

Official On-Board Newspaper

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It's about time!

November 26 to December 3, 2004 Volume 11, Issue 45

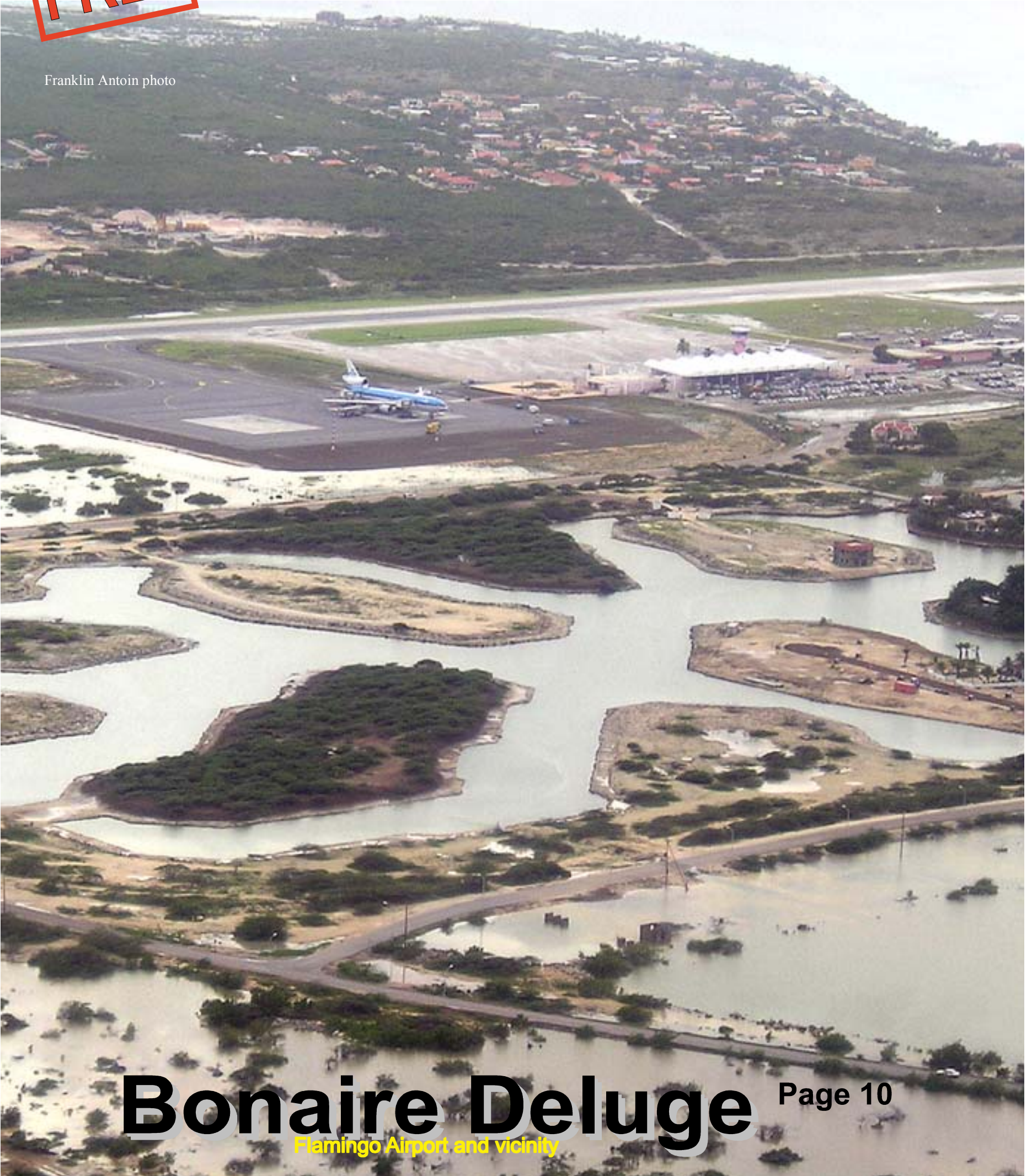
**IT'S  
STILL  
FREE**

# The **BONAIRE!** REPORTER

Kaya Gob. Debrot 200 • E-mail: [reporter@bonairenews.com](mailto:reporter@bonairenews.com) • 717-8988

SINCE 1994

Franklin Antoin photo



## Bonaire Deluge

Page 10

Flamingo Airport and vicinity

# FLOTSAM AND JETSAM

## Sint Nicolaas (Sinter Klaus) and his Black

### Pete (Zwartepiet) helpers will make their 2004 appearance this coming Saturday morning, September 27.

Sint Nicolaas is associated with gift giving and his coming is close to the Christmas season, but he has nothing directly to do with the Christian holiday. It originated more than 600 years ago when the Bishop of Madrid, Spain, gave gifts to everyone on his birthday, December 5. This bishop, it is said, originally came from Turkey with his helpers who were black

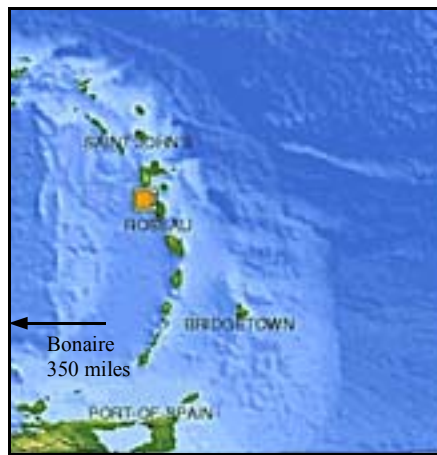
(zwarte). At that time Holland was ruled by Spain, so when Sint Nicolaas comes, he arrives from Spain by boat. This year, in keeping with tradition he will arrive in Bonaire by boat at the old pier. Activities will begin at 9 am in Wilhelmina Park and Sint Nicolaas is scheduled to arrive at 10 am sharp. After being greeted by the Governor, Sinter Klaus and his entourage of Zwartepieten (Black Petes) will tour Kralendijk and then on to Rincon. The festivities are organized by the Foundation Ata C I Zwartepiet (FASIZ) and SEBIKI and are one of the cultural highlights of the year.



2003 arrival.

► An earthquake reportedly measuring 6.0 on the Richter Scale shook several Eastern Caribbean islands at 7:41am last Sunday, leaving one dead in Guadeloupe and causing significant structural damage in Dominica. The epicenter of the earthquake was about 10 km. north of Dominica at 15.77°N 61.44°W. A strong aftershock followed at 9:36 am. It was also felt in Antigua and Barbuda, Montserrat, St. Kitts/Nevis, Saint Lucia and St. Vincent & the Grenadines.

In Guadeloupe a three-year-old girl died from injuries she sustained when a wall collapsed on her. Her seven-year-old sis-



ter is reportedly in the hospital in critical condition. In Portsmouth, Dominica, the quake caused the steeple of a Roman Catholic Church to tumble, forcing cancellation of Mass. Several other buildings, including houses, were reportedly damaged. Portsmouth was already reeling from heavy rains that lashed the town last week, causing landslides and cutting the town off from the rest of the island. It is a fact that earthquakes are sometimes triggered by heavy rainfall.

► Our sources tell us that KLM has little interest in servicing the Caribbean-US route. That leaves the Exel group with a clear advantage, having been in the area for over a year with Bonair-Exel. Exel's CEO Harm Prins said last week, "If we receive a (Central Government) guarantee-letter today stating that we will be granted our permit to fly (the former DCA routes), 150 people will have a job tomorrow." Reportedly Exel has already picked out 30 pilots, 30 ground personnel and about 100 cabin crew personnel. "If the Trans-Atlantic route expands from two to four times weekly we will need 60 more cabin personnel," he added.

Exel has also received the promise of a subsidy from the Dutch Government. The Stichting Studiefinanciering (Student Loan Foundation) would help pay for the NAf10.000 course for ex-DCA pilots.

For an already otherwise qualified pilot to acquire a full-fledged air operator's certificate (AOC) for the Boeing 737 to be used on Curaçao-US routes takes two to three months. DCA had been flying DC-9s and MD-80s so their personnel need this training. Besides the 737, Exel is said to have a Boeing 757 and two Embraer 145s ready in The Netherlands

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while they await permission to expand their operations.

► Bonaire's Governor Hubert Domacassé turned up the heat on the Minister of Justice, Norberto Ribeiro, last week. Governor Domacassé presented the Minister, while he was visiting St. Maarten, with a stack of signatures from the citizens of Bonaire. Perhaps not coincidentally, the Justice Minister spent all last Friday on the island.

