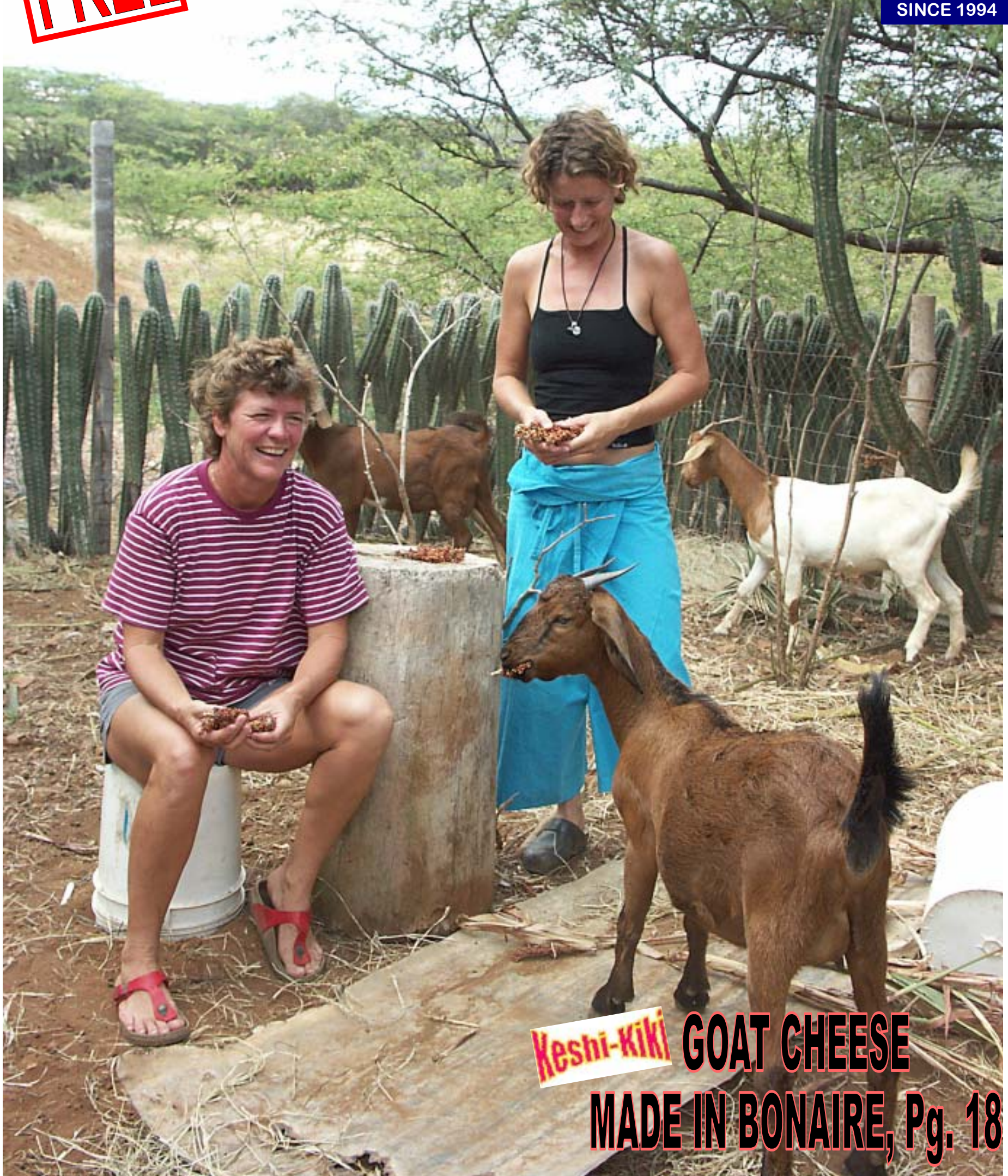


April 23 to May 7, 2004 Volume 11, Issue 17

**IT'S
STILL
FREE**

The **BONAIRE** REPORTER

SINCE 1994



Keshi-Kiki GOAT CHEESE
MADE IN BONAIRE, Pg. 18

FLOTSAM AND JETSAM

According to the Central Bank, the actual **economic growth of the Netherlands Antilles in 2003 was 1.3%**, compared to 0.4 % in 2002. For 2004, the Central Bank projects 'a decline in growth' up to 1%. This decrease is due to the necessary cutbacks by the government to curtail the budget deficit. The growth in 2003 was due to an increase in the net exports and private and government consumption.



Inflation also began to increase from 0.4% in 2002 to 1.9% in 2003. For 2004 the Bank expects an inflation of 1.5%. The higher inflation in 2003 could also be explained by the more expensive euro in import prices from Europe, an increase in the inflation with the Antilles' most important trade-partner, the US, and higher utilities fees because of the increased fuel prices.

► Curaçao PAR party leader and former Prime Minister **Etienne Ys is being protected by the government guards (Servisio di Kontrol i Siguridat) round the clock.** Last week the police received a 'serious tip,' Ys confirmed. The patrols started on Friday and will continue indefinitely. The police stated that a threat against his life had been made but didn't offer any details.

► A straightforward question of a visitor in the Bonaire courtroom surprised Judge Fred Wieland and district attorney Ernst Wesselius last week. During a recess between to cases, a young man, H. came forward and asked the gentlemen **why there are never black judges and district attorneys sitting at the table.** The Judge answered very calmly that there are black Antillean judges and district attorneys in Curaçao and that an Antillean district attorney would replace Mr. Wes-

selius when he leaves. Wesselius found the question very funny. "This young man speaks fluent Papiamentu but has Dutch parents and looks very much Dutch, even though his hair is dark but bleached."

► Curaçaoans are not happy about the appointment of the **four outgoing FOL commissioners to new government jobs with a "scale 14" salary of NAf7,400 per month.**

The civil servants' union, ABVO, the employers' organization, VBC, and all political parties, with the exception of FOL, PNP and PLKP, which made the decision in the Executive Council, expressed disapproval. PAR Leader, Etienne Ys, said the move was "completely objectionable and disgraceful policy," and that he and his party "forcefully reject it."

► **Bookings on KLM for the coming months look "very positive,"** said Regional Commercial Manager Lars de Brabander. KLM's load factor on the Amsterdam-St. Maarten-Curaçao-Amsterdam route, flown twice a week, currently stands at 80 to 85%, he explained. This is higher than the load factor of 65 to 70% a few months ago. Bonaire load factors are high as well according to observers at Flamingo airport. KLM has even added a flight for the summer.

► **Aruba Exel is currently undergoing the last phases of inspection and will probably start flying by next month,** according spokesman of the Aruban Aviation Administration. Other companies that want to start off as well are still in the earlier phases of preparation they added.

Since 1999 more than 30 groups have indicated an interest in starting an airline in Aruba. Aruba Exel, the company owned by Dutch businessman Erik de Vlieger, has the advantage of already possessing the four most important ingredients necessary to start an aviation company: capital, knowledge, qualified personnel and aircraft. Aruba Exel will be flying with the ATR-42, the same type of aircraft used by BonairExel.

► **DCA's Dash- and Twin Otter-aircraft** that have been parked at the Curaçao airport for months without being used were to be returned to the leasing company last week. Is this part of the impact of BonairExel on their planned schedule? Because the airline no longer has pilots qualified to fly Dashes and Otters, foreign pilots will have to fly them back to the owner.

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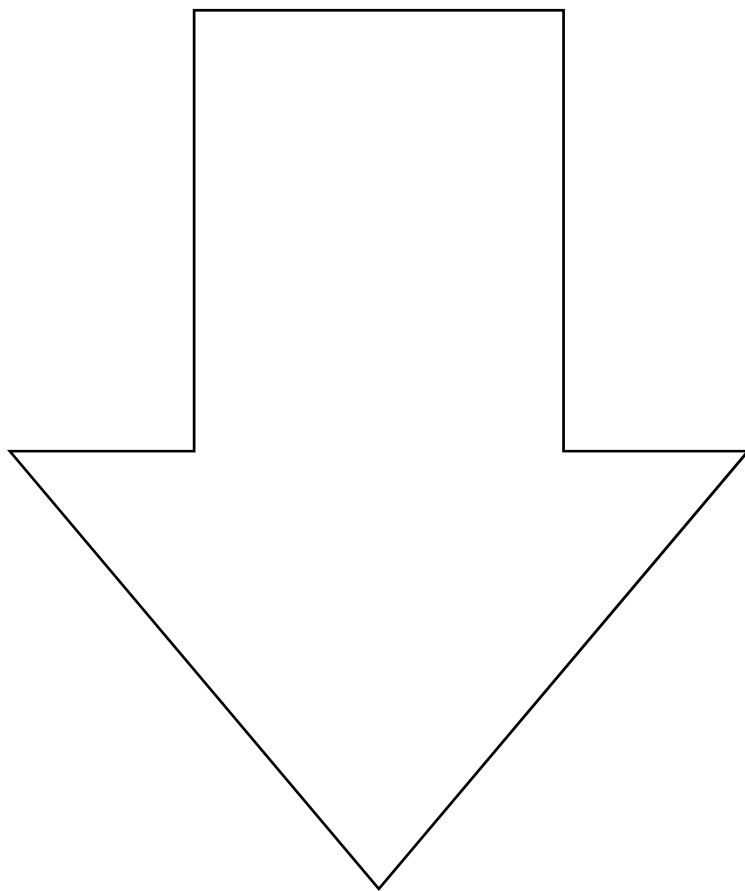
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► If you see a flamingo that's light brown or beige in color, it's not a new variety of flamingo. **It's a baby flamingo who should be with its flock.** At this time of year there are a lot of babies around and they often get blown away from where they should be, which is with

(Continued on page 4)



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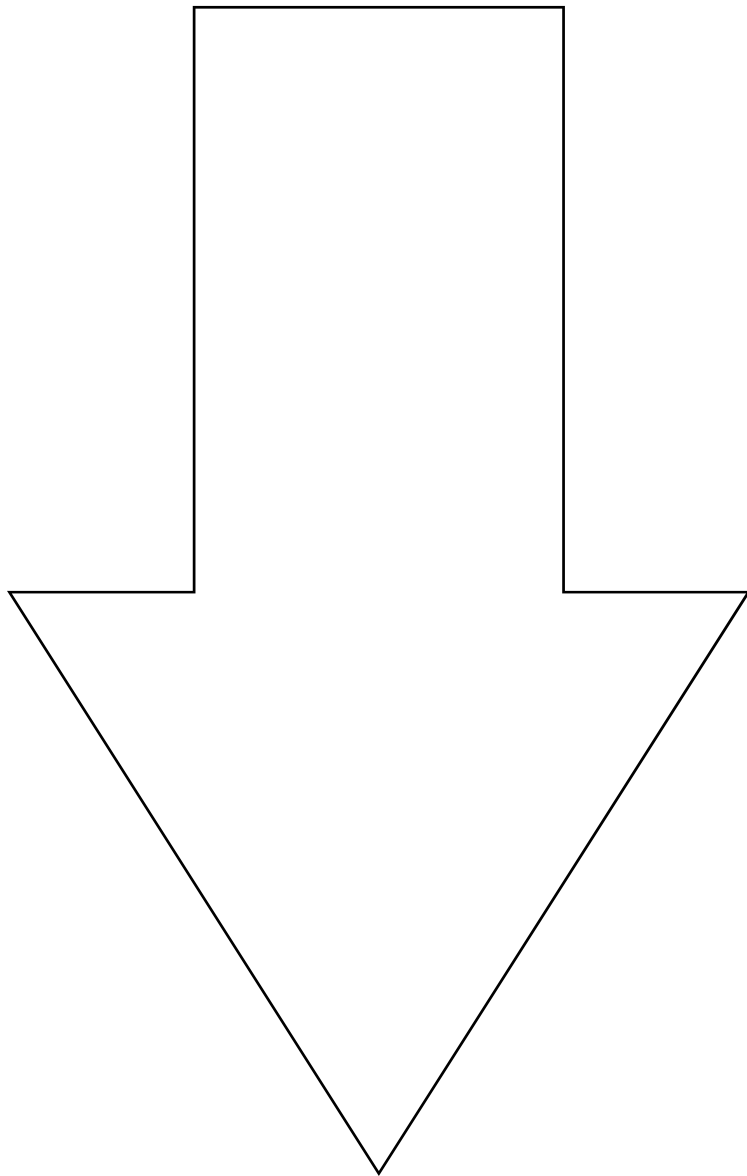
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(Flotsam and Jetsam. Continued from page 2)

the adults in the salt pans. The babies are not strong enough to fight their way back into the wind. So if you find one walking on the road or looking out of place, here's what to do. Grab a towel or even a shirt and try to cover the bird's body with it. Be gentle and don't worry; flamingoes don't bite. The birds weigh practically nothing when you pick them up. As you try to gather them up remember that their legs bend the opposite way from most other animals. Then take the bird to the Cargill Salt Works. Someone there will return the baby flamingo to its home. And know you did a good deed for Bonaire's special birds.

