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FREE**

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**The REPORTER**  
*Helping Bonaire Grow Responsibly*

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**Royal Visit**  
Pages 3 and 11

Greta Kooistra Photos





# Flotsam and Jetsam

## BOINAIRE The REPORTER



**The Island Council of Bonaire recently appointed Norwin Carolus** (above left) as its general secretary for an initial period of three months. Carolus previously worked with the Ministry of General Affairs and Foreign Relations of the Netherlands Antilles from 2003 to 2010. Before that, he held various administrative advisory positions on Curaçao.

After the change in constitutional status on October 10, 2010, the BES Islands are compelled by law to appoint their own general secretary rather than share the services of secretary of the Island territory. This provides a more clear division between the executive and legislative branches of government. This means the "Island Secretary" can no longer be the Secretary of the Island Council too.

**Nerry Gonzalez** (above right), who served as both secretary of the Island Council and Executive Council for over 13 years, will now solely serve the Executive Council as Island Secretary of the Public Body Bonaire. Upon her departure from the Island Council she was thanked by all its members for her work.

► **Ecopower plant manager Vincent Kooij was released after having spent one night in jail.**

The company had reported that he was arrested and taken into custody after being interviewed about the cutoff electricity to the island's power distribution company, WEB, on August 24. Ecopower Bonaire was indignant about the arrest and said that "It is WEB as the electricity distributor that knowingly creates



arrears in payments, leaving Ecopower Bonaire without the means to provide the power plant with fuel to keep it operational. The personnel of the plant had done their utmost to keep the power supply operational as long as possible. Ecopower cannot be blamed for anything."

The Ecopower press release continues, "Ecopower Bonaire is a private energy producer on the island, generating electricity with wind turbines and fossil fueled generators. The ultramodern and 'green' power plant became operational in August last year and is running well. Over 30% of the (electricity) supply is generated by windmills. Due to this high percentage, the cost price does not exceed that of the traditional production method. Ecopower accomplishes this without any subsidy."

**The apparently deliberate outage on August 24 caused great inconvenience to island residents and tourists.** The Governor ordered power restored after several hours. The dispute focuses on an increase in fuel costs caused by a Dutch government mandated change from low priced heavy oil to expensive light oil. Ecopower wants to pass on this cost to WEB. WEB disagrees. WEB adds a fuel surcharge to bills to its customers, however.

► **Dutch Minister of Interior and Kingdom Relations Piet Hein Donner (CDA) and Commissioner Burney El Hage** discussed the state of affairs in Bonaire one year after 10-10-10 in detail during the latter's visit together with the royal family. **The conclusion was very positive for the island, according to the Caribbean Netherlands Kingdom Service (RCN).** "When I hear of or see bottlenecks, we deal with them one by one," said Donner.

**To prove it, the Minister made an additional €1.5 million available** for (overdue) infrastructure maintenance and implementation of the new administration structure. **El Hage** indicated that considerable progress had been made since October 10 of last year, but that several areas still need extra effort. He emphasized that significant improvements have already been made in public health and education. "We've moved up 10 steps," said El Hage. He requested more focus to deal with sharply rising prices that Bonaireans are confronted with daily. He wants quick action for the support of single mothers, the social services for youngsters and provisions for incapacitated workers.

► **Minister Donner had mainly good things to say about Bonaire's new Executive Council** which marked his disagreement with Second Chamber member Eric Lucassen (from Wilders' PVV party) that the appointment of **Burney Elhage** as commissioner affects the local government's credibility.

"During my working visit to Bonaire in September I became acquainted with the new Executive Council. They are competent and dynamic. I therefore have no reason to doubt the Island Government's credibility," said Donner.

Lucassen had expressed concern that Elhage was appointed although he is a still a suspect in a fraud and corruption investigation.

► **Curaçao's Dutch Antilles Express airline (DAE) is reorganizing.** DAE plans to soon increase the flight frequencies to and from Venezuelan destinations in particular and expand the number of current routes and also add to its two Fokker-100 fleet. The *Amigoe* newspaper said it learned that DAE will soon acquire two MD-88 jets for its all-jet fleet. The two planes are currently in Arizona. **No mention was made of re-summing service to Bonaire.**

► The Curaçao Minister in charge of Transport and Communication is now **hopeful that agreement can be reached with the US Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)** to prevent a downgrading for Curaçao's Airport that would block new US airline flights to that island. It has already caused InselAir to lose its code sharing agreement with US Air. A former FAA director has been hired to help the Curaçao Aviation Authority (CAA) meet the requirements needed to keep the current category 1 status. CAA must hire four inspectors and a doctor as part of the compliance and make other fundamental changes in its operations.

► **Recently the United Nations Children's Fund UNICEF-Nederland said things are not well with children in Bonaire,** according to initial results from its study begun a few weeks ago on the chil-



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# A Day With The Queen

Our reporter's experiences

The night before they arrived I noticed that all the holes in Kaya Korona were filled up with tar. Of course there must have been a thousand other preparations, paperwork, e-mails, meetings, security issues etc. but I never saw any of that as I am just a citizen. I was happy the holes were repaired and was looking forward to seeing the Royal Family the following day. I never imagined I would see them so close.

Early in the morning we got our press cards at the Divi Flamingo. Waiting at the Bestuurscollege everything went smoothly. Our organizer, RCN press chief **Lucia Beck**, is a professional and a nice lady as well. She doesn't get stressed. She is well organized. The people who came from Holland were a bit nervous, but after a while everybody decided it was going to be a lovely day.

The bodyguards were watching the street, earphones in, their faces sun-burned. When **Queen Beatrix** and her son, **Crown Prince Willem Alexander** and daughter-in-law, **Princess Maxima**, arrived they got out of the car just two or three feet from where I was standing. I, or anybody standing there, could have easily touched them, no problem whatsoever. And when you think about it – in this world it's a rare thing and it makes them kind of special and daring, and on the other hand I believe that's why people love them so much because they are literarily close to you.

The children from the Aquamarin School started shouting 'Queen, Queen, Queen!' and then one of the mothers intervened and



Senora Crispina explained she made it fun! She showed the royals the pal'i lele, to make funchi



Princess Maxima, Boi Janga and the Queen danced the Simadan

a relaxed mode and they started having fun, big time! At the Mangazina, the cultural and historic museum, **Senora Crispina Cicilia** (79) explained Bonaire's history to the royal guests. She told them about the slaves, the long road they had to walk every week from the salt salinas to Rincon, the day of the week when they would get their ration, the maps they used at schools, the first telephones, the radio, the clothing. The way Senora Crispina explained she made it fun! She showed them the *pal'i lele*, with which people make *funchi* and she told the Queen, "Nowadays you would say this is a blender!" **Boi Antoin** told his part and then the Queen, Prince Willem-Alexander and his wife, Princess Maxima, danced the Simadan line dance with the people from Rincon. Under the guidance of musician and instructor **Boy Janga**, they played an instrument called a *raspa* and they had a marvelous time. Continuing at Mangazina, they checked out the different styles of houses. The old trades were explained like how to make a cactus fence or how to trap a bird. Then **Dr. Sam Williams**, the Lora man, had the Crown Prince help plant a tree for the future Loras. He and the Crown Prince seemed to really hit it off – great sense of humor both of them! Further on down the hill, **Gaby Mercera** offered the Queen a tableau with local mini instruments made by him, and she was very happy with it. For Gaby it was a day never to forget. He felt very honored!

I talked a bit to the Queen's royal household people and was amazed about how nice and sweet and social they were - as well as being very stylish and classy!

Then the royal company went back to the bus, but not before the people from Rincon made it a true party with their music, their dancing, their generosity and their love for



Dr. Sam Williams, Lora conservationist, had the Crown Prince help plant a tree for fruit for the Loras.

their Queen. A band was playing the best krioyo rhythms and everybody got carried away, including **George "Cultura" Thode**, who was wearing a reddish brown wig, made from a goat skin which belonged to his grandfather. From there the Royal Family went to the Watapana School.

Finally our last assignment: the opening of the Center for Youth and Family at



George "Cultura," Thode, wore a wig made from a goat skin

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Duncan Marsman and kids from Aquamarin

they started singing *Oranje Boven* – which means something like 'Orange Above All' – as the royal family is of the House of Orange. All the ceremonies took place. They shook hands with many people and school-children and everybody seemed quite happy and then, as they walked back to the car, the demonstrators wanted to talk to Her Majesty. She took the time to listen to the people and their worries and complaints and her son, the Prince, promised the concerned citizens that there would be a follow-up to their concerns. .

At Mangazina di Rei, the spirit of Rincon took over. Rincon is something special, Rincon has swing, Rincon is original and true. Rincon loves the Queen and showed it and the Royal Family felt it! They went into



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# On the Island Since... 1999 Henk and Odette Schippers

“When Odette’s parents had their wedding anniversary they invited all of us for a two-week vacation on Curaçao. About seven months earlier I had graduated in hotel management from the Higher Hotel School in The Hague and I couldn’t find a job I really liked. So, when we were in Curaçao I applied for a number of jobs at the various hotels and I found one the very first day!

Four months later, in April 1994, I left for Curaçao. Odette had a very good job at a bank and she told me she would stay in Holland for the time being and see how I would like it before she’d quit her job. After six months I had problems with my work permit and I had to decide whether I would stay or go back. Then Odette came to Curaçao and I ended up working at the Antillean brewery for three years.

Odette first got a job at the ABN-Amro bank then she became the manager of a homeopathic center, Inoma.

In 1999 I was asked by the Amstel brewery to become the distribution manager of Amstel and Coca Cola on Bonaire. After working two years for them I started my own business.

Before we moved here we’d been on Bonaire only once with the sailing ship, *Insulinde*, and to me, at the time, it seemed like a very small place. But after we were living here for two months I didn’t want to go back to Curaçao even for a meeting anymore. It seemed we had found our spot.

The first four years we rented a house, then Odette set her mind on moving into a kunuku. I wasn’t so eager about it,” *he laughs*. “Too far out... scary... no electricity... no running water... Lots of people think it’s creepy; it has something to do with the dark-

ness I guess. But... looking back, it’s the best decision we ever made!”

Odette explains, “I’ve never felt as safe as here at the kunuku and the social control is absolutely great; better than in any ‘regular’ neighborhood I think.

We wanted to buy this kunuku, but we didn’t have any money as we had just put our savings into the business. Then, on a beautiful Sunday morning, Sherwin Pourier, the director of the RBTT bank, came with us to see if the kunuku would be worth the investment!



Odette, baby Jay, the dogs and Henk at their house

There he stood, in his neat shorts, polo shirt and cap. I thought it was tops! We started with the kunuku in 2005 and after a long process we got it in our name in 2007.”

