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**BONAIRE** July 20-Aug. 3, 2012, Year 19, Issue 15  
**The REPORTER**

*Helping Bonaire Grow Responsibly*

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# *Dia di Arte*

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*Dia di Arte Designer Competition, from bottom to top:*  
5 year old **Barbara Boezem** (member of the Kanta Boneiru Children's Choir;  
Designer/seamstress **Amancia Jansen** models her own creation – a traditional folkloric dress;  
AD Productions dancer **July Alejandra Ramirez** in a white "gala" dress;  
Miss Tourism Bonaire 2012, **Cindy Dominguez**, models a gala folkloric dress made by Locadia "Shon Ca" Janga (1<sup>st</sup> Prize);

Mama Modelo Bonaire 2012, **Jenrette Coffy**, models a Surinam "Koto-Missie" dress; 1st Prize Design Winner, **Mrs. Shon Ca Janga**; **Emma Sint Jago**, president of the foundation for Bonaire Art and Culture, models a traditional folkloric dress made by Theresita Hellemun (3rd Prize).  
Winners: 1st and 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: **Locadia "Shon Ca" Janga**; 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: **Theresita Hellemun**



# Flotsam and Jetsam

## BOINAIRE The REPORTER

**T**he tax office announced that the assessments for the *vastgoedbelasting* (real estate tax) will not be sent in July 2012. Originally, the assessments were to be levied in mid 2012. But the planning has been altered and the assessments will be sent later this year.

An assessment (value decree) determines the value of the real property for the *vastgoedbelasting*. Based on this value, the amount of *vastgoedbelasting* is due. In general, the *vastgoedbelasting* is for owners of a second home on Bonaire, Saba or Statia, as well as for corporations which possess immovable property. The Tax Department will give notification as soon as it is clear when the value decrees for the *vastgoedbelasting* will be sent.

► On Tuesday, July 10, 2012, the Governor authorized police to inspect motor vehicles for the appropriate tax sticker, related to road tax. So as of Wednesday, August 1, 2012, the police will be especially alert for all vehicles which have no green 2012 sticker on the registration plate.



You need to have the road tax paid and evidence to show during a traffic check. If you have no green sticker 2012 on the license plate and no proof of payment to show, then the police can ticket you.

► Last week *Nieuwe Post Nederlandse Antillen* (NPNA) said that services on the islands were "costly" and local infrastructure inadequate to provide postal services. Without sufficient payment from the Dutch government, the company said it would no longer provide the services. This may have been in response to continued complaints about poor service from the public which prompted the Dutch Parliament to demand adequate service from NPNA. NPNA operates in Bonaire, Saba and Sint Eustatius under concession from the Dutch government.

► On Thursday, July 5, acting on a tip, police confiscated a vehicle of a firm dealing in ice cream from the South Pier in Kralendijk. This was after discussion with the Prosecutor and in cooperation with Customs and the Royal Military Police. The vehicle was suspected to be transporting drugs and/or firearms. After a search nothing illegal was found. The cargo, consisting of ice cream, was unfortunately lost (melted) and then de-

► The Stichting Project opened a "Safe House" for youngsters earlier this month. "Finally the time has come," said Mick Schmit Stichting Project Director. "The Foundation has long advocated for a long stay home for young people and suddenly it's happened very quickly. When we received word that V.W.S. (Health, Welfare, Sport) Ministry awarded the grant, we were off and running. A staff has been recruited, furnishings delivered, etc. and now we're all set to receive youngsters."

The home is a small residential facility and is located in the center of town. The young people who stay there to live are from 12 to 18 years old and have circumstances that make it impossible for them to live at home.

These young people often have a long history of difficulty with authority. While living at the home, the adolescents are under intensive supervision to provide direct guidance and care. The home provides aid with a structured, clear and consistent approach in a loving educational environment connected to the needs of young people. The guidance focuses first on the acceptance of authoritative parenting and teaching social skills. The group consists of eight young people. Each has his or her own bedroom (or two in the bedroom) and a common living room, dining room and activities room. In daily life leaders provide clear rules and predictable daily routine. During the day the youngsters go to school and then they participate in group activities. The house offers a quiet, safe place for young people to live together.



stroyed at the landfill. After the search the vehicle was returned to the owner.

► THE HAGUE--The Second Chamber has rejected two motions of the Dutch Labor Party (PvdA) to give Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba the option to spend a designated €10 million from The Hague on social infrastructure projects instead of on the environment.

PvdA Member of the Second Chamber Martijn van Dam presented two motions during a public debate on Thursday, both of which essentially requested that the Dutch Government give the islands leeway to use the 10 million euros for projects in the area of combating poverty, maintaining purchasing power or upgrading infrastructure.

According to Van Dam, the islands should decide how to use the 10 million the Dutch Government has made available for the environment in 2013. "People in Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba can decide for themselves whether they want to use the money for flamingos or for the elderly," he stated in a press release. Van Dam said the parties who signed the Spring Accord showed they had learned nothing from the discontent on the islands in the past two years. "They [the Dutch coalition, ed.] are still viewing the islands through European Dutch glasses."

► The medical schools in Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba need formal recognition from Dutch education authorities since

the islands became part of The Netherlands. By October 1, 2013, the medical schools in Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba will know whether they will receive formal recognition as institutes of higher learning. The medical schools have started the procedure for an extensive and reinforced examination as part of the request to be formally recognized as a legal entity for higher education at the Accreditation Organization of The Netherlands and Flanders for higher education- the NVAO.

The NVAO will decide in August or September this year about the quality of education at the schools in question.

If the NVAO gives a positive advice, the medical school in question may submit a request for formal recognition as a legal entity for higher education to the Minister of Education, Culture and Science.

► Bonaire resident Dennis Kellner was in high style on his 60th birthday. On that day he reached the top of Mt Elbrus, the highest mountain in Europe. Elbrus, in Russia (Caucasus), is 18510 feet / 5642 meters high. Dennis has now climbed five of



Dennis Kellner on Mt Everest -2006

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 Dutch Caribbean  
 Phone 786-6125, 786-6518  
 Available on-line at:  
[www.bonairereporter.com](http://www.bonairereporter.com)

Printed Every Fortnight,  
 On-line every day, 24/7  
 Next edition printing on  
 Monday, July 30 Story and Ad  
 deadline:  
 Friday, July 27



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*Flotsam and Jetsam (Continued from page 2)*  
the Seven Summits, the highest mountains on each continent. Remaining are Africa and Australia.



► **Jong Bonaire has a really special calendar coming up for 2013** and they hope they can count on you to buy calendars again this year. The young people have researched some of the environmental options for the island's future and they present them in a beautiful, graphic way. They answer the question: "What can I do to help improve my own environment?" Join these beautiful teenagers as they visit the new wind farm, the water treatment plant and a conch protection site. Watch them sort glass, prevent dengue and learn to plow a field. Two young men even dream of an aluminum car made from old cans. They hope that you will purchase the calendars for your employees, friends and others. The first copies will arrive on Bonaire in September.

► **If you have a problem with your computer or associated equipment** we can recommend the service department on City Shop. The head technician has an uncanny ability to pinpoint problems quickly. And City shop has a selection of repair parts as well.

► **Restaurant Hero:** There has been a lot of restaurant activity lately – openings, closings, moving, price hikes, lower quality, smaller portions. But there's one restaurant, now in business for the last 11 ½ years, that has been consistently tops in all aspects: always top quality ingredients,



► **Would you like a great souvenir of Bonaire and the famous Hilma Hooker wreck?** Art to Media, along with Bruce Bowker's Carib Inn, has produced these two sided cards of the wreck in very fine detail. Art to Media has cards from all over the world of well known dive sites and now Bonaire joins the ranks with this waterproof card. Available at the Carib Inn just south of Divi Flamingo Hotel. Tel. 717-8819.

ample portions, great personal service and prices nearly the same as when they opened. It's **Pasa Bon Pizza**. As co-owner, Lisa, says, "The cost of our ingredients went up so we had to raise the prices a little. But we didn't raise them a lot; that's why we're not rich!" Readers: If you would like us to mention your own "restaurant hero," write and let us know because they should be recognized.

► **The Beach at Sunset Beach.** We had a pleasant surprise this week when we went to the beach at Sunset Beach. **It had been cleaned up!** Obviously, most of the people using it care enough to take their garbage away. It would be really nice if SELBION could put a dumpster there and empty it on a regular basis so that this popular beach can continue to be one of the most "user and child friendly" beaches on the island. The beach's future is unclear, with the possibility of its being taken over by a hotel despite the peoples' campaign to keep it open for locals. But in the meantime we can all enjoy it to our heart's content right now.

► **Once again Roy Martinus and Nazario Alberto will walk the Vierdagse Nijmegen (Four Days of Ni-**



**jmegen).** In recognition of the publicity they provide of Bonaire to the thousands of spectators lining the route, they were given a sendoff by Sports Commissioner James Kroon (center in photo).

► **A charging station for electric vehicles** was set up in the parking lot next to Wilhelmina Plaza. There are presently just few electric jitneys and bikes but more are to come.

► **Readers! Remember to remind the places where you shop that they should advertise in The Reporter because English is the language of bargains and business.** ■ G.L. D.

## Aniek Schouten Notary, Celebrates



*The Notary office staff-  
Notary Schoten at right*

She did it! She got it! And today she's celebrating! It has been a long journey before Miss Aniek Schouten got to live her dream. Aniek came to Bonaire 11 years ago for the first time. She fell in love with the island, got a job and never went back to Holland. One year after she started working with the Notary Maartense office. Her passion was to become a notary one day. She worked with the late Mr. Maartense for a long time and gained the experience, but it wasn't enough. In 2006 she returned to Holland to the University to complete her notary degree. She did her study online and for exams she had to travel to Holland. After six long years of traveling between Bonaire and Holland she completed her study.

On June 12, 2012, she got her license to work as a recognized notary. On Friday June 29, 2012, she invited her colleagues, friends, family and press to celebrate this noble event with her at Landhuis Wanapa.

Her experience is an example for many. If you want something, go for it. Today Miss Aniek H. Schouten has her own office with her name on it: Notary MR. ANIEK H. SCHOUTEN. ■ Story & photo by Siomara Albertus.

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# Into The Future With SELIBON

The best government-owned company on the island is working hard to apply the new Dutch rules on Bonaire

If there is something that all tourists agree on, it's that Bonaire is the cleanest island in the region, and there's one company who can take all the credit for that: SELIBON. Director Rudsel Leito has been director since April this year, but his career with SELIBON started in 1995, so he's a man who knows what he's talking about.