► **Dutch Caribbean Airlines (DCA) will stay with Air Atlanta**



Icelandic (AAI) for its transatlantic flights to Holland. It would have preferred to switch to Holland Exel but couldn't because Holland Exel did not have enough flight personnel. DCA commercial manager César Prince said the current AAI flights, which use a Boeing 767-200, have to make a fuel stop in the Azores. The flights have been fully booked. DCA wanted to switch to Holland Exel, because AAI at this moment cannot provide a more modern and bigger Boeing 767-300, which does not require a fuel stop. After losing Sobelair as a partner earlier this year, DCA tried using Air Holland for a few weeks, which ended in disaster when the latter went bankrupt.

► **Did you catch the Car and Bike Show last Sunday in Playa?** There were row after row of fancy cars and hot motorcycles to see. One highlight was the assortment of impeccable Harley-Davidson motorcycles. Orlando Francisco brought what might be the first ever "made on Bonaire" motorcycle (photo) - a Harley-powered chopped-dragster. It was hot!



All ages appreciated the show; especially the kids who got free rides on a Quad and the teens who were able to hang out looking cool (or is that too old-fashioned a word?).

► There have been **reports and sightings of monkeys loose on the island.** From Hato to Nikiboko South people have been getting unannounced visits from these animals that are not dangerous unless threatened, and then they can inflict a nasty bite. We saw a pair of small monkeys calmly sitting by the roadside and another, larger one, stayed with a family for a few days before moving on. We suspect the monkeys are pets who've escaped because they are comfortable around people.

► **A group of enthusiastic people plan to start a new elementary school around August 1.** The school will start with students ranging in age from four to eight ("groups 1-4"). There will be an annual addition of one group until group 8 is reached. The aim is to have a complete elementary school, groups 1-8, by 2008. The philosophy of the school is to base education on the developmental age, not calendar age of the child, a benefit of cross-age learning. The idea is that chil-

dren can learn through play. As well there will be an emphasis on a positive social attitude. The school will be affiliated with the standard school system. The classes will be given in Dutch but other ethnic teachers are needed. A survey was done on the island which showed that such a school would definitely be welcome. At this point there are 15 children potentially signed up. The maximum number of students is 24. If you are interested in the school, either as a parent or as a teacher, call Margon Muller at 717-5539, Monday through Friday, during business hours.

► Elvis Martinus does it again. Elvis will be bringing back the **Bonaire Wave Challenge at Lac Kai on April 24th and 25th** beginning each day at 10 am, wind permitting. (See story on page 9.) Local sailors will show all their wave tricks in what is predicted to be the hottest event of the weekend. There will be food stands and live music so come dance, watch the wave event and chill in the Bonaire' hippest and breeziest spot,

POLICE UPDATE

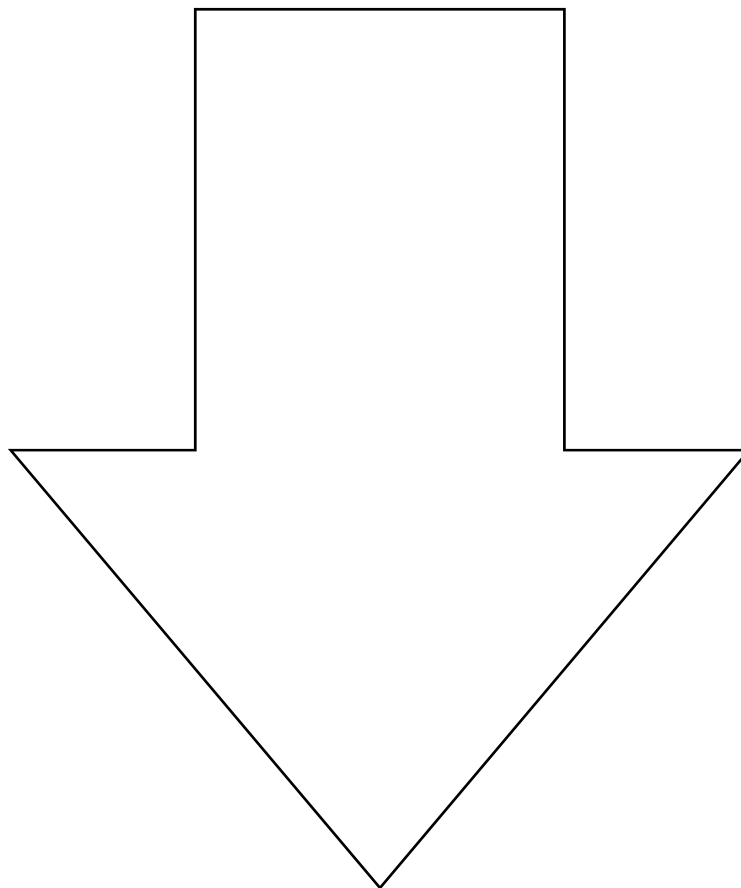


Charles Souriel, Police Department spokesman, reports that on:
-Friday morning, April 23, a man (L. A.D., 39 years old) was arrested trying to smuggle in a 22 caliber Colt firearm with nine bullets as he got off the Divi Divi flight from Curaçao. The man is a Curaçaoan who lives in Bonaire.
-Saturday, April 17, at 14:40 a man drowned at Sorobon Beach. First aid was given and the paramedics and police were called. First aid was continued by the paramedics but the man was dead. He was Paul John Gregorio, born in the Philippines July 24, 1964. He was a teacher at the St. James Medical School. The police are investigating the case.
-Sunday, April 18, at 14:50 the Flamingo Team apprehended two suspects (F.C.S., 35 years, and A.J., 34 years) with bolitas in their stomachs, as well as R.van W., 27 years, and a woman, M.G.A., 25 years, carrying cocaine. The four are being held in jail pending further investigation. □L.D.

Kai. Entrance to the event is NAf10.

► **Congratulations to De Freewieler,** our favorite bicycle and scooter shop, on their fifth anniversary (first lustrum) last week. They've done a superior job during those years, keeping our bikes in good working condition, renting us bikes, scooters and quads and selling us high quality bicycles and equipment. Owner

(Continued on page 6)



LETTERS

A LOGICAL REFERENDUM CHOICE

If Bonaire would become a Dutch *gemeente*, it would have to be part of a province. It is obvious that the province of Friesland would be the ideal choice, for not only does Friesland already have lots of experience with her four islands: Vlieland, Terschelling, Ameland and Schiermonnikoog, but the Frisians have the same kind of attitude towards The Hague as the Bonaireans have towards Willemstad.

Ger Vellinga

REPORTER ON LINE

In the last two issues the look of the On-line edition of the Reporter (www.bonairereporter.com) was changed to mirror the printed edition. Now The Reporter can be easily printed out. The cost of an annual subscription remains \$35 (NAf62). Subscribers also have on-line access to the Archives of The Reporter going back to February 2000.

Dear Editor:

I thought I'd let you know I like the new *.pdf format. I especially like the added color and pictures. I noticed many of the screens had a large down arrow. I assume that you not including some of the advertisements. I would like to suggest you also include them.

Bill Carrier

We're working on it. Ed.

Dear Editor:

Well, I like it, but we have DSL here now. For people on a dial-up connection - downloading a pdf can be a chore.
Bea Jones

TOO MANY DOCTORS, SO LITTLE MONEY



Dear Editor:

In the April 16 Reporter Senator Booi is quoted as saying "Bonaire has 12 doctors, way too many". He bases his statement on the fact that The Netherlands has only one physician per 2,500 people and Bonaire should have the same doctor/population ratio. I agree completely about maintaining the ratio. Although I personally don't see how too many doctors can be considered a problem, it is obvious that I do not fully understand all the aspects of this situation created by the opposition party.

I believe, however, that the Senator's conclusions were based on faulty data. My World Almanac states that The Netherlands has one physician per 412 persons! This is about on par with other "industrialized" countries. What this means is that Bonaire has not a surplus but a serious shortage of doctors. We need another 17 doctors to stay equal to The Netherlands and we need them soon if health care is not to suffer!

Is it not ironic that Bonaire with two medical schools has a deficient physician/population ratio? Not as bad as Mozambique, one doctor, and is he busy,

OPINION

The day this issue of *The Bonaire Reporter* becomes available is April 22nd. It is being celebrated worldwide as Earth Day. To **get some perspective on earthly events** we might consider what else this day is noted for:

- 1056- A supernova (exploding star) in the Crab Nebula was so bright that it was visible in the daytime.
- 1509- Henry VIII ascended to the throne of England after the death of his father.
- 1529- Treaty of Saragossa divided the western hemisphere between Spain and Portugal, setting the stage for today's South American political divisions.
- 1914- Baltimore Orioles' Babe Ruth, age 19, pitched his first professional game.
- 1915- World War I, at the Second Battle of Ypres, Belgium, German troops introduced poison gas.
- 1930- The United Kingdom, Japan and the US sign the London

per 136,000 persons, but decidedly Third World. I urge the Senator and his colleagues to put aside their political differences and work together to correct this serious situation.

Webster (Web) Burrfish

Editor's note: *Bonaire doctors are subsidized by the government to some extent.*

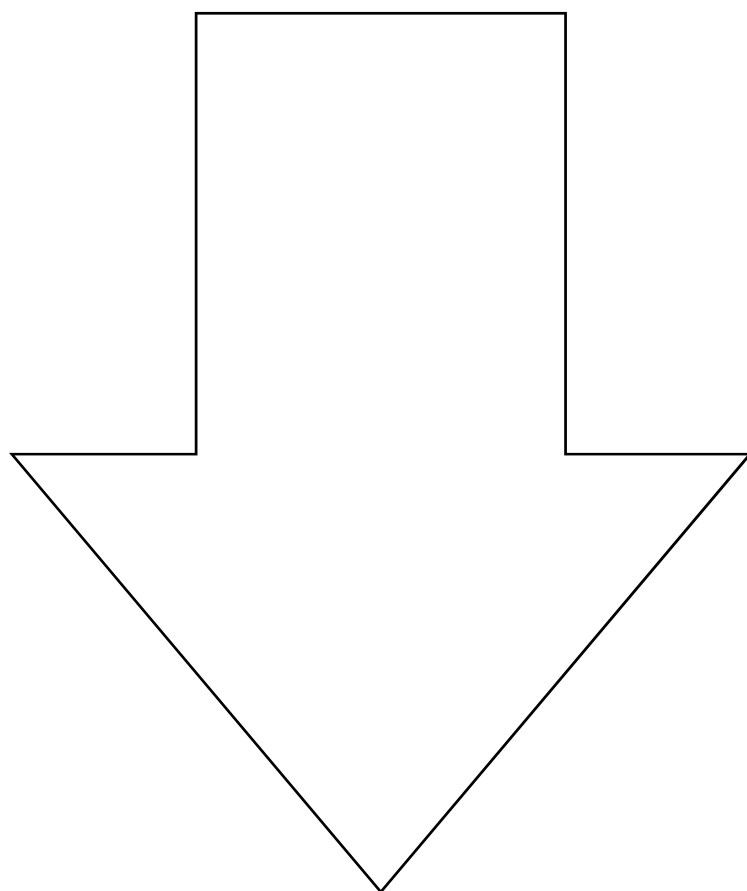


Naval Treaty regulating submarine warfare and limiting ship-building.

