

May 28, to June 4, 2004 Volume 11, Issue 21

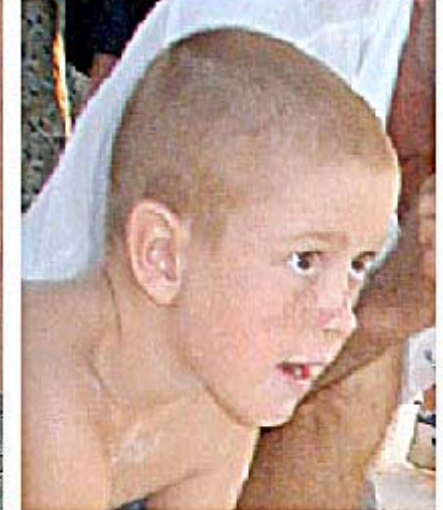
**IT'S  
STILL  
FREE**

# The **BONAIRE** REPORTER

SINCE 1994



## **WHO IS BONAIREAN?**



**See page 5**

# FLOTSAM AND JETSAM



**T**he story of the Parker Project, “The Point,” the resort in Bonaire which lay unoccupied for years until reopening as the Plaza Resort, has finally reached an end. The original developer, Robert Parker, conned the Central Government into providing a loan guarantee, attracted a respected hotel manager, Thor Loweberg, and dozens of young, enthusiastic staff to settle in Bonaire and then on the eve of opening the nearly completed hotel fled the island never to return. The resort wasn’t able to open and the Central Government was stuck with an estimated \$30 million debt. Parker was never prosecuted by Antillean authorities, but years later he was arrested for a similar scam involving a New York parking garage.

Thor Loweberg, an innocent victim who paid his staff from his own pocket, stayed on Bonaire long after the scandal was made public, but some say, as a broken man. He became seriously ill and died in Norway not long after leaving Bonaire. Other careers were wrecked and some Bonaireans never got paid for their services. Some say the huge debt accumulated by the Parker Project was a key factor in introducing a sales tax to the Antilles. Last month the debts were finally resolved by a final payment to the Italian finance and credit insurance company, SACE/Ultrafin. The settlement cost Antillean taxpayers tens of millions of guilders. When the unfinished resort was finally sold after being empty for three years it

raised only \$8.5 million. Reportedly, the buyer, Steef Raspoort, then sold it to the Dutch Van der Valk hotel chain a few weeks later for \$13 million. The government eventually negotiated a 40% discount on the original debt amount, but after interest and other expenses the principle debt amount was still \$43.8 million. In the final deal, \$26.3 million was paid right away and then \$8.7 million a year for five years, at an interest rate of 2.5% instead of the original 8%. The original name “The Point” lives on in promotional material for The Plaza Resort Bonaire and its Caribbean Point restaurant.

► **A real threat to successfully forming a new Central Government** by the June 1st deadline is the difficulty of forming a new governing coalition at the island level in Curaçao. If no agreement is reached, the already-signed governing accord at the national level will not mean anything.

If the June 1 deadline set by the Governor can't be met he must decide whether to extend the formation period, appoint another “*informateur*” or hold new elections. A background check of the new ministers will be conducted by the Antillean Security Service concurrently with the final phases of formation.

► Unconfirmed reports say UPB of Bonaire, which will be a member of the new Central Government, if it is successfully formed, is nominating **Maritza Silberie as Minister of Education** and **Noris Gomez as State Sec-**

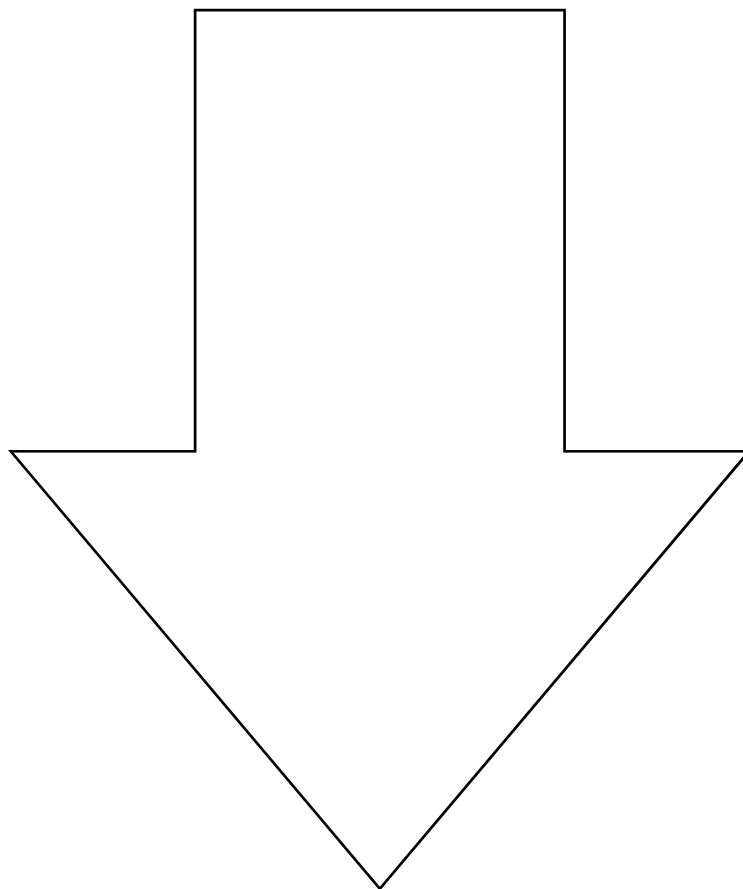
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Delno Tromp photo

**Special Olympics Bonaire Bowling Team**

*Roosje Goeloe/BonairExel, Gabrielle Nahr/MCB, Delno Tromp/Special Olympics Bonaire, Elske Lucia/MCB, Juni Agusta/MCB with the Bowling Athletes. Missing from the picture, Gino Lepelaars/MCB.*

► **Special Olympics Bonaire has added another sport to its training schedule.** Last Saturday, thanks to the generous contribution of Mr. Nick Zandman, owner of Danilo's Bowling, practice began at the lanes in the refurbished theater mall. The athletes are coached by the Maduro & Curiel's Bank bowling team: Elske Lucia, Juni Agusta, Gabeille Nahr and Gino Lepelaars.

Also Roosje Goeloe from BonairExel, the Public Relations Officer of Special Olympics Bonaire, is a part of this. She makes sure that all athletes will be picked up and dropped off safely.



(Flotsam and Jetsam. Continued from page 2)

**retary of Youth Affairs.**

► After weeks of stonewalling, the **referendum concerning the future governmental structure of Bonaire was postponed again; this time from July 2<sup>nd</sup> to September 3<sup>rd</sup>.** The government spokesman for the Referendum, Reginald "Yonchi" Dortalina, announced it shortly after *The Reporter* went to press last Wednesday afternoon. More details in the Referendum section of this week's edition on page 11.

► When we're off Bonaire we delight in showing our hosts **Bonairean sunsets and the clarity of the sea. Now that pleasure is threatened.** Jake and Linda Richter, who conceived, installed and operated the Bonaire web camera system, which includes the underwater Reef Cam, are moving to a new house inland in Bonaire. They can no longer run the system from their back yard so are looking for someone to take over the rather complex and expensive equipment and continue to operate the Bonaire Web Cam site. They are asking \$5,100 a year for three years in a co-op effort to keep the Web Cams running. There are also other related costs the new operator would incur. The Bonaire Web Cams Web site gets around 90,000 visitors a month and millions of page views. You'd think a waterfront resort would jump at the chance to sign up for this deal. But none have. If no one signs up, **the Web Cams go dark on Sunday, June 20th, 2004.** If

you want the details of the deal needed to keep the Bonaire Web Cams running go to: <http://www.caribbeanwebcams.com/SaveTheWebCams.html>.  
□ L./G.D.



Internet photo

*A baby macaw similar to the ones seized.*

► **Curaçao Customs intercepted an illegal shipment of South American parrots** from a Venezuelan boat, the *Sol Caribe*. Thirty-two birds were seized, but 15 had died during the trip from improper treatment. The Venezuelan captain and two crew members were arrested after they refused to pay a NAf30,000 fine. The birds are estimated to be from five weeks to three months old. The parrots, including some macaws, are protected by the CITES treaty, which deals with international trade of protected species. The maximum fines include four years in jail or a fine of NAf1 million.

**POLICE UPDATE**



Assistant Prosecutor Justine Gonggrijp reports:

- Three arrests were made last Wednesday, May 19, and the suspects are being held during investigation. They were **accused of stealing from houses in Sabadeco** last year. In the case of one unoccupied house, the owner returned in March and discovered the house had been burglarized. Witnesses came forward and enough stolen goods were found as evidence to arrest the three. At least one of the three has stolen from other unoccupied houses.
- Investigations are continuing regarding the January 31 **Sabadeco armed robbery.**
- The Flamingo Team at the airport continues to **thwart drug smugglers.** This last week two more were arrested.
- Regarding the remains of possible divers found recently at the Karpata Dive Site, **no DNA testing has been done so far** because no one wants to pay for it. Because, according to the Prosecutor's Office, the findings do not appear to be a criminal matter, the government will not pay for DNA

testing. The Prosecutor therefore petitioned the US Consulate in Curaçao, the US government and the victim's families but none agreed to pay. However, the request is being brought up before higher authorities. With criminal cases occurring in Bonaire DNA testing is done in labs in Holland.

- The woman arrested at Flamingo Airport on May 11, having swallowed bolitas and subsequently having been operated on, **has died suddenly.** The woman, a 28 year old Dominican living in Holland, had been recuperating well from the operation where the bolitas were removed, became very agitated, started screaming and died, possibly from a heart attack. A pathologist from Curaçao will be coming to do an autopsy.

Charles Suriel of the Police Department reports:

- **A car stolen** from Kaya Avelino Cecilia last Wednesday, May 19, was found in the *barrio* of *Sofaya*, but the back lights, four tires and the motor were missing.
- Police are investigating cases of recent **break ins at KonTiki** apartments and **Yacht Club** apartments as well as a stolen Toyota Yaris, license #2008-B. □L.D.

The boat, owned by a Venezuelan, has also been seized. The remaining birds have been temporarily placed with the Veterinary Department under quarantine. An attempt will be made to turn the birds over to the Venezuelan government



► It seems like the **2004 storm season is starting early.** Last week Bonaire had typical hurricane season weather – heavy rain, lack of wind, sea swells on the western coast and wind reversals. Satellite photos showed as many as three tropical waves active in the Caribbean simultaneously. A special tropical disturbance statement was issued by the National Hurricane Center in Miami at 11:30 am on Sunday, May 23, warning of heavy rain and wind about 300 miles north of Bonaire. In the Dominican Republic and Venezuela 130 people were killed by flooding and mud slides. □



Selibon Photo

► At last there's a temporary solution to the increasing number of cars on Bonaire, at least for the junkers. **Thanks to a new machine at the landfill the cars can be crushed.** Now what to do with the crushed cars...?

COVER STORY

OPINION



The Parade of Nations at the 2002 Bonaire Regatta

WHO REALLY IS BONAIREAN?

What makes a nation great? The influx of new people bringing new ideas and procedures, new ways of doing things, new cultures, can enhance a nation rather than detract. Those immigrants who take the chance of moving to a new country are in most cases, industrious and ambitious and looking

for a better way of life. Once they get here they work hard. We have seen the results of nations, often islands that have been kept apart, insular. Perfect examples are some of the islands in the Abacos, those north Bahama islands. Their separateness and exclusivity resulted in a very small and stagnant gene pool. The same thing happened in the islands, Les Saintes, just

south of Guadeloupe, but the clever French solved that stagnation by stationing French navy personnel on the islands for a time.