"SELIBON is responsible for collecting household and company refuse and processing it. Until now we have not been separating the waste collection, except for glass which we collect separately at restaurants and bars and then take to Bon Recycling (a company located here on the island) in the Santa Clara area. Glass is also collected in the yellow dome shaped plastic containers which are placed strategically all over the island and where people can dump their glass voluntarily.

The processing of garbage is done by compacting and covering with it with *diabas* (dirt) which we do at the landfill. Certain items we do keep separately at the landfill like wrecked cars, electronic apparatus, refrigerators, TVs and wooden shipping pallets. Until last year wrecked cars were sent to Curaçao once every two years, but now they all go through Bon Recycling. At the moment we're also working on a pilot project: composting organic waste. For that we use local bacteria grown on Bonaire. This is what we are doing so far.

Now, what we are heading for is the following. After 10-10-10 the new BES law was supposed to take effect, meaning that waste management on Bonaire would take a completely different turn because the rules we have to apply on Bonaire are comparable to the ones of an average Dutch municipal and we must achieve that level.

However, the handicap is not only the fact we are an island but that we are such a small one. And that makes things very difficult. The way we process the waste has to change because very soon we won't be allowed to dump the garbage on the landfill. On 10-10-10 they gave us five years, so we have three years left. It means we must start separating the waste to see what's recyclable and what's not. What's not recyclable we have to burn and if possible, generate energy from it. The main goal is to reduce the amount of garbage being dumped on the landfill.

What can be recycled is demolition and construction waste, garden waste, metal and plastic, computers and cell phones and, of course, glass, as I mentioned before. Bon Recycling is already capable of doing a lot, but what can't be done here needs to be shipped elsewhere.

The small scale, what the population can afford and the fact that we are an island all make the plans to look for the best practice methods a challenge. To implement the policies - separating the waste, especially from the households - we need a few things. We have to build strategically placed separation sites in Playa as well as in Rincon where



SELIBON's Rudsel Leito at the island landfill

people can dump their household waste for free. Also, we need a law so that people will get a penalty if they don't stick to the rules. If these two things don't happen we cannot talk about recycling.

SELIBON works together with Bon Recycling and on Aruba with Ecotech. We have close contact on waste policy and licensing with waste service Breda in Holland.

Another issue we are coping with is the hospital waste. We are working very closely with Aruba to collect and process this medical waste and the target date is the first of January 2013.

So, the future is the two separation sites, burning the waste at the landfill and the chemical waste. The Bonairean government has filed a claim with the Ministry of Infrastructure and Environment of Holland

saying that, 'If we must meet *De ladder van Lansing*- a policy of the Dutch parliament - we need money to implement those policies.'

When I first started here we were handling about 7,000 tons of waste per year. It has doubled and most of it is still being buried at the landfill. It's a challenge to keep the quality and the service at this level, because we are working with people who come mostly from a social environment where there are many problems, and you really have to guide these people. Also, it's a hard job. There's the smell, the pests and the heat. Not everybody can do it and hardly anybody wants to do it! But we pay our people well. The average person who works on the truck makes \$1500 per month. We have 50 people

(Continued on page 8)

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# On the Island Since... 1970 and 1998 - Orlando Francisca

“The first time I came here I was five years old. The family stayed for only two years, then we went back to Curaçao where I grew up. I went to Polytechnic school and then to Holland where I studied to become an airplane mechanic. When work and study became too much I didn’t finish my education. Instead I started working for Borstlap BV, the mother company of Caribbean Fasteners. After three years I went back to Curaçao where I got a job with Caribbean Fasteners.

During the years in Holland, I was going back and forth to Curaçao, then when I was 19 I married a Bonairean girl, Sharlize. She was one of the grandchildren of Juanita Bernabela, the daughter of Jacinto Bernabela, someone who really stood up for Bonaire. The marriage lasted eight years and we had two kids: two boys, Jason and Ryan. When they were three and five years old they went to live in Holland with their mom because we’d figured that education there would offer them more possibilities. And yeah, we have a saying here that love at a distance doesn’t work and that’s how it went. We met other people and we moved forward, but we’ve stayed good friends.

I had too much energy and ambition to work from nine to five and go home and watch TV afterwards. That was never my style, so I bought some cars, fixed them up, sold some and rented some. Then I got into the bus transportation – AB buses – I bought several and started renting them out to the drivers. At the same time I dis-



Ana and Orlando

I had three big sponsors: Polar, Aimed Ayubi with his radio station, and City Café. The motorcyclists from Aruba and Curaçao came over with their bikes in containers and it was a big success. The following year I started up the Bonaire Bikers Motorcycle Club, and after the tour in December 1999 A&D Productions awarded me the prize for the biggest activity on the island and I was named ‘Person of the Year.’

Since then we have an agreement be-

**"I love this island and I want it to do well. I also want to give it a little extra..."**

covered a hole in the market: ‘hotdog cars.’ I brought three from Venezuela and placed them at strategic points on the island and then I bought three ‘truk di pan’ – trucks from where you sell food. Two I put at a fixed location and one I drove to events.

It came to a point I decided to quit Caribbean Fasteners. I was doing well. I was really blessed but I wanted to do something different. I cut the AB-buses and stayed with one hotdog car and one truk di pan. I bought two trucks to transport blocks for construction but my major business became ‘Pamela Snack,’ a snack next to the Brievengat cemetery and the Festival Center. Soon after I sold everything and stayed with one ‘truk di pan’ and Pamela Snack. The snack was open from 6am to 11 pm, so I’d just go home to take a shower and sleep a little bit. I did it for seven years, seven days a week.

I was in my 30s when I decided to retire and live off my savings forever! I came to Bonaire, bought a house, a nice car and a motorcycle and lived a relaxed life, but... the comma of the ciphers was going in the wrong direction too fast and so I started doing what I like best: cars, motorcycles, scooters. I began here in 1998, at Kaya Korona, selling motorcycle and scooters parts. It was great for Bonaire!

That same year I organized the first motorcycle tour on Bonaire, 100% by myself.

tween Aruba, Curaçao, Bonaire and St. Martin that on every Flag Day of each island we get together as clubs to do a motorcycle tour, and after 13 years that’s still happening!

I am no longer the president of Bonaire Bikers MC. After 11 years it was enough and I stepped out. Now I am a member of an international club called Iron Order MC. I’m the vice president of the Bonaire chapter of Bonaire which so far consists of six people. It’s an organization of one million members around the world. The majority are fire fighters, policemen and law enforcement people. We have to obey the law, stick with the rules and do a lot of charity too.

With Bonaire Bikers I created a guide line. Every year we adopt one post (rest/ refreshment stop) for the Special Olympics Walk-a-thon. Then every 30th of April we do a rally and donate to a special cause of the community in Rincon because it’s Rincon Day. When the Wounded Warriors come we host and escort them. Also, whenever they ask us, we do everything for FKPD and for Pro Kids Windsurfing. I left that guide line with Bonaire Bikers. I have a lot of love and memories from that club. Now I expect to share some of those charities with the two clubs. Together we can show the world what Bonaire is capable of!”

*Orlando is a great guy with a big heart – always ready to help others. He’s gentle,*



*but also a business man to the core. It’s in his blood and he thrives on it.*

“On 4-4-2004 I got married after ‘hunting’ my wife, Ana, for two years. She was hard to get because she was just like me- a work-a-holic. For me it’s like I won the lottery; she’s the best. Ana already had a son, Alexander, who’s 21 now and works with us. And together we have a daughter, Andrea, who turned four in May. Ana and I push the business to make sure we have a good life and we can pay for the education and the future of our kids.

At the moment it’s really tough on Bonaire. Not only because of the economy but also because of the uncontrolled permissions for businesses. For example, all the people who rent rooms to tourists also rent cars, bicycles and scooters – not controlled. The big hotels try to keep the customers for themselves, and all local business feel it and restaurants suffer because people don’t leave the resorts. Fine with me, marketing is marketing, but we have to find a formula so things can be shared. I think the ones who sell Bonaire as a destination need to give a better view of everything that’s available here, not only what the resorts have to offer. It’s not my style to complain about the competition, but when they go below price they don’t do any good.

In 2002 I bought Quad Rentals & Tours NV, so I had the quads, the cars, the mo-

torbikes, the scooters and bicycles, and in February 2008 I bought Rent-O-Fun from a friend of mine and I made a holding of all my companies.

I’ve been around the cruise ships from the beginning and there were times that two or three people were selling their products with a lot of respect for each other – if you understand what I’m saying. Nowadays I’m doing the Harley Davidson Tour, the Landrover off Road Tour, the ATV Tour, the organized Big Group (28 people) Bicycle Tour and the Donkey Sanctuary Tour. I’m the only one, chosen by the cruise lines to give the service. And of course, once you’re in you get the rest of the packages like island tours and beach transport, which pushed me to make investments and now I have six buses. I am a perfectionist; I check everything myself – the drivers and the equipment – it’s about the best quality you can offer.

I think Bonaire will keep on growing, but here you have to build a reserve for

when the season is low and Web, salaries and rent still need to be paid. So, be friendly with your account manager and your bank. I’ve learned it the hard way!

I love this island and I want it to do well. I also want to give it a little extra and that’s why I brought ‘Coney Island’ here, it was a super success and the people deserve it. September 7th I’m going to do a Demolition Derby; 35 cars will come from Curaçao where it’s a very popular event. I’m also trying to get ice skating here, but first I’ll go to Aruba to see what’s it all about because once you have the permit, you’re responsible.

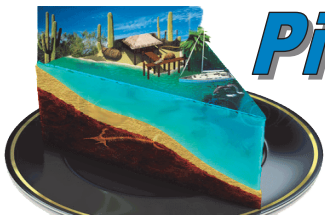
After 14 years on Bonaire I’m more Bonairean than most Bonaireans because I represent the island all over the world. I rent a motorcycle in Europe or in the States and I put the Bonairean flag and wear my vest with Bonaire MC on it. I don’t drink and I don’t smoke and I don’t go to Pachi; I’m using my energy to have a good life because I’ve been through a lot and I know life is fragile.”

Story &

photos by Greta Kooistra







# Piece of Paradise

Answers to your Bonaire real estate related questions. Please email your questions to [reporter@bonairenews.com](mailto:reporter@bonairenews.com)

## LONG LEASE LAND AND PRIVATE PROPERTY: WHO OWNS WHAT?

When we first started this column a few weeks ago, you were asked if there were any questions you would like to see answered in this column. One of these questions was one that when you are working in the real estate business on Bonaire you have to explain on an almost daily basis. Therefore today I would like to explain to you the difference between long lease land and privately owned land. On Bonaire these are the only two kinds of title that a potential property buyer is confronted with. Some of you may say there is a third one, namely 'huurgrond', however, ownership of this rental agricultural land is never registered by deed, only a contract between renter and the owner. Therefore we are leaving that out of this column.

