

**It's Still  
FREE**

**BONAIRE** October 13-27, 2014 -Year 21, Issue 20  
**The REPORTER**  
*BES Island News Too*

P. O. Box 407, Bonaire, Dutch Caribbean, Phone 786-6518, 786-6125, [www.bonairereporter.com](http://www.bonairereporter.com) email: [reporter@bonairenews.com](mailto:reporter@bonairenews.com) Since 1994





There will be no new constitutional referendum in Bonaire for now, at least not on December 10, 2014, as proposed by the opposition parties and also not before the Island Council election of March 2015. A motion presented by the PDB and MLB fractions was rejected by the UPB/Santana coalition. No commitment for a future Referendum was established either.



"We are of the opinion that we cannot confuse the people. A referendum is a serious matter, especially on the right of self-determination," argued UPB-fraction leader Jeffrey Levenstone. "The public needs to be well-informed and if this is mixed with a political campaign that won't be the case..."

See article on page 3 for an educated opinion on continuing self-determination for the BES Islands.

**THE HAGUE—Foreign residents of the BES Islands should be able to vote in next March's Island Council elections.** The road has been cleared for the Second Chamber of the Dutch Parliament to approve the law proposal this Tuesday enabling non-Dutch legal residents to continue to vote and to also be elected into the Island Council.

This right will disappear when the Dutch Constitution has been amended. Once this amendment has gone into effect, the voting rights of foreigners for the Island Councils will be taken away. The year 2019 is the target.

**THE HAGUE—An apparently politically motivated motion to immediately dismiss newly appointed BES Island National Government Representative (Rijksweterveregenwoordiger) for Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba, Gilbert Isabella, was voted down last Tuesday** when PVV member of Parliament Fritsma tabled his motion to revoke Isabella's appointment. Since assuming his position Isabella has been visiting the islands and acquainting himself with the people. He also has started a blog dealing with his official duties.

Between September 26th and November 7<sup>th</sup> 2014 Statistics Netherlands (Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek- CBS) is conducting **Labor force survey (Arbeidskrachtenonderzoek-AKO)**. CBS interviewers will go to the randomly selected households to administer the questionnaire.

The AKO is a sample survey among households. The objective is to measure the developments on the labor market. The survey is carried out every other year. This year again the survey will also be carried out on Saba and St. Eustatius. However, on Saba and St. Eustatius the AKO will be carried out between the November 14 and December 31.

On Bonaire a total of 802 households were randomly selected for the survey; 524 on Saba and 411 on St. Eustatius.

The results of the AKO will be published in the second quarter of 2015.

Bonaire is about to move into the 21<sup>st</sup> century as far as mobile communications are concerned. **This month TELBO plans to become the first local telecom provider operating a state of the art, next generation LTE based mobile network.** Currently they are testing voice, data and SMS services. Ultrafast data speeds up to 21 Mbps, significantly faster than many land lines as well as mobile connections, and the first island wide coverage calls have been made successfully.

The next milestone for the LTE network roll-out is to pass the mandatory certification test commissioned by Agentschap Telecom. Telbo expects to have completed the certification test before the end of this month.

**WILLEMSTAD, Curacao (AP) — Last month a judge in Curacao sentenced one man to life in prison and acquitted two others in the May 2013 assassination of Helmin Wiles, a prominent political leader on the island.**

The judge found Elvis Kuwas guilty on charges including murder in the death of Wiles and sentenced him to life in prison. Two alleged accomplices were acquitted in the slaying of Wiles but convicted on unrelated weapons and robbery charges.

Wiles was a prominent member of Parliament and a founder of the pro-independent Pueblo Soberano. Prosecutors have not disclosed the motive in the slaying and say an investigation into who ordered the killing remains open.

**Bonaire Coral Puzzle: A Shore Effect?**

Sixteen years ago, the Bonaire Marine Park started a long term experiment in coral development. They installed concrete mooring blocks along the shoreline of Kralendijk for yachts and boats to moor. Coral colonies began colonizing the block faces. I've discovered that this intriguing growth was not random but seemed followed patterns, some quite puzzling. Here is one of them.

There are two lines of the moorings between Kralendijk and Kaya di Regatta. One line consists of a dozen moorings constructed from three blocks each and is located away from shore, just near the reef drop-off. Another line consists of a dozen moorings constructed from two blocks each and is located on the sand flat, half way between the reef drop-off and the shore. Let's compare exposed vertical faces of the blocks near the reef and those of the blocks near the shore. Where would we expect to find more corals? Wouldn't corals prefer to grow near the reef and away from the shore due to the turbulent water and its polluted waste and sediment average coming off? The corals provided surprises.

More live coral colonies grew on the faces of the blocks close to the shore than on those close to the reef. Only 17% of the faces of the reef blocks are covered with live corals. More A shows such an average face. Twice as much, 33% of the close-to-shore faces are covered with live corals, so in places close to the reef.

Are shore effects good for the corals? Are some off-shore effects bad for the corals? What factors are responsible? Was it depth? Was it light? Was it human related? Genady Filkovsky

Figure A -- an "offshore" coral covered block

Figure B -- an "onshore" coral covered block

If you are interested in discussing this puzzle and the solution or to get more information, write to Genady Filkovsky, Email: [lganeshill@yaho.com](mailto:lganeshill@yaho.com)

The 13-part story by Genady Filkovsky titled "Bonaire Coral Puzzle" that ran in *The Bonaire Reporter* last year has been published as a scientific study here: <http://benthamopen.com/tombj/articles/V008/1TOMBJ.pdf>. It's a bit academic but understandable for most serious environmentally-concerned divers.

**Remember the "Treasures of the World concert" coming up on Friday, October 17, at 8pm, featuring Inge Laurijssens – Violin; Hein van Maarschalkerwaard – Clarinet; and Ilja Huang - Piano.** It's at the Our Lady of Coromoto Church, on Kaya Korona 126 in Antriol.

It will be a concerto with music from composers from all over the world, including Mozart, Brahms, Claude Debussy, George Gershwin, Vittorio Monti, Carlos Gardel and several Antillean composers.

Tickets for the concert are at: Addo's Bookstore, Flamingo Bookstore and Valerie's Airport Shop or may be reserved at our Classical Music Board Bonaire website. The cost is \$25 in advance, or \$30 at the church \$30. Student (with ID) tickets are \$10. For more information and/or tickets: telephone **786-0455**

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*Flotsam and Jetsam (Continued from page 2)*

► Good news for travelers from the US. **“Operation of the second Delta flight has been confirmed through peak season next year 2015.”** said Director of Tourism Pieterella. “The fact that the traffic being carried on Friday was incremental and didn’t dilute the Saturday load factors was enough to sway the decision to maintain the Friday Delta flight,” he said.

► Look up in the Bonaire Sky Park for meteors. **The Orionids, an average shower producing about 20 meteors per hour, usually peaks on October 21st, but it is highly irregular.** A good show could be experienced on any morning from October 20 - 24, and some meteors may be seen any time from October 17 - 25. Best viewing will be to the east after midnight.

► On Monday, October 27, the US Vice Consul will visit Bonaire. If you need



your passport renewed, have a question, need to conduct any business that requires a personal appearance she will be able to be of service. This includes notary services as well. Please send an e mail, [Michaelgaynor@Bonairehelpdesk.com](mailto:Michaelgaynor@Bonairehelpdesk.com) or call 717-4781 /795-1574 to make an appointment. American citizens can meet the Vice Council at the TWR studio on

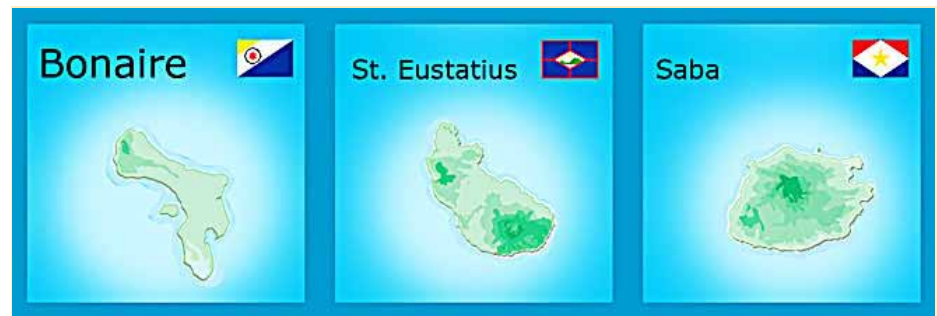
Kaya Gob DeBrot from 11am to 5 pm, October 27. **Please call or mail for an appointment.**

► For the current 2014 - 2015 peak winter cruise-ship season, which starts November 8, 2014, and runs until April 26, 2015, Bonaire is **projecting approximately 190,000 passenger arrivals, which is an increase of 20,000 passengers compared to 2013-2014.** Total for the calendar year 2015 is projected at 250,000 passengers.

In order to provide better service for the cruise passengers, the downtown area will again be closed off for vehicles whenever there are more than 1,200 passengers per day. The closed off areas will continue to be the intersection at the Ex-City Café and the BC parking area. When there are two cruise ships in port, the intersection of Kaya C.E.B. Hellmond and Kaya Gilberto F. Croes will also be closed for traffic.