What is a Bonairean? The first inhabitants we know of are the Indians. Later came the slaves from Africa. Are they the true Bonaireans? Or perhaps the French and the Dutch who arrived and started families here? Throughout its history Bonaire has been a magnet, drawing people from many lands. Later came the Lebanese, many of whom are island leaders. Are they the true Bonaireans? **Or is it the island itself that makes all these originally diverse nationalities come to work together harmoniously, with one aim – to seek a better way of life?**

When people speak of “losing our culture,” what do they mean: the culture of the original Indians? Or is it just African culture? Or is it a combination of all those cultures that have been introduced on the island throughout the years, some of which have been adopted, others discarded? And with the influx of new cultures can’t we enjoy them as well? How proud we should be that our island has attracted so many very special people, many of whom have come “because of the people,” those who are here already. □ *L.D.*



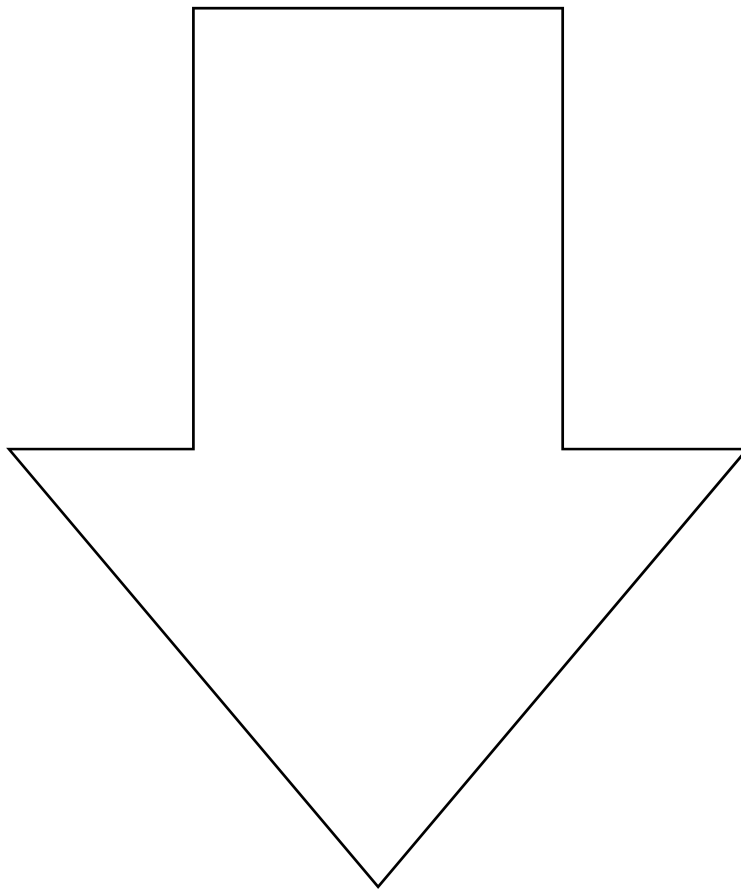
LETTERS



DOUBLE SAVINGS

Dear Editor:  
There is a way that Bonaire could solve some of its financial problems. Since no one seems to follow the rules anyhow, many of the One Way and/or Do Not Enter signs could be removed from the roads, almost all of the No Parking signs and definitely all of the Speed Limit signs. This way the cost of maintaining these signs would be eliminated. On the other hand Bonaire could probably pay all of its financial obligations by simply enforcing the rules on a daily basis (not once every few years) and fining those, as the law states, who violate these rules.

Bruce Bowker



# WALKING ON SUNSHINE.....TWICE!

In June 2003 *The Bonaire Reporter* published an article titled, "Walking on Sunshine." It described the remarkably talented Nazario Alberto, a 55-year-old civil servant who walks long distances in the nick of time. His natural talent is amazing considering that up until five years ago he was a fervent smoker and coffee drinker. Nicknamed the "Bonairean Deer" or "Roadrunner" (remember the Warner Brothers cartoon show?), this father of three has established his fame during different walking events.

He managed to walk the *Nijmeegse Vierdaagse* – "The Five Days of Nijmegen" – for the first time in July last year at an average of 9.5 km per hour, one of the best. Although he proved several times he could go an even further distance, he respected the compulsory 40 kilometers a day, the distance for his age range as stipulated by the *Vierdaagse* organization. Despite this little disappointment he still managed to capture the attention of the Dutch media. *De Gelderlander*, the largest newspaper of the province Gelderland, twice published an article on Nazario. (We have copies of the clippings, Ed.)

This year, despite his age, he got permission to walk the maximum of 50 km a day. He trains twice a day and at press time he managed to reach 1,000 km of training since this January. His schedule also included several walking events this year. One of them is the now famous *Torno pa Torno* – "Tower to Tower walk." This walk was initiated and ac-

complished for the first time by Marcel Nahr last year. It's around 52 kms and includes the distance between the most southern point and the most northern point of Bonaire. It's called *Torno pa Torno* because of the two lighthouses at these locations, the *Willemstoren* and the *Malmok Toren*.

A strong believer in self-empowerment, Nazario did not want to request sponsors for his trip without doing something in return... **So why not 'do' the Torno pa Torno TWICE, back and, forth on the same day?** His family and friends did not doubt his capacity but were still concerned. After all, you don't walk 104 kilometers within 24 hours every day! This was until his physician confirmed he was as strong as a horse and approved. Despite his high average speed per hour he will lower his average for this event by a **constant seven to eight km an hour**. As the idea developed he got more and more moral support and ideas from his community. And what seemed in the beginning to be a risky adventure has now crystallized into an island-wide anticipation of the **June 4<sup>th</sup> / 5<sup>th</sup> achievement**.

The full moon that weekend will light his path, which, as far as is known, has never been done before on our island. Radio Digital (91.1 FM) will be broadcasting this record achievement, live, starting at 3 pm at the entrance gate of Washington Park. An official ceremony will be held at the beginning with different officials and friends. Everybody is invited to join



Nazario's Certificate of Completion



Natalie Wanga photo

Nazario in Nijmegen, July 18, one of the first to finish at 1 pm (most of the others came in between 5 to 6 pm)

Nazario at this ceremony to wish him good luck. Between 3 and 6 pm there will be volunteers in Playa and Rincon collecting funds for each 10 km Nazario achieves. These collectors will have the official government permission signed and sealed by Lt/ Governor Domacassé. Nazario also wants to make a serious statement with this great achievement. Although a very humble man, he still wants to be a role model for the youth, as proof that great sport accomplishments are possible as long as you work hard, no matter how old you are. The full moon as his guiding light during the walk in the wilderness that night also serves as a symbol to illuminate and enlighten the Bo-

nairean spirit, considering this a counter measure to all the negative news and tumult the island has endured lately. Nazario strongly believes in the talented Bonairean youngsters and their hopeful future. Let us all support Nazario by cheering alongside during his walk, and of course welcome him with cheers and flowers around 10 am on Saturday June 5<sup>th</sup> at the entrance gate of Washington Park. In case you are not able to meet one of the collectors you can donate to the following bank account: Maduro & Curiels Bank 10.10.18.67, Mr. Nazario I. Alberto. For more information contact Natalie Wanga at 786-2225. □ Natalie A.C Wanga.

## NAZARIO ALBERTO ROUTE ON JUNE 4<sup>TH</sup> AND 5<sup>TH</sup>:

**Start:** Entrance gate Washington Park: **Friday June 4<sup>th</sup> at 03:00 pm**  
**Finish:** Entrance gate Washington Park **Saturday June 5<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am**

↓= outbound      ↑= going back, return

Washington Park Entrance	03:00 pm	↓	Start	
Malmok Lighthouse in the park				
Washington Park Entrance	06:00 pm	↓	Finish 10:00 am	
Kaya Gilberto R. E. Herrera		↓	↑	
Kaya Lelie	08:00 pm		08:00 am	
Cross Kaya Para Mira		↓		
Kaminda/ Subi di Broertje Janga			06:00 am	
Kaya Sabadeco	09:00 pm		↑	
Kaya Gov. N. Debrot (Hato)			03:00 am	
Kaya L.D. Gerharts		↓		
Kaminda Nikiboko Zuid	11:00 pm			
Kaminda Lac				
Kaminda Sorobon		↓	↑	
EG Boulevard	12:00 am (midnight)		02:00 am	
Willemstoren			01:00 am	

# PIA PIA KUNUKU BIEU STEPS FORWARD AT ITS 2ND ANNIVERSARY

In 2002 a group of concerned local leaders gathered urgently in *Nort di Saliña*. Where? The headquarters of Shaki Melaan, read, “under the tree at the mini-market *Bo Toko*.” On the agenda? The alarming news about the fast growing youth delinquency in their neighborhood. Once talented sportsmen themselves who represented Bonaire abroad, these leaders brainstormed on solutions. They organized meetings with parents, sports events, summer camps and the Tack Team Walking Event on June 8<sup>th</sup> 2002. The idea was to form groups to walk as a team. The response was overwhelming. Some 100 people participated, among them the same “troublesome” youngsters. The local leaders who achieved this? Chio Semeleer (Indebon sports advisor), Chago Melaan (math teacher), Ibi Evertsz (owner Paito Snack and caretaker Neighborhood Centre Nort di Saliña), Vito Oleana (apprentice physi-



*Shaki Melaan (adviser), Roosje Semper-Antoin (treasurer), Maritza Sint Jago (2<sup>nd</sup> treasurer), Dalitza Victorina-Rijna ( president), Natalie Wanga (PR), Linda van Luijk ( secretary), Nazario Auberto (commissioner)*

cian) and Shaki Melaan (owner Bo Toko). After the successful walk the group gathered every Friday with the youngsters and adults for long nature walks at sunset. Various long distance walking events followed that year. The fast growing group used the (temporary) name of the neighborhood, “*Grupo di Kaminata Plataforma*

*Kunuku Bieu*” (Walking Group Platform *Kunuku Bieu*). The name referred to the ancient name the inhabitants of Nort di Saliña had named their town. Besides a name the group kept visible by joining other walking events. They even identified themselves with a uniform: orange shirts (just a coincidence: those shirts were a bargain on sale at that time). Due to remarkable walking achievements of members like Nazario Alberto, a native *Norteño*, and the Martinus Brothers, interest among people grew. On the first anniversary in June 2003 the group started to consider seriously becoming official. On October 21, 2003, the first board was elected: Dalitza Victorina-Rijna, Linda Roosje Semper-Antoin, Linda van Luijk, Nazario Alberto, Shaki Melaan, Maritza Sint Jago and Natalie Wanga. Several successful walks were organized in the last six months like the Klein Bonaire and Bolivia walk, with historical guidance by Bòi Antoin, and hosting a walking event with the UTS Company from Curaçao.

In March 2004 one of the members,



*Poster for the Anniversary Walk*

Joan Martin, proposed the name: *Pia Pia Kunuku Bieu*. (Step-by-Step *Kunuku Bieu*), still honoring the ancient name of North Saliña).

What started every Friday as a group of 15 people has grown today to 37 official members with a board, name and an official uniform, cap and logo. □ *Natalie A.C. Wanga*

## TACK TEAM WALKING EVENT JUNE 5TH

The 2<sup>nd</sup> anniversary will be celebrated by a Tack Team Walking Event on **June 5<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 pm**. All youth organizations, friends, sport associations, etc. are invited to form groups of seven people (both genders). You may also walk individually but you won't be eligible for the prizes. Distance is eight km. The start and finish are at the Neighborhood Center of *Nort di Saliña*. There will be prizes for the jolliest team, the best uniformed (or funniest dressed) team, and the

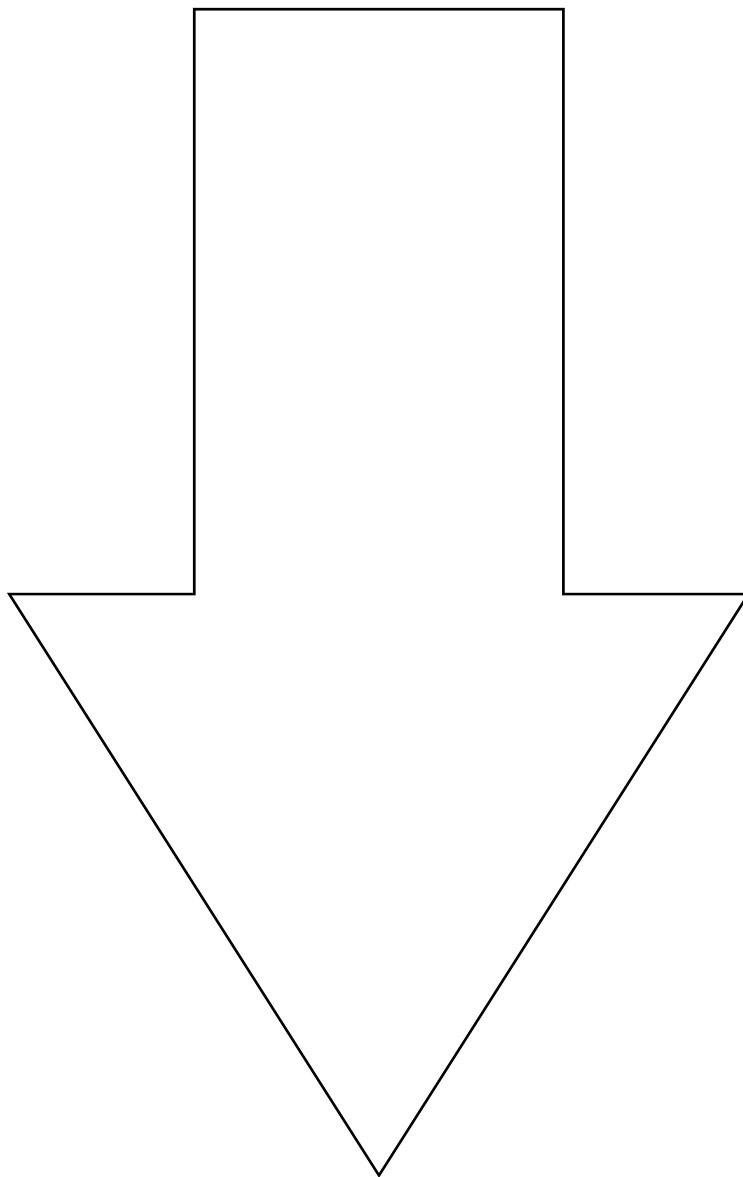


first and second prize. The idea is to reach the finish with your whole team together.

