

FREE
JAZZ
This Week

May 20 to June 3 , 2005 Volume 12, Issue 20

The **BONAIRE!** REPORTER

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SINCE 1994



Juan Marino who windsurfed from Venezuela is surrounded by his friends and well wishers

JAZZ is NOW

NAf30- for all shows

BONAIRE JAZZ FESTIVAL
MAY 20-21-22, 2005

Tickets for the Harbourtown Bonaire Jazz Festival main concerts on sale at City Café, TCB, Kon Tiki Restaurant, Bongs Beach, Plaza Resort, Bonaire Boekhandel and at the gates of the main concert.

FOLLOW THE BANDS

The end of this week marks the greatest jazz event in the history of Bonaire. If you have the stamina you can enjoy nine great sessions of great **Latin & Caribbean Jazz** in the next three days, beginning Friday through Sunday. You might need some musical Viagra to make all the concerts every day from sunset time, the main event and the late night sessions. And the best news is that you need only one NAf30 ticket to see and hear the main event concerts... all the others are free.

Caribbean and Latin Jazz is the main course served by:

Denise Jannah: "This woman can make you dream, cry, and fall in love. What more could you desire...."
—The Music Advocate

"Jannah's voice is fine-rich, certain and teeming with a candor undiminished by the artifice of record making"
—Down Beat

She is almost everywhere in the landscape of jazz. At the international jazz festivals, touring around in the US, Europe and recently Israel. She started with the general repertoire of jazz and is now concentrating on her own compositions. Listen to the voice of a great lady singer, born in Surinam, living in the Netherlands and with her heart in the world of jazz.



Ced Ride: Ced Ride is a phenomenon, a multi artist: painting, singing, writing and acting. His musical interest is broad, from Tumba to jazz, but always connected to the place where his heart, home and his cultural identity is - the Antilles. Everybody knows and loves Ced Ride.



Cedric Dandaré: We are lucky that Cedric is back in Curaçao after 25 years of being abroad. He is really the first man who composed jazz with a splendid mix of Antillean music. Playing almost everywhere, including the North Sea Festi-

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FLOTSAM AND JETSAM



On May 12, Air Jamaica announced that it will cut Wednesday, Thursday, and Sunday flights to/from Bonaire, effective June 27, and the remaining Saturday flight as of August 28. Air Jamaica also recently cut other routes as part of a restructuring, including Manchester, England; St. John's, Antigua; Houston, Texas; and London to Havana. The Jamaican government regained control of Air Jamaica in December 2004 and appointed a new board. It originally planned to sell the airline but later said restructuring would keep it in government hands for several years. Air Jamaica's Bonaire service began in June 1999. The carrier will continue with service via Curaçao. Flying Air Jamaica was a pleasure in this low-frills era because of its friendly staff, full service and big cargo capacity that could accommodate windsurf and dive gear.

► On July 2nd, American Eagle Airlines will begin daily flights to Bonaire through September 2005, up from its four-day-a-week schedule now. They will continue to use the 64-

seat Super ATR. The Bonaire government said it will continue to negotiate for improved airlift to the US.

► Continental Airlines said they are ready to begin flights from Newark Airport to Curaçao on December 17, 2005, provided Curaçao guarantees revenue equivalent to 40% of the seats. They will use a 124-seat Boeing 737. The Curaçao government hasn't yet decided whether to go for it or not. Is this type of deal an option for Bonaire? Past TCB statistics show that the northeast US holds the largest base of Bonaire visitors in America.

Continental is one of the companies of AMR which also own American Airlines. It is the world's sixth-largest airline. It reported a first quarter 2005 net loss of \$184 million.

► The situation at BonairExpress looks grimmer every day. The irregular flight schedule and frequent cancellation of BonairExpress flights are hindering the functioning of Parliament, according to Member of Parliament Chairman, Dudley Lucia. Because of "maintenance" sometimes only one plane can fly. BonairExpress was chartering a 106-passenger Boeing 737-200 jet for the Curaçao-St. Maarten route from the Venezuelan airline, Rutaca, but flying only once a day. Lack of available seats provoked a major disturbance from passengers at the St. Maarten airport ticket counter.

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IN THIS ISSUE: Jazz Festival Now

Opinion (New Apartheid), Opinion (Overcharged for Fuel), Culinary Team Invitation, Finding a Balance for Bonaire Pt. 4, Aruba, Windsurf Championships Begin, PWA is Here, PWA Schedule, Mystery Ship Revealed, Wind & Surf Beach Bar, Cultimara Murals Completed, Five Towers Saga, Art Show, Wilna Groenenboom, Jazz Schedule, Dietitian (3 Recipes), Kristu Hesus Berdad new CD, Wombania, Jawfish Flats, **WEEKLY FEATURES:** Flotsam & Jetsam, Vessel List & Tide Table, Pet of the Week (Ria), Classifieds, Picture Yourself (Costa Rica), Reporter Masthead, What's Happening, Micro Movie Review (The Ring Two), Shopping & Dining Guides, On the Island Since (Ramon De Leon, Sylvia de Boer), Bonaire Sky Park (Bootes), The Stars Have It

(Jazz 2005. Continued from page 2)

val, with Paquito Derivera and Roy Hargrove, he made CDs with Izaline Calister, Randal Corsen and many others. He will perform special compositions of his own and a surprising duet with Denise Jannah.

Avila Blues House Band: Already for more than 10 years they've been the jazz nucleus at the Avila Blues Café in Curaçao, as well as being the experienced sidemen to many stars at the café and at festivals. This time they are in the company of Denise Jannah and Ced Ride. Ronchi Matthews, keyboard; Hershel Rosario, bass; Marlon Conradus, drums; with special guest, Pierre Dunker on bass.

Cuban Express: The memories of the Buena Social Vista Club of Cuba will never be exceeded, but Cuban Express does take you back to that atmosphere: Cuban and Latin music mixed with all those jazzy elements which made that music a hype. Cuban Express, musicians from Curaçao and some Cubans, do remind us of an important event in jazz.



Delbert Bernabela Band: The band is a collective which has blossomed over years of performing and composing together in different settings. They've produced several fine recordings. Although everyone has individually performed internationally, this will be the first international outing for the band. The band includes Delbert Bernabela, saxophones and flute; Franklin Granadillo; trumpet. Johnny Scharbaaij; keyboard; Ivan Quandus, bass and Carlos Bislip, drums.