Henk continues, “In 2001 I started my own business, ‘Tesoro Rom NV,’ with the intention of importing and bottling rum, but we never got to that point. It’s still a wish though. We also opened a supermarket on Kaya Nikiboko North, but after five months it was over. It wasn’t meant to be. We went on with the wholesale ‘Tesoro Food Ser-

vices’ and it’s been going well for 10 years now. We supply dry goods to restaurants like canned vegetables, sauces, paper, plastic and aluminum etc. Lately we’ve begun to fly fresh seafood in from Miami – salmon, scallops, shrimps, fish and lobsters. A consequence of Tesoro Food Services was that we brought in containers from Miami and more and more people started asking if I could bring them something and the result was ‘Shoppers Bonaire.’ It’s a company which imports everything that’s non-food for private people and businesses

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“... since last year we’ve had some good rains and the whole island has been washed clean and with the rains the negativity has been washed away and positivism can take its place ...”

							
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*On the Island Since* (continued from page 4)  
- like refrigerators, flat screens, aluminum windows and doors (we have an agency for that), stoves and barbecues, roll-down shutters and awnings. In fact we import everything that's legal – from cars to airplane spare parts... fun! A while ago we decided to set up 'Shoppers Curaçao' with a friend of ours. We're starting from the first of January, 2012.

And then, finally, 'Le Garage' at Kaya Industria, which I'm doing since May this year, together with Marjolein and Noel Hayden. It has been absolutely worth it! We're selling a lot of quality articles from a Swedish born international company in home products and all kinds of other articles which we think there's a use for on Bonaire. The shop always looks different; once a month we get new stuff in from Miami and people can order everything we don't have in stock. You name it – we'll get it for you!

All those companies were born because of the fact that Bonaire is a small place with few inhabitants and you have to make sure you can survive through all economical ups and downs." *Henk and Odette are such nice and smart people who have this great feeling for the island, its nature and its people. They've been here long enough; they know all the ins and outs and they've become part of the island.*

"I worked for a long time - six, seven years," says *Odette*, "at George Soliana's law firm. Then I became pregnant and I wanted to enjoy my pregnancy. We've waited for baby Jay for a very long time; Henk and I have been together for 24

years and we didn't think it would happen anymore. And then you get to hold this little boy in your arms. I never thought it would be this great!" *She laughs*. "Of course we always had the dogs which we considered to be 'our children.' Once we even had dental braces made for one of the dogs when it seemed that his canines were growing into his palate! It took two weeks to correct and then it was fine! Now we've got five dogs and three cats and a baby – one big family!

One day, when our son Jay is a bit older I would like to continue my studies again like Reiki healing touch massage. I'd like to be a spiritual health therapist.

I love living at the kunuku; you have a tremendous freedom here and it's a place where you can get away from it all. When we first came here Bonaire was such a friendly island, but now I feel that many people got stuck and not only money wise. It's hard. Most people don't like changes and 10-10-10 has been a mega-change with a mega-effect on people's life. Change always pulls everything out of balance and we have to create a new balance. I think we should focus on a positive outcome, but it sure needs time and you have to give it time as well. The outcome will have positive and negative effects – never anything is one 100 percent positive, but we have to try the best we can and hope that in the end it has been the best decision for the island and that the quality of life for all of us has become better.

I am a spiritual person and the way I see it is that since last year we've had some good rains and the whole island has been

washed clean and with the rains the negativity has been washed away and positivism can take its place. The island has never been this green; I see a lot of bats, land crabs, new plants and everything is starting to grow. 10-10-10 has been the fall and now spring is starting. We all have to go through it. Life is always about change and the only thing you can do is go with it."

*Henk continues*, "This is a beautiful island and more than a third of my life I've lived here. Our plan for the future is as follows: We are going to sell this land which has a view to the sea and a prefab hurricane proof house made of galvanized steel combined with regular architectural style, build in 2007, and we will move to Rincon, deeper into the kunuku, where we will build our dream home, an earth covered house."

"Rincon feels like coming home," *Odette says*. "It's a great community with a very good sweet energy. I've already drawn the house plans and now we're waiting to fulfill our dream.; we're looking forward to it."

"You can't come to Bonaire and think

your life is going to stay the same," *Henk says*. "You really get to know each other and either your relationship gets stronger or you split up. The island spits you out or it embraces you; it's a survival island. But, the longer you're here and when you have a house that fits you, your books and your music and your friends, then you can really carry on. A bad day on Bonaire is better than a good day in Holland. That's my mindset."

I have a great house, a wonderful relationship, a very sweet, cute and healthy little boy and we're 24 years together. Out of 10 I give us a nine! I don't know where the 10 will be coming from, but there's always room for improvement!" ■ *Story & photos by Greta Kooistra*



*Henk Schippers and his business partner Marjolein Hayden at the shop 'Le Garage'*

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# The Sailors Who Never Left

## Caren Eckrich

*After buying an old sailboat in Puerto Rico, a young American woman sails south and discovers Bonaire.*

It was in 1994 when Caren Eckrich decided that she had enough of sharing a cramped apartment with fellow students while attending the University of Puerto Rico. It was time for action and a chance to fully live her Caribbean experience.

"I wanted to live on a boat," says Caren. I figured that if I bought one and lived on it, I could save a year or two of rent. That turned out to be true. It was really nice."

Her quest for a nautical lifestyle led Caren to a weathered 1965 Sagitta 30 lying in a nearby harbor. About 40 of these sloops were built in Denmark between 1965-1967 at the Royal System Yacht Yard near Copenhagen. The boat was a robust, full keel, double ender (canoe-shaped hull) with a 4-foot 9-inch draft (depth under water) and a 9-foot beam (width). The sloop was designed by Danish naval architect, Aage Utzon, who was known for designing beautiful, double ender sailboats up to 45 feet. Utzon must have passed the "design" gene to his son, Jørn, for he later became the famous architect who designed the Sydney Opera House.

"My boat's name was the same as the model, *Sagitta*," explains Caren. "It's the name of a constellation and it mean 'arrow'. *Sagitta* was a strong boat. The fiberglass was one-inch thick. She was built so well, and it could turn on a dime."

As a 12-year old from Texas, Caren had learned to sail one summer at Clear Lake, California. Her uncle had a small sloop there. He offered her the use of the boat in exchange for sanding and varnishing the mast and boom. Both skills—sailing and boat maintenance—would serve Eckrich well when she moved to Puerto Rico nearly a decade later.

"*Sagitta* was my first boat. I spent \$8,000 to get it, but it was badly neglected. The boat was just floating there and nobody had sailed it for years and years. It was bare bones."

Caren and her boyfriend lived aboard *Sagitta* while she earned a masters degree in biological oceanography. The boat was anchored in front of the university on Magueyes, an offshore island directly across from Parguera. The aspiring marine biologist commuted to campus by dingy and used the facilities on shore—bathrooms, ice machine and Laundromat—conveniences lacking on the sloop. Weekends were spent sailing to nearby reefs for snorkeling with friends. It was an ideal life.

But a year before graduation, Caren and her boyfriend began to ready *Sagitta* for cruising. "He was really good with motors and I was really good with sailing. It was a good partnership. The plan was to either go north or south. I was offered a job at Sea Camp in Florida. My cousin was working at the Curaçao Sea Aquarium. We figured we would first go south and lay low during the hurricane season and then work our way back up to Florida."

Unlike many cruisers who abandon jobs for a voyage of discovery, Caren's goal was to cruise to her next job and then live aboard the boat. In July 1998, the young couple began their journey, first sailing along Puerto Rico's southern coast, and then pointing directly south to Bonaire. Eckrich had heard wonderful things about the island



Sagitta docked in Puerto Rico and Caren (inset)



Caren at the mast of Sagitta

from friends who had worked on Bonaire as marine researchers. Upon landfall three days later, the young sailor was smitten. "I loved it. We had just arrived and I had to go up the mast to do something. When I got to the top, I looked down. The water was amazing, not to mention that the reef was right there. I also loved the island's laid back attitude."

The crew sailed *Sagitta* to Curaçao a few days later to visit Caren's cousin at the Curaçao Sea Aquarium in Willemstad. She soon got a job there and began the live aboard life in the protected harbor of Spanish Water. Then, life suddenly began to change. The boyfriend left to pursue big wave surfing. Later, Caren encountered problems with crime. "In one year, I was robbed six times and found two dead bodies—Colombian drug smugglers. Thieves even stole the windshield from my old van—downtown and in midday!"

Caren felt that she could no longer maintain *Sagitta* alone. "I loved the boat. It was amazing. But the motor was dying and I finally sold it for a good price to a French guy from Venezuela. That was a sad day. A few years later, I saw him. He had painted *Sagitta* yellow. The last I heard, it was still in Venezuela."

Boatless, Caren took a dive instructor job at a resort on Westpunt, the far western tip of Curaçao. It was there she met her future husband, Frans. Both wanted to leave the island, and after considering Costa Rica, moved to begin a new life on Bonaire. Caren started her own business, Sea & Discover, a marine education center. For seven years, she gave customers lessons and guided them on snorkeling and diving trips. Frans began to renovate their house. The couple now has two young daughters.



The family at Karnaval: Frans, Bonnie, Annabel and mom Caren

and Laura De Salvo of *The Bonaire Reporter* were the original owners of the boat, but that is a story for another time. *Oscarina* is now beside Caren's Kralendijk home, waiting for repair. Is it possible that this sailor who never left is contemplating an escape? "If Frans actually learns how to sail or learns more about motors, I actually might go with him," says Caren with a sparkle in her eye. "It's a possibility." ■ Patrick Holian



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# Body Talk

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You're right – be afraid, be very afraid! Dengue is no laughing matter, as those who have had dengue will tell you!

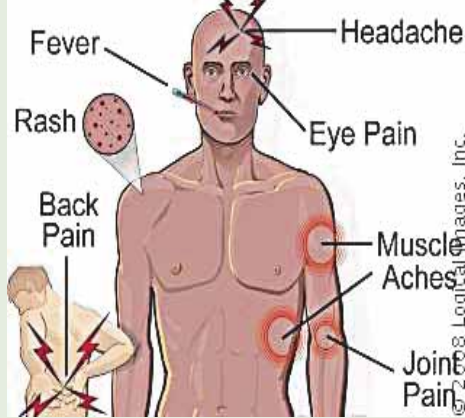
Much has been said, and much more will be said about dengue. There are many opinions, some of them 'expert', yet they all agree **there is no way of preventing dengue and there is no known treatment for dengue except paracetamol!**

How desperately sad for those of you who will be infected with the dengue virus this season. If it is the first time of infection for you, you could look at about 10-14 days of being ill. However, if it is your second or third infection – WATCH OUT. Things can and will get a lot worse! I have seen people walk around for weeks and some for months with all the symptoms like hurting joints, headaches, fever and impaired memory, and of course there is the hemorrhagic fever – a complication of previous infections (and not another strain!).

