

**IT'S
STILL
FREE**

April 22 to April 29, 2005 Volume 12, Issue 16

The **BONAIRE!** REPORTER

Kaya Gob. Debrot 200 • E-mail: reporter@bonairenews.com • 717-8988

SINCE 1994

Padrino Fashion Show a Hit



Designer Padrino takes his bow with Special Olympics Bonaire Head Coach and owner of Croccantino Restaurant, Elizabeth Wigny, and with some of the models at the Special Olympics Fundraising Fashion show last Saturday.

It was an interactive fashion show with the audience cheering on the models and sometimes even getting up to dance with them. Last Saturday night's Padrino Haute Couture Fashion Show at Croccantino Restaurant to benefit Special Olympics Bonaire was a rousing success.

Padrino, who is the head designer for all the theatrical performances in Venezuela and who is the favorite designer of many ac-

tresses, returned to Bonaire with his new designs, all of which had been made to measure for the models in Bonaire. Adjectives like whimsical, flight of fancy, imaginative, could all be used to describe the clothes. To show what a child might do when he or she finds an ancient trunk full of clothes and accessories, the models, transformed into "children" by the makeup, colored wigs and accessories, got into the mood and gave the audience a lot

of surprises and reasons for hearty laughter.

Members of the FKPD (Pasa Dia handicapped center) in Rincon escorted guests to their tables. The three-course meal by Tuscan Chef David got rave reviews and the wines poured endlessly all evening, thanks to our hostess, Croccantino owner and head of coaches for the Special Olympics Bonaire, Elizabeth Wigny.

Continued on page 7

FLOTSAM AND JETSAM

Transport Minister Omayra Leeflang is not satisfied with the service being offered by BonairExpress and CuraçaoExpress and has informed management of the airline of this. "I told management I am totally dissatisfied," said Leeflang at a press conference through the government's new video conferencing system. She said the airline's management had promised that performance would be improved and that a former KLM manager, Floris Van Pallandt, had been hired to upgrade and reform the company.

► **The Air Aruba bankruptcy proceedings are over-the airline is no more.** The bankruptcy trustee



settled debts with employees, taxes and certain rents. However, other creditors will have to swallow the remaining \$27 million debt. Air Aruba was founded in 1986. It started flying between Curaçao, Bonaire and Caracas. In its heyday early this century it also flew jets to North and South America, Amsterdam and Cologne, Germany.

► **As of April 14 it is prohibited to board any flight to US territory with a (cigarette) lighter.** The measure is part of a series of steps to enhance American aviation security since the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. You can carry a couple of books of matches legally though. Security personnel at the point of departure will take away any lighters found on US-bound passengers. Also next year all American citizens will need a valid US passport on re-entry to America.

► Since the introduction of the \$2 tax on airline passengers passing through Curaçao two weeks ago, KLM passengers have not been entering the terminal but instead staying inside the planes. BonairExpress passengers are simply walking from one plane to another. "Now, the passengers from Aruba to St. Martin are just changing planes on the apron," noted airport assistant manager Etienne van der Horst.

However, the airport says they can present the airlines with the bill for the transit passengers, but so far they haven't. Business at the duty free shops and restaurants has dropped considerably in the past two weeks. Smokers are suffering since they can't smoke aboard the aircraft or on the tarmac.

► **The management of the Curaçao Antillean Brewery and its unions told Parliament last Wednesday that they need financial relief or brewery operations will close.** They want the lower taxes and other advantages, promised but not delivered by the government, so they can compete with imports. Curaçao-brewed Amstel is one of the few beers manufactured with (desalinated) seawater.

► **The Antillean Parliament is considering a proposed law to increase the monthly pension from NAf520 to NAf1.000.** The increase would be financed by increasing the wage limit of the SVB (Social Security) premium from NAf3.900 (monthly) to a high maximum that would mean that almost everyone would pay SVB premiums. There are a total of 27,283 pensioners in the Antilles.

(Continued on page 3)



Headliner Delbert Bernabella
Painting by Henk Roozendaal

The Harbortown Bonaire Jazz Festival, set for May 20, 21 and 22, just keeps on growing. On Thursday, May 19, as the "prelude" to the festival there will be a "Taste of Bonaire" in Wilhelmina Park. Food from the island's best restaurants and drinks will be served. Students from the SGB (Chez Nous, the hotel school) will have a stand, and there will be music, music, music. During the Festival Week, 25 musicians will perform, including: Denise Jannah, CED Ride, Avila Blues House band, Cuban Express, X-Hale, Bernabela Bislip Project, Free-winds Band with special guests, Stacey Francis, Latin Quarter, Bonaire Jazz Trio, Stingway and many others. Tickets, set at NAf30 FOR THE FULL WEEK'S PROGRAM, will be on sale very soon. If you need more information contact tel / fax 599 717-4496; website www.bonairejazz.com: Email: info@bonairejazz.org □

IN THIS ISSUE:

| | |
|---|----------|
| Padrino Fashion Show a Hit | cover, 7 |
| 2005 Jazz Festival | 2 |
| Letters (Present for Executive Council, | |
| No Animal Tsar for Bonaire) | 4, 5 |
| Vision of Bonaire's Future | 6 |
| Non-Government High School | 8 |
| Amboina Dolphins New Uniforms | 8 |
| Zen of Snorkeling | 9 |
| Rincon Day Event & Schedule | 10 |
| Realtors Corner (Finding a Good One) | 12 |
| Pet Professor (Dog Personalities) | 13 |
| Where to Find the Reporter | 13 |
| Culinary Team Sunday Lunch | 14 |
| Saturday Walk-Cave Excursion | 14 |

Mairi Bhan Last Voyage 18

WEEKLY FEATURES:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--------|
| Flotsam & Jetsam | 2 |
| Vessel List & Tide Table | 9 |
| Picture Yourself (Bali) | 11 |
| Classifieds | 12 |
| Reporter Masthead | 14 |
| Pets of the Week (Audrey, Caroline) | 15 |
| What's Happening | 14, 15 |
| Micro-Movie Review | |
| (Million Dollar Baby) | 15 |
| Shopping & Dining Guides | 16 |
| Born on Bonaire (Roosje Vinck) | 17 |
| Bonaire Sky Park (Jupiter) | 19 |
| The Stars Have It | 19 |

Flotsam and Jetsam Continued from page 2

► **Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger of Germany, the church's leading hard-liner, was elected the new pope** Tuesday evening. The name he chose, Pope Benedict XVI, was as prophesized and mentioned in *The Bonaire Reporter* last week. He turned 78 last Saturday. Ratzinger is the first Germanic pope since the 11th century.

► You might have noticed that **gasoline and diesel prices were upped on April 15**. But that's not all that will happen as a result of the escalation of world oil prices. The simple fact that Bonaire is a captive client of Curoil, the Curaçao-owned fuel company, will result in **an increase of 70% in WEB bills for at least three months**. According to Sebas-

tiaan Houthuijzen, who monitors such things for Radio Netherlands (RNWO), "The increase will appear on consumer's electric bills as *Brandstofclausule*. Curoil says they need to catch up on NAf4.2 million in under-charging they did over the last year or so.

The new fuel surcharge, *Brandstofclausul*, is 39.4 cents per kWh (it previously was 9 cents). This means an average increase of about 70% (!) on the WEB bills for homes and businesses. The surcharge is based on the fact that WEB can get 3 kWh out of one liter of fuel, which is considered good considering the technology in their generators.

A typical household with a present WEB bill of around NAf250, will have

(Continued on page 4)



► To help support the Bonaire Animal Shelter, **Carib Inn is now selling old Bonaire license plates for \$5**. All proceeds go directly to the Shelter. These plates have been donated by kind car owners on the island when they got their new plates. Having volunteered to clean up the old plates to get them ready to sell are children of the Carib Inn staff: Jerson Cicilia, Carlos Cicilia and Carline Cicilia. □



In Taiwan, 75% of coral reefs are deteriorating. In Australia, reef

managers are worried about the Great Barrier Reef's capacity to recover from stress spikes. And in the US, Elkhorn and Staghorn corals are in bad enough shape to have recently earned listing under the US Endangered Species Act. With one bad news report after another, is there still time to prevent the complete decline of coral reefs before the end of the 21st century? Maybe. **Get a feel for what you can do to help on this coming Earth Day, Sunday, April 24. See Happenings on page 15 for Bonaire activities.**



Getting ready for the Earth Day Cleanup this weekend: the Jong Bonaire team with BNMP Head Ranger Din Domacassé (back right) and STCB's Mabel Nava (front left): Enmanuel Martina, Estefany Romy, Daniuska Craane, Maarten Schuit, Norvin Mercelina, Josue Morillo and Andrea Simal

(*Flotsam and Jetsam. Continued from page 3*) to pay NAf430 unless something is worked out to cushion the effect of the new rate. Bonaire Government and WEB officials are trying to work out a way reduce the impact of the fuel oil increase with Curoil management." The island of Curaçao does not share Bonaire's problem with the rising costs because their government (as the owners of the Curoil Company) does not pass along the increase primarily for political reasons.

► Fernando Simal, Washington-Slagbaai National Park Manager, tells us that "Starting April 20th, there will be construction work at the entrance of Washington Park. We are going to build three structures (two houses and enlarge the toilet facilities). **If you are feeling young and strong or would like to help us we can use all the people we can get everyday**, but especially on Monday mornings, Thursdays all day, Friday afternoons and Saturday mornings."

► Since mid-March **Caribbean Club Bonaire has been under the management of Steve Jevon**, who perfected the dive operations at the Plaza Resort several years ago. Except for the restaurant, see below, all other services will remain the same although the resort does plan to expand the dive facilities and activity center. For more information call 011-599-717-7901, email info@caribbeanclubbonaire.com or visit <http://www.caribbeanclubbonaire.com>.

► We're always looking to pass on restaurant tips to our readers and we have one this week. **The Caribbean Club Bonaire**, the resort about 5 km. north of Kralendijk on the tourist road, has

switched from serving Caribbean Cuisine to **top notch Continental Cuisine**. Chef Jeffrey Kampff, who dives usually in the mornings with Wanna Dive, studied cuisine in The Netherlands and cooked in the Hotel des Indies. He was head chef in The Hague's Royal Dutch Lion Hotel among others. At the Caribbean Club he has developed a menu to satisfy every taste. To watch him work in the open kitchen is to see a culinary ballet.