The Minister followed a packed sched-  
(Continued on page 4)

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**Flotsam and Jetsam** (Continued from page 2) ule, first meeting with the Guardianship Board. Afterwards, he met with Police Commissioner Gerold Daantje; then he went to the police station in Kralendijk to meet with Prosecutor Ernst Wesselius. He had lunch with Governor Domacassé, Antilles Governor Frits Goedgedrag and the members of the Cabinet of the Governor. In the afternoon he visited the anti-crime task force of the hospitality industry and the island's commissioners. The Justice Minister promised NAf1 million to purchase new police cars, computers, add seven experienced additional officers, material for law enforcement services, the Guardianship Board, and the After Care and Resettling Foundation.

► In an overall plan to reduce criminal activity in the Antilles, Ribeiro has an emergency plan up for approval to the Council of Ministers. It is estimated to cost NAf16.8 million in all. Some of the funds are needed immediately to place more police officers on the streets and for building additional jail cells. The island's existing lockups will not be ready until next month.

It should be noted that in the past Minister Ribeiro promised funds that should be available as part of the Urgency Program of the Central Government. However, Bonaire never received any. But on this visit he said, "You will get the money for sure, perhaps as soon as next week."

► **The Antillean Government will soon close three diplomatic stations.** Prime Minister Etienne Ys announced last Tuesday that the post in Brussels, Belgium, will be the first. From now on the Brussels activity will be managed from

the Antilles House in The Hague. Also to be closed will be the offices in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, and Havana, Cuba. The decision will save the government about NAf 1.2 million per year.

► **The Island Territory of Curaçao will float a bond issue** on Monday, December 6. The issue offers a 7.625% rate with a maturity of nine years and a semi-annual coupon. The issue is to primarily refinance a maturing bond issue of NAf 25.9 million. The general public can subscribe to this bond issue at all commercial banks until December 1 at 10 am. The Island Territory of Bonaire does not have the right to issue bonds.

► At the same time the Curaçao bond is being floated the **Central Bank has warned that the combined deficits of the Antilles and Curaçao cannot be financed.** The bank told the coalition parties during a presentation that it sees a maximum financing space for 2005 of 200 million guilders, of which 150 million is for the Central Government and 50 million for the Island Territory of Curaçao. The federal budget shows a deficit of NAf 183.5 million and the Curaçao budget of NAf90.2 million.

► The Bonaire Council of Underwater Resort Operators (CURO), the association of Bonaire dive shops and schools **announced the election of its officers** for the coming year. They are: Bruce



**Bruce Bowker**

Bowker - Carib Inn, President; Daniel Henggeler - Blue Diver, Vice President; Susan Davis - Bon Bini Divers, Treasurer. DURO is committed to uphold the highest standards in diving and support of the Bonaire Marine.

► **Air Jamaica has won another major award:** this time, the 2004 Crystal Palm Award for Excellence, from the Caribbean Hotel Association (CHA). The national airline beat other major carriers to take what is widely regarded as one of the regional travel industry's most coveted awards. Chairman of Air Jamaica, Gordon 'Butch' Stewart, accepted the award at the CHA's annual dinner.

► Reuters reported that **the leader of a Venezuelan heroin trafficking ring has been extradited from the Netherlands Antilles to New York** on charges that his group smuggled US\$70 million worth of drugs into the US. US federal prosecutors said Luis Alberto Ibarra was formally extradited from Curaçao last Tuesday. If convicted, he faces a maximum sentence of life in prison and a mandatory minimum sentence of 10 years. The indictment says Ibarra used human couriers primarily from Caracas to smuggle heroin into the US, either ingesting baggies (bolitas) of heroin or hiding it in luggage.

► **Cargill Salt Bonaire set a new record in 2004 by producing 520,000 metric tons of crystal sea salt.** It is the first time in the history of the plant that salt production exceeded a half a million tons. Notwithstanding fierce competition on the world market, Cargill succeeded in selling more salt to the US, Europe and the Caribbean region. Since the beginning of the



modern operations in 1972, the plant has produced over 10 million tons.

► **Captain Don (Stewart), Bonaire's dive pioneer, was admitted to St. Francisco Hospital** in Bonaire last Friday evening, suffering from low blood pressure. Because the Bonaire hospital was not able to do all that was necessary, he was airlifted to St Elizabeth Hospital in Curaçao the next day. There he was stabilized in the intensive care unit. He is now feeling much better, but as we go to press he remains in hospital. Join us in wishing him a speedy recovery and return to Bonaire.

► Don't miss the opening this Saturday, November 27, 7 to 9 pm of **Renate van der Byl's art exhibition at the Cinnamon Art Gallery.** Renate paints true Bonairean scenes in oils. At the opening there will be music and hors d'oeuvres by Annette of Last Bite Bakery. See advertisement on page 8.

► The **Mangasina di Rei Foundation** announced the opening hours for the historic "Warehouse of the King" and the associated open air museum: Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9 to 11 am, 1:30 to 3:30 pm.. If you wish a guide please call 791-3424. Admission is \$5 per person or NAf5 with your sedula. □ G/L.D.



**OPINION**

**ANTI-CRIME  
REWARD  
INITIATIVE  
PROPOSED**



I wish to propose an Island Wide Reward Initiative to aid the police department and the Island Prosecutor in the investigation and capture of all criminal elements that conspire to commit violent crimes against the citizens of Bonaire.

The plan is to offer a Reward for any person who provides written, documented testimony of information leading to the arrest and conviction of the suspected criminals in any future case of violent crime.

The victims of the attack must come forward to the public and file a proper police report, Process Verbal, and notify all the available Media Outlets of the details, including descriptions and sketches of the attackers, if they are able, of their unfortunate experience.

This Reward Initiative can be funded from private and business sources totally independent of any Government Agency or Foundation. I call on all the citizens of Bonaire to join together and contribute to this effort. I also ask all the business associations to request their membership to become actively involved in funding this project. The economic and social benefits to every segment of Bonairean Society will be

improved by this effort.

The Island Prosecutor should be the sole responsible person to make the decision as to the validity of a claim for a Reward payment in any active case investigation. The voluntary information given by any person to the Police or Prosecutor must be held confidential and can be anonymously provided by the witness, if necessary, for their own safety and peace of mind.

The objective of this Reward Initiative, in the spirit of "ASISTI SIN MIEDU," is to unite the people in all the barrios of Bonaire and empower them to have control over the criminals and bring them to full accountability for their crimes.

*Albert Bianculli*

**LETTER**

**APPLAUSE FOR SAFER  
DRIVING HABITS**

Dear Editor,

I would like to express my delight in the Letter in last publication regarding "The way we drive our kids" on Island

It is sad that it took a very tragic incident to put this issue in the spotlight where it belongs. Ten years ago I did an opinion piece where I emphasized the stupidity and wanton carelessness in the way I saw kids, even small kids, being transported.

**POLICE UPDATE**

**Police Hot Line -108**

**Police main line 717-8000**

**Public Prosecutor's Office- 717-8626**

The police union celebrated their 7<sup>th</sup> Lustrum this last weekend (a lustrum is five years, times seven it's 35 years) with a mass in Antriol and a celebration afterwards at police headquarters.

**Charles Souriel of the Police Department reports:**

- In connection with the arrests of the three suspects in the purse snatching via scooter reported

last week, the police found **about 12 stolen scooters and scooter parts** at the homes of the suspects. Everything was confiscated and is being held as evidence at police headquarters.

- As part of the Zero Tolerance pro-



**Confiscated scooters**

gram, the police made a **drug raid** on a house in Kaya Macario St. Jago last week and confiscated bolitas, 10 small plastic sacks of cocaine and 92 Ecstasy pills. Arrested were a female, B.J.F., 26 years and C.F., 28 years. □L.D.

- Sitting in the drivers lap
  - Sitting up front
  - Sitting in an unbelted carriage and seat
  - Hanging from a window
- There really should be a law against these habits but, if not, there is a need to educate the motoring public and

there is a need for constant monitoring. I hope through your paper that the others will follow suit and the other media forms radio, TV, etc, and that there will be some attention to increasing the awareness level in this matter.

*Gersham Binns*

# FORMA - For A Brighter Future

With the increase in local crime and drug trafficking on the island, it's sometimes difficult to realize that many local residents are working hard to make the future brighter for Bonaire. Some important ways to achieve these goals are by education and professional training. But how and where is it done?

The *Fundashon Formashon Pa Mañan* (FORMA), located on Kaya General C.M. Piar, was established some 12 years ago with the aim of helping the increasing number of high school dropouts to graduate with their high school equivalency diplomas and assist in furthering their education and giving them professions. Since his October 1<sup>st</sup> appointment as FORMA's Executive Director, Mirto Cecilia has been diligently working with the Antillean Department of Education, local businesses, as well as FORMA's sister organization, FEFFIK, in Curaçao to provide high quality training to the population of Bonaire. We all understand this well-known idealism: with more residents trained to hold high-level positions in local businesses, government and other organizations on the island, there will be fewer low income people. From there the snowball effect starts. With a smaller difference in incomes, a decline in crime rates will follow and so on. But can it be done? And how do we get

there? FORMA's aim addresses this question.

