

**It's Still
FREE**

BONAIRE

September 16-30, 2013; Year 20, Issue 18

The REPORTER

BES Island News Too

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



**Bonaire Flag Day
September 6**

The RCN Press Office issued a formal press release on Friday, the 13th of September: "The Kingdom Representative



for the public entities of Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba, Mr. Wilbert Stolte (photo), has informed Minister Home Affairs & Kingdom Relations Plasterk, that he wants to resign from his post as of May 1st 2014. His current position is Crown Representative (*Rijksvvertegenwoordiger*), the highest Dutch office in the Caribbean islands of Bonaire, Sint Eustatius and Saba. At that time (May 1, 2014) he will have held the office for three years, the typical period that also applies to government officials who are sent to the Caribbean Netherlands. Mr. Stolte will continue to execute his job with full dedication until his resignation."

The Minister made no mention of the problems that Stolte has been facing in the past months, especially in Bonaire where he got in trouble with Island Governor Lydia Emerencia, part of the Island Council, Dutch civil servants stationed on the island and the Public Prosecutor's Office.

His resignation is in the wake of criticism of his actions both as *Rijksvvertegenwoordiger* and Treasurer of the SONA Fonds alleging mismanagement of accounts amounting to €270 million in development money. Stolte held the SONA Foundation (Development Foundation Netherlands Antilles) position from 2008 to 2011. OLAF, the European Anti - Fraud Office, is investigating possible malpractice with development funds by the foundation SONA at the time Stolte was treasurer there.

Minister Plasterk emphasized that there were no indications that Stolte had been involved in corruption. The Minister has appointed a mediator to ensure a "normalization of relations" between the Executive Council of the islands, the Lieutenant Governor, Island Council and Stolte.

► **The Tourism Corporation Bonaire (TCB) reports that the tourism in Bonaire increased by almost 6% in the first six months of 2013** compared to the same period last year. The figures include international and regional visitors between January 1 and June 30.

A total of 83,891 international passengers arrived in Bonaire in the first six months – an increase of 4,583. Tourism from America was up 4.61%. Delta Airlines from Atlanta flew in slightly more passengers (2.6%) while the most notable decrease of 6.66% was from Continental/United Airlines.

TCB Director Ethsel Pieterella expects Continental and United Airlines to show an increase in the second half of this year due to TCB's promotion campaign "September Sellabration."

United Airlines has continued flying to Bonaire this year in the month of September. The campaign already shows a full occupancy of the additional flights this month.

The European figures for the first six months of 2013 show 15,791 passengers compared to 14,870 in 2012 – an increase of 6.19%. Arkefly from Amster-

dam increased its arrival figures by 17.57%. As of November, this airline will add a Tuesday flight to Flamingo Airport. This can mean 4,000 extra guests per year in Bonaire. KLM increased its number of passengers by 2.38% and as of this summer season, is also flying to Bonaire on Mondays. This means another 4,000 extra visitors per year to Bonaire.

TCB reported a very positive growth of 8.24% from regional airlines (Aruba, Curaçao, Venezuela, Brazil, Trinidad, Suriname and the Dominican Republic). A total of 55,858 regional arrivals were registered in the first six months of 2013, compared to 51,604 in 2012.

► **A limited survey of the Bonaire Consumers Union (Unkobon)**



shows that the prices of fresh vegetables and fruits on Bonaire are on average 47% higher than comparable rates in Curaçao. Although a limited bit of research, it gives, according to Unkobon a disturbing indication of extremely high prices on Bonaire that get in the way of a healthy diet.

During the last week of May 2013, the *Fundashon pa Konsumidó* of Curaçao did a large number of food price observations on Curaçao. Unkobon made price observations around the same period in 13 supermarkets as an addition to its activities as ABB (Sales Tax) monitor. The survey figures are a result of that comparison.

► **InselAir has big plans to fill the void left by the bankruptcy and cessation of DAE flights.** InselAir Director Edward Heerenveen confirmed that, "Our company is literally operating overtime to handle all the new employment applications. InselAir received up to 100 of these. In one week we've answered all and hired the vast majority of technical personnel and pilots. Many of the workers, especially flight attendants and ground-handling personnel, are still in the application process."

The director said InselAir had already experienced a huge expansion to cover cancelled DAE service and that the company aims to increase the number of flights. Passengers observed that some Insel Air prices had increased.

► **The Dutch Caribbean islands may miss out on 23 million euros if the European Union continues to block funding because of reported irregularities in the way The Netherlands distributed its contributions.** The Dutch funding agency under attack, SONA, is taking steps to block the European Union Commission from doing just that.

Since 2004 the *Stichting Ontwikkeling Nederlandse Antillen* (SONA) has manages the cooperation funds which the Dutch Ministry of Interior and Kingdom Affairs (BZK) distributed to the islands of the (former) Netherlands Antilles. In 2007 the European Commission approached SONA to manage the 9th EDF Fund for these islands on its behalf. Each year both the Dutch government and the European Union submit SONA and its executive body USONA to an audit which up to now has always resulted in a statement of approval followed by a formal discharge.

But last year the examination office of the European Commission (OLAF) investigated the implementation of the €20 million Bonaire sewerage project. This was based on a

complaint of a dismissed employee of one the supervisory companies.

The current status of the investigation is that there is no suspicion of malfeasance towards USONA and SONA and that there is no interim report or a completed report. Although the investigation has not yet been completed, nevertheless a message came through The Netherlands from Brussels that SONA should not be allowed to manage the 10th EDF Fund on behalf of the European Commission. OLAF said it has never been consulted on the far-reaching steps of the European Commission. The (Dutch) Ministry of Interior and Kingdom Relations in The Hague has requested the European Commission for clarification.



Photo : Laura Offerman
Marieke Knol, Burney Elhage, Boi Antoin and Ethsel Pieterella reveal the artwork for the online cultural database

► **Last week Burney Elhage, Bonaire's Deputy for Economic Affairs and Ethsel Pieterella, Director of the Tourism Corporation Bonaire, announced that the island's marketing budget was increased 50%.** At the same time the go-ahead was given for *Archivo Boneiru*. This is a digital platform that unlocks the Bonaire culture in words and pictures. Led by journalist Bòi Antoin as cultural historian of Bonaire, thousands of digitized pictures have been made available online. Also, film and sound recordings are available on website. <http://www.archivoboneiru.com>



► **King Willem-Alexander and Queen Máxima will visit the Caribbean part of the Kingdom in November.** The intention of the visit is that as many people as possible on the islands get the opportunity to see and meet the King and Queen. The King and Queen will be accompanied during their visit by the Minister of the Interior Affairs and Kingdom Relations, Dr. R.H.A. Plasterk.

The tentative schedule is as follows:
Tuesday November 12th arrival at St. Maarten.
Wednesday November 13th visit to St. Maarten
Thursday November 14th visit to Saba
Friday November 15th visit to St. Eustatius
Saturday November 16th visit to Bonaire
Sunday November 17th private day
Monday November 18th and Tuesday 19th visit to Curaçao
Wednesday November 20th and Thursday 21st visit to Aruba.

This Week's Stories

Ismael Soliano	5
Jr. Rangers Clean Lagoon	5
Letters to the Editor: Downtown Parking	7
Word On The Street (new)	7
Behind the Indian Inscriptions	8
Tourism History #15 "LD" Gerharts	9
September Health Month	10
Founding Bonaire's National Choir	11
RCN Hosts the National Day of the Press	12
Goat Cheese Recipe-Portobello	12
The Most Expensive Sewer in the World	15
Readers' Input Needed	15
Sean Paton -A Pirate's Tale	16
Memorable Meals-Bon Pika	16
A Helmet For A Promise	16
Support for the Youth Choir	18

Departments

Flotsam & Jetsam	2
On the Island Since – Marianne Zengerink	4
Bonaire On Wheels- - Yamaha Twin	6
Picture Yourself– Machu Pichu, Peru	12
Sudoku, Sudoku Answer Classifieds	13
Tide Table, Sunrise & Sunset Times, Moon Phase	13
Shopping & Dining Guides	14
What's Happening, Masthead, Pet of the Week (Princess Paula)	18
Shelter News (Book Fair, Auction Alert, Adoptions)	18
Bonaire Sky Park (How Dark Is the Sky Park and More?)	19
The Stars Have It (Astrology)	19

How to contact us
Find Bonaire Reporter on Facebook. Press "Like"

Letters to the Editor:
Reporter@bonairenews.com
Story tip or idea:
info@bonairenews.com
The Publisher:
George@bonairenews.com

Box 407, Bonaire,
Dutch Caribbean
Phone 786-6125, 786-6518
Available on-line at:
www.bonairereporter.com

Printed Every Fortnight,
On-line every day, 24/7
Next edition printing on
Sunday, September 29
Story and Ad deadline:
Friday, September 25*

► **By the end of 2014 there will be no donkey mares and foals roaming free on Bonaire if the plan agreed to by the Island Government and Donkey Sanctuary succeeds.** Beginning this November wild donkeys will be collected from around Bonaire by a specialized veterinarian working with a stun gun. Any incurably sick or injured donkeys will be humanely put down. All stallions, young and old, will be castrated. The adult stallions after castration be released, equipped with microchips and ear tags. Pregnant mares will get extra

(Continued on page 3)

Flotsam and Jetsam (Continued from page 2)



care. The remaining foals and females will be confined in the Donkey Sanctuary whose population is expected to grow from 400 to 700. Sanctuary owner Marina Melis and her supporters are convinced that this plan is the best solution for the donkeys on Bonaire.

The Sanctuary will provide feed, hay, water and medical care, while providing space and freedom. Because there will be only a very small number of donkeys roaming on the island, there will be less of a donkey nuisance, traffic hazard and damage to nature. And because the donkeys can no longer reproduce, the population will naturally decrease and eventually, in the distant future, no more donkeys. Donkeys can live to about 40 years old.

Not all the costs for the expansion of the Sanctuary and lifelong care of the donkeys in the Sanctuary will be provided by government, so a very significant amount must still be provided by donations. Your gifts and donations are tax deductible.

► **The hunger strike at the Bonaire Prison (JICN) has ended.** All hunger strik-

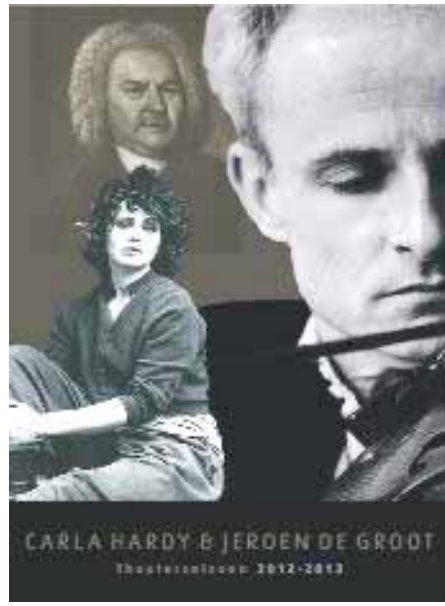
ers within JICN ended their action on September 2. The four prisoners who were on hunger strike were given positive motives to terminate the action. Because of the (mainly) personal issues of prisoners there will be no further announcements about the content of the settlement.



► **On Friday, September 5th, the Dia di Boneiru (Bonaire Dday) Race was sailed.** Winner in the sunfish A class was **Sipke Stapert**. The younger participants did surprisingly well. **Ruben van Eldik** (16 years) and **Constantijn Botterop** (14) finished not far behind the winner in second and third. **Ook Tode Bryan, Paul JovnAcosta and Nils van Eldik** also performed very well. **Marco Wiessing** was winner in the B class. The new sails were presented sponsored by **Krioyo Paint and Jibe City**. The picture shows the sail sponsors with the board of the Bonaire Sailing School Association.

► **On Friday 20th September the Classical Music Board Bonaire will host "Bach Stress" at 8pm at Plaza Resort Bonaire. The event will be in Dutch.**

As footnote to the life of one of the greatest European composers, Bach's solo music for violin and his letters are performed by



"Bach Stress." Carla Hardy has written lyrics to the letters Bach wrote to his son, Carl Philipp Emanuel, monarchs, church and town officials. Bach's music is played by violinist Jeroen de Groot.

From the dramatic fragments performed, a so far unknown picture of Bach is created. How he failed to make ends meet, his frustration, his organ inspections, how he quarreled and amassed honor and fame are all brought to life by "Bach Stress."

The selected music for solo violin completes this image, thus setting the scene for a new work of art.

The duo introduce a form of music theatre which combines for lovers of Bach's work a beautiful rendition of violin solos with letters from his personal estate. "Bach Stress" unravels the mystery of Bach!

Tickets for the concert at: Chat 'n' Browse, Addos Books and Toys, Flamingo Bookstore and at the Hall. Or the **Classical Music Board Bonaire website**. To avoid

disappointment order the tickets in advance.

Ticket price \$20, student tickets with ID, \$10. For more information and/or tickets: telephone 786-0455 or visit the Classical Music Board Bonaire website.

► **In case you are wondering the Bonaire Regatta will continue** with a full racing program but a curtailed street festival. The Regatta runs from October 6-12. The street festival begins on Wednesday, the 9th.

► **Welcome to our newest advertiser, the Unbelievable Restaurant.** It offers spectacular views from its rooftop terrace, as well as great food and home style service. See their ad on page 12.

► **Don't forget** to tell the shops, businesses and restaurants you visit to advertise in *The Reporter*. ■ G./L.D.