**Privately Owned Land** ("eigendomsgrond") is as the term explains, owned by the legal owner, which can be a private person or a legal entity such as a business. When such a property is put up for sale the sale comprises the land including the building(s) on it. This kind of property can be located on a development location where the developer has included certain conditions in addition to the Bonaire zoning plan (*Ruimtelijk Ont-*

*wikkelingsplan*). For example, there may be stipulations with regard to the size and height of a home that will be constructed and the period of time that the owner may take to build a home. In addition there may be rules about what can and cannot be done with the property, for example when the development plans forbid you to rent out a property for a short period, which means that you cannot use that property as a vacation rental home. Also a lot of the development plans do not allow businesses to be conducted from the property or to keep goats and horses on the premises. If a developer has set such additional regulations, this is mainly done to create a residential area of certain quality.

### Long Lease Land

Long lease land ("erfpachtgrond") is land that is owned by the island authority and that the owner leases for 60 years to start with. After the lease runs out, the lease can be renewed. In case the lease is not renewed, the owner of the lease will be reimbursed for the value of his property on the land. You can do exactly the same with a property on long lease land as you can with a property that is built on privately owned land. For land on which a family home will be built, only people who are born on Bonaire or people who live on Bonaire for a number of years can apply. The government allocates lots based on



Sunbelt Realty photo

availability and expressed preferences. The lease taker should start to build a property on the land within a year of receiving the lease to the land. Once the home is finished, which is defined as wind and waterproof, the property can be sold, including the right to the lease to anybody, resident or not, regardless of their nationality, the same as privately owned land. For long lease land an annual long lease fee is due to the island authority. This fee can be changed every 20 years, however, it should never be higher than 6% of the value of the land per year.

So, in conclusion, when you purchase a built property it is of less importance whether it is located on long lease land or private property. However, you should research the amount of the long lease fee, as well as the remaining duration of the lease. Should you be looking for a building lot it is of more importance to check on the ownership status of the land. Ask for information on the building restrictions for privately owned land, and research your possibilities when it concerns long lease land.

■ Corine van der Hout © Sunbelt Realty

## Bonairean Humor

From the Papiamentu language newspaper Extra, translated by Jane Madden Disko

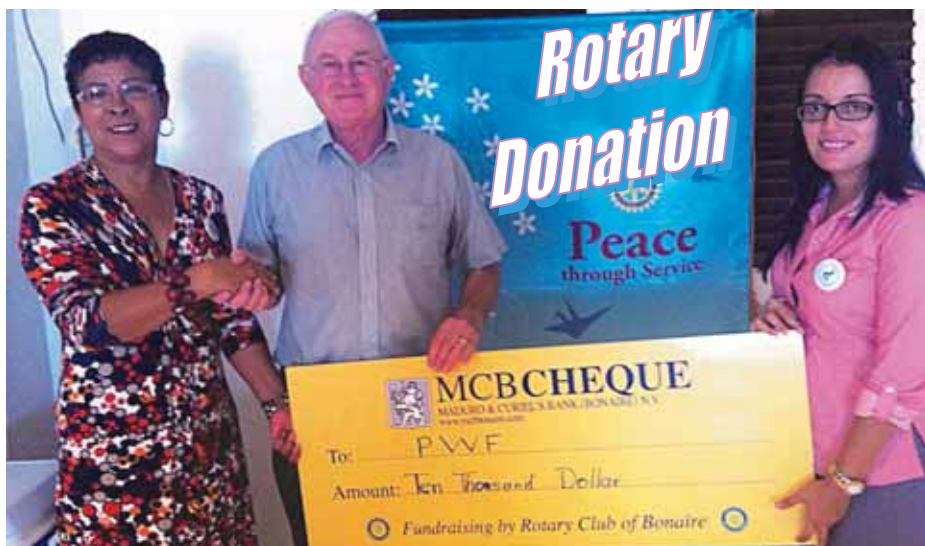
A babysitter took a baby on a trip to the park. When she arrived back at home, the baby's mother was surprised to see that the babysitter had a different baby in her arms. The mother was very upset and asked the babysitter what happened. The babysitter said: Well, you told me that I have to change the baby when he dirties his diaper.

A cop was on his beat when he saw a drunk man holding a gun to his own head. The cop pulled his own gun, aimed it at the man and said: Stop, friend, suicide violates all judicial, religious and moral laws. I have the duty to protect your life. Put down your gun or I'll blow your head off.

Two new cops got an order to go pick up two grenades from an area. When they arrived they deactivated the grenades and put them in the police car. On the way back to the station one cop said to the other, What happens if one of them explodes in the car? The other cop said: Then we'll tell them that we only found one.

A man goes to the police station and says: I came to make a police report because my wife has disappeared. The cop says, OK, do you have a picture of your wife? The man said yes and gave him a photo. The cop looked at the photo, his eyes got wide and he said: Eh, eh brother, are you sure you want us to find her? ■

More in the next edition



Rotary Club Bonaire organizes a yearly fundraising in the form of a Rotarally. The proceeds go to a good cause. This year's proceeds were presented to the Prinses Wilhelmina Fonds. RCB president Jan Kloos handed out a check of \$10,000 to Bertica Frans and Leydi Ortegon of the Prinses Wilhelmina Fonds.

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# An Extra Special Happy Hour

*'Happy music, local food and drinks, arts, crafts and souvenirs'*

Every Friday from 5 to 9 pm a special event takes place at the plaza next to El Mundo restaurant on Kaya Grandi. Twelve artists united in a smaller version of the cruise ship market are determined to keep on going through low season until the ships are back in October. Meanwhile it's a fun experience to talk to the artists, to look for locally made gifts and souvenirs, to have a drink and a snack and to bring your guests and have a good time. The market gives town an extra dimension on a Friday night and it's an initiative that should be rewarded by a visit! Every fortnight *The Reporter* will introduce to you two people who are part of this market.

One of them is **Ans**. "I came to live on Bonaire in 1997 and I've worked with great pleasure at the local hospital for 10 years. All my life I've been painting and drawing, but with a full time job there was very little time left to develop myself more, however, since 2007 I have focused entirely on painting. This is going to be my fifth season at the market. When I started at the cruise ship market I immediately loved it! The feedback from the tourists is very enthusiastic and positive. People tell me that nowhere in the Caribbean is there a market like this one – where everyone makes their own arts and crafts and where people can meet the artists and talk to them. And the tourists are thrilled with Bonaire. They see it very clean and they love the friendliness of the people.

For me it's really fun to interact with people from all over the world. It's great to

meet somebody new from a whole different country. And when they buy something from me, I realize that somewhere in Chile or Norway or Russia, one of my paintings will be hanging on the wall. Isn't that something?

All tourists are curious about the island and they also want to know all about my art. They like what I'm doing, they love the soft colors of the aquarelles, the subjects I'm painting, the fact that everything that's on my table is made by me: the paintings, the postcards, the calendars, the haiku poetry, the bookmarks and the memory games and the framing and the matting. My theme is the traditional Bonairean buildings and the old houses – a love I share with my partner Hans. My absolute favorite subject is the house at Spelonk next to the lighthouse on the wild coast at Bolivia. Bonaire is my home and I feel strongly connected to the island and I translate my emotions into aquarelles. The island has brought my talent out and made it flourish. Without Bonaire I don't think I would have discovered what I was capable of."

**Faizul:** "I came from Venezuela 18 years ago with a group of five women and my son Rafael. I was a merchant and a designer of clothing and jewelry. I liked Bonaire. The people were open and sincere. So I stayed and started selling fashion and jewelry and travelled back and forth to Caracas where I was studying law. I lived two weeks here and two weeks there until I met my prince, Alex Semeleer! We got married in 1997, then I brought my two daughters over. In 1999 I opened my first shop next to Karel's

Beach Bar and from there I moved to many different locations all over town. Now we have our shop on the street around the corner from Gio's.

We started at the market in 2000 when there were 'no more than seven cats' (a Spanish expression meaning 'hardly anybody'). To survive here you have to offer a variety of items. I like curios and also I like to transform things, give them a different meaning or shape. I'm always full of ideas. Alex and I studied natural medicine for three years and I would like to study Feng Shui a bit more, but first I'm going to take a three-month course in astral charts. I like the market and to chat with people and although I don't speak much English there's always a click, and in the end we understand each other perfectly. At the moment Alex and I are looking for things to sell that are more exclusive so we don't have to display so many things! It's a lot of work and we're also getting older. Now we're selling dream catchers, beads for good luck for babies and children, talismans, key holders with the eye, religious prints, leather bracelets, little glass bottles with rocks, and jewelry made of the vegetable ivory – the Tagua nut – necklaces of agate and crystal, charms and crosses and silver and gold plated jewelry and jade earrings and wooden talismans for men. Some materials I charge



Faizul at the market



Ans at her stand

with prayers to give them strength and energy and I sell many stones for the same purpose, just like stainless steel and silver for protection from people who want bad things. I am also a consultant and adviser in family problems and love questions, and I read the Tarot too. You see, I like to help people and I have a sensor for feelings and whether it's tourists or locals there's always a response and a connection, that's the beauty of this place. ■

Story & photos by Greta Kooistra

## Reviving Maskarada

Many people were in shock and very disappointed when the Maskarada event didn't take place on the first of January this year.

The parade of Maskarada is unique for Bonaire. There's not one other island in the Dutch Caribbean that has it. It's a very old folkloristic street event where a group of people wearing masks and crowns and wonderful colorful costumes – like someone is the bull, another one the matador, there's a fisherman and a boat, a fish and a donkey stud and a goat and a policeman – the only one who doesn't wear a crown but a police cap – gets out into the streets on New Years Day to welcome the New Year. They play music and dance and play skits but they don't speak. The only words that come from their mouths is "Aña Nobo" (New Year) but it sounds more like "Ainn Nobééé." The first one the group visits is the governor, where they are treated to a bottle of rum. From there the group visits the old people's home and houses all around the island and ends up in Nort di Saliña.

So, to make up for this year's non-appearance, Fundashon Nawati and the true Maskarada lovers like Cancia, Annette, Iris Semeleer, Helen and Bubui Thodé and many others decided that on



TCB's Helen Thode with a Maskarada photo

**Bonaire Day, the 6th of September, the group will perform at the Sentro di Bario in Tera Kora** so that everybody can enjoy this historic folkloric event!