Main courses range from NAf31,50 (Tenderloin with Duck Liver and Apple) to NAf45 (Rack of Lamb with Asparagus). There are tempting starters and desserts too. For those on a budget, but seeking fine food, there is a NAf20 bar-hap (daily special). The menu changes to take advantage of the best offerings in the markets. Be one of the first to discover what will soon become a "hot spot" for island diners. See the Caribbean Club advertisement on page 11 for more information.

► **Albert Bianculli's 8:30pm Sunday slide show at Habitat now has an EXPANDED** sequence on the Windjammer dive site. *The Reporter* has been publishing a series of articles about the historic wreck, but if you want to view the latest developments on a big screen go see the show.

► **Free Spanish lessons** are once more available on the island, sponsored by the Consulado General de la Republica Bolivariana (Venezuela). Lessons are in the am or pm. Call 717-8275 between 9 am and 3 pm for more information and to sign up.

► **The model in the Benetton ad this week is eight year old Jonathan Cranston**. See page 11. □ L./G.D.

LETTERS: THE Op-Ed PAGE

A GIFT FOR OUR EXECUTIVE COUNCIL:
DON'T STOP THE CARNIVAL



Dear Editor:

Now I'm the first to see and admit that a lot in Herman Wouk's novel, *Don't Stop the Carnival*, refers also to the ignorance that a lot of western businessmen, managers and retirees had when they settled on Bonaire throughout the years. I wish I had read this book before I decided to live on Bonaire, but educational background, cross cultural exposure and intelligence allowed me to adapt to the new situation; it's almost a confirmation of Darwin's evolution theory.

The story of *Don't Stop the Carnival* takes place on an imaginary island called Amerigo, or referred to by the locals as Kinja, somewhere in the late 1950s or early 1960s. However, when reading it you can project it without problems to Bonaire 2005.

Norman Paperman, the brand new owner of one of Kinja's leading resorts, gets enmeshed in local politics, business habits and regulations from day one. On his first day when he replaces the native boat boy with an immigrant, a prominent politician corrects Paperman by pointing out that aliens should never be allowed to fill temporary labor shortages, otherwise there wouldn't be any shortages, and the island would have an unemployment problem. As it is there is no unemployment problem in Kinja.

The main activity in island politics was not attacking the real issues, but rather the opposition, and giving out government jobs to friends and relatives.

The examples and scenes are too numerous to mention here in this article. Our recommendation to the readers is to buy and read this book. For our Executive Council I have another solution: I'll mail every Deputy a copy of this hilarious book, since they won't have time to buy it.

Hopefully, in between demolishing historical buildings, trying to eliminate legal and successful organizations and demoralizing the local business environment, they have time to read it, and like those westerners who've settled down on Bonaire, learn from it and realize that adapting to the environment is essential to survive. For those immigrants, adapting to Bonaire was essential. For our Executive Council, adapting to international standards of good government is something to think about.....

Bert H. Gadoed

MOTHER'S DAY—May 8th,
An advertisement in *The Bonaire Reporter* might work for you!
See the bottom of page 16 for details

**BONAIRE DOES NOT NEED
AN ANIMAL TSAR**



Dear Editor:

Bonaire has long needed a humane society to protect neglected and abused pets, but the proposal by a group of recent arrivals from Holland and the US to form an animal protection foundation (FAWB) seems extraordinarily ambitious. (see column at right) They have declared their foundation will attend to 'the welfare of all animals on Bonaire, domestic, wild and feral.' According to their long list of 'goals and objectives,' everyone who deals with animals would be subject to their oversight, including the management and workers at LVV, the professional staff at the slaughterhouse, and the kunukeros. The Board and staff of Bonaire's Animal Shelter would come under their supervision, as would the island's veterinarians and the operators of the Donkey Shelter. Their stated objectives would claim authority to interfere in the activities of several member organizations of Aliansa, not to mention the staffs of the Marine Park, Washington-Slagbaai National Park, all water sports operators including the dive industry, and Bonaire's fishermen. Needless to say, their objectives also state that the foundation would have authority to "raise funds" and "acquire land."

Many of the proposed foundation's activities would duplicate the efforts of existing organizations, would channel capital into redundant facilities—including a second animal shelter—and could divert funding from established NGOs of proven competence and known motives. Grandiose goals may sound good on grant applications. But once a foundation has received funding and starts paying salaries to those who created it, broad and complicated objectives can smokescreen what the organization may actually be doing—or may be failing to do entirely.

A clear need exists on Bonaire for a humane society, but the niche is small and well defined. We should have someone who investigates and intervenes when dogs and cats are neglected or abused, and who helps nurture through education programs a better informed, more responsible and more loving animal-care culture on the island. That would not require an animal control empire, just a couple of dedicated people with a car, a phone and some office space.

Don M. Ricks

Don Ricks' letter is based on the accompanying document reviewed by the Board of the present Bonaire Animal Shelter.

Goals and Objectives for proposed FAWB:

1. To further the welfare of all animals on Bonaire, domestic, wild and feral.
2. To raise funds to support our objectives.
3. To recruit, educate and train volunteers in order to help carry out these objectives.
4. To educate the community about animal welfare.
5. To support existing and future animal welfare and care facilities and organizations.
6. To monitor the following to insure the appropriate and humane care of animals:
 - existing and future animal welfare and care facilities and organizations
 - private individuals
 - commercial establishments such as hotels and stores
7. To monitor the breeding and keeping of livestock and related activities including, but not limited to, the slaughterhouse.
8. To monitor activities potentially harmful to animals including, but not limited to, caving, fishing, water sports, etc.
9. To develop protocols for appropriate care of animals including sterilization, vaccination and euthanasia, as well as basic standards of care.
10. To develop definitions for animal "abuse", "cruelty", and "neglect" and incorporate these definitions in all educational efforts and proposed legislation.
11. To monitor compliance with existing and future legislation regarding animal welfare.
12. To promote new animal welfare legislation.
13. To assist with and develop animal population counts.
14. To initiate drives for sterilization, vaccination and licensing of domestic animals.
15. To participate in animal rescue operations as funds and facilities permit
16. To acquire land and/or facilities for the care of and rehabilitation of rescued animals and related activities.
17. To build facilities as needed for the care of and rehabilitation of rescued animals and related activities.
18. To establish and provide staffing of a dedicated phone line for complaints or concerns regarding animal welfare on the island. We will document these complaints and concerns and offer advice and assistance to the best of our ability.
19. To establish a network of "foster homes" to provide temporary care to rescued animals.
20. To transport rescued animals as needed to appropriate care facilities.
21. To liaise with local authorities, the media, veterinarians and others regarding animal welfare.
22. To perform such lawful actions as are incidental, necessary or conducive to the above purposes, including, without limitation, buying, selling, exchanging, developing and mortgaging property, entering into contracts and leases and employing persons. □

A Vision of Bonaire's Future



A typical Hilton resort property (Jamaica)

An emphasis on **healthy tourism growth, respect for the environment, and preservation of the Bonairean culture** were the themes presented by the ruling political party last Saturday. Led by Senator Ramonsito Booi, Commissioner Jonchi Dortalina and Commissioner Burney el Hage, all of the UPB (Union Patriotiko Boneiru-Green), outlined their objectives for the next three years at a Saturday press conference.

The engine driving this growth is the plan for additional **933 hotel rooms**, most of which (**570**) would be in a new, **probably-Hilton hotel** to be located on the site of the Sunset Beach Hotel ruins. More details of this project are to be made available during the first two weeks of May. A **mid-rise "City Hotel"** will be built along the waterfront next to the Harbourside Mall (site of the Music School). **Harbour Village** has also gotten the OK for a **salt-water-grass golf course and a 120-room, 5-story marina hotel**. At least 10 other hotel building projects are in the works. If things go according to plan, Bonaire will have twice the number of hotel rooms in 2008 as it does today.

Interestingly, the island has yet to reach the 64,000-tourist-a-year level of 1996 although it approached it in 2004 with 62,507, although fewer hotel rooms were available than in 1996.

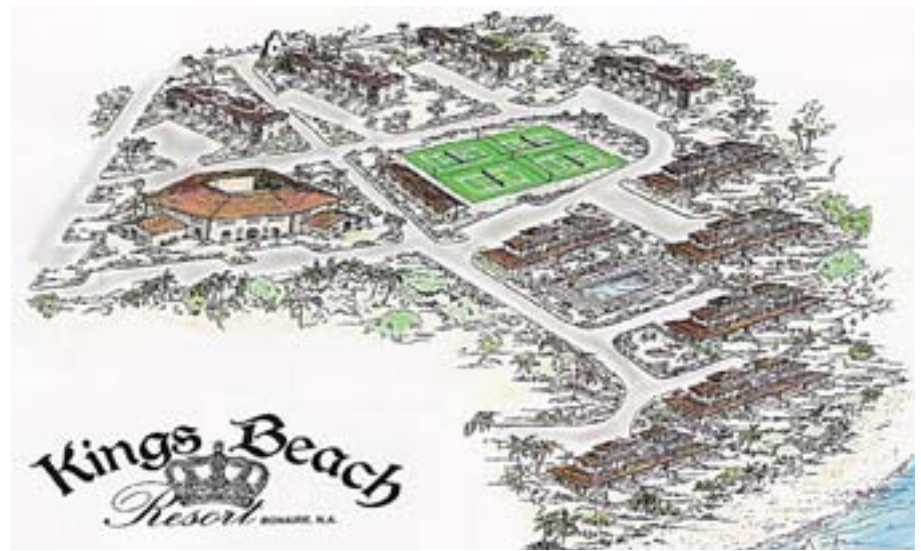
To support the growth, great emphasis

will be placed on getting **additional air service**. The **arrival hall** at Flamingo Airport is to be expanded. More electrical **generation and desalinization** capacity will be added at WEB and renewable energy sources, **particularly wind power**, will be investigated. Roads are to be **repaired** and the renovation of Kaya Korona will be extended into North Saliña. The government will seek **strategic partners** from the private sector for energy projects and to improve telecommunications on the island.