Employees of all the companies who adhere to the TCB Cruise operating standards will be wearing a badge, now in production, which allows them to operate within the City Center boundaries during the cruise season. Additional information regarding the Cruise Schedule is available on line at: [www.tourismbonaire.com](http://www.tourismbonaire.com)

► AMSTERDAM--**The Netherlands is one of the best places in the world to grow old, with the over-60s** having an average of 17.8 years of healthy life ahead of them, according to a global survey by Help Age



► ST. EUSTATIUS-- In a well-attended town hall meeting in St. Eustatius, former Governor of the Netherlands Antilles, **Professor Jaime Saleh**, a scholar in constitutional law, shared with his audience his views on the current constitutional status of the Dutch Caribbean.

He said that, although he agreed with many of the complaints about the status of the “public entity,” **it is not so much the status that matters but much more the way laws and regulations are implemented.**

He very much doubts that an alternative status, whatever this may be, will take away the complaints. In his opinion it is very important that the three island governments and the private sector come together to see how matters can be resolved.

Comparing the current status with the former Netherlands Antilles he disagreed with the notion that the islands, which have were assigned public entity status, have less autonomy than before. On the question whether a referendum should be held before or after the planned evaluation of the assignment, he stated that it was up to the people if and when they want to hold a referendum. It was his opinion, however, that the best time for this would be after the evaluation in order to make full use of the information on the current status that will become available.

He stressed that any referendum cannot be binding and future governments can change plans anytime.

The Netherlands scored as the sixth best on a list of 96 countries. Norway was named the best, while Afghanistan scored worst.

► An exciting new shop will be opening soon upstairs at La Terraza, above Botika Bonaire on Kaya Grandi. It’s **Penny Lane Exchange—a consignment shop** where

you can bring in your hardly worn clothing and share the profit when it’s sold. Buyers can find a good selection of clothes for everyone in the family. Everyone wins.

Opening is scheduled for Friday, October 31, Halloween. Check it out. See their ad below. ■

G./L.D.

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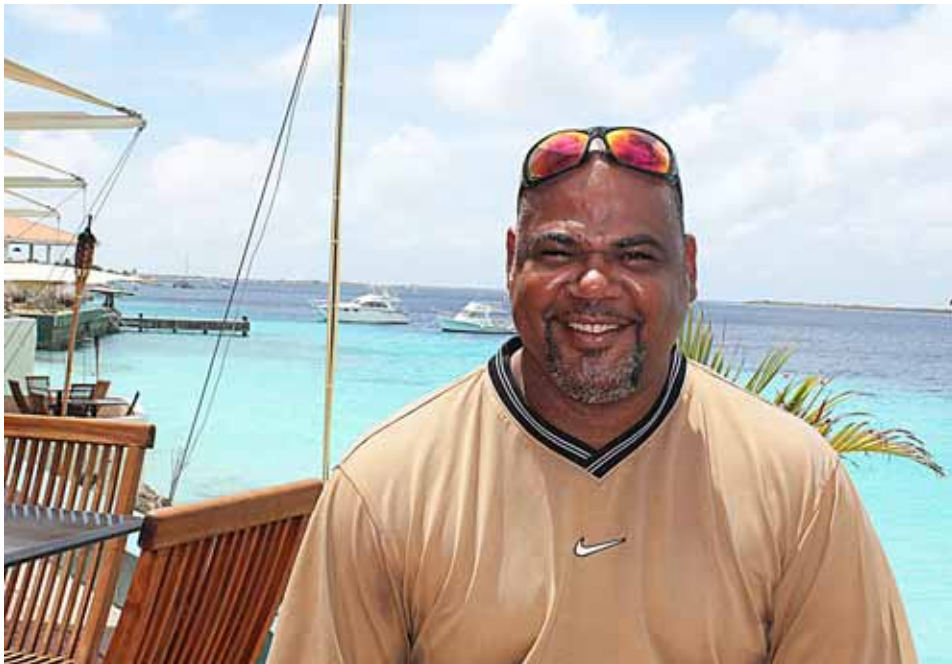
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# Born on Bonaire... July 6th, 1969 - Tirzo 'TT' Cicilia



Tirzo 'TT' Cicilia

“My dad worked at the Salt Company and we were nine kids: three girls, six boys. I am the youngest and when I was still little my older brothers and sisters were already working so it was never as hard for me as it was for them. I grew up in Nikiboko and my childhood friends are my best friends still today - friendships of more than 40 years! Each one of us has left the island for a long or short period of time, but we’ve all come back.

After elementary school I did hospitality training. In 1986 I started working at Flamingo Beach Hotel as a cook helper. That same year my mom passed away and then, in 1987, I left for St. Martin with one of my brothers. It was great: so much to do, such hustle and bustle, and I was young and I loved it! I started off as a chef, then I became a waiter, a cashier at the casino and a supervisor at a lottery office. Also I married a girl from St. Martin; we had two children while we lived there, but I had a son with someone else as well. He is now 22 and living on Curacao.

When on September 5<sup>th</sup>, 1995, the eye of Category Four Hurricane Luis passed over St. Martin, the island was devastated. It was a total loss; no water, no electricity,

2000 I started at Rum Runners as a waiter. Some time later I became supervisor, but a year later, in 2001, I became government inspector for the Divi and Plaza casinos.

In 2003 my wife went back to St. Martin with the children. At the beginning of the divorce, when they were little, I went to visit them frequently. Nowadays I don’t see them very often but through the phone and WhatsApp I hear more of them. They’re big kids now and they are living their own lives. The youngest is 14, the oldest 27.

Also in 2003, I came back to Rum Runners and became the supervisor. I like my job. The team here is close-knit and you meet a lot of people of different nationalities and all walks of life. I like to exchange opinions and interact with the clients. Many times you get compliments about Bonaire, the people and its nature. You see, that’s what they come for - the underwater world - but also the land, the island itself. They often tell me how much they like the people of Bonaire and that people here are very different from those on the other islands - much nicer, way more chill and very helpful.

In 2009 I became the manager of Rum Runners but I don’t feel I’m the boss;

**“...people come to Bonaire because they like it as it is. They love the tranquility, the nature and the culture. High rise hotels and traffic is something you find everywhere. Then the tourists might as well stay at home...”**

not a leaf left on a single tree. All the yachts were crushed, neighborhoods were flattened and there were no more jobs. I returned to Bonaire with my wife and kids. Our intention was to wait until St. Martin had recovered and then we would go back, but my wife loved Bonaire, so we stayed. After one week I got a job as a waiter at the Green Parrot, a restaurant at Sand Dollar. There was no more partying. We were living a quiet family life and we had two more children.

In 1999 Hurricane Lenny’s storm surge damaged a great part of Bonaire’s coastline and the Green Parrot restaurant was swallowed by the sea and I lost my job. In

we’re all colleagues on the same team. It’s like the owner says, “Nobody is the boss; we are a team and together we make it happen!” It’s going good and better!

At home I live with Julenne de Palm; I’ve known her for a long time because we have a 17-year-old son and a 14-year-old son. We’ve been living together for nine years now. We live with my dad in his house. He’s partially paralyzed and we take care of him. Julenne is a great, hard working girl. She’s a happy person and she’s fun and she takes good care of us and the house. She works as a ground stewardess with BAS at the airport, but she has also worked at Pasa Bon Pizza, and for a long time she worked the two jobs.



TT and his colleagues, Walter 'El Toro' and Arelis

I have a good relationship with all my children and I love them all the same. I do everything I can to give them a good education. My son in Curacao stills goes to school and I help him financially because I’m proud that he’s still studying.

I never felt like learning. I’ve always loved my work and I still do. I don’t have hobbies. When I am free I spend one day with the family and one night I go out with my buddies. We sit at the Chinese and we drink and chat. Those are my friends from 40 years ago - the Anchor Gang, hahaha! Over the last years we’ve been going to reggae festivals a lot. We’ve been to Belgium, Germany, St. Martin and Spain. Some of my pals are Rastamen, but for me reggae has a good message and the music is just sweet. I have a big advantage because I’m 6.6 Feet tall (2.02 meters) and that works real good at festivals! In South America people always make me laugh because everyone is very small and then they ask me ‘Hey, what’s the weather like up there?’ Hahaha!

Well, with my pals we talk a lot about the old days, but also about things that are going on right now. There used to be a lot for youngsters to do, like there would be a fair (Coney Island) during the vacations, there were discotheques and a movie bus that went to every barrio and we played soccer and softball or we went camping at Sorobon- plenty of stuff to do! Now there’s very little and that’s why some kids get off the track and take a different road and then they end up on the wrong path. Together with our group we are planning on doing something for the kids in Nikiboko, but in the meantime I’ve taken on another task.

We’ve established the foundation, ‘We Care for Bonaire,’ and our goal is to develop Bonaire while caring for nature and culture. We want to preserve our culture and we want to remain what we are. Our nature and culture means everything to us. Look, people come to Bonaire because they like it as it is. They love the tranquility, the nature and the culture. High rise hotels and traffic is something you find everywhere. Then the tourists might as well stay at home. They come to Bonaire for the underwater world, the flamingos, the Loras and the donkeys. I am vice president of the foundation which is made up of five people: Gilberto, Rico, Nadia, Robert and myself. But we’re not doing it alone because we have many professional advisors in every area. Now there’s the

problem with the donkeys. Some people say, ‘The donkeys have to go!’ just like that... out of the blue! I don’t agree! The donkeys have been here for 500 years and we’ve always lived with them. I do understand that nowadays with the traffic we do have a problem. And so professional people came to Bonaire to help us but the government advisors at DR&O are not willing to listen. They don’t want to hear the truth. We’ve told them, ‘Give us the donkey problem and we will solve it, because not only do we have the know-how but also the money!’ And still... they don’t listen. We’ve been working for six months now to stop the contract on the castration and catching of the donkeys.