In its last edition *The Reporter* made an unfortunate error in reporting that the current Miss Curaçao's name was Ayanette Meyer Statia. Ms. Meyer Statia was indeed Miss Curaçao, but in 2002, not 2013! The mistake was made because the website of the organizers of the Miss Supranational beauty pageant had removed the name of Miss Supranational Curaçao from their website. A web-search for the 2013 Miss Curaçao erroneously came up with the name of Ms. Meyer Statia.

Ms. Meyer Statia is not the pregnant Miss Curaçao pictured in *The Reporter*. These days she a wife and mother with a successful career, a beauty management business and was Prime Secretary of the country Curaçao in the Schotte government.

The Reporter offers its sincere apologies for its mistake.



CARIBBEAN HOMES
+YACHTS
BONAIRE.COM

UNIQUE DEAL

1 house - 2 apts - 2 studios



7 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, private property, ocean view

Republiek, Kaya Kuarts 2



US\$ 645,000

www.caribbeanhomesbonaire.com phone: (+599) 717 4686

On the Island Since... 1997 and 2010 - Marianne Zengerink



Marianne and her home-made bird bath annex feeder



Marianne and Luuk at their wonderful self designed and put-together greenhouse

I was born on Curacao – my dad is Dutch, my mom from Curacao. And her mom was from St. Martin and she was married to a Dutchman as well. I have three sisters and one brother. My dad retired when he was 50. He had been a detective with the child and vice squad on Curacao. That same year he decided we would all move to Holland. I was 12.

It wasn't the first time I went to Holland, because from when I was four we'd gone on leaves regularly, but this time it was for good. We went by ship and my sister and I stood there crying as we saw our island fading away in the distance. I remember telling my sis, 'Don't cry! We'll be back someday!'

It was 1971 and we went to live right in the center of Amsterdam. It was a bizarre new world! Then my dad wanted to go back to where he came from, the east of Holland. We lived there for a number of years and moved three times until I graduated in social cultural work when I was 22. Then I went to live on my own. When I look back at it – it was a wonderful time. I'd taken guitar and singing lessons and together with a girlfriend we would play music on the streets and we even wrote a theatre play.

I couldn't find a job though. It was another crisis and lots of cutbacks. During that time I got married and I had two beautiful, precious presents: Malou and Stan! I worked as a kindergarten teacher, and when my husband and I broke up nine years later, the kids stayed with me. After the divorce I started working at a special boarding school where children of ethnic minorities were offered a professional education.

My dad had passed away and some time later my mom went to Bonaire for a vacation. When she came back she told us, 'I am going to move to Bonaire!' She bought a house in North di Saliña in 1996 and in October that year my brother Reno came over to help her paint. And I still don't know how he did it," she laughs, "but he came back to Holland with a job on Bonaire! When mama left Holland I'd screamed, 'Mom, leave the door open; I am coming too!' But...Reno was first! He came in January 1997 and then I followed in July.

It felt good that my children would get to know my culture and also I wanted to

show them that there is more to the world than just Holland. You must expand your horizons. For me personally it was like... I wanted to get rid of that feeling of being a 'temporary guest' - because all the years I lived in Holland I felt I was different.

I came here with very little and two children – 11 and nine years old - and no job! But, I was confident that it would be fine. Of course we moved in with my mama and North di Saliña was my introduction to Bonaire, a lovely neighborhood with great people. Soon we found a tiny house in Kaya Maya, behind Bo Toko. It was so small I remember Stan standing in the living room and asking me, 'whose bedroom will this be?' Ha! ha! We didn't have TV but at night we sat on the porch and watched the stars and then... I got a job! First I worked as a group leader at the Maria Höppner Foundation. Then I became a social worker at FKPD. Then I was a family guardian for GVI, the family guardianship institution. I worked there for

“If you have an eye for what’s really important in life, if you can find beauty in little things, then this island offers it all”...

six years.

Then my daughter Malou turned 16 and she was ready to continue her studies in Holland. That's something you know ahead of time when you move here. But, oh boy, let me tell you, there are no words to describe how proud I am of that child! There was no internet and no money to call her on a regular basis, so once a month I bought 30 guilders calling credit and then we could talk for 25 minutes. She did it all by herself and she made it!

And then I met Luuk – who's now my husband,' she grins, 'on Bonaire. He was a single father of two children, Joëlle and Mario, who are almost the same age as my children. They lived in Holland. So, when my son Stan finished high school and wanted to go to Holland, Luuk said, 'He can stay with us! I will guide him.' I thought it was the sweetest thing! Well, I

never thought I would go back to Holland, but I felt I had to go with my son. When I left Holland in 1997, I'd screamed at the top of my lungs, 'You will never see me back!' But...ha ha ha... never say 'never' because in 2006 I was back!

I found a job as a family coach and it turned out that 90% of my clients were Antillean. I understood their culture and I spoke Papiamentu and I always felt like a bridge between the two cultures.

While Stan graduated, Luuk and I got married, something we'd always considered as 'not necessary'. And all the four years I stayed in Holland I felt I was there on only one leg. The other one was firmly planted on Bonaire.

Then I saw a vacancy for an ambulatory care worker at Youth Welfare on Bonaire and I told Luuk, 'I'm going to apply for the job – you never know!' And I was hired! When we were packing up, amidst all the stuff and the boxes, Malou stood in the middle of the room and said with a

that it's written there is proof and we can do something about it. I've decided to put my teeth into it. The report will be presented and there will be training about how to follow up a complaint about child abuse. I was invited to participate in an interview about domestic violence and that's what I am going to do. You cannot alleviate all suffering, but I can contribute my part. And I see my daughter going the same way, because nowadays Malou works at Kas Karko, a replacement home for children.

You know what? I feel so rich! My mom still lives here, my brother Reno lives here and my eldest sister Mena and my other sister Carin and both my children are here.

I work 40 hours per week and I'm doing it with all my heart and soul. But when I'm not working, I'm home. I make mosaics and I love to reuse and recycle stuff. 'Mama's little projects,' the children call it, but I believe that this kind of creativity goes a long way as it makes you inventive and it teaches you to live with little. I also grow my own plants, vegetables and herbs, and I've got three dogs and one husband who supports and complements me! And the most fantastic thing about this guy is that he goes along with my crazy ideas and helps me with it! Ha, ha, ha!

He built me a greenhouse worthy of a queen and anyone interested can look for more information at www.caribbeangreenhouse.com. Luuk is also a guide at the Mangrove Info & Kayak Center and he takes care of all the housework during the week, and soon we are going to be the grandparents of Luuk's daughter's baby and that will be another source of happiness.

This island has given me everything. If you have an eye for what's really important in life, if you can find beauty in little things, then this island offers it all and that's what it did for me – it made me a very happy person. I wasn't born here, but Bonaire is my home." ■

Story & photos by Greta Kooistra



I've worked with children all my life. It's my passion, and when I read the UNICEF report about Bonaire - specifically about child abuse at home- I thought: Now

Ismael Soliano

Our Wonderful Bonairean Sea Scamp

Ismael's school was The Three R's: Rudders, Ropes, and Rigging, the ways of ships and the sea. Romping about the decks of great sailing ships was a thrilling way for a boy to grow up. Ismael went to sea at 14 years old and crewed 12 years aboard the old Dutch sailing schooner *Viouks* followed by *Antilean*, *Paloma*, and eventually smaller sail boats for coastal fishing in his home waters. Like a castaway, the young Ismael Soliano was a thoroughbred of the sea and has probably wrung more salt water from his socks than most of us have ever seen.

Unlike most sailors, Ismael had only one girl, in only one port. *Vela*, his lovely wife, presented him with eight children,



Ismael Soliano



Schooner Viouks

four and four. The girls were all pretty and desirable, while the boys naturally turned to the sea, mostly for fishing, but racing boats for game and fun became second nature.

In 1968 Captain Don raced Ebo Domacasse, a local sailor, for a prize of 27 cases of beer in Bonaire's first Regatta. Don should have known you can't beat a boy in his own back yard, but he grumped a bit and laughingly blamed his boat the *Sislin* for the loss.

Ismael had always coveted the *Sislin*. When Don sailed her onto a rock in 1973, Ismael informed the waterfront that had he been captain of the *Sislin* in that famous race, the race would have been his. Ebo smiled while savoring the thought of another 27 cases of beer. Captain Don challenged, "Well, Ismael, why don't you just buy the boat and show us how good you are? The price is 2,500 guilders."

Ismael scraped *Vela's* cookie jar and came up with only 500 cash. A true rogue, he offered, "That very nice hole in the bottom is easily worth 2,000, but I don't want to buy the hole just now." He gave Don 500 cash, adding, "You keep the hole."

That was spring 1973. It took a year for Ismael to plug the hole and make other secret changes. In the big 1974 Regatta, the island watched a new boat named *Ethienne* slide into the water. Renamed



Patrick Holian photo

Ethienne today

after Ismael's youngest son, the boat sported new white paint, a shiny red bottom, and all new canvas sails.

Ethienne moved out among the others and maneuvered into starting position. Don watched, torn between wishing Ismael the best and hoping that Ismael would not show him up in handling the same boat. As the boats moved greyhound style toward the starting line, Don pressed forward, half wishing the hole to reopen, but watching the hull turn down, scuppers awash, sails smooth and flawless as the bow slid forward with a bone in her teeth. She moved toward the starting line as elegantly as a swan, leaving a perfect wake.

His competitive spirit roused, Don muttered under his breath, "Go, go, for god's sake, Ismael, GO!" Don was on his feet, screaming, as the tip of the bowsprit crossed the starting line at the exact moment the trumpet sounded.

There were moments when Ismael knew concern, but who could ever beat a boy who had learned his Three R's aboard a wonderful sailing ship like the *Viouks*?

That race was Ismael's, as was the next, and the next, until six consecutive races were his, all with the boat with the 2000 guilder hole in its bottom. ■

Captain Don, edited by Linda Cober

Lagoon Beach Successfully Cleaned by STINAPA's Junior Rangers

The Junior Rangers visit Lagoon beach every month to continue the clean up of the beaches and mangrove area.

Lagoon beach has been "adopted" by the STINAPA Junior Rangers and in doing so they have made it their task and responsibility to look after this area. They visit the area at Lagoon every month to remove the rubbish and plastic debris from the beach and the mangroves. After each clean up, SELIBON collects the numerous bags filled with rubbish and takes them to the landfill to be processed. The entire beach used to be littered with debris. Now, after a remarkable effort by the Junior Rangers and volunteers over the past year, it is once again becoming a beautiful part of Bonaire.

It's a difficult and continuous job to keep up, so please volunteer to help the Junior Rangers keep this part of Bonaire clean for us all!

More information can be found on the STINAPA facebook page: [bonaire.stinapa](https://www.facebook.com/bonaire.stinapa). ■ Press release



Before



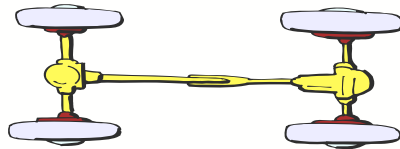
After



BONAIRE ON WHEELS

This is the 129th of a series of Bonaire Reporter articles by J@n –wear a helmet- Brouwer, featuring some of Bonaire's interesting vehicles and persons that are "on wheels."

Up to at least 200 articles!



BRAD LOUTH AND HIS 32 YEARS YOUNG MAROON YAMAHA TWIN

Bonaire/Kralendijk –

It was only in July 1955, some 58 years ago, that the Yamaha Motor Company was founded. Those days some 150 motorcycle producers were struggling for life as after World War II economies developed and more and more people could afford a little car like an English Morris Minor or a German made Volkswagen Beetle. In those days' motorcycles were as black as Ford's Model T. Then Yamaha produced her first 123 cc single-cylinder, two-stroke sprayed in a bright red color. Soon the light weight motorcycle was nicknamed "Aka-tombo," which is Japanese and stands for red dragonfly. With this tiny but powerful machine the mechanics climbed Mount Fuji.

In July 1995, Brad Louth from Connecticut bought his first motorcycle, a maroon colored Yamaha XS400SH, produced in 1981. When, one day, Brad's wife returned from shopping, she found a motorcycle parked in the garage. Needless to say she was a bit surprised, but Brad just smiled. He was happy with his new little toy. He bought the machine for only \$400. It was 14 years old and there were only 3,600 miles on the odometer. So that is about a dollar for every 10 miles or so. Brad only had a driver's license for a car so he had to get his motorcycle "learner's permit." He then had to start practicing figure eights to the left and figure eights to the right and slow speed donuts and so on to get ready for the road test. He also had to learn and pass a written test on Connecticut driving rules as well. Finally having passed both tests he was a legal and admitted motor cyclist.

After a few years Brad decided to ship his beloved little motorcycle to Bonaire. Brad and his wife have an apartment at the Sand Dollar and have visited the island for some 27 years. So in December 1998, he drove his Yamaha to Newark, NJ, from where it was transported by truck to Miami to be shipped to Bonaire. Brad survived his cold December morning ride to Newark on major highways, after which he peeled off his motorcycle clothes that covered his suit. He then traveled on to work from Newark to Wall Street which Brad calls "the pressure cooker." Brad says, "I would always count down the weeks until our next trip to Bonaire when I could return again to see the island, people and diving paradise I had grown to love."

Yamaha Motor Company, the Japanese brand with the triple tuning fork symbol, produced the XS400 from 1977 to 1982. Brad has the later model with the cast alloy wheels, a drum brake in the rear and a disc brake in the front. The air-cooled, four-stroke, overhead cam, parallel twin produces 36 British horse power @8100 revs per

minute. There are five speeds in the gearbox and the engine is fitted with both an electric and kick start. Brad explains: "Always handy to have a kick start too as a battery only lasts three years at the most in the tropics...and you know Murphy's Law! All in all my Yamaha is pretty reliable."