- 1970- First Earth Day celebrated
- 1994- Richard Nixon, former President of the US, died
- 1997- A 126-day hostage crisis at the residence of the Japanese ambassador in Lima, Peru, ended after government commandos storm and capture the building rescuing 71 hostages.

However important these events may seem, they all will dwindle into insignificance if the environment of the Earth is so ruined that it will destroy our quality of life, and perhaps life itself, for all who live on the planet. Take care of the neighborhood-the Earth. □ G.D.

For example: The national health insurance (SVB) pays them an annual stipend for each SVB patient they have and there are other subsidies, like housing. We located another study from Dartmouth College that said that in 1997 the Netherlands had one physician per 625 persons. □



Flotsam and Jetsam. (Continued from page 4)
 Frank Bohm had two other things to celebrate last week: his birthday and his 500th scuba dive! Pabien, Frank!



► Attention shore divers: **The ease of entry at the Oil Slick Leap dive site has been much improved.** There is a wooden platform at the top of the new aluminum dive ladder which extends deep into the water. The platform is a nice clean place to put on or take off dive gear. We understand it was put in by the nearby Caribbean Club Bonaire.



► **The Bonaire Reporter will not be published next week** in keeping of our established policy of publishing only four issues a month. Look for the next issue on 6 May. □ G./L. D.

SEVEN MORE DAYS UNTIL RINCON DAY



Join the Simidan parade as we did in 2003

No one gives a party like the Rincoñeros. Rincon Day is next Friday, April 30, and you won't want to miss it! FU.DE.CU., the group that goes all out to organize the annual event, is promising one of the best ever.

Francisco Janga, the son of the late "Mr. Rincon" Broetje Janga, is following in his father's footsteps and heading up the organizing committee. More than 11 entertainment groups have signed up to come from Curacao and Aruba (more are still signing up as we go to press). Stands will sell all that good Rincon traditional *comida* (food) and drink, as well as gifts and crafts. Music will be everywhere, with three main stages set up for entertainment and several smaller ones nearby. There will be parades, games, bands, fun. Bring your camera for the great photo opportunities! If you really want to be "in," get yourself a Rincon Day tee shirt, a cap, bag and/or flag.

BEFORE RINCON DAY

Saturday, April 24: Chichi ku Bubu at Rancho Don Pedro in Rincon, 6 pm.

Thursday, April 29: Car Cavalcade (Optocht ban Rincon) starts at 5 pm at the Stadium in Playa, goes through all the barrios and ends at Rincon at 7 pm, followed by entertainment and presentations.

AFTER RINCON DAY

Saturday, May 1: Leftover Day (Saka

Raton) – A "mini Rincon Day" with all the things left over for sale, Rancho Don Pedro, 4 pm.

The 30th Itself RINCON DAY ACTIVITIES

MCB Bonaire Rincon Day 17 km. run, starts at the Stadium in Playa, 7 am (tel. 717-8629)

Mass and raising of the flag, 9:30–10 am

Parade of the Uniformed Groups and brass band, 10:05 am, start at Plasa Commerce

WHERE'S & WHEN'S

Stage 1, Plasa Commerce 10:30 am. Activities continue until 4:30 pm

Stage 2, Centro di Barrio – 11 am to 5:30 pm – skits, music, etc.

Stage 3, Den Bus di Pedon – Entertainment from 11 am to 4 pm

Credit Union (front of the church) - Entertainment, children's games, from 11 am to 4:30

Strea di Oro – (past church, on the right, on the way to Washington Park) Entertainment from 11 am to 5:30

Parada di Maskarada – A parade of those wonderful masked characters who usually appear on January 1. 1 to 3 pm (Route: Kaya Para Mira, Kaya Commerce, Kaya Rincon, Kaya Marino, Kaya C.D. Crestian, Kaya Para Mira)

Parada di Antaño – A parade of older people in old time Rincon dress, 1 to 3 pm (Route: Kaya Marino, Kaya E.B. St. Jago, Kaya Rincon, Kaya Commerce, Kaya C.D. Crestian, Kaya Marino)

Parada di Karnaval – An "old time" Karnaval parade, 2 to 4 pm (Route: Kaya E.B. st. Jago, Kaya Marino, Kaya Rincon, Kaya Commerce, Kaya E.B. St. Jago)

Parada di Simidan – The grand finale. Everyone welcome to join in, join arms and do the Simidan dance to the famous Simidan song, 5pm to 8:30 pm (Route: Kaya Piedra Pretu, Kaya Commerce, Kaya Rincon, Kaya E.B. St. Jago, Kaya Commerce, Kaya Rincon, Kaya E.B. St. Jago, Kaya Commerce, Kaya Rincon)

Rancho Don Pedro– Fire jumping as done during the holidays of San Juan and San Pedro, 9 pm.

Midnight - closure □

Referendum Chronicle

NOS FUTURE, BAN P'EI
(OUR FUTURE-LET'S GO FOR IT.)



There have been several important and interesting developments leading toward the Referendum this week:

- The PDB (Democratic Party) issued its official position that it supported a sort of an Aruban style Status Aparté- plus. It is somewhat different from the UPB (Patriotiko Party) position which supports a Direct Link with Holland. In a future issue we will attempt to compare and contrast the two positions. People are also writing letters to *The Reporter* about the Referendum and we will be publishing portions of them.
- An admittedly unscientific survey, conducted last week by the Referendum Commission for its own use, indicated that about three-quarters of the Bonaireans polled want to stay with Holland. Of the remainder, 22% said they won't vote, 4% said they needed more information. No one opted for complete independence from Holland.

- Of those who want to stay with Holland more than half said they would prefer an Aruban style status aparté, about a quarter were for direct relations with Holland and only 2% want to remain part of the Netherlands Antilles territory.
- Support seems to be growing for a two-stage referendum as suggested in *The Reporter* two issues ago, at least based on a conversation we had with a lawyer working for the government. The Referendum date is now set for July 6, 2004. That's months before the European Union will complete its own work on the definition of an UPT (European Territory outside of the European continent). If Bonaireans choose to leave the current Antilles constellation, then it would seem

The aim of the **Chronicle** team of editorial and staff writers is to inform, not to influence public opinion or "sell" a particular option. Critical comments, useful additions and questions by the readers will be warmly welcomed and published whenever possible. Active cooperation and exchange of information is sought with the local/regional media (press, radio, TV), and the official Referendum Commission. Any item in the Referendum Chronicle can be freely quoted and/or downloaded via Internet. □

prudent to await the definition of the alternatives available should the choice be to remain with Holland.

- Also, based on a UN recommendation, residents of Bonaire, even if they are not Dutch citizens, will be able to vote in the upcoming Referendum, provided they have been legal residents for at least five years, and teenagers from 16 up are also eligible. This motion was passed over objections at the last Island Council meeting.

We will continue with the analytical series of Referendum alternative articles that were begun last month in the next edition of *The Reporter*. □ *The Chronicler*

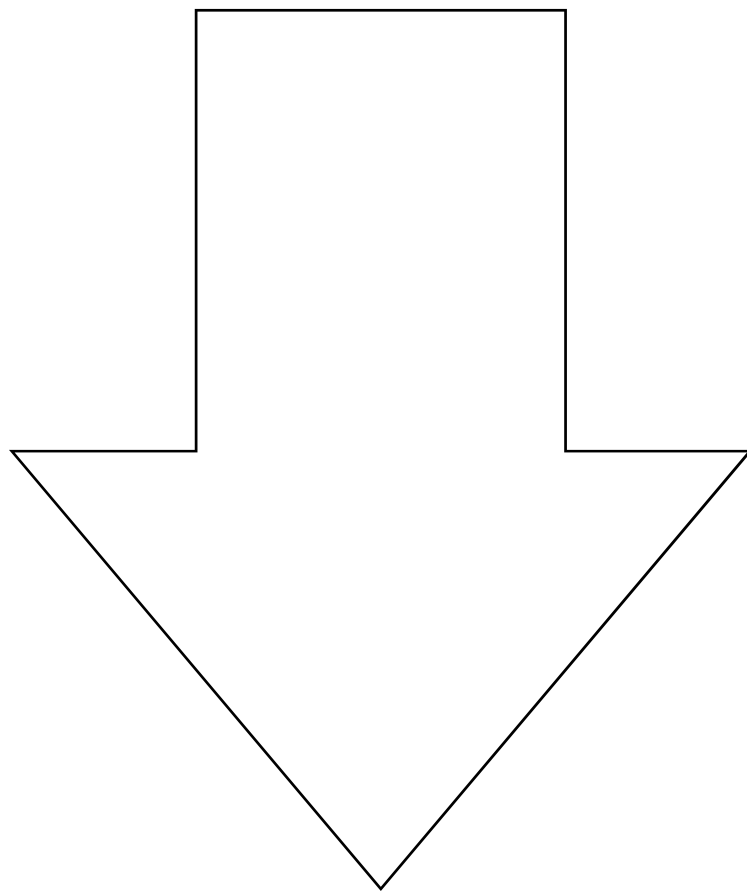
PET
of the
WEEK



"Paula"

Dainty little "Paula" was found down by Punt Verkant. Such a pretty little pup as she certainly looked out of place wandering around, so she was brought into the Bonaire Animal Shelter last month. The Shelter's policy on pets such as Paula is to wait two weeks to see if an owner calls to claim the dog or cat. But no one has called for Paula so she's now up for adoption. She's a little darling, very peppy and animated (just check out those perky little ears!) Paula is small enough to be a lap dog and we know she just can't wait for the opportunity. She's about a year and a half, is in excellent health, has been thoroughly examined by the vet, has had her shots and will be neutered.

Meet Paula and all the other healthy and social pets at the Shelter on the Lagoen Road, open Monday through Friday, 10 am to 2 pm, Saturdays until 1. Tel. 717-4989. □ *L.D.*



YOGA FOR YOU WHAT WILL YOGA DO FOR YOU?

If you have the patience to wait, gradually the muddy water becomes clear. If you can remain in non-doing, the perfect action arises by itself.

Lao Tse, the Tao Te Ching, Verse 15



Bhujangasana, the Cobra pose

In a yoga practice you will be guided into a series of *asanas* (positions)-standing, sitting, lying down, forward and back bends, inverted postures and twists-all done slowly and carefully, with great attention to your breathing. You will then end the practice with a 10-minute relaxation lying on your mat.

All yoga is Hatha yoga, but in practice Hatha usually means a simpler, less demanding type of yoga.

To name a few types of yoga:

Iyengar yoga is a careful sequence of *asanas* or postures held for a length of time.

Sivananda yoga approaches the relaxing effects of breathing and meditation.

Kundalini yoga is complete with mantras, chanting and meditation.

Ashtanga or power yoga and **Bikram** yoga are much more strenuous and athletic.

Yoga *asanas* have evolved over thousands of years as a way of undoing tensions and stiffness in the body, strengthening weaknesses and restoring equilibrium. As tensions are eased, there is an extraordinary release of energy, so that at the end of a practice you will feel recharged and revitalized.

Stress can alter breathing habits over time. Typically, breathing becomes faster, shallower and more erratic. This poor breathing then promotes more stress and can trigger a whole spectrum of ills – migraine, eczema, anxiety, panic attacks, digestive malfunction and eventually heart problems.