Crazy thing is that every time we talk to the government advisors there seems to be a different problem. First it



Problems with donkeys?

was the traffic, then it was ‘they are eating the trees’ and ‘they are making too much noise’ and now they say that ‘they are eating and therefore spreading the seeds of the *Cryptostegia grandiflora*, the rubber vine and that the plant is becoming a pest on the island’. I am just asking the government ‘Please can you give us the problem! Together with the professionals we will solve it!’

Well, I am 45 years old now and I have a plan. When my children are done with school I don’t want to work so hard anymore because in hospitality you work long days. I want to build some apartments for an income and only work office hours so that I can do something for the island with the rest of the time.

I think I will always stay here. There’s no place like home. Bonaire is the place for me! I’ve got my home, my Julenne, my friends, my family and my peace...” ■

Story & photos by Greta Kooistra





# A Little Help for the Galactics

LOOKING FOR MORE KIDS AND SPONSORING



Jimmy, Theresa and Carlos with some of their Galactics

When most of the children of the Little League "Wild Cats" team became too old for Little League, a new intermediate team was formed and named "Galactics." President, director and mother of the team is "The Head," Theresa Anthony. Jimmy Caldea is the manager and Carlos Santiago assistant coach. The team is still in need of a treasurer and a chairman, but because all the parents are too busy that hasn't been fixed yet. However, Bonaire Little League's president Marlon Manuela has admitted the Galactics, for which the team is very grateful.

At the moment the Galactics are looking for children in the ages 10-13, boys and girls. "We want more children on Bonaire to play baseball," Theresa says. "It's a reaction sport and it activates your body and brain. You have to be fast and you also learn discipline and respect which is very important! We're training three times a week, but the children also attend Little League training twice a week. But... when you have poor grades in school, you can't come to the training and you can't play!" "School comes first," Jimmy says. "That's the main rule. We also ask for a copy of each school report card that the children get."

"There is always a possibility that the children will be scouted and many of them are dreaming of that day. And of course it's one of our main goals!" Theresa says.

"We are doing everything voluntarily because I work at the Kloaka project, Jimmy is a carpenter at Silvosa and Carlos works at MCB Bank. It's a volunteer job and we should get our material from the federation, but there wasn't enough money, so the three of us decided that playing without a helmet is too risky and so we bought them from our own money. And the Astros Softball Club sponsored us with balls and bats. Good materials are expensive and you can't get them on Bonaire, so we have to order them in the States as Curacao is twice as expensive. We still need uniforms and balls and bats and also catcher gear. So, if anybody wants to sponsor us or would like to have their children play in the Galactics, you can find us Wednesday, Friday and Saturday afternoon at Amas Ballpark - at the very back of the Josie Boekhoudt field (known before as La Sonrisa Ballpark).

Also people can contact us at 795-3556 or mail there: [therese.anthony84@gmail.com](mailto:therese.anthony84@gmail.com)

Story & photo by Greta Kooistra



# Success Story



When Alvin Obersi celebrated the 30th anniversary of his business last week it was proof that education, hard work, risk taking and honesty pay off.

After computer engineering in Tampa, Florida, Alvin returned to the Antilles and started distributing videos to video rental stores on Bonaire and Curaçao.

The computer age hadn't reached Bonaire then so Alvin started a radio and TV repair shop at home. Not long after, on October 1, 1984, Alvin opened his first store and inspired by the name of his father's former department store (Obersi

Sales) and after his last name he decided to call it "Obersi Electronics" located at Kaya Grandi #72 where the headquarters of the Obersi Group of Companies is still located today.

Besides providing service in the area of radio and TV for the only two channels from Curacao (TeleCuracao) and from Venezuela (Venevision), both with poor reception quality due to the distance. Alvin mastered how to boost the signal, but as cable TV was introduced this business became less interesting and new ventures were the solution.

However, still focusing on radio he be-  
(Continued on page 7)



Swim Instructor Thomas with students Nathan, Ava and Frankie. Thomas offers swimming classes or private instruction for children and adults. These students take classes in the sea at Sunset Beach. For more information, see his ad on page 6.



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### Sudoku Puzzle

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

### Sudoku Solution

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



# SWIM to Klein Bonaire 2014

The Jong Bonaire Youth Center had its largest turnout in history for the 14th edition of its annual fundraising event Swim to Klein Bonaire on Sunday, October 5. The sport and social event, held at Eden Beach, brings together families and individuals of all ages in a fundraiser for the Center. The weather was overcast with a light rain shower in the middle of the swim. The wind was from the east at speeds from 8 – 15 knots which built up small waves near Klein Bonaire. The return swim, completed by most participants was a challenge because of the weather.

For the donation of \$15 for adults and \$10 for children participants got a safe swim, a free meal, a drink, fruit and a T-shirt.

This year, a record-number, 457 people, swam to Klein Bonaire officially (and unofficially). The youngest was 3 years old and the oldest a lady of 75. Several handicapped people participated too. First to finish again this year was Evy Witlox (26) with a time 23 min, 50 sec-

onds for the round-trip. Second place went to Anita Smits (44) with a time of 23 min and 55 seconds. Third was Pieter Zweers with a time of 25 min and 55 seconds. Last one out of the water was Anneke Meursing (66) who took 2 hours and 11 min and 45 seconds.

For those who didn't wish to swim back, there were numerous boats available to pick up people and return them to Eden Beach Resort. The safety precautions were impressive as kayaks could swoop in amongst the swimmers to reach the swimmer in distress and call in power boats if needed. There were a few rescues needed as some swimmers became tired.

Many water sport businesses, the Red Cross, police and others volunteered their boats and personnel for the safety support. Several businesses also provided sponsorship.

Jong Bonaire is one of the largest programs in the Dutch Caribbean dealing with teenagers and serves hundreds of Bonaire high school students annually. The programs include homework support,



Pre-swim warm-up



Three friends out on the water

computers, music and art lessons, sports and many other activities, all supervised by a professional staff and local vol-

unteers. ■ Press release/ G.D. / -Jong Bonaire photos

More swim on page 9..→



First to finish—Bonaire Barracuda Evy Witlox



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## Picture Yourself With The Reporter in Roatan, Honduras



**D**ee Lawrence and Diane Amos, long term visitors to Bonaire since 1995, tried a new dive site in Roatan. While the resort was lovely, they really missed the diversity and abundance of fish on Bonaire, they reported. "There's simply nothing like diving in Bonaire! And diving elsewhere makes you appreciate it even more." ■

### We Would Love to Print YOUR Photo!

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## Picture Yourself With The Reporter in South Africa

**T**he well known Bonaire underwater guide, Renee Leach, went home to South Africa for her mother's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. While there she visited the Cheetah Outreach Station at Somerset West and was able to play with some of the four-month old whelps. Notice she is holding a copy of *The Reporter* with the Lora front page and she discovered there are just as many Loras on Bonaire as there are cheetahs in the whole of South Africa, about 700. ■

*We are temporarily "doubling-up" on Picture Yourself to cut the backlog of submissions.*



*Obersi 30 Years (Continued from page 5)*  
 came the agent for Radio Holland. Then he took the opportunity to buy the Xerox corporation owned company and turned

the company into the landmark it is today, and extended it to St. Maarten.

Further expansion into telecommunica-

tions followed with Motorola, forming Cellular One which evolved into Telbo's arrangement with Digicel.

All this and more were celebrated during a huge party last week with over 100 guests. Pabien, Alvin. ■ *G.D.*

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# BES Island Police HQ Reopens



Part of the Police Corps assembled at the opening of the renovated headquarters in downtown Kralendijk.

The completely renovated headquarters of the Corps Police Caribbean Netherlands (KPCN) opened with much fanfare on Friday, October 10. After more than two years of remodeling and new construction the Police Corps Caribbean Netherlands at last returned to their HQ at Kaya Libertador Simon Bolivar 4.

The Caribbean Section of the Royal Military Police Brigade (KMar), the RST (Criminal Investigation Team Bonaire) and representatives of the Coast Guard will also be housed in the headquarters.

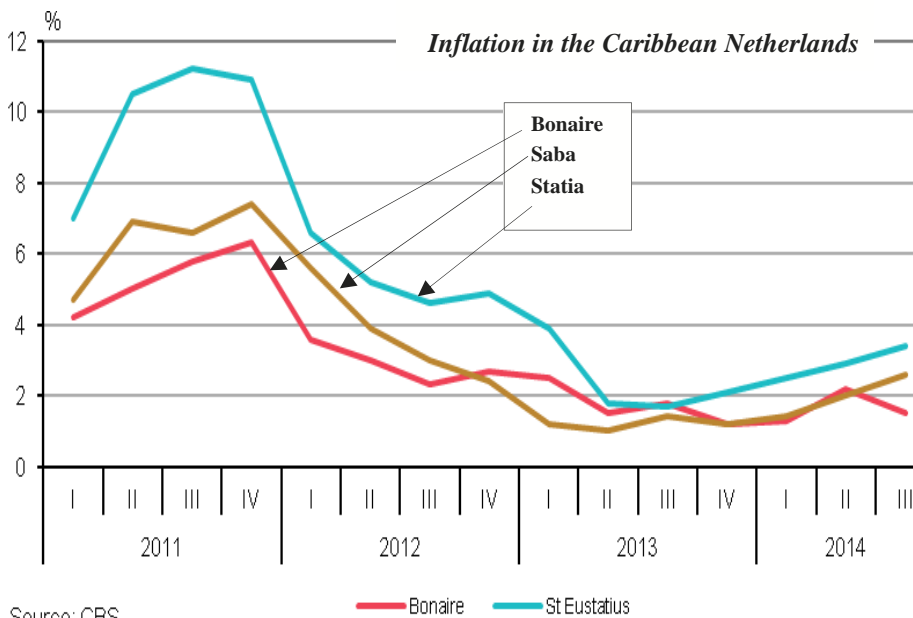
Prior to the official opening an ecumenical worship service took place in the San Bernardo church at 9am followed by a march to the headquarters and the formal opening ceremonies. ■ Press release/G.D.-Photos L.D.