X- Hale: Four young guys, born in Germany and living in the Netherlands for years, connected through their jazz study in the 90s at Conservatorium in Arnhem,

(Continued on page 16)

(Flotsam and Jetsam. Continued from page 2)

Managing Director of BonairExpress' parent company, Raymundo Saleh, said on Tuesday that the airline is planning to increase the fuel charge to NAf20-25 each way on the St. Maarten route. The current charge of NAf7 isn't sufficient to cover the additional cost of higher fuel prices, he explained. When asked about complaints from passengers about BonairExpress' poor service, Saleh said the **airline was working on getting larger jet aircraft** to use the longer routes, including St. Maarten, the Dominican Republic, Haiti and Miami. The airline is awaiting permits for the international routes. It's possible that the international flights could begin in three or four months.

BonairExpress office staff is shrinking as well, with staff departures being noted in the local daily newspapers. The low employee morale, mentioned in the aviation press, is said to be due to the disintegration of the Exel Aviation Group which supported Bonaire-Exel (now Express) activities.

Sadly, the diminished air service to Curacao has affected student and sports groups. Last week, a class from the SGB, which had conducted fund raisers for a trip to Curaçao, was due to leave at 10 am. However, the group wasn't able to leave until 6 pm that afternoon, missing a day's worth of tours in Curaçao. Another group of youngsters on a swim team in Bonaire haven't been able to book their flight to and from Curaçao where they hoped to participate in a swim meet at the end of May.

► **Fifty-three Dutch detectives and police officers will come to the Antilles**, which is 13 more than was agreed upon in December. They will also stay longer, namely three years instead on one. The Dutch Minister of Kingdom relations, Alexander Pechtold, made the announcement in Curaçao last Monday.

► The Antilles' Minister of Economic Affairs, **Errol Cova, has made two statements that undermine the foreign policies of the Dutch and Antillean governments.** The first, made this past February to a Venezuelan newspaper, was that the American FOL base in Curaçao was unwelcome, while the latest accused the Dutch of colonial arrogance. The country's Council of Ministers last Wednesday dissociated itself from Cova's statement, in effect censuring the controversial politician. Prime Minister Ys stated, "The statements that Minister Errol Cova made in Falcón (state of Venezuela) are not acceptable. Discussing geopolitical subjects and giving comments about them is very dangerous. If this happens a third time, then both of us cannot be together in the same cabinet." The ruling coalition would still have a majority if Cova were removed, but other factors could destabilize the Central Government and require a new coalition to be formed or elections held.

► **Since April 1st everyone using the waters of the Bonaire National Marine Park (BNMP) must pay a**

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A NEW APARTHEID?

The following is from the BBC News:

"There is anger over Dutch plans to expel non-productive Antillean youngsters from The Netherlands. Under the plan, Antilleans aged 16 to 24 who do not start work or study within three months of entering Holland will be sent home. Up until now Antilleans, who hold the same passports as European Dutch, had the same rights.

Dutch Integration and Immigration Minister Rita Verdonk says the cabinet has agreed to her policy of expelling jobless immigrants from the Netherlands Antilles. Mrs. Verdonk said the Netherlands was not a land of milk and honey for those who couldn't make a living elsewhere. According to her lawyers, the regulation does not violate the Constitution nor European legislation and she does not need the cooperation of the Antillean and Aruban governments.

Netherlands Antilles' Prime Minister Etienne Ys has complained that he was not consulted. He described the proposal as "a restriction of freedom," adding that Antilleans were entitled to freedom of movement within the Kingdom because they carry Dutch passports.

The Dutch center-right cabinet says the policy is aimed at weeding out the criminal element among youths from the Netherlands Antilles and Aruba.

Mrs. Verdonk said the harsh measures were directed at "youngsters that think that when they get off the plane scooters and mobile phones will be waiting for them." "For people who have a job or want to study here there will be no problems," the government news service quotes her as saying. Earlier this week, Roy Pieters, President of the consultative body of Caribbean Dutch nationals, told the Dutch daily *Trouw*, "I thought the Antilleans were also Dutch nationals, but apparently that is not the case." Opposition parties have accused the government of colonialism and argue that the move is illegal as all Dutch passport holders are to be treated equally. They agree with Mr. Ys that the government should have opted for training programs instead - for unemployed Antillean youths - both in the Netherlands and in the Caribbean."

What is behind this action that sounds like Apartheid?

Minister Verdonk, in her brief to the Council of Ministers, presented figures to prove that Antillean youngsters come in contact with the law more often than others in Dutch society: One in nine Antillean youngsters between ages 12 and 24 is involved in a crime. In general only one person in 40 in the Netherlands comes in contact with the law.

In the vast majority of Antilleans/Arubans taking up residence in the Netherlands in 2003, 62%, were below the age of 25. In the 15 to 24-year age group 42.5% are unemployed. In Curaçao 46% of the school age population does not graduate.

It is an Antillean urban legend that in years past young thugs in Curaçao were offered a choice: face legal prosecution or accept a free one-way ticket to Amsterdam.

The newly appointed Dutch Minister of Administrative Reform and Kingdom Relations Alexander Pechtold said the new entry policy for Antillean youngsters affects "only a small group that has no future."

In short the Dutch are sick of the way some Antilleans behave and are going to do something about it. The Verdonk measure has been okayed by the Cabinet and now goes to Parliament to become law.



There are 131,000 people from the Dutch Antilles in the Netherlands- 35% are under 20 years old.



Dutch Integration and Immigration Minister Rita Verdonk

Antillean and Aruban officials threatened to not cooperate with the law and urged Antilleans and Arubans living in Holland to attend the May 17-18 Parliament meetings where it will be voted on.

Last Thursday the Antillean Parliament, in a unanimously passed resolution, sent a letter to Holland expressing their opposition. Senator Ramonsito Booi of Bonaire said to *The Reporter* that the right way to handle the problem was to make it a joint Dutch Antillean venture to help and prepare young people to be more responsible citizens. "It's not the way to do things... on their (Holland's) own. We have to find a solution on both sides," he said.

Bonaire Opposition leader Senator Jopie Abraham said that perhaps restrictions on European Dutch wanting to live in the Antilles were in order.

Prime Minister Nelson Oduber of Aruba does not agree at all with the decision of the Dutch government. Oduber says he can understand that the Netherlands is looking for ways to combat the crime. But according to him, it is not right to choose for measures that single out a population group within the Dutch Realm.