The new uniform, cap and logo will be introduced during this event.

Tickets are NAf7,50 pp and are available at Botika Bonaire, Bo Toko mini-market, Paito Snack and Tiri Trinidad (Rincon).

For more information call: Dalitza Victorina-Rijna: 786-0299, or Natalie Wanga: 786-2225. □ *Natalie A.C. Wanga*





## ASK THE DIETITIAN PREVENT OBESITY AMONG CHILDREN TO HELP PREVENT OBESE ADULTS!

**O**besity among children can easily lead to obese adults. The bad lifestyle that these obese children have developed, with bad eating habits and little physical activity, can develop strong roots, and by adulthood it's difficult to change. So the most important thing is to prevent obesity among children now through the stimulation of a healthy lifestyle. That will prevent a lot of health problems in the child's future.

*Angélique Salsbach*

### TO MINIMIZE A CHILD'S BECOMING OBESE:

- **Breastfeed** - Babies who were breastfed have a lower risk of becoming obese.
- **Don't force a child to eat** - Generally little children eat the amount their body needs and not more than that. They can lose this skill as parents force them to eat more than they really need.
- **Have a regular eating pattern** - There should be three principle meals every day and not too many in between, especially not just before meals.
- **Physical activity**. Parents have to make sure that their child is physically active every day by giving them enough space and time to play

### RECOMMENDED AMOUNTS OF A BASIC DIET

Parents should know how much their child needs so as not to overfeed or under feed them. Below is a basic healthy diet. It doesn't matter if your child eats a little more or a little less, but there shouldn't be too big differences. But don't force a child to eat more.

	1-2 age	2-4 age	4-12 age
<b>Bread</b>	2-3 slices	3-4 slices	3-5 slices
<b>Potato</b>	1-1½ piece size of an egg	1-2 piece	1-4 piece
<b>Vegetable</b>	1-2 serving spoon (50-100g)	2 serving spoon (100g)	2-3 serving spoon (100-150g)
<b>Fruit</b>	1 portion (125g)	1 portion	1-2 portion
<b>Milk or milk product</b>	2 glasses (300ml)	2 glasses (300ml)	2-3 glasses (300-450ml)
<b>Cheese</b>	½ slice	½ slice	1 slice
<b>Meat/chicken/fish/vegetarian substitute for meat</b>	50-75 gram	50-75 gram	65gram-100gram
<b>Luncheon meat</b>	½ slice	½ slice	1 slice
<b>Margarine for bread</b>	Lightly spread	Lightly spread	Lightly spread
<b>Vegetable oil for cooking</b>	Less than 1 table-spoon	1 tablespoon	1 tablespoon
<b>Liquid</b>	1½ litre	1½-2 litre	Min. 1½-2 litre

### BAD EATING HABITS

Another factor that needs attention from parents are bad eating habits.

- **High consumption of sugar**. Adding a lot of sugar to tea and even other drinks that already contain sugar. Drinking beverages containing sugar like instant drinks, soft drink, juice instead of water. These beverages contain a high concentration of calories in a small volume of liquid. Give children more water and tea to drink during the day. Choose 100% fruit juices instead of fruit drinks, nectar or instant drinks, and don't let them drink too much juice. Two glasses a day is enough. Diet or light

soft drinks can be an alternative for regular soft drinks as long as the consumption is not too high. Lots of soft drinks contain "cyclamate," a sweetener that has its maximum recommended use: for children between 4 and 8 years not to exceed ½ liter of diet/light soft drink; for children between 8 and 12, between ½-1 liters.



- **High consumption of sweets**: Children should have more control over the amounts of sweets they eat. Recommended is one per day. Parents should discuss this and make an agreement with their children.
- **Having too many in between snacks**: Children shouldn't have more than three or four in-between snacks a day.
- **High fat intake**. Parents can lower the fat intake by offering lean lunch meats, skinless chicken, low fat milk products and by using low fat cooking methods like broiling, stir frying, grilling or baking in the oven. And of course lowering the consumptions of fatty snacks like: chips, *pastechi*, *krotet*, cake, fried potatoes, etc.
- **Skipping breakfast**. Many children not only skip breakfast but even sometimes their in-between snacks during morning school break. By lunch time they can eat for two! Teach your child to start having breakfast again. And you should join him or her too!

Obesity has a lot of bad consequences for our health. Being obese can lead to complications such as diabetes, heart diseases, joint problems, some forms of cancer and more. These are reasons enough to prevent obesity from an early age. Remember, parents have control over what their young children eat. Make sure they have a healthy lifestyle NOW!. □*Angélique Salsbach*

*Angélique Salsbach, a dietitian with Bonaire's Department of Health and Hygiene, has a radio program every other Tuesday 9 to 9:30 on Bon FM. Her patients successfully win the battle of the bulge and become healthier! Write her at [dietitan@bonairenews.com](mailto:dietitan@bonairenews.com) □*

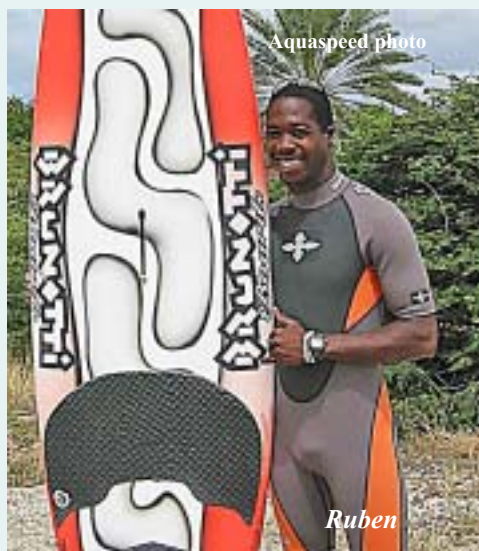


## WINDSURF SCENE AT SOROBON OFF TO CROATIA

It seems the members of the Bonaire Sailing Team are spreading their wings wider in the windsurf world. Our globetrotting sailors next head to Croatia, a small European country situated next to Austria. Tonky Frans and Ruben Petrisie will cross the Atlantic to compete in the PWA World Tour Freestyle Event ([www.pwaworldtour.com](http://www.pwaworldtour.com)) late this month. This brand new exciting location at Bol, on the Island Brac in Croatia, is a freestyle qualifier with a cash purse of €20,000. Ruben and Tonky face off to some of the best names in windsurfing, including Remko de Weerd and Kevin Mevissen, both riders from Holland who have spent long periods of time training on Bonaire. Remko and Kevin find the training grounds here superior to any other location. In fact, after the *King of the Caribbean*, Kevin headed to Margarita, Venezuela, another windsurf hot spot and returned one week later, preferring Bonaire. He stayed on in Bonaire for several months, embarking on a winter training program. Kevin is one of many European sailors who attended *King of the Caribbean* and later returned to improve their skill levels. They bring friends and family, making this island a favorite windsurf destination. It will be a reunion time for Tonky and Ruben to compete against many other sailors who attended the event on their home turf this past December. Check out the PWA website for event details and results. □ *Ann Phelan*



Tonky



Ruben

Aquaspeed photo



Sport Category, First Place photo- 2001 by Christine Spaulding

## COUNTDOWN TO



**7** DAYS TO GO

The Bonaire Dive Festival is eight years old and during that time has become the island's most important conservation and dive event. This year the event has been expanded to a two-week-long experience focusing on the protection of the coral reefs, marine ecosystems and educating divers and snorkelers about what role they can play in conservation efforts. Together with its co-sponsors, CORAL and Rodale's Scuba Diving, Bonaire is hosting the two weeks full of informative seminars, underwater photography, important environmental awareness projects, nightly cocktail parties, and last but certainly not least, diving that will take you to a complete new level! You can rub elbows with some of the dive industry's environmental and photography greats and become part of the Dive Festival family, sharing experiences with our friends who have been visiting us for years. Featured at this year's festival is **Philippe Cousteau Jr.**, son of legendary Philippe Cousteau Sr. best known for the award winning documentary series "The Underwater World of Jacques Cousteau." He will be giving presentations on his current and future projects as well as diving with the participants.

### Here are highlights of what you might expect:

- Evening presentations by some of the world's foremost conservationists
- Intimate dives with local naturalists and Dive Festival presenters
- Daily equipment and product demos
- Underwater photography clinics (beginner and advanced)
- "Taste of Bonaire" food and culture festival
- A Clean-Up Dive with Bonaire naturalist Dee Scarr
- Nightly parties
- Photography Evening with the pros
- Photography contest with great prizes

Everyone, including island residents, is invited to sign up beginning Saturday, June 5<sup>th</sup>, for the Festival. It's free this year. The official start is the next day. □ *Press Release*

### KRALENDIJK TIDES (Heights in feet, FT)

Remember: Winds and weather can further influence the local tides

DATE	TIME	HEIGHT	COEF
5-28	3:35	1.4FT.	42
5-29	5:11	1.2FT.	48
5-30	6:19	1.1FT.	58
5-31	7:31	0.9FT.	71
6-01	8:28	0.8FT.	83
6-02	9:31	0.7FT.	93
6-03	0:47	2.2FT.	10
6-04	1:35	2.2FT.	10

### VESSELS MAKING A PORT CALL:

Alegria	Henderberg	Rusty Bucket
Angie	Honalee, USA	Sabbatical, USA
Astrolabe	Jalapeno	Sandpiper, USA
Bird of Paradise	Jupiter	Santa Maria, Sweden
Blauwe Crab, Curaçao	La Contenta	Scintilla, Germany
Betty Jane	La Escotilla	Sitiraz
Borealis	Lady Awce De Serk	Sirius
Camissa, Chan Is.	Lady Diane	Sijourner
Camperdown	Lionstar	Soverign III
Cape Kathryn	Lovina	Surprise, USA
Cappoquin	Libertijn	Sundancer III
Caravela	Lucky Lobster, Curacao	Sylvia K
Carpe Diem	Luna C	Triumphant Lady
Danette	Macaby, Netherlands	Ta B
Dream Maker	Magalita	Ti Amo, USA
El Sabor	Misty Blue	Today, USA
Felecia	Natural Selection, USA	Traveler, Canada
Fifth Season	Nieke	Trio
Flying Cloud, USA	Nuance	Ulu Ulu, USA
Gabrielle, USA	Pamela Jean	Unicorn, Norway
Galadrial, USA	Perseverance	Varedhuni, Germany
Gatsby, USA	Polecat	Ya-T, BVI
Goril Too	Precocious Gale, USA	Zeno's Arrow, USA
Guaicamar I, Venezuela.	Queen of Hearts	
Hannah	Rhapsody	

# 35th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION FOR WASHINGTON PARK



## ALL EVENTS ARE FREE



Here is the schedule:

8 am REGISTRATION for

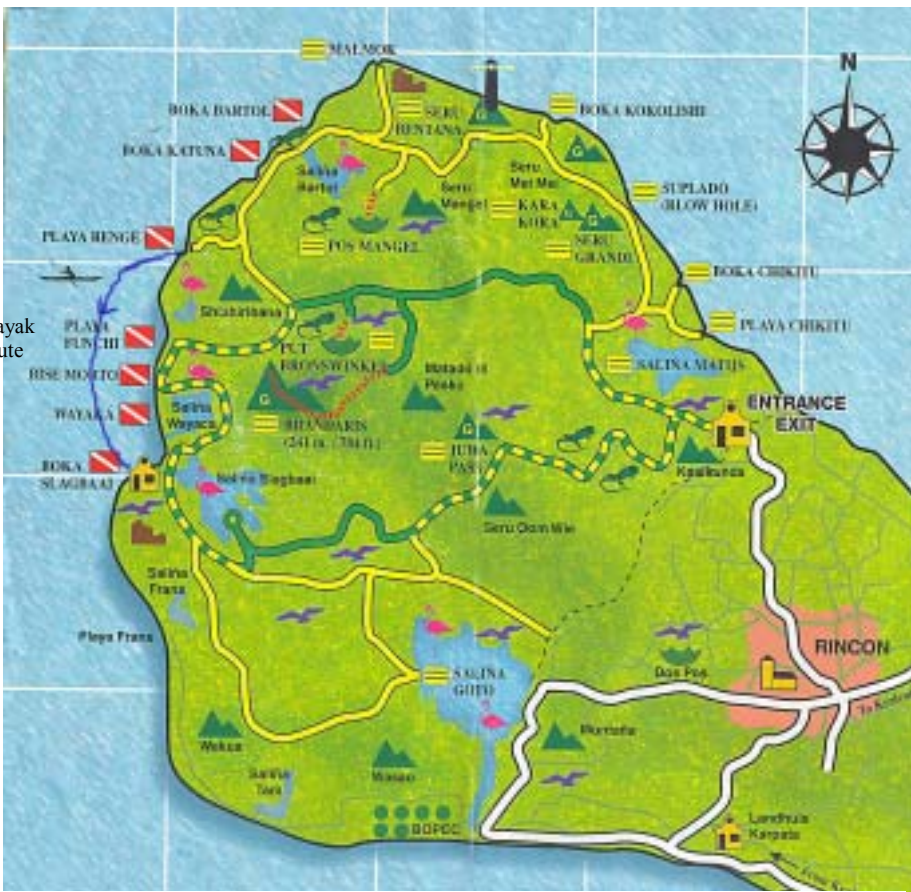
- Biking followed by a kayak trip (estimated time 3 hours)
- *Lagadishi* Walking Trail (estimated time 2 hours)
- *Kasikunda* Climbing Trail (estimated time 1 hour)
- Combination *Kasikunda* Climbing Trail + *Lagadishi* Walking Trail (estimated time 3 hours)
- Brandaris Climbing Trail (estimated time 2 hours)

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| 8:30        | START ALL SOFT ADVENTURE ACTIVITIES   |
| 9:00-12:00  | SNORKELING AT SLAGBAAI  |
| 9:30-10:30  | ARRIVAL <i>Playa Benge</i> BIKING GROUP FOR KAYAK TRIP  |
| 10:00-11:00 | George “ <i>Kultura</i> ” Thode TELLS STORY ABOUT THE PARK’S HISTORY (Papiamentu)   |
| 11:00-12:00 | George “ <i>Kultura</i> ” Thode TELLS STORY ABOUT the PARK’S HISTORY (Dutch)  |
| 11:30       | ARRIVAL BIKING AND KAYAK GROUP AT SLAGBAAI  |
| 12:00       | DEPARTURE FROM SLAGBAAI TO THE ENTRANCE OF THE PARK (there will be a truck available to transport participants to the entrance) |

### KIDS ACTIVITY PROGRAM

- |             |  |
|-------------|--|
| 9:00-10:30  | Treasure hunt  |
| 9:00-10:30  | “Color our nature:” paint project with Nochi Koffie  |
| 11:00-12:30 | Observation quiz                                     |
| All morning | Painting and coloring project (for kids of all ages) |

THE MUSEUM WILL BE OPEN FROM 8 am until 5 pm



*Washington-Slagbaai map*

This Sunday, May 30<sup>th</sup>, you can be part of one of the biggest events in the 35 years of the existence of Washington-Slagbaai National Park. The park will open at 8 am, offer free admission and an assortment of activities of interest to the athletic or the sedentary, young or old.

A highlight will be a “soft-adventure” biking expedition from the Park entrance to *Playa Benge*.

From there either kayak to Slagbaai or continue riding. From Slagbaai you can continue riding to the entrance or catch a ride in a truck back. There you will find people from the Marshé of Rincon who will have local food and drinks for sale there.

If you don’t feel like biking and hiking walk the museum, come, listen to the stories. □



*Learn about the Park’s birds in the museum*



*Chairman Hans Els resigns*

The entire Referendum picture changed last week. Reportedly because of policy disagreements, the head of the Referendum Commission, Hans Els, resigned along with two other of the five members. This happened shortly after the government spokesman for the Referendum, Yonchi Dortalina, announced the Referendum had slipped again. This time from July 2<sup>nd</sup> to September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2004, making it the third delay in the Referendum date.

This appears to be a victory for the factions recommending delay, like the Democrat opposition, who had complained that there was insufficient time for the population to be properly informed about the choices on the Referendum ballot, as well as questioning some of the conditions required for voter eligibil-

ity.

It didn't help that July 2<sup>nd</sup> was, perhaps not so coincidentally, Curaçao's Flag Day.

In adopting the UN observer's recommendation to widen the electorate to resident foreigners and youths of 16 and over, the Commission inadvertently set off a wave of apparent anti-foreigner sentiment on normally tolerant Bonaire. However, rather than anti-foreigner, it was viewed by political savants as a backlash to the decision that Bonaireans living overseas could not vote in this phase of the Referendum while foreigners living on Bonaire could.

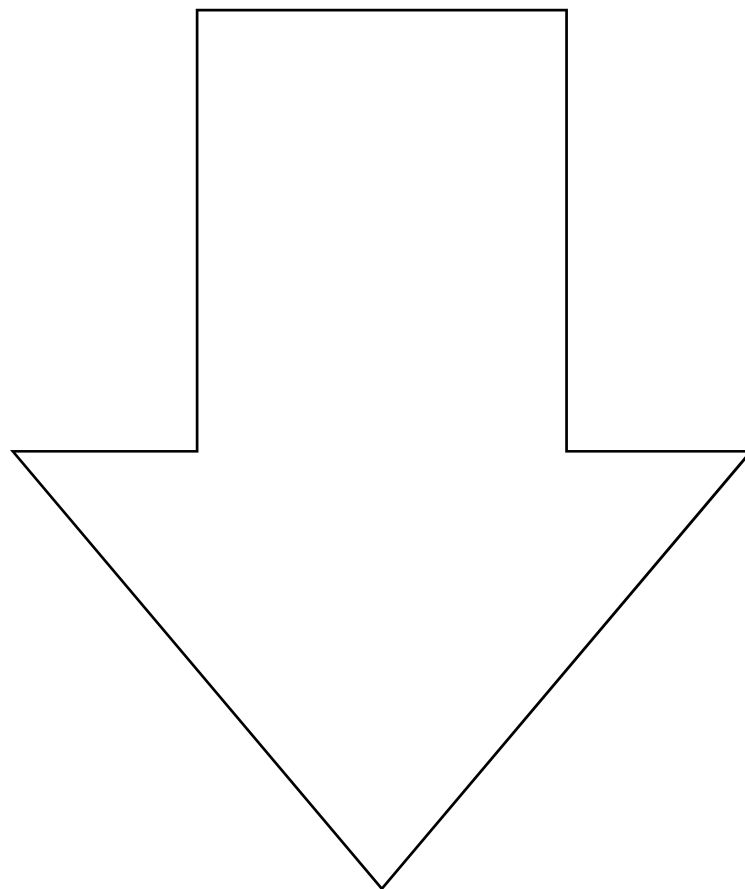
Political analysts counted the foreign and youth vote as mostly favoring the present Bonaire government's choice of direct ties with The Netherlands. The "offshore" Bonaireans, excluded from voting, would mostly go in the status *aparté* column. Blocking the offshore vote seemed advisable to the Bonaire government perhaps because of that, but also because of the difficulty of identifying an "expatriate" Bonairean first of all, and then conducting the voting overseas, especially in the light of the decision to not use Internet balloting. How could

authorities define a Bonairean who is qualified to vote? By color? By Bonaire *cedula*? By place of birth? By prior residence? How could this all be validated? And how and where would the offshore Bonairean cast his or her ballot? UN rules say the "mother country" should exert no influence in an election that has independence as one of the options. Separating the large number of Bonaireans who live in Holland, Curaçao, Aruba or wherever, from the other residents of those places, when all carry the same passport as European Dutch, might allow undue influence to be applied.

The conduct of the Referendum now is put directly back into the hands of the Patriotiko Party-controlled Executive Council (the BC), which also has the majority (6 to 3) on the Island Council. Since the objective of *The Reporter's* Referendum Chronicle was to inform, be non-political and objective, this now becomes impossible as the current issues are partisan. Chronicle articles will be suspended until things are better defined and the actual Referendum date nears. □

*The Chronicler*

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 are welcomed and published whenever possible. Active co-operation 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 may be freely quoted and/or downloaded via Internet. Opinions expressed are solely those of the writers. □



# YOGA FOR YOU YEARNING TO GROW

*Yearning is a part of the beginning of anybody's practice. You have to yearn to grow. You can't want it one day, but not the next, and expect to make any real progress. You have to begin with some steady, inner hunger.*

- Swami Chetanananda



*In the photo Don and Desirée are in position to enter in Paschimottasana (Full Forward Bend). This is a simple but very powerful position; it stretches the entire back of the body, massages all the abdominal organs, strengthens and stretches the hamstrings.*

It amazes me to observe the diversity of bodies in our classes, especially after a dedicated yoga practitioner has practiced for several months, how their bodies go through subtle changes: how they let go of concentrating on the external aspect of their bodies; how they

now allow yoga to let them look within and work within their bodies. At that exact present moment it's just breathtaking to see the inner beauty that shines through. Practicing, practicing and practicing lets you see and feel how naturally the body

adjusts to its correct alignment. It makes you wonder - what other kinds of amazing changes can yoga provide for you?

In a class I'm always saying: listen, feel and experience where you are right now. To grow it takes baby steps, a step at a time. This is important while you're on your yoga mat, but it's also so very true in your daily life. We tend to have this need to fill every hour of our day with so many things and projects going on and on that we forget to listen, feel and experience where we are at that exact moment, the present moment.

*"We enter a posture we enjoy, experience it fully, then let go and move on to the next one, a posture we like less. We embrace this posture, experience it fully, and then move on. This is yoga."*

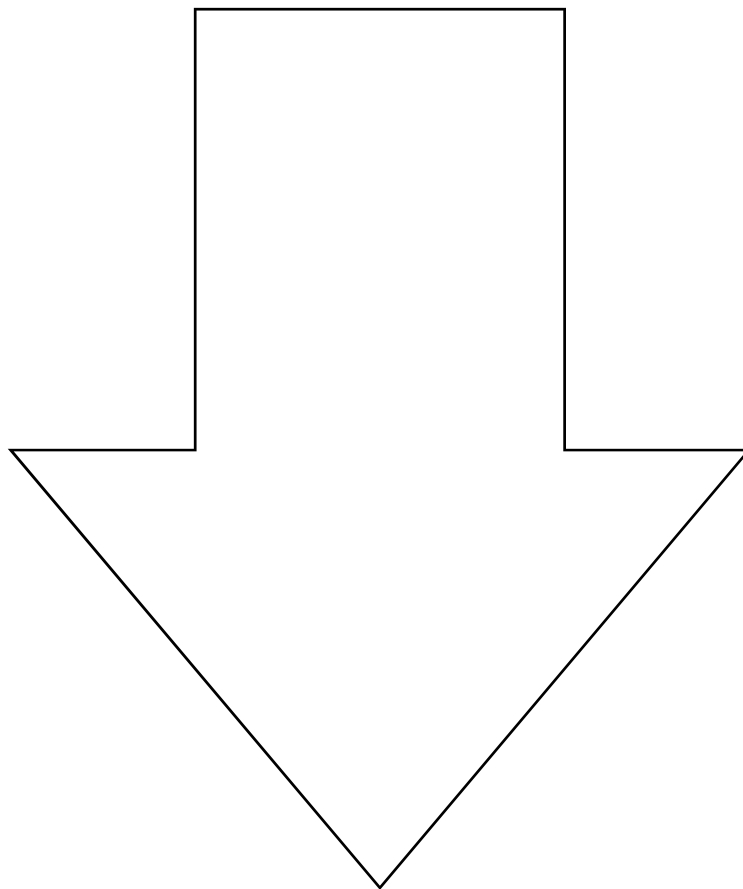
This is from Rolf Gates who wrote the wonderful book, *Meditations From the Mat*.