← Unit commanders Leutens and Buitink began the formal proceedings

↑ Flags of the three BES Islands, The Netherlands, the Police and KMAR are raised

## Inflation down on Bonaire, but up on Saba and St Eustatius



Source: CBS

According to figures released by Statistics Netherlands today, inflation on Bonaire was 1.5% in the third quarter of 2014. This is lower than the 2.2% measured in the second quarter. Prices of clothes and mobile telephony tempered inflation on Bonaire. On St. Eustatius and Saba, on the other hand, inflation rose strongly: to 3.4% and 2.6% respectively. Higher food prices pushed up inflation on these two islands.

### Inflation drops sharply on Bonaire

Inflation fell substantially on Bonaire in the third quarter, to 1.5%. In the second quarter inflation was still 2.2%. There are various reasons for this decrease. One is developments in clothes prices. Although clothes cost 9.3% more in the third quarter than 12 months previously, in the second quarter the year-on-year increase was even larger. Price developments for mobile telephony also had a downward effect on inflation. A third reason is that the tariff increase for cable TV in the third quarter of 2013 no longer had an effect. Higher food prices on the other hand, had an upward effect on inflation. ■ Press release



### REMEMBERING A BAD EVENT

Dear Editor,

What a story about the Tangvalds in *The Reporter* last time. Wondered how you got all this info?



I remember Thomas in the hospital here. He was so interested in Tae Kwando so I gave him a hard cover book I had. He was so grateful. I had kept some books for him when he left, never to see him again. I sure hope he turns up.

We sure made sure he was fitted with clothes and shoes.

I remember Maite who runs the Dialysis Center here worked at the hospital at that time. She too can offer details from that time. She cared for him very well.

Did you know that it was a Bonaire wind-surf board that saved his life?

Christie Dovale

(See part 2 of this story on page 19)

### PRAISE FOR THE REPORTER

Dear Editor:

As former newspaper reporters, we were reading the paper last night and commenting about how it really is what a community paper should be.

My husband and I are almost two years into property ownership in Bonaire and it is great to read about what is going on there: the good, the bad and the ugly.

Linda Mc.

### FROM THE PUBLISHER

Since the individuals who made inflammatory accusations against the Bonaire Donkey Sanctuary (BDS) are the subject of a defamation lawsuit brought by BDS to the Public Prosecutor, *The Reporter* will suspend publishing any more articles, letters or comments regarding the management of Bonaire's donkeys until the legal situation is resolved.

- George DeSalvo, Publisher





# Young Solar Challenge

## Motivating Technology Talent With Solar Power



Sanny Ensing photo

Surrounding the solar boat are Fedde Pronk, Richard Duijn and Vincent Stens (Global Solar Investments) as well as Annet van den Bosch, Jeroen Venema and Albert Bosscha (Dutch Young Solar Organization.)



BonairePhotoShoot  
Luc Bosma

The solar boats out on the water during the races

Four boats covered with solar panels line the boulevard in front of the Kas di Regatta. Gathered around them are a cluster of youngsters aged 15 to 18 geared up to test these boats in Bonaire's waters. It is the Young Solar challenge 2014. The first solar challenge ever held on Bonaire.

The local teenagers built these solar boats themselves. They were asked at school to partake in a special teaching program that came with a construction kit to create these solar boats in time for the Bonaire Regatta. Now it is time to see who will manage the boats' solar-powered battery best.

The Dong Energy Solar Challenge began in 2006 in Friesland, The Netherlands. It was inspired by the World Solar Challenge in Australia where solar powered

cars drive a distance of more than 3000 km through the Australian Outback. Over 40 contestants from more than 15 different countries participated in the Dutch Solar Challenge – a solar-powered boat race. It was a grand success. "You have to think of Formula 1 type boats," says Solar Challenge director Albert Bosscha: "these boats were going up to 40/50 km per hour!"

Green energy, sustainability and motivating youth to use their technology talent are the drive of the race developers. Wubbo Ockels, the first Dutch astronaut was closely involved with the challenge. Bosscha makes clear: "Ockels always said that the world is a spaceship that we live in and that we have to keep it clean. It is important for children to be aware of the possibilities of

wind and solar energy."

That is why the Solar Challenge also created a little construction kit for young children with just one solar panel and a motor to use in a pool. Cover up the solar panel and the movement stops. "It is a very effective way to teach young kids how solar energy works," says Bosscha.

"We had a gap though," he continues, "There was nothing for teenagers." So a program was developed in The Netherlands by Jeroen Veenema. It included a relatively simple construction kit and a teaching program for schools. Bosscha explains: "The challenge for the teenagers is to make these boats with their teachers and then the icing on the cake, to race these boats with optimal effect."

Racing the solar boats is another experiment, as you need to be aware of your movements on the boat. Bosscha: "Take your shadow for instance. A bit of shade on the solar panels and they stop working optimally which means someone else will win the race." It is also a very creative challenge as, whilst building, it is also possible to change and add elements to the boat that might make it a faster racer. "Think of strips on the side, or creating air flow at the bottom of the boat with a little hosepipe. Some of these children on Bonaire caught on to that," the animated race developer laughs.

Bonaire is a great place to host the first Young Solar outside of The Netherlands. As Bosscha sums up: "Bonaire is aware of the need for green, sustainable en-

ergy and energy is expensive on the island, and then there is always sunshine! These three elements make it the perfect place to start this challenge. It is already a success as the boats are here lining the waterfront and looking great! The guys and their teachers have done a wonderful job! Now let the fun begin, let the race start."

The Young Solar contestant that wins the race will receive a prize and an invite to participate in the Young Solar in The Netherlands next year! Go get 'm!

This project is made possible due to head sponsors Risun Solar Energy and Global Solar Investments. ■  
Sanny Ensing



## Bonaire Barracudas Ace the Klein Bonaire Swim



On October 5, the Bonaire Barracuda's Aquatics Club participated for the first time in the "Swim to Klein Bonaire." Some 26 of the club's members participated in this event and eight ended in the first 15 finishers. Club members Evy Witlox and Anita Smits were first and second to finish.

The Bonaire Barracudas invites new members to come train with them and participate in a next event. They train in the sea next to "Parke Rekreashon Arthur "Tului" Domacasse." The Barracudas also offer elementary swimming classes leading to competition swimming or water polo. ■*Press release*

## World's Top Windsurfers



Four Bonaire champions with the Bonaire flag upon arrival at Schiphol airport. From left to right: Amado Vrieswijk, Björn Saragoza, Taty Frans, Kiri Thode and Anne Martin Uildriks (Bonaire Tourism Corporation).

Last month during their performance in a German event at Sylt all five touring Bonaire windsurfers managed to secure a place in the top 10 of the Professional Windsurfer (PWA) world.

The five Bonaireans in the top 10 are: Kiri Thode, Amado Vrieswijk, Björn Saragoza, Everon "Tonky" Frans and Elton "Taty" Frans. A unique achievement for a small island like Bonaire. ■  
*Press release*



# Driven By The Wind

Most kite surfers come to Bonaire by jet plane to snatch some of the best winds in the Caribbean. Not Marco and Marije Hollebeek from the Netherlands. They used the wind just to get here. Drive downtown Kralendijk these days and you will see a square-rigged sailboat along side the city dock. This is *Silverland*, a 65-foot (20 meter) Danish-made North Sea fishing vessel. It is also the Hollebeek's ride to explore the world.

The idea for a boat started even before the couple first met. Marco had a friend who had sailed the Caribbean in a large wooden sailboat and raved about it. Marije, a freelance journalist and teacher, had interviewed a World Cup kite boarder who was cruising the Pacific, surfing wherever she landed. "Sailing is not my passion, but it's the best way for us to travel the world," says Marije. "My best moment was when I jumped overboard and next to our ship was this perfect wave. I just paddled out and took the wave from our house. That's wonderful. I want to surf the most beautiful waves. I want to kite in exotic places and bring my house and family along. When our son, Mathies, was born, the voyage was just a dream that we had. Marco was afraid that I might change my mind about leaving. But no, I thought, we just take the baby with us. It surely would be great and it has been."



Marco and Marije Hollebeek with son Mathies aboard *Silverland*

But before the young family could live their dream, *Silverland* had to be completely overhauled. "It was a lot more



work than we had first thought," adds Marije. "Marco worked really hard evenings after his contractor job and then on weekends. Our life was on hold until the boat was done."

*Silverland* was rotting in the water when the couple bought her. Marco's dream was to transform the old fishing boat into a sailing ship. "People thought that we would never leave because the boat was in really bad condition," says Marco. "80% of the oak planks and 15% of the frames needed to be replaced. We worked on the hull in the wintertime because it is wet and better for the boat. There were days that *Silverland* was covered with ice and snow. We would start by scraping all that off before we could even begin working."

