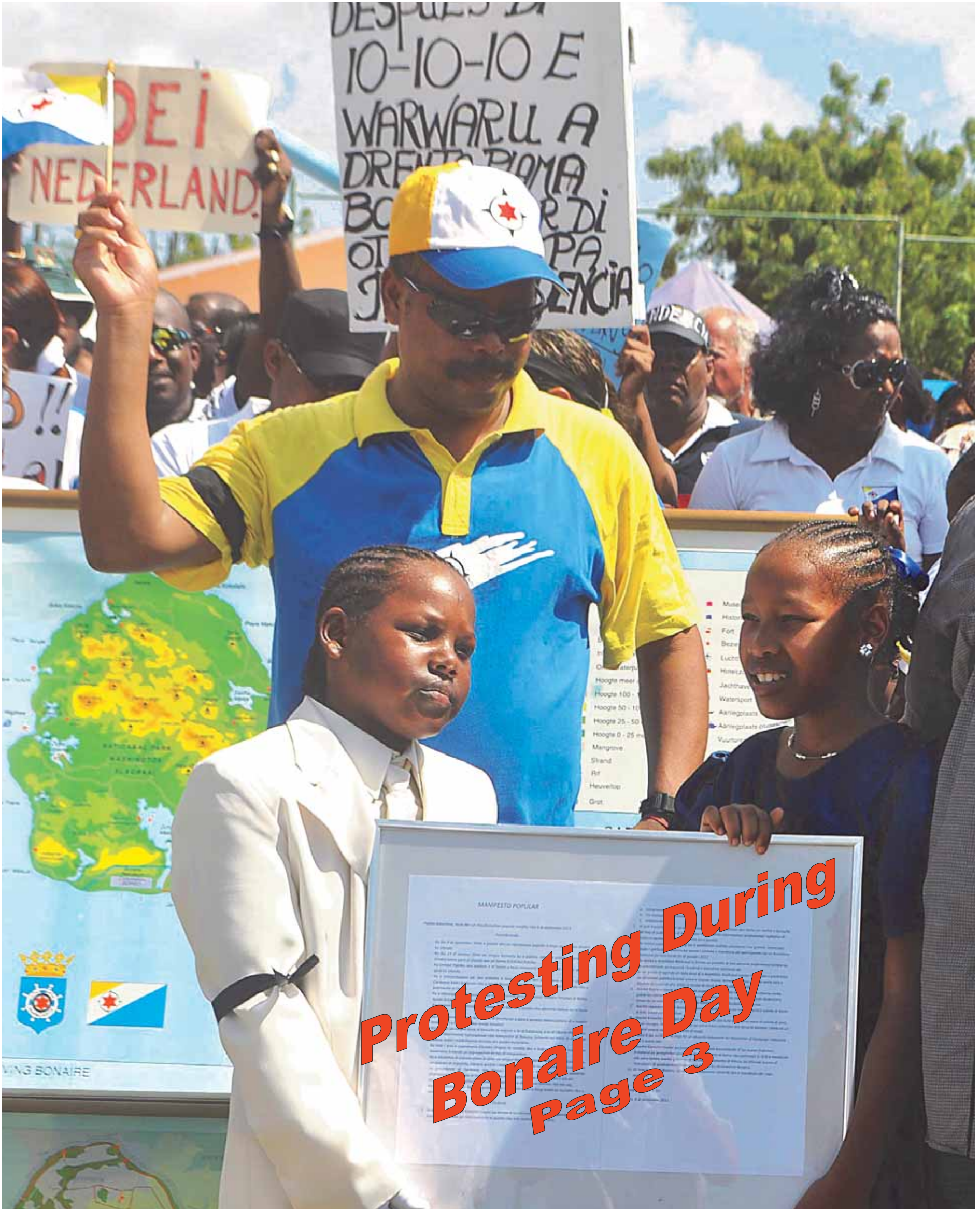


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BONAIRE September 16-30, 2011, Year 18, Issue 18
The REPORTER
Helping Bonaire Grow Responsibly

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Everyone who is a legal resident of Bonaire became entitled to government supported medical care when Holland integrated the BES islands into its political structure last year. For the most part the transition from SVB management went smoothly but there were some significant problems, especially when off-island treatment and specialists were required... even if it was just to Curaçao. Now the Dutch Government says it has managed to remove the major bottlenecks.



In his letter to the Second Chamber two weeks ago, Dutch Minister of Home Affairs and Kingdom Relations Piet Hein Donner tried to assure Parliament that all was well when it came to BES Island residents' medical and health. Patients interviewed by *The Reporter* are taking a wait and see attitude.

Donner: "The helicopter for Saba is now operational for night flights, agreements were made on the payment for medical referrals abroad, contracts were sealed with large health care institutions in the region and the privatization of local health care institutions was completed.

Residents of Bonaire are being referred to hospitals in Aruba and Curaçao. More serious medical specialist care already has been arranged in Colombia. The start-up problems should gradually become a thing of the past," he added. In Colombia, patients are seen by Spanish and English-speaking specialists and personnel where possible.

► **The 22 convicts from Bonaire who are locked-up at Curaçao's Bon Futuro prison will be transferred either back to their island or to the Netherlands.** The Hague is responsible for the detainees from Bonaire now that the island is part of the Netherlands. It had been determined that at the time of their sentencing the 22 could not serve their jail time in Bonaire safely.

Seventeen prisoners will be transferred starting immediately to the prison in Bonaire in phases. The five remaining more dangerous criminals will be temporarily transferred to the Netherlands because their safety cannot be guaranteed in Bonaire. They will be transferred back to Bonaire as soon as the new prison on the island is completed. All 22 will be transferred before December 22 this year.

One of the prisoners who will go to the Netherlands is Ryan P. who was sentenced to a jail term of 30 years in 2009 for murdering the Dutch trainee Marlies van der Kouwe.

► **Elected officials, at both the island and national level, under pressure from disgruntled citizens influenced government officials to lower taxes in the BES Islands and improve public relations..**

The general sales tax (ABB) on all services in Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba will be **reduced by 2%** on January 1, 2012. The **import tax on cars** in St. Eustatius and Saba will be reduced. Instead of having to pay 25% import duty, people buying cars on these islands now will have to pay 18% on the first \$20,000 of value increasing to 30% for vehicles worth more than \$30,000. Several other tax relief measures for the islands will go into effect on October 1 this year. **Overall taxes will be reduced by \$6 million. Other cuts are being discussed.**

On October 1, the **tax-free sum** and the allowance for children and the elderly all will be **increased by five per cent.** The 5% increase for children and the elderly will be added to the 5.9% inflation indexing.

Furthermore, the **elderly deduction** in income and wage tax assessment will be increased from **\$200 to \$1,200.** Pension premiums paid by the elderly will be marked as negative income in their tax assessment.

According to preliminary indications, the ABB tax and excises on the three islands for this year have yielded an additional \$10 million. The new fiscal regime that went into effect on January 1 this year should yield a total tax revenue of \$52 million for the three islands per year, but it turned out to be more.



► **One year ago the Judicial Institution Dutch Caribbean (Justitiële Inrichting Caribisch Nederland - JICN) began setting up a department especially for imprisoned youngsters and young adults up to the age of 24.** The first step was to accommodate the youngsters in a small separate part of the House of Detention staffed with experts from the Netherlands and the existing staff the department The facility will offer a stable, safe and balanced environment with a specially created day program focusing on education and guidance.



Wall at the Bonaire Prison. RCN photo

The kick off for involving parents was last July 30th. All the parents and guardians were invited by the personnel after consultation with the youngsters in the department inside the JICN. Parents/guardians or family of every youngster were present. The personnel together with the youngsters organized the day. Education is now available in the youngsters' department of the JICN. This is a tremendous step forward. Youngsters have the

opportunity to study and to prepare themselves to get a diploma in collaboration between JICN and the OCW, SGB and FORMA.

► **The Bonaire Government recently signed an agreement with developer Terramar for a commercial complex on the location of the former Salsa bar/restaurant.** It will consist of a covered gallery with stores and eateries on the ground floor, while the first and second floors are reserved for apartments catering to tourists. The historic building "Kas di van der Dijns" (that housed a music school) will be incorporated into the project and restored for a public function. It involves the site of the demolished old Hellmund house on Kralendijk Bay and the plots behind it.



► **WILLEMSTAD--Abby Hogan (50), the wife of the missing US vice consul James Hogan, has been accused in the US of seven counts of obstructing the investigation into her husband's disappearance while in Curaçao.**

(Continued on page 10)

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How to contact us

Letters to the Editor:
Reporter@bonairenews.com
Story tip or idea:
info@bonairenews.com
The Publisher:
George@bonairenews.com
Box 407, Bonaire,
Dutch Caribbean
Phone 786-6125
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Excitement On Bonaire Day

Bonaire Day Marked by Demonstrations

There was more than the usual excitement during Bonaire Day, September 6, because about 150 Bonaireans staged a "Manifestation" (Demonstration) to emphasize their dissatisfaction with the course the island has taken since integration with The Netherlands last October. The demonstrators were orderly and given time on the platform during the official program to express the issues they had. The signs they held might have been crude by some standard, but the feelings they expressed were loud and clear.

Following the formal program the bario of North Salinja came alive with people enjoying the warm sunshine, the food, drinks and music which lasted well into the evening. ■ G.D.

Island Coalition Government Collapses

The present island Red (PDB, White (PJU) and Blue (MBL) coalition commissioners will most likely be replaced on September 12 when the Island Council meets. The commissioners who form the new government will come from the Green (UPB) and White (PHU) parties.