All maintenance I do myself. I just mounted two new tires. It took three tire spoons and some elbow grease but I managed! The old tires were dried out and cracked, so for safety they were replaced. I prefer cast alloy wheels over spoke wheels. In my earlier college years in the States I owned a British Racing Green Triumph TR4 with a two-liter four-cylinder engine, a very fine European sports car. The TR4 had spoke rims and knock off hubs. Tires and tubes. On a regular basis the spokes broke through the rim tape causing a lot of flat tires. So.... no spoke rims for me on a motorcycle! If you want to learn about mechanics you have to buy a Triumph or a Jaguar. They are lovely to drive but they keep on leaking and causing little problems all the time!"

Brad's Yamaha is in good and almost original condition. The machine has covered 18,600 miles now. A little plastic part fell out of the horn button and a homemade starter button had to be created as the original one stopped functioning. The original two-in-two exhaust system had to be replaced by an aftermarket two-in-one system. That's all. "At home," Brad says, "I had a 900cc Honda CB900C, a nice four-cylinder. I sold it and then I bought a 1997 Yamaha Royal Star, a huge and comfortable 1300 cc cruiser. Here on Bonaire I am happy with my cute Yamaha. She is my only way of transportation on our island. Apart from my shoes and my dive fins!" ■ Story & photo by Jan Brouwer



Brad and his bike



Container Arrived!

Field grown palms

Potted Palms

Large Trees

Shade Plants

Fruit Trees

Desert Rose

Green Label Kaya Industria 28
Tel: 7178310, greenlabel@telbonet.an
www.greenlabelbonaire.nl

Open Monday to Friday
07:30-12:00 & 14:00-17:30
Saturday 08:00-13:00

Scheduled Water Taxi TO KLEIN BONAIRE

From Bonaire Nautico Marina in front of
It Rains Fishes Restaurant

HOTEL PICKUP SERVICE

Daily trips via resorts 10 am, 12, 2 pm

THE ONLY WALKON / WALKOFF

Catamaran **KANTIKA DI AMOR** up
to 27 adults or larger catamaran
KANTIKA TOO up to 50 adults
Also available for group trips

YACHTSMEN! Tie up dockside for min. \$10/day+ tax (max 1.90 meter draft),
BONAIRE NAUTICO MARINA At It Rains Fishes Restaurant
Call Henk at 560-7254 / Bob 786-5399 info@bonairenauticomarina.com /VHF 68

AC AutoCity
717-7800

SUZUKI CHEVROLET ISUZU HONDA SUZUKI SUBARU

Your One Stop Car Dealer

AUTOCITY B.V. Kaya Finlandia 9 Email: bonaire@autocity-bv.com Tel 717-7800 Fax 717-5254

Letters to the Editor

DOWNTOWN PARKING

Dear Reporter –

I recently received word that the RCN was planning to locate an additional 130 workers in the top two floors of the Bonaire Mall. When the Mall was originally built, the developer said that the top two floor would be sold as condos, and so the project would not negatively impact the downtown parking situation.

When you add in the 150 to 250 RCN employees in the ORCO bank building we are seeing a huge influx of cars into downtown. In addition the current Police Station takes up at least 10 parking space for all of their vehicles, as well. Most of these cars are driven by office workers who park once, in the Centrum, and then never leave except possibly for lunch, and then again at the end of the day.

The ease and availability of downtown parking is extremely important to the economic health of all downtown retail shops, restaurants and other businesses. If tourists and other visitors cannot find convenient parking, they will simply stop coming downtown to shop in our retail stores and visit our businesses.

At the moment, parking is still very difficult and it is only getting worse. Parking spaces in the Centrum are impossible to find during the day for both workers, shoppers and visitors. Drivers are parking on



the sidewalks, up on the curb, and in any other vacant space they can find. Not only is this inconvenient, but it can also be very dangerous, affecting the visibility of other drivers and pedestrians. If parking is this difficult during our slow season, where will everyone park when it gets to be cruise ship season again?

The local government and RCN need to come up with an immediate solution to the current parking issues. We need a plan where the office workers at RCN and employees of other businesses are encouraged to park outside of the central parking area so that our visitors and customers can park downtown to do their business. One idea has been to provide satellite parking areas and a shuttle service from the parking lot at the stadium and I am sure there are other good ideas as well.

What we need is action NOW from the RCN and local government to provide a solution to the downtown parking situation before it starts to affect the downtown businesses.

HELP! We are drowning in cars!
A concerned downtown business owner

Word on the Street

This issue introduces a new column about events on the island, some already in place, perhaps possible, and others just a plan...



- ◆ Supposedly **three new restaurants** are to be opened at the Hato traffic circle in the new buildings: an Italian, a Dutch pancake restaurant and possibly a pizza place. The Italian restaurant is named "Sofia Home." Word is the chef is Antonio who was the chef at the former Croccantino Restaurant in Playa.
- ◆ The building of the new restaurant at **Wilhelmina Park by Joop and Ed has been protested by the neighboring Protestant Church**, which claims they were given the property by the government and have a photo and documents to prove it.
- ◆ The **new dock installation next to Karel's Beach Bar will be going ahead** despite opposition from the Marine Park and its supporters.
- ◆ Word is **that City Café will close its doors as of November 30**. Some say that building and adjacent buildings will be torn down.
- ◆ The **civil registry office (Bevolking) has moved** from across the street from Telbo to Kaya Neerlandia in the building owned at one time by Island Council member **Rafael Santana**. The building, now being rented by the government, previously housed

Santana's electrical shop.

- ◆ **Casablanca Restaurant has been closed for some time**. Supposedly it will be demolished and replaced by an office building.
- ◆ There's **activity and painting going on at the former Cactus Blue Restaurant** location. Sources say a local restaurant will open there.
- ◆ **Belgian Fries restaurant** on Kaya Korona is closed. Building is for sale.
- ◆ According to photos and report in *Extra* newspaper, the **former Island Finance/Angelo building is being renovated and will house the MCB Insurance Department offices**.
- ◆ **As for the former Lost Penguin restaurant across the street, it also is being renovated by the Littmans**. What will it be? Inquiring minds want to know.

If you have any items for Word On The Street, please call or send it to *The Reporter*. ■ Sra. Bula Bonchi

Voordeelmarkt Bonaire - Bargain Mart Bonaire

Bonaire's Low Cost, High Quality Supermarket

Always: Fresh Fruit, Vegetables, Dairy, Bread and Meat

Open Nonstop
Monday - Saturday
8:00-19:00

WAREHOUSE BONAIRE

Gasstation

To Airport →

← To town Abraham Boulevard

Kaya industria 24, Kralendijk, Bonaire
tel: (+599) 717- 8700 www.warehousebonaire.com

SPECIAL SECURITY SERVICES

Member: American Society for Industrial Security

WANT TO FEEL SAFER? SIGN UP WITH US

- Transport of Money and Valuables
- Private Investigations

- Vehicle patrols
- Burglar Alarms
- Fire Alarm Systems

In Business Over 30 Years

Kaya Nikiboko Nord 37A, PO Box 225 Tel: (599) 717- 8125
Fax (599) 717- 6125 E-mail sss@bonairelive.com

NETTECH

AFFORDABLE

- ◆ Domain Registrations
- ◆ E-mail Hosting
- ◆ Anti-Spam & Anti-Virus
- ◆ Web Site Design
- ◆ Web Site Hosting
- ◆ Marketing Consulting
- ◆ Internet Consulting
- ◆ Photographic Services
- ◆ Graphic Design

NetTech N.V.
info@NetTech.an
www.NetTech.an
Tel: 717-6773
Fax: 717-7854

Pasa Bon Pizza & Bar

780-1111

Not Just Great Pizzas!

Call ahead to Pre Order

Open Wednesday to Sunday
5 PM to 11 PM

Behind The Indian Inscriptions

Bonaire's esteemed nature guide, Jerry Ligon, wrote to The Reporter: "I remember a story in The Reporter a few years ago about the Indian inscriptions at Boca Onima. I have a follow-up story and included two photos because so many people want to know what's behind the inscriptions. It is information that even the government does not know about. The information sign that is up at the site does not do justice to the real story behind the inscriptions."

Chinese astronomers watching the sky on July 4, 1054, noted the appearance of a new or "guest" star just above the southern horn of Taurus. But knowledge of star-fields was not necessary to spot this surprising visitor. According to records, the bright source was visible during the daytime for 23 days, shining six times as brightly as Venus. Those well-versed with the night sky would have been able to see it for 653 days — almost two years — with the naked eye. Other observations of the explosion were recorded by Japanese, Arabic, and Native American stargazers.

Today, we can add that the Arawak Indians who occupied the seacoast on Bonaire in the vicinity of Boca Onima, who also marveled over this strange appearance in the sky. They even drew a representation of what it looked like on the ceiling of the cave at Boca Onima, which attracts many tourists for viewing. Two questions are always asked, "How old are these draw-

ings?" And, "Exactly what were the early Bonairean artists trying to show?"

Because of the persistence of an amateur astronomer from Holland, we now know that the depiction of the night sky was done to record the explosion of a star, a supernova, whose remnants we today know as the Crab Nebula.

The Dutch amateur astronomer used a modern computer program with an astronomy application to actually reveal what it was that the Arawak Indians saw, by taking the star points, at the bottom of the above depiction (two star figures with double outlines on the right of the swirly mass in the middle and one star figure to the left of the swirly mass.) These three star figures represent very bright stars in two known constellations that we still see today, Taurus and Orion, the Hunter. By dialing the astronomy program backward, which would be like reverse time-travel which will reveal what the sky looked like at any given year, nothing of importance filled up the interval between the two stars on the right and the single star on the left until the date July 4, 1054 A.D. And Eureka! There it was: The Crab Nebula.

Not coincidentally, this date is of historical importance to Europeans because, inspired by his astrologers, Duke William II of Normandy decided to invade England based on the astronomical/astrological events. He invaded England, defeated the English Saxons and by December was



Crab Nebula taken by Hubble telescope



Actual depiction of what the Bonairean Indians actually inscribed on the ceiling at Boca Onima. In 2054, it will have been 1000 years since they saw that unsettling event in the heavens.

crowned King. Earlier, in April, 1066, about four months before the Crab Nebula, a comet, later named Halley's Comet, appeared in the heavens. To have two dramatic events — the comet and the supernova — occurring in the heavens within such a short time had to be taken as prophecy and seen as an opportune time to invade by Duke William and his court astrologers.

Unsettling explosive events in the heavens do not occur that frequently. The explosion of a giant star was due to that star's running out of vital fuel at its core. This explosion, now directed outward with cataclysmic force, resulted in the Crab Nebula. It can be seen today with modest telescopes just over the left horn of Taurus the Bull, but it has settled down and is just a dim remnant of its once powerful self, 6,500 light years distant.

I frequently go to Boca Onima and gaze at the Indian Inscriptions on the ceiling. I try to imagine how it would appear to have actually seen such an astronomical event as this supernova. I can sympathize with the early Bonairean Indian artist that this event was catastrophic enough to depict it on the ceiling as testimony that, "This is what I saw, this thing in the sky!" In my sympathy I would most likely be a bit frightened, as well. ■

Jerry Ligon



<p>For All Your Shipping Needs</p> <p>Kaya Industria 12, Kralendijk- Bonaire—N.A. 717-8922 FAX 717-5791 Email:info@rocargo.com</p>		
<p>ROCARGO SERVICES, N.V.</p> <p>Full service door to door by air and by sea.</p> <p>Customs clearance, transportation, warehousing.</p> <p>International and local relocation. Packing material in stock.</p> <p>Qualified and professional personnel.</p> <p>Timely, accurate and reliable ISO 9001: 2000 Certified</p>	<p>FedEx[®] Express</p> <p><i>The World On Time</i></p> <p>Offering DAILY Express Services from and to Bonaire</p> <p>For shipment tracking www.fedex.com</p>	<p>AmCAR AMCAR FREIGHT, INC.</p> <p>Amcar Freight, Inc.</p> <p>The ONLY company offering direct weekly consolidation services from Miami, USA to Bonaire</p> <p>www.amcarfreight.com</p> <p>Amcar Freight 12600 NW 25 Street Suite 107 Miami, FL 33182</p>
<p>IFC</p> <p>International Freight (Car) BV</p> <p>The ONLY company offering direct weekly consolidation services from Europe/Holland to Bonaire</p> <p>www.ifc-consolidators.nl</p> <p>Jupiterweg 1A (Ecopark) 4761 RW Moerdijk, Holland Tel 31-(0) 168-40-94 94</p>		

Tourism History

TOURISM HISTORY PART 15-

LD Gerharts, Pioneer and Visionary

Lodewijk Daniël Gerharts was born in the Netherlands in 1901. He started working for the Dutch shipping company, KNSM, first in Holland. In 1926 KNSM sent him to Curaçao to work as an accountant. He later became inspector for the Caribbean islands and South America, inspecting KNSM offices abroad. In 1929, during a visit to Bonaire, he met his future wife, daughter of businessman Julio Herrera, owner of the company which locally represented KNSM, Herrera Hermanos Inc. Lodewijk and Julia married a year later. When her father died in 1930, he decided to come to Bonaire to run the family company. Gerharts changed the way the employees were being paid. They used to receive coupons to spend in the shops of their boss. He turned this system around and introduced payment of wages in cash.