A Curaçao political party (MAN) wants to file a complaint with the Decolonization Committee of the United Nations.

Member of the Dutch Parliament Vos said the measure was comparable to a regulation whereby criminal youngsters wouldn't be allowed to get off Texel, one of the islands off Holland's coast.

Minister Pechtold's predecessor, Thom de Graaf, of the same political party, objected to restrictions on admittance of Antilleans, which he contended was against the non-discriminatory principle.

This law is especially divisive and inappropriate, especially coming at a time when Bonaire voted to seek closer ties with The Netherlands. If the Dutch Antilles islands had the same level of social services, schools, wages, benefits and pensions as Holland then the problems might be at the same levels as the Dutch: perhaps only 1 in 40 youngsters would be in trouble with the police instead of 1 in 9. And what of those other eight youngsters? Must they travel with two-way tickets to Holland to start their life or move in with their family and friends or risk getting sent back to their island?

It's been proven that apartheid will undermine a society and be a cause of trouble, not a lasting solution. Dialogue must continue until an equitable solution is found. □ G.D



Bonaire's Senator Abraham and Dutch Minister Pechtold hold different views



The Isla Refinery in Curaçao



OVERCHARGED FOR FUEL?

Is Bonaire getting overcharged for the petroleum products it must buy from the Curaçao-owned company, Curoil? If you read the recent report provided to *The Bonaire Reporter* by Senator Jopie Abraham, the answer is an emphatic “yes.” And it’s not a piddling amount, but almost twice the world price.

According to a letter from Norman Perry of COPEDA (The Curaçao Oil Products Distribution Corporation),

apart from all the taxes, correction factors, tax, government and Curoil share, etc... the prices Curoil charges Bonaire is way above the highest world market price. And they’ve been too high since the 90s. It was a fundamental concern of the now retired government economist, Theo Thiessen.

The COPEDA report makes several major points:

- Venezuelan crude is priced much lower than other world oil. That’s what Curoil delivers.
- Bonaire is invoiced at NAf947,15 per 1,000 liters (\$1.9698 per US gallon) for fuel oil. The highest world price in the petroleum cost database, paid in Los Angeles, CA, is

NAf511.33 per 1,000 liters (\$1.0634 per US gallon). That’s a difference of NAf435,82 per 1000 liters or NAf43.58 cents per liter.

- Aqualectra, the Curaçao power company, pays NAf214,64 per 1,000 liters for its fuel.

Everyone understands that the cost of fuel is basic to an economy. Experts say that a 1% rise in fuel prices can cause a 5% rise in the general costs. We see it first in the price of gasoline, diesel and cooking gas. Victor Fonseca, the owner of the Tropical Flamingo Supermarket, says that when things become expensive people start buying the cheapest possible food products. Instead of buying chicken they buy corned beef, sardines; pasta instead of rice, etc. So fuel prices can even affect the health of the population.

The island is tied by contracts and agreements to Curoil. The question now is how can we negotiate better prices or get a new supplier? □ G.D.



Nederex photo

Replacing the troublesome Cat Cracker at PDVSA’s Curaçao island refinery



The Bonaire Reporter welcomes letters from readers.

Letters must include the writer’s name and telephone number or e-mail address.

Letters without that information will not be published.

If a writer wishes to remain anonymous or just use initials we will honor the request. Letters should not be more than 400 words in length and may be edited at the Editor’s discretion. Send letters or diskettes to *The Bonaire Reporter*, Kaya Gob. Debrot 200-6, Bonaire; via fax 717-8988 or E-mail: letters@bonairenews.com

A Closer Look at the Aruba Model

Aruba has been held up as the model for Bonaire to follow because of its growth in tourism and positive airlift situation. But if Bonaire is to consider this model, it must do it by looking at the full picture. The increases in rooms, tourists and airlift are only a small fraction of the story.

Several years ago Tobago took a look at the Aruba model to learn some lessons for its own tourism development. The Tobago research was done so that island could follow the positive steps of Aruba, prevent some of Aruba's mistakes and try to do it better. Let's hope Bonaire can do the same.

One of the key lessons that Tobago took from the Aruba model was that it is not necessary to give away land and provide extreme tax holidays. The researchers for Tobago stated: **"From hindsight, the tax and other incentives to attract tourist investment in Aruba appear to have been excessive—particularly in terms of combined tax holidays and government guarantees of loans."**

Excessive concessions, like giving away the Sunset Beach site, worth 10 to 18 million US dollars, or guaranteeing loans as was done for the Parker (now Plaza) project, are not in an island's long-term interest, the researchers found.

Aruba's Growth Model

The tremendous tourism growth for Aruba started around 1985. The island was desperate for jobs that were lost when the Lago Refinery closed. There were severe problems of recession and declining government revenue in addition to the high levels of unemployment. Growing tourism seemed to be their most promising opportunity for recovery.

Tourism was not new to Aruba and, in fact, had started in 1947. By 1986 they already had 180,000 visitors a year. That's almost three times Bonaire's current level of tourism. There were almost 60,000 people living on Aruba at the time – five times Bonaire's current population.

Aruba's Assets

Aruba had other assets as well. The most obvious asset, and the one that still lures visitors, is its miles and miles of wide, white sandy beaches. The high-rise hotel strip alone has seven miles of perfect beach. For the Caribbean it is often said that tourism relies on the three S's – sun, sea and SAND.

Aruba also had a functioning sewer system, installed in 1972, to which ALL existing hotels were linked. Their water production was inadequate at the time, necessitating water imports from Venezuela, Dominica and the US. But they had adequate electricity for their existing situation at 25,000 megawatts per month, or about .33 megawatts per month per person, which includes residents and tourists.

A comparison to Bonaire's current electricity capacity shows that Bonaire produces 324 megawatts per month or only about .02 megawatts per person per month. Aruba's electricity capacity at that time was 16 times what Bonaire's is today even though they had only five



Traffic and roads are just two of the infrastructure issues Aruba has had to face.

times our population and three times the number of tourists.

Aruba Had a Plan

Most important in the model is that Aruba developed a concrete, Physical Development Plan in 1981 and then updated it in 1983. This plan had clear steps outlined (and estimated) for island growth, including:

- designation of two separate hotel 'zones' – one for high-rise and another for low-rise
- planned investment to upgrade electricity, water, sewage, roads, fire and police protection and the airport
- increased room capacity
- increased advertising and marketing budgets to fill rooms and compete in the mass tourism market.