Most of FORMA's training is based on specific academic and professional needs - from basic reading and writing skills to language training to personal money management. FORMA provides technical training in carpentry, industrial painting, in the hotel and restaurant industry, and even windmill repair, just to name a few.

One major obstacle FORMA is facing, which is also a worldwide phenomenon, is the lack of encouragement given to young people to complete their education. Parent's passive reaction to their teenagers' not attending school on a regular basis is resulting in the Government's changing legislation and writing a new law making it mandatory for every child up to the age of 16 to attend school. If children are not attending school on a regular basis, the Government will levy a fine on the parents. The reality is that most teenagers would rather watch television than spend time in a classroom studying. The difference to them between preparing themselves for a good career or working at a minimal wage job is not that great right now, especially since they get paid at the end of the month anyway.

Whether today's teenagers will be able to afford decent housing and a decent lifestyle for their future families are not on a teenager's priority list... and should not be. Shouldn't it be the



*Skol di Bario graduating class*

parent's responsibility to look out for the welfare of their children? It is probably the hardest battle parents have to fight, but when parents win that battle their children should eventually realize how important that battle was to their welfare.

As with any successful enterprise, FORMA has modified its direction over the years to meet the professional and educational needs of Bonaire's residents. Often, FORMA is asked by local businesses to provide professional training to their employees. Some local business would rather upgrade their employees' skills than look for qualified foreign workers. Teachers for these courses either come from the island or from Curaçao.

Recently I had the opportunity to meet three recent FORMA graduates who took their educational training opportunities seriously. All three have completed their training in Skol di Bario (neighborhood school) and are all planning to start training with SEK's (the Department of Education) Basic



*Urveline Hart and Edmund H. L. Obispo, graduates*

School Teacher Training Program in January.

**Urveline Hart**, an intelligent young woman, attended the Skol di Bario program in order to achieve her dream of becoming a Basic School teacher. Urveline graduated from SGB last

*(Continued on page 7)*

(A Better Future? Continued from page 6) spring and decided to immediately continue her education via FORMA and SEK.

Also graduating was **Elmond H.L. Obispo**. Elmond decided he needed a career change after a 15-year stint in the hotel and restaurant industry. As with many adult learners, Elmond had to juggle his work responsibilities and his studies. In order to complete his training, Elmond had to constantly rush from work to his classes. But this did not stop him; he is now waiting for the next stage of his training with SEK.



*Gerlande Reine and her daughter*

Last, but not least, is **Gerlande Reine**. Gerlande, a stay-at-home mom, decided to return to school after a two-

year break. In addition to her joy of being around children, Gerlande decided to further her education through the Basic School Teacher's Program to be able to provide better opportunities to her child.

These are only highlights of the mix of students who decide to further their education through FORMA. All have a different past, but most of them are working towards the same goal. But will they stay on Bonaire after their education is completed? According to the Minister of Education, The Honorable Maritza Silberie, who herself taught at FORMA, to date no data has been collected concerning the whereabouts of graduates. However, the Minister stresses that there's been a trend in recent years that more and more students who have attended institutions of higher education in Europe are returning to the Antilles. In addition, more and more high school graduates are choosing higher education rather than technical training. As for our three recent graduates, only time will tell if they decide to assist our local youngsters in learning their ABCs.

The graduating rate of FORMA's students is a whopping 70%, with 60% of them able to find work quickly after graduating. These high percentages can only confirm the foundation's ability to quickly adapt their educational and professional training to the changing socio-economic needs of Bonaire.

FORMA is doing a really fine job □  
*Josée Bolduc Frosst* Photos by the author

## YOGA FOR YOU THE SOLUTION TO TENSION

*The pause at the end of the exhalation and the pause at the end of the inhalation is a special place where nothing happens or nothing seems to happen, yet the old air is traveling away and the new breath is ready to move in. In that space in between there is silence more than anything else, silence...and space.*

By Sandra Sabatini

“Tension” is, for most people, quite a vague condition, and there are almost as many feelings and descriptions regarding it as there are those who have experienced any type of discomfort or uneasiness. Tension is a tightness or a squeezing that occurs in the organism - mentally, emotionally and physically. If you observe yourself carefully when you next experience a “tense” condition you will become aware that there is a “tightness” occurring at the point of discomfort. We “squeeze” ourselves mentally and induce a headache. When we get “up tight” emotionally we feel uneasy. We can “contract” ourselves physically, and the result is a multitude of aches and pains. If you agree that squeezing, tightening and contracting are responsible for tension, then the relief of the condition would result from de-contracting or, in other words, letting go and relaxing. The procedure for “letting go,” as you observe the tensed muscles, is to calm your mind so that you can focus on your breath. Then, as you become aware of the pause at the end of the exhalation and the pause at the end of the inhalation, your muscles will relax. By repeating this self-observation process frequently you will be able to change the pattern and habits of tensed muscles so that they de-contrast when they're not being used.

This physical de-contraction, which we emphasize with yoga, not only frees a great amount of tied up energy but leads to emotional and mental relaxation.

Give change a chance, □ *Desirée*

*Don and Desirée of “Yoga For You” offer classes from beginners to advanced.*

*Call 717-2727 or 786-6416*



# PICTURE YOURSELF WITH THE REPORTER

IN

Milwaukee, Wisconsin



Carlos Rodriguez (left), of the Harbour Village Marina, brought along a copy of *The Bonaire Reporter* to the Harley Davidson 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Rally in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, last summer. Thanks to Carlos and his bike, Bonaire's flag was represented at the event! □

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

## ART EXPOSITION of MARJOLEIN FONSECA-VERHOEF

The works of artist Marjolein Fonseca-Verhoef were featured in an art exhibition at Capt. Don's Habitat last Saturday evening – a one-time event. Fonseca-Verhoef works in multiple medias – ceramics, wood, Plexiglas, wax and bronze - “depending on what I want to create,” she says. She's well known to many other artists on the island who have taken her classes in the past. Fonseca-Verhoef is the daughter of artist Marie Therese Verhoef-DePree. □L.D.



Artist Marjolein Fonseca-Verhoef



Orpheline Saleh of Maduro & Curiel's Bank presented a contribution of NAf10.000 to Domi Jan Jonkman who accepted on behalf of the Youth Center *Hubentut pa Kristu* in Rincon. □



## Fruitboat Burns

The Venezuelan fruit boat, *Zaeta II*, burned and sank after leaving the dock in Curaçao. Some two miles southwest of Caracasbaai there was an explosion on board. All seven crewmembers survived the explosion. One of them was injured and taken to the hospital. The Coast Guard received the distress call at 2:30 pm. Private boats, *Speedy* and *Toucan*, and the rescue boat from the oil platform in Caracasbaai all went to the rescue. The Coast Guard cutter *Jaguar* tried to extinguish the fire with its on-board equipment, but the vessel could not be saved. □



Amigoe photo

## Yacht Found

An Orion plane of the Coast Guard in Curaçao spotted an abandoned yacht 20 nautical miles west of Bonaire last Sunday. Curaçao's Citizens Rescue Service (CITRO) boats *Antje* and *Cornelis Zwaan* were called and towed the yacht *Mangusta* into port. It was registered in Road Harbour, Tortola, British Virgin Islands. It had been reported missing earlier this month by its insurance company. It apparently dragged anchor from Isla Gran Roque in Venezuela, over 150 miles east of Bonaire. □



Coast Guard photo



Apogee

## Relaxation for the Rich

Bonaire is frequently a refuge for the rich and famous, or even sometimes just the rich. How can you tell? Check out the mega yachts at Harbour Village Marina or the private jets at the airport. Last week there was one of each, and they belonged to the same person.

The private jet was an Airbus 319, just a step below the jets used by kings and presidents. And the yacht was the *Apogee*: 205' of luxury, the 11<sup>th</sup> largest private yacht in the world. Their owner is Darwin Deason, the former chairman of the board of Affiliated Computer Services in Texas.

The *Apogee* has a custom marble and mahogany interior, a captain and 16-member crew. It accommodates 12 guests and sports four decks with an air-conditioned gymnasium with Jacuzzi. If you want to charter it you will have to cough up \$320,000 a week.