Besides running the Herrera family business, Gerharts started several commercial initiatives, businesses of his own, among which a bakery and the electricity plant. It started in the house where later E Wowo Discotheque would be located. At that time, there would be electricity in the evening, from 6 till 12. The electricity plant would later be passed on to OGEM, precursor of WEB.

L.D. Gerharts was a very popular figure in the Bonairean community. People would come to him for advice and help, financial aid mostly. 'Mijnheer LD' (pronounce El-Day), as he was called by locals, gave out loans to many and did not bother too much to get his money back. He was like the good 'Sinterklaas', a role he indeed played for many many years at the arrival of the 'Holy Man' on the island. The sweets to be distributed among the little kids he bought himself.

In December 1934, it was the first time that a commercial airplane, a KLM Fokker 18 called 'Snip', made the historic transatlantic crossing from Amsterdam to Curaçao. At that time, LD Gerharts happened to be in Holland. During his stay there, he made an appointment with KLM founder Albert Plesman and succeeded in convincing him to add Bonaire to the flight schedule. The first flight landed in May of 1936 on the *Subi Blanco* airfield.

In 1939 Gerharts and his wife divorced and a year later, Gerharts established two businesses (Bonaire Trading and N.V. Han-

delsmij. Kralendijk) with financial aid from a friend and business partner, Van Eyck. His 'one man business' took over the representation of the Caribbean branch of KLM.

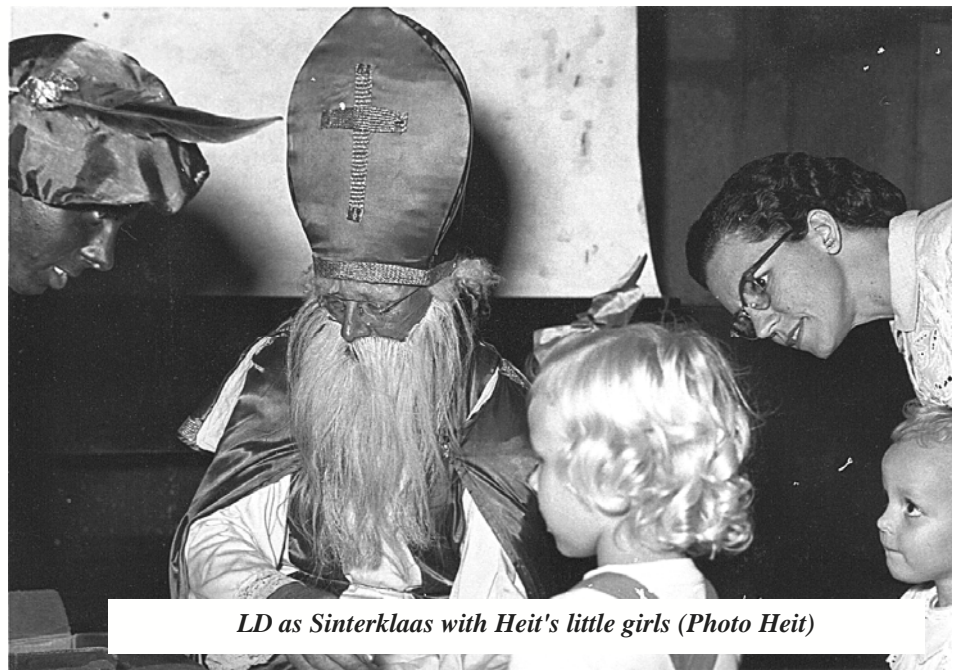
After his divorce, Gerharts went to live on the Guatemala Plantation, started growing aloe plants and imported some cows from Holland to produce milk on Bonaire during the WW-II years. Together with Van Eyck, he owned several boats that brought merchandise from Curaçao, like the *Eveline*, *Rex* and *Irene*. A boat called *Debby* used to bring in gasoline from Curaçao in drums. Gerharts also brought Ford automobiles to the island. He founded the first bakery on the island and started –not so successfully at first – to bake bread himself. He also was representative on the island for the National Lottery of the Netherlands Antilles. He founded the first supermarket, located where later Cultimara Supermarket would be (now Top Supermarket). The first gasoline pump was at the same location, all on the *Kerkweg* in Kralendijk.

After the war, the need of a hotel for tourists became acute, with visitors flying in in increasing numbers. In 1947, when the last inhabitants of the internment camp had left, Gerharts approached Governor Kasteel with the request to buy or rent the barracks, trying to make it into a bungalow hotel. The construction of *Hotel Zeebad* consisted in joining bungalows (two into one) and turning the duty officer's barracks around to be converted into the restaurant and bar of the hotel. It opened in 1952. *Hotel Zeebad*, Bonaire's first seaside resort, was later renamed Flamingo Beach Hotel.

In the 40s Gerharts also became active in politics, in 1946, when he co-founded the *Partido Boneriano Uni*, which later became the *Partido Progresista Boneriano Uni*, which is now the *Union Progresista Boneriano* (UPB). From 1935 till 1951 he was a *Landraad*, a political position with little more than advisory status. In the early 50s, he became member of both the Island and Central Councils and Commissioner in the Island Government.

He was one of the members of the Curaçao delegation to the 1948 Round Table Conference which led to the establishment, in 1954, of the *Statuut*, the foundation of the Netherlands Antilles, at the occasion of which he was also present.

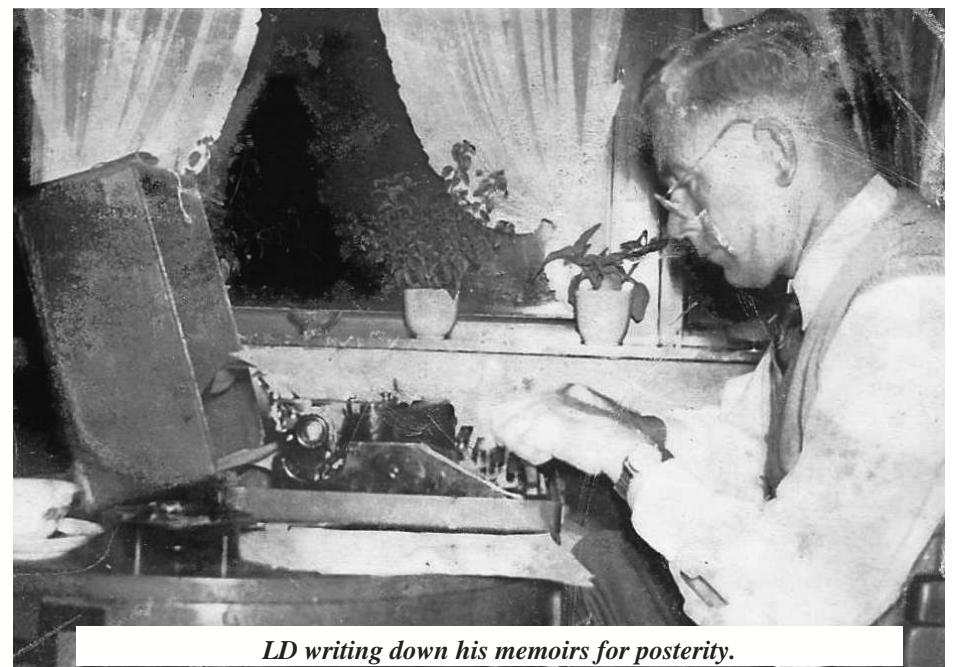
Gerharts was one of the promoters of the



LD as Sinterklaas with Heit's little girls (Photo Heit)



LD and Sister Maria, thankful for a charitable donation (Photo Mayer)



LD writing down his memoirs for posterity.

building of the St Franciscus Hospital (1974) and of the founding of the Washington/Slagbaai National Park in 1979.

LD Gerharts twice received a royal decoration: first as Knight (*Ridder*), later as Officer (*Officier*) in the Order of Orange Nassau. He was a pioneer, a visionary, who succeeded in getting Bonaire out of its isolation.

On the last day of next month it will be 30 years since Lodewijk Daniël Gerharts died (October 31, 1983). At that time, his son Hugo had already taken over the management of the family businesses. A year later, the Island Council renamed the *Kerkweg*, where his businesses were located, Kaya Lodewijk D. Gerharts. On his tomb it says:

"Het welzijn van Bonaire was zijn leven" (The well being of Bonaire was his life). His memory was honored by the issue of a Netherlands Antilles stamp.

In the years before his death, Gerharts wrote down the story of his life with an old-fashioned typewriter, using only two fingers. These memoirs, almost 400 pages, have never been published but they shed light on 50 years of dedication to the island he was not born on but which he served all of his life. ■ *Evert Bongers* Still to come: Hugo Gerharts



Visit us at our new and modern salon. Call for an appointment or just walk in.

Services for men and women
Haircuts, Coloring, Make-up,
Hair removal, Lash coloring
Featuring L'Oreal products

Kaya Grandi 67 In the Old Dutch Building,
Across from Scooters
Open : Tues-Fri: 9-12, 2-6
Sat: 9-2 - Lots of Free Parking

September is Health Month On Bonaire

Obesity Is Its Theme

A survey held 13 years ago showed that 50% of Bonaire's population was overweight. There are no recent figures available but the figure is probably higher today. A recent study in Curaçao showed that two out of three adults are overweight. The percentage is about the same in the US and The Netherlands.

Both the island government and the RCN are involved in campaigns to tackle obesity with month-long awareness events.

The fact that many men, women and youngsters are overweight can be observed on a drive through Kralendijk. A 20-year-old woman and her daughter sat on a low wall behind Top Supermarket. She is overweight. "I weigh more than 100 kilos," she says. She's not entirely aware that her situation is serious. "I eat healthy food, but drink too much soda pop, which is not good, but I do get exercise by walking and playing tennis."

A 30-year-old woman hadn't weighed herself for some time, but weighed 122 kilos the last time she did. She tries to eat healthy food whenever possible. "It's not always easy to eat healthy food in Bonaire." She hardly buys fresh fruit and vegetables. "I eat fruit at the beginning of the month when my salary's just in but go without fruit the rest of the month."

Despite the difficult financial-economic situation on the island, it's important that the population eat and live healthy. During the health month, there'll be various activities in the districts to emphasize the importance of a healthy lifestyle. Attention will be paid to the lifestyle, unhealthy eating habits, healthy food and cooking.

Government Health Care Director, Sharine Loozen-Janga, says, "Many people are not aware of their eating habits. They make the wrong choices when it comes to food, such as taking a larger portion and lacking a defined eating pattern. This and a lack of exercise will soon lead to overweight."

And help is on the way. BonFysio/BobBida had a grant application approved to start a great multidisciplinary project called "Children Healthy Weight." More info will follow soon. The grant was one of the 147 sports projects in The Netherlands approved for the Sports Impulse program. Sports Impulse funds neighborhood sport and physical activity providers to set up programs for people who get little or no exercise but would like to. The Sports Impulse providers are financially supported for two years in the planning of activities to encourage more people to exercise. The Ministry of Health budget for this is €11 million. For more information about the Sport Impulse by: www.sportindebuurt.nl/Sportsimpulse. More information about the projects is available on www.zonmw.com/sportsimpulse

In another anti-obesity initiative the RCN (National Service Caribbean Netherlands) and the Bonaire island government are holding a cooking contest for healthy food, with rounds every weekend.

On the first four Sundays in September preliminary rounds in the various *centro di barrios* to culminate on September 29 with a grand finale during the planned Health Market.



The preliminary round in Tera Kòrà (Pal'i Mangel team)

The idea of the healthy cooking competition fits within the month's theme of "Obesity." Hopefully people will become inspired to creatively prepare tasty and nutritious meals with healthy products.

In the preliminary round in Tera Kora on September 1 the winner in was "Grupo Rekraroyo B." First runner-up was "Bon Apetit" and second runner-up "Pal'I Mangel," while the Most Creative title went to "Team Reina."

The Second round in Rincon on September 8, "Team Sorpresa 2" won. First runner-up was "Grupo Cocari" and second runner-up "Team Jom," while "Benny's Cuisine"

took the Most Creative spot. Results for the September 15 round in Antriol were not available at press time. The next preliminary round is in Noord Saliña on September 22.

The awareness month will end with a health fair (*Feria di Salu*) where all organizations, agencies, associations, foundations likely to contribute to health and overall well-being will have a display. They will offer information leaflets, demonstrations, etc to make clear to the public what they offer for health and overall wellness. ■ G.D.

Bon Bida Photo

QUALITY Services AFFORDABLE Prices

Massage, Pedicure, Manicure, Skin Therapy

Bulevar Gob. N. Debrot 74 (Across from Sand Dollar)
Phone For appointment 717-7224 www.bonbida.com

BON BIDA SPA & GYM

TOP SUPERMARKET
Lots of

- Your Friendly Local Supermarket.

Beer, Alcoholic Drinks, Sodas, Chips, Cookies, Cereals and Fruits and Vegetables. Fresh Breads and Meat everyday.

Downtown Kralendijk
at the old Cultimara

Topsupermarket
bonaire@gmail.com

TUNG FONG STORE N.V.

"The Store With Almost Everything" Great Service Too

Kaya Korona 52 Tel. 599 - 717 4224 FAX. 599 - 717 5224

Opening hours: 8.30 am - 12.30 pm, 2.30 pm - 6.30 pm
Open from Monday till Saturday. Sundays closed.

Founding Bonaire's National Choir



Governor Lydia Emerencia and Director Tica Giel at Jong Bonaire

On September 1st a large audience - including Lt. Governor Lydia Emerencia and Councilman Nolly Oleana - gathered at the Jong Bonaire auditorium to witness the very first performance of Bonaire's National Choir. The spirits were high and so were the expectations, thus everybody was quite nervous. But when director Tica Giel climbed the stage and raised her hand and the first notes of the national anthem enthralled the audience... it was a magical moment.