**Give change a chance.** ☐ Desirée



*Don and Desirée of "Yoga For You" offer classes in yoga, from beginners to advanced. See their ad on page 18.*

**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.**



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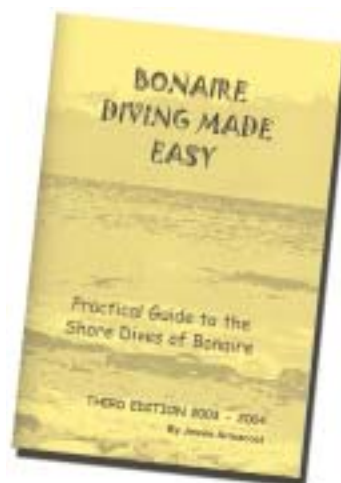
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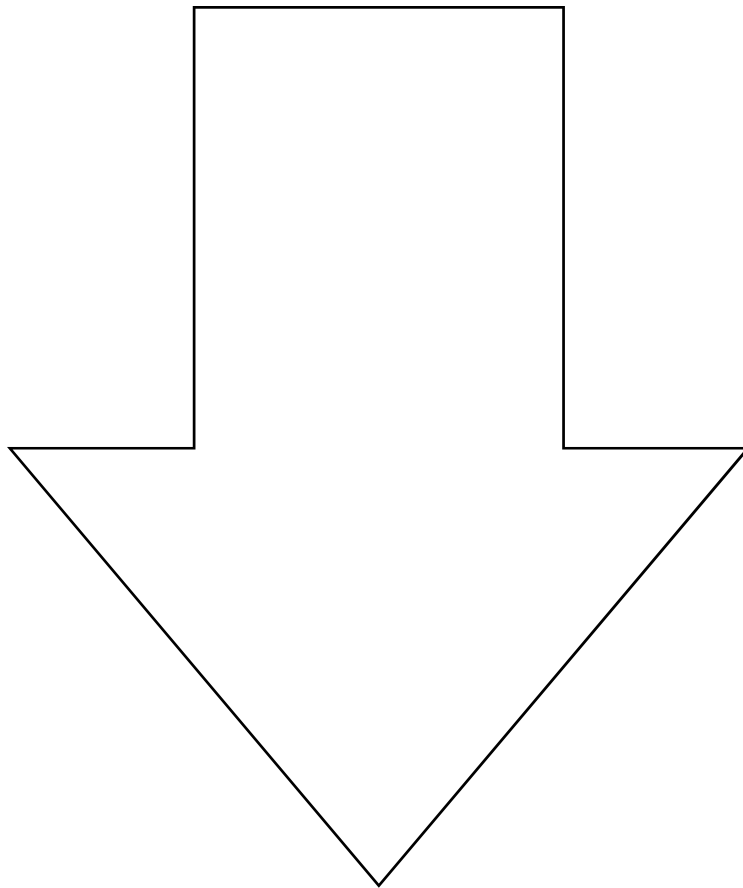
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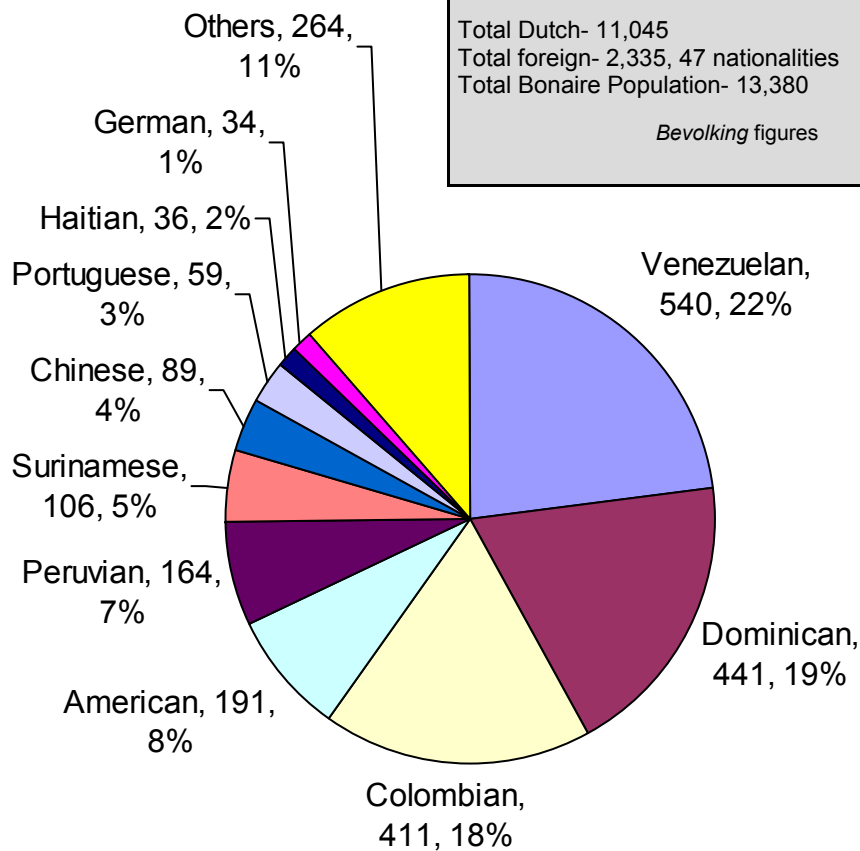


# BONAIRE'S FOREIGNERS

## Foreigners (Non-Dutch passports) On Bonaire- number, percent

Total Dutch- 11,045  
Total foreign- 2,335, 47 nationalities  
Total Bonaire Population- 13,380

*Bevolking* figures



**Top 10 foreign nationalities resident on Bonaire**

The census department of Bonaire (*Bevolking*) has released figures for 2003, listing the number of foreigners living on the island and their respective countries. As of December 2003 there were **48 different countries** (including Holland) represented. Of the 13,380 total population listed, there were **2,335** who were foreign born. Of the remainder, 11,045 are considered *Nederlandse*, or those holding Dutch passports. Two years previous, in 2001, *Bevolking* figures were: total population 13,497\* and foreign born, 2,535, foreign figures dropping by 200. Keep in mind that the foreign-born persons now having Dutch nationality are lumped together in the 11,045 figure. That includes European Dutch, Antillean Dutch and all those from other countries who have become naturalized Dutch citizens. Many of the foreign residents on the island have opted to have Dutch passports, and once someone from another country receives a Dutch passport they are listed as *Nederlandse* and no longer are registered in their country category, according to *Bevolking*. From January 2003 through March 2004, 45 men and 27 women (total, 72) became naturalized Dutch citizens. □ *L.D.*

Country	2003	2001	Difference
1. Holland	11,045	10,962	plus 1,083
2. Venezuela	540	562	minus 22
3. Dominican Republic	441	489	minus 48
4. Colombia	411	357	plus 54
5. U.S.	191	273	minus 82
6. Peru	164	169	minus 5
7. Surinam	106	155	minus 49
8. China	89	78	plus 11
9. Portugal	59	60	minus 1
10. Haiti	36	38	minus 2
11. Germany	34	38	minus 4
<b>The next 13 countries in ranking</b>			
12. Canada	26	33	minus 7
13. India	20	14	plus 6
13. Italy	20	27	minus 7
13. Lebanon	20	23	minus 3
14. UK	19	29	minus 10
15. Guyana	18	25	minus 7
16. Trinidad	15	13	plus 2
17. France	12	N/A	
18. Cuba	11	11	same
19. Belgium	10	20	minus 10
19. Ecuador	10	23	minus 13

\**Bevolking* figures were higher than those of the Census (10,791) taken January 29 to March 15, 2001.

# A PARABLE

...BY MARIE

The orange ball was setting behind the horizon and darkness was settling in. The lamp on the porch had already attracted some tropical insects. Pedro was dressed to a T and ready to go to the reception, but as he was on his way to the garden gate he noticed that he'd forgotten to lock the front door.

One of Pedro's neighbors was sitting in his rocking chair, observing what was happening next door.

After a quarter of an hour Pedro was still in his garden walking, but now in a bent position as if he were looking for something!

Pedro's neighbor, still sitting in his rocking chair, was getting curious about what Pedro was doing. So he got up and walked to the fence and called Pedro to ask him if he needed some help. Pedro answered that he'd lost the key to the front door and was looking for it. As a good neighbor he offered to help Pedro look for it. They chit chatted awhile and then the neighbor asked Pedro, "Where did you lose the key?" Pedro answered that he thought he'd lost the key inside the house! "Then WHY are you looking for it outside?" the

neighbor asked. Pedro answered, "Because out here the porch light shines!"

Life takes many turns, and in many cases we do exactly as Pedro does. We tend to go to the most likely or the easiest solution or the road with the least resistance. The objects in this story represent or symbolize different aspects of ourselves. The house is our inner life or inner being. The key symbolizes the doorway to that inner being. Pedro is our thoughts. The garden represents the world around us, the external surroundings.



Expressions like, "when I have him or her by my side, then I'll be happy," or "Once I'm on vacation then..." or "If I get this promotion then..."

It's in these outlooks, expectations or desires that we bring ourselves into bondage and make ourselves into a beggar, dependent on another for our own happiness.

Maybe it seems or feels right in the beginning,

but as time goes by we notice that we're not happy and pain and sorrow are knocking at our door. Finding the key is the biggest treasure you can find in your life. It's the best thing that can happen to you for it is this key that will allow you to be happy and peaceful. Knowing how to get inside yourself gently and with love is the way to transformation, peace and happiness. □ *Marie*

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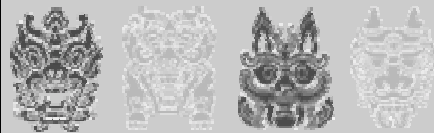
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**PET of the WEEK**

Now this is a very unusual situation. This beautiful Dalmatian was found wandering between Willemstoren Lighthouse and Sorobon Beach. The person who found him and brought him to the Bonaire Animal Shelter thought he obviously was someone's pet and so Mary DiSanza, who handles all the publicity for lost and found dogs, immediately got to work to find his owner. But no one has come to claim him and so the mystery continues. Why would such a seemingly valuable and attractive pet be abandoned?

The allotted time has passed so now "Wilem" is available for adoption. Wilem is rambunctious, but he's very smart so he can be trained. He needs someone who has a firm hand who can appreciate his fine qualities and spend time with him. That person will be repaid tenfold by a fine, well mannered companion. The vet estimates that he is a year or less in age. He's had his medical exam and been totally checked out health and social wise. And of course the adoption fee includes neutering. You may see Wilem at the Shelter on the Lagoen Road, open Monday through Friday, 10 am to 2 pm, Saturdays until 1. Tel. 717-4989.



Are you going on vacation? Did you know the Shelter has very nice individual accommodations for your dogs? There are very roomy runs, sheltered from the sun, daily "room service" meals and an enclosed yard for exercising and digging. For large dogs it's NAF15 a day; smaller dogs, NAF10 to NAF12 per day. Boarders are in proximity to each other but housed in private runs.

If you opt to leave your dogs at home with a house sitter make the sitter aware that in case the dogs get lost to call the Shelter (717-4989). They're the "headquarters" for lost and found dogs. □ L.D.

**FREE STERILIZATION PROGRAM**

**OCTOBER 18 to 30.** Call 717-4989

**Animal Shelter's Community-wide Program**

**WANTED**

**Land Wanted to Buy:** private or long lease land in Nikiboko Zuid, Bacadera, Belnem or on the road to Lac. Please call 780-7820 or 717-3374.

**Slide projector.** Is yours collecting dust in this digital age? We need a 35mm projector. Call 717-6011

Someone to **teach Microsoft Word in Dutch** to a woman at her home in Santa Barbara. Call 717-4127.

Young couple **looking to rent a kunuku long term.** Call 785-9013

**WANTED HOUSE TO SIT**

Former Dutch Conservation and Environment Officer (CEO) **Enit Scholten** would like to house-sit from the 12th of July till the 9th of August while she is here visiting Bonaire. If your house is available for all or part of this time please contact-benit@wanadoo.nl

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**Bored with your job?** *The Bonaire Reporter* needs **good writers** and **experienced salespeople.** Send CV to Bonaire Reporter, Kaya Gob. Debrot 200-6 or e-mail job@bonairereporter.com. **Phone 717-8988.**

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**MISCELLANEOUS**

**Baha'i firesides.** For fireside teacher in Bonaire please contact: Email: alexander137@telbonet.an or call 717-7977.



# PRAYERS FOR BONAIRE

A film about Bonaire

Next week you will have a chance to see "Women of Hope- Prayers for Bonaire," a film about the "other side" of Bonaire, a side that many tourists and even some residents never get to see. It tells the story of three women who want to bring hope to the island. Their silent power binds them together and keeps them going. The strength of these women of hope has inspired filmmakers Josine Olgers and Thom Verheul to produce a hopeful and intimate portrait of this lesser known but nonetheless inspiring side of Bonaire.