The short-lived coalition broke apart when the PHU member of the Island Council, Rafael Santana, broke with his party, founded last year, by Commissioner Michiel Bijkerk over a payment intended to supplement his councilman salary. He kept his council seat and decided to side with the four UPB council members to get a 5 to 4 majority on the Island Council.

At press time the new commissioners have not been named. ■ G.D.

Concerns about Bonaire Local Governance

Talking about age, religion, government or politics are the last things that most of us like to do. But unfortunately we're talking a lot about politics these days. The elections in Bonaire were a big issue on last March.

When you go to several online dictionaries you find different definitions for "government" but the one I like the most is "The administration or management of an organization, business or institution." When you understand the kind of administration our government is delivering now, then you can understand what kind of government we have. We don't have to go far to understand that we, the people, are part of a government. We have the right to learn more about our government and express ourselves. The basic thoughts of the people come forward and then we will learn what our government is doing about it. Most people when you ask about what they think about our government give different answers. Some might say that they are doing their job right, others have mixed feelings, and you find those who are very skeptical. One skeptic said, "What the people in the government do is think about themselves. They want to have more power and control. They forget about the people who voted for them. They think more about their financial problems and how they can solve them. In my generation I haven't experienced any appropriate government that has really satisfied my needs. I had to work hard, raise my children all by myself and then see the one I voted for take advantage of my tax money. They buy off people with nice words, but the reality is a fatal fault - a promise what they can't deliver."

We need a government that works for the people - all kinds of society, rich, poor, middle class, upper class, every one. We've tried for more than 50 years to follow our constitution, but every time we fail. Now Holland has taken over to bring some changes. We are not ready to be on our own; we are fighting each other too much. It seems we don't know how to sit at a conference table or address ourselves to our political partners in a decent way. The Dutch government is taking over little by little. We don't see the changes right away, but they are coming. Maybe we can learn from them and then... can we be ready to



Have I A Future?

do it ourselves? Others are concerned with Holland mingling with our business and taking away our rights of freedom. Others are causing division with negative arguments among our people. Demonstrations show people's anger and anxieties about the developments. The demonstration on the 6th of September has really raised some questions. Can we do it ourselves? Is independence the right choice? Well, in the past our ancestors knew how to do it. They raised cattle, worked in agriculture and did a lot more. They worked hard to survive, but what about ourselves in this case? Are we as Bonaireans working hard for this country? Have we stopped to think about our children who have to take care of Bonaire in the future? We have to set the foundation, and in my opinion we are far from that.

We must ask ourselves what have we achieved until now as Bonaireans and are we prepared to take care of the future? If we are, we must just do it and stop talking." ■

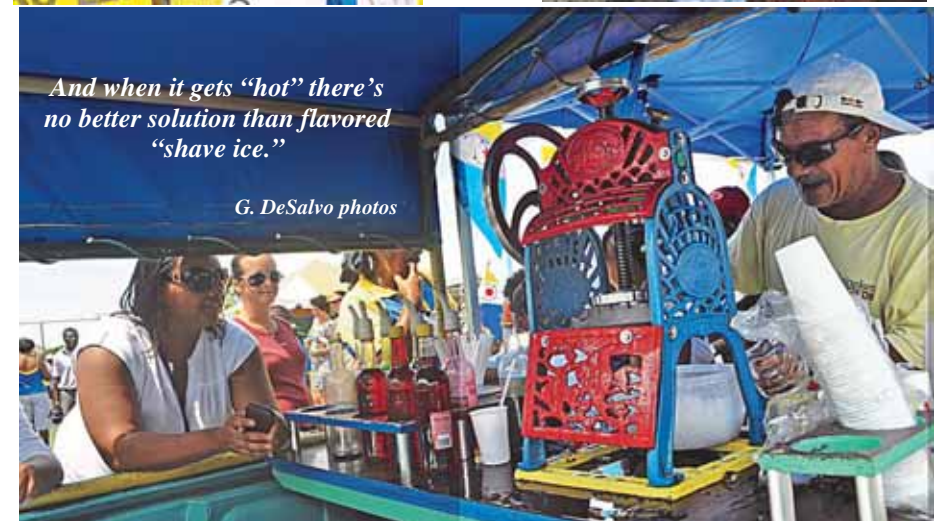
Siomara E. Albertus



Three scenes from the Demonstration

And when it gets "hot" there's no better solution than flavored "shave ice."

G. DeSalvo photos



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Born on Bonaire... April 23, - Delno Tromp

“I was born in Playa Pariba with the help of the late Dr. Welvaart. As we were living close to the sea from a very early age I could swim in the sea, and that’s what we did: play, swim, make our own boats and fish. I went to school and became the first ‘guinea pig’ of Havo-4. After that I went to universities in Puerto Rico and the US. I did the hotel school- marketing and tourism - and in the US I did business administration. Then I went to Curacao to work at a hotel as a sales manager. From there I worked on Bonaire, Aruba, St. Martin, in the US and in Puerto Rico. Recently I worked in Kenya, Africa, at the Kenyatta University as a professor. I am a cosmopolitan, but Bonaire is my spot; I will always return to my nest.

I am someone who has his feet firmly on the ground and when I do something I do it with all my heart. For 10 years now I’ve been with the Special Olympics. From the very beginning I helped them out, then I decided to go on the board. It takes up a lot of my time

and you really have to have the love and passion for it. But these athletes are so grateful and happy for every little thing you do for them. It gives you so much energy that you keep on doing it, no matter what! Also, the people of Bonaire are always willing to contribute when we organize something for Special Olympics.

Another thing I’ve been involved in for years, together with a group of friends, is the yearly dinner we organize for the senior citizens. We collect the money and offer them a very nice dinner in one of the restaurants. It all started out at Crocantino and the last years we’ve been at Kirk Gosden’s Sunset Restaurant. Kirk turns it into a real happening! On that special day he closes the restaurant to the public. This year it will take place on the 14th of December; 130 people, groups from all the different neighborhoods. It is such fun as we wait the tables ourselves. Kirk and his team do the kitchen and MCB already gave a donation. Now we have to find little presents to give



Delno in front of one of his favorite paintings, the place where he spent his childhood, painted by Renate van der Bijl

to the people as a surprise and souvenir. It’s still early, but I like to have my things neatly organized!

Since I was a youngster I traveled with the family and I’ve traveled a lot. I think Ireland is a fabulous country: great people and absolute fun! Another place I’ve always loved – a very messy metropolis, one of the dirtiest places I’ve seen in my life, but also a city of which I would say ‘I could live here’-- is Cairo. Sometimes you go somewhere and after you’ve seen it, you think, ‘Been there, done that’, but there are places I always

want to come back to and Egypt and Venice are two of them. I am a Diet Coke addict, but in Venice they told me, ‘Have a red wine; it’s cheaper!’ And so I switched to red wine and you know what? It also makes you happier!

I like to experience different cultures. I like to get to know the people, their music, and their art, and as you can see I’ve taken

(Continued on page 5)

“... I feel it’s very important that we keep our Papiamentu very much alive! It’s one of the most beautiful languages I know ”

			
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On the Island Since (continued from page 4)
 something from everywhere, from Delft pottery to Egyptian crosses..."

Delno is a lovely man, a person with a real good heart, very charming without making an effort to be so. It's just who he is... a natural.

"I loved to run marathons, but I messed up my knee and now I'm waiting for a second operation. Of course I miss it, but there are many other things I like. I love to listen to music, all kinds of music, except for" *he laughs*, "Celine Dion! I like photography - to take my camera and go around the island and take pictures. We've got a very beautiful little island with breathtaking spots. I love to read, especially memoirs and biographies, and the most beautiful book I've ever read is 'Paula' by Isabel Allende. She wrote the book about her daughter who died with so much love and sadness and I don't know how she found the strength to write it. To me she's the best author of all times. I prefer to read in English, but I also like to read in Papiamentu. I am on the board of *Fundashon Akademia Papiamentu*, because I feel it's very important that we keep our Papiamentu very much alive! It's one of the most beautiful languages I know and we should be very, very proud of it. Of course it should stay in the schools, but in addition to it, children have to learn other languages too.

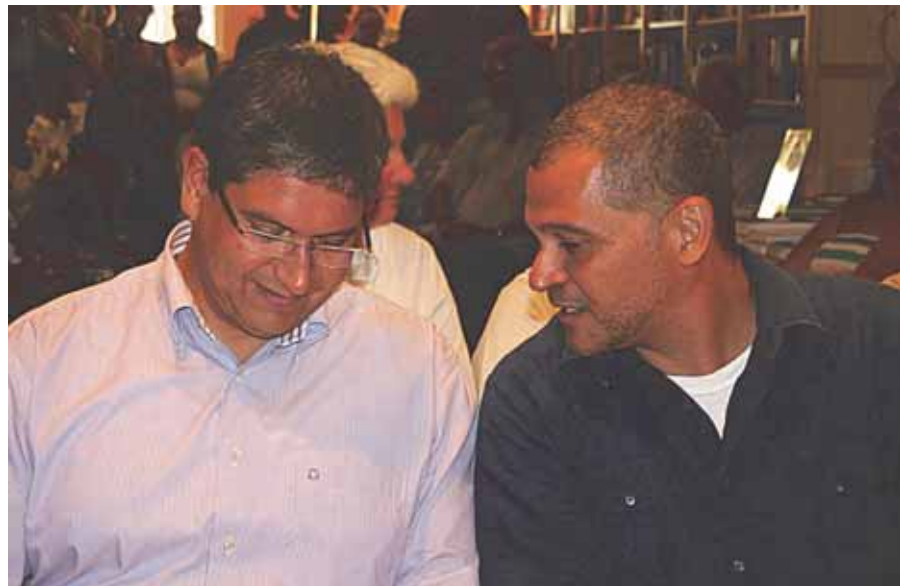
Well, I also like to do research on the computer. I learned it when I was teaching at the university in Kenya. In the beginning it was a bit complicated, but now I find it a wonderful thing to do and I can also use it in my present job to figure things out.