Yoga, with its attention to deep diaphragmatic breathing, tends to slow and regulate the breath over time and is a wonderful therapy for all these conditions. India has had a tradition of using yoga as therapy for specific illnesses and these are slowly beginning to reach the west

The photo is the *Bhujangasana*, the Cobra pose:

In this graceful pose the spine is slowly bent back, vertebra by vertebra, and the body is supported on the legs, pelvis, and palms. Its effect is to arch the spine back gently, promoting flexibility of the lower back. The gentle pressure that the pose brings on the abdomen also has a beneficial massaging effect on the internal organs. The deep muscles of the back become healthy as the spine becomes elastic and blood circulation and tone of the muscles and spinal nerves improve. This pose makes abdominal muscles healthier, removes gases, relieves constipation and improves digestion. □ Desirée

On every first Saturday of the month at 6:30 a.m. there is a meditation at Sorobon beach by the wooden fisherman's hut.

New!
Saturdays BEGINNERS Yoga class at Jong Bonaire started on the 3rd of April 10 am.



**Don and Desirée of
"Yoga For You" offer classes in
yoga, from beginners to advanced.
See their ad on page 14.**

WINDSURF SCENE AT SOROBON

CHALLENGING THE WAVES

After a break of a few years, Elvis Martinus, the primo organizer of Bonaire sailing and windsurfing events, is again running the popular Bonaire Wave Challenge. Bonairean pros, amateurs and youths are expected to attend this hot event. Wave sailing is an extremely high adrenaline sailing technique best enjoyed locally at the entrance of Lac where the Atlantic waves mount up as they try to enter the bay. The event is slated for Saturday and Sunday the 24th and 25th of April. Bonaire's business community will offer its support of Bonaire's favorite sport. There will be local food available, the ever popular Happy Band and more surprises. Also in attendance will be Larry Baillie and his new super safe super cool Zodiac, *Wildside Bonaire*. Larry's boat will be the official rescue/support water craft.



Is this a preview of what we'll see?

Curaçao's ever popular media wiz, Trevor Nisbeth from TeleCuraçao's Kiko Ta Kiko show and website, will cover the event. He, along with local press and spectators, are certain to be amazed by the new moves sure to be seen as some of the island best loved and most talented sailors return from their work in Maui. Brothers, Taty and Tonky Frans, and brothers, Jurgen and Bjorn Saragoza, are expected back on island in time to show off their hot tricks recently practiced in Hawaii. Sunfish and Optimists will be sailing in the quiet waters of Lac Bay as well. Best viewing will be from the snack and beach area of Kai. Registration is Friday night from 6-8 pm at the Caribbean Crash Bar at the Plaza Resort. Skippers Meeting is Saturday at 10 am at Lac Cai. First heat will commence around 11am. The Happy Band will entertain spectators beginning around 4 pm on Sunday. Sponsors for the Bonaire Wave Challenge are Bon FM, Plaza Resort, Ackerman Auto Toyota Lexus, Xerox, Crioyo Paint with The Island Supplier providing plenty of Corona Beer and the local favorite, Red Bull. For more information contact Ann Phelan, press person at ann@bonairewindsurfing.com or Elvis Martinus, Race Director at 717-2288. □ *Ann Phelan*

COUNTDOWN TO THE DIVE FESTIVAL



45 DAYS TO GO

The Bonaire Dive Festival is the island's most important conservation and dive event. This two-week-long (no enrollment fee) program focuses on the protection of the world's coral reefs and marine ecosystems and educates divers and snorkelers about the role they can play in conservation efforts. Guided daily dives, gear and equipment demonstrations and educational activities related to the protection of our marine environment will remain the key elements of the 2004 Bonaire Dive Festival. A variety of topside activities have been added to the schedule. Depending on when you join the two-week festival, you could take part in many events and activities.



Phillipe Cousteau and Captain Don cut the cake at the Dive Festival in 2000.

For example, if you come for the first three days:

And there are 11 more days filled with fun that follow. Pass by the downtown

Sunday, June 6, 2004

Official opening of the 8th Annual Bonaire Dive Festival
"Taste of Bonaire" food festival with live music on Wilhelmina Square
Daily guided dives

Monday, June 7, 2004

Scuba Challenge/Fish ID
Presentation by Philippe Cousteau
Daily guided dives

Tuesday, June 8, 2004

BBQ with live music at Sorobon and Kontiki Beach Club
Daily guided dives

TCB office to get more information. Or check out the website at: www.bonairedivefestival.com. □

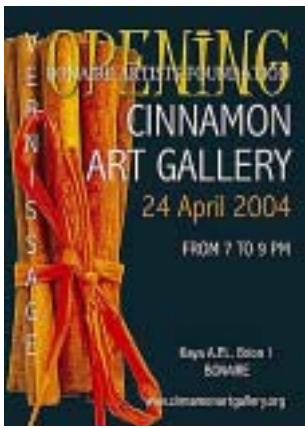
KRALENDIJK TIDES (Heights in feet, FT)

Remember: Winds and weather can further influence the local tides

DATE	TIME	HEIGHT	COEF
4-23	3:31	1.8FT.	69
4-24	4:11	1.8FT.	62
4-25	5:02	1.8FT.	54
4-26	5:46	1.8FT.	46
4-27	6:32	1.8FT.	39
4-28	7:26	1.7FT.	36
4-29	1:01	1.3FT.	39
4-30	3:20	1.3FT.	47
5-01	4:53	1.2FT.	59
5-02	6:19	1.1FT.	72
5-03	7:47	1.0FT.	84
5-04	0:16	1.9FT.	94
5-05	1:01	2.0FT.	100
5-06	1:51	2.0FT.	102

VESSELS MAKING A PORT CALL:

Alegria	Hannah	Santa Maria, Sweden
Alina, Aruba	Hero	Scintilla, Germany
Alley Cat	Honalee, USA	Seren Wer
Avaroa	Jalapeno	Shamballa
Angie	Jupiter	Sirius
Avaroa	La Contenta	Slow Dance
Barracho	La Escotilla	Surprise, USA
Bird of Paradise	Lady Diane	Sylvia K
Blauwe Crab, Curaçao	Lionstar	Tahaa Tiva
Blue Arran	Libertijn	Ta B
Camissa, Chan Is.	Lucky Lobster, Curacao	Ti Amo, USA
Cape Kathryn	Luna C	Today, USA
Cappoquin	Macaby, Netherlands	Traveler, Canada
Caravela	Meovac	Trio
Chulugi, Netherlands	Minnetare	Ulu Ulu, USA
Flying Cloud, USA	Mirandi	Unicorn, Norway
Fruity Fruits	Natural Selection, USA	Up Spirits
Gabrielle, USA	Nieke	Varedhuni, Germany
Galadrial, USA	Precocious Gale, USA	Wanita
Gatsby, USA	Queen of Hearts	Ya-T, BVI
Global Ombaka	Rhapsody	Zahi, Malta
Goril Too	Rusty Bucket	Zeno's Arrow, USA
Guaicamar I, Venezuela.	Sandpiper, USA	



CINNAMON ART GALLERY OPENS APRIL 24, 2004

Cinnamon Art Gallery, an on-going exhibition featuring the works of Bonaire-based artists, opens Saturday, April 24, with a gala reception from 7 – 9 pm, at Kaya A.P.L. Brion #1 (located just off Kaya Grandi behind Banco di Caribe). It's open to all.

The Gallery is a project of the non-profit Bonaire Artists Foundation, created to promote the work of local artists. 100% of the price of the art goes to the artist. The Gallery takes no commission. Private donations provide all of the

funding for exhibits and the on-going cost of maintaining the Gallery.

Its website is www.cinnamonartgallery.org.

Bonaire Artists Foundation and Cinnamon Art Gallery were brought to life by three expatriate artists who have made Bonaire their home: Avy Benhamron, Linda Richter and Jake Richter. They have donated the financial support necessary to open and operate the Gallery for at least a year. The work of Bonaire-born artists will be added and augment the work of the founding artists after the opening.

Some background on the first exhibitors:

- **Avy Benhamron** was born in Northern Morocco, in the seaside city of Rabat. He has formal art training from the renowned Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris, and went on to serve as the creative director for a Parisian advertising agency for more than a decade. His style? You could say it's African Art with a touch of the Bonaire sun.
- **Linda Richter** was born and raised in Pembroke, New Hampshire in the US. She studied fine arts at Notre Dame College. Since relocating to Bonaire in 1997, Linda has found a new world of year-round nature. She draws inspiration from the way the brilliant Caribbean light bounces off intense island colors. For Linda, Bonaire has been a rich visual experience and her paintings reflect that intensity.
- **Jake Richter** was born in New England, graduated from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, and has more than 25 years in the computer industry, with a focus on graphics technology, software development, electronic communications and intellectual property matters. Jake has always been deeply attracted to nature's beauty and color. For years, he's worked to capture such imagery with his camera lens. With his computer skills he subtly enhances the images.

The Gallery is open Monday through Friday from 9 am to 5 pm, or by appointment. Local artists who would like more information about having their work exhibited at the Gallery or anyone who would like to volunteer to help staff the gallery during the day should call Wendy Horn at 717-3902 or 785 - 9700, or stop by the Gallery weekdays after April 24. □ Press Release/ G.D.

OPENING
CINNAMON
ART GALLERY
 BONAIRE ARTISTS FOUNDATION

Please join us for a spicy evening of Sangria and Jazz to celebrate this permanent exhibition of Bonaire-based artists

Saturday , April 24, 2004. 7 to 9 pm

Kaya A.P.L. Brion 1 BONAIRE
 Just off Kaya Grandi
 behind Banco di Caribe
 Tel: 717-7797

ANNUAL KITE FLYING FESTIVAL

This 26th annual kite flying contest was once again held at the Juventus field behind Kooyman's last Sunday. The winds were close to perfect for much of the day. Not only were islanders participating but, as in other years, the event brought teams from Curaçao and Aruba.

Spectators wore smiles, drank beer and soft drinks, ate chicken, watched the kites and chatted among themselves.

The participants were serious and dedicated. It was fun to watch the team get the kite in the air-one or more to launch it, and another one or two who held the controlling end. Things could get tense and there was a lot of free advice. There were several heart-breaks when kites got tangled and crashed or when a string broke and the kite took off. The contest is the idea of Iris Semeler, owner of the Flamingo Book Store, who 26 years ago decided to have a kite contest, "just for fun." It's come a long way and it's still lots of fun. □ G.D



A top flier



concentration



Jeanette and Nolen



2004 judges

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Dia di Mama (Mother's Day)
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ADVERTISING INSERTS
2, 4, or 6 pages



The Bonaire Reporter
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All Welcome *2004 Festival of Life*

FREE Admission 26 May from 12 noon until 7

DIFFERENT FAMILY ACTIVITIES
from 12 noon - 7pm

After 7 pm - Live!
The Mc Alpine Fusiliers Folk Musicians

A celebration of all That makes our life
Oh Bonaire GOOD



Caribbean Club
Bonaire
at Hilltop

More info? Call 717-7901
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Web: www.caribbeanclubbonaire.com

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or fax *The Bonaire Reporter* at 717-8988 e-mail ads@bonairereporter.com



JAN ART

Kaya Gloria 7, Local Island Art, **Art Classes** for adults & children, **Art Supplies and Framing.**
Phone 717-5246.



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all grown on Bonaire. Also landscap-
ing. Follow signs starting in front of
Lagoon Hill. Tel. 790-3348



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and business information source on
Bonaire.** Telephone (599) 717-7160.

For on-line yellow pages directory
information go to [http://www.
yellowpagesbonaire.com](http://www.yellowpagesbonaire.com)

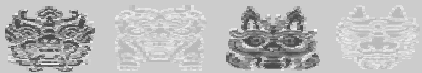


**For watercolor and acrylic classes
call Alead 785-6695**

PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT.

BEACH HOUSE FOR RENT 2 bed-
rooms, choice private location. Avail-
able from July 15 to Jan 15.: For details
contact: (599) 717-5058; 717 -3293;
larjaytee@aol.com

WANTED TO RENT: A small, fur-
nished house with 2 bedrooms, 2 baths
for long term rental, starting May 1.
About NAf800/month. Call 785-0581.