It tells about praying and working to solve the problems of the young and the weak on our small Caribbean island. Unemployment lays the foundation of a lot of criminal activities. Alcohol, drugs and sexual abuse make the life of a lot of young girls and boys hopeless. There is a lot of hidden poverty among the old-aged people. To tell this story Josine Olgers lived for more than three years on Bonaire and learned to look behind the tourist areas. She met different women who, strongly inspired by their personal faith, are using every effort to help people with problems on Bonaire. She commented, "I am so happy the film will be shown, so all the *macambas* and Dutch *pensionados* can see what ELSE is going on in Bonaire, which they may not have a clue about. I really hope it can contribute to more awareness about what is going on too on Bonaire, and hopefully a club like the Rotary or the Lions can donate a small amount of money to the Community Centers that really need it after hearing Vicky and Victor speak in the film."

Be sure to tune in-even if you don't know Dutch.

□ Josine Olgers

**Broadcast** Monday, 31 May 2004  
**Time:** Noon, 6 pm and 12 am  
 BVN TV Channel 26 on the Flamingo Cable  
**Program:** "t Zal je maar gebeuren" EO television  
**Length:** 50 minutes



A Dutch Poster featuring *Prayers For Bonaire*



Josine Olgers

# JONG BONAIRE FAIR

Jong Bonaire photo



*This 12-passenger bus, to be used to transport Jong Bonaire members to special events, was recently donated to Jong Bonaire by the SKAN Fonds (previously named Stichting Katholieke Noden).*

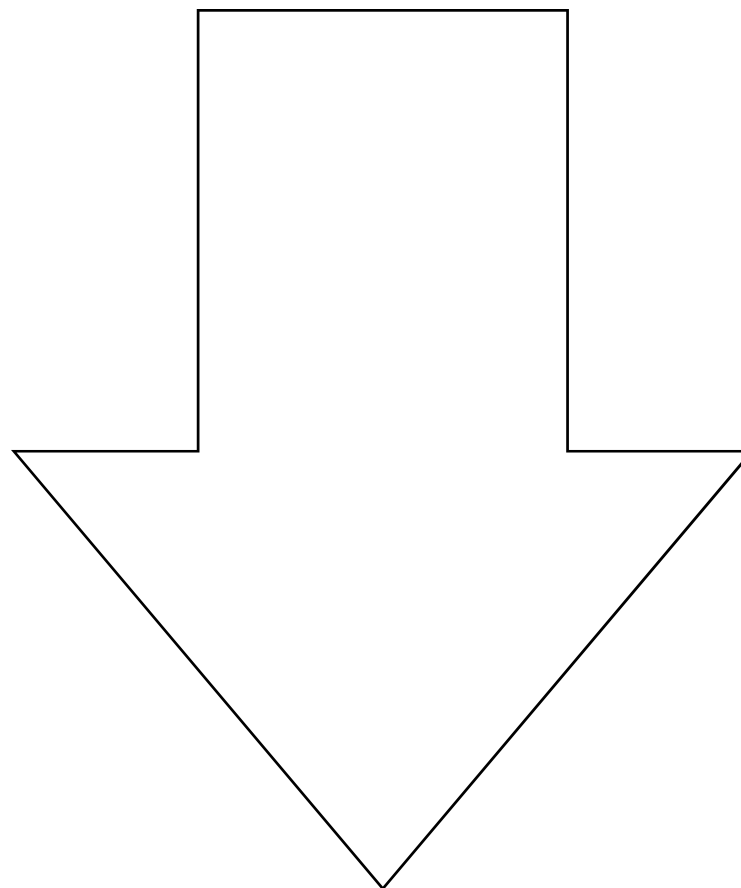
*It's the second largest donation received from this organization.*

Be sure to mark your calendar for **Saturday, June 5, from 2 pm until 9 pm** for a very special island event. **Jong Bonaire** will be putting on a **Fair** which will be held on the grounds of the center.

You can look forward to delicious local food, activities, games for everyone, and lots and lots of books for sale at give-away prices! This will be a fundraising event for the club and you can help not only by supporting the kids with your presence on June 4, but by **donating books to the book sale.**

From Monday through Friday from 8 in the morning until 6 in the evening you can drop off paperbacks, hardcovers, puzzles and games in good condition, and magazines such as *National Geographic*, *Architectural Digest*, and other glossy types of publications that you think people would enjoy reading. Especially back issues of *Vanity Fair*! Anyone have some of those to donate?

If you can't get the books to Jong Bonaire don't worry. We will come to you. Call Dabney at 717-3949 to pick up your donations. **PLEASE let us have these items as soon as possible as they must be organized and priced and that takes a LOT of time.** We sold several thousand guilders worth of books the last time and hope to do even better this year. Thanks for your help! □ Dabney Lassiter



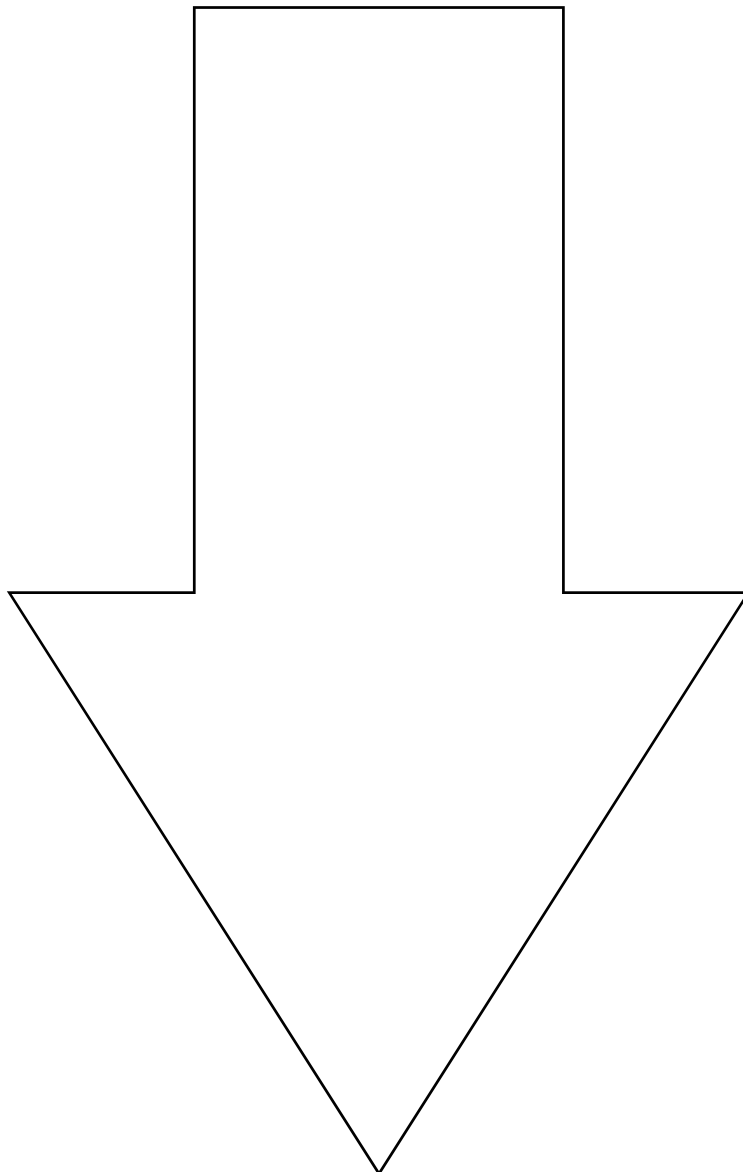


# BONAIRE HIT PARADE



TW	LW	#WEEKS	BAND	SONG TITLE
1.	1	8	ORK. CACHE	24/7
2.	9	2	MEGA	MI KURASON TEY PA BO
3.	5	4	JANET JACKSON	ALL NITE (DON'T STOP)
4.	2	7	USHER/LUDA/LIL JON'	YEAH
5.	4	10	ORK. CACHE	KASA KU MI
6.	11	2	PERFEKTA SON	STIMA MI MENOS
7.	10	2	DIS LE HEURE 2 ZOUK	MA RIVALE
8.	13	1	GUESS	SA BO KE SA?
9.	12	2	AGR. PAL'I WIRI	KI NODI BO TIN
10.	14	1	KING AFRICA	GOLOSINA
11.	15	1	SUGAR DADDY	SWEET SOCA MUSIC
12.	N	N	BRITNEY SPEARS	THE HOOK UP
13.	N	N	EL MEDICO	CHUPA CHUPA
14.	N	N	ELVIS CRESPO	HORA ENAMORADA
15.	N	N	PEPE AGUILAR	CRUZ DE OLVIDO

**LISTEN TO THE TOP HITS EVERY SATURDAY FROM 12 NOON - 1PM**  
 A 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

**Taking Lives**  
(Angelina Jolie)

Early Show (usually 7:00 pm)

**Starsky & Hutch**

Kaya Prinses Marie  
Behind Exito Bakery  
Tel. 717-2400

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

NEW FILMS BEGIN EVERY FRIDAY

SATURDAY 4 PM **Scobydoo 2-  
Monsters Unleashed**  
SUNDAY MATINEE 4 PM  
**Secret Window**

### THIS WEEK

**Friday, Saturday, Sunday, May 28, 29, 30 -Comedy: "Pai, Non a Kue Mai", 8 pm, Jong Bonaire**

**Saturday, Sunday, May 29, 30-A visit and local guided tour to Isla di Yuana and Isla di Pedro** at Lac Bai. Meet just past Chapparal on road to Lac. Sponsored by *Amigunan di Nautralesa* (Friends of Nature) Tours from 9 am to 4 pm. Adults, NAf25. Children, NAf15. Includes drinks, BBQ and book by Bòi Antoin. Tickets at Extra newspaper office, Kaya Gilberto F. Croes. Tel. 717-8482.

**Saturday, May 29th**, from 9 am-3pm at the *K'ai Minima* Senior Citizen's Center, #17 Kaya Kamari, Tera Cora. **Plant Sale** with lots of plants - reasonable prices with all plants donated by Always Green, Captain Don's & Janet's Island Grower, Green Label, and the LVV (Agricultural Service). Deepak Daryanni, of Bonaire Gift Shop, will have some items for sale. There will also be **Arts & Crafts** locally made by the visitors of *Ka'i Mimina*. For more information please contact Delno Tromp at 785-6268 or via email delno33@yahoo.com.

**Sunday, May 30- 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Washington Park. At the Park from 8 am to 5 pm.** Soft Adventure sports, kids activities, indoor and outdoor exhibitions, local market and more. FREE. Call 717-8444 - More on page 10

**Sunday, May 30 -Children's Theatre** with Peter Fabel, 11 am to 1 pm. Price includes pancakes and soft drink. Kon Tiki

**June 4th and 5th, NAZARIO ALBERTO FUND RAISING ROUTE.**

See page 6

### COMING

**Saturday, June 5 - Rincon Marshé** - open air market with stands selling local food, drinks, gifts, plants, herbs. Friendliest place on the island. Also Soldachi Walking and Bus Tours of Bonaire's oldest town. 10 am to 2 pm. Call Maria for tour information 717-6435.

**Saturday, June 5- Jong Bonaire Fair** Sale of second hand sports gear, computer equipment, games, presentations, sports. 2 pm-9 pm. Held at Jong Bonaire, Kaya Lib. Simon Bolivar #16. Call 717-4303 for info. See on page 17

**Saturday, June 5- Famous Cuban Band, "Sonora Matancera,"** will play at BSF Tennis Courts (behind MCB bank in Playa). Tickets are NAf50 and are available at Lisa Gas, Tunsara Snack in Rincon and Gas Express. There is also the option of purchasing a "Red Carpet Ticket" for US\$300 which entitles four persons to be seated at a table with drinks and snacks.

**Saturday, June 5- Tack Team Walking Event** 4:30 pm. All youth organizations, friends, sport associations, etc. are invited to form groups of seven people. See page 7.