Development of the area surrounding the village of Rincon was outlined in a three-phase process. In Phase 1 the container port would be relocated from downtown Kralendijk to a spot just south of the BOPEC property. The existing container port would be upgraded into an attractive cruise ship terminal. In Phase 2 tourist facilities would be built near Rincon. In Phase 3 the development of Rincon Nobo (New Rincon) would be started along the Kaminda Broetje Janga (the dirt road to Rincon from Sabedeco).

The total package represents "**a new future for Bonaire,**" says **Senator Booi**, who, with his party, took credit for the recent economic growth of the island. However, he admitted that he does not expect all the plans described will result in completed projects. □

G.D.



King's Beach, near Punt Vierkant, is one of the major construction projects planned.

Continued from
COVER

**... fashion show fundraiser
for Special Olympics Bonaire**



Model Fleur as a princess bride

Model DJ gets audience participation



Models were: Dirk Jan, Kevin, George, Fleur, Zulay, Suzy, Donna, Sukarsi, Raisse, Maria, Sharon, Varenia and Laura
A big thank you to the sponsors: Antillean Wine Company, Littman, Atlantis, BonairExpress, Benetton, Linda Richter, Anna Kleimer, Capriccio, City Café and Croccantino Restaurant. □ L.D.

Model Susie steals the show

Fashion Show Continued from page 1

Lupe Uranie, director of the FKPD, was mistress of ceremonies and wore one of Padrino's designs, created especially for her. After the fashion show, Curaçao singers, Monica Millar and Elton Lispier, continued the entertainment, inspiring the audience to get up and dance.

Makeup was by Morayma and her two assistants.

Designer Offer!



Some of the one-of-a-kind Padrino designed clothing shown in the fashion show last Saturday night is for sale, at reasonable prices, with all proceeds going to Special Olympics Bonaire. The items will be at Croccantino Restaurant until the end of the month. Call 785-0581 to set up an appointment. □ L.D.



Special Olympics Bonaire has been serving the community since 1990. Its mission is to provide year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with mental retardation, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy and participate in a sharing of gifts, skills, and friendship with their families and other Special Olympics athletes, as well as the community. □

First Non-Governmental Bonaire High School Established

In August 2005, in time for the 2005-2006 school year, UniCollege Bonaire will begin first-year HAVO/VWO classes. It plans to add an additional grade each year up to the 5th year of HAVO and the 6th year of VWO. The *Stichting Vooruitstrevend Voorgezet en Hoger Onderwijs-SVVHO* (Advanced Secondary and Higher Education Foundation) is providing the backing for the new school. Foundation members are: Roy Chin-On, Jursi Marshall and Mireille Aranguren-van Egmond.



Based on contacts with several top grade educational facilities in the Netherlands it was decided to follow the latest innovative methods of teaching now being applied in some Dutch schools. This new method is approved and supported by the Dutch government.

The school will provide a secondary education based on the Dutch HAVO/VWO standards. Graduates will qualify

for a high school diploma valid in the Netherlands and other parts of Europe.

The Foundation plans to use the educational materials, support and guidance of the teaching staff of a Dutch progressive school. This collaboration will make possible lower operational costs and maintain the quality of the education. It will also ensure that UniCollege Bonaire can guarantee its students a diploma recognized by the Dutch Educational Board.

The first grade will start with 15 to 25 students. The plan is to grow by adding a new grade every year until all six years of classes are in place.

To support this venture financially, a

The foundation is accepting donations.

Their account is 112.649.00 at MADURO & CUIEL'S BANK (Bonaire) N.V. c/o STICHTING VOORUITSTREVENDE VOORGEZET EN HOGER ONDERWIJS For more information please write to Stichting_v v h o@yahoo.com



Amboina Dolphins Get New Uniforms



Last Saturday the Amboina Dolphins football (soccer) team had a baptism of their new uniforms, courtesy of Multifunction Management NV. This popular team of 60 kids, ages six to 10 are coached by Ricardo "Kado" Alberto and other dedicated volunteers.

registration fee and a yearly tuition fee is required. The first year's tuition will be set between NAf400 and NAf500 per child per month. (The Foundation used as a guideline the yearly tuition fee per student per year based on the average yearly costs to the government for a high school student in Bonaire.) The Foundation hopes to count on the financial support and generosity of pri-

vate and institutional sponsors for the remainder of its operational costs.

UniCollege Bonaire invites parents and anyone interested in learning about this new alternative, progressive educational opportunity to a presentation on **Sunday, April 24, 2005, at 7 pm in the Trans World Radio Activity Building.** □ *Press Release*

The Zen of Snorkeling



Snorkeling as a spiritual practice was not a common avocation for folks living in the urban Calumet Region neighborhoods of Chicago and Northwest Indiana where I grew up. But my father's stories drew my attention to the West Indies, for he had been stationed for two years in Trinidad and Curaçao during

World War II. Sadly enough, my first opportunity to visit the Caribbean came in 1982, several years after his death, so I could not share my first snorkeling adventure on St. John with him. I became so enthralled with the underwater world, just beneath the surface of my father's own West Indies experience, that in the past 20 years I have made over 30 trips to some of the best islands for snorkeling—St. John, Tortola, Virgin Gorda, Anegada, Eleuthera, Exuma, Culebra, Turks and Caicos, Tobago—culminating in buying a home on the snorkeling paradise island of Bonaire in 2003.

In my latest trip to Bonaire, I pondered why snorkeling is a meditative act. First, the essence of snorkeling is being in each moment intensely, for example, when three rock hinds coax a green moray eel to swim freely or two hawksbill turtles circle each other in a mating ballet. The moments range from the grand and the obvious, like a five-foot barracuda patrolling on the fringes on the reef, to the small and

subtle, like a four-inch redlip blenny peeking out from a crevice in a brain coral. As a snorkeler, I flow by, noticing this, observing that, but always learning to let go of what has just passed by.

Another key trait of meditation is the focus on breath. Through the snorkel, I am more keenly aware of my breath, in and out, as the sound of my breath joins the other sounds of the sea, from the popping and clicking of shrimp to the coral crunching of the parrotfish. And, as I am more aware of my breath, I not only become more conscious of my thoughts but also more capable of letting them pass by just like the six butterflyfish on parade or the feeding frenzy of the yellowtail snappers and the bar jacks. Just as the moods of the ocean vary from tranquil to ferocious, so too do I feel my emotions constantly shifting from terror at being taken along by a 10-knot current to humor at a school of squid with seemingly extraterrestrial camouflage powers to exultation at the colors of the queen triggerfish, the puddingwife, and the queen angelfish.

Eight years ago I started taking pictures with a cheap disposable underwater camera, hoping to capture the full dimension of the underwater world I had discovered while snorkeling. Disappointed with the results, I then bought a Sea and Sea MX underwater camera and taught myself the rudiments of underwater color photography. The challenge of this art form is not only to convey the texture, movement, light, and color of the underwater world but also to capture the total sensory experience of snorkeling in the neon luminosity of the Caribbean Sea or the Atlantic Ocean. Since 80 % of the world's coral reefs are endangered by pollution, overfishing, and global warming, photographs of living coral reefs can also serve as ambassadors for conservation

and preservation to the humans who have yet to don a snorkel and mask to witness these natural wonders firsthand.

The more I snorkel, the more I muse about the spiritual, symbolic, and philosophical aspects of snorkeling. To enter the underwater world as humans, it is essential to see past our fears and ourselves in order to cultivate a way of seeing nature that does not put us in the center. Snorkeling means going "beneath the surface," both literally and metaphorically, to discover new worlds of diverse species that we had never imagined so we become more aware of our relationship to ocean ecosystems. Finally the act of being rocked (or tossed) by the sea as we float over a thriving coral reef awakens archetypal images and dreams that remind us that the sea was our first home.

Since snorkeling every day is not an option when I live half of my life in Champaign, Illinois, my challenge is to transfer the spiritual practice of snorkeling in liquid turquoise to my life out of water—floating, observing, breathing, noticing—so that life on land is just as understandable, miraculous, and joyous. □ *Pauline E. Kayes*

After months of plodding along laboriously on land, the moment I long for has arrived when equipped with snorkel, mask, and fins I float into the underwater world of the coral reef. The instant that my mask and snorkel break the water's surface is one of exhilarating transformation. I am no longer who I was on land. My steady breath through the snorkel syncopates with the pulse of the ocean; the myriad currents make "going with the flow" an essential posture; and with every turn of my head a moment of ocean life is revealed. Snorkeling for me has become more than a water sport; it is more akin to a spiritual practice, one that I could never find through organized religion.

KRALENDIJK TIDES (Heights in feet, FT)

Remember: Winds and weather can further influence the local tides

| DATE | TIME | HEIGHT | COEF |
|------|------|--------|------|
| 4-22 | 7:02 | 1.1FT. | 69 |
| 4-23 | 8:31 | 1.1FT. | 79 |
| 4-24 | 0:36 | 1.8FT. | 88 |
| 4-25 | 1:16 | 1.9FT. | 93 |
| 4-26 | 2:03 | 2.0FT. | 95 |
| 4-27 | 3:00 | 2.0FT. | 93 |
| 4-28 | 3:57 | 2.0FT. | 87 |
| 4-29 | 5:02 | 2.0FT. | 79 |

VESSELS MAKING A PORT CALL:

| | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Andiamo | Honalee, USA | Sirius |
| Angelos | It's Good | Sylvia K |
| Amandia | Jan Gerardus | Take It Easy |
| Barbara Ann | Klsey | Ti Amo, USA |
| Bettina | Lava | Tish |
| Bright Sea | L'Quila, BVI | Tomorrow |
| Caravela | Luna C. USA | Ulu Ulu, USA |
| Camissa, Chan Is. | La Escotilla, Caymans | Ulysses |
| Cape Kathryn | Maki, France | Unicorn, Norway |
| Clemencia | Natural Selection | Varedhuni, Germany |
| Felicity | Rusty Bucket | Wandering Albatross |
| Flying Cloud, USA | Sabbatical | Ya-T, BVI |
| Gabrielle | Samba | Yanti Paratzi |
| Galandriel | Santa Maria | Zahi, Malta |
| Guaicamar I, Ven. | Sandpiper, USA | |

Rincon Day – A Real Bonairean Event

We've said it before; we'll say it again: No one gives a party like the Rinconeros! And this one – Rincon Day on Saturday, April 30 - is truly special because it's being given by people who really know the culture of Rincon. Francisco "Bubuchi" Janga, the son of the late "Mr. Rincon," Broetje Janga, is following in his father's footsteps for the second year in a row and heading up the organizing committee. Bubuchi explains, "We need people who know the traditions, what Rincon Day is supposed to be. It's for everyone, not just for the people with money. Those people who have a lot of knowledge of our culture don't have a lot of money." The group that goes all out to organize this annual event, the 17th this year, is FU.DE.CU.