As the whole organization is done by volunteers, it will take a lot of hard work and love to get ready on time for Dia di Boneiru. The costumes, the special crowns, the typical shoes, the masks, the boat and the fish need to be made and, very importantly, the musicians have to get organized and, last but not least, funds need to be raised. It's a massive job!

If people are interested in helping to keep this typical Bonairean folklore alive and thriving, either with **donations or otherwise, contact Iris Semeleer at Flamingo Book store in Kaya Grandi, phone 717-6586.** ■

Story & photo by Greta Kooistra

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# BONAIREAN VOICES

IT'S VACATION TIME... WHAT TO DO?

Children are off from school, friends and family are visiting the island from everywhere. What are your plans? Are you planning to take a vacation yourself or some days off? Nowhere to go yet? What about planning a vacation on Bonaire and discovering the most exciting places on our island? Most of the time we plan our vacations off Bonaire, visiting other islands and countries, exploring their culture and nature, but our own island has a lot to offer. There are some guides here on Bonaire who can arrange tours- Maria Koeks' Soldachi Tours, Cristal Tours, Papi Cicilia, the TCB and Bòi Antoin - just to mention a few.

Let's talk about the tour guide, Bòi Antoin. His real name is Mr. Franklin

Dominico Antoin better known as Bòi (56), a Bonairean who has studied the nature, culture and history of Bonaire. Bòi has a vast experience about nature and for 10 years has been a guide for the people of Bonaire, showing them most beautiful and amazing areas of the island.

During our interview he mentions just a few places. As he says, "It's good for people to get to know their island. Most of the time you find a lot of foreigners who are participating in these tours, but Bonaireans need to come out and explore their island too. Some of the place we've been are *Kwiba di La Birgen* (The Virgin's Grotto), Washikemba/Lagun, Onima, Bolivia (in Bolivia itself there are three routes), Seru Largu on the east side, Gotomeer, the islands around Lac Bay, Klein Bonaire. Yet there are more routes to discover."

He usually guides a group of 10 people, depending on the route. The contribution is \$8, which includes refreshments, something to eat at the end, and also to keep the routes accessible for people and to keep the Foundation for Bonairean History and Culture alive.

Bòi came up with this idea by walking in the *mondi* (countryside) where he got the inspiration to help others to know more about Bonaire. All the places he visits as a tour guide are documented places. A lot of



Scenes from Boi Antoin's tours



other places are lost because they have never been taken care of. He hopes that one day some of these places could be cleaned up to look like those documented places. When the Dutch marines were on Bonaire they helped clean some of these places-like the steps by Onima - but there is more to do. Another interesting tour is the city route in Playa itself, which includes the history of the site of the city. The history of our culture and nature are in the books that have been saved by the Foundation. All this knowledge must be passed on to our children. Any school children or anybody who wants to know more about Bonaire can go to the **Foundation For Bonairean History and Culture, at the Extra building, Kaya Gilberto F. Croes, tel. 786-6818 or 717-8424.**

Inform yourself and ask people you know about Bonaire. Walking tours are always excellent, good for your body and mind, making you strong, healthy, and relaxed, taking the stress from those long days of work. Take a chance and enjoy your walk. Next time you plan for a vacation start with your island first. Take a tour and discover Bonaire. ■ *Story & photos by Siomara Albertus*



*Selibon Future*  
(Continued from page 4)

working here and including me it's 51! There are five people who collect garbage from the streets all over the island. They don't just go randomly. Ha! No, there's a plan for that. Kralendijk/Playa is Number 1. It needs to be clean, perfectly clean. The tourists' sites are Number 2 - clean! Especially for the tourists' sites I have subcontracted two people. Then the neighborhoods are Number 3. Less than three is 'dirty, filthy.' And I have one person who collects cadavers and who works on other 'special' issues.

Together with the people from the barios we've started projects - first in Tera Kora - to keep their neighborhood clean on a permanent basis. The people themselves have to come up with the initiatives and organize it, and we choose somebody - a man or a woman - who is a 'born leader' and who communicates with us and the people from the neighborhood. We provide all the facilities like containers, machines and material. We also work together with the integrated neighborhood approach which is covered by FESBO which takes care of all the social problems in the barios. Our common goal is to improve the quality of life in those neighborhoods. SELIBON is doing so by keeping the neighborhood clean because we know that dirt and filth is associated with poverty, insecurity and danger.

Something else that should be tackled is the clandestine landfills. It's a matter of mentality, ignorance and laziness. **If people call us at 717-8159 we'll come to get it! For free! Every Monday, once a week!** Nobody has to dump anything in the mundi. Illegal excavation of the land is another issue the government and the people should do something about. The way it is now is that nobody pays attention to it.

Of course, economy and environment should be in balance. That's the ideal situation, but the way it is now I feel that the environment should get more attention from the government next to the economic aspects. If you don't pay attention to the waste problem, it's going to be on your plate tomorrow, and especially for small islands it's very important to take nature and environment into account. You cannot go on dumping chemical and poisonous waste. But then, it has to be affordable and Holland has to realize that. You can come with all the rules and laws, but is it affordable and are the politicians willing to make it happen? I don't have problems with the new laws, but they are costly and on Bonaire most people live on minimum wages or below.

After so many years with the company, my heart is completely with SELIBON. I would like to see the company become more of a management organization so the executive tasks could be put out to contract. This way you could create more employment and people could come up with more initiatives and SELIBON would be a monitoring and regulatory organization, which, to my opinion, would fit the scale of the island. It's a big job and it's interesting. Before it wasn't a profession - now it's even a specialty and a worldwide prob-



SELIBON is also making some excellent compost

lem. To me, it's all about cooperation—with Holland and Aruba, with other companies, with the politicians and the population because we cannot do it alone. We need each other's support and help and only then can we achieve something." ■

*Story & photos by Greta Kooistra*



## GET GAS

Dear Editor,

My, this island is going downhill. I needed a large tank of cooking gas from Curoil, but there is now a three-month wait.

So I thought that I would buy a small tank instead. I went by the gas station on Kaya Korona when they told me the delivery was expected but I almost couldn't find the place as it looked like a used car lot. I'm glad I didn't have to wait in line, as I found out that line was just to exchange a tank, not purchase a new one.

For that I had to go to the Curoil office in Hato where I walked right in and in no time walked out with a tank full of propane for \$41.

When this tank runs out I will just throw it away and go buy another. Simple. No waiting in line -- NO reason to wait in line on an island with barely more people than goats. I have no idea why people do that.

-JP

PS:

In the SELIBON press release in a past *Reporter* regarding recycling glass, they say the government would require that ground glass is used in road construction. There is no road construction on Bonaire. It is only road destruction.



# Lions Club Installation



At the Lions Club Gala

Named to lead the club in 2012-2013 were President, **Carlos Lopez Natera**; past President, **Randolf Luciano**; 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, **Oswin Cristina**; 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President: **Marlon Bermudez**; Secretary, **Blancaflor Nicolaas-Bakhui**; Treasurer, **Nelson Franco**; Tailtwister, **Geritza Fermi**; Tamer, **Jose Boekhoudt**; Directors, **Ron Schleper**, **Riency Holder**, **Edelmira Carolina**, **Rijnaldo Timp**, **Hubert Nicolaas**



## Newest Body Builder?

Congratulations to **Robert and Marjolein Smaal** on the birth of their first baby, a son, **Joël Leonardo Smaal**, born on 30 June 2012 at 12:04. He weighed in at 2.74 kg. (6 lbs). We have already seen him at the Bon Bida gym!

## Name Our Prison

A few years ago Curaçao had a contest to rename its prison to provide a positive feeling to the place. The winner: **Bon Futuro—Good Future**. St Maarten has the resort-sounding **Pointe Blanche**. Bonaire' prison right now has the hard-to pronounce **JICN, Justitiële Inrichting Caribisch Nederland**. We would like to propose our own contest be held to rename the JICN something more appropriate to the Prison Tourism image the island is projecting. Send entries to [reporter@bonairenews.com](mailto:reporter@bonairenews.com)

## Karate Belts Awarded



The BonKarate dojo at the Kolegio Kristu Bon Wardadó in Nikiboko presented awards to its students based on their June 27 examinations by Sensei Peter Silberie and his assistants. Training will resume on August 13.

- **Yellow Belt:** Leroy Winklaar, Rudney Mercelina, Madaline Werleman, Riordan Carolina, Roëlgin Soliano, Kriston (Jay) Saleh, Kristian (Sean) Saleh, Daeline Laurens, Ludaishka Thode, Ismael Thomasa, Oscar Martijn, Sue-Ann Albertus, Thaishanara Statie, Siandra Manuel, Edwin Yduso, Shanay Winklaar, Chantely Domacassé.
- **Orange Belt:** Joshua Hart, Matthew Mauricio, Christian Mauricio, Eriáne Marsera, Kyanna Domacassé, Tiffany Seferina, Dillon Rannou, Justin Emers.
- **Green Belt:** Roshendel Albertus.
- **Blue Belt:** Leonard Janga. ■ *Press release*

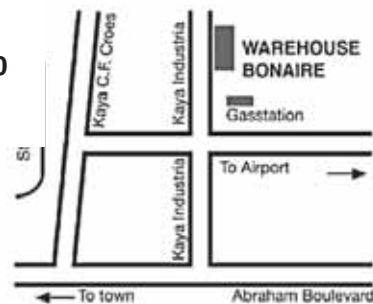


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## Soccer Clinic



Herman van Leeuwen photo

Last week a soccer clinic was organized by Indebon and Eden Beach Resort for Bonaire's youth. Two world famous professional soccer players, Andre Ooijer and Rob Witschge, came to Bonaire to hold a workshop for trainers on July 9th and a clinic for soccer players on July 10th. About 142 kids got involved. Football heroes Witschge and Ooijer agreed: Bonaire is fantastic! ■





# 20th Annual Art Day

The 20<sup>th</sup> annual Dia di Arte dawned a perfect day with sunshine and trade winds. In Wilhelmina Park on Sunday shade trees cooled the temperature where artists, singers, musicians, actors, clothes designers, models, cooks and bartenders gathered to show their talents. It was a family day with visitors of all ages checking out the stands, meeting with friends, making new friends and tasting local and Surinam foods. Youngsters were invited to try their hand at artwork. There was a fashion show of clothes from local designers modeled by beauties such as Miss Tourism Bonaire, **Cindy Dominguez**; Mama Modelo Bonaire, **Jenrette Coffy**; and AD Productions Dancer, **July Alejandra Ramirez**. Standing by was Mr. Bonaire, **Renzo Silva**.