To convert the diesel-driven vessel into a sailing machine, Marco enlisted the support of Jorne Langelaan. He is one of the three owners of *Tres Hombres*, a 32-meter square-rigged schooner that visits Bonaire occasionally with cargo of chocolate, rum and other goods. "In the beginning I was thinking of having two big gaff sails. But you can imagine having a boom of 9.5 meters (31 foot) with a huge sail. Going down wind most of the sail area would be overboard and the boat would not be balanced. Jorne suggested the square sails. With these we still have the same sail area, but a square sail can be easily controlled and it's balanced. I followed Jorne's opinion. We're very happy with the square sails. It would be more efficient with the gaff sails, but this is for us more safe, relaxed and controlled. They are just easier to handle."

During the restoration, the family lived on a houseboat on a canal in the Dutch town of Leiden. Fortunately for the Hollebeeks, it was located next to an abandoned factory. Marco made arrangements to use their dock and to haul out

(Continued on page 15)



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# The Bonaire Regatta - The Best Time Of The Year

## YOUTH-FOCUSED AND FAMILY-FRIENDLY

It is not even noon and already very busy at Kralendijk's waterfront. A baby is rocked in his mother's arms as she stares out to sea. His older sibling is dangling her feet in the clear blue water and cheers on swimmers nearby. A group of elderly sit chatting under a tent erected on the boulevard. They've all gathered at the Kas di Regatta to watch the races today.

Soon the start signal of the solar boat event of the Bonaire Regatta will sound. The participants are just assuring the regatta committee that their swimming ability is near perfect with a little race. Then they'll jump into their solar powered boats, constructed at school, and sail the Young Solar: a race to find out who can make optimal use of the boats sun-powered battery.

Further out in the bay windsurfers and kite surfers are testing their skills. Bonaire's talented windsurfing youngsters came home just in time to take part in the Regatta races. "The kite surfing category is a test case this year," says Principal Race Officer and Sailing coordinator Viktor Wijnand: "If it is successful we'd like it to become a permanent addition to the regatta."

The regatta has taken another course, explains Wijnand, there is a strong focus on the youth today. He clarifies: "We want to motivate them to participate in the Bonaire Regatta. This year 10 Sunfish and

Optimist boats were brought here free of charge by the Don Andres and the Free-winds so young sailors aged 10 to 18 from the nearby islands can race with us."

At Kas di Regatta, the Bonaire Regatta feels young, open, low-key and laid-back.

A little further along at the Wilhelmina Park, the family-friendly vibe of the Regatta remains visible as people prepare for the opening of the Regatta Festival. Children are helping their parents load ice into cool boxes, kids are skateboarding through the many regatta stands and a group of teenagers are hanging out sea-side. They are happy and excited for the night's festivities.

More people gather as night falls, many parents (and grandparents) join the domino, *bon kuné* and bingo while the children jump on bouncy-castles and eat popcorn. Jewelry and clothing stands line the square. A great variety of food trucks attracts many customers. Happy sailors join



Principal Race Officer and Sailing coordinator Viktor Wijnand in good spirits at the Kas di Regatta.




At the Start-Finish Line control tower by Regatta House everyone gathers to watch the races along the waterfront.

the crowd at El Mundo for BBQ and beer. Music is pumping.

One sailor pipes up above the tunes and explains that this is a wonderful festival with a great regatta atmosphere but that he misses the strong focus on the actual sailing part of the event. With swimming, running, walking, fishing, softball, surfing, kiting, 'micro-boating' and more, the Bonaire Regatta is not just a water challenge. It is also a school holiday and an occasion for families to spend time to-

gether. The next day early in the morning families are gathered at the various piers close to the Kas di Regatta to see some more of the sailing races. It is an exciting day with some close calls. Two boats are disqualified as they bump each other, another scrapes by. Some boats are clearly faster than others but the overall feeling is good. As one contestant puts it: "To see all the Bonairean families out on the jetties

(Continued on page 13)



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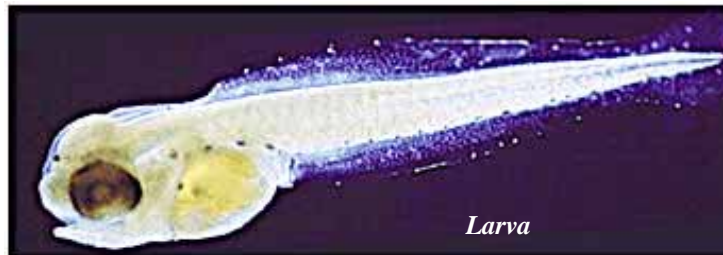
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## DID YOU KNOW?

That larval coral reef fishes can use smell to find their way back to the reef? When placed in either open water without a reef smell or water close enough to the reef to have a reef scent, damselfish and cardinalfish larvae were found to have different behaviors between the two locations. Damselfish larvae showed increased directionality, swimming alongside the shore and keeping within the smell of the reef when within reef scent as opposed to no set direction when in the open water. Cardinalfish larvae showed increased speeds when in smelling distance of the reef. While it is unsure how these behaviors precisely help the larvae to settle onto a reef, it does show that smell definitely plays a role in how the coral reef fish find their way to the reef. ■ Taylor Robinson



Larva

Taylor Robinson is a Marine and Conservation Biology major from Seattle University in Washington. She studied on Bonaire for the spring semester at the CIEE Research Station.

Photo credits: <http://www.ibrc-bali.org/research/project/pomacentrus-amboinensis/> and <http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/v402/n6763/full/402733a0.html> you!

## Fire Fighting and SCUBA Do Mix

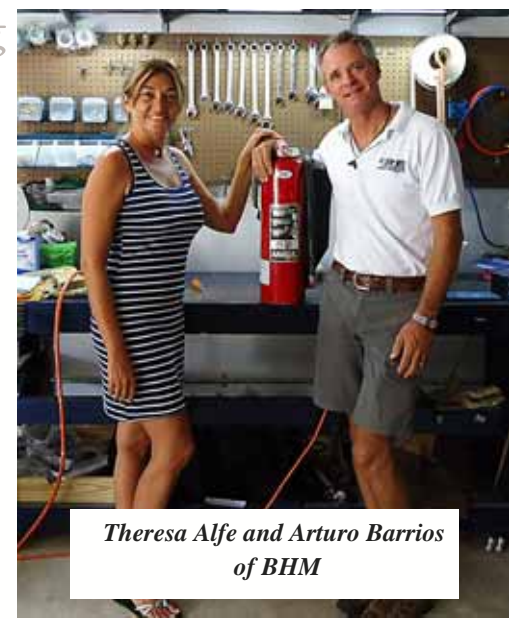
Bonaire/Kralendijk –

Arturo Barrios and Theresa Alfe are the proud owners of BHM, Bonaire Hydrotest & Maintenance B.V. Their enterprise is located in a new building at Kaya Kilowot #3310, next to the Bonaire Food Group building. You cannot miss Arturo's and Theresa's top of the line and fully equipped workshop as a huge sign on the street side of the building tells you that you are at the right place.

In addition to their services to the SCUBA industry on Bonaire they are providing fire extinguishers and maintenance as well. They are affiliated with the National Fire Prevention Association and trained by Ansul, one of the world's leaders in producing fire extinguishing products. BHM can take care of a complete tear down, inspection and rebuild of fire extinguishers. They can refill them with powder and nitrogen or with CO<sub>2</sub>, depending on the type of extinguisher and the intention of use.

Arturo: "Did you know fire extinguishers have to be checked and inspected every year and immediately after use, abuse or damage? International rules tell you so and in the near future the laws of the Dutch Caribbean will be adjusted to these international rules too. Safety first!"

Think of our airport, the hospital, all official buildings, Bopec, the police, gasoline stations, garages, workshops. A lot still has to be done to inform the public to make people aware of the risk and danger of fire. In fact every household should have a fire extinguisher, fire detectors, a smoke alarm and a huge fire blanket. Luckily our islands are in a continuous development.



Theresa Alfe and Arturo Barrios of BHM

We will be there!"

In their workshop they test, maintain and repair all kinds of steel and aluminum air tanks and gas tanks and a variety of scuba and fire extinguishing equipment. Arturo adds, "We can handle and take care of anything that has to do with high pressure cylinders! The fully computerized system automatically delivers a printed out report of the test results."

Barrios has been a PADI instructor for some 30 years now. He is also a PCI and PSI inspector. He speaks fluent English and Spanish and he is picking up Papiamentu quickly.

Arturo and Theresa are more than willing to inform you about fire extinguishers and fire prevention. Just hop by or get in touch with them to make an appointment: phone: +599 782 2953; e-mail: [arturo.bhm@gmail.com](mailto:arturo.bhm@gmail.com) or visit the website: [www.bhmbv.com](http://www.bhmbv.com). ■

Story & photo by Jan Brouwer

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Kaya Korona 47  
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**Reservations 700-5488**

MISCELLANEOUS

**Foam mattress** for single bed, white zip cover. \$50....Call 788 7919

For sale: **High end computer**, 500GB hard disk, 3 burners, 4GB DDR-ram, AMD Athlon processors, \$600. tim-meijr1981@icloud.com, **786-9687**.