As well as from Bonaire there are groups of entertainers coming from Curaçao and Aruba. In fact, due to the current poor airline transportation between Aruba and Bonaire the four groups from Aruba are actually chartering a plane from the US to get here! It's that important to them to be here for Rincon Day!

The activities start the evening before, on Friday, April 29. A "pep rally" of cars, each flying the Rincon flag, will gather at the stadium in Playa at 6 pm and parade through the different barios



2004 Marchers in the Parada di Maskarada

(neighborhoods), ending at Rincon around 7 pm. By this time all the stands selling food and drinks will be set up in the streets of Rincon and it's *Ban Topa* (Let's all meet) time. In nearly every bar and restaurant there will be music. As Bubuchi says, "There will be music everywhere in Rincon, and people can move around from place to place. This will go on all night!"

Saturday morning all the stands will be set up to sell all that good Rincon traditional *comida* (food) like *kabrito stoba* (goat stew), *boka dushi* (sweet things), *bachi bachi* (a stew made from many parts of the goat – said to be delicious). There will be gifts, crafts, books, clothes and other surprises.

The Schedule

FRIDAY, APRIL 29

Car Cavalcade (*Optocht ban Rincon*) starts at the stadium in Playa at 6 pm, goes through all the barios and ends up in Rincon at 7 pm. In Rincon, stands set up for food and drink and music in all the bars and restaurants until ???

RINCON DAY, APRIL 30

MCB 5 km/17.5 km run with prizes. Starts at the Stadium in Playa at 7 am. Call COMCABON, Richard Pietersz at 717-8629 or 780-7225.

Mass at the Church in Rincon, singing, celebration of Queen Beatrix's 25 year of investiture, raising the flag, 8 to 10 am

Walk to the Plasa Commerce – Announcements, speeches by honored guests, including the "Padrino" (godfather) of Rincon Day, former Prime Minister Miguel Pourier, 10 am

WHERE'S & WHEN'S

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

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

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

Credit Union (front of the church) – En-

tertainment, children's games, from 11 am to 4:30 pm

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

PARADES

Note: The first three parades all start at 2 pm. If you just stand in one place you'll be able to see them all.

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

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

Parada di Karnaval – An "old time" Karneval parade (Route: Kaya E.B. St. Jago, Kaya Marino, Kaya Rincon, Kaya Commerce, Kaya E.B. St. Jago)

Parada di Simadan – **The grand finale.** Everyone is invited to join in, link arms and do the Simadan dance to the famous Simadan song. Starts at 5 pm. (Route: Kaya Piedra Pretu, Kaya Commerce, Kaya Rincon, Kaya E.B. St. Jago, Kaya Commerce, Kaya Rincon, Kaya E.B. St. Jago, Kaya Commerce, Kaya Rincon)

Midnight - Closure □ L.D.

The stands themselves are works of art, the creators using the native materials growing on the island. This year there will be a competition for the best stands.

Music will be everywhere, with three main stages set up for entertainment and several smaller ones nearby. There will be parades, games, bands, fun. Bring your camera for great photo opportuni-

ties!

If you really want to be "in," get yourself a Rincon Day tee shirt for NA/10 or 12, for adults and children. They're sold at the Rincon Centro di Bario, the Rose Inn and at Anna Nicolaas' store in the village.

□ L.D.

Picture Yourself with the Reporter Bali, Indonesia

Andy Uhr sent us this photo and note. "My wife, Lee, and I just returned from an extended trip to Hong Kong and Indonesia. During our stay on Bali, we happened upon a cremation ceremony. While waiting for things to "warm up," we took the occasion to look at a copy of *The Bonaire Reporter* that we fortunately had with us."

At least Andy wasn't asked to use his newspaper to help start the fire. The Uhrs are past winners of the annual "Picture Yourself" competition. □



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

**GOT SOMETHING YOU WANT TO BUY OR SELL?
REACH MORE READERS THAN ANY OTHER WEEKLY
NEWSPAPER BY ADVERTISING IN
THE BONAIRE REPORTER
FREE FREE FREE FREE**

Non-Commercial CLASSIFIED ADS (UP TO 4 LINES/ 20 WORDS)
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. 8000m² 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**

Bonaire Images Elegant greeting cards and beautiful boxed note cards are now available at Chat-N-Browse next to Lovers Ice-Cream and Sand Dollar. Photography by Shelly Craig www.bonaireimages.com

Visit **Gallery "MyArt"** Marjolein Fonseca-Verhoef Call: 785-3988

MOVING INTO A NEW HOUSE? Make it more livable from the start
FENG SHUI CONSULTATIONS Interior or exterior design advice, clearings, blessings, energy healing China trained, Experienced. Inexpensive. Call Donna at 785-9013

LOST DOG

Heart-broken family still looking for dog missing in Bolivia area. "Kimba" If you find her call 785-9013 or 786-2844 ☐



FOR SALE

Authentic 45 lb. CQR anchor, \$110 (US). Contact S/V Gabrielle on VHF 77

For Sale: Six 2-pack of **Yellow Bug Lights,** 60 watts. NAf10/each. 791-6167

HP Notebook model: ze5400- P4 (2.4Ghz), 40GB, 512mb, Wireless e-card. Almost brand new, carrying case included, 1,350\$(US). **Info 791-6009 after 3pm**

For Sale Olympian Generator (Power Plant) Caterpillar brand (like new) New price: NAf38.500, *Asking price:* NAf28.500, **Call: (09) 511-2110**

For Sale – **Aluminum storage building** – 8 feet wide, 10 feet long, 6 feet high. New in the box. NAf1.300. **Call 565-6779**

For Sale: **Laser Printer HP-** 1012 NAf400.00 Less than one year old, like new. Call: M-F 8-5 **717-8800**

HOUSE SITTER

Mature woman whose family is on island, **looking to house (and car) sit.** June 27 to August 4. Experienced with pets. 717-3726.

WANTED

WANTED: Dutch family is looking for an **apartment / house to rent** from 18 June to 1 August 2005. Willing to take care of pets and plants. E-mail Janny at: bvjs@planet.nl

WANTED: Volunteers to index back issues of the *Bonaire Reporter* (English) and *Extra* (Papiamentu). Call George at 717-8988 or 786-6125.

Owners of Robin RGD-5000 Diesel Generator **LOOKING FOR WORKING ALTERNATOR SECTION.** Our motor is OK. Contact Captain Don and Janet: 786-0956

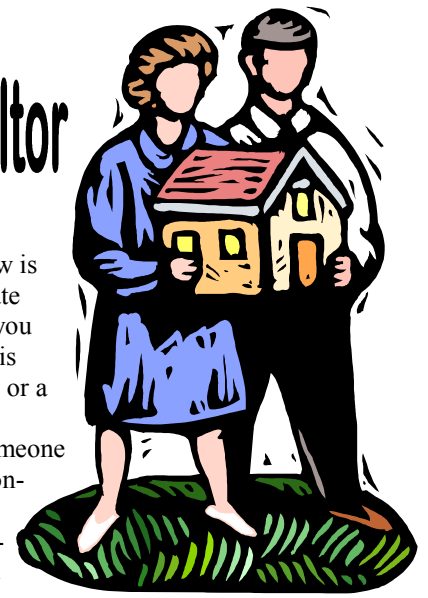
PROPERTY, Sales & rentals

For Rent: **Furnished 2-bedroom house** available in May. Kaya Mg. Niewindt #28. NAf550 per month. 717-6245.

For Sale: Special Offer: Chalet in Valencia, Venezuela, in private zone. 1,000 sq. meters property, 1,000 sq. meters green zone. Chalet is 215 sq. meters. Built in 1999. Downstairs: living area with open, built-in kitchen, office, guest toilet, laundry. Upstairs: master bedroom with bath, terrace; 2 additional bedrooms, 1 bath. Many trees. Documents in order. **717-4111**

For Rent: Comfortable 2-bedroom beach villa-weekly or monthly-choice location-privacy & security-**May 1st until Dec. 15th.** Brochure available. Phone (Bon) (599) 717 3293; (US) (570) 586 0098. **May 20 until Jan. 8th.** info@pelicanreefbonaire.com or www.pelicanreefbonaire.com -

**The Realtor's Corner
How to Find a Good Realtor**



One way to find candidates to interview is to talk to professionals from real estate related professions and ask their opinion. If you know someone who is employed at the notaris office, a homeowner's insurance salesperson or a loan officer, ask them for recommendations.

If you talk to a loan officer, be sure it is someone who deals primarily with purchase money contracts and mortgages instead of refinances, second trust deeds or finance companies. Because the latter do not deal with realtors on a regular basis, they will not know who to recommend.

You could just make phone calls to real estate offices and ask questions. I will write in the next few weeks about some questions to ask and the evaluations you can make from the answers.

A new addition to choosing a realtor is the Internet. Look for realtors who advertise properties not themselves. That way you have a pretty good idea you are getting a "buyer's" agent instead of a listing agent. Look to see if their web page offers something to you in the way of information or other services instead of just telling you they are "number one." You want someone of value to represent you, not someone who is full of "puff."

Interviewing a Good Realtor

When you interview realtors for the job, you want someone who will be concerned about you and who will take care of your interests. You want someone who demonstrates ready knowledge of homes available for sale and does not have to call you back after they "check on the computer." This ready knowledge demonstrates they have actually been out previewing homes and are not just sitting around waiting for the phone to ring.

You also want someone sharp enough to ask you questions as well, including your financial and debt information. By asking these questions, a good realtor will be able to determine the proper price range you should be looking in. By asking about your family, an agent will be able to tell if what you need in a home is something available in your price range. You want a realtor who is bold enough to talk straight with you instead of always telling you what you want to hear.