On the stage were singers and musicians, including guitarist Audy Flores and singer Broertje "Sweet Broer" Janga who will be going to the Dominican Republic on July 22 to represent Bonaire.

To honor this 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary many artists offered a 20% discount for that day only. Many thanks and appreciation go to Emma Sint Jago and the Fundashon pa Arte I Kultura. And it's still going on, every year, after all these years! ■

Laura DeSalvo



Emma Sint Jago, the organizer of D. di A.



Louise v.d. Zwaag, specializes in acrylics and portraits



Keeping the art of goatskin products alive



An exquisite ceramic tile boyfriend created by Agnes Joosten. Shown with her sister for sisters Agnes Joosten and Riet Sealy



Eric Cremers and his creative sculptures shared a booth with his wife Liek Eijck's delicate creations.

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Henk Roosendaal spoons some water into his cup



Sandor Kratochvill's friend, Yvonne, was in charge of showing his stained glass



Aspiring artists had their own table



Driftwood artist Dion combines a bit a clay with driftwood, bent and broken, left on Bonaire's shore. The sculptures she makes represent the souls of the trees getting a new life, beautiful as the tree once was.



Mamita Fox showed her lovely glass works



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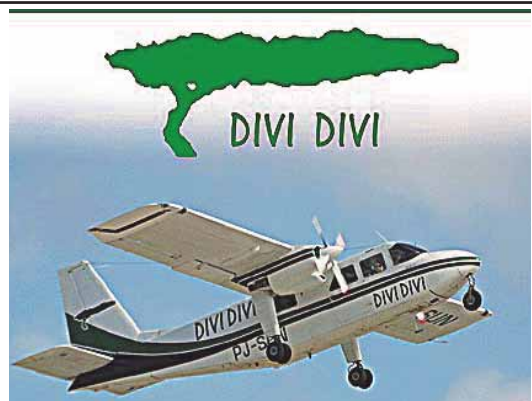
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**Two studios (empty) for rent at Hato  
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ary issues of *the Bonaire Reporter*

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## Bonaire-Sun Rise/Set, Moon Phase and Tides

*Winds and weather can further influence the local tide's height and time*

Day	High	Low	High	Low	High	Sunrise	Sunset
Fri 20	00:53 0.82 ft	10:14 -0.12 ft				6:20	19:04
Sat 21	01:38 0.74 ft	10:33 -0.10 ft	16:59 0.32 ft	20:29 0.30 ft		6:20	19:04
Sun 22	02:29 0.65 ft	10:51 -0.10 ft	17:05 0.45 ft	22:35 0.28 ft		6:20	19:03
Mon 23	03:24 0.55 ft	11:11 -0.10 ft	17:28 0.60 ft			6:20	19:03
Tue 24		00:07 0.21 ft	04:22 0.45 ft	11:34 -0.10 ft	18:00 0.76 ft	6:20	19:03
Wed 25		01:22 0.12 ft	05:22 0.36 ft	12:02 -0.12 ft	18:37 0.90 ft	6:21	19:03
Thu 26	First Quarter	02:25 0.03 ft	06:21 0.28 ft	12:35 -0.13 ft	19:18 1.02 ft	6:21	19:03
Fri 27		03:23 -0.05 ft	07:19 0.21 ft	13:13 -0.14 ft	20:02 1.11 ft	6:21	19:02
Sat 28		04:19 -0.11 ft	08:18 0.17 ft	13:53 -0.14 ft	20:48 1.16 ft	6:21	19:02
Sun 29		05:15 -0.15 ft	09:19 0.14 ft	14:38 -0.11 ft	21:37 1.17 ft	6:22	19:02
Mon 30		06:09 -0.17 ft	10:24 0.13 ft	15:27 -0.07 ft	22:27 1.13 ft	6:22	19:01
Tue 31		07:03 -0.18 ft	11:36 0.15 ft	16:22 -0.00 ft	23:20 1.06 ft	6:22	19:01
Wed 01	Full Moon	07:55 -0.17 ft	12:52 0.20 ft	17:28 0.08 ft		6:22	19:01
Thu 02	00:14 0.95 ft	08:45 -0.15 ft	14:07 0.29 ft	18:51 0.16 ft		6:22	19:01
Fri 03	01:12 0.84 ft	09:30 -0.13 ft	15:12 0.39 ft	20:28 0.21 ft		6:22	19:00
Sat 04	02:12 0.71 ft	10:12 -0.10 ft	16:06 0.50 ft	22:06 0.21 ft		6:23	19:00
Sun 05	03:15 0.60 ft	10:49 -0.07 ft	16:52 0.60 ft	23:33 0.18 ft		6:23	18:59
Mon 06	04:16 0.50 ft	11:23 -0.04 ft	17:33 0.69 ft			6:23	18:59
Tue 07		00:45 0.13 ft	05:15 0.42 ft	11:53 -0.01 ft	18:10 0.76 ft	6:23	18:59
Wed 08		01:45 0.08 ft	06:08 0.35 ft	12:21 0.01 ft	18:45 0.82 ft	6:23	18:58
Thu 09	L Quar- ter moon	02:38 0.04 ft	06:56 0.30 ft	12:47 0.03 ft	19:19 0.86 ft	6:23	18:58
Fri 10		03:25 0.01 ft	07:40 0.25 ft	13:11 0.04 ft	19:53 0.89 ft	6:23	18:57

**Wanted used items:** Books, household  
items, shoes, clothes & books for Dare to  
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last edition of *The Re-  
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# Donkey Dilemma

According to Commissioner James Kroon the Bonaire Government plans to reduce the overpopulation of wild donkeys by sending 200 of them to Haiti. They would be sent on a Coast Guard ship. Several years ago 50 donkeys were sent to Curaçao to become food for the lions in the local zoo. The government plans to work with the Donkey Sanctuary to ensure a safe and humane shipment as they did with the Curaçao bound donkeys.

Supporters of Bonaire's donkey population oppose the plan. They have long asked for a sterilization program to curb the donkey population, but resources and money were not available, according to government spokesmen. Now that the numbers have increased, and the Donkey Sanctuary is full to capacity, it is even more important.

Under discussion is a proposal that includes rounding up wild males, tranquilizing them and sending them Haiti. Females and foals would, provided funds are supplied, become residents of the Donkey Sanctuary. Donkeys were used as working animals for many years on Bonaire and continue to provide draft power required for plowing, cultivation and transportation for the smallholder farmer at an affordable price around the world, but no longer on Bonaire. According to the most recent census our researcher could find there are **already 210,000 donkeys on Haiti**. These donkeys are employed in the agro-socio economy of Haiti.

The Donkey Sanctuary staff and government are set to meet on July 17<sup>th</sup> to examine options. The chairwoman of Bonaire's Donkey Sanctuary, Marina Melis, does not agree with the government's plans. In a press release she said, "It seems that the donkeys will be captured without proper welfare precautions, which will cause them distress and suffering."



Too many donkeys on Bonaire? Especially using the bank ATM!

"Besides, the donkeys will probably face a miserable future on Haiti. There are no guarantees at all that they will be well cared for there. Anyway, we are dealing with feral donkeys here, which cannot be simply put to work like trained, domestic animals."

Internet petitions seeking to block this transport of donkeys have already been signed by almost 5000 people.

In a plan proposed by the Sanctuary all the captured mares and foals would be accommodated in the Donkey Sanctuary, where they will be safe and have a good life, on condition that the government contributes to the cost of taking care of these animals. Until now Donkey Sanctuary Bonaire has not received any financial support from the government.

Unfortunately, according to Melis, the captured adult stallions cannot be placed in the Donkey Sanctuary, even if they are neutered, because they will attack other males confined with them. Donkey Sanctuary Bonaire proposes to neuter these stallions and then set them free again on the island, or have them euthanized by the vet.

Donkey Sanctuary Bonaire is a non-profit organization whose primary objective is to offer safety and protection for all donkeys on Bonaire. At the moment over 400 donkeys are being cared for in the sanctuary. They are provided with food, drinking water and medical care and have plenty of space and freedom. All male donkeys in the sanctuary are neutered to control the number of donkeys. More info at [www.donkeysanctuary.com](http://www.donkeysanctuary.com)

The sanctuary estimates the number of wild donkeys on Bonaire at approximately 200. These stray donkeys are in constant danger. Every year donkeys die from starvation, dehydration, illness and (road) accidents, they say. ■ G.D./Press releases



Marina Melis



Wilna Groenenboom photo

Anja Romeijnders from Sunbelt Realty, President of the TCB Board, addressed the workshop participants.

# "Extra" is Baaack!

On July 9, 2004, on Klein Bonaire a female loggerhead sea turtle named "Extra" was fitted with a satellite transmitter by Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire (STCB) staff. The very next day she began her 1,754 km (1,090 mi) migration off the coast of Honduras.

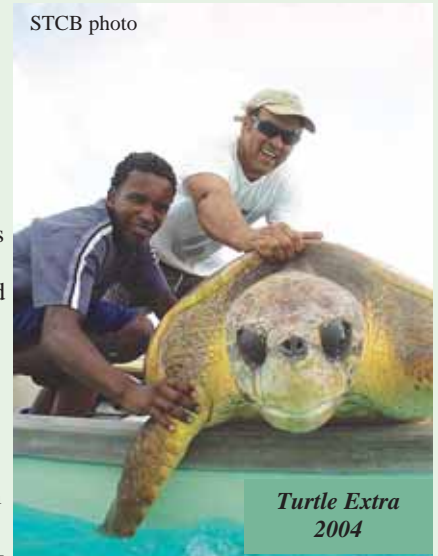
On July 1, 2012, sightings of a large loggerhead sea turtle with a small device secured to its carapace (shell) were reported off Klein Bonaire. The STCB team investigated and identified "Extra" resting and swimming on the coral reef surrounding Klein Bonaire. The device, remnants of her satellite transmitter, were easily removed from her carapace by the team. Satellite transmitters stop working after some time for different reasons: the antennas break, they run out of batteries, or sometimes they fall from the shell, especially as the turtle grows. A turtle's shell grows from inside out just like fingernails do, but growth in adult sea turtles is very slow and that explains why the transmitters can stay attached to the turtle after so many years.