While the world is waiting for some 'miracle cure,' billions are being spent on developing a vaccination, the rest of mankind is getting sick, and some dying! Why? People are getting sick because they have been brainwashed into believing that there is no preventative or cure. Even here on Bonaire there are those who have been brainwashed into the popular beliefs of the masses to where the mosquito breeds, when it bites, about the 'different' strains of dengue etc. Ask around. How many people can you find that still believe our dengue mosquito lives and breeds in the puddles of water on the road and in low lying areas? I say to these 'believers' – your denial is far more powerful than logic!

I know that some of you reading this article are taking the preventative, and even more of you that have had dengue have used the treatment, eradicating the virus from your bloodstream permanently! (Confirmed by a second blood test). Just such a shame that the labs do not find this interesting.

I suspect we can thank the powers to be in having done a thorough job when they made law the fact that only a pharmaceutical



product can 'cure' and in order for 'anything else' to work, you have to believe in it! What utter rubbish! The reason some people get dengue and others not is all about body chemistry. Measurable and preventable in medical terms! The preventative or treatment, without the use of a pharmaceutical drug, is straight from nature! No, I do not think much of boiling papaya leaves – all this is really good for is bringing down the fever that accompanies dengue.

Nature is providing us with something called **monolauric acid**, derived from the humble coconut tree - the only known substance (non-pharmaceutical) that will remove the virus from the bloodstream. Oh, and another 'little' fact – monolauric acid has been used as far back as 1988 for treating viral infections.

In the meantime, while we are waiting for Big Pharma to come up with yet another poison against dengue, and while there is not yet an orchestrated community effort to eradicate the mosquito from our environment, arm yourself! Dengue is preventable and treatable! Want to know more, email me on [stephanie@essentialsbonaire.com](mailto:stephanie@essentialsbonaire.com). ■

*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.*



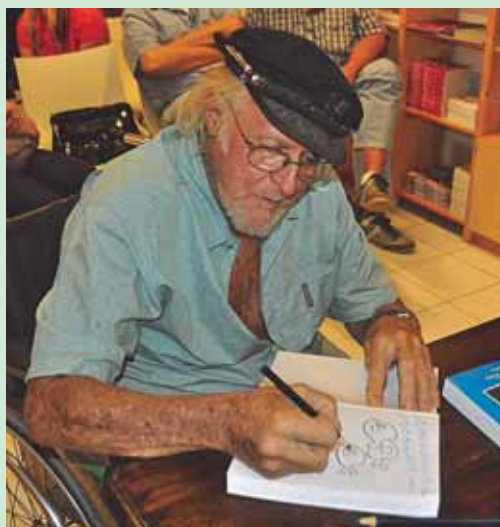
## SEA TRAUMA

Captain Don's newest book, *Sea Trauma*, is off the Flamingo Communications press and available in island bookstores and dive shops. It's an under-sea adventure set in the near future presenting a highly plausible account of the destruction of most sea life on earth due to man's folly. The plot paints a realistic portrait of the world's bleak potential future.

With its fast-paced action, innovative underwater habitat and modes of transportation, remote tropical setting, crusading scientists, family interaction, evil adversaries, and societal turmoil, *Sea Trauma* has the potential to become a best selling book, as well as the basis for a major motion picture.

The story chronicles the faith, conviction, and sacrifice of an American family and their allies who have the raw courage to fight strong opposition from numerous camps, even nature itself, for what they believe can rejuvenate the dying seas. An inspiring yet earthy story, *Sea Trauma* combines the mystical with empirical research, the personal with scientific discovery.

Captain Don's earlier book, *Reef Windows*, and *Sea Trauma* are for sale on Mondays at "Meet the Captain night," starting at 6 pm at Captain Don's Habitat. If you ask, the Captain may even autograph your copies. ■ G.D.



Captain Don autographs our copy of *Sea Trauma*



## PARKING IDEAS

Dear Editor:

I agree wholeheartedly with the fact that something must be done about the parking downtown, but before starting any redesign and construction, which is a good idea, perhaps a few other measures would help.



1. **Require the RCN employees to park in the parking area designated for them** or open the vast, unused space to the people of Bonaire, particularly to make going to the hospital and medical care more accessible. If we had any police presence, it would be a simple matter of obtaining the license plate numbers of the RCN employees and if these vehicles were not in the lot and in public parking spaces, issue a parking ticket with a substantial fine.

2. **Require owners and employees of the downtown businesses to park elsewhere** than in the central parking lot. Digicel must now be employing the handicapped as on many occasions their two big trucks are parked in the two handicapped spaces. Business owners and employees should realize that if you park next to your business, there is no space for your customers.

3. **Increase the number of reserved spaces at the ZVK** as it is a health service facility. Thanks to MCB for recognizing and addressing the problem with the convenient customer parking lot. More should follow their example.

As for me, I must visit ZVK monthly and generally need to park in the post office parking lot on the south side. Other than that, I do not visit any business in the Playa area- ever- because of the inconvenience.

Petri Hausmann

## A VISIT WITH CAPTAIN DON



Dear Editor,

We, an Austrian couple, have been coming to dushi Bonaire for 20 years. We love the diving, the island and the friendly people. This year, when reading the *Bonaire Reporter*, we found an advertisement saying "Captain Don wants you". So we arranged an appointment to visit him at his house at Kaminda Lagun 103. We spent almost three unforgettable hours with him and his mate Janet, drinking Capt. Don's special coffee and listening to one of Bonaire's legends, telling us some of his adventures. He showed us his plantation, where he and Janet are growing thousands of plants with love and passion. Even dead trees are kept in an upright position to save the epiphytes. A place as lovely and quiet as one can imagine. We really can recommend to everyone, when taking a break from diving or everyday's routine, to pay a visit to Capt. Don and Janet. We hope to see them again next year.

Heidi and Markus

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# BONAIREAN VOICES

## PUTTING YOURSELF TO THE TEST IN A CHALLENGING TIME

A runner knows that he or she has to reach the finish line. In a ball game each team knowsthere will be a winner. On the job you must get the work done. To accomplish that goal is a challenge. Imagine yourself if there are stones in your path. Would you want to give up? Well, you never will quit if you know what your reward will be. In our challenging times, with most of us screaming about the bad economy in Bonaire, some people have put themselves to the test by believing in the economy of Bonaire.

The Rosalia family can tell us how they took this challenge. They opened a business on the 22nd of October 2011 under the name "Yankee Donuts and More." Mr. Jefferson Rosalia (52), the father, and Miss Sharitée Rosalia (24), the daughter, partners in this business, relate their experience.

Jefferson says, "In 2002 together with my family - daughters Siagnée, Sharitée and Corliën, and my wife Noritza - I moved to Bonaire to work as a microbiologist at the then ADC (*Analitisch Diagnostisch Centrum*) laboratory and today Bonlab (Bonaire Laboratory). I always believed in the Bonairean economy, and I saw that now was the time to invest. Together with my friend, Mr. Yati Morales, who has owned Yankee Donuts Café in Curaçao since 2008, I opened a business here in Bonaire. This idea came to pass because of the children of Bonaire who don't have a lot of choices where to go." Sharitée adds, "Together with Yankee Donuts and more we want to create

more activities with Magic Ed, Panchito and Vicky Bissessar for the children to have a birthday party at a special price. We want to bring in more products in the future to offer to our customers. We focus a lot on working with others because we believe that with unity we can make the Bonaire economy grow. It all started last year, 2010 at Regatta. We had a banner at 'Dushi Place' and we were selling donuts. Soon after Regatta we had more orders coming in and we were delivering to our customers' houses. The number of clients grew so much that we needed to find a strategic location to open the business. The location where we are is close to the Saint James Medical School, to the SGB students when they walk to the after-school center, Jong Bonaire, and visual to car drivers.

You'll always confront some obstacles like an establishment permit or working overtime. As a family in business it's easier to overcome those challenges and focus on the quality of the products and service. Our service is with pleasure."

Sharitée studied in Holland as a physio-therapist and was working as a freelancer here in Bonaire. She says, "I gave up my work for now to help in the family business. It's not the money but the satisfaction in helping someone. The same service I deliver and the satisfaction I get when I give someone therapy is the same as I get in the business with my family too. Family comes first and together we create that family bond." Jefferson acknowledges that Bonaire is



Anglica Castillo and Sharitée Rosalia in the donut shop

passing though a time of transition and belief in the economy of Bonaire is very essential. "We always have our ups and downs," he says. "But if someone believes in you when you are facing hard times, with just a helping hand he can put you on the right track again. It's the same if we believe in Bonaire, if we believe in the economy of Bonaire and invest in these difficult times then the island will go forward. The Bible states, 'In the difficult times you must reap, when the rain comes you can harvest.' Whatever happens we must believe in God, use our potentials, be positive and we will achieve our goal. Keep believing."

Sharitée continues, "Focus your eyes on a goal. Put on paper what you want to achieve and put it somewhere where you can see it. Create steps to reach your dreams. You must have a vision. We invite the public to visit our shop. We have different flavors of donuts and toppings, apple fritters, muffins, and in the future we are planning to have products for diabetics. We have tea, hot chocolate and the best coffee from Curaçao at this moment, Café Barista. We have regu-

lar drinks and in the future we will have different shakes like cotton candy shake. We focus on quality, service and good prices. We are participating in the promotion for End of the Year Fun Jack with Fun Miles. You can win donuts and a coffee.

For orders for any occasion, call 717-5661. Deliveries are every Friday. Open Monday to Saturday, 9 am to 7 pm non-stop. Here at Kaya Simon Bolivar 26 we, Jefferson (director), Siagnée (manager), Sharitée, Angelica and Corliën (employees) will be at your service. Thanks to the community of Bonaire, Maduro & Curiel's Bank and all those who believed in us, Yankee Donuts and more."

What an enlightening experience. If they can do it, you can do it, we can do it. The key point is just to believe in the island of Bonaire. ■ Story & photo by Siomara Albertus



## Instruction for Energy Medicine

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**Energetic Touch** is an 11-12 hour intensive course for experienced energy medicine practitioners. This is a fantastic continuing education class of instruction, concepts, and skills to further develop energy based therapies knowledge and practice. Strong dedication to personal growth encouraged. Certificate of completion given at end of class plus 12 continuing education credits. This is a deeply profound energy medicine class!

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## Your Instructor:

### Susan De Salvo-Reed

A Healing Touch Certified Practitioner and Instructor, Wellness Coach and Nurse of over 30 years' experience. She has been teaching Healing Touch and Energetic Touch in acute hospitals, hospices and wellness centers nationally and internationally. Her passions lead her to blend therapies for the best client care. Susan is an activist when it comes to Energy Medicine and Lifestyle Management. She believes healing comes through the body/mind connection. In her own words, "My quest is to bridge the gap between allopathic medicine and complementary medicine," she states, "this is the place where true wellness within can be found."



Web:

<http://www.healingtouchprogram.com/find-an-instructor/user-profile/userprofile/Susan%20DeSalvo-Reed>



# Kunuku Arawak

A PLACE WHERE PEOPLE CAN MEET, EAT, DRINK AND DANCE!