Aruba's hotel rooms increased from 1,303 rooms and 13 hotels in 1975 to 7,629 rooms in 29 hotels 25 years later in 2000. However, increasing hotel rooms was only one element in Aruba's growth plan. The others must be considered in the model.

The Plan Was Not Enough

Even with its plan, Aruba miscalculated its capacity and had to declare two building moratoria for tourist hotels. One moratorium was in 1988, just after they started their effort, and the other in 1996. Both times Aruba realized that its expansion was faster than the island's ability to absorb the increases in tourists and immigrants. **Thus the island's planning became reactionary and very expensive.**

Demand on water and electricity DOUBLED on Aruba between 1990 and 1997, creating the need for major infrastructure investment. From 1992 to 1996 Aruba spent 230 million US Dollars to increase its water and electrical capacity. And then in 2004 yet another upgrade was required, adding a new power generator.

Aruba also had to spend 30 million guilders to upgrade its sewage plant in 1997 with the funding coming from Holland. Then, in the mid 1990s the island and businesses on Aruba also had to start investing in recycling efforts when they realized they had to deal with 10 to 16 million beer bottles a year. Island "maintenance" was also seriously underestimated. In 1990 Aruba had budgeted half a million guilders for road and tree maintenance and beautification. By 1996 the budget was 415 million guilders just for beautification and maintenance of the environment.

Finding Balance for Bonaire Part 4



Hidden Social Costs

While hotel rooms and tourists numbers were growing Aruba's economy, rapidly increasing numbers of immigrants were also raising the social costs. **Aruba's population has grown by almost 70% in the last 20 years to about 100,000 residents today. Most of this population growth has been from immigration.**

In a 2002 PAHO study it was reported that 50% of the registered Aruba residents were not Aruba born. This study is reporting on only 'registered' residents and does not include any illegals living on the island. Between 1991 and 2000, fully 75% of new jobs created on Aruba were filled by immigrants. (Central Bureau of Statistics Aruba) Massive immigration has put pressure on housing, education, healthcare and other social services, in addition to adding to the infrastructure burden.

On Bonaire in 2004, 67% of the workforce was from Bonaire or the Netherlands Antilles-Aruba. If you add in the 341 people from the Netherlands, you see that 75% of workers have a Dutch passport. Thus only about 25% of all workers are not Dutch speaking. And of this group of non-Dutch workers on Bonaire, 20% of them are business owners or self-employed.

"From the perspective of the Aruban society, increased immigration has caused a certain degree of resentment by local people toward the immigrant workers from Latin American countries," according to a 2003 article by Robertico Croes and Manuel Vanegas titled "Growth, Development and Tourism in a Small Economy: Evidence from Aruba."

Summary of Lessons Learned

From the same article the authors listed the following, which are important lessons for Bonaire:

- Aruba's positive tourism growth was the result of a deliberate strategy with a clear Physical Development Plan.
- Aruba's rapid tourism expansion entailed substantial financial outlays, including expenditures to improve and maintain the infrastructure with additional roads, water, energy and sanitation. The authors state that, "Often, the building of roads and the expansion of hotels can alter significantly the physical environment because of problems of lighting, beach maintenance, sewage treatment and garbage control."
- According to the article, "The government also resisted the temptation of going too far in promoting the domestic tourism economy. It knew when to slow down and shift gears to achieve greater quality in the industry in terms of higher tourism yield."
- In 1995, Aruba limited the number of hotel rooms in a deliberate effort to increase income from existing tourists and existing hotels. **In other words, by limiting the supply the**

existing establishments could increase their income with higher room rates. "The strategy to accomplish higher

tourist yields was based upon quality and the existence of a critical mass of facilities and attractions," wrote Vanegas and Croes.

- Also, in 1995, the government suspended the tax holiday packages available to hotel and resort owners and developers. They had already stopped giving guaranteed loans because **most of the projects with loan guarantees failed**, just as Bonaire's Parker (now Plaza) project did. These failed projects with their loan guarantees became huge liabilities and some turned into lawsuits.
- The authors also admit that little is known about the social, physical, cultural and environmental impacts and that research in these areas is urgently needed.
- Finally, they say that: "The close coordination between public and private sector was essential in enabling the design and implementation of effective policies."

From the Aruba Model we see that increased tourism does not happen by accident, and it does not happen by just add-

Continued on page 7

ing big name hotels and more rooms. It requires careful planning, based on analysis of existing resources and the nerve to slow down, evaluate and make sure the resources are in place.

The current, widely published and accepted development plans from Bonaire do not have provision for major, mass tourism expansion with 500+ room hotels. The published documents all feature low-rise (maximum three-story), eco-friendly development. Where will the money come for expanded water and power plants, new roads? And how much immigration can the island absorb? How much foreign labor does it want?

If the course is going to be changed and a new path taken, shouldn't the island invest in a carefully drafted and more carefully estimated plan? And shouldn't the planning process involve the population, the island's NGOs and local businesses so all are working together?

Bonaire should also include a careful polling of its current, extremely loyal tourist market. **If we drive away our current economic base by changing the tourism product in ways they won't accept, we may kill the golden goose.**

A new direction should START with a clearer understanding and perhaps agreement on where the entire Bonaire community wants to go in the areas of using its cultural and ecological resources. It is the community that owns the resources and the community that should take an active role in determining their use. It is also the Bonaire community that will pay the price for not getting it right. □ *The authors of this article are market research professionals*



Just how much bigger will WEB have to get?

Statement by *Accion Ambiental*, an environmental NGO on Aruba:



“There are two Arubas. One is a shining island jewel of white sand and blue-green surf on the Dutch Caribbean, a casino-driven magnet for American tourists, American hotel chains and every conceivable fast-food restaurant from McDonalds to Dunkin’ Donuts.

“The other Aruba . . . is a delicate and mostly flat cactus-strewn desert landscape where goats graze on the sparse vegetation peeking up from a hard surface of coral rock, and ancient Indian cave paintings still inviting interpretation, look as fresh as the day they were made. It’s this Aruba that Accion Ambiental (AA) wants to protect from the other one....”