Airbus-319

*Apogee* offers some interesting features spread out over its decks. There's an elevator that can take guests to the sundeck where they can work on their tans or work out in the gym. If someone is a good singer (or at least a legend in his/her own mind), the karaoke machine and Wurlitzer jukebox are sure to be big hits. If they like the water there are a 24' and 21' tenders, glass bottom kayaks, SCUBA and fishing gear.

### Statistics:

Built in 2003; by Codecasa in Italy of steel  
Engines: 2/2,260-hp Caterpillars  
Length: 205 feet  
Beam: 37 feet

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

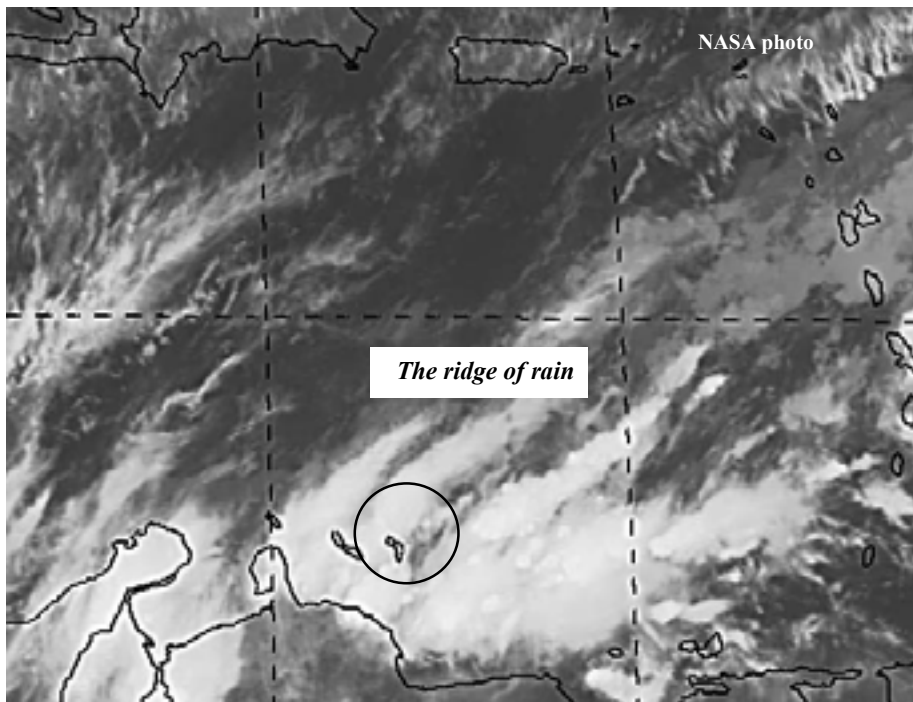
Remember: Winds and weather can further influence the local tides

DATE	TIME	HEIGHT	COEF
11-26	12:17	2.0FT.	81
11-27	12:52	2.0FT.	82
11-28	13:29	2.0FT.	80
11-29	0:20	0.7FT.	77
11-30	0:59	0.7FT.	72
12-01	1:29	0.7FT.	66
12-02	1:55	0.8FT.	59
12-03	2:13	0.8FT.	52

### VESSELS MAKING A PORT CALL:

Adagio	Flying Cloud, USA	Pura Vida
Afterglow	Gatsby, USA	Sagittarius, Aruba
Angie	Grey Lady	Sandpiper, USA
Alegria, USA	Guaicamar I, Venezuela.	Santa Maria, Sweden
Aleuya	Honalee, USA	Scintilla, Germany
Bingo	Ishmael	Sirius
Bright Sea	Lady Alice	Sylvia K
Camissa, Chan Is.	Luna C. USA	Sylvester
Cape Kathryn	Makai	Ta-B
Cerevela	Maggi	Ti Amo, USA
Cintra	Michelle	Tsih
Clemencia	Moon Rice	Tutu
Dallia	Natural Selection, USA	Tween, Netherlands
Delphinus	Ocean Breezes	Ulu Ulu, USA
Da Capo	One Way Wind	Unicorn, Norway
Destiny	Odetta	Varedhuni, Germany
Dolphin Street	Panta Five	Ventura II, Costa Rica
Dream Catcher, I USA	Papillon	Windmiller, Canada
Dulcinea	Precocious Gale, USA	Ya-T, BVI
Fan-Fan	Promesa	Zahi, Malta

# WHEN WILL IT STOP? It's a real rainy rainy season



**B**onaire had a taste of weather that affected most of the other Caribbean islands during the rainy season. Seemingly unending rain, very heavy at times, drenched the island last week. It was preceded by two weeks of showers which had already saturated the soil. Beginning Tuesday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, torrential downpours began at a rate measured at 1½ inches (3.8 cm) per hour. Before the rain let up on Friday another foot (30 cm.) had fallen. The average annual rainfall

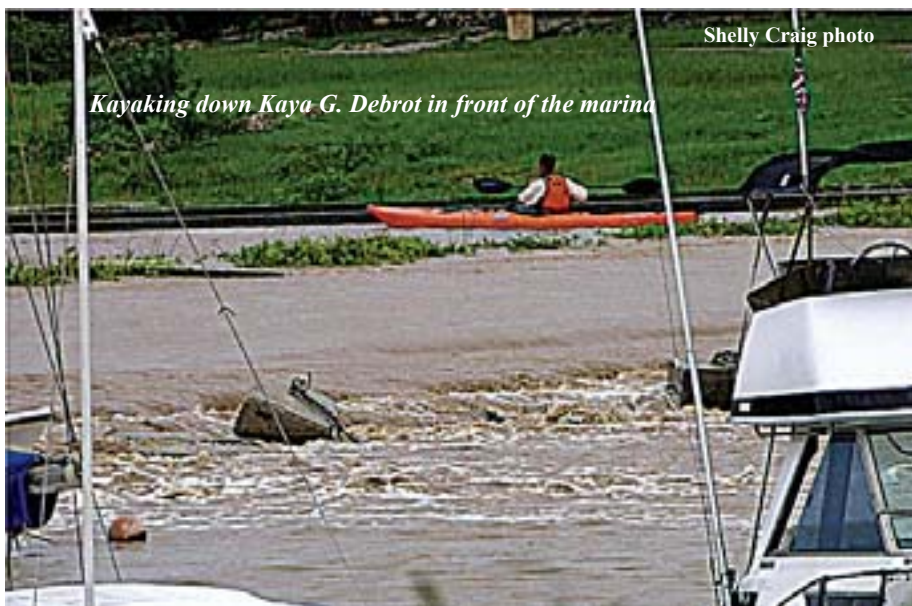
in Bonaire is 16-21 inches (40-51 cm.). As a result of the rain, parts of the island resemble a tropical rain forest and the view from the air is of a sea of green.

The cause was a long ridge of rain clouds that covered the southern Caribbean from Colombia to the Windward Islands. The heaviest clouds were over the ABC islands. Fortunately there wasn't much wind to uproot trees in the softened earth. On Friday the ridge moved just north of the islands providing some relief, but sprinkles continued. Old

timers said it was the longest spell of heavy rain they could recall.

At the airport 8.3 cm. (3.3 inches) was officially recorded on Tuesday; the highest rainfall registered in the ABC islands during the period. Lt. Governor Herbert Domacassé had already closed down the schools "for safety reasons." Many roads were blocked including the main road to Rincon from Kralendijk. Some roads to kunukus were accessible only by 4-WD vehicles; others were impassible because they

*(Continued on page 11)*



**A**fter recent heavy rains, the people of Bonaire have been seeing a species they rarely observe. Here are local residents, Annie and Dee, fighting to save family pets from the elusive Garden Shark (in foreground). The photographer's electricity was unfortunately lost in the savage attack.. □



(When will it stop? Continued from page 10) were under several feet of water. Most of the island's houses experienced leaks and minor flooding.

People were affected in much the same way northerners are by a snow-storm. They remained in their homes, had trouble with dripping roofs, and most enjoyed the spectacle of rivers and waterfalls that are usually foreign to the island.

People living on kunukus ran out of power as there was no wind for the windmills or sunlight for the solar panels. Landline telephones were unreliable and cell phone circuits were jammed. Non-diving tourists were disappointed by the lack of sunshine, however, diving activities, for the most part, continued normally. Boats filled with water and swamped. Laundry mounted up as nothing would dry. Wood swelled and doors and windows jammed. There was some fun. We spotted five youngsters on windsurfers in the middle of the street in a Kralendijk neighborhood. The power company, WEB, is to be commended for maintaining service throughout the period for most of its customers.

DROB, the Department of Highways and the Environment, has estimated that it will cost NAf10 million to repair the island's roads as a result of the rain and flood damage.