**T**ony Leijnse explains: "I've had this kunuku for a long time, but I never got the permit to do something with it, so it's been sitting here for years, until people from Rincon and Nort di Salina finally started commenting on the fact that nothing was happening here."

Then James Kroon took care of it and I got the permit. Before that, Jopie Abraham had tried very hard and I have to thank him too. After everything was settled we worked for more than a year on the hut and the land. I've left the local trees and cacti in place and also the rocks and stones to keep this area as natural as possible – especially because this is a rural area. And I feel I've succeeded in doing so.

The theme of the kunuku is Arawak because I wanted to pay tribute to the Arawak Indians. They were some of the indigenous people of the West Indies and part of the early Bonairean population. Many of the people from Nort di Salina come from a peaceful offshoot of the Arawak. Also, my wife, Shahayra, 'Sasha', is a direct descendant of the Arawak Indians and she and her family members still show all the typical Indian features.

When you go deeper into it, it turns out that the people know very little about their own roots, so I wanted to learn more about it and with the help of Bôî Antoin and through the Internet I got to know a culture which in fact doesn't exist anymore.

The purpose of the kunuku is to offer to as many local people as possible a Sunday outing like we used to have in the old days. And that means, eating, drinking and dancing for a very moderate price. I want it to be like it was 35 to 40 years ago when I came to the island in 1964. Then we could go anywhere and have a good time. I loved it; I really enjoyed it so much and that's why I'm trying to bring it back at this location.

The roof of the hut was built by William Ortegon, Edgar and Edgar Jr. and Alfonso and Gustavo Liwardo, and the material came from Barranquilla, Colombia. Because of the roof the hut is cool and breezy. And we can host a lot of people! At the opening we had 1,300 people here and still there was enough space to dance! As for the furniture we've used all the tree trunks and poles which came from the sea. I pulled them off the beach with my Hummer. Kai, a friend of mine, turned them into stools and benches. Our tables are made from the cable reels of WEB, as is the bar. I myself have two left hands, but I'm full of ideas! I've always been like

Greta Kooistra photo



Tony Leijnse and his wife Sasha

Habbo Kooistra photo



Sasha serving out snacks at the opening of Kunuku Arawak

that! I am 72 now and I've never smoked. I had a very tough military training and I've spent a great part of my life in the tropics. I was a commando in New Guinea, Vietnam and the Congo. Also, I played on the Dutch national rugby team, I played water polo for many, many years and I played on my own volley ball teams until I was 48. I also drank a lot and I married a lovely woman who is much younger than I am. I like challenges!

In the old building on the land I have my private quarters where I can withdraw to when I am tired. The hut is for eating, drinking and dancing. We have a fine cook and the whole family is helping out.

Since Monday, the 31<sup>st</sup> of October, we're open from 10 am until 5 pm when the cruise ships are in. And every Sunday from 10 am to 6 pm there will be live music and various bands with Mariachi (rancheras) and Krioyo music. Local food will be served. A Polar is \$1.50, a glass of wine \$3 and the food is \$12.50, which includes a beverage.

We have five teepees, which can be used for a night's sleepover, so people can get an idea – a feeling – how the Indians lived with their families in the old days. There are military beds, an outdoor shower and bathrooms. If people are interested, come and talk to me.

We're also going to set up a souvenir hut with Indian art and jewelry made only by local people. All the decorations you see in the big hut were made by Sasha and by Kai's wife, and the totems are made by Virgil Nicolaas, Sasha's brother.

This place is absolutely not meant to make profit. It's a place where everyone should have a good time and feel happy and therefore I want it to be affordable. I want the local people to have a place to relax and enjoy and socialize; a fun place where everyone can meet, eat drink and dance!"

Tel. 786-7210 for more information. ■

Greta Kooistra

*Flotsam and Jetsam* (Continued from page 2) dren's rights situation on the island. It said that it found that some children are neglected, abused and live in poverty.

Bonaire has a population of about 14,000, of which some 3,600 are children. "Many children are confronted with various problems like poverty, neglect, abuse, drugs, crime problems and teenage pregnancy," stated UNICEF Nederland its press release. The Second Chamber of Parliament is looking into the allegations.

► **On Monday, October 31st Her Royal Highness, Princess Maxima** visited the remodeled building of the Center for Youth & Family and the Dutch Caribbean Family Supervision Services. During the visit the Princess learned about the services provided there. After the visit the building was opened to the public. It is the last element of the master plan to improve the youth facilities on the three islands of the Dutch Caribbean that **Marga Drewes** of VWS/ Youth and Family has been working on since 2009.

► **THE HAGUE--Queen Beatrix, who recently visited Bonaire, became the oldest ever reigning monarch of the Netherlands last Friday.** Up to now, King Willem III had been the oldest Dutch head of state. He was still monarch when, after a prolonged period of illness, he died on November 12, 1890, at the age of 73 and 277 days. The queen's mother, Queen Juliana, turned 71 on the day she handed over the throne to her then 42-year-old daughter Beatrix in 1980. She had been queen for 32 years and abdicated because "her strength was diminishing." On April 30, 2012, Queen Beatrix will also have been on the throne for 32 years.

► **THE HAGUE--Ambassadors stationed in The Netherlands describe the country as confused and introverted,** the *NRC Handelsblad* newspaper reported after a series of interviews with foreign diplomats. Holland is increasingly turning its back on the world and mistakenly sees foreigners as a problem, said seven of the eight ambassadors interviewed.

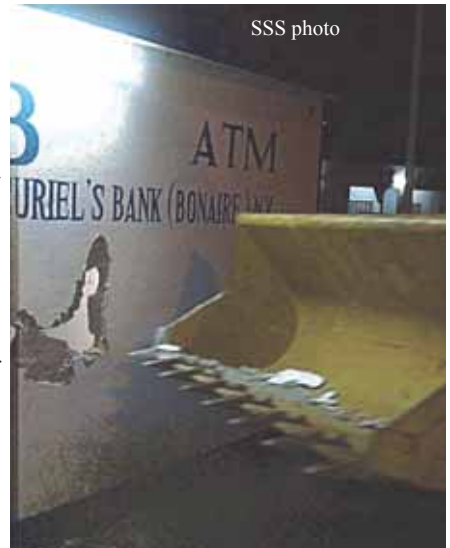


Some of the class members for the Mulligan physiotherapy class. Bon Bida photo.

► **October 22 and 23 physical therapists from Bonaire and Curaçao learned about Mulligan C physiotherapy techniques at BonFysio / BonBida Spa.** The course was presented by well-known Dutch instructor Peter van Dalen.

During the two days the therapists learned new Mulligan mobilization techniques to improve their knowledge to better treat their patients.

► **Five patrol cars on Bonaire have been outfitted with high-visibility stickers.** The fluorescent, red-orange and blue diagonal stripes make the vehicles more recognizable.



► **Special Security Service continues to do a great job.** Recently their intervention stopped the theft of money from the ATM on Kaya Industria in Tera Cora. Sophisticated equipment in the ATM structure notified bank personnel who alerted SSS and the police. Despite the fact that a large diesel loader was used to knock down the wall of the structure (see photo above), rapid response by the SSS team helped thwart the attempt. Shortly afterwards an SSS patrol discovered a fire in the outlying property of the Radio Netherlands (RNWO) antenna farm and notified RNWO who called the fire department. The current to the equipment was cut and the blaze extinguished.

At the end of last month they interrupted a container break-in and robbery at More For Less Supermarket and frustrated a break-in at a home in Hato.

**Consider hiring SSS** if you have home or business security needs. They continually have a proven track record of effectiveness.



► **The 48 hp diesel engine** from the wrecked sailboat *Utopia* (the sailboat that came off its mooring and broke up in front of Richard's Restaurant during a storm on October 21) **was stolen.** It was in 6 ft. of water in front of Richard's Restaurant waiting to be taken out by its owners when they discovered it was missing. If anyone has more information about this theft call Rita at 717-4140 or the police.

► **Help to continue To keep The Reporter "Still Free."** Tell the owners of the places you shop to advertise in *The Reporter*. Have them call Laura at 786-6518 or Marion at 717-8454 / 785-1790 for details. ■ G./L.D.



# Parrot Watch Update



Marvin was grumpy about the reduced baby food portions not to mention his eviction from The East Wing. photo by Jon Llona Minguez

And so with tales of desertion dispelled we can rapidly recover from this relapse with an update on all those concerned. If you get confused with the many names you may wish to look back at earlier updates for background on who's who and who's not.

Release birds **Isla** and **Johan** continue to visit the release site from time to time, as do a few truly wild parrots. They are clearly flourishing now they are no longer in tiny cages and they are a testament to the success of the earlier releases. The absence of **Monty** we take to be an even greater indication of success, as we believe he has integrated into the wild population. Only time will tell and we hope that one day we'll spot him while out doing our monitoring work.

There has been an immense interruption in the stream of news from Parrot (Lora) HQ and we wish to immediately apologise and now address that matter. So long has this interruption been that we fear rumours may have begun to spread!

Do not worry, Dear Reader, if you had heard concerns that the parrot rescue had become altogether too much for the team. You would be pardoned if you thought the endless and tiring tedium of providing outstanding care was too much. In truth those who continue to care for the Loras and Prikichis actually have no concept of fatigue. So relentless are the efforts of Jon, Tineke, Marian, Andrea, Catherine and Jenny in preparing the parrots for release it has been considered inhumane, but only for they themselves.

Alternatively you may have feared we had ditched the parrots and eloped to a warm tropical island to live out our dreams with the funding we secured for these birds. This too is a thought that must be banished. The team doesn't have to elope because we're here on Bonaire and doing the conserving of parrots that is our dream!

**Al** and **Sue** continue to visit the nest box home from which they fledged four deliciously plump babies. All four chicks are doing well and much like a distressed dieter they can be heard issuing demands for food on a regular basis. The 2011 breeding season for Bonaire's endangered parrot was so good, thanks to the preceding and persistent rains that this wonderful "ger, ger, ger" noise can be heard all over the island.

Of the rescue parrots the oldest, **Bo Peep**, was plucked from the aviary when she started to bully the younger parrots. This upset released parrot **Harry** who'd been hanging around outside the aviary passing amorous glances in her general direction. Harry's disappointment was so great when **Bo Peep** was temporarily moved to the Echo team's veranda that he flew over and climbed straight into the cage the moment the door was opened. They will soon be rehomed in their own aviary while out of shape **Bo Peep** is readied for release. There is much work to do with the parrot aviaries and the wait for theirs has been at least as long a wait as when one goes to pay at Warehouse but not quite as long as when

paying at WEB.

All but the youngest rescued parrot chicks have been enjoying life in the parrot aviary. The team has been out foraging on behalf of these birds, bringing them branches of wild plants bearing fruit. Many including **Twiggy** are now weaned but some, **Ruby** in particular, continue to request as much hand feeding mixture as they can get.

**Sid**, **Marvin** and the insatiable **Miss Piggy** are the youngest three parrots and until recently they were in a separate aviary, "The East Wing," getting two feeds a day. Such privileges have now ceased and worse still they've now been forcibly moved from the luxurious East Wing to the main parrot aviary.