The choir captured the hearts of the spectators, and five-year-old soloist Shantis-Levita van der Veen with her beautiful voice was the icing on the cake. But seeing founder and director Tica Giel at work was an experience in itself as she is a driven professional with a great Antillean swing.

And so, a couple of days later I met with Tica Giel to get to know her better and to hear her story about the establishment of Bonaire's National Choir.

Tica Giel is from Aruba. She studied at the Music Teaching Academy in Alkmaar, Holland, where she graduated in solo sing-

ing in 1983 and in 1984 as a music teacher in general music education. Then she went to the Sweelinck Conservatory in Amsterdam where she trained in opera, graduating in 1988. During her career she sang as a soloist not only with choirs and opera companies in Holland but also in the Antilles. She made a CD with concert pianist Wim Stenius Müller and toured Holland and the islands with him. After almost 20 years she came back to Aruba, mainly for her mom, in 1996. Tica is still performing, on Aruba with her own choir 'Den Harmonia', but also on Curacao and in Surinam with a classical and popular repertoire.

"After I'd given a concert on Bonaire in March 2012, I was invited by Tom Franceses to teach singing technique workshops to interested parties and members of various choirs. I started in August last year, and when Emma Sint Jago heard about it, she helped me to make a plan for the workshops. The courses lasted through January 2013, and by then Emma had asked me if I could give singing lessons to the children of the elementary schools. Then we came up with a plan to have auditions at all elementary schools on the island in order to form a national choir. And the plan was extended by auditioning the people who had attended the workshops, with the purpose of creating a mixed choir of adults and children. And now," she laughs, "I have two choirs which can also sing together!"

Emma arranged for everything with the school boards, and the children came to the auditions either because they themselves wanted to, or because they were told to by the teachers. They had to sing part of a song and then they had to sing higher and higher, and let me tell you, there were children -



The choir and 5-year-old soloist Shantis-Levita van der Veen

girls and boys - who could sing way higher than the limit I set!

We wanted as many children as possible and so, in the beginning, we ended up with about 100 children, of which 80 of them remained. But then not everyone showed up at the rehearsals, and now I have 45 kids and 25 adults.

I came twice a month from Aruba to Bonaire, then I would rehearse with all the schools, but with each one of them separately. On three afternoons I recorded all voices for the children and the big choir and I'd written the arrangements for three voices. There are also songs which end in six or eight voices and I recorded those exactly for them to study during my absence. I worked each group separately and then, on Saturday morning, August 17th, I brought them all together and we had our first common rehearsal. The next one was on August 24th, and then on August 31st and... that was it! We only had three common rehearsals!

September 1st was the presentation of the National Choir at Jong Bonaire. Well," she

laughs, "the hall was packed and it was a great success! All participants were thrilled!

Our next performance was at Dia di Boneiru at the Wilhelminaplein and because of this overwhelming success I was approached to repeat the performance by the end of September. Also, I was invited to give a Christmas Concert with the choirs and although my schedule is tight, I will try my utmost best to make it happen!

This coming March we will start auditioning again at the schools - because children go into puberty and either they change their mindset or their voice changes - and so we need other children to take their places. Of course - if they like it - they can stay, but for the boys whose voices are changing, it's a must not to sing for the time being. Once their voice has changed they can always join the adult choir because I need them there.

Any man who can sing and feels like joining the choir is welcome, because right now I only have four men!" ■ Greta Kooistra

Contact: Art and culture66@hotmail.com or phone 786-6420



J O I
INGENIOUS LIGHTING



Thermologi provides magical solutions for life's enjoyment.

Combining style with a revolutionary new thermoelectric technology, JOI magically transforms the energy of a simple tea light to power 8 bright LEDs and provides enough light to illuminate the entire outdoor dining table.

No batteries, cords or solar



BUDGET MARINE

ANTIGUA • ARUBA • BONAIRE • CURAÇAO • GRENADA • ST. CROIX • ST. MAARTEN • ST. MARTIN • ST. THOMAS • TORTOLA • TRINIDAD

Mon. - Fri.: 8:00 - 17:00
Sat.: 9:00 AM - 12:00PM
Kaya Carlos A. Nicolaas 4
T: 599-717 37 10

The Caribbean's Leading Chandlery www.budgetmarine.com


Spectacular setting for lunch and dinner

Try torch-lit dining on the beach



La Balandra

Bonaire's most enchanting location!



ISLAND BBQ EVERY SATURDAY EVENING WITH LIVE MUSIC

The Harbour Village seaside La Balandra restaurant is open for Lunch & Dinner 7 days a week—Call for a reservation 717-7500

Think of Harbour Village for your special events, weddings, engagement parties & corporate events. Meeting rooms and catering available.

For special arrangements and quotes, please call or email labalandra@harbourvillage.com

Harbour Village Beach Club

Phone # 717-7500
Kaya Gobernador N. Debrot 71
Bonaire, Dutch Caribbean

RCN Hosts The International Day of the Press



Euphosina informs his audience, using all his skills. Sulviene "Kuchi" Martijn, from extra, the Papiamentu newspaper, listens and smiles.

Bonaire – Sunday, September 1st was the International Day of the Press. The RCN (Rijksdienst Caribisch Nederland) Department of Communications invited Mike Euphosina (born on Curacao, living in The Netherlands) from the People, Culture & Organization to hold several workshops about intercultural communication and collaboration.

On Monday, September 2, a workshop was organized for the members of the press at the Captain Don's Habitat Conference Room. The theme of the workshop was the impact of the ideas and the messages of the press on the public, the awareness of the importance of the written or visualized ideas.

Mike Euphosina is a very charismatic and driven person who did not try to be a

teacher, who did not try to convince his audience but who wanted to open the eyes of his audience to become aware of the influence the media has on its readers, listeners and watchers.

The language used during the workshop was a mixture of Papiamentu and Dutch. Topics included prejudging, manipulation, politics, discrimination and self-fulfilling prophecies. Euphosina appeared to have the knowledge and the skill to trigger people and make them aware of the influence of their way of thinking.

This workshop was for members of the press, but every reasonable human being could get benefits from an afternoon like this. For more information about People Culture & Organization: www.pc-o.nl. ■

Story & photo by Jan Brouwer

Picture Yourself With The Reporter At Machu Pichu



Proof that *Reporter* writers take vacations: Carla Hay who reports on numerous Bonaire events, especially what goes on at the CMBB, remembered to take a copy of *The Reporter* with her on a recent vacation to South America (Peru).

We Would Love to Print Your PHOTO!
For Picture Yourself With The Bonaire Reporter

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



**ROOFTOP
TERRACE DINING**



Dine under the stars and watch the sun set into Kralendijk Bay from the rooftop terrace.

Dinner is available Sunday through Friday from 6:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

For reservations call 717 3000 or e-mail: unbelievableroma@yahoo.com

Address: J.A.Abraham Blvd # 29

Seafood & Prime Steaks Restaurant

**MONTHLY
Goatcheese recipe**
Fresh and healthy

Portobello filled with goatcheese and sage

Appetizer serves 4

Ingredients:

Goatcheese Semper Kontentu	200 gr
Portobello	4 x
Honey	2 spoons
Almonds	50 gr
Fresh sage	

How to prepare:

Preheat the oven to 180 degrees. Use a spoon to de-stem the portobello and remove the spores. Fill the portobello's with the goatcheese and top goatcheese with honey. Place in the oven for ten minutes. Deep fry the sage in some oil in a small pan for 30 seconds. Top the portobello's with the almonds and sage.

Enjoy the taste and love and care of Aletta's Semper Kontentu goatcheese.



Available at Warehouse Bonaire

Recipe by Rik de Hek



Or visit us at Tras di montagne
Open at Mon/Wed/Fri 8 to 12 am

Tel: 786-6950

Bonaire Reporter Classifieds— Really Work!
Got something to buy or sell?

Non-Business Classified Ads (up to 4 lines/ 20± words are **still FREE**
 Commercial Ads only \$0. 77 per word, for each two-week issue.
 Call 786-6518 or 786-6125 or email info@bonairereporter.com



For Quality House and Office Cleaning and Maintenance .. CALL JRA

Serving Bonaire for more than 15 years

Honest, Reliable, Efficient, Thorough, Low rates, References. One time or many. **Phone 785-9041 ... and relax.**



LUNCH TO GO

Starting from \$4 per meal. Call **CHINA NOBO 717-8981.**

Web site: www.chinanobobonaire.com



OUTDOOR BONAIRE DO SOMETHING DIFFERENT!

KAYAKING • CAVING • CLIMBING • RAPPELLING
 ABSEILLEN • MOUNTAIN BIKING • NATIONAL PARK TOURS • ISLAND TOURS • BIRDWATCHING

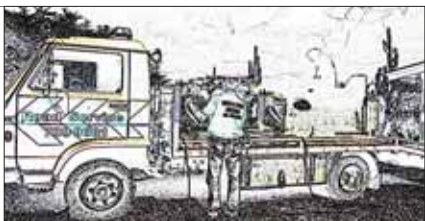
Tel (599) 791-6272 / 785-6272
hans@outdoorbonaire.com
www.outdoorbonaire.com

Bring serenity into your home With "Feng Shui"



Make Your Home More Comfortable

FENG SHUI CONSULTATIONS
 Also interior or exterior design advice
 China-trained. Experienced.
 Inexpensive.
Call Donna at 795-9332.



We help almost anything on wheels
 Disabled vehicles, lockouts, wrecks, farm, road equipment, towing, and more.
Call Mack- Road Service 700-9601

16 Flights a day between Bonaire and Curaçao
Divi Divi Air
Reservations 24 hours a day
Call (+5999 839-1515)



MISCELLANEOUS



Rondvluchten. Sightseeing Flights.

Bonaire from the air, the # 1 adventure! Also photo and CUR flights. Great birthday gift. Max. 3 pass. **Call 786-7720 .**

Wild pig hunter seeks sausage maker Call Sam **701-1188, email: sam@echobonaire.org**

2005 TOYOTA TACOMA 4D DOUBLE CAB 4X4 + REMOVABLE BED CAP Only 7,200 miles, airco, automatic transmission, c/d, towing, more extras. Excellent condition. **Call 717-6813**

For Sale 2 DS-125 Ikelite Strobes with NiMH batteries plus NiCd battery, diffusers and chargers with all international connectors. 2 for \$850 or \$500 each. **701-0113**

Dive computer for technical diving - Shearwater Procte Predator OLED OC/CC retail price on request. **Call 717-2278**

Wicker and glass dinette set \$60, sofa bed and chair \$90, or \$125 for everything. **717-4171** mornings or evenings.

Kite gear. Less than 1 yr old. Good condition. 136cm North Board, ION harness, Best kites. Cheap price. Call AJ **782 8088**

For sale: **div. terracotta pots**, different size, used, but in good shape, for \$ 2,00 or \$ 5,00 per each, **Phone: 717-2278**

Cellphone:795-1046

FOR SALE: All Spa Equipment: massage tables, chairs, ultra sound, infrared, lamps, more. **Call 785-3398.**

Dive tanks, 2L, 4L and 12L, Dräger Dolphin spare parts, low and high pressure hoses, different filling adapter for techn. diving. prices on request. **Phone 717-2278 or 795-1046**

FOR SALE: GENERATOR Perkins 1300. 175KVA, diesel, 2000/2001, Serial E4335 F/001, 100/220, phase 3. Worked for only 993 hours. Asking Price: US\$ 14,000. Call **786-4884** or info@consuelomemorial.com

Bonaire-Sun Rise/Set, Moon Phase and Tides

Day	High	Low	High	Low	High	Sunrise	Sunset
Mon 16		04:50	10:02	16:05	21:58	6:24	18:35
		-0.07 ft	0.50 ft	0.10 ft	0.86 ft		
Tue 17		05:34	10:58	17:21	22:58	6:24	18:34
		-0.03 ft	0.57 ft	0.12 ft	0.74 ft		
Wed 18		06:19	11:56	18:46		6:24	18:34
		0.03 ft	0.64 ft	0.12 ft			
Thu 19	00:07	07:05	12:55	20:14		6:24	18:33
	0.62 ft	0.08 ft	0.71 ft	0.10 ft			
Fri 20	01:25	07:52	13:52	21:37		6:24	18:32
	0.52 ft	0.13 ft	0.78 ft	0.05 ft			
Sat 21	02:47	08:41	14:46	22:48		6:24	18:32
	0.45 ft	0.18 ft	0.83 ft	-0.00 ft			
Sun 22	04:05	09:30	15:37	23:47		6:24	18:31
	0.42 ft	0.21 ft	0.87 ft	-0.05 ft			
Mon 23	05:10	10:18	16:25			6:24	18:30
	0.41 ft	0.23 ft	0.90 ft				
Tue 24		00:37	06:04	11:04	17:09	6:24	18:30
		-0.07 ft	0.41 ft	0.24 ft	0.91 ft		
Wed 25		01:21	06:48	11:46	17:50	6:24	18:29
		-0.08 ft	0.41 ft	0.24 ft	0.90 ft		
Thu 26	L Quarter	02:01	07:26	12:26	18:29	6:24	18:28
		-0.07 ft	0.41 ft	0.24 ft	0.89 ft		
Fri 27		02:37	08:00	13:06	19:06	6:24	18:28
		-0.05 ft	0.42 ft	0.24 ft	0.86 ft		
Sat 28		03:12	08:33	13:46	19:43	6:24	18:27
		-0.02 ft	0.43 ft	0.24 ft	0.83 ft		
Sun 29		03:44	09:06	14:30	20:21	6:24	18:26
		0.02 ft	0.44 ft	0.25 ft	0.77 ft		
Mon 30		04:14	09:39	15:20	21:00	6:24	18:26
		0.05 ft	0.47 ft	0.26 ft	0.71 ft		

For sale: bookshelf \$20, wood. dining table w. 4 chairs \$200, double child.bed w orthoped. Mattress \$250, new cooler \$25, microwave \$50. Tel 795-1750

Ocean Scrambler dive kayak, plus dive regulators and BC's. Good condition. **Call 717-0161**

Compressor oil - Chemlube 800. \$35 a gallon. Limited quantity left. **Must bring your own container.**
Call 717-8891 8 am to 5 pm

Three studios at Hato available from 1 September, all inclusive also use electricity, gas, water, internet, tv connection, furnished. 1-2 persons \$520-565,-long term, short term possible \$50-75, minimum stay 2 nights.
www.bonaireverhuur.com. Kaya Utrecht 25. Call during daylight **796 2529** or **717 2529**.