Quoted from www.sidsnet.org “Lessons of Tourism Development in Aruba for Sustainable Tourism Development in Tobago.” □

Copies of this article and the prior articles are available FREE on *The Bonaire Reporter* Website: WWW.bonairereporter.com/Bonaire_balance.htm



Special Invitation

The Bonaire Culinary and Bartender Team
invites you to a
Tasting of their competition skills & masterpieces;

Seating available May 25, 2005

Place : Blue Moon Restaurant

Time: 7 pm

Donation is *only* NAf 50/pp

Includes a 3-course meal plus samples of
Competition Cocktails

and, of course, wine (donated by the Bonaire Gift Shop)

All proceeds go to the Bonaire Culinary Team

call Laura at 717-8988 or 791-7252

or Sara at 786-9299 for reservations □ *L.D.*

Windsurfing World Championships Begin



Juan Marino (left) was greeted by Tati Frans and they sailed in together

Juan Marino Windsurfed from Venezuela to Bonaire to mark the start of events for the 2005 MCB-Bonaire PWA Championship and King of the Caribbean Freestyle Windsurfing Championship on Sunday, May 15.

In fact Juan did it so quickly that he arrived at the slipway in front of Regatta House before the press could get there! Juan spent eight hours on a Floatability One Design Type Board complete with GPS, sailing from Morrocoy (Tucacas), Venezuela, to Bonaire last Saturday. He arrived even earlier than planned, in fit condition and ready for action and a hero's welcome. Greeting Juan were Race Director Elvis Martinus, Byron Tromp from the Bonaire Sailing Foundation, windsurf champ Tati Frans and a host of press and well wishers. Flags of Bonaire and Venezuela flew together.

A mega-BBQ at the Great Escape Resort provided a chance for the windsurfers to mingle with each other, the press and their adoring followers and marked the start of a week of parties that usually follow a hard day of competition.

Partying at The Great Escape



The event's organizers meet the press: Elvis Martinus, Ann Phelan, Gabrielle Nahr, Elsmarie Beukenboom, Erik Troostheide (PWA event manager), Axel van Weel (PWA press officer)

The next day, Sunday, following a press conference the party moved to Wilhelmina Plaza for the Official Opening and the famous "Taste of Bonaire" food extravaganza. Competition was to begin as early as Monday if there was enough wind.
□L./G.D.



The famous Gibi himself served Antillean treats.



The Last Bite Bakery offered a fantastic selection of their most sinful desserts imaginable.

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YACHTING AND WATERSPORTS PAGES

Raja of the Garden Café with two of his assistants served Lebanese falafel



Bistro di Paris owner Patrice (right) and Chef Fred served onion soup in a bread bowl and Crème Brulee.

It's here! The 3rd Maduro & Curiel's Bank, Bonaire's



PWA King of the Caribbean

Ann Phelan photo

Team Italia, Andrea Rossati and Vittorio Mazzocca



The 3rd Maduro and Curiel's Bank-Bonaire PWA King of the Caribbean kicked off with the biggest international representation ever seen in Bonaire. As far back as April windsurf pros started coming to the island to train for the biggest World Cup Competition ever held. Competitors registered Sunday for the event, the first stop on the 2005 PWA Freestyle Tour. The island is swarming with the athletes and their followers. As expected, all major players have shown up to get themselves in a top slot at the start of the season,

Among the 37 men already registered are some of the biggest names in freestyle, including reigning world champion, **Ricardo Campbello** from Brazil. His female counterpart, **Daida Moreno**, is back to defend her title as Queen as the Caribbean. Bad luck plagued her last time when in training she suffered a fin injury resulting in a wide gash requiring many stitches. Clearly this injury didn't stop her as she

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KRALENDIJK TIDES (Heights in feet, FT)

Remember: Winds and weather can further influence the local tides

DATE	TIME	HEIGHT	COEF
5-20	7:14	1.1FT.	56
5-20	10:12	1.2FT.	56
5-20	14:08	1.0FT.	56
5-20	22:38	1.8FT.	56
5-21	8:15	1.0FT.	68
5-21	12:04	1.0FT.	68
5-21	13:31	1.0FT.	68
5-21	23:03	1.9FT.	68
5-22	9:17	0.9FT.	80
5-22	23:40	2.0FT.	80
5-23	0:15	2.1FT.	89
5-23	10:10	0.8FT.	89
5-24	0:59	2.1FT.	96
5-24	10:59	0.7FT.	96
5-25	1:46	2.1FT.	99
5-25	11:48	0.6FT.	99
5-26	2:38	2.1FT.	98
5-26	12:27	0.6FT.	98
5-27	3:35	2.0FT.	93
5-27	13:08	0.6FT.	93
5-28	4:31	1.9FT.	84
5-28	13:44	0.7FT.	84
5-29	5:37	1.8FT.	74
5-29	14:10	0.8FT.	74
5-30	0:48	1.4FT.	63
5-30	6:36	1.7FT.	63
5-30	14:32	0.9FT.	63
5-30	22:21	1.4FT.	63
5-31	3:16	1.3FT.	56
5-31	7:46	1.5FT.	56
5-31	14:46	0.9FT.	56
5-31	21:42	1.5FT.	56
6-01	4:45	1.2FT.	54
6-01	8:51	1.4FT.	54
6-01	14:44	1.0FT.	54
6-01	21:53	1.7FT.	54
6-02	6:09	1.0FT.	59
6-02	10:11	1.2FT.	59
6-02	14:15	1.1FT.	59
6-02	22:14	1.8FT.	59
6-02	6:09	1.0FT.	59
6-02	10:11	1.2FT.	59
6-02	14:15	1.1FT.	59
6-02	22:14	1.8FT.	59
6-03	7:25	0.9FT.	66
6-03	22:40	1.9FT.	66

VESSELS MAKING A PORT CALL:

Andiamo	Flying Cloud, USA	Samba
Andromeda	Gabrielle	Santa Maria
Adventure Quest	Galandriel	Sandpiper, USA
Angelos	Guaicamar I, Ven.	Scintella
Angie	Happy Ours	Sirius
Another World	Honalee, USA	Spetakke;I\J
Batje	Infinity	Starlight Dancer
Beauty and the Beast	Jan Gerardus	Stenella
Bright Sea	Kalaloa	Stormbird
Brown Lady	Lava	Sylvia K
Carylar	L'Quila, BVI	Take It Easy
Casse Tete	Luna C. USA	Ti Amo, USA
Camissa, Chan Is.	Lusistra	Tish
Cape Kathryn	Maggi	Tomorrow
Clemencia	Moon Rise	Ulu Ulu, USA
Coconut	Nails	Ulysses
Cocori	Natural Selection	Unicorn, Norway
Dauntless	Pishi Poko	Varedhuni, Germany
Discovery	Pyewacket	Ya-T, BVI
Dragonfly	Rusty Bucket	Yanti Paratzi
Endangered Species	Sabbatical	Zahi, Malta
Felicity	Safari	Zeelander

YACHTING AND WATERSPORTS PAGES

(PWA. *Ti's Here!* Continued from page 9)

went on to win the coveted women's title. This year the fin curse returned when her talented twin sister **Iballa** also sustained a fin injury requiring medical attention.