The three Amigos who arrived in bits and pieces following the July 1<sup>st</sup> rescue have had mixed fortunes. **Biscuit's** broken leg has healed well and he will walk with only a slight limp. It turned out that the German shepherd that cuddled **Perry** (with his toothy mouth) had done no damage and he too, **Perry** that is, is in good shape. Both these birds arrived as mature but unweaned wild chicks. Feeding them was a real test of nerves, as they clearly dislike humans. Now they are weaned we cannot wait to get them back into the wild.

**Mick** arrived in a terrible state having been stoned out of a fruit tree. His head injury and shattered wing were sadly too much for him to recover from. Dark coloured droppings revealed that he probably had internal bleeding. He has been the only Lora that has died in our care and we were deeply saddened to lose him.

As if to be given a second chance another parrot was found with a broken wing. Luckily the Echo team now includes **Jon**, a veterinarian whose dedication is so exceptional he may never be allowed to leave. Prior to coming to Bonaire Jon was working with the critically endangered (and also flightless) Kakapo, an anomaly among parrots from New Zealand (do look them up!). Others on the team find it consequently confusing that he should give this broken parrot a classic Australian name, **Bruce**.

Arriving with a savagely clipped wing was another, temporarily, flightless young bird. Having only "half a" set of flight feathers he became known as "**Arthur**." This has taken some explaining because those not blessed with a Yorkshire accent seem to miss the similarity between the two. He was initially housed in the grand East Wing, which combined with his bold features and gold ring lead us to see his stature and rename this young fellow **King Arthur**. His flight feathers will be replaced in time and like all the other parrots confiscated or rescued parrots he too will be wild once again.

Dear Reader, we must not forget the Prikichis, many of which already have a new suit of feathers and look stunning. **Chi Chi**, the most adorable, has given up her desperate attempts to solicit food and is now unrecognisable from the 50 or so other birds in their large aviary. The eviction of **Sid**, **Marvin** and **Miss Piggy** resulted in the East Wing being opened up to the adjacent Prikichi aviary. This has not only increased the space available but also added a second corner for them to navigate in flight. The

Continued on page 12

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*Nobody, even the Queen, is afraid to get their feet wet at Lac Kai*



*Are we having fun yet?*



*At the Center for Youth and Family Princess Maxima was entrance by the children. Riet Sealy (Far left) and Marga Drewes (far right) look on.*



*A Day With the Queen (Continued from page 3)*

Kaya Prinses Marie by Princess Maxima, while the Queen and Prince were exploring the mangroves with STINAPA, which was covered by our colleague Marian Walthie.

In the street in front of the Center the crowd had gathered, adorable little ones from the crèche Bon Kuido, **RoseMarie Winklaar** was wearing a T-shirt made of the Bonairean flag and she held up a sign saying, "Maxima, RoseMarie Loves You!" **Riet Sealy** was there and so was Bonaire's first lady, **Mechtild Thode**, looking adorable in a stylish dress and hat. Maxima was welcomed by **Marga Drewes**, *Kwartiermaker* for the VWS, **Riet Sealy**, transition manager, and **Gino Lepelaars**, chairman of the board of the Foundation.

Maxima got a tour through the new center. Riet Sealy explained that Maxima was introduced to the infant welfare center, the maternity center and then the walk-in center. Mimi Dongen gave the tour and various co-workers explained their programs to the Princess. Extra attention was given to the programs about sex education and the program which wants to improve reading among the children. **Mirnalyn Soliana** explained to the Princess what the program, *Mama Hoben Aktivo* (teenage mom program), meant to her. Outside the center Maxima spoke to the people who involved in youth care.

For me it was a lovely and special day. It might be so that the Royal Family doesn't

have – or has very little - political influence, but this visit had very little to do with politics. Bonaire showed its face, its beautiful true Caribbean face. It also showed its heart with all the worries and all the joy and all the pride that are in it. And politically seen it may not be a big deal, but emotionally it was, because I've seen people who were really touched and honored and involved and proud and worried and they wanted it to be seen and noticed by this woman, Queen Beatrix, who is special and dear to them. ■  
*Greta Kooistra*

### Announcing: Elections for the Board of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Bonaire

**Elekshon miembronan di direktiva di kámara di Komersio i Industria Boneiru**



**Verkiezingen bestuursleden Kamer van Koophandel en Nijverheid Bonaire**



Manera ta konosí aktual direktiva di kámara di Komersio i Industria Boneiru, nombrá pa Bestuurscollege ku entre otro e tarea pa organisá elekshon konforme e Kiesbesluit voor de Kamers van Koophandel en Nijverheid BES, kua besluit basá riba artíkulo 1a, derde lid, i artíkulo 6, zesde lid, van de Wet op de Kamers van Koophandel en Nijverheid BES. Bestuurscollege, den reunion di 28 oktober 2011, a disidí ku pa próximo elekshon pa miembronan di direktiva di Kámara di Komersio lo tin dos (2) vakatura. Elekshon lo ta riba 9 di Desèmber 2011 i hendenan ku tin derechi di vota, konforme desishon di Bestuurscollege, lo elihí un miembro pa Grootbedrijf i un miembro pa Kleinbedrijf.

**Evert Piar Voorzitter**

Zoals bekend is het huidige bestuur van de Kamer van Koophandel en Nijverheid Bonaire benoemd door het Bestuurcollege met onder andere als taak de verkiezing van een nieuwe bestuursleden conform het Kiesbesluit voor de Kamers van Koophandel en Nijverheid BES, welkt besluit berust op artikel 1a, derde lid, en artikel 6, zesde lid, van de Wet op de Kamers van Koophandel en Nijverheid BES. Het Bestuurcollege heeft in haar vergadering van 28 oktober jl. besloten dat er voor de komende verkiezingen van bestuurleden van de Kamer twee (2) vacatures zullen zijn. De verkiezingen worden op 9 december 2011 gehouden en kiesgerechtigden kunnen op die dag, conform de beslissing van het Bestuurscollege, één lid voor het Grootbedrijf en één lid voor het Kleinbedrijf kiezen ter vervulling van de vacatures.



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ing, tools, hardware and diving items.  
Directions: 2<sup>nd</sup> left off the Sorobon Road,  
2<sup>nd</sup> house on right hand side ... canary  
yellow and turquoise.

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Girl, 47 years-old , looking for a  
skipper with (sailing) boat, to join for a  
few days at sea in the Caribbean. I dive,  
catch-clean-cook the fresh fish.  
Did a 14 days sailing trip last year round  
Curaçao, and had some sailing lessons.  
Little technical background, motivated to  
learn and do maintenance on the boat.  
Resident of Bonaire since 2002.  
[Tuinontwerpburo@gmail.com](mailto:Tuinontwerpburo@gmail.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
Novembr. Fri 11	12:58 0.96 ft	22:52 -0.09 ft				6:31	18:07
Sat 12	13:37 0.98 ft	23:27 -0.12 ft				6:31	18:07
Sun 13	14:18 0.99 ft	23:57 -0.14 ft				6:32	18:07
Mon 14	14:59 0.99 ft					6:32	18:07
Tue 15		00:21 -0.14 ft	15:40 0.97 ft			6:33	18:07
Wed 16		00:43 -0.13 ft	07:38 0.41 ft	09:35 0.40 ft	16:23 0.92 ft	6:33	18:07
Thu 17		01:02 -0.12 ft	07:18 0.48 ft	11:30 0.40 ft	17:07 0.85 ft	6:33	18:07
Fri 18	L Quarter	01:22 -0.11 ft	07:31 0.60 ft	13:00 0.37 ft	17:54 0.74 ft	6:34	18:07
Sat 19		01:43 -0.10 ft	07:57 0.74 ft	14:24 0.32 ft	18:45 0.62 ft	6:34	18:07
Sun 20		02:06 -0.09 ft	08:31 0.89 ft	15:46 0.23 ft	19:41 0.48 ft	6:35	18:07
Mon 21		02:32 -0.07 ft	09:11 1.03 ft	17:06 0.13 ft	20:48 0.34 ft	6:35	18:07
Tue 22		03:01 -0.04 ft	09:55 1.15 ft	18:22 0.02 ft	22:07 0.23 ft	6:36	18:07
Wed 23		03:34 -0.01 ft	10:43 1.23 ft	19:32 -0.08 ft	23:40 0.16 ft	6:36	18:07
Thu 24		04:11 0.04 ft	11:34 1.28 ft	20:35 -0.17 ft		6:37	18:07
Fri 25	01:24 0.15 ft	04:53 0.10 ft	12:28 1.29 ft	21:31 -0.24 ft	New Moon	6:37	18:07

For Sale: Best Kite 2009 - 10 m Kite w/bar  
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1998 Ford F150 pickup workhorse , 8 cyl , 8  
ft long bed, 16 " tires \$4500 Call 786 2692

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Parks in the USA. Valid till October 2012.  
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[karlotte@msn.com](mailto:karlotte@msn.com).

Looking for a dive buddy? \$35 for 1  
(night) dive for 1 person.717- 2529 // 796-  
2529 -Monique

Looking for a sewing-machine, who  
wants to sell it to me? Monique 717-2529.

Help Wanted: Vacancy for  
natural products shop clerk. Call 700-5488

### Parrot Watch (Continued from page 10)

little devils remain a little too comfortable  
around people but we are working on that  
and will tell you all about it in the next up-  
date.

Who would have thought there was so  
much news to tell? It's non-stop in the land  
of parrots but thankfully you are now up-to-  
date. Phew! If you'd like to get the very  
latest news please take a look at Echo's  
Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/echobonaire.org](http://www.facebook.com/echobonaire.org). ■ Sam Williams

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# Bonaire Real Estate Reflections

## VERBAL AGREEMENTS LEGAL OR NOT?

Was Samuel Goldwyn a movie-maker and a real estate maven (expert)? You be the judge. For those under 40 Samuel Goldwyn was the "G" in MGM studios. He is also famous for saying "An oral contract isn't worth the paper it is written on."

As the real estate markets continue to decline or muddle along, we have witnessed an explosion in "oral offers" and requests for "oral contracts." These requests are not limited to less expensive properties, foreclosures, or bank owned properties. We recently received an oral offer for \$1,000,000 on a \$2,000,000 property.

**The courts of Bonaire routinely enforce oral agreements for real estate.** Bonaire is very different from the US. As a buyer or seller of Bonaire real estate, silence is golden. Sellers and buyers beware. An innocuous phrase such as "sounds good to me" or "ok" may mean you bought or sold property on Bonaire!

It is in everyone's best interest to have a written signed contract. No one should ever risk the time, money and effort of buying and selling real estate to let the outcome be determined by a court over a "he said she said" conversation.

The problems and issues of oral contract enforcement are not limited to real estate

agreements. Many people are surprised to learn that courts throughout the world routinely enforce oral contracts for goods and services.