Looking for work. Cleaning lady (speaking Spanish and Papiamentu) is looking for part-time work. Please call: **796 - 3415**



Suzuki motorcycle For Sale - Type: GS 850 G, year 1984. Price \$ 1700. Very good condition. **Call 786-2844**

REAL ESTATE AND RENTALS

FOR RENT House, 4 Bedrooms, 4 bathroom Spanish Colonial style house.. US\$ 1750.- per month. Big garden with a nice porch. Appliances include; Dishwasher, Oven, Stove, Microwave, Fridge w/ice maker, Water Heater for Showers, Aircos in all bedrooms. **Call: 796-9559 or 796-5885.**

House for sale by owner. Hato area **Call 785- 2205** . No real estate agents,

Spacious house in quiet neighborhood w. alarm system; has a master room and 3 bedrooms, bathtub, warm water installation, biological garden w. water tank, 2 driveways and more. For seriously interested, contact **786-5292**

Sudoku Puzzle

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

Sudoku Solution

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

SHOPPING and SERVICE GUIDE

AIRLINES

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

APPLIANCES /TV/ ELECTRONICS/ COMPUTERS

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



AUTOMOBILE DEALER

Check out **Auto City Bonaire** for the widest selection of new car brands on Bonaire including Chevrolet, Honda, Isuzu, Suzuki, Subaru. Used cars too. Complete service department. Hertz rentals.

BANK

ORCO Bank offers one-on-one attention, personal banking. Each client is a person, not a number.

Office in the historic building at Kaya Grandi 48.

BARS

Zazu Bar at the Harbour Village Marina is all you expect in a great bar. Super bartender, quality drinks and friendly service. Plus Bonaire's only Rum Bar— over 50 types!

BEAUTY PARLOR

Hair Affair. Expert hair cutting, styling, facials and facial waxing. Great new shop on Kaya Grandi. Walk-in service too

CARS AND BIKES

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

Want to see You See Your Business' Advertisement Here? Contact *The Reporter* at 786-6518 or email laura@bonairereporter.com. Your "bottom line" will look better as a result of advertising with us.

DENTURE REPAIR

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

ON and IN the WATER

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

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

UNDERWATER VIDEO

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

GARDEN SUPPLIES AND SERVICES

Green Label has everything you need to start or maintain your garden. They can design, install and maintain it and offer plants, irrigation supplies and garden chemicals. Off Kaya Industria, behind Lucky Supermarket.

HOME CARE

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

OPTICIAN

Buena Vista Optics is Bonaire's most up-to-date place to get eyeglasses or contact lenses. The combination of experienced personnel and advanced equipment and technology make it a top value

PHOTOGRAPHER

Bonaire's creative video and still photographer for the wedding or other important events in your life. **ScubaVision**, Kaya Grandi 6. See website scubavision.info or ScubaVision on YouTube

A Directory listing is free for regular advertisers in *The Reporter*
Call Laura at 786-6518 for information

REAL ESTATE /RENTAL AGENTS

Caribbean Homes, "the Refreshing Realtor," specializing in luxury homes, condos, lots, rentals and property management. Yacht sales too.



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



RESTAURANTS

Bistro de Paris— Waterfront location at the Harbour Village Marina. Superb menu, genuine French dishes in a waterfront ambiance. Airco if you want it.

La Balandra at The Harbour Village Resort offers Bonaire's most spectacular setting. Superb cuisine, top notch service. Eat on the deck or with your feet in the sand.

Pasa Bon Pizza—Bonaire's quality pizza-Best ingredients, best baking and best taste. Great salads and lasagna too. Eat in or take away.

Unbelievable Restaurant is offers rooftop terrace dining with a view of Kralendijk bay, a fine menu specializing in prime steaks and seafood. Just a short walk from downtown or southern "hotel row.:"

RETAIL

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

Bona Dea is Bonaire's newest Caribbean lifestyle shop featuring good taste gifts, apparel, shoes, accessories and home décor

SECURITY

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

STORAGE

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



SHIPPING

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



SPAS/GYM/HEALTH

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



SUPERMARKETS

TOP Supermarket—

Conveniently located **downtown** at the old Culti-mara location. Featuring a complete selection including liquors, fresh meat, fruit and vegetables.



Warehouse Supermarket on Kaya Industria— Big air conditioned market with a friendly staff, the largest selection and lowest prices on the island. They stock what you need.



MADE ON BONAIRE

Semper Kontentu goat cheese. Ask for it at restaurants and look for it in the markets. Lovingly handmade. Mugs available.

VARIETY STORE

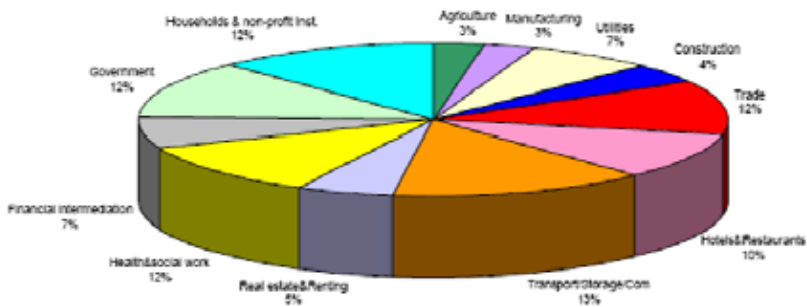
The Tung Fong Store is a great asset to everyone on Bonaire because it stocks so many thing we want: clothes, hardware, food, auto and bike supplies. If you don't see it... ask for it. They probably have it.

WATER TAXI

Get to Klein Bonaire by Ferry. Ride the *Kantika di Amor*. Hotel or downtown pickup The only water taxi to Klein Bonaire with an easy on/off built-in ramp at Bonaire Nautico (It Rains Fishes Restaurant)

Readers' Input Needed

Economic Sectors of Bonaire



The MCB Bonaire Bank wants us to go back to school and has asked the press corps to write an essay to elaborate on the actual economy of Bonaire, how do we want to see Bonaire's development and where you want to see Bonaire economically in the near future.

We, at *The Reporter* want, of course, to respond. But we also want the thoughts of as many of our readers as possible. Is the Bonaire economy healthy? Can it be improved? How much, if any, should it grow? What should be the limits of its growth? And how fast should changes be made? Just a few of the things to keep in mind.

Send in your ideas by email to reporter@bonairenews.com or to PO Box 407, Postkantoor Playa, Bonaire, Caribbean Netherlands (CN). Please get your ideas to us by October 15, 2013.

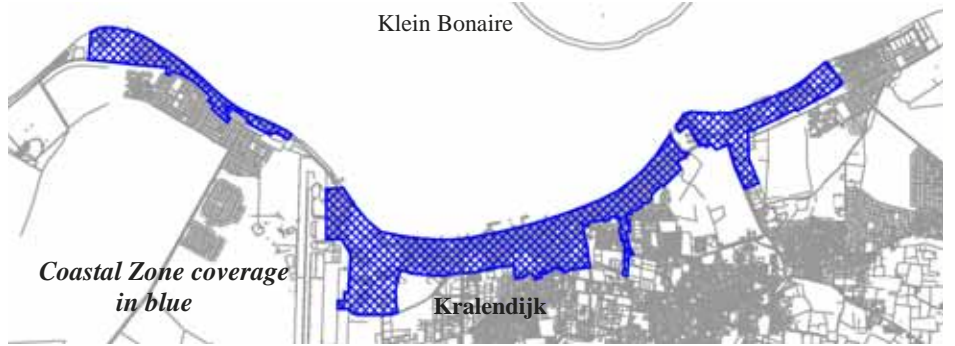
We will distill our readers' ideas, add our own and submit the essay. We must adhere to the following rules:

- ◆ The essay cannot be longer than one A-4 sheet printed, using font size 10;
- ◆ No names of any person nor political party may be mentioned;
- ◆ No reference can be made to any specific case;
- ◆ No insolent words may be used, and
- ◆ Only one essay per Press media.

A commission consisting of persons not working at the MCB Bank will evaluate all the essays and give them a score. The name of the authors who wrote the essays will not be revealed to those persons. The three authors who receive the highest score will receive a nice prize.

There will also be a consolation prize for the lowest score, so no excuse to not write the essay. The deadline to submit the essay is October 30, 2013, and during the annual award event in December the winners will be announced. ■ *Press release/G.D.*

THE MOST EXPENSIVE SEWER IN THE WORLD



Something smells bad in Bonaire. More than 20 years after the need for a sewer system to protect Bonaire's reef was confirmed, it is about to begin full operation. Its cost has been astronomical - €34.5 million - which means each connection to the 607 households, 73 hotels and businesses costs more than €50,000 each. And that cost is after the project was downsized because the contractor's price was significantly more than the available funds. The coastal strip where the buildings would be connected, was reduced from 500 meters to 200 meters from the sea, the size of the sewer pipes were specified a smaller diameter and a system malfunction remedy was deleted.

The Institute for Water Education in Delft concluded that the cost-per-connection is among the highest in the world. There is no doubt that a system to remove wastewater from the coastline is mandatory. Bonaire is surrounded by a coral reef which attracts tourists from around the planet. The reef is harmed when the nutrients from sewage promote the growth of algae which smother the sensitive coral polyps. The newly-installed sewage treatment system will pipe the wastewater from facilities within 200m.

of the most populated coastal zones to treatment facilities near the center of the island. The treated water will be sold at low prices for agricultural use.

Concerns about the project were raised as early as 2004. Motivated by a recent freezing of future funds by the European Commission, a fraud investigation by OLAF, the European Anti-Fraud Office, is escalating. Development funds from the European Commission and The Netherlands have been used to pay for the work. The payments were overseen by the Development Foundation of the Netherlands Antilles (SONA). The allegations of fraud were raised by Kay Hetzel, a fired team leader of the company that oversaw the sewer project who testified that, "I had to leave in 2011 because I did not cooperate in the fraud. I always had to pay more than the contractor was permitted under the construction agreement. That amounted to €250,000."

The affair also taints Wilbert Stolte, who has been the Kingdom Representative (*Rijksvertegenwoordiger*) for the BES Islands. He was formerly treasurer of SONA, who awarded the contract. Last week it was announced that Stolte will step down next year. ■ *Joep Dohmen*



CAR, TRUCK, MACHINE CAN'T MOVE ON ITS OWN?
Careful and professional—reasonable prices
We can move it! Call Mack 700-9601 or Email roadservicebonaire@gmail.com



On The Waterfront at The Harbour Village Marina
—
Air-conditioning

Owned and operated by a French Master

Reservations: Tel: 717-7070
email: info@bistrodeparis.com



Zazu Bar at the Harbour Village Marina
Open: Mon-Fri 3-10 pm, Sat: 5-10 pm
Bar menu available
Tel: 717-7070
email: info@bistrodeparis.com

Affordable Self Storage Conveniently located in Hato



THE STOREHOUSE MANGASINA
STORING EVERYTHING UNDER THE SUN

Choose your size from 5'x5' to 10'x20'.
Prices from \$29 to \$147 per month.
Call 700-1753

NEW Shoes!!

Clarks

@ **DUSHI SHOES**

Plus Sized Ladies Swimwear

& 3 for the price of 2 on select t-shirts

@ **Divers Discount**

With 5 locations and 3 retail stores a door-step away to your ultimate dive adventure

Without Blue there is no Green

CONSERVATION THROUGH EDUCATION

Dive Friends @ Divers Discount, Dive Friends @ Retail Outlet, Dive Friends @ Yellow Submarine, Dive Friends @ Dive Inn, Dive Friends @ Port Bonaire, Dive Friends @ Sand Dollar, Dive Friends @ Hamlet, Dive Friends @ Dushi Shoes

www.dive-friends-bonaire.com info@dive-friends-bonaire.com
+599 - 717 2929

A Pirate's Tale—Sean Paton

In 1999 one man had something of an epiphany.

On a trip hauling furniture for a friend from Sint Maarten, Sean Paton arrived on Bonaire for the very first time aboard his beloved vessel, 'Our Confidence'. After unloading his cargo, he took in the breath-taking beauty of the island. He had never seen a clearer sea, so full of life. A walk along the boulevard witnessing the unspoiled surroundings convinced Sean that this was a place that he wanted to call home.

It wasn't long before he returned to the island and for the first time in decades, the stalwart sailor became a landlubber. With his partner Marjolijn, he quickly settled on his beloved island and by 2003, was managing the Caribbean Club resort.