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clearings, blessings, energy healing
China trained, Experienced.
Inexpensive. Call Donna at 785-9013

WANTED for the ART SCENE

WANTED: Volunteers to help at the
Cinnamon Art Gallery opening soon.
Volunteers to help staff the gallery dur-
ing the day. If you are interested, please
contact **Wendy Horn, at 717-3902 or
785-9700.**

WANTED: Local artists who would
like more information about having
their work exhibited at the new Cinna-
mon Art Gallery should call Wendy
Horn at 717 3902 or 785 - 9700, or stop
by the Gallery weekdays after April 24.

BOATS FOR SALE

Traditional **Bonairean
Sailing Sloop.** A dream
to sail. Bargain at
NAf10,000. One of the
last of its kind. Call 717-
8988 or 785-6125.



FOR SALE

Women's 3mm full wetsuit, size XL,
never used: front zipper, ankle zips,
spine pad, thigh pocket, NAf350. Dee
Scarr, 717-8529.

Aluminium Scuba Tank 80 cylinder
recently hydroed, \$75-. 717-4755

FOR SALE: Large Mahogany **table**
NAf950. Mah. sideboard (**buffet**)
NAf 1.200. Mah. **book-case** with
dark glazed doors NAf1.200. Various
paintings. Tel: 717-8463.

WANTED

2 hybrid or mountain bikes wanted.
Please call 785-6820

**Wanted: A full grown dog, already
housebroken and quiet,** to be my
well-loved companion. Please call if
you have too many dogs and would
like to find a good home for one. **Ale-
jandra 565 - 6499.**

Wanted: New Medical Student look-
ing for an **inexpensive, reliable car.**
E-mail mikeinmedicine@netscape.net

PICTURE YOURSELF WITH THE REPORTER



SUZHOU, CHINA

Bonaire resident Hans Linkels sent us this photo and wrote, "Please find attached
a picture of *The Bonaire Reporter* in a very remote place: Suzhou in the Jiangsu
province in China, about 50 miles from Shanghai. My wife and I were there on a
business trip I had to make for Digital Radio Mondiale (DRM) to Hangzhou in the
Zhejiang province, and also as a bit of honeymoon trip we made after we married in
Las Vegas on March 22." Pabien, Hans. □

WIN GREAT PRIZES! Take a copy of *The Bonaire Reporter* with you on your next trip or
when you return to your home. Then take a photo of yourself with the newspaper in hand.
THE BEST PHOTOS OF THE YEAR WILL WIN THE PRIZES. Mail photos to Bonaire
Reporter, Kaya Gob. Debrot 200-6, Bonaire, Netherlands Antilles (AN). E-mail to: picture@bonairereporter.com. (All 2004 photos are eligible.) □

WANTED: IDEAS

JOIN THE FESTIVAL OF LIFE- If
you have an idea or product that makes
life better for us all you are invited to
join the exhibition at the Caribbean Club
Bonaire on April 24 from 12 noon until

7 pm. There is no charge. The theme is a
celebration of all that makes our life on
Bonaire good. There will be music,
games for children an open swimming
pool and refreshments. Set up your stand
and greet the people. Call Sean or Mar-
jolene at 717-7901 for details.

LITTLE LEAGUE



The young players open up some of the many boxes. Organizers Bob Bartikoski, Eddie Thielman and Rudy Benita look on.

Bonaire Councilman Eddie Thielman, who helps run an adults' softball team, was out at Lac one Sunday and got talking to Bonaire realtor, Bob Bartikoski. The topic came around to baseball. Eddie mentioned that the Little League teams here could use some help. Bob said he had a friend in the US in Minnesota who was a big Little League fan, knew everyone interested in baseball in his area, and maybe he could find some gear. Eddie thought it was a great idea. Bob Bartikoski's friend, Bill Berg, is a hitting and pitching instructor for Little League and Babe Ruth players in Minnesota. Through Bill's contacts and friends in Minnesota, he was able to raise over \$300 in contributions and get over 500 pounds, 19 big boxes full, of new and nearly new baseball equipment donated for the kids on Bonaire who play baseball. The equipment included: cleats, balls, baseball gloves, caps, uniforms, hats, bats, batting and catchers' helmets, equipment bags, uniforms, even women's softball pants and basketball gear. (Bill Berg was to be in Bonaire at this time to do baseball clinics, but when his son became ill last week, his trip had to be postponed.) The donated gear was distributed last week at the Little League Field, just after the start of the new season. This was due to the tireless efforts and hard work of lots of people including Bill Berg in Minnesota, Bob Bartikoski in Bonaire and the Minnesota donors. Thanks go to Eddie Thielman from Bonaire Customs Office, Marisela Croes and the staff at Rocargo, Nancy Diaz and Mercy at AMCAR in Miami. Rocargo and AMCAR charged nothing for their services and shipping and worked overtime to get the equipment delivered to Bonaire in time for the start of the baseball season. Bill, Eddie and Bob would like to do this again next year. For those of you who don't know, the Little League team from Curaçao went to the Little League World Series last year, played a few games there and got close to the finals. We are hoping to see the Bonaire team get there one day. □ *L./G.D.*

BONAIRE LITTLE LEAGUE FACTS

Rudy Benita is chairman of Bonaire Little League. Board members include: Eugenie Rodriguez, Elton Johnson, Humfrey Hanson, Harold Sint Jago, Joel Angela and Jossy Boekhoudt. There are five Little League teams (children 9 to 12 years old) and four Senior League teams (teens 13 to 15 years old). The major league (teens 16 to 18) will be organized as the younger kids get older.

Bonaire's officials include Marshall Osepa, an international umpire, who has been to the Little League World Headquarters in Williamsport, Pa. He'll be training managers and umpires. □ *L./G.D.*

MARTIJN BOUWMEESTER MAKES THE BLUE MOON INTO A NEW BLUE MOON



Recognize this friendly face? It's Martijn Bouwmeester who was Head Chef at Rendez-Vous for the last nine years. As Pastry Chef for three years with the Bonaire Culinary Team he helped lead the team to a Silver Medal in the "Taste of the Caribbean International Culinary Olympics." He's created and cooked royal-level meals for Queen Beatrix, Prince Klaus and Prince Willem Alexander. And he takes the time to teach young culinary students the secrets of his craft.



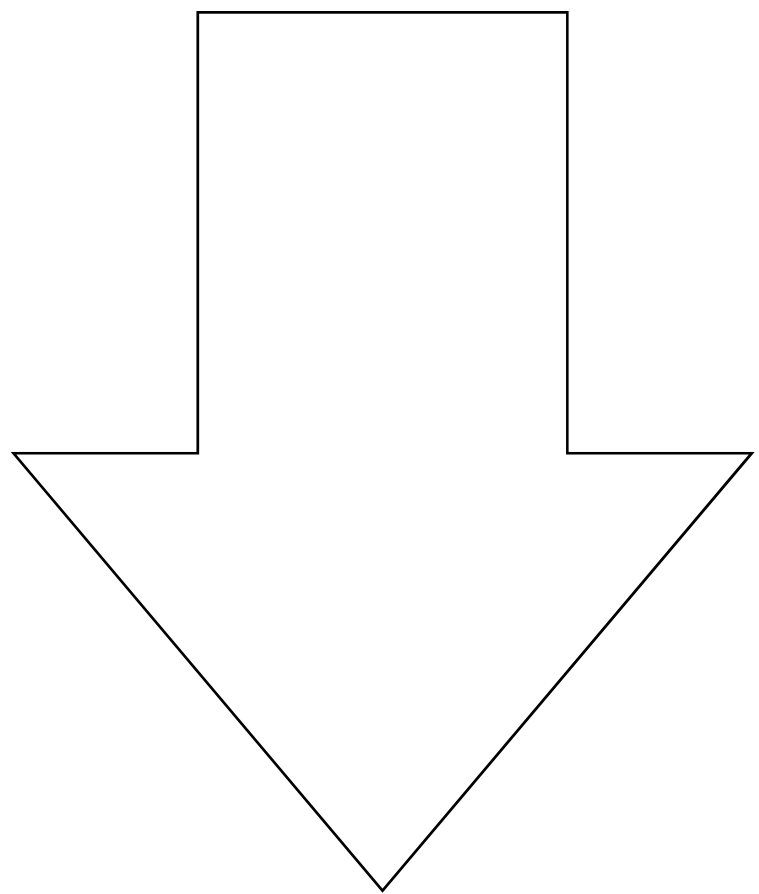
Martijn Bouwmeester

And now he's the master in the kitchen at Blue Moon and running the restaurant as well. "This is the first time to have my own place," Martijn says. And it's about time because he's a creative, totally focused chef who loves what he does. "I'm changing the whole menu," he declares. "They'll be fresh, enticing dishes." Some examples we'd like to mention: Warm fresh salmon carpaccio from the oven with a mustard honey vinegar sauce; Shrimps a la Dordogne in a creamy garlic sauce; Ceviche in a sweet and sour sauce of orange with lime, sugar, onions and mint, blended, then marinated for 24 hours; Conch mousse topping a catch of the day filet served in a ginger sauce; Tenderloin wrapped with smoked marlin with a horseradish sauce. He'll be doing innovative things with duck breasts, lamb and chicken breasts too.

Martijn has always been a master at soups. Try his Shrimp bisque, Conch chowder or Soup of the day which will most likely be a clear soup like a beef bouillon.

Don't forget to save room for Martijn's award winning desserts. At the Blue Moon you'll find for example: a Chocolate surprise inside a pastry of filo dough with homemade cookies; a Baked local goat cheese with an orange parfait with balsamic honey sauce; Key lime pie with meringue and more.

Hungry yet? If you're looking for a fine meal, try the (New) Blue Moon on the Promenade, across from South Pier, just north of Divi Flamingo. □ *L.D.*