We recall that Bonaire voted for closer ties with The Netherlands in the recently completed Referendum. But we don't think that we voted for Dutch weather as well. □ *G.D. -Thanks to Marcia Latham for rainfall statistics.*

## THE BONAIRE GARDNER

This week's article was supposed to be about more Jasmine varieties, but being up-to-date as we are, of course I will write about these past days of heavy rainfall.

If you read my stories on a regular basis, you know that I'm a big fan of rainfall, but recently a lot of people are asking me whether I'm happy now! The amount of rainfall has been so unusually much that it creates more damage that it does good. As *The Reporter* mentioned last week, if the changing of the climate means that we'll have this much rainfall, then we should be able to produce a lot more vegetables and fruits on Bonaire in the future, and it would change the natural vegetation big time. Most of the problems caused by these last heavy rains are soil erosion and pieces of gardens completely washed away.

And another thing that has happened a lot is that plants have gotten so heavy now that in the wet soil they just fall over. If they are big trees, there is nothing you can do. But if they're shrubs like Bougainvillea or Ixoras, which don't have strong root systems, they'll fall over easily. The thing to do is to cut them way back and just ease them back into the soil. Put a nice ridge of *diabaas* around them and maybe stake them for a few weeks. Make sure when it is not raining any more that they get sufficient water. They will come back in no time.

When it stops raining is an excellent

time for serious pruning. Also if you want to avoid further damage in the next weeks, pruning is a good idea. Plants are growing really fast now, and that is not good when it gets sunny again because the plants will be too vulnerable to drying out. So if you have some delicate plants that have been growing like crazy, don't hesitate to cut them back a bit. Also this really strong growth doesn't bring any flowers, so pruning is a good idea for flowering shrubs as well.

Maybe you think that I've lost my mind, but you should also keep watch over the watering of the garden! After being spoiled so much, if it stops raining now, during the next two weeks you have to watch for any sign of drought and provide your plants with a little bit of water. It's also because they are really spoiled now too, and, like I've said, have been growing like crazy and have a lot of new fresh green growth.

The last tip that I want to give is don't start working with soil like *diabaas*, the local dirt, too soon. If you work with it while it is still muddy, then when it dries out it will get hard as a rock. Maybe it won't be as bad when it is done by hand, but please be careful with any machinery on the ground that you want to use for plants.

But I personally think that when we have our sun back for a few days, Bonaire will never be as beautiful as in the



next coming months. And so will your garden, if you keep these precautions in mind.

Good luck to everybody, especially those of you who have had some damage from the rains. □ *Ap van Eldik*

*Ap van Eldik* owns Green Label Landscaping, a company that designs, constructs and maintains residential and commercial gardens. He has two nurseries and a garden shop in Kralendijk which carries terra cotta pots from Mexico and South America. Phone 717-3410. **NOW OPEN SATURDAYS, NON-STOP 9 TO 4.**

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Commercial ads are only NAf0.70 per word, per week. Free ads run for 2 weeks.  
Call or fax *The Bonaire Reporter* at 717-8988 e-mail ads@bonairereporter.com**



**JanArt Gallery**, Kaya Gloria 7, Bonaire Local Art, Art Supplies, Framing, and Art Classes. Open Tu-We-Th & Sat 10 am- 5 pm Friday 1- 7 pm; or phone 717-5246 for appt.



**BonaireNet is the leading consumer and business information source on Bonaire.** Telephone (599) 717-7160. For on-line yellow pages directory information go to <http://www.yellowpagesbonaire.com>



**PSYCHOLOGY PRACTICE BONAIRE.** Consultation, Supervision, Hypnotherapy, Psychotherapy **Drs. Johan de Korte, Psychologist, Phone: 717-6919**



**CAPT. DON'S ISLAND GROWER** Trees and Plants, Bonaire grown. 8000m<sup>2</sup> of plants and nursery. Specializing in garden/septic pumps and irrigation. Kaminda Lagoen 103, Island Growers NV (Capt. Don and Janet). **Phone: 786-0956 or 787-0956**



**LUNCH TO GO-** Starting from NAf5 per meal. Call **CHINA NOBO 717-8981**

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**CATS: LOST**

**LOST CAT** Betty, a white cat with some pale brown markings on her face and body. Missing since Saturday night, November 20. She was last seen at her home next to Yacht Club Apartments. Please call 786-3134 or 786-5072. **Reward**



**WANTED**

**Wanted 20 ft aluminum container.** Tel. 717-2727

**Toyota truck** wanted to buy- 1996 or newer. Email nb318@hotmail.com

**2-3 bedroom house** needed for 8 weeks commencing early Jan. Pool or seawiew. Call 786-5072

**2-3 bedroom house** needed Jan.5-June 5. On-island references available. Email tysonpoor@hotmail.com

**BOATS & ENGINES for SALE**

**Classic Sailor** Traditional **Bonairean Sailing sloop.** Wood, traditional construction, about 21' long. Fiberglassed in and out for minimal maintenance. Two time winner of Bonaire Regatta, Class A. A dream to sail. Bargain at NAf9,999. One of the last of its kind. Call **717-8988 or 785-6125.**



**PROPERTY FOR RENT**

Home available for rent, stunning views, Santa Barbara/Republiek area. Very safe neighborhood. Furnished. 3 bed/2 bath. \$700 US per month excluding utilities. Will consider month to month or vacation rental. [eginocchio@comcast.net](mailto:eginocchio@comcast.net).

**For Rent:** Comfortable 2-bedroom beach villa-weekly or monthly-choice location-Privacy & security- July 15 to Jan 15-Brochure available-Phone (Bon) (599) 717 3293-or (US) (570)-586 0098-e/mail [larjaytee@aol.com](mailto:larjaytee@aol.com)

**FOR SALE**

**HP Notebook Computer** model: ze5400. P4(2.4Ghz), 40GB, 512 MB, Wireless e-card. Almost brand new, carrying case included, 1700\$(US). **Info: 785-7425** after 3 pm.

**1996 Mitsubishi Lancer.** 60K miles, 4-Cyl. Very good condition. Asking \$5,200. Call **791-6009** after 3 pm.

**Toyota Corolla XL Station wagon,** red, 1995, no damage, 100% technical, all garage reports, 2<sup>nd</sup> owner call **717-6907 or 565-5225.** Asking price NAf6.500

**Computer Printer- HP Deskjet 695-** Black ink includes two full ink cartridges, NAf100. Call **717-2225**

**Compaq Laptop Model: 2190US,** Intel Celeron 2.4Ghz, 768MB RAM, ATI Radeon 64MB Video, 40GB Hard Drive, 15" Screen, DVD/CD-R, Modem, Ethernet, Wireless PC Card, Video out, 2 USB, WinXPSP2. Price: NAf2100. **Phone: 786-2388**

**COMMUNICATION WORKSHOP**

"He (or she) doesn't listen;" "He doesn't understand me;" or "She's an idiot" are often heard reactions. We tend to blame and judge the other person. Not only is miscommunication frustrating, it's also destructive to relationships- at home, at work and among friends. Speaking the same mother tongue does not mean that you speak the same language! True communication occurs when someone else understands your message and intent. But we're usually so concerned with WHAT we are saying (Content) that we forget about HOW we communicate (Style). More than 70% of all conflicts, arguments and miscommunication are a result of people communicating in different styles (and not knowing it!). Do you want to find out more on HOW you communicate, and HOW to better un-

derstand your partner or friend? Sign up for this one-evening workshop.

As it is most fun to do this training together with the person you communicate with most, we invite you to bring your partner, boss, child or friend.

The fee is NAf40 a person, but if you bring your friend, you both only pay NAf35. If you have already registered for "The Female within You" course, you only pay NAf25, and NAf25 for your friend! Of course there will a continuous flow of coffee/tea and water. Materials are included.

The training will take place Tuesday, November, 30<sup>th</sup> from 19:00 to 23:30 hours.

You can register by sending an email to [info@birgitvoogt.nl](mailto:info@birgitvoogt.nl) or [annemiek@telbonet.an](mailto:annemiek@telbonet.an). We will send you further details regarding payment and location. □ *Annemiek le Noble*

We will send you further details regarding payment and location. □ *Annemiek le Noble*



## RESTAURANT MUSICAL CHAIRS

Over the last six months it's been pretty extraordinary to see how many local restaurants have opened, while others have closed, changed ownership or relocated. This phenomenon has some experts in the field remarking that there seems to be a sort of musical chairs for restaurant owners going on. Some investigation shows that the reasons are fairly diverse.



Ex-De Tuin Restaurant

To begin with, the local bar and restaurant trade has experienced some rough times. Tourism numbers were under pressure after the close passing of Hurricane Lenny in 1999. Traveling habits were affected by the terrorism attack of September 11<sup>th</sup>. Last, but definitely not least, tourism was affected by the experience of crime and the reporting of it on the Internet.