It was 2004 before I met Sean. My wife and I had moved to the island and were finding our feet. One Sunday, I turned on the radio and was surprised to hear the mellifluous tones of an Englishman coming from the speakers. It was comforting to hear a familiar accent but more compelling was the passion that emanated from the DJ.

A few weeks later we met Sean. Sat in a bar downtown, the peace was shattered by the sound of a Harley chopper. I saw a man dismount and walk towards the bar; long hair, steely eyes and a presence that was felt by all. "This is Sean," said the bar owner, "you know, off the radio." I don't know what I expected but he was not it. Maybe his voice lent itself to a cravat-wearing BBC broadcaster, smoothly taking us from one news story to another. Instead here was a guy who looked like a maverick with an uncanny resemblance to Led Zeppelin singer, Robert Plant.

That first meeting was brief but over the coming months and years we became good friends. We shared an interest in the environment and a love of the island. Over a period of time, Sean set up Forum Antilles, initially a website designed to highlight environmental issues not just locally but regionally and internationally. It wasn't long until this was linked to his radio program that became an institution on Bonaire for people all over the world. In his own inimitable style, he told it like it is. Interviewees knew that they were in for a rough time if they didn't answer the questions that he asked and local politicians knew that if they put a foot wrong they would be named and shamed.

Away from the radio, Sean, along with Hendrik Wuyts, made video documentaries to show us all what others tried to hide: illegal dumping, ocean pollution, inadequate water treatment, the on-going saga of landfill and Bonaire's arch nemesis, the Scientology cruise ship; *Freewinds* who uses the island as a dumping ground for its waste.

Despite ill health and threats from 'those in higher places,' Sean, supported by his wonderful partner Marjolijn, has spent more than a decade of his life trying to protect the island that he fell in love with back in 1999. Along the way he has made enemies, had his detractors and got into financial difficulty (the reward of such work is not seen in this life but hopefully the next). Unfazed, and spurred on by his many supporters, he has stuck to his principals in an effort to keep Bonaire the special place that attracts people from all over the world and for that we are truly grateful.

Sadly, Sean and Marjolijn have decided to leave Bonaire for pastures and adventures new. This will be great news for certain people on the island, specifically those who put profit before people, but for the majority of us, it is a sad day. However, his detractors should not be complacent and we should not be disheartened because from behind a laptop somewhere in the world, the fight continues. Forum Bonaire still has a voice via Facebook, and Sean's latest venture, B.I.C.E.P.S., is gaining international recognition, working with organizations such as Sea Shepherd and Greenpeace.

Sean has inspired me and many others around the world. His leaving Bonaire will be a great loss to the island and it is to the eternal shame of those in power that the invaluable work that Sean has done has never been formally recognized. I for one call for the posthumous honor of a Lifetime Achievement Award for Sean because without him, Bonaire would not be the place it is today.

I am proud and privileged to call Sean a friend and I am sure that I speak for many when I wish him and Mar all the very best for the future. ■ Antony (Tony) Bond

Tony Bond, a former Reporter author and resident of Bonaire, is now living in the U.K.



Sean Paton



Marjolijn



Memorable Meals At Bon Piká



Bon Piká inside—Aletta, Delphina and Lucille

From the minute you enter the Bon Piká Lunchroom, with its joyful colors, breezy atmosphere, the original art on the walls and smell the tantalizing aromas from the kitchen you know you will be having a memorable meal. And, it's a very friendly place.

Run by three lovely ladies—Delphina, Aletta and well known chef Lucille - the newly opened restaurant offers homemade specialties, some with an extra dash of "pika," and even some with a double dash.

Delphina and Aletta have been involved in the food and beverage trade for many years. Chef Lucille, who has been honored by the worldwide gastronomic organization, *Chaîne des Rôtisseurs*, is in her element, creating many of her Thai and curry dishes. It is she who is responsible for the mouth watering aromas coming from the kitchen. What she does with chicken, beef, fish and even goat is incomparable.

Salads are made with the freshest ingredients, featuring "designer" lettuces. And the dressings, sauces and side orders are all homemade. There's a good array of sandwiches, warm and cold, as well as Paninis. Their hamburgers are considered by some as the best on the

island. Try the Bon Pika version. Specials of the day include Lucille's' seasonable soups or a warm dish. And prices are reasonable.

There are two private dining rooms, one with airco that can be used for breakfast or luncheon meetings.

Bon Piká is open for breakfast and lunch or stop by for a special Cubita coffee, homemade pies or cheesecake. On the first Saturday of every month from 11 am to 4 pm, there's a BBQ for \$10. Their other menu is available as well.

One of the joys is the ample parking in the back. You will see Bon Pika signs across the street from Kooyman, pointing the way. Bon Pika is open Monday through Saturday, 8 am to 4 pm., Tel. 717-1661. Find them on Facebook too.

■ Story & photo by Laura DeSalvo



A Helmet For a Promise

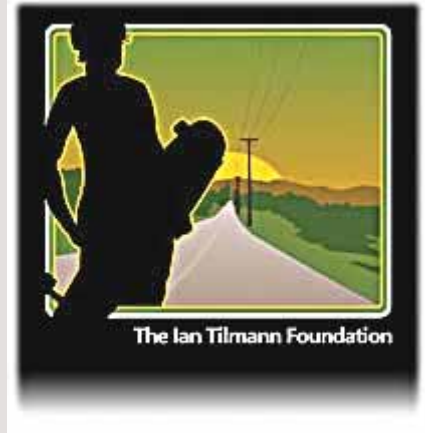
Safety Harbor/Bonaire –

This week I found an envelope in my mailbox. "For J@n," it said. When I opened it I found four pages of information and some helmet stickers about The Ian Tilmann Foundation. It appeared that Ian was a youngster from Florida, born in 1976 who died on the 26th of May 2005 because of Traumatic Brain Injuries. One day in May he and his friends were longboarding down Hercules Avenue in Clearwater, Florida. Unfortunately his board locked up on a so called "wheel bite" and he was thrown headfirst onto the pavement. Ian, age 28, was not wearing a helmet and as a result of that he suffered Traumatic Brain Injuries. He never regained consciousness and passed away after 10 days.

His mother started The Ian Tilmann Foundation and the Helmet for a Promise campaign. Skaters can receive a free hard shell helmet if they promise to wear it every time they skate. It does not have to be too late to wear a helmet. "Skate smart, wear a helmet. Live to skate tomorrow!"

More information: www.theiantilmannfoundation.org.

On Friday September 13th, very early in the morning a guy with a scooter stopped in front of my house. He grabbed the old black full face helmet that was waiting for him from the fence. So finally it works. Time to place another helmet on the fence! ■ Jan Brouwer



The Ian Tilmann Foundation

WHAT'S HAPPENING

CLOSE-IN EVENTS

Thursday, September 19, Time: 7 - 8pm Location: CIEE,



Kaya Gob. N. Debrot 26, Talk: Does removal work? A one-year comparison of lionfish removal efforts at Klein Bonaire given by Fadilah Ali, PhD Student (University of Southampton)

Talk Description: Lionfish were first confirmed in Bonaire on October 26th, 2009. Since then an extensive removal program has been established and is especially successful due to the ease of accessibility via shore diving in Bonaire. However Klein Bonaire, which is only accessible by boat, has reduced hunting pressures. A study was conducted in 2012 whereby the entire coastline of Klein Bonaire was surveyed and data collected on lionfish density, behavior and ecology. A year later, this study was repeated to determine the effectiveness of removal efforts, and whether they were actually making a difference in the lionfish population. The results of this research suggest that there was a massive reduction in the number of lionfish seen and caught. This study also revealed that continuous removal of lionfish is key to their control and shows that lionfish removals, even by volunteers, can make a great difference.

Friday, September 20—Classical Music Board presents “Bach Stress.” Bach solo music for violin (violinist Jeroen de Groot) and lyrics from his letters—Carla Hardy. Plaza resort, 8 pm. Tickets \$20, students, \$10 with id, at Addo's Books, Flamingo Book Store, or on line at ClassicalMusicBonaire website. More on page 3.

Saturday, September 21, Big Book Fair at the Bonaire Animal Shelter on the Lagoen Road, 10 am—1 pm. Books, food, drinks. All to help keep the Shelter open for homeless cats and dogs.

Sunday September 22 –
- Mountain Bike Fun Race
- World Cleanup Day
- Autumnal Equinox-Summer's End, length of day and night almost equal.

Friday, September 27 – Taste of Bonaire, 6pm, Playa

Sunday, September 29—Health Market “Feria di Salu” (more on page 10)

October 6 - 12—46th Bonaire International Sailing Regatta . Full sailing program planned. Shore-side events begin on Wednesday.

REGULAR EVENTS

• **Bonaire Ayurvedic Vegetarian Kitchen**, open Tuesday through Friday, 12 noon to 1:30 pm, Go Green at Bonaire Basics, Kaya Korona #47. Call for reservations 700-5488

• **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** - closed due to lack of financing.

Saturdays

• **Last Saturday of the month** – donate foods and household items to Food Bank (*Stichting voedselbank Bonaire*) from 10 am-4 pm, in front of Van den Tweel Supermarket

• **Open House at Semper Kontentu milk goat farm. Second Saturday of the month**, 8 am to 12 noon. 786-6950

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

• **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. Drop off cast offs on Saturdays or at the Shelter on the Lagoen Road weekdays. 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. +5999-560-7539.*) 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– Bonaire's 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*.

Wednesdays

Divemaster's Night at Bistro de Paris Restaurant at Harbour Village Marina. Free house rum when you buy a coke.

30-minute Meditation at Yoga Bonaire, 12 noon, Bonaire Basics. Donation. 786-6416 or info@bonaireyoga.com

Fridays

Happy Hour party at Bistro Di Paris. Ricky Thomas performs Reggae, Soul, Latin and more 6- 9pm.

FREE SLIDE/VIDEO SHOWS

Monday - Touch the Sea -- Will resume in November- 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

Museo Sentro Chichi'Tan, historical home, behind Rose Inn, Rincon, open 10am-4pm daily. Tel. 786-6420

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

Bridge Club - Every Wednesday, Bridge Club on Bonaire. 19:15, contact Jeroen Seegers for information tel. 717-4200 or 788-2819 or jeroen@telbonet.an

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

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

Rotary lunch meetings Wednesdays, 12:15-2 pm - Divi Flamingo Beach Resort in Peter Hughes meeting room upstairs above the dive shop. All Rotarians welcome. Call Gregory Obersi 785-9446.

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

CHURCH SERVICES

Protestant Congregation of Bonaire: (VPGB), Kralendijk, Plaza Wilhelmina; Sunday service-10 am in Dutch.

Rincon, Kaya C.D. Crestian; Sunday service-8:30 am in Papiamentu/Dutch.

Children's club-every Saturday from 4:30-6 pm in Kralendijk, (annex of the church.) Contact; Marytjin@gmail.com or Daisycoffie@hotmail.com

International Bible Church, Kaya Papago 104, Hato, behind Bon Fysio/Bon Bida Spa & Gym on Kaya Gob. N. Debrot. Sunday 9am-Worship service in English; 10:45am-Sunday school for all ages. Tuesday 7:30 pm-Adult Bible study class. 717-8377 for more info or ride 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. Wed. 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-11:30am. Bible studies in English on Monday nights from 7-8 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) 10:20am- 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 pm, in Papiamentu and Spanish. For Marriage Counseling, contact 717-2161.

Iglesia di Cristo (Church of Christ) Sunday: 10:30 am & 7:00 pm; Wednesday: 7:00 pm. Services in Papiamentu (English also if needed) Address: Kaya Msgr. Nieuwindt 25 (same street as Dr. Dorvil) Cell: 796-0721 email: iglesiadicristobonaire@gmail.com

Call The Reporter at 786-6518 or email reporter@bonairenews.com if you have something HAPPENING

Who's Who on The Bonaire Reporter

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

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

Reporters: Captain Don, Tony Bond, Evert Bongers, J@n Brouwer, Sra. Bula Bonchi, Linda Cober, Joep Dohmen, Rik de Hek, Greta Kooistra, Jerry Ligon, Jane Disko-Madden, Dean Regas, Emma Sint Jago, 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 ©2013 *The Bonaire Reporter*

Pet of the Week



Princess Paula

Because she's so quiet and unassuming, you might not even notice "Paula" when you visit the Bonaire Animal Shelter cat compound. While most of her roommates will come running up to a visitor with "pick me" desperation, Paula sits calmly off to the side, as if she knows that some people have an irrational fear of black cats. But show her the slightest bit of attention and she is immediately at your side, welcoming you to stroke her luxurious fur and gratitude filling her beautiful eyes. Paula is an adult cat, not quite two years old, sterilized and in perfect health. Her ultimate goal is to be a lifelong companion to someone who is looking for a calm, intelligent, adoring feline friend. She is happiest in close

proximity to her human without interfering with whatever it is the human needs to do...but of course an invitation to sit in a lap or by your side is gratefully accepted. Paula's laid back demeanor makes her a perfect candidate for either a single or multi-cat household. She is a beautiful, gentle and loving cat who deserves an equally loving forever home. Please come visit Paula and all her other companions, both feline and canine, at the Bonaire Animal Shelter on Kaminda Lagoen, Monday through Saturday, 9 am to 1 pm. and 3 to 5 pm. You might go home with a new best friend. Tel. 717-4989. WWW.BonaireAnimalShelter.com <http://www.facebook.com/AnimalShelterBonaire> ■ Jane Madden-Disko

Shelter News

BIG BOOK FAIR AT THE SHELTER

Saturday, September 21, from 10am to 1pm, the Bonaire Animal Shelter will have a secondhand Book Fair at the Shelter premises. Hundreds of books will be for sale with a price of only \$1.25 per book. All the funds raised from the event go towards keep the Shelter open for unwanted cats and dogs. Snacks and drinks will also be available.