Kenya is another world. Before I went to work there I'd visited it frequently for vacation, but once you live there, reality hits you... hard! When you live there, you realize what life is about... what it really is about. It changes your perspective and insight, because here, where I grew up, nobody knows - I have to say 'fortunately' - how hard and devastating life can be. Because there, in Africa, people wake up in the morning without a roof over their head, not knowing if they will live another day, not knowing if there will be any food to eat or water to drink. And they cannot count on family or friends, because those people have nothing themselves. Here you always have somebody, a friend, a relative, a neighbor who will share something with you. Here they want the coolest sneakers and everything with a real good 'name' and there, when they have one pair of jeans and two shirts, they are really, really happy!

On and off I've been in Kenya for four years and I've traveled all over Africa. It's a beautiful continent, but Bonaire is the most beautiful place in the world... guaranteed! Not because I was born here.

You know, when you live here you sort of become immune to certain things; you don't see them anymore: your freedom, the wide open sky and all the lovely people who make our island so special. When I go out taking pictures I become mesmerized by - for instance - one thing, like a tree. I can sit for hours and take photos and every time you see something different.

I am a Bonairean and I was born here and my island will always be number one. I want the best for Bonaire. I want to see it bloom and grow, but now with the economy and the world crisis, we're feeling it too. Life has become so much more expensive, but all together we should make the effort to keep it under control so that all of us will be able to enjoy the fact that we're here. I have always been involved in the Red Party, the Democrats, helping them campaign, and I used to be a counselor for one of the deputies. Then they asked me if I wanted to become a deputy. You're doing it for your island, but it's not an easy task. Your private life is exposed and you try to do your very best, but still, you can't make everybody happy.



The Governor with Delno at the presentation of '1001 Proverbio na Papiamentu'

One of the most important things they have to learn on Bonaire is to work together, not to be screaming on the side, but to take action and do something for this sweet little place. I know the people here are having a hard time and I know there's poverty on Bonaire, but it is incomparable to what I've seen elsewhere in the world. I think people should also set their priorities and if you can't afford something... don't buy it! Spend the money on what you need first and most.

I think it's important that people judge people for their actions, not for anything else. I am spontaneous, but I am also very reserved; what you see is what you get. All my life I've been a public figure in

my work - the show must go on -- but after that I'm gone - I run and I switch everything off! I don't like long meetings; I am a believer in time management. People should also accomplish concrete things, realize their goals. I am very direct and clear and I expect the same from others. Africa has changed me. I have become a minimalist and my dream for the future is that one day everybody in this world shall have enough..." ■

Story & photos by Greta Kooistra



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Dengue Fever is spreading worldwide, Several Bonaire residents almost died when stricken last year. What to do? Think about this thread of three items provided to *The Reporter*.

1. Dengue Outbreak Warning

Two professionals, medical entomologist professor Bart Knols* and retired doctor Louis Wierda say Bonaire will have a severe outbreak of dengue fever next rainy season because the island's mosquito population is already high. Knols and Wierda say they can offer a relatively friendly environmental approach to eliminate the problem, based on their experience and expertise. They presented their proposal to the Bonaire government a few months ago and await a decision.

Currently, Knols is on Aruba responding to an Aruba Bank supported initiative to undertake an eight-phase program instituting "permanent and lasting solutions" to eradicate dengue from that island. Source: *AD Dutch language newspaper*

*Footnote:
*Bart Knols was the winner of the 2006 Ig Nobel prize for biology for showing that the female malaria mosquito *Anopheles gambiae* is attracted equally to the smell of limburger cheese and to the smell of human feet.
REFERENCE: "On Human Odour, Malaria Mosquitoes, and Limburger Cheese," Bart. G.J. Knols, *The Lancet*, vol. 348, November 9, 1996, p. 1322. (The Ig Nobel Prizes honor achievements that first make people laugh, and then make them think. The prizes are intended to celebrate the unusual, honor the imaginative — and spur people's interest in science, medicine, and technology. Editor)

2 Aruba's Approach

Entomologist Bart Knols and former air force pilot Serge Christiaans, founders of the new Dutch company Soper Strategies, are on the island at the expense of Aruba Bank to make a feasibility study for the extermination of the *Aedes aegypti*, the tiger mosquito that spreads dengue. The rough estimated costs for the elimination plan for one year are € million. To free Aruba from dengue. They employ bio-pesticides and say that their methods against the mosquitoes are "ecologically sound and permanent."

And finally, this Letter to the Editor:

3. How Will Bonaire Solve Its Dengue Problem?

Do I have what I heard on the radio right? They will start to work on the mosquitoes sometime in the next six months after many, many, many meetings to determine what the problem is and how to solve it?

Now, we keep digging huge holes that fill with rain water for mosquitoes to grow in, do nothing to combat them - then hope they will go away. I think we have a plan. It is brilliant. -Maggie Booi ■ G.D.



Professor Bart Knols

Body Talk

WHEN BREATHING IS IMPOSSIBLE - ASTHMA

The large majority of us do not even give breathing a second thought! We do not have to, except when we have a bad cold or a lung infection. What we so carelessly take for granted is exactly what governs an asthma sufferer's life! When every breath becomes a struggle and your life line is your inhaler – absolutely nothing else matters!

So what exactly is asthma? What happens in the lungs during an asthma attack and how can we correct this problem? Yes, you read correctly! In most cases, adult asthma, that affects mostly women, is the result of various imbalances within the body, mostly caused by inoculations and the birth control pill.

Asthma is an example of inappropriate nerve reactivity (the vagus nerve) – an over-sensitive, over reactive parasympathetic nerve system. Something as seemingly innocuous as a mild allergic exposure, an emotional stress, or a change in temperature can elicit an extreme response. The vagus nerve fires impulses into the bronchial tubes, causing bronchial constriction and increased mucous secretion.

Once an asthma attack has been triggered, the bronchial tree constricts and increases both its serous and mucous secretion. This causes increasingly labored breathing and also triggers a respiratory inflammatory reaction causing swelling of the tissues with excess carbon dioxide accumulating in the system.

Some of the major imbalances contributing to asthma are an energy production called anaerobic fermentation, not enough protein and fat in the diet and being frequently in danger of hypoglycemia (low blood sugar).

Medications like PREDNISONE "works" symptomatically by virtue of its anti-inflammatory effect, while actually exacerbating the person's underlying imbalances. A note of caution - many asthma medications

and allergy medications contain SODIUM BENZOATE- A BIG NO-NO. Allergy shots will also increase the severity of asthma attacks.

It is also very important to avoid excessive B6 supplementation and histidine. B6 will increase conversion of histidine to histamine. During an asthma attack the kidneys dump chlorides. Magnesium chloride will help as a broncho dilator and in replacing the dumped chlorides.

The following foods should be STRICTLY AVOIDED at all cost! Salad dressings, mayonnaise, all fried foods, all margarines and other processed butters, all nuts and nut butters or spreads, all fruit and fruit juices.

The following should be DRASTICALLY DECREASED – The carbohydrate intake and all forms of sugar. However, an increase of proteins (start eating eggs!) and vegetables, steamed or raw is necessary. It is hard changing one's way of eating, but it is far harder suffering through an asthma attack time and time again!

Various vitamins like Vitamins A, D, E, Phosphorous, Calcium, Magnesium, Copper and Manganese are extremely helpful for asthma sufferers, but remember amino acids are just as important! Unfortunately, many store bought multi-vitamins do not contain amino acids. The reason for this apparently is that amino acids have a very limited shelf life, and cannot be included with the standard supplements. It does sound rather suspiciously like a question of economics rather than health!

Change is necessary for every asthma sufferer out there! YOU DO HAVE A CHOICE!

Next issue: Aluminum and our health. ■
Stephanie Bennett

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BonQuiz #60
TOWN PIER

In 1999 Hurricane Lenny passed about 250 miles north of Bonaire leaving a wake of devastation behind her. On this island storm waves did the damage and took docks, shops and many a coral. Town pier was considered by dive magazines to be the best night dive in the Caribbean, at the time. Additionally about 300 sponges were torn from the town pier pilings.

A special lady in diving tried to repair the damage by tying the sponges to the pilings... tying 'em up... tying 'em up until most of those torn off were attached, survived, and started to thrive again.

Q) What is the name of this woman.
Hint: She is a member of the Women's Diver Hall Of Fame.

Answer on page 14

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.

Fundashon Bon Kousa - Foundation for a Good Cause

Fundashon Bon Kousa is a non-profit organization founded by Bart and Jacqueline Landheer-Bremmers. Bart and Jacqueline are involved philanthropists who care for projects about children, education and the environment. So far they have been involved in projects like 'Adopt a Conch' to re-enable a sustainable, healthy population of Queen conch in the Lac Bay



Geraldine Dammers and Jacqueline and Bart Landheer

area and they helped Mangazina di Rei in Rincon with the design of maps, a museum guide, banners and communication and marketing strategy. Since 2008 they developed fundraising calendars to raise money for various NGO's in Bonaire (Jong Bonaire), The Netherlands, Statia and Saba, involving the teenagers in discovering their cultural and national heritage and helping them focus on their own future role in life. And also, they've set up a website for the Classical Music Board Bonaire.