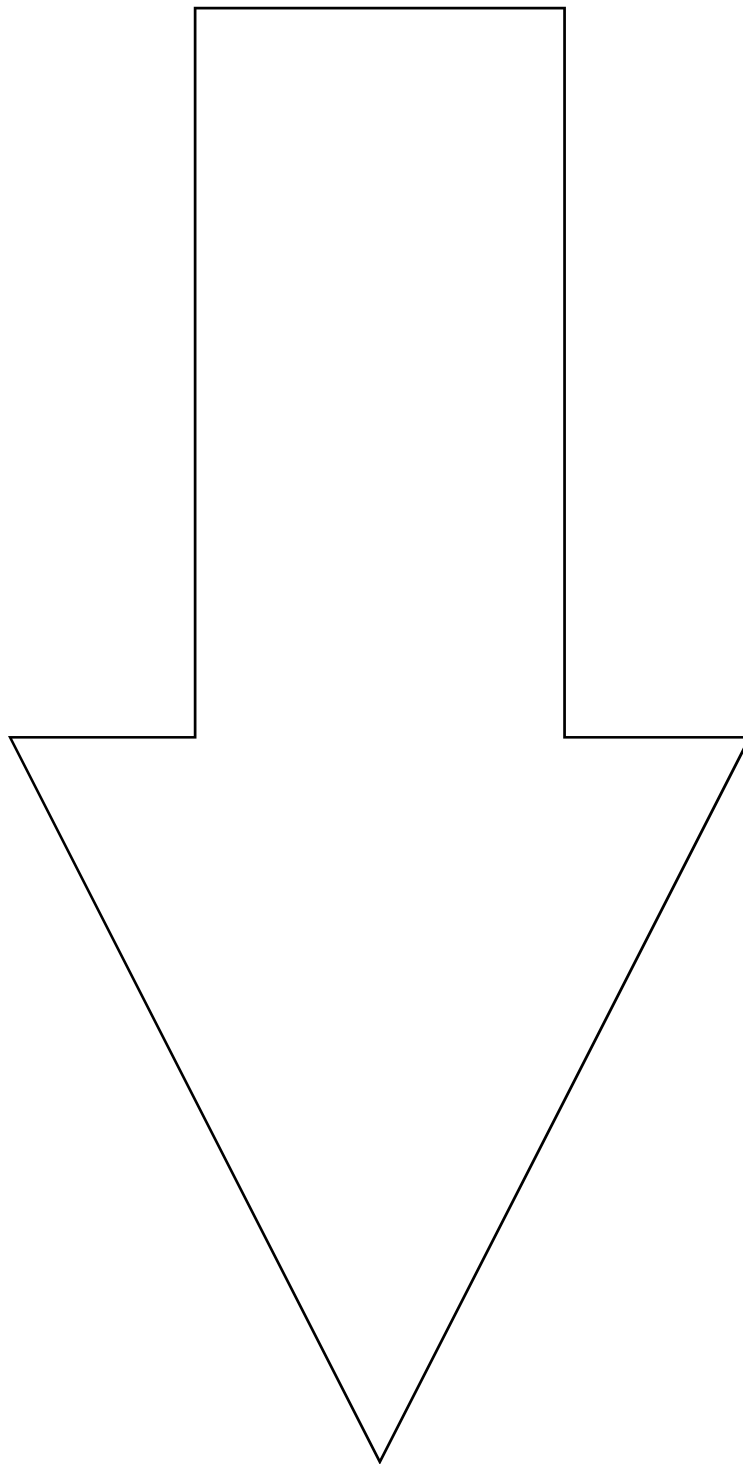


BONAIRE HIT PARADE



TW	LW	#WEEKS	BAND	SONG TITLE
1.	3	5	MASTA/KING LOVER	WHEN I HIT YA
2.	1	5	ORK. CACHE	KASA KU MI
3.	2	5	BANDA SUN G	AMOR DE MADRE 2
4.	5	4	D.J. OPT1K	R&B/REGGAETON MIX
5.	4	6	COMPACT BAND	E CHIKICHI
6.	8	3	NO GAME	JERY
7.	10	3	DC POWER	MI KURASON TEY PA BO
8.	11	2	USHER/LUDA/LIL JON	YEAH
9.	13	1	SHAGGY/MONA	STRANGE LOVE
10.	9	9	LEEYON R. GUMBS	DUNAMI UN CHENS
11.	7	10	ARNELL Y ORK.	MI GUSTABO
12.	6	2	LEEYON R. GUMBS	SITUASHON
13.	14	1	ENRICO HENRIQUEZ	SIMADAN DIA DI RINCON
14.	N	N	I.G.T.(PRIMISIA ANTIAS)	UN BUGALU
15.	N	N	BEYONCE	NAUGHTY GIRL

LISTEN TO THE TOP HITS EVERY SATURDAY FROM 12 NOON - 1PM
 A new regular feature of *The Bonaire Reporter* is the **Bonaire Hit Parade**, a listing of the 15 most popular songs on the island. It is compiled by the staff of Digital FM 91.1 and shows this week's (TW) and last week's (LW) songs. □



WHAT'S HAPPENING

WEEKLY MOVIE SHOWTIMES

New! Usually 9:00 pm

Against the Ropes
(Meg Ryan)

Early Show (usually 7:00 pm)

Hidalgo
(Omar Sharif)

Kaya Prinses Marie
Behind Exito Bakery
Tel. 717-2400

Tickets - NAf10,50 (incl. Tax)
High Schoolers - NAf7,75

NEW FILMS BEGIN EVERY FRIDAY

SATURDAY SUNDAY MATINEE 4 PM

Peter Pan

WEEKS APRIL 23 to MAY 6.

April 15-22: Dive into Earth Week (Day) - Check with your hotel or dive shop for activities including beach and underwater cleanups.

Saturday, April 24: Opening of the Cinnamon Art Gallery from 7-9 pm, at Kaya A.P.L. Brion #1, located just off Kaya Grandi behind Banco di Caribe. (See page 10.)

Rincon Day, Friday, April 30: (See article on page 15.) The Queen's Birthday, MCB Bonaire Rincon Day 17 km. run, 7 am (tel. 717-8629)

EVERY WEEK

Sunday -Dinner and live music at Chibi Chibi Restaurant at the Divi Flamingo 6 to 9 pm.

Monday -Soldachi Tour of Rincon, the heart of Bonaire, 9 am-noon. \$20- Call Maria 717-6435

Monday -Rum Punch Party on the beach at Lion's Dive. Dutch National Products provides an introduction to Time Sharing and how to save on your next vacation. 6:15 to 7 pm

Tuesday-BonaireTalker Dinner/Gathering at Gibi's Terrace-6:30pm -call Jake at 717-6773 or e-mail jake@bonairetalk.com for more infor.

Tuesday -Harbour Village Tennis, Social Round Robin 7 to 10 pm. \$10 per person. Cash bar. All invited. Call Elisabeth Vos at 565-5225 /717-7500, ext. 14.

Wednesday -Sand Dollar Manager's Cocktail Party, Mangos Bar and Restaurant

Friday -Manager's Rum Punch Party, Buddy Dive Resort 5:30-6:30 pm.

Friday - Open House with Happy Hour at the JanArt Gallery at Kaya Gloria #7, from 5-7 pm.

Every day by appointment -Rooi Lamoenchi Kunuku Park Tours Au-

Mother's Day is Coming Advertise in the Reporter

Ads must be in by May 1

thentic Bonairean kunuku. \$12 (NAf12 for Bonaire residents). Tel 717-8489, 540-9800.

FREE SLIDE/VIDEO SHOWS

Sunday- Discover Our Diversity Slide Show, Buddy Dive at the pool bar, 7 pm 717-5080

Monday- Touch the Sea introduces Dee Scarr's unique perspective on marine animals and divers. Aquarius Conference Center, Captain Don's Habitat, 8:30 pm. Tel. 717-8290, or call Dee at 717-8529

Tuesday-Fascinating Fish slide show by Jessie Armacost at The Old Inn, at 6 pm opposite the Plaza Resort. Each week a different show filled with fish ID tips and other fascinating facts about fish. Tel. 717-4888

New! Wednesday- Turtle slide show by the STCB (Turtle Club) at the Buddy Dive pool Bar at 7 pm.

Friday- Week in Review Video Presentation by the Toucan Dive Shop at the Plaza's Topsy Seagull, 5 pm. 717-2500.

Friday- The Captain Don Show - Conversation, fun, yarns, a few slides. Guaranteed 85% true. Aquarius Conference Room. Captain Don's Habitat 8:30 pm Tel. 717-8290

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Bonaire National Marine Park 717-8444.

Bonaire Animal Shelter 717-4989.

Donkey Sanctuary 560-7607.

Jong Bonaire (Youth Center) 717-4303.

Sister Maria Hoppner Home (Child Care) Tel. 717-4181 fax 717-2844.

Special Olympics contact Delno Tromp, 717-7659

CLUBS and MEETINGS

AA meetings - every **Wednesday**; Phone 717-6105; 560-7267 or 717-3902.

Al-Anon meetings - every **Monday** evening at 7 pm. Call 790-7272

Bridge Club - **Wednesdays**, 7:30 pm at the Union Building on Kaya Korona, across from the RBTT Bank and next to Kooyman's. All levels invited. NAf5 entry fee. Call Cathy 566-4056.

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

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

Lions Club meets every **2nd and 4th Thursday** of the month at 8 pm at Kaya Sabana #1. All Lions are welcome.

Rotary lunch meetings **Wednesday**, 12 noon-2 pm - Rendez-Vous Restau-

rant, Kaya L.D. Gerharts #3. All Rotarians are welcome. Tel. 717-8454

BONAIRE'S TRADITIONS

Mangazina di Rei, Rincon. Enjoy the view from "The King's Storehouse" while learning about Bonaire's history and culture and visit typical homes from the 17th century. Daily. Call 717-4060 or 790-2018

Go to the source. Visit the **Bonaire Museum** on Kaya J. v.d. Ree, behind the Catholic Church in town. Open weekdays from 8 am-noon, 1:30-5 pm. Tel. 717-8868
Washington-Slagbaai National Park, Museum and Visitors' Center. Open daily 8 am-5 pm. Closed on some holidays. 717-8444/785-0017

Sunday at Cai- Live music and dancing starts about 12 noon at Lac Cai. Dance to the music of Bonaire's most popular musicians.

Saturday at Rincon - Marshe Liber (smaller markets) 8 am until 2 pm

Large market offering Rincon area tours on the first Saturday of each month, 10 am to 2 pm

CHURCH SERVICES

International Bible Church of Bonaire - Kaya Amsterdam 3 (near the traffic circle) **Sunday Services at 9 am; Sunday Prayer Meeting at 7:30 pm** in English. Tel. 717-8332

Protestant Congregation of Bonaire. Wilhelminaplein. Services in Papiamentu, Dutch and English on **Sundays at 10 am. Thursday Prayer Meeting and Bible Study at 8 pm.** Rev. Jonkman. 717-2006

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Kaya Sabana #26 Sundays 8:30 - 11:30 am. Services in Papiamentu, Spanish and English.

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

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

Assembly of God (Asamblea di Dios), Kaya Triton (Den Cheffi). Services in English, Dutch & Papiamentu on **Sunday at 10 am. Wednesday Prayer Meeting at 7:30 pm.** 717-2194
New Apostolic Church, Meets at Kaminda Santa Barbara #1, Sundays, 9:30 am. Services in Dutch. 717-7116.

* * * * *

Send in your events to
The Bonaire Reporter
Email reporter@bonairenews.com
Tel/Fax. 717-8988, Cel. 791-7252

DINING GUIDE

See advertisements in this issue

RESTAURANT	PRICE RANGE / WHEN OPEN	FEATURES
Bella Vista Restaurant Sea Side Restaurant at Buddy Dive Resort 717-5080, ext. 535	Moderate. Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner Open every day	Magnificent Theme Nights: Sunday: Beach Grill; Wednesday: Mexican Night; Friday: Manager's Rum Punch Party and All-You-Can-Eat B.B.Q
The Blue Moon- Early Bird Special! before 7 pm Sea Side Restaurant—Waterfront on the Promenade 717-8617	Moderate-Expensive Dinner. Inexpensive bar menu Closed Wednesdays	Attention to detail, fine cooking, delightful presentation and excellent service make this charming owner-operated restaurant a favorite.
Chez Lucille Kaya C.E.B. Hellmund 19, Waterfront, 717-7884	Moderate Dinner 6 to 10 pm Closed Sundays	After your warm welcome from owner-chef-hostess Lucille you'll be enthralled with a menu that combines the familiar and the exotic. In an historic waterfront home and garden.
Chibi Chibi Restaurant and Bar At the Divi Flamingo Beach Resort. Waterfront 717-8285	Moderate-Expensive Lunch and Dinner Open 7 days	Sit over the water in the most charming and colorful building on the waterfront. Fine service with a broad menu to suit every taste. Special menus often offered. Live music Sundays.
Croccantino Italian Restaurant Downtown at Kaya Grandi 48 717-5025	Moderate-Expensive Dinner Closed Monday	Skilled chefs direct from Tuscany prepare exquisite dishes. Authentic ingredients and romantic setting make dining a total delight. Get served in a garden settings under floating umbrellas or in air-conditioned comfort.
Garden Café Kaya Grandi 59 717-3410	Moderate \$5 to \$20 Dinner	Finely prepared Middle Eastern cuisine plus Venezuelan specialties. Excellent vegetarian selections. Pizza and BBQ.
La Balandra On the Water at the Harbour Village Resort 717-7500, ext 62; 785-0902	Moderate Breakfast-Lunch Special Dinners on Friday, Sunday	Cuisine by Chef Alberto Roldan of the Bonaire Culinary Team. If you are using the NA/25 Beach Pass, a NA/15 credit is given for meals Bonaire's best seaside location?
The Last Bite Bakery 717-3293 Home Delivery or Take Out	Low-Moderate Orders taken 8 am-4 pm Closed Sunday Deliveries 6:00-7:30pm	Enjoy a delicious dessert or savory baked meal in the comfort of your home or resort. This unique bakery offers gourmet class items -always from scratch- for take out or delivery only.
The Lions Den Beach Bar And Restaurant On the sea at Lions Dive 717-3400 717-6616	Moderate-Expensive Dinner Open 7 Days	Spectacular setting overlooking dive sites and Klein Bonaire. Imaginative menu, open kitchen. Owned and operated by Kirk Gosden.
The Lost Penguin Across from MCB Bank in downtown Kralendijk Call 717-8003	Low-Moderate Breakfast, Lunch, Early Dinner Closed Tuesdays	Watch the bustle of downtown from this street side Caribbean-style bistro owned and run by a European educated Master Chef and his wife.
Pasa Bon Pizza On Kaya Gob. Debrot ½ mile north of town center. 790-1111	Low-Moderate Open from 5-11 pm Wed-Sunday	Bonaire's best. The Real Thing! Freshly prepared pizzas made with the finest ingredients. Salads, desserts. Eat in or take away. Nice bar too. Call ahead to eat-in or take out 790-1111
The Seahorse Cyber Café Kaya Grandi #6 Phone 717-4888	Low-Moderate Open 7 am - 7 pm Closed Sunday Family Happy Hour Friday, 5-7 Closed Sunday	Tasty breakfasts, pastries, fresh tropical juices, homemade bread, special sandwiches, delicious desserts and much more make this a favorite indoor/outdoor stopping place on Bonaire's main street



SHOPPING GUIDE

See advertisements in this issue



AIRLINES

BonaireXel, Bonaire's own ON TIME airline flying between Bonaire, Curaçao and Aruba. Look for *The Bonaire Reporter* on board.