In 1985 Gordon Getty, heir of J.P. Getty and owner of Getty Oil, orally agreed to sell the company to Pennzoil. Before the agreement was reduced to writing, Texaco made an offer that Getty also accepted. Pennzoil sued Texaco for interfering with its oral contract. Texaco defended in essence by adopting Sam Goldwyn's "oral contracts are not worth the paper they are written on" defense. The court awarded Pennzoil 11.3 billion dollars!

We decided to conduct a research poll. We contacted 300 outstanding realtors throughout the world. Their input and observations are very interesting and a message to all buyers and sellers.

The overwhelming majority of countries and states absolutely prohibit oral contracts for real estate.

The overwhelming majority of jurisdictions require all negotiations to be in writing.

A handful of jurisdictions permit oral contracts for real estate but they are not enforceable in court. In essence if the parties orally agree to a transaction and complete the transaction it is binding. If it is not completed neither side can even ask the courts for assistance.

A few jurisdictions permit the offer and



"OKAY, SIMMS, WE HAVE A VERBAL AGREEMENT, BUT I'D LIKE MY LAWYER TO CHECK IT OUT."

negotiations to be conducted orally but the final agreement must be in writing and signed by the parties.

In a few of the jurisdictions that permit some oral negotiations the local association of realtors requires all negotiations and the contract to be in writing.

The research is clear: most governments mandate all real estate contracts must be in writing. Most require all negotiations to be in writing.

We also researched current trends and attitudes toward oral negotiations and offers and the results are important.

Every realtor reported a sharp increase in oral offers.

Every realtor reported that the oral offers were "lowball."

Several realtors reported the offers were "lower than lowball."

Every realtor reported the initial call be-

gan, "My client is busy and does not want to waste your time so here is the offer and the seller has 12 hours to accept." Only three realtors reported the oral offers ever resulted in a signed agreement of purchase! Over 93% of the realtors reported that when the seller insisted on receiving a written signed offer the "buyer" disappeared. The realtors reported that new or inexperienced realtors almost always presented the oral offers. We asked why the insistence on written negotiations and contracts. There was a unanimous response "To protect the interests of the client!" The research speaks clearly and loudly. Do not make an oral offer if you are a buyer. Do not accept an oral offer if you are a seller. If your agent wants to conduct oral negotiations you should remember the research. Never agree to an oral contract unless you like paying lawyers, going to court and having stress and strain in your life. ■ Anna & Art Kleimer

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The research speaks clearly and loudly. Do not make an oral offer if you are a buyer. Do not accept an oral offer if you are a seller. If your agent wants to conduct oral negotiations you should remember the research. Never agree to an oral contract unless you like paying lawyers, going to court and having stress and strain in your life. ■ 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)



## On-Island Recycling Now

Bonrecycling BV is a newly established company which, in cooperation with Bonaire's waste management company, Selibon NV, has started collecting and processing the separated waste from businesses on the island. Bonrecycling is concentrating on paper and cardboard, glass, plastics, plastic bottles and cans, waste oil and cooking oil. All these materials are reused.

"We are very pleased with this partnership," said Rudsel Leito, operational head of Selibon. "The public sector and private sectors complement each other to utilize new opportunities in the area of waste." Bonrecycling is a totally Bonairian company founded by Herbert de Jongh, Jr. and Edison Rijna. The two businessmen have recognized that waste is not worthless, but a commodity. "In August we took a special truck to start collecting paper and cardboard from supermarkets," says Herbert. "Already we have a 40-foot container filled with compressed bundles of paper and cardboard. Soon we'll send 60 tons to Colombia where it is recycled." "We think we can even quadruple our revenue per month," adds his colleague, Edison Rijna. "We are buying a new press with a larger capacity. We also use the press to bundle plastics." Bonrecycling is focusing on the following areas:

**Beverage Containers:** At the hotels, restaurants and snacks Bonrecycling collects plastic bottles and cans. They get sorted and pressed into convenient bundles. It is the raw material for new cans and plastic. Selibon has been collecting glass bottles



Bonrecycling's bundling press

and jars in the familiar yellow containers for years. "That's success," said Rudsel Leito. "We set the glass aside for years at the landfill. Soon the local government, the *Tene Boneiru Limpi* Foundation and other partners in the campaign will involve the public in the collection." "This week our new machine which grinds glass into sand arrived on the island," said Herbert. "The glass is crushed and reused in construction sand," says Edison.

**Oil:** Together with the government and Selibon, Bonrecycling will process waste oil. In the past, that was done at BOPEC

but not any more. Now Bonrecycling will transport oils to Curaçao where they can be processed. Rudsel Leito explains, "The government has made a law stating that companies must keep engine oil separately. Individuals may dump waste oil free of charge at Selibon at Kaya Industria. (next to Warehouse Bonaire)." Bonrecycling has already started collecting old cooking oil and oil in the hospitality industry. "We'll use it as a biofuel," says Edison. "The collection of cooking oil and waste oil can be used in the Eco-power plant for fuel."

The government of Bonaire will soon begin an information campaign for businesses and households asking that recyclable materials and substances be kept separately. ■ Press release/G.D. Selibon photos



Cardboard destined for Columbia

## BonQuiz #67



THE VALERIE QUEEN

The schooner *Valerie Queen* played a big part in shaping modern Bonaire because it carried the man who founded the island's dive industry. The mast of this ship was salvaged after it sank in the waters off Bonaire.

**Q) What happened to the mast and who is the man?**

Answer on page 18.

BonQuiz is written and photographed by Christie Dovale

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

[IslandToursBonaire.com](http://IslandToursBonaire.com) Phone 717-4435 or 795-3456







Armand Simon, Nichole Van Eer and Deborah Helder

## Operatic First for Bonaire – Live and in Concert

Operatic and light opera star Nichole Van Eer and accomplished Aruban pianist Armand Simon will take the stage at **Plaza Resort Bonaire's Cacique Hall on Saturday, November 19 at 8 pm** to present a festive evening of classical arias and classic Broadway musical songs – a *first* for Bonaire. They will be joined by the 2011 winner of the Youth Competition of the International Piano Festival in Aruba, 13-year-old prodigy, Deborah Helder.

Nichole Van Eer and Armand Simon will perform a varied program of famous arias from Mozart, Bellini, Verdi, Puccini and Bizet, also well-known songs from the musicals of Bernstein, Sondheim and Webber. Deborah Helder will play her Aruba Festival prize-winning versions of works by Chopin, Beethoven and Schubert.

Ms. Van Eer was classically trained at the Sweelinck Conserva-

tory in Amsterdam, where she sang parts in operas including, "Le Nozze de Figaro," "La Boheme" and "Xerxes." She has also performed major roles in the Joop van den Ende productions of "Phantom of the Opera" and "West Side Story."

Armand Simon has performed recitals and in concert in numerous locations in Europe, the USA and South America, in addition to the Netherlands Antilles. He is the artistic director of the Aruba Piano Festival which, under his direction, grew from a small local event to an internationally-acclaimed competition which is considered to be the most important classical event in the region.

Deborah Helder, now 13 years old, is this year's winner of the Crescendo Piano Competition. This makes her the youngest winner in the history of the festival.

Tickets to this event, including

an after-party with live entertainment, dinner and drinks with the musicians, is offered at just \$45 each! (limited availability). Regular concert tickets cost \$20, in advance, or \$25 at the door (young people with accompanying adult, only \$10).

This event is organized by the Classical Musical Board Bonaire (CMBB), and tickets are available at Addo's Books & Toys and Flamingo Bookstore on Kaya Grandi, Chat 'n' Browse at the Sand Dollar Shopping Center and at the reception desk at Plaza Resort Bonaire. Tickets may also be reserved at the CMBB web site: [www.classicalmusicbonaire.com](http://www.classicalmusicbonaire.com).

The CMBB's next concert will be the Traditional December Holiday Concert on December 17, 2011, again at Plaza Resort Bonaire. ■ *Bob Gilmour*

## Cleanup Cancelled- Let the Music Begin



### Merman Music from a Pickup

Bonaire/Playa Lechi –

So on Saturday, October 22, the staff of Dive Friends of Bonaire (their theme: "Without blue there is no green") intended to organize a cleanup dive with a barbecue follow up in the late afternoon and early evening. Then the normal and reliable trade wind suddenly switched to the west on the day before, Friday, October 21, as a cold front pushed over Bonaire from the north. The seafront experienced spectacular waves which, luckily, caused minor damage.

On Saturday, October 22, very early in the morning the sea and her waves were still furious so Dive Friends of Bonaire had to cancel the clean up dive since waves were still spectacular and dangerous. However, everything was arranged and pre organized: food and drinks were ordered and chilled so, even though there was no clean up dive, the barbecue would definitely take place!

No raffle this time, no calculations and lists of garbage mentioned, no outboard engines and underwear found this time. But the barbecue and the party was there and about a hundred divers and other volunteers enjoyed the meal and the music. The musician is a dive master in training at the Dive Inn, one of the four dive locations of Dive Friends of Bonaire. He sings his songs and plays the guitar and he calls himself Harry. Just Harry. He finished his career in Europe and headed for the Caribbean tropics. So here he is. A guy with an open face and a smile. Singing solo and in bands, playing his guitar, performing well known hits from the early 60s to the present. And the audience liked the music and the food. And this was another fine example of the simple Bonairean way of life.

Harry Schoffelen is a newcomer and he fits. He integrates into the island society, being a sportsman and a musician. Every Wednesday you can enjoy his music at Spice Beach/Eden Beach, from 6 until 9 pm: "Ben and Harry's". Find out more about this nice chap at [www.tafkah.nl](http://www.tafkah.nl). No blues, no greens! ■ *Jan Brouwer*

## Picture Yourself With The Reporter in... Cotopaxi, Ecuador



Bonaire residents Duncan, Merle and Kirsten Marsman take a break from their vacation to let Papa Huub shoot a photo of them holding *The Bonaire Reporter*. They are near 5,200 meters high near the Cotopaxi volcano in Ecuador.

Even though they are almost on the Equator it was cold. ■

### WE NEED MORE PHOTOS!

**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)





MAMITA FOX



The mosaic bustier Mamita donated to help Haitian victims of last year's earthquake. She was surprised and touched by the generosity of the people

Bonaire artist Mamita Fox started creating glass art just four years ago. She was inspired during Bonaire's Annual Dia di Arte (Art Day) and, after looking on the Internet for information on the subject, she developed her own style, rhythm, and passion for this art form. She uses glass to convey her soul's love for this medium. Mamita breathes life into her art, and you can feel her passion when she explains how she goes about finding the theme and brings it to life in glass. She tells of how she spends nights awake working on something until morning and is often surprised when she sees what she has created

Mamita enhances mosaic tile art with her own special touches, and her works always includes a Dutch 5 cent coin. Sometimes she first draws out a design on a board and other times she just goes wherever her imagination takes her. Her work is done mainly on a wooden board and her glass is purchased elsewhere and shipped here.