Whether there is a fin curse, it doesn't matter as these two women are the biggest talent in the women's division and will provide some tough competition to the other 16 women competing. Hot on their heels is no stranger to Bonaire,

Karin Jaggi from Switzerland. Karin came early to Bonaire to train and hone her freestyle repertoire. Returning Aruba sailor, **Sara Quita Of-fringa**, is hoping to place in the top 5. Her wild red Afro, her silly wit and her tough demeanor make her a crowd favorite. No doubt local star, and *Bonaire Reporter* correspondent, **Femke van der Valk** will try her hardest to keep the 2005 Bonaire freestyle crown right here on the island.

Other countries represented in the Women's Division include France, Sweden, Venezuela and Germany.



*The Saragoza brothers and Amado Vrieswijk
– Kid Competitors*

Two young talents came as far as New Zealand and the French Island of New Caledonia. Team Italia is in the house bringing a new talent, 13 year-old **Vittorio Mazzocca** and his talented chaperone, **Andrea Rossati**. This young freestyle kid is the one to watch

for the 1st Annual Pro Kids World Championships which start Friday. Both represent RRD, an Italian Windsurf Company. Local hero **Tonky Frans** unveiled a new secret move yesterday he calls the *Caña Brava*. It is a Flaka /Diablo move turned into a backwards pirouette. This move is going to stun the judges and wow the windsurf world. When asked what the name means, Tonky explained it's the name for sugar cane.

There are parties galore all week long and some surprise guests at week's end so hit the beach each day to watch the



best in freestyle talent. It's a rainbow of sails and a talent pool never seen on island. The stakes are high as the top international talent battle it out for cash prizes at the King of the Caribbean. □

Ann Phelan

Here's the remaining schedule:

No wind Monday and Tuesday

Thursday 19th May

10:00 Windsurf competition

Place: **Sorobon**

13:00 – 15:00 Pro Kids and

Amateurs registration

Place: **Sorobon**

19:00 Opening ceremony Pro Kids

Place: **Coco's restaurant**

Friday 20th May

10:00 Windsurf competition

Pro Kids and Amateurs

Place: **Sorobon**

17:00 – 18:00 Happy hour

Place: **Bongo's – Eden Beach Hotel**

Saturday 21st May

10:00 Windsurf competition

Pro Kids and Amateurs

Place: **Sorobon**

19:00 – 22:00 Rincon open air market

Place: **Rincon** (ride the Paradanda Bus)

Sunday 22nd May

10:00 Windsurf competition finals

Pro Kids finals

18:00 – 19:00 Pro Kids & Amateurs

Awards

Place: **Sorobon**

19:00 Beach Bash

Place: **Bonaire Windsurf Place**

Mystery Ship Revealed



Bonaireans were mystified by a huge military looking catamaran that appeared off the coast and seemed to be launching and retrieving Zodiac-style boats for two days last week. The ship was cooperating in joint maneuvers with the Dutch marines. The huge vessel looked quite out of place among the small yachts and sailboats. The HSV-2 (which stands for high-speed vessel) *Swift*, may pave the way for the future of naval operations.

Two companies were involved in building the vessel. Australian ship-builder Incat builds some of the world's fastest vehicle and passenger ferries, and Louisiana-based Bollinger Shipyards, Inc., builds military patrol boats, offshore oil field support vessels, tugs, rigs and lifeboats. It was launched in

Australia.

Navy officials say what also makes the *Swift* unique is the vessel's high speed, shallow draft, versatility and maneuverability. It is said that the ship can "turn on a dime," and when it comes to speed, no other Navy ship is faster. The ship can reach up to 42 knots or 85-plus kilometers per hour-"warp speed"- considering the average Navy ship cruises at about 12 knots.

Since its maiden voyage from Australia, the *Swift*, which was delivered to the Navy on August 15, 2003, has already proven its versatility. The ship served in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom as a logistics base and a staging platform for Navy-Marine SEAL teams operating off of Umm Qasr, Iraq. There the ship also tested its mine-warfare capabilities. The HSV-2, home

Wind and Surf Beach Bar

Even if you're not a windsurfer yourself, you'll love the ambiance of the Wind and Surf Beach Bar at the Windsurf Place on Lac Bai. Overseen by Norca, the rustic hut offers a place to get out of the sun, stretch out, relax and have a drink or a meal. They're open from 10 to 6, serving light lunches of sandwiches and salads every day. On Wednesdays, join them for video clips of the week's windsurfing action and a freshly prepared-in-front-of-your-eyes barbecue. Stop by for a bite or a drink; enjoy the cool breezes that make Lac so attractive to the surfers. For more information call them at 717-5091. □ L.D.



Norca and barmaid at Wind and Surf

ported in Ingleside, Texas, is a modified commercial high-speed ferry, with a flight deck and hanger for two H-60 helicopters, a stern vehicle ramp capable of supporting a 60-ton M-1 Abrams tank, berthing space for more than 40 crew members, communications for a wide range of missions and a load compensating crane capable of launch and recovery of small boats and unmanned vehicles up to 26,000 lbs.

Technical Specs:

Length 319'
 Beam 87'
 Displacement 940 t.(lt) 1668 t.(fl)
 Draft 11' 3" loaded

Speed 35 kts/500 ton load, 42 kts/300 ton load
 Range 4000nm/20 kts, 1100nm/35 kts
 Complement 40-45 / 107 total berths
 Propulsion 4 Caterpillar diesels, 4 Wartsilla water jets.

Bonairean ferry fans will be glad to know that it can give a smooth ride between Bonaire and Curaçao in just under an hour, harbor-to-harbor. It's expensive though. It's on lease to the US Government for \$21.7 million a year. □ G.D.