When a Realtor Asks to Meet With You

Finally, any decent agent will always ask for an appointment to meet with you, too. It is only natural, since they earn their living by commissions. However, realtors are also supposed to act as your agent, looking out for your interests before their own. You want a realtor who takes that responsibility very seriously. If someone seems too much like simply a salesman, then maybe you should look a little further. ☐ *Anna Kleimer*

Anna is a Buyer Specialist with RE/MAX Paradise Homes. She and her husband Art owned and operated their real estate company in Vail, Colorado for 12 years. Working with buyers, she has an intuitive understanding of what properties are right for them - location, price range and amenities. You may call her at 717-7362 or 786-8607.



Anna Kleimer

FIT 4 LIFE

**AT THE PLAZA RESORT
MINI MALL**

**AEROBICS
STEP AEROBICS
BODY BUILDING
BODY SHAPING / TONING
PILATES / TAE BO**

**LEVEL OF CLASSES OFFERED:
•BEGINNERS, INTERMEDIATE,
ADVANCED**

Phone: (599) 717-2500 EXT. 8210
Cell.: (599) -9-562-6375
fit4life_fitness@hotmail.com
PO BOX 303 BONAIRE

**DO YOU WANT
REAL RESULTS?**

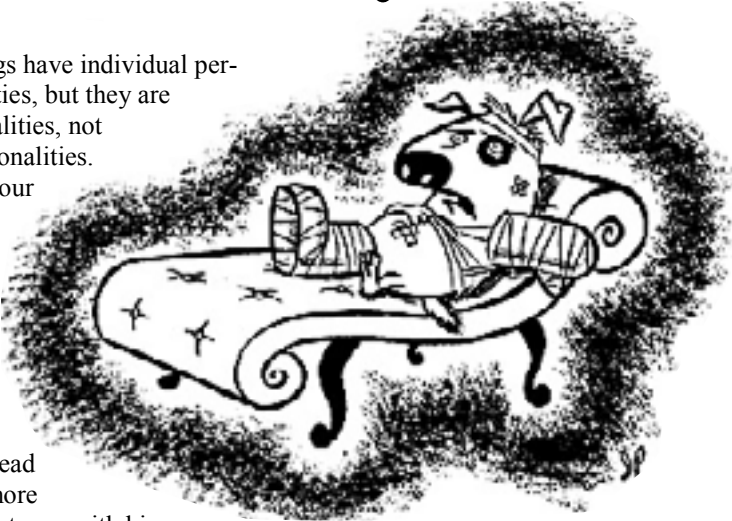
WE CAN HELP YOU:

- LOSE BODY FAT
- GAIN MUSCLE
- FEEL STRONGER
- GET MOTIVATED
- LIVE HEALTHIER
- HAVE MORE ENERGY
- INCREASE SELF-ESTEEM
- IMPROVE PERFORMANCE



Dog Personalities

Yes, dogs have individual personalities, but they are “Dog” personalities, not “Human” personalities. Recognizing your dog’s personality type can help make training more successful, give you a better understanding of your dog and lead to a happier, more peaceful coexistence with him (or her -- none of these types is gender specific -- there are dominant females and submissive males).



other species (including children). With proper training, he will be the friendly, loving companion you want.

Dominant dogs:

You choose the largest, pushiest puppy because you want an outgoing, confident dog. Good choice, but remember from day one that this dog considers himself on the fast track to dominance, born to be “top dog.” You would be wise to let this puppy know from the start that any and all good things come at your discretion and are earned not by being pushy, but by attempting to understand and comply with your rules and requests. If you don’t, you may find yourself living with an unruly, unmanageable, possibly aggressive, definitely unpleasant companion. You also need to actively socialize him (give him lots of exposure) to other dogs and

Submissive dogs:

You choose the runt of the litter because you feel sorry for him. He was picked on by his littermates, never got enough food, and even his mama did not seem to love him. If you coddle him and protect him and wait on him, the result will be a fearful and needy dog. One who rolls over when faced with anyone or anything new, who can’t be taken anywhere, or left in anyone else’s care, who basically doesn’t know how to have any fun in life. Other dogs will despise him, and other people will think he is pitiful and not very good company. However, gentle but

firm reward-based training, structure and socialization, will give him the confidence and life skills to be a happy, secure dog.

Social climbers:

Most dogs are interested in improving their status with regard to those they live with, and will attempt to do so at every opportunity (using a range of strategies, from sneakiness to aggression). The amount of effort a dog is willing to invest in this power struggle varies greatly from one individual to another. Some will content themselves with a status they can maintain with minimal effort, but others will always continue to seek a higher level of dominance, starting with the youngest and weakest family member and working their way up. These dogs can be managed easily and happily with basic dog training techniques.

Passive/Aggressive dogs:

Since the Stone Age, dogs have enjoyed a symbiotic relationship with humans in which they perform certain duties for us and we feed them. Most of these dog jobs are no longer relevant, so dogs have come to play a different, more emotional, role in our lives. As they have evolved to an ever more acute understanding of human body language and other emotional signals, they have become increasingly adept at manipulating us to get what they want. When being pushy or obnoxious fails, they are not above feigning emotional or other distress, preying on our guilt, or simply pushing that “cuteness” button, to get us to jump and cater to their every whim. This is not necessarily a bad thing, and easily fixed (don’t jump).

It’s hard to resist the extremes of anthropomorphizing that lead to poor understanding of and unfair expectations of our dogs. “Loyal” dogs do sometimes save lives, but do they lie down on you to keep you from freezing or to share your warmth? “Sensitive” dogs seem to read our minds, but isn’t it more likely that they have learned to read the most subtle physical cues from us?

Dogs have dog personalities and dog motives. They are not small humans with fur. We cannot expect them to automatically understand us, or to obey us because they love us. Nor should we treat them as surrogates for the human sources of comfort and support and self esteem which might be lacking in our lives. If we do, we are doomed to disappointment, and they are doomed to failure. Dogs play an important role in our lives, and they don’t need to be anything more or better than they are to do it. □ Susan Brown

Susan Brown is a professional dog trainer on the island who has been in the “pet business” for 28 years. For all your dog training or pet care needs contact Susan at the Pet Professor, e-mail: bandbfarm@yahoo.com or call 717-2620.



WHERE TO FIND THE REPORTER

Snip and save so you can always find a copy of The Bonaire Reporter if there are no more at your favorite spot



Airport:

Car Rental Agencies,
Airport Arrivals Area

Banks:

MCB (Playa & Hato
branches),
RBTT

Bookstores:

Bonaire Boekhandel,
Flamingo Boekhandel

Realty Offices:

Harbourtown
Re/Max
Sunbelt

Restaurants:

Bistro de Paris
Brasserie Bonaire
Capriccio
Chez Lucille
City Cafe
Croccantino
Wil’s Tropical Grill
Garden Café
Kentucky Fried Chicken

Lost Penguin

Lover’s Ice Cream
Pasa Bon Pizza
Seahorse Cyber Café
Subway

Shops:

Bonaire Gift Shop
City Shop
DeFreewieler
Inpo
Paradise Photo
Photo Tours, Playa
Exito Bakery
Bonaire Super Store (old
7-7)

Hotels:

Buddy Dive
Capt. Don’s Habitat
Carib Inn
Caribbean Club Bonaire
Dive Inn
Divi Flamingo
Eden Park Hotel
Harbour Village
Plaza
Sand Dollar

Supermarkets:

Cultimara

Consales

More for Less
Progresso
Sand Dollar Grocery
Tropical Flamingo
Warehouse

Others:

Bonfysio
Botika Korona
Bestuurscollege
Caribbean Laundry
Customs
Fit 4 Life
Hair Affair
Harbour Village Marina
Parliament
Rocargo
San Francisco Hospital
TCB
Telbo

RINCON:

Chinese Store,
Joi Fruit Store,
Lemari Grocery,
Rincon Bakery.

Still can’t find a copy? Visit our office at
Kaya Gob. Debrot 200-6 or Call 717-8988

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Sunday Lunch

BONAIRE CULINARY TEAM CONTINUES LUNCHEONS

The Bonaire Culinary Team will be continuing their "practice" luncheons on Sundays at Le Flamboyant restaurant at 1 pm. Last Sunday, the team was coached by well-known international culinary judge, Henny Kolenbrander, who's been a good friend to all our culinary teams in the past. A bartender has been chosen to accompany the team. He's Brad Conner from Rum Runners. He, as well, will be "practicing" on the luncheon diners by having them taste his original cocktails, the best of which he'll be submitting to the competition in June in Miami at the "Taste of the Caribbean." The fundraising luncheons start at 1 pm, donation is NAf30. Seating is limited so make your reservations early. Call Sara Matera, tel. 786-9299 or Laura DeSalvo 717-8988, 791-7252 for reservations. □ L.D.



Saturday Walk

SPECIAL CAVE EXCURSION

Interested in some true Bonaire-ana? Take the cave trip this weekend, Saturday, April 23, when journalist/historian Bòi Antoin will lead an excursion to the cave locally known as *Kueba di la Birgui* (Cave of the Virgin). The cave got its name from the formation there that appears as the Virgin Mary. The trip is especially for Dutch and English speaking persons. The cave is remote and not easy to get to and very few people know it.

The donation is NAf25, the proceeds of which go to sending the Bonaire team to the 4-day Nijmegen walk in the Netherlands. You'll get an escorted trip, breakfast before the walk, and afterwards, soup, fruit and water. Bring your own water for the hike and a flashlight for the interior of the cave. Meet between 6:30 to 7 am at Porta Spaño for coffee, tea, juice and bread before the walk. To sign up call *Extra* newspaper at 717-8482. □ Bòi Antoin/L.D.