Curaçao-born Mamita has a quiet way and is humble when she speaks about herself. She prefers to talk mainly about her love for her art and how it has enriched her life. I discovered that Mamita is a woman of many facets - educated, eloquent, an artist set apart - and happy to be this way.

Mamita explains how she shifts her life in phases. She had her own talk show on the radio, she tells me, and describes how she was an independent broadcaster and bought her own radio time. Mamita blew the lid off many subjects once considered taboo in these islands. She helped the people to express themselves and to stand up and say no. Because of years of slavery and conditioned to say yes, many of the people here had to

learn new ways of thinking. She also spoke openly about incest and homosexuality. She was not afraid to stand up and be heard.

She is especially passionate about people, places and politics and knows firsthand the discrimination woman face in the Caribbean islands. Mamita Fox's Papiamentu language autobiography, *Identifikashon*, the account of Fox's struggle for autonomy and dignity on Curaçao and her life in Holland and New York, is a reference source for scholars studying the development of female freedom in the Caribbean. Professor Roberto Strongman, Associate at the University of California, in his study of Caribbean women said, "Fox's fight against the gender, race, and class discrimination which she faced in Curaçao speaks to the desire for freedom from oppression which is associated with the island's desire for independence from Holland."

Last year she donated a piece of her art work to raise money and awareness of Haiti's plight following the earthquake. She is also behind the Dia di Grazia, Bonaire's Thanksgiving Day, when she and her volunteers give away items donated by generous Bonaire residents. (See page 17 to see how you can help). Mamita has overcome many obstacles in her lifetime and is an inspiration to other women. You can contact Mamita Fox at [mamita@gmail.com](mailto:mamita@gmail.com) ■ Story and photos by Sandra Johnson

Sandra Johnson is the administrator of Bonaire's Kas di Arte, the island's waterfront art gallery.



## Pink Zumba Success



On the 26th of October, Claudia and Undine, DFF Dance for Fun and Fitness, organized the second edition of DFF PINK ZUMBA.

It was a big success: more than 70 people dancing for the breast cancer awareness month at El Mundo plein.

DFF organized the event together with PRINSES WILHELMINA FONDS staff that was there to give information and El

Mundo Restaurant that provided the lighting and supported the event.

DFF thanks those who attended the event and invites everybody to stay tuned on [www.zumbabonaire.com](http://www.zumbabonaire.com) to be ready to reach 100 participants next year for DFF PINK ZUMBA 2012!

Here the photo of the event that shows...the number! And they all danced till the end! Congratulations, people of Bonaire! ■ Claudia Critelli and Undine Nahorst

## A Piece of the Mast

After Captain Don Stewart was stranded in Bonaire by the sinking of his schooner he went on to start Bonaire's dive industry. But he salvaged the mast which stood until blown down in 2008.

But the mast will live on as a symbol of environmental preservation. Captain Don and his supporters have mounted cross sections of the mast on a hardwood plaque to present to individuals or organizations who are outstanding in their effort to protect and conserve Bonaire's environment. ■ G.D.



# DIGITAL PHOTO

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info@scubavision.info www.scubavision.info

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email: info@gaiapro.com

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- Glass
- Wood

Celebrating  
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\*Promotion valid until November 30th, 2011



# SHOPPING and SERVICE GUIDE

## Bubbles From the Biologist Did You Know...

### 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/ 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. In-store financing too.



### BANK

**ORCO Bank** offers one-on-one attention., personal banking works. Each client is a client, not a number. Office in the historic building at Kaya Grandi 48.

### 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.**

### 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.

### ECOLOGICAL PRODUCTS

**Bon Eco Solutions** has the products you need to save energy and money. They coordinate with other island businesses for a complete sustainable solution.

### 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. Rremodeled shop open now

### 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. Off Kaya Industria, behind TIS.

### 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.

**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.

**Le Garage** has lots of the quality things everybody needs which weren't available here before at great prices: household, garden, children's.

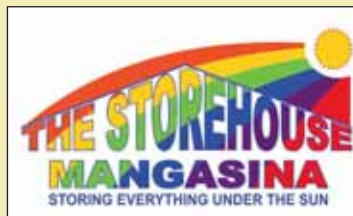
**Gaia Productions** can provide all your digital printing needs. Including banners, stickers, cards and other advertising items. Celebrating 10 years in business.

### 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

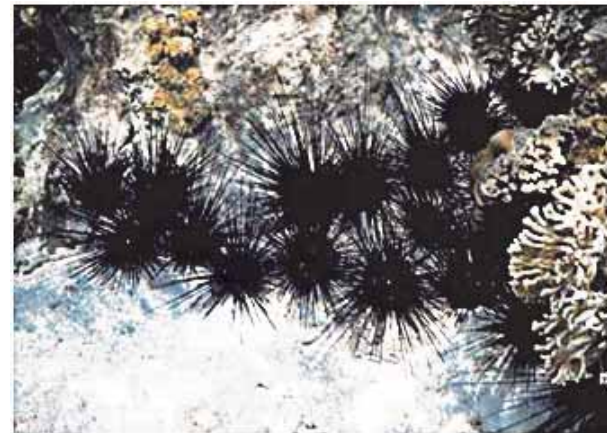
**Get to Klein Bonaire by Ferry.** Ride the *Kantika di Amor*. Hotel or downtown pickup The only water taxi to Klein Bonaire with built-in ramp

### 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.

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Many different marine animals have complex ways to see: reef squid and octopi have complex eyes that are similar to our own whereas, box jellies have 24 simple eyes - as we learned from the last report of Bubbles from the Biologist. Until recently, sea urchin sight has baffled scientists. Dr. Ullrich-lüter from the University of Bonn, Germany, and his colleagues recently discovered that sea urchins see with their whole body! Using genetic analysis, the scientists discovered that sea urchins have genes that code for special light-sensing proteins (**photoreceptors**) that are also found in the human eye. These photoreceptors are found in the tips and bases of sea urchin tube feet. Dr. Ullrich-lüter's team suggests that sea urchins use the information sent by photoreceptors that cover the whole body in a fashion similar to the way a compound eye works. That is one incredibly complex eye! *Ben Van Dine -Edited by Caren Eckrich*

*Ben VanDine is a senior at Cedarville University in Ohio. He wants to study genetics with an emphasis on marine life. This semester he is participating in CIEE Research Station Bonaire's semester abroad program.*



## DO YOU SUDOKU?

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

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



# WHAT'S HAPPENING

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

Day	Date	Ship	Arrive/Depart	PAX Cap	Line
Monday	Nov. 14	Azura	0800-1800	3080	P&O Cruises
Monday	Nov. 14	Emerald Princess	1200-1900	3100	Princess Cruises
Thursday	Nov. 17	Noordam	0800-1700	1918	HAL
Wednesday	Nov. 16	Grandeur of the Seas	0800-1800	2446	Celebrity/RCCL
Friday	Nov. 18	Zuiderdam	0800-1700	1918	HAL
Tuesday	Nov. 22	Aida Luna	1000-1800	2050	AIDA Cruises
Wednesday	Nov. 23	Grandeur of the Seas	0800-1800 [13]	2446	Celebrity/RCCL
Thursday	Nov. 24	Caribbean Princess	1200-1900	3100	Princess Cruises

### Cruise Ship Calls -Information provided by the TCB

#### CLOSE-IN EVENTS

**Sunday, Nov. 13—Opening of Kaminda di Arte, Butterfly Farm from 2-5 pm, with music and drinks. All the Kaminda artists will be present and will have a group exhibition of their work.**

**Tuesday Nov. 15 - Archaeological Research at Tanki Maraka with development potentials for Bonaire, by Jay B. Havisser, PhD, 7 pm, CIEE, Kaya Gobernador N Debrot 26,**

**Saturday, Nov. 19 -Classical Music Board presents Alto Nicole van Eer and Pianist Armond Simon at Cacique Hall, Plaza. See page 14. -8<sup>th</sup> Edition of the Study and Career Fair Bonaire- at Jong Bonaire, 1—6 pm**

**Sunday, Nov. 20- -Dia Di Gracia (Bonaire Thanksgiving). Donate items in good condition for free donation to needy families on Bonaire. Call Meredith Nicolaas (786-2024), Shela Winklaar (510-7412) or Mamita Fox (796-1919). Drop donations at Kaya Jhony Nicolaas 2 (across from WEB office next to the snack) Give-away will be in the playground behind the Catholic church in Playa.**

**-Art Exhibit Opening— Caribbean inspired art by Trudie Canwood, – Kas di Arte. See page 18.**

**- Kaminda di Arte Begins —Tour artists homes every third Sunday through March 2012**

**Thursday, Nov. 24—American Thanksgiving Day**

**Saturday, Nov. 26– San Nicolas arrives– Wilhelmina Parke, around 2 pm. Information: Sentro Hubentut I Famia, 715-7200.**

#### 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.
- **Kas di Arte—Ongoing exhibit with different artists.** Open Wednesday-Sunday, 9 am-noon, 1-6 pm. On the sea promenade

#### Saturdays

- **Marshe di Kunukeru (Farmers' Market) 1st Saturday of the month,** at Kriabon, Kaminda Jatu Baco #55, next to Aquamarin School, 8 am to 12 noon.
- **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 Koecks for more information—796-7870.
- **Chess Training - Children & adults.** \$5, 512-9660. Volunteers welcome

#### Sundays

• **Kunuku Arawak - Music, drinks, local food, dancing, 10 am—6 pm.** Tel.786-7210

#### 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

• **Chez Nous Restaurant—**Multi course dinner, \$20, at the high school. Reservations mandatory 700-4628

#### Wednesdays

• **Chez Nous Restaurant —**Multi-course lunch, about \$12, at the high school. Reservations mandatory 700-4628.

• **Ben & Harrie Acoustic Guitar Duo** at Spice Beach Club, 6-9 pm, Eden Beach

#### 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, cost is \$1, call Renata at 796-5591 to find out the evening's location.

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

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

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

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

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

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

#### CHURCH SERVICES

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

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

Children's club, Saturdays, 5 pm, in Kralendijk  
Sunday School, Sundays, 4 pm, in Rincon. Bible Study and Prayer meetings, Thursdays, at 8 pm, Kralendijk.

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

**International Bible Church of Bonaire, Kaya Papogo 104, Hato,** north of the new MCB building on Kaya Gob. N. Debrot. Use the sand road on the right just before the Bon Fysio/Bon Bida Spa & Gym. Look for the sign. Sunday worship service in English at 9 am; Sunday school for all ages at 10:30 am.