Most restaurants held their ground and were somewhat reluctant to invest, but, according to a survey of the Statistics Bureau, investors' confidence was on the rise after a few years of decline. Those that did not survive were taken over by local entrepreneurs or European investors with strong Euros in their pockets. Then there were also some that chose to change location in hopes of an improvement in their business. Finally there is number that opened in a location that was previously not destined as restaurant location.

If we look at the situation as it evolved

we see that, beginning at the north end of the island, the first change will happen at the beginning of next year. On the spot that used to be the *Den Laman* restaurant of the late Shon Ma Rijna construction is very advanced on a building with 16 apartments and a restaurant on the ground floor. The owner is Sietse de Jong, who will keep the name Den Laman for now.

Continuing south we note that recently the well-known Bonairean, Lucille Martijn, took over the main restaurant at the Harbour Village resort. She therefore closed *Chez Lucille* on Kaya C.E.B. Hellmund. The old location, Hausmann's Folly, will probably not reopen as a restaurant.

Staying in the Harbour Village complex we see that the *Lighthouse Restaurant* closed its doors after what appears to be a conflict between the operator and the landlord. The operators, Wil and Sue Heemskerck, quickly saw a chance when *De Tuin* was closed down by creditors

after seven years. Before Christmas we can look forward to their restaurant reopening as *Wil's Tropical Grill*.

Continuing south on Kaya Gobernador Debrot, Mr. Patric Ranou's *Bistro de Paris* has newly opened. This French chef was formerly employed as head chef at Plaza Resort and is now his own boss. This establishment was up to then a family dwelling. *Bistro de Paris* has already begun to receive some compliments on the Bonaire newsgroups.

Turning right after *Bistro de Paris* we



Ex-Lighthouse Restaurant.

get on Kaya Kachi Kraane. After a while the seasoned (no pun intended) diner will notice that the sign that used to read *Amadeus* has been replaced by *Guernica*. A long feud between the renter and licenseholder, which ended up in court, led to this.

Without wasting too much time, the renter, Mr. Rien de Nijs, opened *Brasserie Bonaire* in the Royal Palm Shopping Mall. This place specializes in French

baguettes.

The aforementioned *Guernica*, named after Pablo Picasso's famous painting lamenting the bombing of this little Spanish town by the Germans, illustrating the horrors of modern warfare, opened its doors, serving delicious tapas.

Going inland after *Guernica* we drive by *Little Havana*, soon to be changed to *Havana* with one "N," according to owners Anton and Piek, as they weren't paying attention to the painter. Well, the paint wasn't really dry after it covered the name it formerly had, *De Admiraal*.

All right, heading in the same direction, we go by the *Rendez-Vous*, where ownership has changed, albeit a little while longer. The new owner is Mr. Manfred Terweel.

Before heading back to the seaside we see what used to be *De Tuin*, as already mentioned. In a way also related to this story is the fact that its owners opened *Mai-Mai* last year on Kaya C.E.B. Hellmund in a former video-rental store.

Once back on Kaya Kachi Kraane we soon notice a brand new structure built by and in the style of the South American Indians. It's soon to be opened as a joint venture of *City Café* and *It Rains Fishes*. Not much is known yet about their menu.

Finally we get the popular *Casablanca*. The musical chairs started here a few weeks ago too. Again a disagreement between landlord and the renter caused this place to change only **one** street number before the music stopped again. Changing this dwelling into a restaurant location is going full speed and should be finished soon.

The only question now is: Who is going to turn on the music again and fill the empty spot that *Casablanca* left behind?

□ *Restaurant Raconteur*

## PET of the WEEK

Now here is a very special dog. His name is "Sneeuw," which means snow in Dutch. He has such a good character and such a kind disposition that the Shelter staff thought he'd get along well in a kennel with a group of puppies. It's true. Everyone gets along very well. If the puppies get too rambunctious Sneeuw just shows his teeth, but just slightly, to let them know they've gone too far. What a mellow boy he is. His owner left the island and brought him to the Shelter. One wonders how someone can give up such a fine dog with such a lot of substance and deep character. Sneeuw is two years old; he's castrated, has had his shots and is in perfect health. If you'd really like to have a fine dog as a companion, stop by the Shelter and meet Sneeuw. The Shelter, on the Lagoen Road, is open Monday through Fridays, 10 am to 2 pm, Saturdays until 1. Tel. 717-4989.

Wonder why the dogs at the Bonaire Animal Shelter are not barking madly

and causing all sorts of ruckus? It's because all the males have been sterilized, and there are no dogs jumping fences and carrying on, chasing after females in heat.

These dogs, without the pressure of having to mate at every moment, can relax and be their own selves and develop their own individual personalities. Stop by for a visit; you'll understand what we're saying. □L.D.



# WHAT'S HAPPENING

## WEEKLY MOVIE SHOWTIMES

**New! Usually 9:00 pm**  
**The Forgotten**  
**(Julianne Moore)**

**Early Show (usually 7pm)**  
**Wimbledon**

**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 Shark Tale**  
**SUNDAY MATINEE 4 PM**  
**Ladder 49**

### THIS WEEK

**Thursday, November 25 – American Thanksgiving**

**Saturday, November 27—Sint Nicolaas arrives in Bonaire**, Wilhelmina Park, 9 pm (See Flotsam, page 2)

**Saturday, November 27—Opening Gallery Show artist- Renate v.d. Byl**, Cinnamon Art Gallery. Until January 5

**Saturday, November 27-Surinam Festivities**, Jong Bonaire

**Saturday, Sunday, November 27, 28 – The Female in You (in English)** See article last week

**Tuesday, November 30<sup>th</sup>, Communication Workshop**, from 7 to 11:30 pm . See story on page 12

**Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Dec. 2, 3, 4 -The Female in You (Dutch)** See article last week

**Arts and Crafts Markets at Wilhelmina Park on Cruise Ship Visiting Days:** Monday, Nov. 29 - *Oceana & Veendam*

### COMING

**Saturday & Sunday, December 11 & 12 Round Bonaire 2-day walk** 44/41 km. 717-8629

### EVERY WEEK

**Sunday** -Live music 6 to 9 pm while enjoying a great dinner in colorful tropical ambiance at the **Chibi Chibi Restaurant & Bar**. Open daily 5 to 10 pm. Live **Fla-Bingo** with great prizes, starts 7 pm, Divi Flamingo

**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 on Time Sharing and how to save on your next vacation. 6:15 to 7 pm  
**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 -Meditation at Donkey Beach** from 7:30 to 8:30 pm. Open to all. Call S.H.Y. 790-9450

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

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

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

**Saturdays Rincon Marshé opens at 6 am - 2 pm**. Enjoy a Bonairean breakfast while you shop: fresh fruits and vegetables, gifts, local sweets and snacks, arts and handicrafts, candles, incense, drinks

and music. [www.infobonaire.com/rincon](http://www.infobonaire.com/rincon)

**Every day by appointment -Rooi**

**Lamoenchi Kunuku Park Tours** Bonairean kunuku. \$12 (NAf12 for Bonaire residents). Tel 717-8489, 540-9800.

**Daily-** The Divi Flamingo Casino is open daily for hot slot machines, roulette and black jack, Monday to Saturday 8 pm– 4 am and Sunday 7 pm– 3 am.

### FREE SLIDE/VIDEO SHOWS

**Saturday- Discover Our Diversity Slide Show**, pool bar Buddy Dive, 7 pm 717-5080

**Sunday - Bonaire Holiday** -Multi-media dual-projector production by Albert Bianculli, 8.30 pm, Capt. Don's Habitat, 717-8290

**Monday Dee Scarr's Touch the Sea** slide experience at the Aquarius Conference Center, Captain Don's Habitat, 8:30 – 9:30 pm.

**Wednesday (2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>) Turtle Conservation Slide Show** by Andy Uhr. Carib Inn seaside veranda, 7 pm

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

### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

**Bonaire Arts and Crafts (Fundashon Arte Industrial Bonieriano)** 717-5246 or 717-7117

**The Bonaire Swim Club-** Contact Valarie Stimpson at 785-3451 or Valrie@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, 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

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

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 popular musicians.