Mighty Murals at Cultimara Completed



Captain Don and Henk

It's taken two years for Henk Roozendaal to cover the outside walls of the Cultimara Supermarket with the faces of some of the shoppers who visit the market. The paintings are in vivid acrylic colors and will last a long time. At a small party at the posh Shanghai

Bar across the street from the supermarket Henk explained his motivation, "Whenever I passed this building, and that was about every day, I envied the artist who got the opportunity to fill such a large object right in the middle of Kralendijk! My fingers were itching,

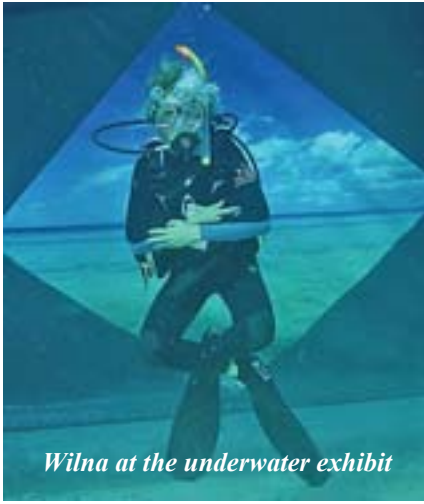
so to say." In the spring of 2003 he was approached by Martin Binnendijk, Cultimara's manager at the time, and asked to repaint the whole supermarket. "I was stunned. I think at the time I was on the brink of approaching him with the same question."

The subjects for the paintings, Henk said, "were picked by intuition and experience." It was a job that was at the whim of nature. The final finishing had to wait until the sun moved north in the sky behind the side of Cultimara, because, as Henk said, "Not that I would mind so much to work in the sun and boil my brain, but the surface became so hot that the acrylic paint dried instantly and my brushes stuck to the wall."

What's next for Bonaire's new Michelangelo? "Maybe more murals inside, maybe on another Bonaire landmark? One thing is pretty sure: a sequel to the almost sold-out "coffee table" book, *Portraits of Bonaire*, done in collaboration with writer Guus Gerritsen. Look for it in the autumn of 2006. □

G.D.

WILNA GROENENBOOM ART OPENING



Wilna at the underwater exhibit

Wilna Groenenboom, an enthusiastic and caring art teacher at the SGB high school, will have an exhibit at the Cinnamon Art Gallery. Opening night will be Saturday, May 28. Wilna has distinguished herself by unearthing artistic talent in the high school. "I want them to take something from their imagination and turn it into reality," she declares. The kids have made construction scale models, designs with broken mirrors, paper bags and other cast offs their teacher found. At her own exhibit Wilna will be showing her very unusual art decorations of driftwood and dried cactus. Come meet the artist herself and enjoy local food and music. Saturday, May 28, 7 to 9 pm at the Cinnamon Art Gallery, on Kaya A.P.L. Brion #2, off Kaya Grandi, behind Banco di Caribe. The exhibit will be there until June 28.

□L.D.

Coming Up The Five Towers Saga

In June 2003 and 2004 *The*

Bonaire Reporter published some articles on the remarkable, talented Nazario Alberto, a 56-year-old civil servant who walks long distances in the nick of time. His natural talent is amazing considering that up until six years ago he was a fervent smoker and coffee drinker.

Nicknamed the *Bonairean Deer or Roadrunner* (remember the Warner Brothers' cartoon?), this father of three has established his fame during different national and international walking events. His amazing speed was also noticed by the Dutch media, which published some articles on him in 2003 and 2004.

After establishing together with Felipe Melaan a new record on the *Tower to Tower Back and Forth Challenge* last year, Nazario was tempted to come up with something to push his limits. And he got it: the five Bonairean lighthouses around the island in less than 13 hours.

Twice was wise, so why not five??

His family and friends did not doubt his capacity but were still concerned. After all, you don't walk 71.5 km within 13

hours every day! After months of training he proved himself to be capable. Despite his usual high average of 10 km per hour, for this event he will lower his speed to a **constant** 7 to 8 km per hour.

As the idea developed he got more and more moral support and ideas from his environment. And what seemed in the



Felipe Melaan and Nazario at the end of the *Tower to Tower Back and Forth Challenge* in 2004

beginning like a risky adventure has now crystallized into a nation-wide excitement looking forward to **May 20th**

With the full moon that weekend he will be facing a challenge, as far as is known, never before done on our island.

He will start at the *Malmok Lighthouse* in Washington Park, then continue on to the *Spelonk Lighthouse* (25,8km). The distance from this second lighthouse to the *Willemstoren Lighthouse* is 25,9km. From here he will continue to *Punt Vierkant* (13,3 km). The last 'stroll' of 6,5 km will be from this lighthouse to the last one located in Kralendijk: the *Waf/Fortie Lighthouse* at the harbor side.

An official ceremony will be held at the entrance of Washington Park with officials and friends at 2 pm. His journey will start at exactly 3 pm. Everybody is invited to join Nazario at this ceremony to wish him good luck.

Nazario wishes to see this event also as a sponsoring event for representing Bonaire at the upcoming *Nijmeegse Vierdaagse* (the largest international annual walking event of The Netherlands, July 19-22, 2005).

As a native *Norteño* (born and raised in Nort di Saliña), Nazario also wants to make a serious statement with this great achievement. His town has been in the spotlight very often lately due to the serious problems involving some of its youngsters. Positive and healthy achievements like Nazario's show the opposite side to all the negative stories. Nazario strongly believes in the talented Bonairean youth and its hopeful future.

His arrival time at the *Waf/Fortie Lighthouse* in Kralendijk will be around 3 am

(Continued on page 18)

Got something to buy or sell?

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Call or fax 717-8988 or email 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

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>

CAPT. DON'S ISLAND GROWER

Trees and plants, Bonaire grown. 8000m² nursery. Specializing in garden/septic pumps and irrigation. Kaminda Lagoen 103, Island Growers NV (Capt. Don and Janet). Phone: 786-0956 or 787-0956

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Bonaire Images

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

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For Sale

Ex-rental SCUBA equipment from Cressi Sub and Tusa for sale at Buddy Dive Resort Dive Shop. Prices start as low as US\$20. Opening hours 8am-5pm, 7 days a week. Tel. 717-5080

The following items FOR SALE: e-mail alexander137@flamingotv.net or Call 717-7977 or 528-3014

- Almost new stroller NAf 100 (was 175 Naf)
- Prof. photo camera Pentax K2DMD with many extra's NAf 700 (was 7000 Naf!!)
- Mitsubishi Colt '94 car. Low mileage, great condition NAf5000
- Dell Laptop C-610 (year 2004), 256MB Ram, 20 GB, CD/DVD-combo, case, XP Prof, Office 2003

Pro, wireless G card, Adobe Photoshop, Streets, NAf1400 (Bargain!)