APPLIANCES/FURNITURE/COMPUTERS

City Shop is Bonaire's mega-store for TV, Stereos, Air conditioning, large and small kitchen appliances. Name brands, guarantees and service center.

BANKS

Maduro and Curiel's Bank provides the greatest number of services, branches and ATMs of any Bonaire bank. They also offer investments and insurance.

BEAUTY PARLOR

Hair Affair. Expert hair cutting, styling, facials, waxing and professional nail care.

BICYCLE / SCOOTER/ QUADS

De Freewieler rents scooters and quads; professionally repairs almost anything on two wheels. Sell top brand bikes.

BOOKS

Watercolours Bonaire and **Eye on Aruba, Bonaire, Curaçao** are the most original ways to remember Bonaire and the islands at their best. At Photo Tours and many other island shops.

Bonaire Diving Made Easy, Third Edition, is an essential in your dive bag. The latest information on Bonaire's shore dive sites.

BOATING / REPAIRS/ SUPPLIES

Bonaire Nautico for low cost dockside mooring in the heart of Kralendijk. Ferry to Klein. Boat Rentals.

BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION

APA Construction are professional General Contractors. They also specialize in creating patios and walkways with fabulous sprayed and stamped concrete pavement.

CLEANING SERVICE

Conetal Cleaning Service cleans homes, apartments, offices. Offers babysitting, gardening, laundry.

CYBER CAFES

The Seahorse Cyber Café has cyber facilities. See Restaurant Guide.

DENTURES

All Dentures Lab. For denture repair or new ones. All

work done on the island, fast results. Owner-operator dentist. Repairs while you wait.

DIVING

Carib Inn is the popular 10-room inn with top-notch dive shop and well stocked retail store. Best book trade on Bonaire. Good prices on regulator repair, dive computer H.Q.
Dive Inn Seven studio apartments and dive shop/school directly on the waterfront in the heart of town. Friendly, highly experienced with an exceptional staff.

FITNESS

Bonfysio offers comprehensive fitness programs to suit your needs whether they be weight loss, sports or just keeping in shape. Convenient schedule.

Fit 4 Life at the Plaza Resort Mall. Classes in Pilates, Aerobics, TaeBo and more. Professional trainers, fitness machines and classes for all levels.

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.

GIFTS - SOUVENIRS - LIQUORS

The Bonaire Gift Shop has a big selection of what you need to enjoy Bonaire and remember it when you get home. Digital cameras and watches a specialty.

HOTELS

Friars' Inn, downtown Kralendijk, offers rooms and breakfast at Bonaire's lowest prices. Great for tourists or when visiting family and friends.

METALWORK AND MACHINE SHOP

b c b- Botterop Construction Bonaire N.V., offers outstanding fabrication of all metal products, including stainless. Complete machine shop too.

PHOTO FINISHING

Paradise Photo in the Galeries Shopping Center offers fast, fine processing for prints and slides plus a variety of items and services for your picture-taking pleasure.

REAL ESTATE / RENTAL AGENTS

Harbourtown Real Estate is Bonaire's oldest real estate agent. They specialize in professional customer services and top notch properties.

Re/Max Paradise Homes: International/US connections. 5% of profits donated to local community.

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

REPAIRS

Bon Handyman is here if you need something fixed or built. Ultra reliable, honest and experienced. Electrical, plumbing, woodworking, etc.

RESORTS & ACTIVITIES

Buddy Dive Resort offers diving, Adventure Fun tours including kayaking, mountain biking, cave snorkeling and exploration.

SECURITY

Special Security Services will provide that extra measure of protection when you need it. Always reliable. Call 717-8125.

SHIPPING

Rocargo Freight Air and sea shipments in/out of Bonaire. Customs agents. Professional and efficient. **FedEx agent**. Call 717-8922/8033.

SUPERMARKETS

Tropical Flamingo is convenient, clean, modern, efficient and has the lowest prices on Bonaire. Located behind NAPA.

Visit **Warehouse Bonaire** to shop in a large, spotless supermarket. You'll find American and European brand products. THE market for provisioning.

TOYS AND GAMES

Laur'an is a store dedicated to providing quality toys and games to Bonaire. Find them on Kaya Gerharts in the Lourdes Shopping Mall

WATER TAXI

Get to Klein Bonaire by Ferry. Call Bonaire Nautico at 560-7254. Ride the *Kantika di Amor* or *Skiffy*. Hotel pickup too.

WINES

Antillean Wine Company. You've tried the rest; now try the best: best prices, highest quality wines from around the world, kept in a cooled warehouse. Free delivery.

YOGA

Yoga For You. Join certified instructors Desiree and Don at Jong Bonaire for a workout that will refresh mind and body. Private lessons too.

ATTENTION BUSINESSMEN:
Put your ad in *The Bonaire Reporter*.
The most advertising for your guildler.
Phone/Fax 717-8988, Cel 791-7252

Marcel Nahr

“I was born in Curaçao. My father was the attorney general on the island and a very important and influential man. I have always been very proud of him. He was an officer in the army who worked himself up as a clerk to the Island Council. When he was 40 and at his peak, but without the necessary papers, he decided to leave for Holland with his wife and four children, including me, to get his law degree. We lived in Nijmegen for four years, and I think my ‘obsession’ for the four days walkathon of Nijmegen must have started then. Last year I went to participate for the first time, and it was an enormous personal victory for me. I’ve always been chubby and absolutely not interested in sports; I was always reading. To walk 50 kilometers a day, for four days... to reach that point, that was tough! I lost 20 kilos in a short time. Before I was always tired, out of breath. The first time I started walking, from Flamingo Beach to Karel’s and back, I felt like a dog. My muscles ached for two days! In the last 18 months my life has changed drastically: my lifestyle, my work and the way I eat.

I had my own restaurant, *Rendez-Vous*, for 20 years, from July 2nd 1983 till July 2nd 2003. Now I’m working for Goddard Catering at the airport as a supervisor. It’s kind of a second career, but it’s great. I have wonderful colleagues and I’ve learned a lot. I’m enjoying things that weren’t possible for a long time: to be at home at night together with Hilde and Shari, to have a social life and to sit with a cup of coffee early in the morning and see the sun rise. By the way, let me show you something. Hilde, can you get me the pants I kept? *Hilde comes back and Marcel Nahr gets up and puts the pants over his shorts and still they’re way too big. He grins proudly: “This is just to remind me!”*

He gets me another coffee and stretches his legs on the couch. “My father always expected me to be a good boy, and being his son meant also to live according to certain expectations. Curaçao is a special community. It’s one big melting pot, but it always tries to put a mark on you. I finished high school, but there must be some teachers who are still horrified when they think of that! It was a good time though! I went to Holland when I was 20, and it was just the right thing for a party animal like me! For one and a half years I studied at the Higher Economic School. I wanted to switch to the Higher Hotel School, but with only two of those schools in Holland and 2,000 candidates, they told me that I had too little experience and to come back next year. Meanwhile I was working for Wagon Lits and for Martinair Catering so I got to travel all over Europe by

train, but I also got cheap tickets for Sri Lanka and Bali.

I love to travel! Once I took three months off and went on my motorbike with a tent all through France and Spain to North Africa, to Fez and Casablanca, until I reached the Sahara. I didn’t dare go any further; the Sahara is no place for amateurs. When the time came to serve in the army, I didn’t feel like it and fled to England. From there I flew to Boston, bought a Greyhound Bus ticket and went to Algonquin National Park in Canada. I rented a kayak, a tent and fishing rods, and had a wonderful time by myself in the midst of nature. I traveled to the East Coast and from there to Miami where I bought a one-way ticket to Curaçao. It was 10 years after the dramatic Curaçao riots, May 30th 1969, and still there were big black holes in town. The whole atmosphere was depressed; nobody dared make new investments. I had been planning on investing in the service industry, but I thought, there’s nothing here that an

American can’t find in Miami, and riots will be the last thing he’s looking for! I myself didn’t even want to live in Curaçao! My father, however, wanted me to stay in the Antilles. He took me to St. Martin and I talked to him about Aruba, but he advised me strongly not to go and live there as he was the one who locked up the political leader, Betico Croes, who’d just come out of jail and had reestablished himself in Aruba.

So I started working for the Wine Cellar, a top restaurant in Curaçao. One day the owner, Nico, had a meeting with this flamboyant lady, Lucille Martijn, who wanted to establish a wine and cheese bar on Bonaire. Nico advised her to start a fancy restaurant, and October 1st 1981, “Bistro des Amis” opened. It was a big hit right from the start. Nico told me they were looking for a maitre’d. Regatta was coming up, and as most people from Curaçao, I only saw Bonaire as a piece of Curaçao that had drifted away and where you only went for Regatta. I was willing to try it for a month. I called my parents said, ‘Look, I’m on Bonaire for a month.’ That’s 23 years ago now!” *He laughs.*

I worked with Lucille for one and a half years with great success. I felt Bonaire was starting to boom. I was 26 and opened my own restaurant, *Rendez-Vous*. One night four people came and

sat at the bar. One of them was a girl named Hilde. She was beautiful, attractive and nice!”

Hilde interrupts Marcel: “They’d told me that there was this guy on Bonaire who was the most eligible bachelor on the island! I liked him instantly... those blue eyes!”

“We were both free and somehow we felt it was time for some stability,” *Marcel fills in.* “The next day I met Hilde and her friends as they were going to the beach. I told them I’d come too, but first I had to go home for my swimsuit. Hilde came with me and while we were driving on Kaya Nikiboko-Zuid, she said,

‘Oh, how great! I used to live somewhere around here!’ Where? I asked and she said, ‘A bit further!’ Then I drove into the yard of the house she pointed out, and she said, ‘Hey, you can’t do that!’ And I answered, ‘But I live here!’ That was destiny. Hilde is from Aruba, but at the time she was working for Holland Casinos in The Netherlands so she went back. “While I was there,” *Hilde laughs,* “I thought I should have stayed around. I wasn’t that young any-

more, and I thought, before I know it I’ll lose him. As we say, ‘*Amor de Lechos es Amor de Pendejos.*’ (‘Love From a Distance is a Fool’s Love.’) I talked to my employer and got a six-month unpaid leave of absence and left for Bonaire. It wasn’t easy in the beginning. We were both used to our freedom, but there came a turning point, then everything went well.” “We got married 11-11-88,” *Marcel says.* “We had a great party at Habitat and we left for our honeymoon while the party was still going on. We took off with ALM, a Twin Otter, and I asked the pilot if he wanted to fly over the party. He asked me whether there were any light posts around Habitat, then he circled 300 meters above the party... that’s Bonaire! Our daughter Shari was born December 15th 1990, and after the delivery Hilde said, ‘Next time it’s your turn!’ But it never came to that point. We were always too busy.