**Rincon Marshé-** every Saturday - 6 am to 3 pm. Open market in Bonaire's historic town. **Soldachi Tours show you the Rincon area . Alta Mira**

**Nature Walking Tour at 6:30 am.**

**Town Walking tour at 9:30, Bus Tour at 10.** Call Maria at 717-6435 to reserve.

### CHURCH SERVICES

**International Bible Church of Bonaire** – Kaya Amsterdam 3 (near the traffic circle)  
**Sunday Services at 9 am; Sunday Prayer Meeting at 7:00 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 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. 525	Moderate. Breakfast and Lunch Dinner during Theme nights only. Open every day	<b>Magnificent Theme Nights:</b> Ssaturday: Beach Grill; Wednesday: Mexican Night; Friday: Manager's Rum Punch Party and All-You-Can-Eat B.B.Q
<b>Bistro de Paris</b> Kaya Gob. N. Debrot 46 (half-way between hotel row and town) 717-7070	Moderate Lunch and Dinner Closed Sunday	<b>Real French Cooking</b> in an informal setting Superb dishes prepared with care and love French chef Owner-operated Eat in or Take away
<b>Calabas Restaurant &amp; Chibi Chibi Restaurant and Bar</b> At the Divi Flamingo Beach Resort. Waterfront 717-8285	Moderate-Expensive Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner Open 7 days	Get a view of the beach and turquoise setting when enjoying a breakfast buffet or a la carte lunch and dinner at the 'Chibi Chibi' restaurant & bar. Inspiring vistas and the highest standard of cuisine.
<b>Caribbean Club Bonaire at Hilltop</b> 717-7901	Kitchen open 10 am for salads and sandwiches. Reasonably priced dinners Closed Sunday	What a place! Friendly bar next to the pool, home cooked meals, happy hours 5 to 7.
<b>Crocantino Italian Restaurant</b> Downtown at Kaya Grandi 48 717-5025	Moderate-Expensive Dinner Closed Monday	Tuscan chef prepares exquisite dishes. Authentic ingredients and romantic setting make dining a delight. Be served in a garden setting under floating umbrellas or in air-conditioned comfort. Take out too.
<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>The Last Bite Bakery</b> Home Delivery or Take Out 717-3293	Low-Moderate Orders taken 8 am-4 pm; Deliveries 6-7:30 pm, 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 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>Nonchi's at Cultimara</b> 791-4280	Low Open 5 am-8 pm Monday-Saturday	Delicious local and international food to take out or eat there. Everyday a different combo. Sandwiches and roast chicken too. Lunch from NA/6,50
<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



# SHOPPING GUIDE

See advertisements in this issue



## AIRLINES

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

## APPLIANCES/FURNITURE/COMPUTERS

**City Shop** is Bonaire's mega-store for TV, Stereos, Air conditioning, large and small kitchen appliances, computers. 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. Have your keys made here.

## 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.

## CELL PHONES

**Cellular One** - Special Offer -Free calls to other Cellular One phones on the weekend. Buy NA/300 worth of calls and get a free Nokia or Motorola cell phone.

## CLEANING SERVICE

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

## 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 AND SOUVENIRS

**The Bonaire Gift Shop** has a wide selection of gifts, souvenirs, liquor, dive watches, digital cameras, things for the home, T-shirts all at low prices.

## GOVERNMENT PAPERWORK HELP

**JuliMar** assists with the paperwork and procedures needed to obtain permits, citizenship, residency and more. Experienced in Immigration matters.

## HOTELS

**Caribbean Club Bonaire** is in a tranquil setting at Hilltop, adjacent to Oil Slick Leap dive site. Cool breezes, fresh water pool, cozy bar and restaurant.

**Golden Reef Inn** is the affordable alternative with fully equipped studio apartments in a quiet Bonaire neighborhood. Just a 3-minute walk to diving and the sea.

## 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.

## SAILING

**Woodwind** has it all: Smooth trimaran sailing, to Klein Bonaire, affordable prices, snorkeling with equipment, guide, drinks, snacks. Call 560-7055

## SECURITY

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

## SHIPPING

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

## SPA—DAY SPAS

**Face and Body Day Spa** offers the ultimate in advanced beauty treatments, facials and massage. Call 717-2622

**Intermezzo Day Spa** at Captain Don's Habitat is the newest of this ABC island chain of elegant spas. Now offering seaside massages and facials.

## 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.

## WATER TAXI

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

## WINES

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

## YOGA

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

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



## Janice Huckaby

**T**he first time was in 1982 when I came as a diver for one week and I saw nothing but underwater Bonaire and the Flamingo Beach Hotel. We came to check out the island, and after we got back I told the dive club it was a beautiful place, but I didn't return. I remember standing in front of Flamingo Beach looking down the main street and it reminded me of West Texas - nothing but dust and tumbleweeds.

I was born in Port Arthur, Texas. I have two brothers and one sister who passed away. I lived in Houston and Dallas, working as a costume designer for Renaissance fairs and stage productions. And, as a passionate hobby, I was teaching diving and traveling to different destinations in the Caribbean.

In 1987 I decided that I couldn't handle another year of cold water and new students so I sent my résumé to Grand Cayman. I'd been there; it was livable and easy to get to. When I was hired I sold all of my costume equipment and bought underwater cameras. The first year in Grand Cayman I taught diving; then I opened my own underwater photography center. I'd always done land photography, and I love nature, so it went hand in hand with underwater photography.

After four years I had a job offer to run an underwater photography center at the Flamingo Beach Hotel in Bonaire. I was perfectly happy in Grand Cayman, except... it was starting to grow; tourism was overwhelming; and cruise ships were everywhere. The diving was just beautiful, but it was hard to get to the locations because of the traffic!

I was honored that I'd been asked to fill this position in Bonaire because at that time it was the biggest and best photo center in the Caribbean. So, again I came for a week and I said, 'Why not try it for one year?' I put the business in Grand Cayman up for sale and it sold quickly.

The first six months here were really difficult; it was hard to enjoy my life after work. In Grand Cayman I was involved every day in a little theatre. I acted, painting props and I designed the costumes, and on the weekends I played beach volleyball. On Bonaire I didn't know anybody, and starting over with new friends and new activities was a little difficult, but after one year I felt very much at home.

The big difference was the Antillean people. In the mornings I would walk from one end of the hotel to the other

and I was greeted by everybody who was working there; all called me by name. That was so special. After the first year I said, 'I'll sign another contract for a year with the hotel,' and then time began to pass very quickly. I spent my extra time in the darkroom processing all the wonderful pictures I was taking of Bonaire - on land and underwater. It was my new art medium, and I was doing it full time, night and day. I was a maniac!" *She laughs:* "I was still single! If a photograph really touched me, I would paint it, and at some point I was painting more and more underwater pictures. In 1995 I built my house in Antriol. That was my turning point; that's when I knew I was in."

*Janice Huckaby radiates harmony; she makes you feel better. With her long blond hair, her blue eyes and her kind ways she's somehow some sort of a real-life fairy. Her paintings are professionally displayed in the living room and the kitchen, but still, it's a house, not only a gallery. It's a mixture of peace and beauty and real life.*

**"The big difference was the Antillean people. In the mornings I would walk from one end of the hotel to the other and I was greeted by everybody who was working there; all called me by name."**

"A year after I built my house I decided it was time to start my own business with the art from the house. Hilde Nahr had been really helpful and had been selling my art at the Harmony Gallery in town, but when she closed I opened here full time. Now I paint Bonaire. I paint the land, I paint people's portraits and I paint the underwater world. I teach art classes to children and adults and I feel life has been very good to me.

All these years I've been single, and then I met Larry on July 1<sup>st</sup> 2000. It was love at first sight; there's no other way to put it. We had nine months of dating. He'd come to Bonaire, having left Canada looking for a new adventure, and," *she smiles sweetly,* "I knew exactly what I wanted. So now we've been together for four years! We met at City Café, on Dia di Arte. I had my exhibit at Wilhelmina Park and I was just taking a quick break. I'd seen him three

days before at a glance, the second day at a glance, and the third day it's your lucky charm! He had been here for a year but we'd never met before! Life, to me, brings you twists and turns and you choose a path to follow in these intersections and hope for the best. I've been very fortunate and meeting Larry just made it complete.

As long as I can remember I've admired *National Geographic* photographers and I thought if I could ever dream of a lifestyle working with nature and sharing it with other people it would be perfect. And that's what I am doing now. I love nature and I love to share. I feel that my art is a record of history for this island; I paint my impression of reality. My paintings are of specific places and my newest painting is a dive site called 'Country Garden.' I've painted the land as it is and the underwater corals as they are at that location. I pick the fish photographs that I've taken to paint those fish in their natural habitat. So, the years of being in the water gives me the knowledge to put together these paintings in a realistic way. It gives me so much perspective on what it should look like in the painting. Then when people walk in and say: 'It looks just like Bonaire!' I smile real big!