Extra photo

©2005 *The Bonaire Reporter*

Published **weekly**. For information about **subscriptions, stories** or **advertising** in *The Bonaire Reporter*, phone (599) 717-8988, 791-7252, fax 717-8988, E-mail to: **Reporter@bonairenews.com** *The Bonaire Reporter*, George DeSalvo, Publisher. Laura DeSalvo, Editor in Chief. Address: Kaya Gob. Debrot 200-6; Bonaire, Neth. Antilles. Available on-line at: **www.bonairereporter.com**

Reporters: Bòi Antoin, Albert Bianculli, Susan Brown, Dodo, Jack Horkheimer, Pauline E. Kayes, Greta Kooistra, Michael Thiessen, Ap van Eldik

Features Editor: Greta Kooistra **Translations:** Peggy Bakker, Sue Ellen Felix

Production: Barbara Lockwood

Distribution: Yuchi Molina (Rincon), Elizabeth Silberie (Playa); **Housekeeping:** Jaidy Rojas Acevedo. **Printed by:** DeStad Drukkerij, Curaçao

WHAT'S HAPPENING

WEEKLY MOVIE SHOWTIMES

Call to make sure: Usually 9:00 pm

The Pacifier (Vin Diesel)

Early Show (usually 7pm)

Million Dollar Baby

Kaya Prinses Marie
Behind Exito Bakery
Tel. 717-2400

Tickets - NA\$10,50 (incl. Tax)
High Schoolers - NA\$7,75

NEW FILMS BEGIN EVERY FRIDAY

SATURDAY 4 PM
Robots

THIS WEEK

April 22, Friday - Earth Day Event in Bonaire: Underwater Caretaking dive with Dee Scarr, 2 pm. Call Dee at 717-8529.

Saturday, April 23—Cave Excursion to Kueba di la Birgui (cave of the virgin) for English/Dutch speaking people. Donation of NA\$25 goes to send Bonaire team to 4-Day Walk in Nijmegen, Holland. Call Bòi Antoin at 717-8482.

Saturday, Sunday, April 23 – 24 - Feng Shui Introductory Course (in Spanish) at Lagun City (end of Kaminda Lagun) from 2 to 5 pm. The cost is NA\$95. Sign up by April 18. Please call 717-3855 or 786-8908 or pass by Tambu shop in Kaya Grandi in front of Harbourside Mall for information or enrollment.

Sunday, April 24—Laying the first stone of the new **Dare to Care Public Park**. Kaya Sur Bartola 11 am – 2 pm. All invited. Free snacks, drinks, games, music.

Sunday, April 24 -Workshop “What is Happiness” (Kon ta Felis) by spiritual councilor Remy de Haas at Caribbean Club Bonaire- Hilltop. Cost is NA\$75 per person. Call 717-9911. Workshop from 9 am-6 pm.

Sunday, April, 24 -Briefing on new **private High School** in the Trans World Radio Activity Building, at 7 pm.

Sunday, April 24 - Celebration of Earth Day. Volunteers are invited to attend clean-up parties in Washington-Slagbaai Park at Playa Chikitu, Boca Chikitu, and Playa Lagun. These are turtle nesting areas and need some attention before the nesting season begins. Please come to the entrance to Washington Park by 9 am and bring a friend. Transport from Jong Bonaire is available at 7:30 am, but you must call 717-8444 to confirm. Remember sun gear and gloves. Bonaire National Marine Park volunteers can call Chile at 786-2397 for a ride.

Sunday, April 24- The Foundation of Surinamese on Bonaire will hold a congress “BIGI KRUTU” for the Surinamers living here in Bonaire. Subject for debate: The role of *Mietie Makandra* in the Bonairean Community and the future policy of *Mietie Makandra*. All Surinamese families are invited to join in supporting this worthy cause for our common good. After the congress there will be a sport afternoon for the families, music and karaoke. KON TAK WI EGI TORI! (Come and express your opinion!) At the Buurtcentrum Nikiboko Noord at the Kaya Pos Di Amor, 2 pm. This congress is supported by NGO Plataforma Boneiru, Foundation of Surinamese on Bonaire, Mietie Makandra.

Best movie in Bonaire this year?

MICRO MOVIE REVIEW Seen recently in Movieland Cinema:

Million Dollar Baby by Clint Eastwood, starring Clint Eastwood, Hillary Swank and Morgan Freeman. The film has great characters, but it doesn't glorify them. It has a wonderful story, but it never tries to impress you. The photography and direction are superb, but never distracting. What this movie is, if I have to call it something, is passion. Passion for filmmaking, passion for storytelling, passion for its characters, passion for its actors, and passion for its story and the means to which it will go to tell it. You may cry through this film, you may cheer, you may laugh. Whatever the case, you will love it. One of those rare Hollywood productions in which you, as the audience, feel you are being taken seriously.

Go and see it! □ *Dodo*

Sunday, April 24-Arts and Crafts Markets at Wilhelmina Park on Cruise Ship
Visiting Days: *Endeavor*

COMING

Saturday, April 30 - World Tai Chi Day. Ron Sewell is hoping to organize an open meeting for anyone interested in talking about what Tai Chi may have to offer them. Anyone already practicing Tai Chi will be especially welcome. Call Ron at 717-2458 for information.

Saturday, April 30-Rincon Day, Queen's Birthday—See page 10 for schedule and information.

Saturday, April 30— COMCABON MCB 5 km / 17.5 km run with prizes. 7 am. Call Richard Pietersz at 717-8629, 780-7225.

Saturday, April 30 - Windsurfing Race
Sunday, May 1—Labor Day
Sunday, May 1 (Labor Day)- Trip to the islands of Lac Bay- Departures from 12 noon until 4pm from the beach in front of Kon Tiki Restaurant. If you want to see the part of Bonaire off the beaten path, this is for you. Cost is NA\$25 per person. More details in the next issue, but reserve now. Call 717- 8482 (*Extra* newspaper)

Thursday, May 5—Healing Touch Free Introductory Class, 7-8 pm, Caribbean Club Bonaire (page 3)
May 15th to the 22nd - King of the Caribbean at Lac Bay. The event will kick off the 2005 PWA Freestyle Tour. For info, see www.pwaworldtour.com or www.bonaireworldfreestyle.com

May 19 to 22—Bonaire-Harbourtown JAZZ FESTIVAL—(see pages 2 and 6)
May 19: Welcome Concert at Wilhelmina Park. Happy hour and late night jazz in cafes and restaurants
May 20: Main concert at Plaza Resort. Happy hour and late night jazz jam sessions at City Café and other places
May 21: Main concert at Bongos Beach. Happy hour and late night jazz jam sessions at City Café and other places
May 22: Main concert at Kon Tiki Beach Club. Brunch concert on location not yet decided. Jazz all over the place plus three main concerts for only NA\$30! Website: www.bonairejazz.com

OCTOBER 2005
The **International Bonaire Sailing Regatta**
October 9 – 15, 2005, a slip of one week.

EVERY WEEK

Saturday 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 handi-crafts, candles, incense, drinks and music. www.infobonaire.com/rincon

Sunday -Live music 6 to 9 pm while enjoying a great dinner in colorful tropical ambience 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

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.

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

Every day by appointment -**Rooi Lamoenchi Kunuku Park Tours** Bonairean kunuku. \$12 (NA\$12 for residents). Tel 717-8489, 540-9800.

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.

Monday **Dee Scarr's Touch** the Sea slide experience **28th.** Aquarius Conference Center, Capt. Don's Habitat, 8:30–9:30pm.

Wednesday (2nd and 4th) **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 Plaza's Topsy Seagull , 5 pm. 717-2500.

CLUBS and MEETINGS

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

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

Weekly BonaireTalker Gathering and Dinner at Gibi's - Tuesday - 6:30pm - call 567-0655 for directions.

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. NA\$5 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.

JCI. First Wednesday of the Month- Junior Chamber International Bonaire (JCI Bonaire or formerly known as Bonaire Jay-

cees) meets at the ABVO building, Kaminda Jato Baco 36 from 7:30 to 9:30pm. Everyone is welcome. Contact: Renata Domacassé 516-4252.

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

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

Rotary lunch meetings **Wednesday,** 12 noon-2 pm - Rendez-Vous 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 / 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). 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
Tel/Fax. 717-8988, Cel. 791-7252

Pets of the Week

They came from completely different places last week, but within just minutes they became great pals. "Audrey," the short legged brown furred dog on the left, is very gentle and quiet. She was found in the Nikiboko area. Surely she must have some daschund or corgi blood in her somewhere to give her that low slung appearance and alert expression. Audrey is about eight months old.

"Caroline," her black and white taller friend on the right, is about two years old and was found wandering on her own in the area between Subi Rincon and Sabadeco. She is a very nice and affectionate dog. Both of these female dogs are social with people; they're intelligent and will be easy to train. They seem to have respect and true affection for each other. Both have been checked out by the vet, wormed and given their shots and will be sterilized.

You may meet Audrey and Caroline and the other healthy and social pets up for adoption at the Bonaire Animal Shelter on the Lagoen Road, open Monday through Friday, 10 am to 2 pm, Saturdays until 1. Tel. 717-4989. □ *L.D.*



"Audrey" and "Caroline"

DINING GUIDE See advertisements in this issue

| RESTAURANT | PRICE RANGE / WHEN OPEN | FEATURES |
|---|---|---|
| Bella Vista Restaurant Sea Side Restaurant at Buddy Dive Resort 717-5080, ext. 525 | Moderate. Breakfast and Lunch Dinner during Theme nights only. Open every day | Magnificent Theme Nights: Saturday: Beach Grill; Wednesday: Mexican Night; Friday: Manager's Rum Punch Party and All-You-Can-Eat B.B.Q |
| Bistro de Paris Kaya Gob. N. Debrot 46 (half-way between hotel row and town) 717-7070 | Moderate Lunch and Dinner Closed Sunday | Real French Cooking in an informal setting Superb dishes prepared with care and love by a French chef Owner-operated Eat in or Take away |
| Brasserie Bonaire Royal Palm Galleries Kaya Grandi 26, Next to Re/Max | Low-Moderate Lunch and Dinner Closed Sunday and Monday | Lots of parking in big mall lot The place for a Quick Lunch and a Cozy Dinner Breezy terrace with airco inside |
| Caribbean Club Bonaire On the Tourist Road 2 mi. north of Town 717-7901 | Moderate-Expensive Breakfast and Dinner Closed Sunday | Quiet country setting, lovely landscaping, friendly staff Happy Hour from 5-7 pm Gourmet chef creates unique daily specials |
| Calabas Restaurant & Chibi Chibi Restaurant and Bar 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 sea while enjoying a breakfast buffet or à la carte lunch and dinner at the 'Chibi Chibi' restaurant & bar. Inspiring vistas and the highest standard of cuisine. |
| Crocantino Italian Restaurant 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. |
| Garden Café 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 |
| The Great Escape EEG Blvd #97—across from Belmar 717-7488 | Moderate Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner Open 7 days | Bar-Restaurant poolside—under the thatched roof. Cuban Chef prepares Caribbean cuisine. Champagne brunch on Sundays 10 am to noon. Happy hours 5 to 7 every day. |
| The Last Bite Bakery 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 gourmet class items -always from scratch- for take out or delivery only. |
| The Lost Penguin 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. |
| Pasa Bon Pizza 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 Real Thing! Freshly prepared pizzas made with the finest ingredients. Salads, desserts. Eat in or take away. Nice bar too. Call ahead to eat-in or take out 790-1111 |



SHOPPING GUIDE See advertisements in this issue

APPLIANCES/ TV/ ELECTRONICS/ COMPUTERS

City Shop, the mega store, has the island's widest selection of large and small home appliances. Fast service and in-store financing too.