Bart Landheer is an industrial designer and a passionate photographer; he is also co-founder and managing director of SC Adviesgroep BV, one of the established retail- and packaging design offices in the Netherlands.

'We think' Bart says **'Bon Kousa goes further than making calendars, pictures and books; we never do projects by ourselves – it's always a project that's founded or incorporated by another NGO. Everything we do is 'together with...' – a joint action – we never do anything by ourselves; we are not important. What we are really trying in all our projects is to combine Bonaire's talent, to connect the dots... so that something great, Bonaire has never seen before, originates from it.**

After our last project *'1001 Proverbio na Papiamentu'*, a book that contains over a thousand proverbs in Papiamentu with literal translations in English and Dutch, was realized, we felt it would be a great disappointment if it wasn't going to be used. So, together with Geraldine Dammers of Fundashon Akademia Papiamentu we came to the idea to develop a game and TV show in which children of the highest grade of Bonaire's elementary schools will compete against each other in a game show which has *'proverbio'* (proverbs) as a theme. We want to re-introduce the use of the proverbs and most of all the fun that comes with it! Also, in the show, each and every child will get the opportunity to show his or her talent. And the children will get a prize as well.

The schools are super enthusiastic, Flamingo TV is going to broadcast it and we will talk with Mi-TV and see if they want to do the same.

The show will be recorded on January 14 and 15, 2012, at the sports hall at Kaya Amsterdam. We're looking for more talents on Bonaire, because we need people to make the decors, to make the costumes, do the make-up – everything that comes with it! And people who can not contribute with talent might want to contribute with money, that's okay too! We want Bonaire to show what it's capable of! And all of us are looking forward to make this an unforgettable fun event!

In Holland we're doing similar things; we just finished a big project for an institution for mentally and physically handicapped people – also non-profit. But when we work for a company or a government we send the bill!

We came to Bonaire for the first time to dive, some 15 years ago. In 2000 we built our house here because we found out that the people of Bonaire are this island's greatest treasure and that's why we got more and more involved. Every year we come here for six months because we still have to work in Holland, so judicially seen we might not be residents, but emotionally we are! We get so much fun out of this and we think we are blessed to be in a position to be able to this. My dad didn't get older than fifty-five, so that's why we're doing this now! And, you know, it's double the fun when you can do it at this age!" ■ Photo and Story by Greta Kooistra

For more info: www.bonkousa.org

Bonaire Runner In China

Bonaire has world-class athletic talent. From 16 - 21st of August, our Charlon Sumter competed in international games in China He ran a new personal record in the 800 meters (2:03 min) and was a semifinalist at the 1500 meters. Bon Bida Spa and Gym sponsored Charlon and gave him a Polar Heart-Rate monitor, to help him train even more efficiently. ■



Press release Bon Bida's Robert Smaal giving the monitor to Charlon.

MCB Hosts Another Press Appreciation Day



Last week, Maduro Curiel's Bank Bonaire outdid themselves recognizing the local press. The unsuspecting press corps were picked up at the main MCB office in Hato and bussed north to a secret destination. The destination turned out to be Mangazina di Rei. There everyone was treated to a sumptuous krioyo meal prepared by Vernon "Nonchi" Martijn and the students of the SGB Chez Nous, beginning with a Kabrito Soup, followed by Kabrito and Galina Stoba, funchi, fried plantains, salads and more. Press representatives were there from *The Bonaire Reporter*, *Extra*, *Nos TV*, *Nobo*, *Amigu*, *Boneiru Awe*, *Radio Energia*, *Mega FM* and *Ultimo Noticio*. Thanks to MCB, the organizer of the event, Orphaline Saleh, and the MCB staff who joined us. MCB began these press appreciation days in 2002. ■ Laura DeSalvo

U.S. Consulate General Announces New Appointment System



The U.S. Consulate General in Curaçao announced an revised appointment system for American Citizen Services (ACS) and a changed pickup schedule for passports which will be said to improve its service to the public.

Opening Hours

ACS window hours are 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Closed on Tuesday, and Thursday except for passport pickup and emergency situations. Applicants for a Non-Immigrant Visa must pick up their passport with visa during these hours.

Passports

Most passport applications must be made in person at the ACS office of the Consulate. New passports are generally issued within one to two weeks and must be picked up during regularly scheduled ACS hours. Limited validity emergency passports may be issued in special circumstances. ■ Press release

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Tough Times In Lora Land

The rescued loras under Echo's caring wing are flourishing but sadly the wild loras have had a tough time over the past weeks. The goat and donkey eaten habitat is in such poor condition that the parrots have to come to town to find food. In the urban environment loras face dangers they unprepared for and this was the unfortunate experience for three loras now collectively known as *The Three Amigos*...



It was a sunny day on beautiful island of Bonaire when Perry, a young yellow-shouldered Amazon Parrot, found himself in the mouth of a very large German Sheppard. This, he quickly realised, was an unfortunate situation and one, which in hindsight, he probably should have avoided.

Just moments before Perry had almost landed in a large red flowering tree, the kind his caring mother would bitterly complain about. Having only recently fledged Perry was still getting to grips with landing. This was not the first time he had misjudged a landing but the unfortunate consequence on this occasion was that there was now a dog getting to grips with him.

As his life flashed before his eyes he remembered the times his mother would start her own little crusade while she brooded him and his sister in their nest. "After they chopped down all the native trees like the delicious Yellow Mobin and productive West Indian Satinwood," she would say into the dark, "they planted the exotics likes flamboyant and all those palms that give nothing back to the wildlife. "Your forefathers evolved over millions of years to feed on those native trees and the humans just chopped them all down. They even have the audacity to complain when we eat a few of their exotic fruits."

Only a day before the matter of eating exotic fruits was at the forefront of another Lora, Mick's, mind. Unfortunately for Mick there was also an incredible pain at the forefront of his mind, and in his wing. The pain had been caused by a snotty nosed brat who had hurled stones at him with disappointing accuracy.

Being a slightly older fledgling Mick was now finding and eating some food for him-

self. He had been quietly nibbling away at a kenepa and wondering about the possibility of Bonaire developing a green economy when the first stone broke his wing. Of course being a bird, Mick's reaction was to still to fly from the tree. A jolt of pain shot through his little body as his strong chest muscles tightened moving the ends of his broken bones against each other. Then he hit the ground with a sickening thud. The second stone glanced off his head removing a half a skull of feathers. Luckily for Mick there was an abandoned car in the garden where he landed and he quickly ran to hide beneath it until a caring person came to help him.

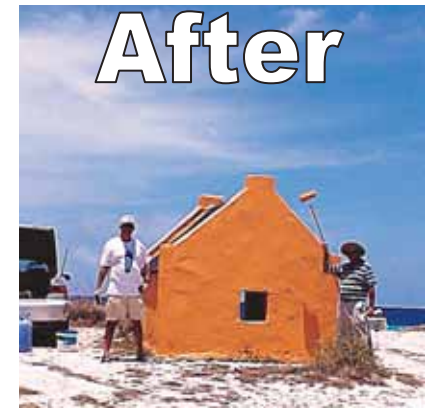
His parents were dismayed and they flew and screamed. This experience confirmed for them that enduring The Stones is tortuous! They were grateful Mick had been able to run for cover.

It has been three weeks since the female lora, Biscuit, broke her leg and right now she would probably sell her grandmother to be able to run again. A cloud of mystery surrounds the events that led to the breaking of her leg. Biscuit was dizzy from the event and although she could not remember the caring lady's wonderfully Dutch name she recalled that the lady said she had broken her wing by flying into an electricity cable. Perhaps the lady was right about the cable but Biscuit's wings were just fine.

Dear Reader, have you ever stopped to marvel at how a parrot can climb? If you haven't then you really ought. They can, of course, because they have stubby little legs which gives them "low gearing." This allows a parrot to pull its body weight up through the branches of a tree but it makes

(Continued on page 12)

Shining Slave Huts



Some of the slave huts at Oranje Pan have had a new coat of paint recently. Frans, Maggie and Eric Booi performed a volunteer Bonaire Landmark project to clean up the graffiti on two of the slave huts. One large pail of paint, three energetic painters and a few fun hours later the slave huts were renewed. Now they are eyeing the rest of them for another day. All in all a truly fulfilling project. Bravo! ■ Press release with photos

For Sale – The Painting “Nukove” By Heleen Cornet



This large (4 ft.,9 in. by 6 ft., 1 in. (145 cm. by 185.5 cm) oil painting is one of artist Heleen Cornet's art works that were commissioned to illustrate the New Guide to the Bonaire Marine Park by Tom van't Hof in 1997. The painting shows the Bonaire dive site, "Nukove," as it was in 1996 when artist Cornet painted it, capturing the reef scene in a way that is impossible to express in photographs. The painting is framed by a wooden, antique rubbed frame.

Cornet has been invited to prestigious exhibits of rainforests and the underwater world. The price of this rare painting is \$4,900.00 Serious inquiries only.

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



Not so long ago, classical music concerts were something of a rarity on Bonaire.