**June 6-18 Bonaire Dive Festival.** For details see page 9

**July 4,- Sunday Dia di Arte,** "Art Day," 10 am-10 pm Wilhelmina Park More information as the event nears. See mention in Flotsam and Jetsam. For more information contact Emma Sint Jago at 717-7420

### 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 Res-

taurant

**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** Authentic 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

**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

**The Bonaire Swim Club is looking for volunteer help. Contact Valarie Stimpson at 785-3451 or Valarie@telbonet.an**

**Cinnamon Art Gallery.** Volunteers to help staff gallery during the day. Contact **Wendy Horn, at 717-3902 or 785-9700.**

**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 **2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 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 Restaurant, 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 (Asemblea 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](mailto:reporter@bonairenews.com)  
Tel/Fax. 717-8988, Cel. 791-7252

# DINING GUIDE

See advertisements in this issue

RESTAURANT	PRICE RANGE / WHEN OPEN	FEATURES
<b>Bella Vista Restaurant</b> 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
<b>The Blue Moon- Early Bird Special! before 7 pm</b> Sea Side Restaurant—Waterfront on the Promenade 717-8617	Moderate-Expensive Dinner Inexpensive bar menu Closed Wednesdays	Award-winning Chef Martijn Bouwmeester is the master in the kitchen and manager of the restaurant. Have a fine dining experience with creative, inspired dishes.
<b>Caribbean Club Bonaire at Hilltop</b> 5 minutes north of "Hotel Row" 717-7901	Moderate Breakfast, Dinner, closed Sunday	What a place! Friendly bar next to the pool, home cooked meals, happy hours 5 to 7. Serious BBQ on Tuesdays NAf25.
<b>Chez Lucille</b> 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.
<b>Chibi Chibi Restaurant and Bar</b> 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.
<b>Crocantino Italian Restaurant</b> Downtown at Kaya Grandi 48 717-5025	Moderate-Expensive Dinner Closed Monday	Skilled chef direct from Tuscany prepares exquisite dishes. Authentic ingredients and romantic setting make dining a total delight. Get served in a garden setting under floating umbrellas or in air-conditioned comfort.
<b>Garden Café</b> Kaya Grandi 59 717-3410	Moderate Monday-Friday, Lunch & Dinner Saturday, Dinner. Closed Sunday	Finely prepared Middle Eastern cuisine plus Venezuelan specialties. Excellent vegetarian selections. Pizza and Latin Parilla
<b>La Balandra</b> 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 NAf25 Beach Pass, a NAf15 credit is given for meals Bonaire's best seaside location.
<b>The Last Bite Bakery</b> 717-3293 Home Delivery or Take Out	Low-Moderate Orders taken 8 am-4 pm; Deliveries 6-7:30pm Closed Sunday	Enjoy a delicious dessert or savory baked meal in the comfort of your home or resort. This unique bakery offers <b>gourmet class items</b> -always from scratch- for take out or delivery only.
<b>The Lions Den Beach Bar And Restaurant</b> On the sea at Lions Dive 717-3400 717-6616	Moderate-Expensive Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner Open 7 Days	Spectacular setting overlooking dive sites and Klein Bonaire. Imaginative menu, open kitchen. Owned and operated by Kirk Gosden.
<b>The Lost Penguin</b> Across from MCB Bank in downtown Kralendijk Call 717-8003	Low-Moderate Breakfast, Lunch, Early Dinner Closed Tuesdays & Wednesdays	Watch the bustle of downtown from this street side Caribbean-style bistro owned and run by a European educated Master Chef and his wife.
<b>Pasa Bon Pizza</b> On Kaya Gob. Debrot ½ mile north of town center. 790-1111	Low-Moderate Open from 5-11 pm Wednesday-Sunday	Bonaire's best. The <b>Real Thing!</b> 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
<b>The Seahorse Cyber Café</b> Kaya Grandi #6. Phone 717-4888	Low-Moderate Open 7 am - 7 pm Closed Sunday	Tasty breakfasts, pastries, fresh tropical juices, homemade bread, special sandwiches, delicious desserts and more make this a favorite.



# SHOPPING GUIDE

See advertisements in this issue



## AIRLINES

**BonaireExel.** 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. Sells 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.

## 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

See Restaurant Guide for **The Seahorse Cyber Café**.

## DENTURES

**All Denture 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

**Hotel Bonaire Inn** (formerly Friars' Inn), downtown Kralendijk, has 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 Galleries 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 guild.  
Phone/Fax 717-8988, Cel 791-7252

## Eddie Campos

**I** was born in Aruba in 1940. My mother was Aruban and my father was a Venezuelan mason from Cumarebo, Isla Margarita. He died young; he went to heaven the same day as President Kennedy. I went to school and soon after I started working as a wireman for Elmar, an electricity company, for 13 years. Then I worked as a prison warden which was a pretty easy job as the prisoners then were mainly a bunch of mischievous boys. Nowadays they are devils. Because of a conflict I was suspended from the job but they kept on paying my salary. I thought I'd go to Holland, but we had good neighbors who had bought a house on Bonaire and they asked me if I could fix it for them, so I went and I stayed. I married Elma Krozendijk from Aruba in 1969. We have four children. They're all grown now. The eldest son has his own construction company in Aruba. The eldest daughter has been working for 10 years with the ABN/RBTT bank on Bonaire. We have another son in Holland and another daughter in Aruba. When I left for Bonaire our eldest daughter was in HAVO and she had six more months to go, so my family stayed and I lived here alone for the time being.

During the 60s I visited Bonaire a couple of times. It cost NAf40 round trip. I also went to Barranquilla from Aruba with *El Condor*, only NAf64 guilders! From Barranquilla I flew to Bogota for \$20 and lived there for six months. It was a beautiful place, not as dangerous as it is now with bombs and guns. Now it's hopeless.

To tell you the truth, on Bonaire I found a couple of good things. It was quiet, I found good friends and what I really enjoyed was fishing. One of my good friends, Boeboei Ranés, taught me about the sea. You know, it's not so easy to go to sea with somebody. You really need to trust that person. The sea is always dangerous and around Bonaire the waters are really deep. You don't go into a boat with just anyone.

Boeboei and I used to go far, three miles out, to catch the deep sea fishes. We fished for the fun of it. We ate the fish ourselves or we gave some to the neighbors. It wasn't a job, it was just because we had nothing to do and I did it because the fish you catch here are really good! You have to be lucky to

catch fish in Aruba. The sea around Aruba is shallow and you have to fish far out. Here you can sit on the beach and catch the biggest fish! When Boeboei was 45 he got sick and died, too young. I'd been fishing with him for three years and after he died I didn't feel like it anymore. I went to look for something to do and started working for TechnoConsult as a welder. Since I'd arrived here I'd never felt the urge to work because I still received my salary from the government in Aruba, a small pension from Elmar and the rent from our house in Aruba.

We had been living in Antriol for two years and for 18 months in Amboina. When the house in Amboina was offered to me I refused; I don't like to live in a group. I started building our own place on land we got from the government. It was very easy to get a piece of land in those days, you could choose for yourself. I asked for Tera Cora because for me it is the most beautiful part of the island. The people came to measure and they asked me: "How big do you want it? Don't you want that part also, don't you want more, are you sure you don't want it bigger?" *He laughs:* "Those were the days!"

*Eddy Campos is an easy going man, at*

**"One of my good friends, Boeboei Ranés, taught me about the sea. You know, it's not so easy to go to sea with somebody. You really need to trust that person. The sea is always dangerous and around Bonaire the waters are really deep. You don't go into a boat with just anyone."**

*first a bit quiet, but he loosens up as time goes by. "When I got this land it was a complete forest. I was lucky because at the time a company from Aruba was putting in pipes for Trans World Radio. I had two good*

*friends working with a loader. When they saw me chopping the trees they offered to clear the land for me. I built this house myself with the help of our children who were 10, 11, 13 and 14 and lots of friends. It was ready in eight months. After that we got La Sonrisa Ballpark and the lights of the ballpark shine on our house. Over the years I worked for several companies on the island. I left TechnoConsult to work for Don Andres, then I worked for the brick factory of Anton Sieverding, from there I went to Plaza and now I'm working for Beltech. The difference between Bonaire and Aruba is huge. Aruba is just like New York: so much to see, so many places to go to: casinos, shows, festivals, shop-*

*ping malls, hotels. Aruba is much smaller than Bonaire but they have 100,000 people, here we only have 11,000! When you arrive at the airport in Aruba, one of the most beautiful ones in the Caribbean, you think, 'hey, this is Miami!' and at night you think it's Las Vegas! Aruba has it all! I've lived on Bonaire for 19 years but once Aruban, always Aruban!*

*I love to travel but I haven't been to Holland. I'm waiting for Holland to come to me.*

*My wife travels more than I do. She goes to Holland to visit our son and many other places; whenever she gets the chance she's gone. Her wallet is thicker than mine!"*

*Suddenly he gets up from under the roof of the porch where we're sitting as it is drizzling: "Come over here, have a look! See that plane? It's going to land from this side, there's a wind reversal. Look! What a beautiful sight! This is Tera Cora! No place like it! Bonaire is a beautiful little island with lots of nice views. I'm very content here and if I wasn't I would have left long ago. I used to play tennis, soccer, table tennis, chess and checkers. I stopped playing tennis; occasionally I slam a ball against the wall, but that's about it. I quit playing soccer a year and a half ago but I'm still a member of the committee for our club, FC Champs. I still play table tennis and chess or checkers. And I go bicycling almost every day and I still fish. We don't have the children at home anymore and I don't want to look at the walls, doing nothing, falling asleep and die! I don't want to get bored and that's why I'm still working.*

*I did a lot of things here on Bonaire; I've been a model in fashion shows, I've been a finalist in song festivals and for a long time I've been a member of the board of *Sentro di Bario Tera Cora*. Fifteen years ago I became a volunteer for the 60-plussers, *groupo rekresarioio Tera Cora* and I was elected 'Volunteer of the Year.' *He gets up, goes into the house and comes back with photo al-**



*Eddie and Elma with grand daughter Jomaira (standing left) and friends: Chelsea, Gislene and Amanda*

*bums. "That's another hobby of mine, taking pictures. Here is Sjon Tiela, our eldest member. She's 96 and still very strong. And here I am as Joseph in a Christmas play. See baby Jesus, he's black! This is my daughter and me dancing in the Aruban dance group on Aruba Day. I love to dance! I like every kind of music! See all those tiny tots! My grandchildren... Look at them! How they've grown now... We've got two in Bonaire, three in Holland and two in Aruba."*

*He puts the albums aside. "When I was a kid I wanted to become a helmsman on a big ship or a sportsman, but the way it turned out is that life is beautiful to me and the most important thing is to enjoy it. It's a pity I'm not rich otherwise I would have traveled the world with my guitar because with music you make yourself happy and others too. When you're rich you can do whatever you like. When you're not, you have to make yourself happy and that's what I'm doing. Let's hope it will last much longer!"*

□ *Greta Kooistra*



**Greta Kooistra**

**10th  
ANNIVERSARY**

# The <sup>BONAIRE</sup> REPORTER

SINCE 1994

Ten years ago, in April 1994, the first issue of the *Port Call News* was published. It was printed on two sides of a single A-4 size sheet and contained articles of interest to the yachts visiting Bonaire. Its price was NAf1 to cover the cost of Xeroxing the 20 or so copies. Jan Smirnow of the yacht *Windsong* produced the issue from her laptop computer. But Jan was leaving Bonaire so, for the July 18<sup>th</sup>, 1994, issue, asked us, Laura and George DeSalvo, to put out the news sheet while she was away for a few weeks.

At the time we were running day charters aboard our yacht, *Oscarina*.

But the weeks turned into months and we, who were now stuck with running *Port Call*, became tired of collecting NAf1 from the elusive sailors so we found some sponsors who paid about NAf10 each to run their advertisements. The first patrons of *Port Call* were: **Marlis Canvas, The Leeward Inn, The Fragile Ocean Shop and The Sandwich Factory.** **Captain Don's Habitat** ran the first ad to appear, offering 25% off to any cruisers who purchased their dive gear there. Their support made the December 27, 1994 issue, number 25, the first free issue. And, "It's Still Free." Flotsam and Jetsam, perhaps the most widely read part of the newspaper, was begun. Thirty-six yachts were listed as being in port in that issue. Four are still here: *Oscarina, Brenden's Isle, Varedhumi and Mistress.*



The Reporter's "downtown office,"  
*The Lost Penguin Café*

iar? Bonaire chose overwhelmingly for the status quo.