REAL ESTATE AND RENTALS

**For rent 5 studios at Hato**, Kaya Utrecht 25. All included also use, wifi, gas, water, electricity, linen, furnished. 1/2 persons, or the house is for rent. \$459,565,520,650,750.per month. **796-2529 or 780-1433 during daylight.**

**Unfurnished House for rent at Belnem**, 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, large kitchen living room, front and backporch, airconditioner, ceiling fans, garden with drip-system, hot water. 2 minutes walking from Bachelors Beach. Rentprice \$ 750 without utilities. **Phone: 7859900**

**For Rent: 4 Bedrooms/4 Bathrooms Un-Furnished house for rent in Belnem.** Big open space kitchen and 2 living rooms with high ceiling. Big garden with a nice porch. Appliances include: Dishwasher, Oven, Stove, double Door Fridge, Water-Heater, Aircos in all bedrooms. USD 1400- per month. Please call +5999-520-2992 or +599-796-5885 for more info or send email to [kjons-dot@sscinc.com](mailto:kjons-dot@sscinc.com)

**One person rooms for rent at Hato aan Zee:** [digitalis1956@hotmail.com/](mailto:digitalis1956@hotmail.com)

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

Day	High	Low	High	Low	High	Sunrise	Sunset
<b>Mon 13</b>		00:34	06:15	11:09	17:05	6:25	18:18
<b>Tue 14</b>	L	01:18	07:01	12:03	17:51	6:25	18:17
<b>Wed 15</b>	Quarter	-0.13 ft	0.51 ft	0.29 ft	0.89 ft	6:25	18:17
<b>Thu 16</b>		02:34	08:18	13:44	19:14	6:25	18:16
<b>Fri 17</b>		03:07	08:54	14:36	19:54	6:25	18:16
<b>Sat 18</b>		03:37	09:28	15:31	20:34	6:25	18:15
<b>Sun 19</b>		04:04	10:01	16:33	21:18	6:25	18:15
<b>Mon 20</b>		04:27	10:35	17:43	22:10	6:26	18:14
<b>Tue 21</b>		04:47	11:09	19:00	23:17	6:26	18:14
<b>Wed 22</b>		05:03	11:44	20:17		6:26	18:13
<b>Thu 23</b>	00:50	05:12	12:22	21:23	New Moon	6:26	18:13
<b>Fri 24</b>	02:58	05:07	13:03	22:15		6:26	18:12
<b>Sat 25</b>	13:47	22:58				6:26	18:12
<b>Sun 26</b>	0.93 ft	-0.04 ft				6:27	18:12
<b>Mon 27</b>	14:33	23:36				6:27	18:12
	0.97 ft	-0.09 ft				6:27	18:12
	06:04	07:52	15:20			6:27	18:11
	0.33 ft	0.33 ft	1.01 ft			6:27	18:11

(Continued from page 11)

cheering us on, and to feel the festive atmosphere at the Kas di Regatta is so much fun." This sailor has sailed in other Caribbean regattas as well and comments on the fact that the Bonaire Regatta seems to involve the local population much more than some others. "It is a special vibe to see the whole island committed to the regatta," he says.

It is pleasant to see the many children and their parents and grandparents spend the day in town. They are surrounded by friends participating in the various races on the water and on shore. That open, laid-back vibe that includes everyone, young and old, rich and poor, visitors and residents alike makes the Bonaire Regatta unique within the Caribbean region. It is clear that this event involves the entire island.

An elderly gentleman on a bench near the Kas di Regatta sums it up: "The Bonaire Regatta is the best time of the year!"

*Tsunami at the Festival*



Regatta dropbox photos



*Big boats rule*

aire Regatta is the best time of the year!"  
Sanny Ensing

**Who's Who on The Bonaire Reporter**  
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# 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. Their office is in the historic building at Kaya Grandi 48.

## BARS

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

## BEAUTY

**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.**

## 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

**BHM Bonaire Hydro-test & Maintenance** offers repair of Scuba Equipment, dive tank hydro testing pressure tests with computerized accuracy. Pickup and delivery too.

**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, Dushi Shoes on Kaya Grandi, open now.

## 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

**VanEps Property Management B.V./Bonaire Second Home Care** can handle all the needs of second home owners on Bonaire including inspection, management and cleaning.

## HEALTH CARE

**Best Care Logistics** provides everything necessary for people who are disabled or sick, including prostheses, dietary supplements, furnishings, mobility equipment, diabetes aids, hospital beds, oxygen therapy, optical & hearing aids, contraceptives, home aids, communication, and more

## 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 above or underwater 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. **NEW**— Drone photography

## REAL ESTATE /RENTAL AGENTS

**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. Its Zazu Bar is a very popular hangout for divers too.



**Bobbejans**— Bonaire's quintessential "rib joint" not only has some of the best ribs but tasty extras like Gado-Gado, pork chops and fries. Open Friday night and weekends only.

**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.

## RETAIL

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

**Dushi Shoes & Dive Friends Shops** – featuring Clarks, Guess, DC Shoes, Reefs – as well as Tee Shirts for men and women.

## 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/FITNESS

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

## SUPERMARKETS

**BonDiGro**— Cooperative discount super market offering low prices and friendly service. Open all day and Saturday too. New location across from Warehouse



## TOP Supermarket—

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



## MADE ON BONAIRE

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

## 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)



*Silverland* (Continued from page 10)

*Silverland* on the company's land for the hull's restoration. That took six months. Then with the boat back in the water, Marco and friends renovated the interior, added two masts, completed the rigging and got the 240 horsepower Danish Callesen diesel motor operational again. On August 10, 2013, *Silverland* began its world voyage.

Like most sea adventures, there are good and bad times, high and lows. There was the storm between Morocco and Cape Verde with high seas between 6-8 meters and strong winds. Marije has had to deal with seasickness for much of the trip, but since arriving in the Caribbean, that malady has diminished for her. "Here I am perfectly happy," says Marije. "It is very nice and we've made friends easily. Plus Bonaire is so quiet and so relaxed. And I like the mix of all the different people. I love it."

Then there is the challenge of two adults sailing a 75-ton ship. "It's a lot of boat for two people," admits Marco. "It takes us a half hour to hoist and set the sails. But if a storm is approaching, we can take 90% of the sails down in three minutes. We are very happy with the rig."

It also appears that six year-old Mathies is adjusting well to life down island. "Mathies is on our minds constantly because we took him away from his school and grandma," says Marije. She puts her teacher's skills to work

each day with home schooling lessons for her son. "But he seems to be very happy. He's fishing with the local fishermen on the dock and he's already speaking Papiamentu with kids on the street. He always seems to entertain himself easily. Plus Oma (grandma) has visited him now three times during our voyage."

*Silverland* will be in the area until December. Then sails will be set to head north. The waves of Rincon, Puerto Rico, are calling for it has some of the best board surfing in the Caribbean. The planned five-year voyage has already been extended to six. The family is now operating on cruising time rather than their busy clock back in Holland pursuing two careers. Hard work and good investments allow them to have the adventure of a lifetime and the rewards are enormous. Marco sums it up best. "I liked the Atlantic crossing very much. But it was along the coast of Portugal that I had my moment. We put so much money, work and energy into the ship. And it comes down to that very moment when we are at sea, under sail and everything is working. We are going. We are moving. All those little parts from years of work come together in that one single moment. It was emotional. I had tears in my eyes. It's just amazing." ■ *Story & photos by*

*Patrick Holian*

To learn more go to <http://sailing-silverland.nl/>



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email [labalandra@harbourvillage.com](mailto:labalandra@harbourvillage.com)

Harbour Village Beach Club

Phone # 717-7500

Kaya Gobernador N. Debot 71  
Bonaire, Dutch Caribbean



# WHAT'S HAPPENING

## REGULAR EVENTS

**Rooi Lamoenci Kunuku Park Tours** \$21 (includes tax). Discounts for residents and local people. Tel. 717-8489, 540-9800.

**Parke di Libertat -Park-playground and canteen (formerly Dare to Care Park)** Behind the hospital. Open Monday-Saturday 8am-7pm. Free entrance.

### Saturdays

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

• **Monthly Cultural Market at Mangazina di Rei—Last Saturday of the month**, 8am-2pm. See the real Bonaire: traditional music, crafts, local produce, Creole kitchen, educational presentations. Mangazina di Rei is on the Rincon Road, at the eastern entrance to Rincon

• **Last Saturday of the month** – donate foods and household items to Food Bank (*Stichting voedselbank Bonaire*) from 9:30am-2pm in front of Van den Tweel Supermarket

• **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.

• **Petanque- Jeu de Boules**, 2:30pm, Tera Cora Ranch. Info: 786-0150

### Sundays

• **Landhuis DeTuin- Real Jamaican BBQ on the terrace** of the land house in the quiet countryside. Jerk Chicken, BBQ Chicken, Seafood Curry, Veggie Dish, Child's plate, Bread Pudding. On the road to Lac Bai – Kaminda Lac #101. Follow the signs, 12 noon to 6 pm. Tel. +599-786-6816, +599-701-1982. A Forsa training school.

• **Kunuku Arawak** - Music, drinks, local food, dancing, 10 am—6 pm. Live music starts at 4 pm. Tel.786-7210

### Mondays

• **Bonaire Goat Cheese Farm Tour—9 am**. Meet the goats, see milking, cheese making and more. **\$10 includes cheese tasting and tea, Kids \$5.** 786-6950- Also on Wednesdays & Fridays. (on vacation now)

• **Happy Hour at Captain Don's Habitat Bar**. The books of Bonaire's dive pioneer, Captain Don, will be available: Island Adrift, Shangri-la, Sea Trauma and his newest book Reef Windows. 5:30-7pm. Tel. 717-8290

### Wednesdays

• **Bonaire Goat Cheese Farm Tour—9am**. See Monday for more information (on vacation now)

• **30-minute Meditation at Yoga Bonaire**, 12 noon, Bonaire Basics. Donation. Call 786-6416, email:

info@bonaireyoga.coim

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

• **Echo Parrot (Lora) Foundation** tours of their Dos Pos Conservation Centre. The tour gives an insight into Echo's work and best of all it is led by local guides who are eager to share their knowledge of Bonaire and are donation based. Meet at the Dos Pos windmill before 430 pm and bring good shoes as it's "off road." Alternatively you can book a private tour through Flow Bonaire info@flowbonaire.com Phone: +599 788 4636.