This was widely considered to be an indicator of a lack in the cultural life on the island. Talented artists who might have visited to perform did not, in major part because there was no suitable grand piano available. Moreover, there was no strong local group to organize settings, events and musicians to perform here on a regular and sustained basis -- but no longer. The Classical Music Board Bonaire celebrates completion of its second season's full schedule of classical and traditional musical offerings this summer -- 30 events (concerts, recitals, school concerts, master classes, and demonstrations), having drawn combined audiences of some 4,000 concert goers, students and guests.

In early-2009, this understood gap in Bonaire's cultural life led a handful of local music lovers, Raymundo Saleh, the late Maartin Maartense, Guus Gerritsen and Hans Faassen, to create two foundations designed to organize high quality concerts on Bonaire and to attract outstanding musical artists to perform in them.

Members of the first of these boards, the Grand Piano Foundation (*Fundashon Piano Grandi*, FPG), won financial support from numerous companies and individuals, making possible the purchase of a magnificent grand piano from the Netherlands. The FPG's Yamaha C5 is a versatile instrument which is suitable for high caliber classical music as well as jazz performances. In addition

to its use in classical concerts, the grand piano has been rented for use by such visiting star performers as Monty Alexander, Cor Bakker and Arturo Sandoval. Fortunately, board members have been as knowledgeable about the maintenance of this extraordinary instrument as they were about fundraising for its acquisition.

The second group created was the Classical Music Board Bonaire. (CMbB) This foundation brought together expertise and experience in organizing events, contracting with artists, public relations and publicity, arranging finances, transportation and accommodations and a deep appreciation for classical European, American and Antillean musical traditions, as well as well as a wide acquaintance with of top-quality musicians world wide. Current members of the CMbB, in addition to the founders, are Rob van Lier, Frans Lauxen, Wil Dijkstra and Bob Gilmour.

Since May 2009, the CmbB has organized 17 public concerts and seven school concerts, featuring a variety of artists and musical instruments, ranging from solo piano recitals to an all-saxophone orchestra; from classical chamber ensembles (piano, violin and cello), performing the works of Bach, Saint Saens, Schubert and Piazzola, to a lively quartet playing traditional South American instruments; from a renowned trio of classically trained vocalists to full bands performing traditional Antillean and Caribbean music.

Performing artists have included, "De 3 Baritons" from the Netherlands, the

"passionate saxophone" ensemble, "Vento do Norte" from Portugal with saxophone soloist Henk van Twillert of Holland, pianist Marilyn Kredel of the United States, a traditional South American music ensemble "La Cuadra Venezolana" and classical solo pianist Ana Katrina Alamo from Venezuela, in addition to outstanding Antillean musicians, pianist Wim Status Muller, Livio Herman, Johnny Kleinmoedig and Hans Faassen, violinist Alissa Margulis and Erik Silfhout, and soprano soloist Linda Anthony, among others.

The CMbB has also joined forces with its sister organizations on Aruba and Curaçao, four of its concerts having been held in collaboration with these organizations. Concerts were also held in partnership with Plaza Resort Bonaire ("De 3 Baritons") and with the Bonaire Heineken Jazz Festival ("Vento do Norte").

The CMbB's school concerts typically reach about 175 students each. For some of these children the concerts are their first exposure to classical music, and contrary to some popular beliefs, most of them are enthralled by it.

As Board vice president, Hans Faassen, put it, "With enormous help from those donors who purchased our piano and the continuing support of our local sponsors, we have been able to entertain some 4000 Bonaire concert-goers with high quality classical and traditional musical performances on a scale that has never before been possible here."

Faassen lauded, in Particular, Caribbean Homes' Gisela van Steenberg for artistic

design of publicity and tickets, Flamingo Communications for superb quality printing, the foundation "Bon Koussa" for CMbB web site design and maintenance, Plaza Resort Bonaire for providing a home for the grand piano and concert venues for the events and *The Bonaire Reporter*, *Bonaire EXTRA* and Mega FM for publicity, also ROCARGO for help with transportation and financial support and Addo's Books & Toys and Flamingo Bookstore for assistance with ticket sales.

Classical Music Board Bonaire members express special pride in the reputation that they have developed with visiting musicians, who know that they will be very well received here, where they have a chance to perform in a small, warm and acoustically precise hall in intimate contact with an enthusiastic audience.

The recent past offers a strong basis for a promising future for classical and traditional music on Bonaire, but as always, the costs of bringing superior quality talent to Bonaire are increasing. "Consequently," Faassen says, "it is urgent that we move quickly to strengthen our financial base. To do this we will soon be announcing our new campaign to attract more sponsors and private support in exchange for reduced-price access to more concerts and events and greater public recognition of corporate sponsors." More information on this new funding sponsorship drive is available on [Press release](#)

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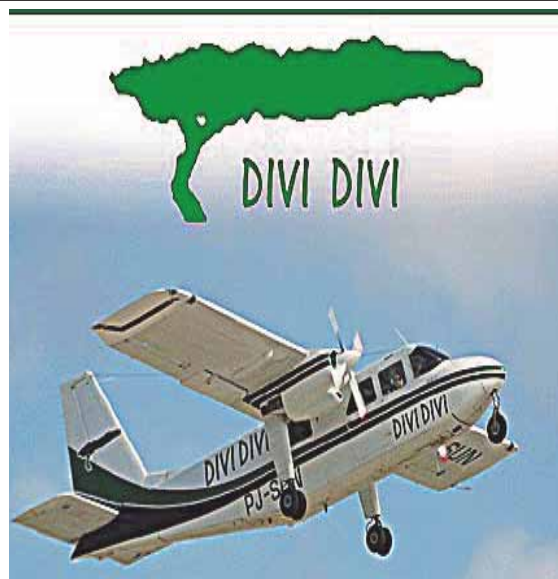


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Day	High	Low	High	Low	High	Sunrise	Sunset
SEPT Fri 16		00:06 0.07 ft	05:34 0.34 ft	09:47 0.29 ft	16:15 0.77 ft	6:25	18:36
Sat 17		00:47 0.02 ft	06:16 0.33 ft	10:14 0.28 ft	16:50 0.82 ft	6:24	18:35
Sun 18		01:24 -0.01 ft	06:45 0.31 ft	10:46 0.25 ft	17:25 0.88 ft	6:24	18:34
Mon 19		01:58 -0.03 ft	07:09 0.30 ft	11:21 0.22 ft	18:02 0.92 ft	6:24	18:33
Tue 20	L Quarter	02:31 -0.04 ft	07:32 0.30 ft	12:02 0.19 ft	18:39 0.95 ft	6:24	18:33
Wed 21		03:02 -0.03 ft	07:58 0.31 ft	12:47 0.17 ft	19:19 0.95 ft	6:24	18:32
Thu 22		03:33 -0.02 ft	08:29 0.35 ft	13:40 0.16 ft	20:00 0.92 ft	6:24	18:31
Fri 23		04:03 -0.01 ft	09:06 0.41 ft	14:40 0.16 ft	20:45 0.85 ft	6:24	18:31
Sat 24		04:33 0.02 ft	09:49 0.50 ft	15:52 0.17 ft	21:35 0.76 ft	6:24	18:30
Sun 25		05:05 0.04 ft	10:39 0.60 ft	17:15 0.17 ft	22:33 0.64 ft	6:24	18:29
Mon 26		05:39 0.07 ft	11:33 0.72 ft	18:47 0.14 ft	23:44 0.52 ft	6:24	18:29
Tue 27	New Moon	06:18 0.09 ft	12:29 0.84 ft	20:19 0.06 ft		6:24	18:28
Wed 28		01:09 AST 0.42 ft	07:02 0.12 ft	13:27 0.95 ft	21:40 -0.03 ft	6:24	18:27
Thu 29		02:37 AST 0.36 ft	07:54 0.15 ft	14:24 1.04 ft	22:47 -0.13 ft	6:24	18:27
Fri 30		03:58 AST	08:53	15:21	23:46	6:24	18:26

Flotsam and Jetsam (Continued from page 2)

cao, in 2009. James Ho-
gan was last seen on Sep-
tember 24, 2009, when he
left his residence in Toni
Lunchi that evening. The
following day, Hogan's
clothes were found with
trails of blood and a knife
at Caracasbaai.



This was posted on the official the Federal
Bureau of Investigation (FBI) website.

The U.S. Department of State, Diplomatic
Security Service, FBI's Miami Field Office,
Justice in Curaçao and a Legal Attaché Office
in Bridgetown, Barbados are investigating but
James Hogan's disappearance remains a mys-
tery.

► **InselAir, the Curaçao-based airline an-
nounced last Saturday that it has now of-
fers a Comfort Class on its flights** as an
option in addition to Economy Class.
Now, the entire InselAir fleet except the Em-
braer Banderaintes will have both an Econ-
omy and a Comfort Class.
For a premium, the Comfort Class provides
extra quality services, ranging from various
priority ground services to alcoholic drinks
onboard and an extra baggage allowance.
The Comfort class will be available on all
flights of more than 45 minutes.
DAE, Insel Air's main competitor, has only
one aircraft still flying

► **THE NETHERLANDS--The anti-Islam
PVV party says the queen should be lim-
ited to a purely ceremonial role and have
no active involvement in politics**, according
to draft legislation drawn up by party and
made public last Thursday.
The queen should no longer be part of the
government, be involved in the formation of
new cabinets or have a seat on the
Council of State, the government's highest
advisory body, says the party.
The queen would remain head of state be-
cause she represents unity, said the PVV.

Last month, the Labor party PvdA published
its own report on reforming the monarchy. It
too wants to remove the monarch from the
Council of State but does not think it neces-
sary to remove the queen's membership in the
government.