The island changes every hour: the colors, the way you see the land and the way nature reacts. Iguanas, goats and donkeys: they all have their specific times to show up. For me you could never be bored with the scenery. I see many different paintings during the course of a day. I would like to stay here forever..." *She goes inside and comes back accompanied by two big, beautiful, clean and healthy looking dogs.* "These are my little girls. My



Larry Bailie and Janice Huckaby

children have four legs each," *she says.*

*Then she puts an underwater picture of Baselio Marin (see last week's Bonaire Reporter for a story about Baselio) on the table and looks at it.* "I'm working on this very special painting. His daughter, who lives in Holland, gave me the assignment. Baselio and I worked together at Flamingo Beach. This is very special to me and it means a lot to me to be able to paint this for the family since he was my friend also." *Carefully she puts the picture aside and continues:* "I feel everyone is born with a natural talent and to be able to use your talent, I think, brings out the happiness and the joy. That's my philosophy." *She blinks:* "You have to work on it though, very hard! I'm still growing and always learning, but the more you work on it, the more you're open to it. I have a career that I have a passion for, that I love, and the insight into the ideas keep coming. I feel that I have a real purpose here to paint Bonaire and there's nothing better than knowing your life has purpose..." □

Greta Kooistra



Greta Kooistra

## AIRPORT VIP ROOM OPENING SOON



Flamingo Airport's VIP lounge is getting closer to opening. A preview (soft opening) was provided last week. Pictured are KLM consultant Co deKoning; Moreno Binelli, operator of

the VIP lounge; Kees Storm, Chairman of the Supervisory Board; and Cedric Jonis, KLM Service Manager, Bonaire. A grand opening is planned later this week. □

## TURTLE TRAVELS



'STINAPA', our female Green turtle, turned to the west once again (See map), moving past San Andres island, and has entered a shallow shelf that is known as a good habitat for Green turtles. Earlier this year, 'Extra', a female Loggerhead, returned just to the north of the same general area. Yesterday, 'STINAPA' covered over 80 km and is currently 1,540 km from Bonaire.

A Hawksbill turtle nesting on No Name Beach, Klein Bonaire, was fitted with a satellite transmitter Monday night by a team from Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire (STCB). This is the fourth turtle to be tracked during the current nesting season and the second Hawksbill, after 'Tom' the male Hawksbill was tracked moving towards the northeast Caribbean earlier.

A field team consisting of Hanny Kalk, Gijs Hoogerkamp, Andy Uhr (volunteers and STCB webmasters), Gielmon Egbreghts and Robert van Dam (STCB staff) and others, set out Monday night to monitor No Name Beach for nesting activity. Around 8:20 pm a large Hawksbill turtle was found digging a nesting hole on the beach. She soon began laying eggs and was then measured (92.3 cm curved carapace length) and tagged on her front flippers. After completing her nest, the approximately 65 kg animal was intercepted by the team and a transmitter applied to the top of her carapace. At 10:45 pm the Hawksbill turtle was released and she quickly departed into the sea. We expect her to start migrating towards her feeding habitat soon. More details in the next edition. □

Andy Uhr



# BONAIRE SKY PARK\*

\*to find it, just look up

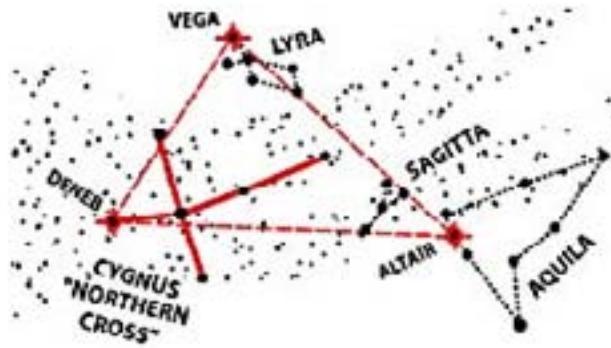
## A Full Beaver Moon and Three Cosmic Birds for Thanksgiving Weekend

This weekend is the long Thanksgiving holiday in America which marks the start of the pre-tourist season preparations on Bonaire. Cosmically speaking, in addition to the turkey on some tables, we'll have our annual three cosmic birds in the sky, which you can see after Thanksgiving dinner. Plus this year an exquisite full Moon called the **Beaver Moon** will light up our weekend.

On any clear night this week at about 7 pm Sky Park time, face west and if you look high above the horizon you will see the three bright stars which, if we connect by lines, make up what is officially called the **Summer Triangle**, but which every November I unofficially call the **Thanksgiving poultry triangle**. You see, historically these stars have been associated with cosmic birds. The highest star is **Deneb**, the bright tail star in **Cygnus the Swan**. So in addition to our Thanksgiving turkey we have a heavenly swan to be thankful for. The bright star farthest to the left, **Altair**, is the brightest star in **Aquila the Eagle**. And the brightest of the three stars and closest to the northwest horizon is **Vega**, the brightest star of **Lyra the Harp**, which, strange as it may sound, has had more feathery incarnations than the other two put together. You see, Lyra was not always a harp.

In fact long ago before it became a lyre it was a cosmic turtle, but before it was a cosmic turtle it was a bird of one sort or other. Ancient records tell us that Lyra's association with birds goes back over 2,000 years. In ancient India, Lyra was seen as a heavenly vulture. But when Babylonian kings and their queens strolled through the hanging gardens of Babylon they looked up and identified Lyra as their great mythological bird of storms, Urakhga. And later, as desert caravans wandered across ancient Arabia, people looked up and referred to Lyra as either the swooping desert eagle or, would you believe, a cosmic goose which in my estimation is a bit more tasty for anyone's Thanksgiving dinner. It was also once known as a great osprey and at another time as a wood falcon. Anyone for a wood falcon or osprey drumstick? At any rate, only in the past couple of hundred years or so have we in the west seen Lyra exclusively as a lyre, a small harp. In fact during the 18th century these stars were still seen as a bird, an eagle, but with a lyre in its beak. So perhaps we should play lyre music after Thanksgiving dinner?

At any rate, this weekend after you've had turkey up to here why not step outside just after dinner and look for some birds of a different feather. And thank the heavens above you'll never get them in your leftovers. But if you've had it with birds altogether then simply turn east just after sunset and you'll see the exquisite full **Moon of November**, also called the **Beaver Moon**, which will light up your entire Thanksgiving weekend. □ *Jack Horkhimer*



# THE STARS HAVE IT

For the week:  
**Nov. 26-Dec. 3, 2004**  
By Astrologer Michael Thiessen

**ARIES** (Mar. 21- April 20) Someone you live with may feel totally neglected. You should expect to have changes in your home. You can make money through solid investment plans. Try to accommodate them without infringing on your own responsibilities. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

**TAURUS** (Apr. 21- May 21) Don't let friends or relatives make you feel guilty if you're not able to attend one of their affairs. This is a great time for a family outing or just a drive. Use your added discipline to get what you want. It's time to reevaluate your own motives and make changes to yourself first. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

**GEMINI** (May 22-June 21) Take time to listen to children and help them with projects that seem impossible to them. Extend an invitation to clients you enjoy spending time with. Unexpected bills may set you back. Find out more, if you want to start your own business. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22) You need to be careful not to make promises that you can't fulfill. Minor accidents are likely if you take risks. You need to refrain from being the generous one in the group. Don't let your emotions get out of hand. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug 22) Pleasure trips will be favorable and bring about romance. Social events held in your home will be successful and entertaining for those who attend. Trips, educational pursuits, or projects that could lead to new outlooks should be on your agenda. Talk to employers in order to promote your career objectives. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) Do not force your opinions on others; the connections will be short lived. Don't let your work and your personal life interfere with each other. Emotional deception is evident. Sign up for courses that will help you understand yourself better. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) Be careful that you aren't saddled with the responsibilities of others. Take a long look at your present direction and consider your professional options. Stick to your work and avoid emotional confrontations. Social events should be the highlight of your day. Try to get out and socialize. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) Your ability to come up with original ideas will bring recognition from superiors. Don't say things that could be damaging later on. Cut loose. Get involved in sports events that will benefit your physical appearance. Make the necessary changes that will enable you to advance financially. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) Don't hesitate to enlist the aid of friends or family if you have a big project to finish in your domestic environment. Sign up for courses or join fitness clubs. Don't overload your plate. Try to deal with it quickly; don't dwell on past regrets. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) Financial limitations are likely if you take risks. Draw up contracts regarding your personal situation. Don't confide in anyone for the time being. Opportunities for partnerships are present; but get every detail in writing. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) Situations could easily get blown out of proportion if you have made unreasonable promises. Remember; talk to them, not at them. Think about your priorities. Changes regarding your image will bring you greater confidence. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) Do things that involve children. It's a favorable time for real estate, investments, and moneymaking opportunities to be successful. Catch up on correspondence. Everything is moving quickly, just the way you like it. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday. □