**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.

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

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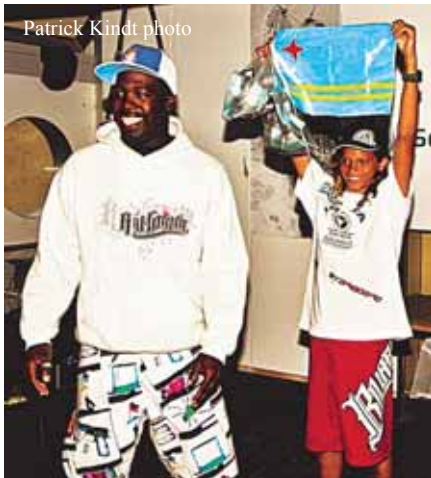


# Bonaire Windsurfers-World Famous



At the commendation presentation: **Elvis Martinus, Bjorn Saragossa, Gov. Glenn Thodé, Kiri Thodé Commissioner Silvana Serfilia, Tonky Frans and Commissioner James Kroon**

Last month Bonaire received a special commendation from the Professional Windsurfers Association for its success in fielding exceptional athletes. "For several years now young athletes from Bonaire, namely **Elton "Taty" Frans, Everon "Tonky" Frans** and **Kiri Thodé** have placed consistently in the top 3 Overall Rankings of the Freestyle World Championship. Kiri has in fact placed in the top three every year since 2008." the commendation read.



Patrick Kindt photo  
**Ruben Petrisie at an award ceremony**

Another Bonaire windsurfer is making a name for himself in a different way. **Ruben Petrisie**, sail number NB-50

has been a windsurf tour manager and the head judge for different events. He tests sails and other windsurf gear. Then he switches to DJ mode and blasts a few musical sounds changing the sailing scene into a groovy party atmosphere.

His next event will be the Finals of the EFPKT (European Freestyle Pro Kids Tour) later this year in France where he will act as the IFCA/EFPKT Head Judge and international event PR. More info on the tour to be found on [www.efpkids-tour.com](http://www.efpkids-tour.com). Get more about Ruben at [www.rubenpetrisie.com](http://www.rubenpetrisie.com) ■ G.D. and press release

## BonQuiz Answer



**Question: What happened to the mast and who is the man?**

**Answer:** On June 25, 1963, the mast of the *Valerie Queen* was stepped at the Flamingo Beach Club. On June 25 1982, **Captain Don Stewart's** birthday it was moved to Captain Don's Habitat where it stood in the hotel garden. The base of the mast was weakened by years of moisture and blown down by Hurricane Omar in October 2008. See story on page 15 for the very latest on the past.

The mast was born and grown in the state of Washington, cut down in the year 1912 and stepped in the schooner *Henrietta* (later renamed *Valerie Queen*) on July 12, 1912. The boom of that mast became and is the mast of the *Sislin*, the boat that participated in the first Bonaire Regatta.

Question on page 13



**GRAND OPENING EXHIBITION**  
PAINTINGS AND DIGITAL PRINTS  
BY TRUDIE CANWOOD  
GALLERY KAS DI ARTE  
Sunday 20 November, 5:00pm  
Kaya J.N.E. Craane 34

# Pet of the Week

What a fun fellow "Puck" is. Posing with Bonaire Animal Shelter staff member, Hanny Hoogerkamp, he shows that he's loving the attention and hugs. Both of them have big smiles on their faces. Puck has the most amazing expressions. Along with his startled looking eyebrows he (usually) likes to keep one perky ear up and one down – very cute. Puck is about 13 months old, he's tall and slender but with an athletic build. He's friendly, as you can see, he's playful and he would be an excellent watch dog. And he gets along with other dogs as well. He's healthy, has been checked out by the vet, has had his shots, worming – the works. All that for a \$75 adoption fee for dogs. And that also includes sterilization and an identity chip which is mandatory if the dog is transported to the US or Europe.



Puck and Hanny

You are invited to stop by and meet Puck and the other dogs and cats up for adoption at the Shelter on the Lagoen Road, open Monday through Saturday 9 am – 1 pm, 3 to 5 pm. Tel. 717-4989. Up to date Website: [WWW.BonaireAnimalShelter.com](http://WWW.BonaireAnimalShelter.com).

**Gift giving time is coming and what could be a more perfect and special gift for most everyone on your list than a Bonaire Animal Shelter Tee shirt.** They come in adults' and kids' sizes, there are tanks and tees, in colorful cottons. Get them at the Shelter, at Carib Inn or at the Capt. Don's Habitat Manager Parties on Monday nights. They start at \$8 and you may be sure that all the pro-

ceeds go directly towards helping keep the Shelter open for unwanted cats and dogs on the island. And if you'd like to give a monetary gift to the Shelter itself, their account for a **Bonaire Animal Shelter General Donation is MCB #102.37800**. Or if you'd like to donate to their **Sterilization Fund**, the account is **MCB #10616410**.

Plans are already being firmed up for the Shelter's Annual Art Auction. This year it will be on Saturday evening, **December 3, at Sense Bar-Restaurant across from the entrance to Plaza Resort**. Mark your calendars so you don't miss it. More information in the next edition of *The Reporter*. ■ **Laura De-Salvo**

SUPERMARKET

Web: [moreforlessbonaire.com](http://moreforlessbonaire.com)

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# BONAIRE SKY PARK\*

\*to find it... just look up

## MOVEMENTS OF THE PLANETS

Next week look low in the southwest just after sunset and see if you can catch a glimpse of the brightest of all the planets, **Venus**. You'll have to look soon after sunset because Venus won't be in the Sky Park very long before it will set.

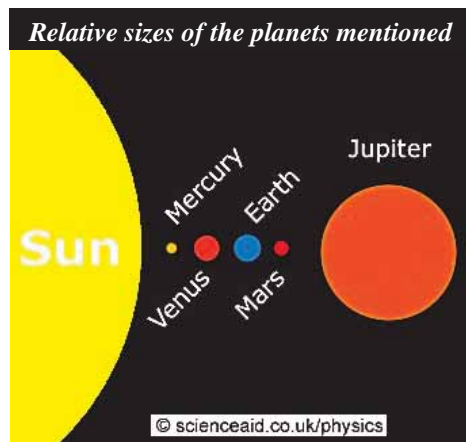
Venus will move a bit farther left each night plus it will be just above the closest planet to the Sun, **Mercury**. And the two of them, Venus and Mercury, will stay close together for about a week.

On Wednesday, the 9th, the day the new *Reporter* comes out, they will be flying in formation, but on the 10th they will pass close to the star **Antares**, the giant red heart of the **Scorpion**. Then on the 11th, 12th, 13th and 14th this pairing will continue while Antares will be rapidly left behind. But this pairing won't last and after the 15th Mercury will turn and head back toward the Sun letting Venus go on alone.

Keep watching Venus every evening after sunset and notice that it keeps moving a little bit more to the left each night and will get a bit higher each night. The best night will be the Saturday after the American Thanksgiving (Thursday, November 24) when a skinny **crescent Moon** will join it.

Then turn around and look east just after sunset next week and the Moon will be your best buddy for helping you identify the giant **planet Jupiter**. Monday night November 7th look east after sunset and you'll easily spot a **waxing, that is growing, gibbous Moon**. Gibbous means humped, which is what the Moon will look like as it approaches full Moon. About 20 degrees down to the left of the Moon you'll easily spot a bright light in the sky and that is the giant planet Jupiter.

Jupiter is extra bright right now because it's closer than usual, only a mere 371 million miles away. Back in April Jupiter was over 550 million miles from us and was noticeably dimmer.



Then the next night Tuesday, Nov. 8th, the Moon will be closer to Jupiter and one day closer to full Moon. The next night, Wednesday the 9th, the Moon will be just past Jupiter and only 6 degrees away. Then Thursday November 10th, the night of full Moon, Jupiter will be about 16 degrees to the right of the Moon.

Let's go back over that again. Evening sky, looking west, just after sunset, November 7th through the 15th, Venus and Mercury will pair up for about a week. Then look toward the east early evening November 7th thru the 10th, for the Moon showing you the giant planet Jupiter. So Jupiter and Venus will both be in the evening sky for the next few months and will have a really close rendezvous in March of 2012.

And now we have a planet for you early morning sky gazers too. This one isn't nearly as bright as Jupiter or Venus but there is a big lion in the sky to help you locate it. Look in to the southeast before dawn about half way up the sky and look for the big backward question mark that marks the head of **Leo the lion**. This question mark will be easier to spot than usual because it will have a double dot at the bottom with the star **Regulus** marking the bottom dot and the planet **Mars** making the brighter upper dot, if you look on the mornings of November 10th and 11th. ■

Dean Regas and James Albury,



# THE STARS HAVE IT

By Astrologer Michael Thiessen  
November 2011

**ARIES** (Mar. 21- April 20) Question your mate if you must. Money problems will be difficult to deal with if you have a partner. You are best to be accommodating for the time being. Sudden romantic infatuations won't be lasting. Do you really want to start something with someone you can't reason with? Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Sunday.

**TAURUS** (Apr. 21- May 21) Your mate could get on your nerves if he or she backs you into an emotional corner or puts restrictions on your time. Emotional deception will cause friction on the home front. You need a break from your daily routine. You will easily charm members of the opposite sex. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Saturday.

**GEMINI** (May 22-June 21) Put your efforts into being creative. Don't let your mate talk you into going somewhere you'd rather not go. Someone you live with may feel totally neglected. You can make financial deals, but it may be best if you're not using your own cash. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Thursday.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22) You will drive your emotional partner crazy this month. Think about starting your own small business, Older family members may take advantage of you by making you feel guilty. Any capricious behavior will confuse loved ones and your mood swings will result in loneliness. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Sunday.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug 22) Colleagues may try to undermine you when talking to superiors. Enjoy some socializing this month. You should get into some of those creative hobbies that you always said you wanted to do. Help elders in your family. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Sunday.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) Mingle with those who can help you get ahead. Self-deception about relationships is a problem. You will gain valuable insight and knowledge through the experiences you have along the way. You are best to avoid confrontations. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Sunday.

**LIBA** (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) You can make

personal changes that will enhance your reputation and give you greater self confidence. Travel will entice you; however, a tendency to overspend is quite possible. Travel or short trips will probably be your best outlet. Hide your cards and learn to say no. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Monday.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) Take part in stimulating debates that will allow you to show off your intelligence. Arguments could prevail. Pay off all your debts before you go out and celebrate. Be sure to keep communication open with those you live with. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Sunday.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) Curb your mood swings; they could result in loneliness. Don't be too quick to spend money. Look for professional guidance if it will help unite the family. Try to be patient and understanding. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Sunday.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) Your personal life will be under the gun and you may want to avoid the questions your lover is going to want to ask you. Use your head and do things to your liking. Be prepared to have relatives or close friends introduce you to new and exciting individuals. Problems with financial investments could make you nervous. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Wednesday.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) You should check out prestigious clubs or groups that have a cause you believe in. Self-improvement could bring amazing results. Your need to use emotional blackmail will only cause more conflict. If you can't get away, make plans to do something special with friends or relatives. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Tuesday.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) You will get great satisfaction from your efforts. Heart to heart talks will clear up vague issues. One-sided relationships are likely. You will be popular and will easily attract members of the opposite sex. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Thursday. ■

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