The PVV's plans are unlikely to become law.
To remove the queen's role in the Council of
State requires a change in the constitution and
a two-thirds majority in parliament. However,
to eliminate the monarch's role in forming a
new government only requires a simple ma-
jority.

► **Space Expe-
dition Curaçao
SXC, who plan
to offer com-
mercial space
flights from
Curaçao's air-
port in 2014, say everything is going well.**
They've sold 35 tickets at \$95,000 each al-
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carries one passenger. The ship will take off,
climb almost vertically (at a 75 degree angle,
passing over Bonaire). It will exceed the
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boom when it passes over our island. For
more info go to: [http://www.incredible-
adventures.com/xcor-lynx.html](http://www.incredible-adventures.com/xcor-lynx.html)

► **Bonaire is going through tough eco-
nomic times for several reasons.** The island
businesses are suffering and *The Reporter* is
not immune, Dwindling advertising, the
world economic problems, rising taxes on
business and the loss of purchasing power
with the advent of the US dollar currency are
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De Freewieler sells bikes and all kinds of bike accessories. They do professional repairs on almost anything on two wheels. **Have your keys made here too.**

DENTURE REPAIR

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

DINING

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

ON & IN THE WATER

Budget Marine has what anyone with a boat needs, and if its not in stock they can order it quickly. You can also find special hardware for general use and components for solar and wind electric systems.

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, behind TIS.

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

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 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."

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

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



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 fruits and vegetables, unique products and fresh flowers. On the Nikiboko Road North

WATER TAXI

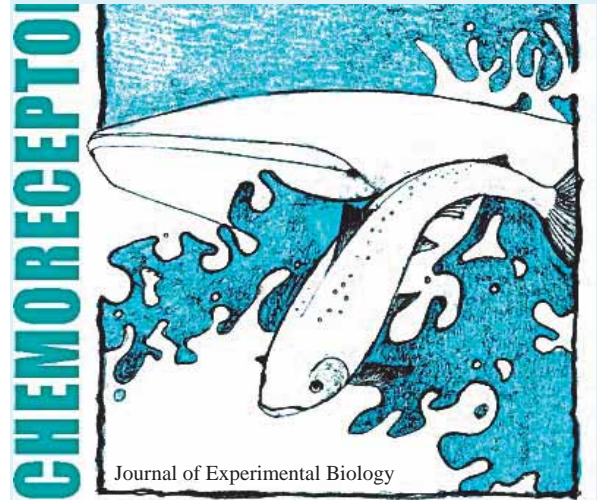
Get to Klein Bonaire by Ferry. Ride the *Kantika di Amor*. Hotel or downtown pickup The only water taxi to Klein Bonaire with built-in ramp

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 786-6125, 786-6518 or email laura@bonairenews.com

Bubbles From the Biologist Chemoreception



Did You Know...

Prey Know When Their Predators Are Around?

It's a dangerous place out on the reef for juvenile fish. As new residents to the reef these little fish have a lot to learn, and they are also prime targets for very hungry predators. So how do these juveniles know how to avoid becoming lunch? Well, even though these fish are very young doesn't mean that they aren't stellar students! Recent studies are showing that juvenile fish are able to learn who their predators are as soon as they arrive on the reef through chemoreception (the ability to detect chemicals). Chemicals are produced by just about every organism and juvenile fish are able to perceive a different odor for each predator. Since there are usually many potential predators around the reef, juvenile fish also have the ability to sense multiple predators at the same time.

What is even more amazing is the ability of juvenile fish to associate a specific odor with a particular predator and to recognize it as being a threat several months after learning the scent for the first time. Chemoreception gives young fish a better chance to detect and escape predators. So, even though these new fish have a lot to face in the big ocean, they are also well equipped for survival even at the early stages of their lives. ■ Catherine Knight

Catherine Knight is a Chemistry major at Mills College in San Francisco, CA. She participated in the CIEE Research Station Bonaire's summer program on Tropical Marine Ecology and Conservation in June of this year.



DO YOU SUDOKU?

To solve the puzzle, enter the numbers 1 through 9 to the partially filled in puzzle without re-

peating a number in any row, column or 3 x 3

Sudoku Solution

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

CAN I GET A MORTGAGE ON BONAIRE?

The good news is yes, you can. Because of the slowing world, European, American and Bonaire economies' interest rates are lower than a few years ago. This is certainly good news. Since the world real estate bubble burst in June 2006 most countries and bank systems have gone from "easy" money policies to "hard-impossible" money policies. This was understandable because



the "easy" money policies were blamed for creating the real estate bubble.

Bonaire escaped the shift from easy money to hard money because Bonaire never had an easy money policy for foreign borrowers. Bit banking on Bonaire has become more competitive in the past few years. There are more banks and more banks with direct and indirect connections with international lenders. This has improved the competitive climate amongst the banks.

In general the process for a foreign buyer getting a mortgage on Bonaire is similar to foreigners borrowing in any country. While the broad outlines for a foreign borrower are similar from bank to bank they are not the same. As a foreign buyer you should speak to at least two, if not three, potential lenders about your financial plans and desires.

Banks on Bonaire do not take a one-size fits-all approach to borrowers. You may find differences in interest rates, down payments, loan ratios, compensating balances, and general terms and conditions. Today qualified foreign borrowers on Bonaire can get a mortgage with a 25%-30% down payment. Many American banks have the same down payment for owner-occupied American buyers. The Bonaire standard is very favorable.

The interest rates in Bonaire will vary. Very well qualified foreign borrowers will be able to get a rate between 7-8%. This is similar to foreign buyers in many countries. All banks will require detailed personal financial information. Sometimes additional financial information will be required. None of the additional information is onerous. Bonaire banks may impose a maximum age limit requirement. Usually the terms of the loan will be shortened to comply with this requirement. If you are approaching senior citizen status and want a mortgage on Bonaire you want to be extremely well qualified with a very large down payment and a rock solid balance sheet.

The process of a mortgage is similar to most countries. Our experience is that Bonaire banks actually process loan applications in a very short and timely manner. Often you will have a preliminary approval in two to three days! The process is much faster than the national banks in America.

Another pleasant change on Bonaire is you will receive very personal service dur-

ing the application process. You will have your own mortgage officer who will be thoroughly familiar with you and your file and will know the answers to all your questions. Your application will never be sent to third or fourth parties for evaluation and processing. This highly personalized service is the way mortgage loan processing should be every place in the world.

Once your request is approved there will be an interval for an appraisal. Appraisals on Bonaire are handled very expeditiously. Most of the time the appraisal is complete in three to four weeks. You can have the Notary begin the title work while the appraisal is being done. The entire time frame is just a matter of a few weeks, not months and months.

You should anticipate having to do all your banking with your lender and you may also have to name the lender as the beneficiary on a special life insurance policy tied to the mortgage. Life insurance tied to the mortgage loan is common in most countries. On Bonaire the insurance will be placed through the bank's own insurance department. Our experience is the rates are very fair. As in the rest of the world casualty loss insurance for the lender's benefit will be required for the value of the loan.

Another very pleasant part of the process is that you will not be "nickel and dimed." There are no hidden fees on Bonaire. The bank will explain everything to you in the initial process. Be proactive and ask questions. Speak to at least two and preferable three lenders. Make sure you are comfortable with the loan officer and the lender. ■ Anna & Art Kleimer

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



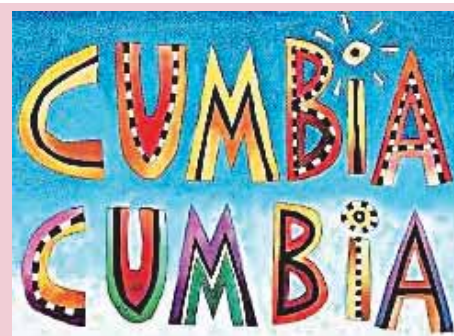
Anna@Bonaireislandrealestate.com



Latin Music Classics

Cumbia originated along the Caribbean coast of Colombia as a mixture of Spanish, Native Columbian and African music. During the mid-20th century, Colombian bands orchestrated this Caribbean folklore and brought it to different parts of Latin America, where it gained particular popularity in Panama, Mexico, Argentina, and the Andes region, where it is more popular than the salsa.

Cumbia is a complex, rhythmic music which included percussion, saxophones, trumpets, keyboards and vocals as well. It is worth pointing out that the "classic" cumbia reflects a uniquely Colombian feel known as "sabor" (flavour) and "ambiente" (atmosphere). Some famous bands are Los Graduados, Los Corrales and La Sonora Dinamita.



Jody's Music Quiz

Last time there was no winner!

This week's question:

"La Cumbia" was a big hit in 1991. What band was playing this song?

Please send your answer to: info@jodysbonaire.com and be entered in a drawing to win a CD of your own choice in Jody's shop at Lagoen Hill #18. The winner of this week's contest will be announced in the next edition of *The Reporter*. ■ Jo Bux



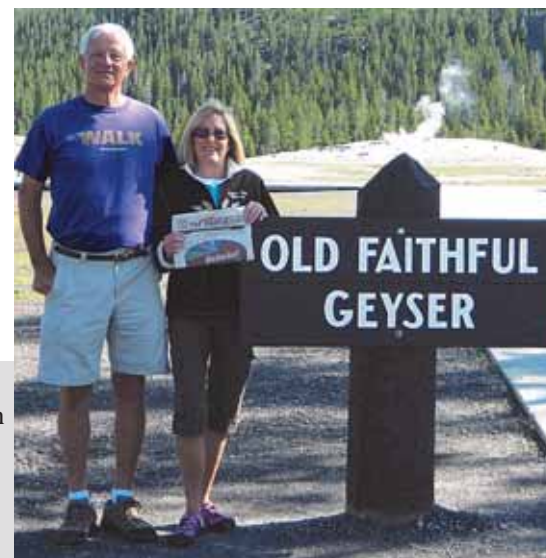
Jody's Fashion & Music

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, Zucchero, 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.