Shari is a very creative and happy child. In 2002 she won a drawing contest and got a trip to the Olympic Games in Sydney, Australia. We all went and we dream of going back. What a beautiful country! Nature, space... I love it!



Hilde, Shari and Marcel

“Regatta was coming up, and as most people from Curaçao, I only saw Bonaire as a piece of Curaçao that had drifted away and where you only went for Regatta.”

That’s something I miss on Bonaire. After 50 kilometers it’s either driving into the sea or going back! But, through Bòi Antoin I discovered countless little dirt roads, and it’s always fun. He calls me, ‘I’m going to the kunuku today and you’re welcome to join me, but I’m going to catch an iguana and I don’t want you to whine about the ‘poor animal!’ We really stimulate each other! When I walked, supported by Hilde, for the first time from Willemstoren to Malmok and Bòi heard about it, he said if some dummy from Curaçao could do it, he could do it too! Last time we did it 23 people participated!

All in all, we are very happy at the moment. I sold the business but not the building, and that’s my old age pension. As for the catering I’m giving it 200%, but it’s a nice feeling not to have to bother about anything once I’m home. We’re busy fundraising to go this year again to Nijmegen for the 4-day walkathon with five people from Bonaire, and I really want to make it happen. For the time being, as long as Shari is in high school here, we’ll stay, but we’re flexible. If a nice opportunity shows up, all three of us are into it. But we’ll always have a house here, and we will always return. This is our base: it’s wonderful to go and it’s wonderful to come back to.” □

Greta Kooistra



Greta Kooistra

Keshi-Kiki GOAT CHEESE – MADE IN BONAIRE!

Isn't it about time that Bonaire had its own goat cheese? With all these goats surely someone would have started making it before now, right? Not necessarily because it's not that easy when you consider what milk goats in France eat (lush green grass for one) compared to the



Simone in the "sterile room" with the maturing chèvre.

diet of the average Bonairean goat. The resulting product could be rather less than tasty.

But two entrepreneurs, both successful businesswomen themselves, have started their own goat cheese operation. Simone Sweers, owner of Bon-Fysio, and Aletta van Beeck, a physical therapist, have teamed to operate the business of making "Keshi-Kiki" goat cheese or *chèvre*. Aletta says, "I always wondered how they lived here in the early days: raising their own food, baking their bread, milking their goats, making cheese. And then when I was in Costa Rica I stayed on a farm where they were totally self-supporting, and they made their own goat cheese. I thought wouldn't it be great if we could do it here?"

So how did it get started, we wondered. It began in earnest last March when a friend, Dutch veterinarian Reinoud, came to the island. He'd lived in France where he learned the art of making excellent *chèvre* and offered to

"We really like that it's a local product," Simone says proudly, "and I think we can make a good business with it."

teach Simone and Aletta what he knew.

Whether or not you've ever tasted goat cheese, this new *chèvre* is a real treat. It's as fresh and young as is possible to find anywhere. It takes five days to make and it goes directly to the markets. It's designed to be eaten fresh so there's even a stamp that says "best if eaten by" a certain date. "In fact," Simone says, "it's really impossible to buy imported goat cheese on the island that is as fresh as ours due to the time it takes from a factory somewhere in Europe or the States to Bonaire."

The young *chèvre* is a thick, smooth, creamy cheese that's not only delicious and nutritious but it's low in calories (167 calories for 100 grams). *Chèvre* does appear as older cheeses: "demi-sec" (between young and old) or "sec" (very old), and the fledgling company is experimenting with ageing their cheeses, with very interesting results. As well, they're trying new combina-

tions, adding basil and black pepper. "We have enough of a variety of goat cheese right now," Simone says, "to offer a whole cheese tray!"

What are some of the challenges of making goat cheese on Bonaire? "The biggest challenge is to get milk all year round," continues Simone, "and especially to find good milk goats. Right now

we're getting our milk from LVV (Island Agriculture Department). Their goats get a varied diet from being rotated in the fields. They've helped us tremendously to start up." Simone went on to explain about good milk goats. There are Anglo Nubians and Boer goats and crosses of those types, "But ideally," Simon explains, "the best goats for milk are Sannen goats, and they can handle our climate here. Tell your readers we're looking for some!" And to produce a superior cheese the goats must be fed a good diet of special food and a product called "milking ration."

The cheese is made in a "sterile room" that is kept at a constant 20°C. The strained fresh milk of the day must be brought to 20°C. Then rennet and a starter culture are added and the mixture is left to curdle, turning it into curds and whey (about 24 hours). The whey is removed and the curd is ladled into plastic cups with drain holes. After two days the cheese has settled and reduced to less than half of its original volume into its nearly final product. "It takes one liter of milk to make just over

two, 100-gram packages of cheese," Simone explains. After removing the cheese from the cups it's salted evenly, which is important to help form a crust.

During the whole process the product must be carefully watched to make sure that any bacteria that shouldn't be there isn't.

"We really like that it's a local product," Simone says proudly, "and I think we can make a good business with it."

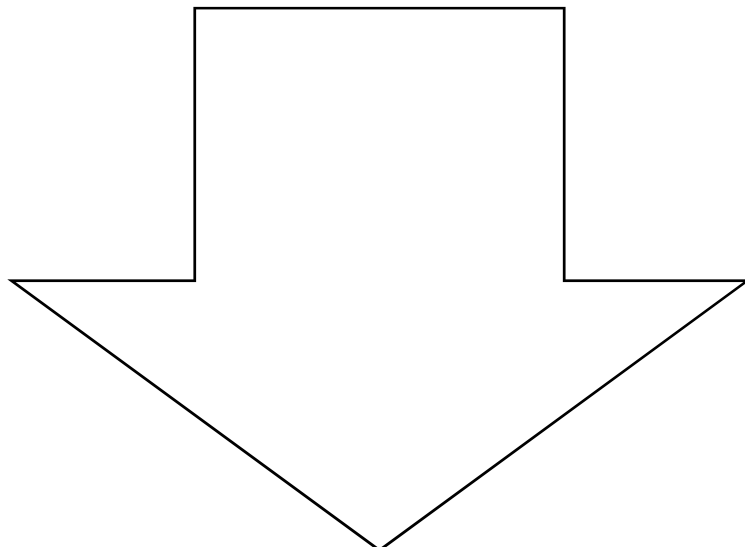
Simone and Aletta foresee a "vertical integration" company where they will be growing their own food for the goats, they will milk their own goats twice a day and they will manufacture the product and get it to the market.

The Keshi-Kiki *chèvre* was introduced to some markets and to a few restaurant chefs at the end of March. They were asked for their impressions and input. It was all positive. It's now in the markets and you should see it appearing on restaurant menus and taste it in innovative dishes soon. □ L.D.

The Reporter did its own informal taste testing of the young *chèvre* recently with a group of gourmets and gourmands. Between bites some comments were heard: "delicious," "mild," "creamy," "interesting mixed with aromatic herbs or in a sauce." All of us were pleased at the prospect of being able to buy a real Bonairean product here on the island that compares with the best. □ L.D.



The finished product: Chèvre from Bonaire!





BONAIRE SKY PARK*

*to find it, just look up



THE STARS HAVE IT

For the week: April 23 to April 30, 2004

By Astrologer Michael Thiessen



The Moon and Jupiter

THE KING OF THE PLANETS MEETS THE KING OF THE BEASTS AND THE MOON VISITS BOTH

Next week a waxing Moon will slowly pass in front of the stars of the king of the beasts, and park right above the king of the planets.

Begin this Saturday, April 24th, one hour after sunset, face west where you will see an exquisite 2,000-mile-wide crescent Moon parked right next to 75,000-mile-wide ringed planet Saturn. And if you have a telescope, both Saturn and the Moon will knock your socks off. Then on Wednesday, April 28th, if you look almost overhead one hour after sunset you'll see an exquisite one-day-past-first-quarter-Moon parked just above the bright star Regulus and the super bright planet Jupiter.

Regulus is the brightest star of the constellation Leo. In fact Regulus is the bottom star of what looks like a backward question mark or sickle of stars, which mark the front part of Leo. The back part of Leo is marked by three stars forming a right triangle. For thousands of years Leo has been depicted the way the ancient Egyptians saw him: a sphinx-like lion reclining majestically in the heavens. He is just south of overhead every April in early evening. And this April the king of the cosmic beasts is being visited by the king of the planets. And on the next night, Thursday, the 29th, our Moon will be parked directly above it, making an absolutely beautiful pairing. But don't let appearances deceive you because our 2,000-mile-wide Moon will be only 239,000 miles away Thursday night, whereas 88,000-mile-wide Jupiter will be a whopping 451 million miles away.

But super huge Regulus, which is five times our Sun's diameter, will look the dimmest only because it is so incredibly far away, 85 light years away, which means that it takes 85 years for its light to reach us. In contrast, it takes only 40 minutes for light to reach us from Jupiter and only 1¼ seconds for light to reach us from our Moon. So there you have it: our Moon parked above the king of the planets in front of the stars of the king of the beasts on Thursday the 29th. □ Jack Horkheimer

Moon Info ☾ First Quarter Moon occurs on April 27th. ☽ Full Moon on May 4th. ☾ Last Quarter on May 11th. ☀ New Moon on May 19th.

ARIES (Mar. 21- April 20) The danger of minor accidents will increase with the turmoil. Remember that no one can walk through your door if there's someone standing in the doorway. Depression may put a damper on your day. You may have a problem with someone you live with if you don't include them in your gathering. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

TAURUS (Apr. 21- May 21) You'll have great insight. Try to make your lover understand that you need to do things with your friends. You need to spend less time daydreaming and more time accomplishing. Don't say something you'll live to regret. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21) You will be in the mood to socialize. Take care of any dealings with government agencies. Your ability to do detailed work will dazzle those who are less creative. Children may be less than honest with you. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) Travel could turn out to be more exciting than you imagined. Someone close to you may need help. Added knowledge will give you the edge when dealing with peers. Patience will be of utmost importance. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

LEO (July 23-Aug 22) You may not be as well received in group endeavors if you try to force your will on others. Don't blow situations out of proportion. Emotional disputes will only end in sorrow. If you are in the midst of a financial deal, this is your lucky day. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) Romance will develop if you get involved in social events that deal with children. Don't even bother trying to get their approval on the things you want to do. Try not to take everything so seriously. New romantic partners will evolve through group endeavors; however, the association may not be likely to last. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) Don't overdo it. You need to enjoy yourself. Advancement can be yours if you are assertive in your approach. Difficulties with your mate may lead to estrangement. A long discussion is in order if you wish to clear the air. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) Try to deal with the problems of those less fortunate; however, don't allow them to make unreasonable demands. You're in the mood to party. Changes in your home are apparent, and you must be willing to bend if you don't want to find yourself alone. Make plans to meet again in the near future. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21)

You must watch your tendency to spend whatever you make. Someone may be trying to take advantage of you. Find ways to mellow out. Think before you act. Unforeseen circumstances will disrupt your daily routine. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) Investments will cost more than you anticipated. It might be time to make a fresh start. Travel and communication will be lucrative for you. Take time to talk things over. Travel for business or pleasure. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) You have been stagnating for some time now and you need a change of pace. Take a different approach; make an offer they just can't refuse. You can prosper if you invest in property or mutual funds. Your mate may not have been honest with you. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) Go out with friends. Relationships may be hard to handle. You may be looking through rose colored glasses. Don't believe everything you hear. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday. □