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.

BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION

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

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.

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 AND LIQUOR

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

HOTELS

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.

The Great Escape

Under new management. Quiet and tranquil setting with pool and luxuriant garden in Belnem. Cyber Café, restaurant and bar.

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.

RETAIL

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

SECURITY

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

SHIPPING

Rocargo Freight Air and sea shipments in/out of Bonaire. Customs agents. Professional and efficient. **FedEx agent.**

SPA—DAY SPA

Pedisa Day Spa—for all your body and wellness needs. 40 years of experience Classic and specialty massages, Reiki, Reflexology and more.

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.

VILLAS

Bonaire Oceanfront villa for up to nine people: five kitchens, five bathrooms. Ideal for divers.

WATER TAXI

Get to Klein Bonaire by Ferry. Ride the *Kantika di Amor* or *Skiffy*. Hotel pickup.

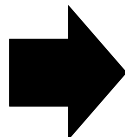
WINES

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 Desirée and Don for a workout that will refresh mind and body. Private lessons too.

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



Mother's Day is only two weeks away, Sunday 8 May. Take advantage of the advertising power of *The Bonaire Reporter* to tell sons and daughters of the special items that you carry that would make perfect gifts. Restaurateurs can use the pages of *The Reporter* to let families know of the special meals they will offer on Mother's Day. There is space in the next two editions of *The Reporter* for your message. Call 717-8988 or 791-7252 or 786-6125

Born on Bonaire....

Roosje Vinck

“I was born July 29th 1950, at home in Rincon, the youngest of 11 children and therefore very spoiled. My father was Cornelis Crestian, who together with Jopie Abraham’s father, Julio, founded the Democratic Party. He was the key factor when they won the elections in 1955. The Democratic Party was the first party after slavery that really did something to help the common people and to change the system in their favor. My dad was a self-made man. First he had a bar, then a mini-market and a cinema. He was also a great car mechanic, a genius. He could do things nobody else could do! He was progressive and positive. Whenever a new gadget came on the market he would buy it. And he was a fabulous electrician. In the old days we didn’t have electricity in Rincon, so my dad put an engine in a building, made all the connections, and after that all of Rincon had power from 6 pm until midnight. At home we had our own engine that provided us with electricity 24 hours a day. He just loved new things and challenges; that’s what I inherited from him.

My parents owned two *kunukus* where they grew *maishi chikitu* and all the fruits and vegetables you could grow in the tropics. My dad was a real entrepreneur. At home it was always open house. Everyone could come and eat with us and they also took other people’s children into their home. He and my mother, Maria Molina, did everything together. They had a wonderful marriage that lasted until they died. My mother’s parents were of Indian and African origin; my dad’s, Jewish and Dutch. So I am a mixture of four different cultures; I think it’s a good thing.

I went to elementary school in Rincon until I was 12, then to school in Curaçao. At 16 I went to Holland to study to become a pharmaceutical assistant. It wasn’t my first choice. I’d always wanted to be a midwife, but I was too young at the time, so I asked the governor what other profession in the care sector would always provide me with work. He said, ‘pharmaceutical assistant,’ and I followed his advice.

I’ll always remember the first 11 years of my life; I think it was the most wonderful time I ever had. There was nothing to do; it was a peaceful time and filled with love. From the time I was very little I’ve always thought that I’d never become a homemaker; that’s not for me! Of course I knew I had my duties, but I also felt very strongly that I had to stand up for my rights!

I stayed in Holland for three and a

half years. It was a challenge and I love challenges. I felt lucky. After I’d completed my studies I did medical research and wanted to continue, but my sister wrote that my mom was terminally ill. So I left Holland and found a job on Curaçao to be closer to my family. Then my mom asked me if I could come home to take care of her. Together with my big sister, Ilvia Molina, I stayed with her day and night for six months until she passed away.”

Roosje Vinck has an overwhelming personality; she’s extremely bright, spiritual and strong, has a great sense of humor and tremendous energy.

“After my mom had gone, I stayed at home, watched TV, drove around and was lazy. Losing my mother had been a great shock. After three months my father said, ‘I understand you’ve had to rest. It was a big blow for you and also for me, but I think you should go find a job.’ I felt kind of hurt but I knew he was right.

“If those people (higher educated Bonaireans) would return, it would stimulate the economy and that means more work for everyone. I know it can be hard, but let me tell you: It’s worth it, really!”

Over the years I worked at six different pharmacies on Curaçao. Whenever I was fed up with one, I went to work for another one. I got married and my daughters were born - Gisela, who’s 25, pregnant and living on Bonaire, and Nereina, 22, living on Curaçao and who has a son, Jurswin Jr.

In 1990 I came back to Bonaire with my family. It was what I’d hoped for all my life - not only because of the wonderful childhood I’d had - but I feel there’s more. This island has something that’s very unique. I call it ‘a positive spirit.’ But it was a great disappointment. After all these years of longing to be finally at home, I found out that my own people didn’t accept me. I am a very social person. I love to sit with people and talk. I love discussions. I enjoy being in other people’s company, but it came out completely differently. Some people would speak to me in Dutch because they thought I was Surinamese, or in Spanish because they

thought I was a Dominican, and I felt hurt; I felt like a complete stranger.

After one year I wanted to go back to Curaçao, but then Jopie Abraham asked me if he could put me on the election list for the Democratic Party. After I’d introduced myself I was suddenly accepted 100%! They put me on the list as number four. They’d found out who I was - the daughter of Cornelis ‘Nechi’ Crestian! Everything was suddenly all right. Later on I learned why people were confused about my identity. I hadn’t really been here since I was a child; I had my married name, and they didn’t recognize me as my looks are different from the rest of my family. But seriously, I’m telling you all this because people should know what’s happening. When you’ve been away for a long time and then you come back you’re a stranger to your own people. I think this happens everywhere, especially in small communities.

Well, I worked for Botica Bonaire and then I became a senator. Later I started to reorganize the pharmacy at the hospital. Now I’m working full time for the health care service department where people can file their complaints about health care. I always need new stimulation. Whenever something gets routine, I’m gone. I need the adrenaline. I’ve always been involved in other things besides my job. I like to help people. I’m working for *Rincon ban pe solushon* (Let’s find a solution for Rincon). We’re creating a platform to represent all different groups and interests of Rincon’s society. We’re trying to work on everything together, so that we can work more efficiently. I also work with drug addicts. I wish we could have a clinic here like they have in Santo Domingo where the results of their program are really good. For some years now I’ve been a volunteer with FKPD at the homes where people live under guidance. I’m available if a problem occurs during weekends or holidays. Once a week I distribute their medications and do the administration that comes with it. I do it for the people; I don’t expect anything back; but I found out that working with the handicapped has enriched me in a spiritual way.

To do something different with my



Roosje Vinck

pharmaceutical background I started my own hair cosmetic line. It’s going very well. At the same time it’s inspired people around me in Rincon to also start their own small businesses. So far five people have succeeded in doing so. We have to keep motivating. There’s such a lot of talent, especially in Rincon, and they know how to organize. Now they have to learn about leadership. I also hope that higher educated Bonaireans will come back to the island. Although they won’t get paid here what they’d make somewhere else, they don’t need so much here and they’ll learn to improvise. If those people would return it would stimulate the economy and that means more work for everyone. I know it can be hard, but let me tell you: It’s worth it, really!

I will always keep on motivating other people. It takes a lot of energy, but I’ve got plenty! I’ve worked a lot and very hard; I’ve traveled all over the world and I’ve gotten to know all different cultures, but now I’ve come home, and even if I weren’t born here, I’d stay on Bonaire.

I’ve lived half my life and now I know who I am. I’m not like everybody. I take life the way it comes, but I am prepared. When things turn out differently and sadness comes around I let my wounds heal and I go on. You always have to talk though, to speak out and express what you feel. We were brought up that way, but it’s also a matter of character. Everyone is different, but each person has his own value.”

□

Greta Kooistra



Greta Kooistra

MAIRI BHAN, the Last Voyage

We strain our eyes into the open water for our first glimpse of the partially overturned iron hull of the clipper ship *Mairi Bhan*. My dive partner signals that all is OK and we continue down to the 120 foot (36 meter) level. Allen and I plan to enter the wreck at the forward cargo area after we take some measurements to determine the size of the opening. Over the past several months we have been gathering data from the ship to try and answer our lingering questions about her sinking. We will search for evidence of the large wooden barrels that almost certainly contained the cargo of tar from Trinidad. It was loaded on board for shipment to Marseille, France, in late November and early December of 1912. The La Brea tar pit is the largest in the world at 114 acres and is said to be over 1,000 feet (305 meters) deep. Pitch Lake was the source of asphalt pitch used for paving the first streets in Chicago, New York and Paris and for caulking the seams of countless wooden ships since the 16th Century ...

Captain's Log

... "My men have loaded and stowed several hundred barrels of asphalt that have been taken on board as a consignment for the city of Marseille. The ship is prepared for the journey north and east across the Atlantic. Our return to Europe will complete the round trip that started from the home port in Genoa, Italy. The crew is anticipating a late Christmas/New Year holiday with their families and loved ones. We made port here in Trinidad several months ago and discharged our cargo of Italian wine, marble, and domestic goods at Port of Spain. A portion of the wine is safely stowed below in my cabin for use on board in the galley.

At the pier here in Brighton, close to Pitch Lake in La Brea, we are at the southern tip of the Gulf of Paria on the west coast of Trinidad. Our journey north, off the coast of Venezuela to the west, will take us through the narrow passage known as 'The Dragon's Mouth.' We will finish loading fresh meat, fruit and vegetables and fill the water holds in anticipation of our departure on December 5-6, according to favorable conditions. There is considerable concern and unrest with



A French training ship reminiscent of the Mairi Bhan, photo provided by Dominique Serafini and Albert Bianculli

the crew over the dangerous nature of the cargo? ...