Picture Yourself With The Reporter at the... Old Faithful Geyser in Yellowstone Park, USA

Jim and Judy Kewley from Sand Dollar Condominium Resort took a copy of *The Bonaire Reporter* with them when they visited the famous Yellowstone National Park, in Wyoming. They had their photo taken while they were standing in front of the famous Old Faithful Geyser. ■



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.

Hard Times... (Continued from page 8) for poor long distance running. By contrast a long legged ostrich has "high gearing" and while they can run somewhat better than a parrot they are not very good climbing through branches.

For a parrot's stubby little leg to break something mysterious indeed must have happened. Biscuit's little leg is now splinted and we hope that she will not walk with too much of a limp.

It's now been 10 weeks since the parrot rescue began. The addition of the Three Amigos and other rescued loras to the flock puts a further strain on the dedicated Echo team. You can help these parrots by support-

ing this effort at:

<http://www.razoo.com/story/Echo-And-The-Yellow-Shouldered-Amazon-Parrot>

■ Story & photo by Sam Williams

The Echo Foundation is supported by contributions from Jong Bonaire, the Storehouse Mangazina and Rent O Fun Drive



WHAT'S HAPPENING

CLOSE-IN EVENTS

Ongoing Exhibit at Kas di Arte—with different artists. Open Wednesday-Sunday, 9am-noon, 1-6pm, on the sea promenade/boulevard.

Art Exhibit at Plaza Resort in September, by local artist Monique Reekers. Visit www.boniereverhuur.com

Saturday, September 24—Farmers' Market in collaboration with the Health Market, "Feria di Salu" at the Jeugdhuis Jong Bonaire. For Market info call Tina, 700-5488

Sunday, October 2—Saturday October 8 Bonaire International Sailing Regatta. Schools closed. More details and program in the next edition of *The Reporter*



Sunday, October 2—Jong Bonaire Swim to Klein Bonaire, 7 am, Eden Beach

October 3- 6—Four-Day Walkathon. 110 km walk over four days during Regatta Week, By bicycle or foot. Ages 10 and up. Cost \$25. Info 522-1235

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 afternoon-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.

- **Bonaire Animal Shelter's "Garage Sale"** every Saturday, 8am-5pm. At Kaminda Liberador Simon Bolivar, across from Brandaris Café. Lots of free parking. 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.

Thursdays

- **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 **when 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, NA\$2.50, 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 Corona) 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

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

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BONAIRE ON WHEELS

The 93rd of a series of Bonaire Reporter articles by J@n Brouwer, featuring some of Bonaire's interesting vehicles that are "on wheels." On course for 100+

Clifford Muskus From Curaçao and His "Green Flash" Packard



Bonaire/Kralendijk – Lagoen – Rincon. So some days before the 13th Bonaire Bikers MC Tour, September 1-7, 2011, I followed Asko Zuidam from Dive Friends Bonaire and I more or less "forced" him to stop his vehicle along the public road. We had a talk about life and death, cars and women. I had just returned from a trip to Europe and Asko was ready to leave the island for his first holiday in a couple of years. He had the intention to meet some sharks in the Pacific.

Then he pointed at a light green American made convertible which passed by. So I immediately stopped our conversation, quickly wished him a happy holiday while my motorcycle already was pressed into first gear. Then I launched my big thumper. "Follow that car!", and she did. It was not that difficult to follow this exotic vehicle. The driver did not drive it that fast along Kaya Korona. He turned right and drove along Kaya Lagoen. Finally, after some miles, he stopped and parked his pride in the garden of a house at Lagoen Hill. I introduced myself and informed the driver, named Clifford Muskus, about *The Bonaire Reporter* and my never-stopping need and urge to find interesting vehicles on the island. This car appeared to be a 1954 Packard, registered: WABI-1. Clifford informed me about the delegation of the Wabi Club from Curaçao, consisting of 13 classic vehicles. We had a little chat and a little walk to some other homes where several other classics were parked.

The next day, busy as always, I ran into a

group of motorcycles in a parking lot close to the boulevard of Kralendijk. There they were again: Clifford Muskus and his two tone "Bellevue/Galahad Green" (those were the original color options in 1954) convertible..

So, as the group of cars and motorcycles was ready to leave, I took the decision to join the enthusiasts. We drove through Kralendijk, passed the airport, in the direction of Sorobon. Finally the tour ended in Rincon where we stopped for a drink and a photo session. Ol' fellows smell of oil leather, beer and sizzling hot cast iron and aluminum. This is part of the real life. And not only in the tropics...

The next day I phoned Clifford. The group of classic cars appeared to be in Rincon. So I rode my bike to Rincon.

Clifford bought his Packard in 2002 on the island of Curaçao. The first owner was from Curaçao but later the convertible was shipped to Aruba where it served as a "parade car" for a political party, named: "Ruba." Originally, way down in the middle of the last century, Clifford's Packard was equipped with an in-line "straight-eight" cylinder flathead engine, measuring 358 cubic inches, which is 5.88 liters. The engine was connected to the rear wheels by an ultramatic automatic two speed transmission, made by Packard, the brand with the swan in the emblem and very prominent in full chrome on the hood of this car.

So, as mentioned, Clifford bought his Packard in 2002. Clifford is into classics for

Pet of the Week

"Oriana" was found in the street in June last year by the Animal Welfare group. She was only about three months old and was covered in ticks. Today, after loving care given by the Bonaire Animal Shelter staff, she's a beautiful, very sweet and mellow dog. Oriana would be perfect for a family as she loves to be around people. Her short black coat with chestnut markings is easy to care for.



Oriana

She's been examined by the vet, been wormed, had her shots. The dog adoption fee of \$75 includes all this, sterilization and an identity chip. You may meet Oriana and the other pets up for adoption at the Shelter on the Lagoen Road, open Monday through Saturday, 9 am to 1 pm and 3 to 5 pm. Tel. 717-4989. While you're there take a look at the Pet Shop where you can find all sorts of toys, collars, leashes and more - all at rock bottom prices as everything has been donated by Good Samaritans.

Don't forget to check out the Shelter's Pakus di Pruga, an every-Saturday garage sale on Kaya Libertador Simon Bolivar, across the street from the Branderis Café and Jong Bonaire. There's plenty of free parking, there's clothes, books, household items, toys, baby things - every week new things. The Pakus di Pruga is staffed by volunteers and is open 8 am to 5 pm every Saturday. ■ *Laura DeSalvo*

ages. He has been the secretary of the Wabi Club (which exists 45 years!) from 2005 until 2010; he is an active member of the commission organizing the trip for thirteen vehicles from Curaçao to Bonaire. Unfortunately he had to sell his 1995 Harley-Davidson Electra Glide. Guys cannot have everything...

He bought the car and started restoring it. The straight eight was replaced by a Oldsmobile V8, measuring 455 cubic inches, horsepower unknown. An excellent paint job was done. A lot of parts were chromed or found. The Packard Swan ornament is shining in the Bonairean sun, so do the bumpers with their "Dagmar" overriders and the full chrome wheel covers which fit the 15 inch rims neatly. On the rims classic P235/75/R15 white wall rubbers are mounted. The interior of this four to five passengers two doors convertible is all luxury. Hydraulic powered seats, a hydraulic hood, a fully equipped dashboard with a drawer like dashboard locker and a square lighter. Those days real people smoked real cigars!

Then Clifford turns the ignition key and starts the V8 engine. With idling revs the Michigan made luxury car whispers away. Another nice and rare example of the Pack-

ard Motor Company (1899 -1958) from Detroit.

Those were the days... ■ *Story and photo by Jan Brouwer*



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BonQuiz Answer

Q) What is the name of this woman. Hint: She is a member of the Women's Diver Hall Of Fame.

A) Dee Scarr



Question on page 6

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*to find it... just look up

"CALL TRIPLE A FOR STAR TROUBLE!"



Having star trouble? Never fear, I'm sending "Triple A" your way! And each "A" is from a different constellation! Wondering what I'm talking about? Here, let me tell you!

About an hour after sunset face northeast. High above the northeastern horizon you'll see a large, square pattern of stars called **The Great Square of Pegasus**. Pegasus is a winged horse that is part of an ancient story involving many characters from Greek mythology and you can find all these characters in the same part of the sky. The first "A" in our "Triple A" is **Andromeda**. Andromeda is the beautiful daughter of **Cassiopeia the queen** and **Cepheus the king**. You can find Andromeda next to the great square of Pegasus. Use the fourth star in the square, a star named **Alpheratz**. Then follow the two lines of stars downward, and that forms the body and long legs of Andromeda. Her arms are marked by another group of faint stars which trail away from her body. Cassiopeia and Cepheus can both be seen off to the left of Andromeda. Because of Cassiopeia's arrogance, Andromeda was to be sacrificed to **Cetus the sea monster**, a rather obscure constellation down to the right of Pegasus.