The sighting of "Extra" is not only a heartwarming story for Bonaire but also very important for the knowledge base of Bonaire's sea turtles. "Extra" is nesting once again on Klein Bonaire, which helps confirm the hypothesis that female turtles return to the same nesting beach for their entire adult life (and usually the same beach where they themselves were born). Loggerheads nest with intervals of two to three years, suggesting that this is the third time "Extra" has returned to nest on Klein Bonaire since the transmitter was fitted.

In 2004 "Extra" had her four flippers intact, however, now she is missing half of her right front, possibly from a shark attack. Luckily, she didn't lose it completely and is still swimming and nesting successfully. So far this season "Extra" has laid three nests on Klein Bonaire and is expected to lay at least one more before she returns to her feeding home off the coast of Honduras.

STCB would like to thank Woodwind Sail and Snorkeling for reporting the sighting of this turtle and participating in the quest to recover the transmitter. Also volunteers Dee, Tina and Richard who are always ready to help protect Bonaire's sea turtles. And last but not least we thank "Extra" for carrying this device and providing valuable information that can be used to share with our international partners to enhance sea turtle conservation in the Caribbean. ■ Mabel Nava, Manager Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire

STCB photo



Turtle Extra 2004

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## TCB Holds International Marketing Workshop

Earlier this month the TCB held a Marketing Workshop in cooperation with the Chamber of Commerce to help make everybody aware of the importance of marketing and how the island can use marketing to its advantage. Specialists from North and South America and Europe, knowledgeable of their respective areas, explained how marketing works for them how joint efforts can make the whole world aware that Bonaire is the vacation place to be.

The workshop covered the following topics:

- What is marketing?
- Why is it important for a small business to join marketing efforts?
- How can you use marketing?
- What are the different marketing tools?
- What is the difference between B2B and B2C shows?
- How does a show work and how can we create added value to our exhibition presence?
- The need to work together ■ Press release



# 8th Annual Bonaire Heineken Jazz Festival

Coming Friday, July 27, through Sunday, July 29



Popular stars, big names, diverse music – jazz, bachata, creole. It's all there at the Jazz Festival coming soon. The ambiance can't be beat: music under the stars, on the shores of the sea.

The MC is the gorgeous, talented and no-stranger-to-the-Jazz Festival, **Merietza Haakmat**.

Friday night is the opening night at the historic Ft. Oranje on the waterfront. It's **Jazz and Poetry night** with names from the ABC islands – **Gaby Mercera Trio (Bonaire), Hershel Rosario Trio and Irma Philbert (Curaçao) and the Frankie Yanga Trio (Aruba)**.

Saturday night's **Main Concert** will be on the beach at Plaza with artists **Rina Mushonga and her Band from Zimbabwe, Dutch saxophone player, Candy Dulfer, and Bachata King, Yoska "El Prabu" Sarante from the Dominican Republic**.

On Sunday on the "lawn" at Divi will be a free **Jam Fest** with **Rina Mushonga and others including young talent from Bonaire**.

Tickets now available on the website [www.Bonairejazz.com](http://www.Bonairejazz.com) or at hotels Plaza, Divi, Rocheline, Addo's Books, Sunbelt Realty, Rains Fishes, Little Havana, Chat 'n Browse. Friday night's performance is \$15, Saturday night's show is \$50.

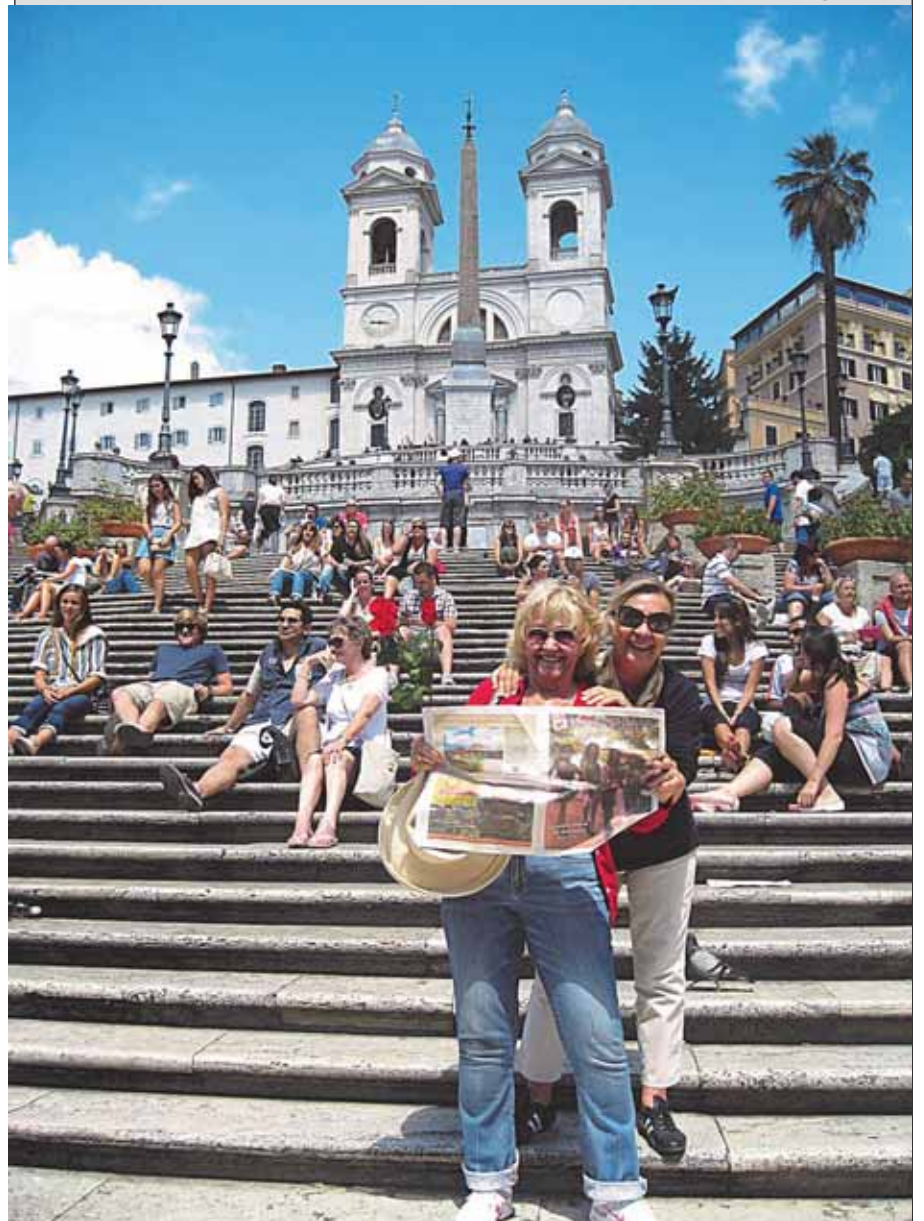
Please remember that this is a non-profit event. Getting good performers is expensive and only a small amount comes from ticket sales. It's the sponsors that carry the bulk of the costs. ■ *L.D./Press release*

**Main Sponsor: Heineken.**  
**Supporting sponsors: Akkerman's Auto, Divi Flamingo Resort & Casino, Maduro & Curiel's Bank, Mega Hit FM, Plaza Resort Bonaire, Rocargo Services, NV, Prins Bernard Cultuurfonds, Sunbelt Realty, Telbo, Bonaire Tours, Breathe IT, It Rains Fishes, Kontiki Beach Club, Mondrian Bonaire, Hotel Rochaline, Spice Beach Club, TCB, Van den Tweel Supermarket.**

**Yoskar "El Prabu" Sarante** is a prominent Dominican "bachatero." Born in 1970, he's one of the most popular singers of the new Bachata of Santo Domingo in the Dominican Republic. Yoskar says as a child he would walk with his father in parks and public squares singing while his father accompanied him on guitar. That's how they made their living. He took his first successful steps into the merengue with the International Grupo Melao, a merengue band in the Dominican Republic. Sarante has participated in several competitions for children, highlighting the most popular program of the season, "Mundo Infantil." He works with the Nueva Bachata movement, and has worked with Bachata Tipico and The Rough Guide to Bachata. He was invited to sing for the Mayor at the New York Mets Stadium, which gained him some acclaim in the US. He is now widely known internationally, and his bachata music deals with romantic topics.

Ad sponsored by: **101.1 MEGA FM** Feel the Music!

## Picture Yourself With The Reporter in Rome, Italy



**R**eporter editor **Laura DeSalvo** with **Elizabeth Wigny** (former owner of Croccantino's Restaurant in Bonaire, Bonaire Special Olympics Coach, and organizer of the Special Olympics Walk-a-Thon) at the **Spanish Steps in Rome**. Elizabeth is now living in Rome, dividing her time between there, Tuscany and Amsterdam, with visits to her beloved Bonaire. Laura was lucky enough to spend a couple of weeks visiting Elizabeth and seeing and tasting nearly everything Italian. ■

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# WHAT'S HAPPENING

## CLOSE-IN EVENTS

**Saturday, July 21—Underwater Cleanup** sponsored by Dive Friends Bonaire, South Pier 10 am



**July 27, 28, 29— Bonaire Heineken Jazz Festival**— Popular stars, big names, diverse music – jazz, bachata, creole. The ambiance can't be beat: music under the stars, on the shores of the sea. More on page 15  
**Friday night Jazz & Poetry**  
**Saturday night Main Concert** on the beach at Plaza  
**Sunday** on the "lawn" at Divi- free Jam Fest with Rina Mushonga and others including young talent from Bonaire.

Tickets now available on the website [WWW.Bonairejazz.com](http://WWW.Bonairejazz.com).



**Sunday, July 29- Wild For Life Party**, Wilhelmina Park, 3 pm For All The Kids On Bonaire!



**August 2-5 —Prokids Windsurfing Championships** at Sorobon.

**August 18-25—Wounded Warriors** in Bonaire

**September 1, 2- First International Yoga and Ayurveda Convention** on Bonaire. Presented by Vivek Yogi from Rishilesh, India, at Landhouse Wanapa

## 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 hrs 1:00 pm - 7:00 pm entrance fee 1.00 per child & 1.50 per adult. Saturdays open for free. Closed on Sundays.

### Saturdays

- **We Dare To Care Playground Bazaar**, Flea market tables are \$10.00 except first Saturday of the month when they are free. Open 9 am - 2 pm. - Call Marissa - 701 1103 Everything for sale, old & new: household items, plants, baby things, clothes & shoes. Food riot, BBQ. All funds go toward maintaining the Park.

- **Marshe di Kunukeru (Farmers' Market) 1st Saturday of the month**, at Kriabon, Kaminda Jato Baco #55, next to Aquamarin School, 8 am to 12 noon.