### Fridays

• **Bonaire Goat Cheese Farm Tour—9am**. See Monday for more information (on vacation now)

### Saturdays

Every **last Saturday of the month**, from 9 am to 2 pm, volunteers from the **Food Bank** collect donations of food at the doors of the Van Den Tweel Supermarket.

## FREE SLIDE/VIDEO SHOWS

**Monday - Touch the Sea --** Dee Scarr, honored as a member of the Women Divers Hall of Fame, conducts Bonaire's Touch the Sea programs of personalized dive guiding. She presents a unique perspective on critters and corals, plus an updated Bonaire lionfish report, **every Monday when she's on-island** at 8:30 pm in the Aquarius Conference Center at Captain Don's Habitat, Call 717-8290.

**Wednesday - Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire (STCB)** presents an informative slide show: *Sea Turtles of Bonaire*, at 8pm, every **2nd and 4th Wednesday** in the conference room at Captain Don's Habitat (717-8290)

## BONAIRE'S TRADITIONS

**Mangasina di Rei, Rincon**. Enjoy the view from "The King's Storehouse." Learn about Bonaire's culture. Visit homes from the 17th century. Daily. Call 717-4060/ 790-2018

**Chichi i Tan Museum**. Step into the past—a typical old Bonairean home, furnishings and garden. **Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays, Sundays**. 10am-3pm. **1st Sunday of month**, live performances of local musicians, arts & crafts. Free but donations appreciated. **Kaya Melon #4, behind Rose Inn in Rincon. 786-6420/78-7842**

**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. 717-4200or788-2819 or peejeese@gmail.com

**Lions Club** meets every **2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>**

**Thursday** of the month at 8 pm at Kaya Sabana #1. All Lions welcome. For more information call 510-0710.

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

**Toastmasters Club** meets **every two weeks**. For more information call Cruscita 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](mailto:bonaireibc@yahoo.com)

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

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

**Assembly of God (Asemblea di Dios):** Kaya Triton (Den Cheffi). In English, Dutch & Papiamentu on Sunday at 10 am. 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: 10:30am & 7pm; Wednesday: 7pm. Services in Papiamentu (English also if needed) Address: Kaya Msgr. ndt 25 (same street as Dr. Dorvil) Cell: 796-0721. email: [iglesiadicristobonaire@gmail.com](mailto:iglesiadicristobonaire@gmail.com)

## CLOSE-IN EVENTS

classicalmusicboardbonaire  
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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17th 2014  
starting at 8:00P.M.  
at La Begaire Music of Coromoto  
Royal Koenig 126  
Treasures of World Music



**Friday, October 17—Classical Music Board Bonaire concert-** piano, violin, clarinet— Coromoto Church. More info on pages 2 & 18.

**Saturday, October 18- Dive Friends Bonaire's Underwater Cleanup**



**Sunday, October 19**  
—**Duo Xtreme Mountain Bike Race**— Frank at DeFreewieler 717-8545

— **Ayurveda program for beginners** 8:45am- 1pm

at Lagoen Hill 20- presented by Florence Ditlow, nurse herbalist, and Lolyamar Sanchez. Ayurveda is a system of self care based on time-honored Indian teachings that have become popular the world over. All welcome. Cost \$35. A reservation is appreciated. Contact [loly.sanchezvan@gmail.com](mailto:loly.sanchezvan@gmail.com) or [fhummingbird@yahoo.com](mailto:fhummingbird@yahoo.com). Phone 717 4593







# THE STARS HAVE IT

By Astrologer Michael Thiessen  
October 2014

**ARIES** (Mar. 21- April 20) Groups you belong to will not only enjoy your company, but they will also share your interests. Hard work will payoff if you refrain from expressing your opinion to superiors. You can put in some overtime and make extra cash. Direct your energy wisely. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

**TAURUS** (Apr. 21- May 21) Short trips will be educational. Exercise your talents and present your ideas to groups you think you can contribute to. You can travel for business or pleasure. Be sure to double-check the house on your way out. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

**GEMINI** (May 22-June 21) Social activities will be satisfying. Focus, and concentrate on yourself and your future. Your personal life will be disrupted if you have been too busy with business. Don't forget that your budget is limited right now. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22) Opportunities for advancement at work are apparent. Your emotional attitude with respect to your status and direction in society may be unrealistic. Put your efforts into job advancement. You may be experiencing emotional turmoil in regard to your mate. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug 22) Opportunities for love will develop while traveling or while attending religious functions. Don't lend or borrow money or belongings. Those you live with may be experiencing problems. Romance will unfold if you take trips or get together with friends. Your lucky day will be Monday.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) Intellectual stimulation is what you are looking for. Take care of the needs or responsibilities of elders. You can expect to have problems with your mate if you've been spending too much time away from home. Family trips or projects should be on your mind. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) You need to challenge yourself. Don't push your luck with your boss. You will be a bit of a spendthrift this week. You must watch your tendency to spend whatever you make. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) Children's needs could be more costly than you anticipated. Don't blow situations out of proportion. Problems with skin, bones, or teeth may mess up your schedule. Don't be angry, but be on your guard. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) Confronting a situation will only result in indignation and misunderstandings. Changes regarding your career direction will payoff handsomely. Minor health problems could result through exhaustion. You may have more people on your domestic scene than anticipated. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) Sudden romance could end just as quickly. Emotional upset at work will set you back. Look into ways to better yourself through improving your dietary habits and daily routines. You can get ready to celebrate your new direction. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) You can have a working relationship with children if you exercise patience and understanding of the dilemmas they face. Try not to lend or borrow money this week. You must not allow them to force you to rush. Renovations or purchases made for your home will payoff. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) Spend some quality time with the one you love. Your talents will shine at work. Don't overindulge in anyway. Advancement can be yours if you put your efforts into work related matters. You are better off visiting friends or relatives than entertaining at home. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday. ■



# BONAIRE SKY PARK\*

\*to find it... just look up

## STARS ARE NOT ALWAYS WHAT THEY SEEM

Stars in the Bonaire Sky Park are not always what they seem. Most stars in the sky are really two, three, or more stars orbiting each other. Many stars wildly fluctuate in brightness. They're all different colors and temperatures. Some are newly born and others are nearing their dramatic demise.

In this edition we're going to look at three stars in the fall sky with hidden secrets. The first star is really two beautifully colored stars when viewed through a small telescope.

The second will make your head spin. And the third is a lonely star with a funny name that gave astronomers a big planetary surprise. As our telescopes get better and better we're uncovering the mysterious nature of stars trillions of miles away. Let us introduce you to the stars **Albireo**, **Altair**, and **Fomalhaut**.

Around 10pm anytime this month look west. The most prominent feature in this part of the sky is the **Summer Triangle**. Look for the three brightest stars high in the sky and you've found it.

The three stars are called **Vega**, **Altair** and **Deneb**

But we're going to zoom in on the fainter head star visible inside the Summer Triangle. This is the star called **Albireo** and it's one of the favorites for amateur astronomers with a small telescope.

When you look closer at Albireo, you find it's really a double star - two stars orbiting each other. The bigger one is orange in color and the smaller one is brilliant blue. Getting back to the star Altair and his hidden secret. Altair looks like any ordinary bright white star. But Altair is one of the closer stars to us at only 17 light years away.

And because it's "relatively" close astronomers could uncover Altair's secret - it's mind-boggling rotational rate.

Meaning it spins really fast. Our **Sun** spins as well. The Sun rotates about 2 kilometers per second at its equator and it takes over 25 days for the Sun to spin once at the equator. Now let's compare our Sun to Altair. Altair is almost twice as big as the Sun and shines 11 times brighter. But hold onto your seats, this star spins super-



*Altair is not remotely spherical. Instead it is bulged into a spheroid. This is because Altair is spinning very quickly*

fast! At its equator, Altair rotates at about 286 kilometers per second. That means that the entire star spins once every nine hours!

This unbelievable rotational velocity has actually affected the shape of this star. Instead of a sphere, Altair is squished at the poles and bulges at the equator. Its entire mass has shifted and has left Altair looking like a rapidly spinning egg-shaped star.

Look south at 10pm. You'll see only one bright star. This is **Fomalhaut** the brightest star in the constellation of **Piscis Australis** or the southern fish. With a little imagination you can make out a goldfish shape in these stars with Fomalhaut as one beady eye.

Fomalhaut is a blue-white star, 25 light years away, making it a closer target to observe with the best telescopes. In 2004 astronomers detected a **proto-planetary debris dust ring** around Fomalhaut. And everyone got excited. This was the kind of proto-planetary debris that might harbor a planet or even a whole solar system.

And then in 2008, astronomers caught the first visible-light image of a planet orbiting around another star. Orbiting around Fomalhaut. You have to really squint, but there it is. So check out Fomalhaut tonight, the lone star in the south.