In April of 1995, **The Harbour Village Marina** became an advertiser. Its ads have been running the longest, along with those of **Rocargo, the Carib Inn** and **Buddy Dive** which still appear in every issue. In addition to the usual articles of interest to the boaters, some other 1995 stories included one about the **Bonaire-Curaçao ferry service** that was about to begin, the difficulty of running the 28<sup>th</sup> Bonaire International Regatta and Bonaire's new bus service (vans with AB tags). In July that year the size of *Port Call* doubled... to four pages. Some of the popular departments got established like the astronomy column which later was renamed by a reader to "Sky Park." After we publishers moved into a house and off our boat the type of articles

stories in 1996 included the daring daylight bank robbery where the robbers made good their escape to Venezuela by speedboat, response to the threat of Klein Bonaire being developed, the proposal to extend the dive tag fee to snorkelers and windsurfers, the plan for a marine museum, the arrival of the Sales Tax, and Tropical Storm Cesar's brush with Bonaire. In the same year Captain Don's stories appeared in print for the first time... in the *Port Call*.

In 1997, 52 issues of *Port Call* were printed, a feat that has never been repeated since we take four weeks a year off in the months that have five weeks. Photos began to replace the line art and spot color was used for emphasis. More of the popular features got established like Pet of the Week and the periodic Flamingo Alert. There were lots of stories about getting Klein Bonaire back for the people including a plea by German diving pioneer, Hans Hass. Captain Don celebrated his 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary in Bonaire. Jacques Cousteau passed away. Bôï Antoin, historian and Editor of *èxtra*, Bonaire's Papiamentu language newspaper, must have taken the paper seriously because, unknown to us, he had all the issues bound into annual volumes. By the end of the year 1997, issues were running 10 pages.

More of the same was in store for 1998 and 1999. The weekly yacht census showed that there were often upwards of 130 yachts in port on free moorings and anchored. *Port Call* was up to 12 pages and available on the Internet. Big stories in 1999 were the torching of the Salt Works by an upset employee, the threat to Bonaire's bats, island elections, the success of Bonaire's Special Olympics team in North Carolina at the World Games and the effect of the waves of Hurricane Lenny on Bonaire. The last issue of the year carried the story of Klein Bonaire's return to the people of Bonaire as a wilderness park.

After surviving the Y2K non-crisis, in the year 2000, the name *Port Call* was replaced with *The Bonaire Reporter*, which better reflected the shift in editorial content from the sea to the land. The A4 format was retained and *The Reporter* grew to 14 pages. Restaurant reviews, Animal Answers, Bonaire Dive Pro and the Turtle Log were popular columns. The yacht news was reported on only one or two pages per issue. American Eagle joined Air Jamaica in flying to Bonaire in February 2001. The last A4 size issue was April 3, 2001. As if in anticipation of future issues the front page story reported on a solid growth in tourist arrivals, finally exceeding the 5,000 mark once again. Beset by needs for expansion, a failing



The Reporter Editorial Office

printing plant on Bonaire that was producing issues of poor quality, *The Bonaire Reporter* grew to a full tabloid size 12-page newspaper printed on a web (continuous roll feed printing) press at DeStad Curaçao. The current issue is 24



Back issues of The Reporter  
in bound volumes

pages. I won't write much more. You know *The Bonaire Reporter* of today. It's doubled in size again from its first printing and gone to full color on many pages. It's a labor of love for us, although sometimes we admit it's more like "going into labor" every week! But the weekly birth is always worth it. Today's *Reporters* are the product of many minds: Greta Kooistra's *On the Island Since*, Ann Phelan's *Windsurf Scene*, Ap van Eldick's *Bonaire Gardner*, Rosita Paiman's *Fitness Facts*, Angeli-que Salsbach's *Ask the Dietician*, Desiree and Don's *Yoga For You*, Barbara Lockwood's layout, Elizabeth Silberie and Yuchi Molina's deliveries and many others who use their skills to make *The Reporter* what it is. But ultimately it is you readers, who, by reading the paper and supporting *Reporter* advertisers, pay the expenses for what has become a fairly complex business involving people, computers, the Internet, off-island production, on-line and mailed subscriptions and all the other things that get done each week to get the *Reporter* to Warehouse, Cultimara and the 70+ other outlets and on the Internet. Thanks to all for 10 great years. □ G.D.



The Reporter on the press at Drukkerij DeStad in Curaçao (inset-The Press)

Most of the stories were of interest solely to the yachts, but the October 3<sup>rd</sup> issue ran an article on the **1994 Bonaire Referendum** which offered the Bonairean people four choices: status quo, status aparté, become a part of Holland, or become independent. Sound famil-

slowly began to shift to more Bonaire island-focused stories. The paper grew to eight pages, the annual January 1 predictions began, the What Bonaire Doesn't Have Contest was held (winners: Turtle soup, Parking meters, 24-hour convenience stores and refineries.) Top

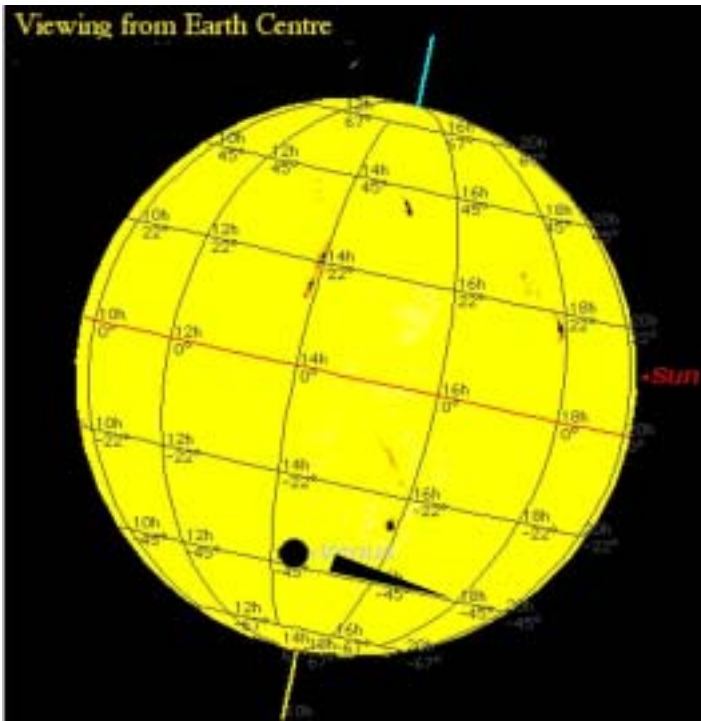


# BONAIRE SKY PARK\*

\*to find it, just look up

## Observing Venus Transiting the Sun

The second planet out from the Sun, 8,000-mile-wide, Earth-sized Venus, will cross the face of the Sun Tuesday June 8th which is something that hasn't happened in 122 years. And if you are in the right geographical location and use the proper eye protecting equipment you'll be able to see this rare spectacle.



Path of Venus across the Sun

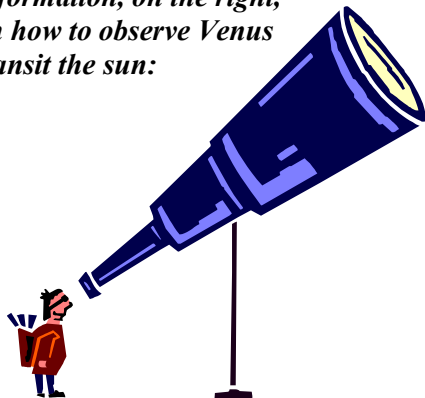
Most of you know that Venus is the second planet out from the Sun and our Earth is number three. And because each planet orbits at a different speed, Venus always changes its position in the sky as seen from Earth. Our Earth is 93 million miles away from the Sun, but Venus is only 67½ million miles away from it and this coupled with Venus' higher orbital speed means it can be super far away from us on the other side of the Sun, 160 million miles away. Or it can be super close, on this side of the Sun, as will be the case, on June 8th, when it will be at its closest, only 26 million miles away. Now if our Earth and Venus orbited the Sun in exactly the same plane we would see Venus cross the face of the Sun every year and a half. But because their orbits are slightly tilted to one another the only time we can see Venus cross the Sun's face, which is called a "Venus transit," is when Venus passes directly between the Earth and the Sun and is at precisely one of the two spots along its orbit that intersects the Sun-Earth plane.

Astronomer Bob Berman, who wrote a wonderful article on this Venus transit in this year's *Old Farmer's Almanac*, reminds us that Venus transits always come in pairs. The last pair occurred in 1874 and 1882. So this upcoming transit is the first of a pair, which means that if you miss this one you'll be able to see the second in 2012. But after that you're going to have to wait 105 years.

So how can you see this event? Well, nearly every one in Europe and Asia will see the whole thing, but for the Western Hemisphere it's rather spotty because most of the transit will have already occurred at sunrise. We will have 20 minutes to view the transit right at dawn on Tuesday morning, June 8th. But despair not, because the second transit in this cycle will be visible from all of the Western Hemisphere in 2012.

**One word of caution: do not, under any circumstances, look at the Sun with the naked eye, ever. Use a safe projection method or a pair of eclipse viewing glasses** (Does anyone have any left over from our 1998 total eclipse?). □ *Jack Horkheimer*

Thanks to Alan Gross and Jane Townsend for the Bonaire-specific information, on the right, on how to observe Venus transit the sun:



Venus makes the transit on **June 8th** -- the first time since 1882 and the next time will be 2012 so don't miss it. It has only been observed with telescopes five times before, in the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries.

Providing, of course, that we do not have a lot of early morning clouds, we can observe the transit from Bonaire starting at **06:11** and see the planet cross the lower face of the sun (see arrow on the graphic). At **07:09** Venus will begin to cross the edge of the sun and the whole show will be over by **07:29**. Check out [www.transitofvenus.org](http://www.transitofvenus.org) on the net for lots of good stuff. □



# THE STARS HAVE IT

For the week: **May 28 to June 4, 2004**

By Astrologer Michael Thiessen

**ARIES** (Mar. 21- April 20) There might be one who is quite willing to take the credit for your work. Someone may be trying to damage your reputation. Don't overdo it. Don't overreact if your partner has a poor attitude. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

**TAURUS** (Apr. 21- May 21) You can make some money if you get involved in a conservative financial prospect that is presented to you. You should follow through on educational endeavors you have wanted to pursue for some time. Talk to your emotional partner about your intentions. You may be up for some changes in your home. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

**GEMINI** (May 22-June 21) You will be in the mood for entertainment. Try not to get involved in other people's problems. This is a turning point. Speak of your future goals, intentions, and commitments. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22) Reevaluate your position and make decisions about your future goals. Don't let co-workers interfere with your objectives. Lovers will be less than accommodating, and decisions regarding personal direction a necessity. You're best to channel your energy into work. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug 22) Don't be too quick to sign documents. Get out and rub shoulders with people in high positions if possible. You can avoid hassles by sticking to your work and refusing to get involved in gossip or idle chatter. Try to spend some time on your own. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) Romantic opportunities will be plentiful if you go out with friends. You can make money if you get involved in real estate deals. Residential moves will be favorable, and larger quarters the most probable direction. You may find that someone at work hasn't been trustworthy. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) Someone you work with could try to undermine you. Take a look at yourself and prepare to make those changes you've been contemplating. Get busy on projects that improve your own image; you'll have the discipline to succeed. You may find that female colleagues will be more help than you anticipated. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) You will have no trouble getting things to fall into place. Abrupt changes concerning your professional position are evident. Channel your efforts into achieving your goals. If it can make you extra cash, it will be even better. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) Now is the time for completing hobbies that you've been working on for a long time. Don't allow someone to do a job that was designated specifically for you. Don't exhaust yourself or minor health problems will set in. Avoid any gossip and be careful that you aren't misinterpreted. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) Dealing with in-laws or relatives will not be in your best interest. Put your energy into learning new skills or picking up valuable information. Use discretion in your dealings and refrain from making verbal promises of any kind. You may interest some of them in a service you have to offer. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) A new you could help your attitude. Money problems will be difficult to deal with if you have a partner. Concentrate on spending quality time with children and friends. You can make personal changes that will enhance your appearance and bring you greater popularity. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) Don't blow situations out of proportion or you could find that others will misinterpret what really happened. Partnerships may be strained if one of you has been erratic and hard to deal with. Opportunities to make money may interfere with your personal plans. Your trendy style and unique way of doing things will entice new acquaintances. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

□

## Moon Info

☉ Full Moon on June 3<sup>rd</sup> . ☾ Last Quarter on June 9

## New Moon

● on June 17<sup>th</sup> ☽ First Quarter on June 25<sup>th</sup>

# The BONAIRE REPORTER

SINCE 1994