- **Marshe di Kunukeru (Farmers' Market) Last Saturday of the month** at Pakus di Pruga (Animal Shelter's Garage Sale-see below), 8 am-noon

- **Bonaire Animal Shelter's "Garage Sale" Pakus di Pruga—every Saturday**, 8am-5pm. At Kaminda Liberador Simon Bolivar, across from Brandaris Café. Tel. 717-4989

- **Wine Tasting at Antillean Wine Company's warehouse** on Kaya Industria, **Second Saturday of the month**, 7-9 pm. (Always call to make sure it's on: Tel. 560-7539. ) Snacks and tasting of six wines for \$10 per person.

- **Soldachi Tours—See the real Bonaire and be transported back in time.** Learn about the history, culture and nature by Bonaireans from Rincon. Call Maria Koeks for more information—796-7870.

- **Petanque- Jeu de Boules**, Saturdays 2:30 pm Tera Cora ranch. info: 786-0150

### Sundays

- **Kunuku Arawak** - Music, drinks, local food, dancing, 10 am—6 pm. Live music starts at 4 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 prepared by students, under direction of teachers, \$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

### Fridays

- **Happy Hour Crafts Market at Wilhelmina Park**, sponsored by Bonaire Arts and Crafts Association. 5-9 pm.

## FREE SLIDE/VIDEO SHOWS

- **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 **Thursday** evening at 7.30pm. Call 700-7751 or 701-8728

**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 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. 785-0046.

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

## CHURCH SERVICES

**Protestant Congregation of Bonaire:** ( VPGB ), Kralendijk, Plasa Wilhelmina; Sunday service; 10 a.m. in Dutch Rincon, Kaya C.D. Crestian; Sunday service; 8:30 am in Papiamentu/Dutch Children's club, every Saturday from 4:30 till 6 pm in Kralendijk,(annex of the church.) Contact; Marytjin@gmail.com or Daisycoffie@hotmail.com

**International Bible Church**, Kaya Papiago 104, Hato, behind Bon Fysio/Bon Bida Spa & Gym on Kaya Gob. N. De-brot. Sunday 9:00 am Worship service in English; 10:45 am Sunday school for all ages. Tuesday 7:30 pm Adult bible study class. 717-8377 for more info or ride [bonaireibc@yahoo.com](mailto:bonaireibc@yahoo.com)

**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 Sunday mornings 10am to 11:30am. Bible studies in English 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: Information: Call 701-9522 .

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

## Who's Who on The Bonaire Reporter

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**The Bonaire Reporter**, George DeSalvo, Publisher. Laura DeSalvo, Editor in Chief. Address: P. O. Box 407, Bonaire, Dutch Caribbean. Available on-line at: [www.bonairereporter.com](http://www.bonairereporter.com) *Published every two weeks*

**Reporters:** Siomara Albertus, Caren Eckrich, Rose Feng, Corine van der Hout, Greta Kooistra, Jane Madden Disko, Mabel Nava, Dean Regas, Juliana Schroeger, Michael Thiessen

Unattributed photos are by the editor or publisher.

**Distribution:** Marlene & Co. (Playa), Yuchi Molina (Rincon), Divi-Divi Airline, Ava Rose Wuyts (mailing)

**Housekeeping:** JRA.

**Printed by:** DeStad Drukkerij, Curaçao

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**THE SPOTLIGHT**  
IS ON  
**SGB HIGH SCHOOL**  
THEME WEEK

This month you probably have seen a lot of SGB pupils in downtown Kral-



Author Rose Feng surrounded by SGB students



Elyane Paul (center) Corah Kooistra (left) and other crew members of the Foundation Against Child Abuse Curaçao.

endijk since they are on their summer vacation from the only high school on Bonaire by the name of SGB Scholen Gemeenschap Bonaire. But before the past school year 2011-1012 ended, the pupils of SGB have enjoyed for the second time Theme week.

This year the theme week of the department of Junior College at the SGB took place one week after the exams, June 18 - 22. For this theme week, several guest speakers were invited to deliver an educational workshop or course. Ms Elyane Paul, unit director of Junior College, made a diverse program for the theme week. There were over 10 different courses, workshops and activities given such as **Do Not Let The Past Decide Your Future** by Rosa di Sharon, **Diverse Themes About Abuse Of Children, Youth Crime, Piercings, Tattoos And Gangs, How Social Are You? Child And Sex** by the Institute of Child Abuse Curaçao, **Domestic Violence By Victims' Help Centre Bonaire, Make Me Smart Quiz** by Mirayca Celestijn & Josselien Bernabela, **Make A Beat** By Robbie Swinkels, **Make Art** by Lennert Vonk, **Make Nice** by Monica & Fredlyn. Some of the workshops/courses were taught by teachers and other staff member of the SGB

personnel. I also collaborated by giving the workshop **Learn Chinese**.

At the end of the week I have spoken to two teachers of Junior College regarding this theme week and these were perceptions.

First, I talked to **Maarten Ketelaars**, who in the next school year will be teaching the renamed three-in-one subject NST *Natuurkunde, Scheikunde & Techniek*, — Physics, Chemistry & Science.

When I questioned Mr Ketelaars about his general view on the theme week, he replied: "I think it was nice, good and interesting. It was a pleasant way to wrap up the school year in an educational way and yet interesting for the pupils."

I also asked him what he liked most of the theme week. Maarten answered: "It was a success and I definitely think it should be repeated in the next school year. The problem is that the school is faced with obligatory education and after the pupils took their exams, they do not willingly go to school afterwards. By offering this theme week idea, the pupils still get another week of education while having fun at it as well."

I asked him for some words of advice "I found the theme week very amusing, entertaining and yet also educational. The SGB is a better school now than before and we try our best to respond to the pupils by keeping a healthy balance between their demands and what's possible within our resources while maintaining it educational and fun."

My other interviewee was **Valerie Anthony**, Papiamentu teacher, who was asked the same questions. She commented,

"It was an interesting week and also to my opinion a nice way to create awareness among our pupils in some alarming matters happening in our society nowadays."

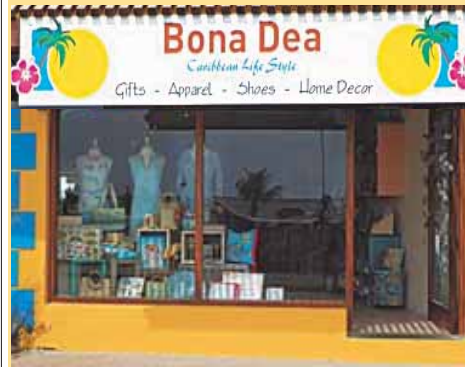
As I raised my eyebrow, she got the questioning look and elaborated further: "The workshop about STDs is an educational lesson for the pupils, especially to take into account how these are transmitted, what impact these could have on one's life and most important of all, HOW to prevent it."

Valerie said she "was amazed with the behavior of the pupils, they behaved really well considering it was a whole week and they do not get a grade for it -but their presence was compulsory. The other interesting workshop was the one about Abuse of Children. This was a real eye-opener."

Ms Anthony's concluded: "Theme week has been a tremendous week for both the pupils and teachers of SGB. I am glad that the majority of the pupils attended with a lot of curiosity and enthusiasm as well as some teachers who actively participated in the workshops."

I would have to say that I enjoyed teach-

# New Waterfront Shop



Ilonka van Leerdam

Have you heard of Bona Dea Caribbean Life Style? I bet you have definitely seen the cozy and warm colored shop near the sea boulevard in Kralendijk. It is situated in the Kaya Isla Riba in Kralendijk between Wattaburger and Playa Krioyo near the Notary Office.

Well, let me tell you more about this shop that offers different products like gifts, apparel, shoes, accessories and home décor stuff. It opened on June 14th, 2012. The owner is Ilonka van Leerdam who has been in the retail business for many years. She used to own Best Buddies and Atlantis.

Ms. Ilonka left Bonaire 13 years ago for Aruba to concentrate on raising her son. Now that her son started his university studies in the Netherlands, Ms. van Leerdam chose to come back to Bonaire because this island has always occupied a special place in her heart.

By opening Bona Dea, she finally realized one of her dreams, the location of the shop is chosen in order to respond to the demand of the local people who want to buy something unique and Caribbean. The name Bona Dea means literally Good Goddess in Italian, but you can also derive the Papiamentu words Bon Dia and Bon Idea from it. And to Ilonka, it means all that and more.

If you are looking for a unique gift, a garment for a special occasion or advice on purchasing the right product for a specific person, Bona Dea is the place where all your doubts could be taken away by Ilonka's exquisite expertise. She actually cares for her clients and always provides a service with an authentic smile.

Ilonka hopes to be able to respond to the demand of the local people by offering a diverse selection of goods in Bona Dea. At this moment the store has wide variety of merchandise and much more is coming soon.

The Bona Dea shop is open daily from 10 a.m. till 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. till 6.30 p.m. except on Sundays. ■Rose Feng

ing at the SGB and being part of the Junior College pupils 'closing' classes which formed the theme week. **Elyane Paul** did a marvelous job putting such a diverse theme week together and it was nice to experience a nice, healthy, professional collaboration from her team. When I ran out of booklets to distribute to the pupils, the personnel of the SGB was so kind to make sure I get enough copies the next day. What surprised me was that each class I had, came with their mentor. I later understood that this was only during theme week. During the school year normally the mentor who is also a teacher, teaches his/her class and does not walk with his/her own class. The mentors participated enthusiastically in my workshop. And of course not all the pupils were angels, I am not saying that some were devils neither. I would say that I've had a few scholars that obviously lacked attention at home or were used to be the center of atten-

tion and loved negative attention. Those individuals disturbed a bit of the peace the classroom for those who were interested in the workshop. But all and all, I must say that although nowadays teens are a handful, they are also very smart and up to date with all the newest (electronic) gadgets, this augments their general knowledge on many levels.