Also on this day the cat and dog adoptions will be half price!

The Shelter is looking for donations of unwanted or unused items. Now's the time to clean out those closets and get rid of what you can't use and help the Animal Shelter. What's junk to you can be a treasure to someone else! Drop off your things from now until Friday, September 20, at the Shelter on Lagoen Road."

Phone: 7174989 Web: <http://www.facebook.com/AnimalShelterBonaire>

Bonaire Animal Shelter Auction Alert

The annual Art Auction in December needs you! They'd very much like to have donations of arts or crafts or services (such as painting, plumbing, carpentry, maintenance) or entertainment or other "saleable things." The proceeds of the Auction this year will go towards refurbishing the cat cage which leaks like a

sieve when it rains (is there nothing sadder looking than a wet cat?) plus other very unpleasant aspects of the current aged cage. If you can't bring the items yourself call the Shelter at 717-4989, and they can even make arrangements to pick up the item(s) you are donating.

Adoptions

There have been a number of adoptions at the Shelter recently (see <http://www.facebook.com/AnimalShelterBonaire>). Interestingly, many of them are going to homes that already have a pet but that pet is lonely for another one. How perfect. We have seen how these "new additions" from the Shelter when brought into a home with a lonesome cat or dog, make everyone so happy and no longer lonely. What could be easier? You know that all the pets up for adoption at the Shelter are hale and hearty, in perfect health and have been "socialized." If you're looking for a particular pet with particular attributes—like good with children, with older people, with cats, etc., check with the Shelter staff. They know their pets inside and out! ■

Laura DeSalvo

Be Wise
Sterilize

Bonaire Animal Shelter
Call 717-4989

Support For The Youth Choir

The Stichting voor Kunst en Cultuur van Bonaire (Foundation for Art and Culture in Bonaire) is presided over by Emma Sint Jago, daughter of the venerable Bonairean folk music composer, Olimpio Sint Jago, aged 99.

The youth choir 'Kanta Boneiru' is run by several volunteers who believe very strongly in their motto: "Mas bo siña, mas bo ta" (The more you learn, the more you are). Their goal is to teach young people from Bonaire the roots of their musical culture and heritage.

Emma and a group of friends write music and songs for the choir. Last year they were able to rent a house in Rincon to serve as their studio and rehearsal rooms. The composer of many of their songs is Veronica Mercera, decorated for her contributions to the arts. The leaders of the choir are several singers, Dolores Bernabela, Flora Molina, Hermenegilda Anthony. The foundation wants young people to take the future lead. Mireille Domacasse has already started. Who follows? The musical theory teacher is Franklin Scherptong, also decorated for his cultural contributions. Musicians from Tutti Frutti help to train the children – Richenel Anthony and Francis Domacassé teach the "kuarta" and Orlando Tjin A Sjoie the guitar, and Injmar Meyers and Genaro Anthony teach the local drum – the "bari and wiri." The important work of this foundation relies almost exclusively on the generosity of friends and those for whom Bonaire, and its young people – our future – are held dear. If you are able to help, please visit the blog tuturu.org/blog for more information. ■ Emma Sint Jago



Karen van Dijk supported Emma Sint Jago's Stichting voor Kunst en Cultuur with a donation of \$300

Bona Dea
Caribbean Life Style

Gifts, Apparel, Shoes,
Home Decor,
Accessories

Open Monday-Saturday
9 am-1 pm & 2 pm-6:30 pm

Kaya Isla Riba z/n
Kralendijk, Bonaire, CN
Phone 599 -787-0899

I'm connected with my Personal banker

ORCO BANK

- Personal loans & mortgages (resident and non-resident)
- Corporate loans
- Current Account facilities
- Debit & Credit Cards
- Time deposits
- Internet banking
- Insurances

05 August at 2:20 · Like 2,568 People

→ ORCO Bank, extra ordinary banking...extra benefits for you

ORCO BANK
Your Personal Banker

Kaya Grandi # 48
Bonaire, Dutch Caribbean
Tel: (599) 717-2000 Fax: (599) 717-2035
www.orcobank.com e-mail: info@orcobank.com

UNITED COLORS OF BENETTON.

LATEST TREND
NEW COLLECTION
IN STORE NOW!

DRESSES | SHORTS | LINNEN PANTS
TOPS | SHOES | BAGS

KAYA GRANDI #29
KRALENDIJK, BONAIRE CN
TEL: +599 7175107
@: BENETTONBONAIRE@TELBONET.AN



BONAIRE SKY PARK*

*to find it... just look up

HOW DARK IS THE SKY PARK AND MORE...

This is a "watery" time of year in the Sky Park. At least six constellations appear in our southern skies named after seas or sea animals. Named after the Whale, the Fishes, the Water Bearer, the Southern Fish, the Sea Goat, and the Dolphin, they may commemorate an epoch of great floods long ago.

September 22nd is summer's end. It marks the Autumn Equinox, one of two dates in the year when the length of day and night are almost exactly equal.

Another early sign of autumn is the appearance of the **Great Square of Pegasus**, that huge shape of four almost equally bright stars that lies just north of the watery region.

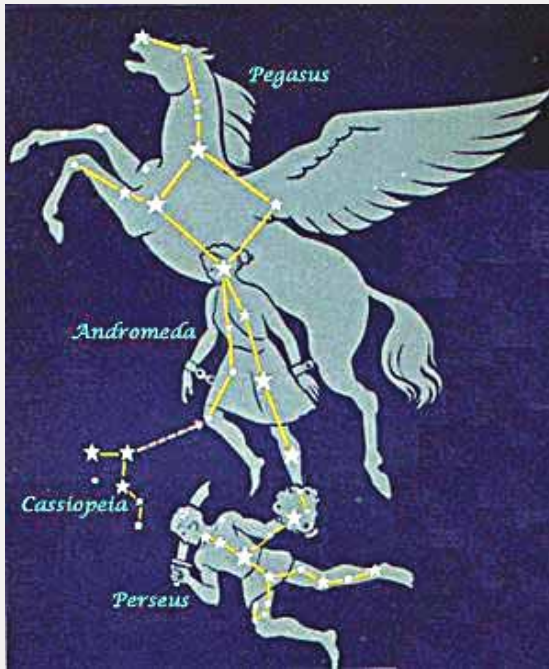
Starting at the north-western corner of the Square and moving clockwise, they are **Scheat** (*Beta Pegasi*), **Markab** the brightest (*Alpha Pegasi*), **Algenib** (*Gamma Pegasi*), and **Alpheratz** which is not part of Pegasus at all but was moved by astronomical officials to neighboring **Andromeda** in 1922 when its name was changed to *Alpha Andromedae*.

How dark is the Sky Park? To test this, see how many stars you can see with the naked eye in the Square. To see only one is poor while to see 35 is exceptional. The Square also contains (though not for the naked eye) five galaxies in violent collision known as **Stephan's Quintet**.

The most prominent of all galaxies--apart from our own--can be easily seen just north of Pegasus. It is **M31**, the great spiral nebula in **Andromeda**. At 2.5 million light-years distant, it is rushing towards our **Milky Way** and within a few billion years will collide with it.

And appearing towards midnight as a harbinger of winter is the magnificent **Pleiades** cluster in **Taurus**. This is the so-called **Seven Sisters**, although in fact these young stars, all of them about a hundredth of the **Sun's** age, number several hundred.

Then face north, look straight up, almost overhead, and you will see an extremely bright star right next to four dimmer stars which if connected by lines would make a



lopsided rectangle which is more properly called a parallelogram. These stars plus a handful of others make up the ancient **constellation Lyra** the harp.

But Lyra's brightest star **Vega** is the real attention grabber. It is the fifth brightest star and compared to our Sun it's a doozy. For starters while our Sun is 865 thousand miles wide, Vega is over twice as wide, two million miles. And Vega's white color tells us that it is a super hot star, much hotter than our own yellow-orange Sun. In fact our Sun's surface temperature is a mere 10 thousand degrees Fahrenheit whereas Vega's is a blistering 17,000 degrees. So because Vega is much bigger and hotter it is over 50 times brighter!

But one of the really nifty things about Vega is that it once was and will again be our **North Star**, a much brighter one than our current North Star, which is the end star of the handle of the Little Dipper. You see the North Star is simply the star directly above our **Earth's north pole**, the one towards which our Earth's axis points. But because of a regular, very slow wobbling motion of our Earth, like a top slowing down, our Earth's axis doesn't always point to the same spot in the heavens. In fact our Earth's axis traces out a great circle in the sky. In about 11,500 years, Vega will be our North Star! ■ *Dean Regas*



THE STARS HAVE IT

By Astrologer Michael Thiessen

September 2013

ARIES (Mar. 21- April 20) Communication will be your best bet. You can have quite the romantic adventure if you take time to get to know your mate all over again. You can continue to forge ahead if you make a few long distance calls pertinent to closing pending deals. Travel for business purposes may bring the highest returns. Your lucky day will be Thursday.

TAURUS (Apr. 21- May 21) Hassles with female colleagues may lead to problems with your boss. Don't let your mate bully you into thinking that you owe them your time and your life. It may not be the best time to socialize with clients or colleagues this week. You need to look into ways to change your self-image. Your lucky day is Tuesday.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21) Your need to be in a leadership position will help you surpass any rivals you might encounter. Don't overdo it. You need to enjoy yourself. Travel and educational pursuits may help alleviate the stress you have been feeling. Money may slip through your fingers. Your lucky day will be Thursday.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) Your communication skills are at an all-time high. You can be sure that any dealing with large institutions should go well. Don't allow colleagues to put unreasonable pressure on you. You can come into money; however, perhaps not under the best circumstances. Your lucky day will be Friday.

LEO (July 23-Aug 22) Involvement in groups will be favorable. Business partnerships will prove lucrative. You are best to tuck your money away where no one will be able to touch it, including yourself. Remember; talk to them, not at them. Your loved ones could set you off. Your lucky day will be Wednesday.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) Romantic opportunities may not be as they appear. Try not to argue about trivial matters. You're not your usual self this week. You are best to be accommodat-

ing for the time being. Sudden romantic infatuations won't be lasting. Your lucky day will be Friday.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) Do not allow colleagues to hinder your ambitions. Pleasure trips will promote new romantic encounters. Your persuasive nature will win the heart of someone you've had your eye on. Get together with people who stimulate you mentally. Your lucky day will be Friday.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) Short trips will prove to be more fruitful than you imagined. You may have the energy to clear up that mound of paperwork facing you. Don't count your chickens before they hatch. Lovers may prove unworthy of your affection. Your lucky day will be Tuesday.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) Be sure not to burn any bridges. You are best to work at home if you can. Be careful not to hurt the ones you love. Don't try to deal with important issues or make changes that will upset the apple cart. Your lucky day will be Wednesday.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) It might be time to pick up the slack and do your share. Listen to the advice given by those with experience. Empty promises are evident; therefore, get it in writing, to be safe. Your family may be feeling neglected and unloved. Your lucky day will be Wednesday.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) Females may put demands or added responsibilities on you. Throw yourself into your work. Travel for pleasure will be enticing. You should channel your efforts into getting rid of bad habits. Your lucky day will be Wednesday.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) Be careful what you consume this week. Travel will also be very informative. You can form new partnerships, but don't move too quickly; things may not be as they appear. You can expect to have some problems with skin, bones, or teeth if you haven't taken proper care of them. Your lucky day will be Thursday. ■

DE FREEWIELER
Sales and Repair for Road, Mountain and Dutch bikes

Featuring Giant, Bikkell and Golden Lion bikes

Parts and accessories for all brands of bikes and scooters
Beautiful Bike Clothes

All type of house and car keys duplicated

Kaya Grandi #61
"The blue building"
Call 717-8545

Open: 8:30-12:30, 2:00-5:30
Owner Operated

Web: www.bonairefreewieler.com
Email: freewieler@bonairefreewieler.com

The Bike Professionals

Bonaire Reporter- September 16-30, 2013

ADVERTISING. INFOMERCIALS. DOCUMENTARY
BROADCAST. POST-PRODUCTIONS. STOCK & PORTFOLIO

SCUBA VISION films

ASK FOR A FREE QUOTE. 3 TIMES GOLDEN CAMERA
AWARD WINNER. FROM THE MAKERS OF TOURIST TV
WWW.SCUBAVISION.INFO - INFO@SCUBAVISION.INFO - PH: 786.2844

Your private paradise in the beautiful rural hills of Lagoen.



Kaminda Lagoen z/n

- 2 bedrooms / 2 bathrooms
- 2 wide uncovered terraces
- gourmet kitchen with appliances
- stylish home in remote rural area
- palm greenery, storage, stable, horse-training area
- private location with views
- long lease land (registered 5-C-183)
- leased land 51 acres / 21 hectare
- lot size: 21,520 sq.ft / 2.000 m2
- living area: 1,301 sq.ft / 121 m2

Asking price US\$ 337,000

Kaya L.D. Gerharts 3 & 8 Bonaire, Dutch Caribbean T +599 717 65 60



F +599 717 65 70 info@sunbeltbonaire.com www.sunbeltbonaire.com

City Shop
Bonaire C.N.

www.cityshopbonaire.com

New Collection

Facebook "like" us on facebook /cityshopmegastore

Follow us on Twitter @cityshopnv

Email: info@cityshopbonaire.com

Kaya International #36- Kralendijk- Bonaire
Tel: 717/3666- Fax: 717/4650



Available in black color