The second "A" in our "Triple A" involves the final player in this cosmic drama, **Perseus** the hero and the "A" is **Algol**. Algol is the second brightest star in the constellation of Perseus. You can find Perseus just below Andromeda's feet. Follow the line of stars from Alpheratz (her head) down through the dimmer stars and, if you keep going, you'll run smack dab into the star **Mirphak** (the brightest star in Perseus). Off to the right of Mirphak is the second brightest star in Perseus, Algol. This part of Perseus represents the severed head of **Medusa**. Medusa was an infamous gorgon, a monster

who could turn you to stone with just one look. Perseus slew Medusa by cutting off her head while looking at her harmless reflection in his shield. Then later Perseus rescued Andromeda from the sea monster Cetus by using the severed head of Medusa to turn the dreaded sea monster into stone.

Algol is said to be the "winking eye of Medusa" because Algol is not just any other star. Algol is what we call an **eclipsing variable**, and it was the first one ever discovered. Algol is a star system where two stars of different brightnesses orbit each other and the light of the brighter star is temporarily blocked by the larger, dimmer star. Algol dims and re-brightens like clockwork every 2.87 days and it's pretty easy to observe. In the middle of an eclipse Algol is three times dimmer than normal! So, if you go outside on Monday, September 19th, Algol will be near its brightest and almost three days later, Algol will be near its dimmest.

The eclipse of Algol's brighter star (when the eclipse is at its greatest) lasts about two hours. Due to Algol's location in the sky, it's sometimes at its dimmest during the daytime, when we can't see it. However, if you check it out next month on October 3rd, at 02:11 am Sky Park Time, Algol will be at its dimmest. The next day, October 4th, Algol will be near its brightest, and then again the next day, on October 5th, at 11 pm Sky Park Time Algol will again be at its dimmest. This is why Algol is often called the "**winking eye of medusa**."

Our final "A" in our "Triple A" involves a constellation that appears in the middle of all this mythological action. This constellation is **Aries the Ram**. Aries can be a toughie to find because it only has two bright stars. However, this month the largest planet in the solar system, 88,000-mile-wide **Jupiter** is nearby to help you find him. The horns of the ram are marked by the stars **Hamal** (to the left) and **Sheratan** (to the right). Aries might be faint, but he's special, because he marks the beginning of the **zodiac**. So get outside this week for a stellar "Triple A." ■ *Dean Regas*



THE STARS HAVE IT

By Astrologer Michael Thiessen
September (end) 2011

ARIES (Mar. 21- April 20) You'll have problems with authority figures if you don't play by the rules. Changes will not be easy for the youngsters involved. You may have difficulties with foreigners. Recognition can be yours if you present your ideas and stand behind your beliefs. Your lucky day will be Monday.

TAURUS (Apr. 21- May 21) Real estate investments could be prosperous. Relatives may not be telling you the whole truth about a family situation. A better diet, exercise, or a change to a relaxed atmosphere could be ways to soothe your nerves. Your anger may be impossible to contain if you get into debates with family members. Your lucky day will be Thursday.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21) Your ability to come up with good solutions for problems related to work will no doubt help you in getting a promotion. Take a different approach; make an offer they just can't refuse. Avoid friction with your mate. Try to be reasonable. Your lucky day will be Thursday.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) Enlist the aid of family members and consider the feelings of your mate. You can clear up important legalities and sign contracts this week. Drastic changes regarding your personal attitude are evident. Things have been moving so quickly that you need to do something physical to release your tension. Your lucky day will be Wednesday.

LEO (July 23-Aug 22) You need to get out and have some fun to reduce tension. You have the ability to motivate others. Beware of someone who is trying to make you look bad. The information that you gain can be used in every aspect of your life. Your lucky day is Monday.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) Be prepared to have relatives or close friends introduce you to new and exciting individuals. If you're single, get out there and you'll meet someone new. Don't rely on others to do your work. Try to keep any mood swings under control; they may result in alienation. Your lucky day will be Thursday.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) You need to pamper yourself for a change. Trips will be favorable for business as well as pleasure. You could be quite erratic regarding your personal relationship. If your lover tries to curtail your freedom, it may lead to conflict. Your lucky day will be Thursday.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) Your outgoing charm and obvious talent will be admired. Your greatest enjoyment will come through social activities and pleasure trips. Difficulties may be encountered while traveling in foreign countries. You can make a difference if you take a position of leadership. Your lucky day will be Saturday.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) Your added discipline will help you complete the impossible at work. You may have difficulties with someone who lives with you. Realize that you don't have to do everything yourself. Try to be patient with their inability to accept your new beliefs. Your lucky day will be Wednesday.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) You'll find it easy to meet new people. You may find that others do not do things the way you want; however, if the job gets done, let it pass. Secret love affairs may be enticing; however, you must be prepared for the restraints that will follow. Your involvement with children will be most rewarding. Your lucky day will be Saturday.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) A little rest will do wonders. Try not to overspend on friends or family. Payoff all your debts before you go out and celebrate. Accept the inevitable. Your lucky day will be Sunday.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) Spend time getting into physical activities with your lover. Your boss won't be too thrilled if you leave things unfinished. You must look into your options. Emotional relationships will be plentiful if you attend group activities. Your lucky day will be Thursday. ■

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Asking price US\$ 335,000

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Warehouse Bonaire - A Success Story



In 1996 Marc van der Valk bought Warehouse from Mansur Enterprises Bonaire NV. Two months later Roland and Angeliq Verbeek arrived from Holland and they immediately started managing Warehouse. The previous manager left on the same plane they had come on. "It turned out that I was the fourth manager," Roland says, "we were completely new here and we had to start right away... it was a challenge!"

At the time we had six people working for us, receipts were written by hand and the container was emptied by hand as well... There was no internet, everything was done by fax and when we went to the States to order stock we would sit at the hotel room, going through the yellow pages to find suppliers! All that has changed; presently we have 95 employees, we were the first one on the island to introduce a scanner at the check-out point and everything else has been automated and computerized as well. We went through several renovations, we built a freezing house and I think I can say we're one of the largest private companies on Bonaire.

In April 2010 Marc van der Valk sold Warehouse to Jan Hup, a business man who had worked in the hotel and catering industry on Curaçao as well as in Holland. I decided to work less time for Warehouse and to make my childhood dream come true. When I was a little boy I always wanted to have my own ice cream parlor! I opened 'Lily's Ice Cream and Coffee' at Kaya LD Gerharts in Playa, next to MCB Bank and now I am the most popular papa on the island! For one year Warehouse was in the background; I've worked many, many hours this last year, but if you want to accomplish something it's the only way.

Since September 1st I am back at Warehouse full-time and now Warehouse has two general managers, Jeroen Noels and me. Jan, the owner, who is a commercial business man, decided that Warehouse has become too large to handle for one manager and so he asked me to come back and share my know-how with Jeroen who has fourteen years of supermarket experience with Albert Heijn in Rotterdam. Jeroen and I found out that were for 99 percent on one level, so this could be a 'dream team'!

Jan is taking a step back and is going to open a new business across the street from Warehouse, 'Leen Bakker' and a toy shop.

Warehouse has grown tremendously and we're still growing. In the past Bonaire used to have more supermarkets like Food King, Tropical Flamingo and Consales and they've all closed down. And then there are our new plans for the nearby future..."

Jan started by changing the opening hours - Jeroen says - "and so we're open Monday through Friday till 7.00 pm, on Saturday till 5.00 pm and Sundays till 1.00 pm. The present storage space, where the containers are, will be demolished and become a parking lot and so we will have five times more parking space as we have now. Warehouse will be expanded by 1000 square meters - the supermarket will stay the same - but we are going to build a storage space as big as the supermarket, to store, cool, freeze and package meats, cheeses and vegetables. Now we're 'doing' six containers per week, but there's never enough space in the supermarket or the

present storage, so we're always running behind."

Roland: "Even when times are slow you have to be daring enough to keep on investing in the business. Luckily, Jan is optimistic about Bonaire's future and he dares to invest by building a new huge storage area." "The direct ties with Holland, the entire tax system and import duty system has changed," Jeroen says. "And so, there are several reasons why many products have gone up in price. First there is the exchange rate of the euro with regard to the dollar, then, as oil prices have gone up worldwide, not only transport has become very expensive (and Bonaire has to import everything) but also all products which components come from oil.

And... all over the world, the prices of meat, sugar and grains have gone up and so did the prices of every product which contains meat, sugar or grain and those are products people use on a daily basis. More, and especially for us, on everything what comes from Curaçao, we now have to pay an eight percent tax. So that's why people all around the globe and on Bonaire experience they have less money in their wallet."

Roland: "Within two months Jeroen and I are planning to introduce a complete new line of high quality foodstuffs for a reasonable price, affordable for everyone! We will make sure everybody will be informed as soon as we're starting to sell! We have to grow further! We are very content and happy with our customers and therefore we are always trying to give our clients the best



Warehouse managers Jeroen Nols and Roland Verbeek

service possible. Also, all the people who work here get a personnel discount and we were the first commercial company on Bonaire to start up a pension fund for our employees; it was a tough fight with my boss at the time, because he told me 'what will it add...' but I won and I think when we're good for our employees, they will be good for us and our customers... Our employees are always willing to help our clients.

I feel you can only make a company successful if you keep on looking at it through the eye of the client and Jeroen and I are facing the future with a whole lot of trust. We're also enthusiastic about Albert Heijn opening on Bonaire; we realize we'll have to go the extra mile and stay sharp, but we can also learn from each other.

When it comes to the point, we know what we're worth, but we realize people can only spend their dollar once and together with our team we will try our very best to make sure they will do it at Warehouse! We're going for it! " ■Photo and story by Greta Kooistra