Then find rapidly rotating **Altair** in the western sky on the left side of the Summer Triangle. And don't forget to train your telescopes on Albireo to discover its second Sun. When you look at the stars above who knows what other hidden secrets you'll discover. ■ *Dean Regas & James Albury*



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# Pet of the Week

# Shelter News

## ABEL

Three sets of beautiful eyes: Shelter Manager Marlies, Ava and wonder dog, "Abel." This special dog was found lying on the side of the road by BFG, apparently hit in the head by a car, totally paralyzed with one of his eyes hanging out. A good Samaritan found him, gathered him up and brought him to the Shelter. Abel's eye was hanging out, seemingly from a concussion and pressure in the brain, according to Fulco, the vet. But there was something about this dog that made Fulco say, "This dog is worth saving." Abel remained paralyzed for a week, his eye had been put back in place by Fulco and he was getting treatment and physical therapy to help him walk again. Now, step by step, Abel is recovering. He still has a little limp but that too should go soon. And he's shown the Shelter staff and the vet that he is a marvelous courageous dog. He's a handsome fellow as you can see. He's used to people and very friendly, now in good shape and a darling of the Shelter. In another couple of weeks he'll be running around like a pup. Abel is between eight and 12 months. Ideally he should be adopted as an "only dog" so he can get the attention he deserves. He's already been sterilized and nearly ready to go.



You may see Abel and the other pets up for adoption at the Shelter on the Lagoen Road, open Monday through Saturday, 9 am to 1 pm and 3 to 5 pm. Tel. 717-4989. WWW.Bonaireanimalshelter.com. They're on Facebook too. ■ Story & photo by Laura DeSalvo



**GENEROUS GIFTS**  
**K**atie Aho and Gloria Naisbitt from Sonoma, California, arrived on the island recently and brought a load of goodies for Bonaire's Animal Shelter: leashes, collars, medicines, toys, tennis balls, Christmas stockings, Frisbees and more. Considering the trek and dragging luggage that was a very kind thing to do. It's efforts like this that help to keep our Shelter open for unwanted cats and dogs. The ladies are shown with

Shelter staff member, Shirley (left) and some of the gifts.

### Volunteer Help Needed

The Shelter relies on volunteers to make it work. It's the efforts of these dedicated volunteers that are so important in providing the necessary care for the cats and dogs in the Shelter while they await adoption. It's a happy place to work: upbeat people and very grateful cats and dogs. Shelter Manager Marlies says, "We appreciate anyone who can help in

any way they can. We are currently in desperate need of volunteers on Saturday mornings. If you would like to volunteer, please let us know (717-4989 or [animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com](mailto:animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com)."

## LOST CAT Reward \$300



**P**ersia is a small shorthaired white & grey tabby with green eyes. She is about 3 years old, has no front claws and weighs about 6 lbs. Her left eye weeps and her left nose is usually clogged. SHE NEEDS HER MEDICINE! She is very friendly and trusting and comes to her name. Her chip # 65000000336018. Last seen Monday, 22 Sept (Kaya Gob N. Debrot 7ABC) Just south of Playa Lechi

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# The First Annual Wahoo Tournament

Budget Marine Bonaire is proud to announce the results of the first annual Wahoo Tournament as part of this year's International Regatta and Festival. A few weeks ago the fishermen were saying the Wahoo are starting so it should be great. Last week they were saying there was not one in sight, so we were very happy with the results with many boats returning with a nice catch. There was a total of **over 170kg** of Wahoo brought in. Guess that will be the fish of the day in many restaurants today!

This year we began with a small turnout of only 12 boats, 4 in the category under 17 feet and 8 in the 17 feet and above. The small boats all returned empty handed. Six of the large boats brought in at least one Wahoo. *Le Grand Blue* with captain **Rijn Stekelenburg** arrived right at the deadline with 31.5 kg total of fish for the third prize. In second place was *Orca* with the captain **Vincent Seket** with a total of 40.5kg. *Princes Thaise* with captain **Theodora Salomon** coming all the way round the island from Sorobon with a total of 57.5kg took first place. The first boat in sight at noon was *Double Eagle* belonging to **Eddie Coffi** with the largest fish of the tournament weighing in at 24kg.

Many fishermen had too short notice to take off from work for this tournament. Remember for next year, many companies already take a half day for the end of the regatta so come out and show off your skills. Each fisherman kept their fish so they could sell them after the event. Due to many requests the rules changed in the last week so that boats could return to their home pier and bring the fish with a



Princes Thaise and crew took first



The biggest fish from Double Eagle

car, as long as they arrived before the deadline of 3pm. With participation simple, we look for a bigger event in the future. See you next year for the next installment of the Budget Marine Wahoo Tournament. ■ Story & photos by Pam Werdath-Tietel

## Thomas Tangvald Lost At Sea

Part II— The famous sailor, Peter Tangvald, Thomas' father, wrecks on Bonaire part I appeared in the September 29, 2014 edition of *The Reporter*

Reprinted from *The Reporter's* predecessor *Port Call*, January 1991

Ten years ago next Sunday the well-known sailor, Peter Tangvald, died when his boat wrecked on Bonaire's east coast.

He was a man who set off from his home in Scandinavia at an early age and never looked back. He spent the best part of his life at sea and had his share of joy and disaster. Two wives lost at sea and several circumnavigations made Peter's life full and dramatic. He was married at least six times and all but one of his wives died violent deaths. This wasn't the kind of seaman who



Thomas, Peter and Carmen Tangvald in the mid-1980s

outfits a production fiberglass sailboat and heads out for the Bahamas or the Caribbean. Even the typical circumnavigator appears a pampered novice when measured alongside Tangvald's adventures. Peter Tangvald was the kind of man who started with hand tools, built a boat on his own and then spent over three decades cruising to the obscure ports of the world.

Tangvald was a Norwegian who, as an adolescent, experienced nervousness and generally poor health. His father felt good food, fresh air and exercise would be preferable to psychiatrists and medication. That decided, a mooring went in, a boat appeared, and he received aggressive daily training until his health returned. From then on, sailing affected his life forever-becoming the only thing over his entire lifetime that provided any continuity. A succession of failures and a few minor successes defined his early adult years. A lifetime of disjointed careers began when he left school early to join the Coast Guard and found that commercial or regimented seafaring had little to do with the fun of sailing.

Peter left the service and returned to school where he failed all his subjects and eventually dropped out before being drafted by the Air Force. A discharge followed. Next, he was apprenticed as a tool and die maker where he again found intermittent success. This brought him to the US where he went from one tool and die job to another. At one point, he even had his own business but went bankrupt after four years.

Bitterness, bankruptcy and divorce led to the appealing idea of heading to England to purchase a yacht cheaply, and then sail it to California to sell at a good profit. Thus, in 1957, Peter began over 35 years of ill-fated adventures as a sailing vagabond. An around-the-world voyage, sinking and poverty eventually found the resourceful Tangvald in French Guiana building his own dream boat, the 49-foot-long *L'Artemis*. Between 1973 and its wrecking in 1991, Peter and his various wives roamed the world aboard this boat.

The boat was an engineless, Spartan vessel that reflected the personality of its builder. It was durable, flexible and eccen-

tric. Dynamic changes seem normal for Tangvald. In addition to his wives he had numerous other romantic interests. On *L'Artemis* the rig configuration changed at least five times varying from yawl to schooner to cutter with variations in between. It is hopeless to assume a planned itinerary ever existed for him. He and his various companions voyaged to out-of-the-way locales. Even in the remote regions to which they tended to migrate, they managed to fit in with the local people and culture. For the Tangvalds, life was a subsistence existence and anything but a world sightseeing travel adventure. Stops include Taiwan, the Philippines, Borneo, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Aden, Tunisia, the length of the Red Sea and many of the more common ports along the Mediterranean and the Caribbean. Two children were born at sea, pirates killed one wife and another was lost overboard. There were constant financial problems, misplaced confidences and unstable employment. Peter's seamanship is commendable and also condemnable. He sailed when he wanted to without regard for weather or routes. Undoubtedly, this led to his death in the early morning hours of July 22, 1991.

When I ran into him in Boqueron, Puerto Rico, in 1988 he was 64 years old and living with his daughter from his wife who was lost overboard, his son from another marriage and a teenage Canadian girl who had just given birth to his child.

Laura and I were typical "fiberglass sailors" and to us Peter's lifestyle was scary. We had little in common except a yearning to travel by boat. We sailed on, eventually arriving in Bonaire where we settled. Peter spent his time around Puerto Rico until he decided to sail to Bonaire. By then his young wife's parents had plucked her off to Canada with her baby, but his daughter, Carmen, was still with him as was his son, Thomas, 15. Thomas was a resourceful lad who had his own cruising sailboat, a 30-footer.

Peter took his son's boat in tow and set off under sail for Bonaire on Thursday, July 18. The passage was uneventful. Thomas spent time aboard his own boat. In the pre-dawn hours of the following Monday, *L'Arte-*

*mis* ran onto the reef near Bonaire's Punta Blanca.

Thomas was awakened by the crash and could hear his father shouting. Then Thomas' own boat struck the reef. In moments both boats were sinking. The sea was running high. Both boats were smashed to bits. Thomas clung to a surfboard and rode out the rest of the night. He was battered by the waves but held on until he made it to shore by dawn. His father and sister were lost.



2013—Thomas Tangvald

The event deeply moved the Bonaire community. Peter's body was recovered almost immediately but Carmen's not until later. A local family took in Thomas until his relatives arrived to bring him to their home in Andorra. Others did what they could to ease the boy's pain.

Pastor Jack Ludlum of the Trans World Radio Church delivered a eulogy as the bodies were buried in Bonaire's small Protestant cemetery. The graves were painted and decorated by members of Bonaire's cruising community. Vestiges of that work remain today.

an only wonder what Thomas Tangvald is doing today. Perhaps he will return on the anniversary of that terrible event. ■ G.D.



Headstone of Peter Tangvald's grave in Bonaire's Protestant cemetery.



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