Diving Into History

Descending into the deep blue sea, I imagine this probable log of Captain L. Razeto and think about the many stories of the *Mairi Bhan*'s sinking off the deserted northwest coast of Bonaire on December 7, 1912. The newspaper report in the *Curaçaosche Courant*, dated December 13, 1912, simply states: "The crew of the Italian bark *Mairi Bhan* arrived this morning aboard the Dutch schooner *Camia*. The Bark, that left Trinidad laden with asphalt, has sunk off the west coast of Bonaire. All hands have been saved."

As we swim above the port side of the wreck, the clean sharp line of the keel and the outline of the riveted hull plates show no obvious damage from the ship's grounding. I begin to wonder if the crack in the port rail, in the exact position of the main mast deck plate and support structure, was a factor in the sinking, or if it was a result of salt water corrosion on the weakened beams after the ship slid down the reef slope. The dismasting, in a raging storm sea, with huge waves rocking the stricken clipper on the shallow upper reef, inundation by seawater, and immediate sinking.

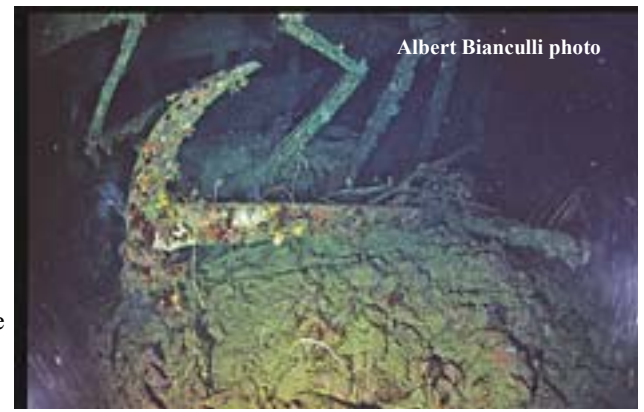
Allen and I reach the forward cargo area and complete the measurements. In the stern main deck we measured a hatch opening of 6.5 feet (2 meters) square for the loading of cargo. Now we enter the forward hold to search the tar flows for any sign of the cargo containers. We

swim to the bilge area where the residual tar flow is approximately 5 feet (1.5 m) thick. This is also the point in the ship's profile where the cross section, the beam, is at the widest. As our high intensity underwater lamps pierce the dark hold and play over the surface of the asphalt, we notice a bump that casts a shadow on the nearby curved contour of the hull plates. On closer inspection, we see the unmistakable shape of the recessed top and tapered sides of a wooden barrel encased in solidified tar! It has been preserved in its original condition for almost 100 years.

We scan the dark recesses for other signs of the containers, particularly barrel rings of various diameters. We swim this lower bilge toward the stern, maintaining our lookout for more barrels. As we reach the stern mast stub, still securely fastened to the mast step, a check of our gauges alerts us to exit the ship for our slow ascent to the surface. We turn left and come face to face with the "Hulk," a giant green moray eel that seems to protect the remains of the galley and poop deck from unwanted visitors. Where this gentle giant resides is a mystery, but he always surprises us. We greet him with our usual careful approach and wait for him to move on his way. Our hearts still pounding, we glance at each other with a mixture of anxiety and glee. We signal OK and thumbs up as we exit the hull at the stern windlass.

Clues-But To What?

We complete our decompression and safety stops and leave the water after a total dive time of 68 minutes. Now, as Allen debriefs me, we discuss what we have just discovered and what it may mean. The presence of this single barrel suggests that a fire may have raged on-board as the captain intentionally grounded the ship. The inferno, fueled by the fumes of exploding barrels, seems to confirm that the asphalt pitch flowed from the wreck in one continuous mass like lava from a volcano. We recall the report of Captain Razeto to the owners, Fratelli Denagri and Giuseppe Mortola, in



Windjammer anchor embedded in the tar cargo

the register of Lloyd's Wreck Returns of 1912-1913 that states: ... "During a severe storm encountered after one day's sail from Trinidad, on December 7, 1912, we were blown off course toward Bonaire. There was a lamp fire further fueled by the asphalt pitch. The ship was intentionally run aground in an attempt to get as many people safely ashore as possible."

The question remains was this an accident or a planned conspiracy to relieve the company of a ship with questionable profitability that had reached the end of its useful life? Will we ever know the truth? □ © Albert Bianculli

In the next installment of Albert Bianculli's series about the Mairi Bhan, details about how the Windjammer came to lie where she is now may help shed light on her final end.

Free Multi-Media Show Sundays

Bonaire Holiday Multi-media dual-projector production by Albert Bianculli, 8.30 pm, Capt. Don's Habitat. Windjammer photos, old and new are featured.



BONAIRE SKY PARK*

*to find it, just look up

Jupiter is at its Closest to Earth and Farthest From the Sun this Month!

Yes, indeed, this April is a very special month for the planet **Jupiter** because it is at its closest, biggest, brightest and best for viewing from **Earth** for the entire year. And just coincidentally it is also at its farthest from the **Sun** in almost 12 years.

Plus you can watch the **Moon** travel across the sky all night long with Jupiter two nights in a row this week.

On Thursday, the day this issue comes out, April 21st, around 8 pm, face east where the brightest objects you'll see will be a 12-day-old nearly full Moon directly above the king of the planets, 88,000-mile-wide Jupiter. And because Jupiter officially came into opposition on April 3rd it is still almost directly opposite the Sun as seen from Earth. It's thus visible almost all the hours that the Sun is not, which means that it is visible almost all night long. This further means that not only can you see it just after the Sun sets in the east, but you can watch it travel across the sky from east to west almost all night long and, on this Thursday, in the company of an almost full Moon.

At 8 pm you'll see Jupiter in the east, and about two hours before sunrise Friday morning the 22nd you'll see Jupiter and the Moon in the west. But you'll also notice that the Moon will be much closer to Jupiter Friday morning than on Thursday night. That's because the Moon travels its own diameter, about 1/2 degree, across the sky every single hour. At 8 o'clock Thursday night, the Moon is about 8 degrees away from Jupiter, but by Friday morning it will have moved six Moon diameters closer to Jupiter and will be only 5 degrees away.

Similarly if you go out at 8 pm Friday night you'll see that the Moon, instead of being above Jupiter like it was Thursday night, is now 5 1/2 degrees below Jupiter. And if you watch it all night you'll be able to see the Moon move away from Jupiter so that two hours before sunrise Saturday it will be well past it, a full 9 degrees or 18 Moon widths away. So here's your chance to see how fast the Moon really travels each night in relation to other celestial objects.

Which leaves us with just one item: if Jupiter is at its closest to Earth this month why is it at its farthest from the Sun? Well, if we could go out into space we would see that it takes our Earth one Earth year to travel around the Sun. And because all planet orbits are not perfect circles but ellipses, once a year our Earth is at its closet point to the Sun, and once a year it is at its farthest. The same is true of Jupiter, only it takes Jupiter 12 Earth years to orbit the Sun. So once every 12 years Jupiter is at its farthest from the Sun and once every 12 years at its closest to the Sun. And last week, April 14th, Jupiter was at its farthest point from the Sun since 1993 - 507,238, 000 miles. But fret not because in only six years on St. Patrick's Day, March 17th, 2011, Jupiter will be at its closest to the Sun - only 460,002,000 miles away. Happy Jupiter watching! □ *Jack Horkheimer*



Jupiter, up close and personal



THE STARS HAVE IT

For the week:
April 22 to April 29, 2005
By Astrologer Michael Thiessen

ARIES (Mar. 21- April 20) Your emotions will be touched off concerning recent encounters with your lover. Don't do something silly just to get back at your mate. Travel opportunities must be taken advantage of. You may find yourself interested in more than one person. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

TAURUS (Apr. 21- May 21) Your involvement in groups will be favorable for meeting new and exciting individuals. Your ability to deal with others will help you in getting the support you need. Elders may get you going this week. Your best gains will come through helping others emotionally. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21) Stay calm and focus on things that will help you understand the situation better. Expect temper tantrums on the home front if you haven't been letting someone have their way. Jealousy may get in the way of a good relationship. You're in the mood to do things such as competitive sports, or perhaps a night on the town. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) You can be sure that any dealing with large institutions should go well. Efforts made to improve yourself will turn out to your satisfaction. You can look into new jobs, but don't count on getting help from someone who may have promised you assistance. Lovers may not be truthful. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

LEO (July 23-Aug 22) Don't donate more than you can afford in order to impress others. Be prepared to counteract the damage that adversaries are about to create. Business conducted in your own office will proceed smoothly. Don't expect new acquaintances to be completely honest about themselves. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) Talk to peers who you trust in order to get sound advice. You will be accident prone if you aren't careful this week. You can make money if you concentrate on producing services that will make domestic chores easier. You can pick up information that will give you an edge. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) Tone down and put some of that hard earned cash into a safe, long-term investment. Intellectual stimulation is what you are looking for. You may find yourself in a heated dispute with a friend if you try to change your mind. You could meet potential new mates if you go out with friends or take pleasure trips. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) Socializing will be more than just entertaining. Everything is moving quickly, just the way you like it. Hassles with in-laws could put a damper on your day. Don't get involved in other people's private doings. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) Don't make promises you can't keep. Don't be too pushy or demanding or you may find yourself all alone. Disappointments are likely if your mate embarrasses you in front of friends. Opportunities for travel and socializing are evident. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) Trying to deal with your mate will be unproductive and possibly hurtful. Opportunities to meet new lovers will come through pleasure trips or social events. Don't sign up for too many extra activities or you'll have trouble fulfilling your obligations. Be sure to pay attention to your bank account. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) Don't beat around the bush; state your case in plain and simple terms. You will be able to make changes regarding your living arrangements. Focus your efforts on details, and keep to yourself in order to finish your work. You mustn't give too much to your children. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) Minor health problems will cause setbacks if you haven't taken proper care of yourself. Physical work or exercise should be part of your schedule. You are in a high cycle where travel, education, and creative endeavors are concerned. Put your energy into moneymaking ventures. Your lucky day this week will be Friday. □