I hope you pupils enjoy your summer holiday because it is coming to an end and I wish you all lots of luck for the next school year which is just around the corner. For those who graduated last year, congratulations and keep up the good work; for those who will be seniors next August, go for it; YES you can do it, too;) ■Rose Feng



## Sudoku Puzzle

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

## Sudoku Solution

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



# Pet of the Week

When "Eppo" first arrived at the Bonaire Animal Shelter, he spent most of his time hiding behind his mom. As an "only" kitten he didn't play much with the other kittens and preferred to play with mom. But Eppo has evolved...and what a difference a month makes! After watching and waiting, Eppo has emerged from his shell and become a handsome, playful and affectionate young cat. He is the ring leader of kitten play and a hunter of extraordinary talent. He has taught all the young ones the finer techniques of kitten play-fighting that he learned from his mom. When play time is over, he literally takes them under his wing and watches over the bunch with his arms around them during nap time. He has recently revealed his secret desire for human interaction....belly rubs and ear scratches while you sing to him! Eppo has both personality and looks. He has soft, semi-long fur with a striking black and grey bushy tail. His nose is dark grey with a tiny spot of pink right in the center. And those eyes!...grey green with tiny flecks of blue. Eppo is about five months old, healthy, vaccinated and ready to add fun and feline affection to a good home. He and his shelter mates are waiting for a visit for those interested in adopting a cat or dog. Shelter hours are



Eppo

Monday through Saturday, 8am to 1 pm and 3 to 5 pm. Adoption fees include current vaccinations and sterilization.. Tel. 717-4989. ■ Jane Madden-Disko

### Shelter News:

\***Want a good laugh** and see some of the Shelter pets and people in action? Go to the Shelter website [WWW.BonaireAnimalShelter.com](http://WWW.BonaireAnimalShelter.com) and watch **Episode 12**, the last in the Shelter video series. It's called "One Year in 5 Minutes," and was made thanks to Keys Real Estate, Sea Element Lodge and Zonig Bonaire Bungalows. The other 11 episodes are on the website too.

\***Can this be true?** Since summer began, we were told that people are bringing in their pets to the Shelter, saying, "We're going on vacation. We don't want this pet anymore." And a larger than normal number of pets are being dropped off at the cage (*Kouchi di Bestia*) outside the Shelter entrance. ■

Laura DeSalvo

# Did You Know...

How to find your way into the open ocean and across the North Atlantic Gyre just minutes after being born? Well, lucky for the loggerhead turtles in Florida, because they are equipped with a built-in GPS system to help them with the journey. Did you know that loggerhead turtle hatchlings are able to orient themselves based on Earth's magnetic fields? Little is known about the specific receptors that turtles use to sense magnetic poles; however, their ability to navigate to "nursery areas" in the open ocean displays an innate sense of direction.

Loggerhead hatchlings from the east coast of Florida use the Gulf Stream to direct them into the North Atlantic Gyre, where they can seek out specific nursery areas. What is more impressive is that hatchlings from the west coast of Florida end up in the same nurseries. A study was conducted in order to better understand how the western hatchlings are able to complete the long journey. It was found that the newborn turtles use their innate guidance system to find currents that facilitate transportation around the Florida peninsula and into the North Atlantic Gyre. Not only this, but once in the Gyre, they are able to detect both the angle and



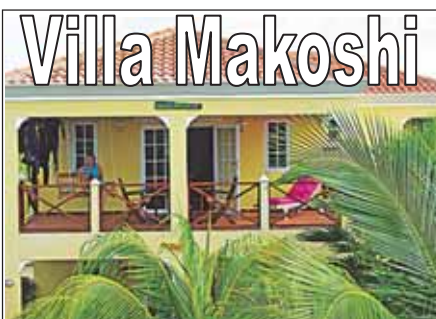
intensity of the earth's magnetic field and use it to estimate their exact location in relation to nursery sites. How's that for the adventure of a lifetime? ■ Julianna Schroeger

Edited by Caren Eckrich

Schroeger is a marine biology major at the University of North Carolina Wilmington. She studied yellow band disease during the spring 2012 semester at the CIEE Research Station Bonaire. Her favorite part about Bonaire was the manta rays she encountered.



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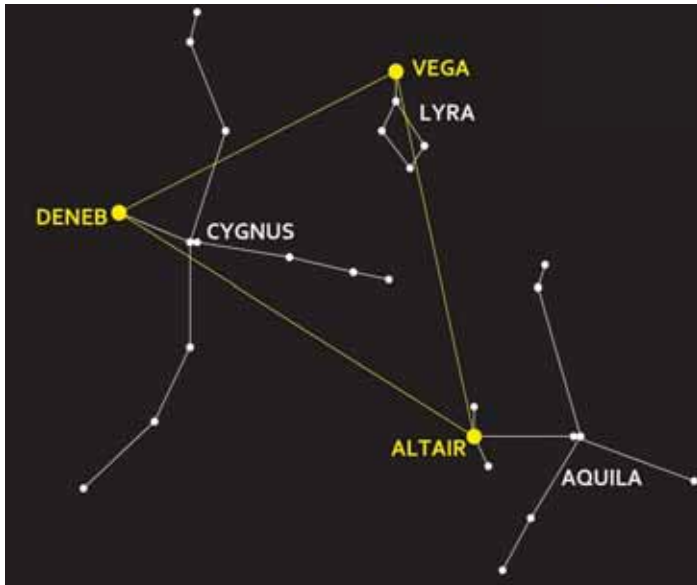


# BONAIRE SKY PARK\*

\*to find it... just look up

## THE SUMMER TRIANGLE

Next week after it gets good and dark out the three wonderfully bright stars of the **Summer Triangle** ride high in the Sky Park. And although they look like they are all the same to the naked eye, nothing could be farther from the truth.



During the last two weeks of July around 10 pm face east. Look way up high in the east, not far from overhead, where you'll see three bright stars, the brightest of which is the first point in the Summer Triangle, and the closest to overhead, **Vega**, the fifth brightest star in the entire sky, shining at what astronomers call 0 magnitude which makes it roughly 2 1/2 times brighter than the other two bright stars of the Summer Triangle, the first magnitude stars **Altair** and **Deneb**. And if you connect these three very bright stars with lines you'll see where the name Summer Triangle comes from.

Now each star is the brightest star of the constellation to which it belongs. Vega belongs to the constellation **Lyra the Harp**. Altair is the brightest star of **Aquila the Eagle** and Deneb is the bright tail star of **Cygnus the Swan**. We can learn a lot about how bright and how far away stars really are just looking at these three. You'd think that Vega, since it is the brightest, is the closest but it's not. Vega is so far away it takes its light 25 years to reach us. Which is why we say Vega is 25 light years away. It is almost 1/3 farther away than dimmer Altair, which is the closest of the three at only 17 light years away, which means we see the light that left it only 17 years ago.

So why is Vega so much brighter? Simple. Vega is a much bigger and much hotter star than Altair. Compared to our almost one-million-mile-wide **Sun**, Vega is almost

2 and 1/2 times as wide, whereas Altair is only one and 1/3 times the width of our Sun. So next time you're out with friends star gazing, if someone in your group is 17 years old you'll be able to say, "Hey, look at Altair. We're seeing the light tonight that left Altair when you were born." and if someone in your group is 25 years old simply say, "Hey look at Vega. The light we're seeing tonight is the light that left it during the year you were born." Kind of a nifty way to time travel huh?

But what about Deneb, which is only slightly dimmer than the closest of the three, Altair? Well it is a whopping 1500 light years away, which again means we are now seeing the light that left it 1500 years ago. So if Deneb is almost as bright as 17 light year away Altair it must be a much, much bigger and brighter star and it is. Deneb is a whopping 116 times the diameter of our Sun. This means that Deneb is as much wider than the Sun as our Sun is wider than the **Earth**.

In fact, as astronomer Fred Schaaf puts it, Deneb releases as much light in one night as our Sun does in a century. And if Deneb were as close as Vega it would be as bright as a crescent **Moon**. How bright is that?

So get out next week and look for the three bright stars of the Summer Triangle: Vega, Altair and Deneb riding high in the east. It's fascinating plus it's fun! ■

Dean Regas



# THE STARS HAVE IT

By Astrologer Michael Thiessen

End-July 2012

**ARIES** (Mar. 21- April 20) Someone you live with is ready to play emotional games. Travel could bring you the adventure and excitement you require. You need to enjoy the company of those who enjoy the same pastimes. Be careful; your ideas are good but make sure that you're realistic and start off on solid ground. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Wednesday.

**TAURUS** (Apr. 21- May 21) You may be up for some changes in your home. Coworkers may not be giving you all the pertinent information. The advice you get this month may be based on false information. Pleasure trips will ease the tension between you and your mate. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Wednesday.

**GEMINI** (May 22-June 21) Your tendency to dramatize may be a little much for your partner to take constantly. Don't overlook that fact that someone you care about may be hiding something. A day at the beach may satisfy the whole family. Curl up with a good book or go for a drive in the country. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Wednesday.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22) Don't be too eager to buy things for those who really don't deserve it. Problems with females you live or work with will try your patience and cause temper flare ups. Don't cause a scene, but when you get home let your partner know how you feel and why. Sudden changes regarding friendships are likely to occur if you have tried to change others. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Wednesday.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug 22) Don't get so wrapped up in being rich that you overlook the fact that your plan may not be as solid as you thought. Spend some quality time with your lover. You are best to stick to yourself this month. You can accomplish a lot if you deal with other people's money or possessions this month. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Wednesday.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) Focus on using your creative abilities in other ways. Concentrate on work. Sudden romantic infatuations could lead to a significant and prosperous connection. Educational pursuits can bring interesting, helpful people. Your luckiest events this month will occur

on a Wednesday.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) Be careful while traveling. You must be extremely careful not to let relatives or friends interfere in your personal life. Any renovation or decorating to your home should include the whole family. You are ahead of your time, and trying to stay in one spot could be asking too much. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Tuesday.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) Go out with friends and avoid the situation on the home front. Do not sign contracts or get involved in any uncertain financial deals. Do your job and don't ask for favors. If you're feeling uncertain, spend some time alone and reevaluate your motives as well as your needs. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Wednesday.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) Don't let peers distract you or push their work your way. You will impress others with your initiative and ability to accomplish while on short business trips. A long, quiet walk alone may help you sort out your thoughts. You won't have much time for your mate this month. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Tuesday.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) You may find that family members may not be too easy to get along with. Not everything you hear will be legitimate. Your boss won't be too thrilled if you leave things unfinished. In return, the satisfaction you get is enough for you. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Sunday.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) People trying to entice you to join in will be less than trustworthy. Travel will be fun, but expect it to cost you. Property deals will pay big dividends. Consider making pleasure trips or participating in entertainment that will require energy. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Thursday.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) Get together with friends who like to participate in indoor sports. Based on your excitement, serious-minded individuals will be more than interested in backing your ideas. Use discrimination and play hard to get. Don't be too quick to judge your position or surroundings at work. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Thursday. ■

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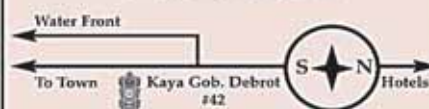
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