- Desktop (year 2003) Intel Celeron 1.2 GHz, 512 Mb Ram, 40 GB, CD, DVD, 17" monitor, X.P. home (sp2), office 2003 pro, printer, scanner, ink, paper NAf1.300
- Sony MHC-GN800 Prof. Hi-Fi component system almost new with warranty: surround with 5 speakerboxes, MP3, mic, c.d. (3), double tape deck etc... NAf700 (was 1.100Naf)
- Toshiba HD projection t.v.-61A62, almost new (biggest on Bonaire!) (1,3mx1,5mx0,65m) (4ftx5ftx2ft) with warranty: 2.700Naf (was 3.200Naf)

Property, Sales & Rentals

For rent: Downtown 2 bedroom furnished/swimming pool services NAf1200 excl. utilities/short term possibilities For info e-mail alexander137@flamingotv.net or call 717-7977 or 528-3014

CARIBBEAN COURT APARTMENT FOR RENT- Large 118m² 1-bedroom apartment. Penthouse, fully furnished, large bedroom, loft style dining/living room area, fully equipped, 2 balconies, Air conditioning throughout, very breezy. NAf1.100 per month, cable TV (with TV set) included, utilities extra.. Contact Anja at Sunbelt 717-6560 or Catherine at 791-6777. Available June 1.

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

Found

Along the coast, keys connected to a swimming belt. Info. 561-1101

Help Wanted

Wait staff: general restaurant duties. Approximately 35 hours per week

(Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Monday). Will train. Must have excellent English. Other languages a plus. Position available immediately. Phone 717-8003 for an appointment or apply in person between 4 and 6 pm. The Lost Penguin Bar and Restaurant

Wait person. Morning shift 8am-3pm, Evening shift 3 pm -10 pm. Must be fluent in English and Spanish. Great Escape, 717-7488

Actor Wanted

Scuba Vision is preparing for a new film production and is looking for adult mal actors able to perform in front of a camera with a good voice to express

emotions. It will be a short film, subject still a secret, the acting will be very easy and the best performance will be used. Call 786-2844 or email info@subavision.info.

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



Saturday, and Sunday MAY 28-29 2005. KAYA LUNA 650, BELNEM, from 9AM-5PM. Furniture, Boat, and more. For more info call 786-9563.



MAY 20-21-22

HarbourTown Bonaire Jazz Festival 2005





3 MAIN CONCERTS FOR ONLY 30 NAF!

May Wilhelmina plein
19 Welcome concert
7:00 PM

May Plaza Resort
20 Denise Jannah, Ced Ride
7:30 PM Cedric Dandaré,
Avila Blues Houseband

May Bongo's Beach
21 Cuban Express
7:30 PM X-Hale

May Kontiki Beach Club
22 Freewinds Band
5:00 PM Stacey Francis
Delbert Bernabela Band





Sunset & late night sessions at City Café Jazzbrunch Rum Runners 11:30 AM May 22

Also thanks to:

- Toyota • Russel Insurance • Telbo • Benetton • Don Andres
- BonaireNet • BonaireExpress • Bonaire Reporter • Omni Electronics
- Plaza Resort Bonaire • City Café • Bongo's Beach • Kontiki Beach Club
- TCB • Bonaire Jazz Foundation • Rum Runners • Budget

Ask the Dietitian

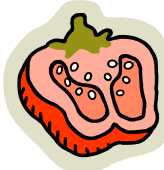
Some Great Cooking Ideas !

People often tell me that they see some products on the supermarket shelves like tofu or couscous and don't know what to do with them or how to prepare them.

So especially for those people here are some ideas about how to prepare these products. Of course there are several ways to prepare them; these are just some simple ideas.

Couscous salad

250 ml water
185g couscous
1 carrot, finely diced
1 red pepper, finely diced
1 tomato, finely diced
1 small cucumber, finely diced
3-4 lettuce leaves, finely chopped
60 ml mustard dressing
handful of fresh basil, chopped



Boil the water. Put the couscous in a bowl and pour the water over. Set aside to stand for 10 minutes, then drain. Combine couscous with all the salad ingredients and toss together. Pour the salad dressing over the top and toss again. Garnish with basil.

You can also use couscous as a side dish instead of rice or potato. It is better to use whole wheat couscous.

Avocado and tomato spread

This spread can be used as an alternative spread as a



healthy snack on toast

1 avocado, peeled
1 large tomato, peeled
a little lemon juice
salt and pepper
Mash ingredients together and beat until smooth. Keep in an airtight container.

Serve this with whole wheat crackers or whole wheat bread.

Pasta with tofu and vegetables

500g pasta, cooked and drained
Boiling water, with a pinch of salt
4 tbs oil
125g frozen corn
125g frozen peas
440g canned tomatoes
2-3 tbs tomato puree
250ml water
Salt and pepper to taste
315g tofu
Handful of fresh parsley, chopped



Fill a large saucepan $\frac{3}{4}$ full with water, bring to boil, then add pasta and

Picture Yourself with the Reporter Costa Rica

TC Pannecaldo was part of the Bonaire Bikers Tour that recently returned from a ride through Costa Rica and Panama. Here TC shares her copy of *The Bonaire Reporter* with her escort of four Costa Rican traffic policemen, all of whom guided the bikers on their journey. □



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. De-brot 200-6, Bonaire, Netherlands Antilles (AN). E-mail to: picture@bonairereporter.com. (All 2004 photos are eligible.) □

cook until just tender. Drain well. Heat the oil in a pan. Fry the corn and peas for 5-10 minutes. Add the blended tomatoes and puree. The consistency should not be runny, but if it gets too thick, add a little water and cook for 10 more minutes. Add salt and pepper. Cut the tofu into small chunks and fry for 3-4 minutes.

Mix the pasta with the tomato sauce and tofu, adding extra water if necessary. Sprinkle with parsley. □

Angélique Salsbach

Angélique Salsbach, a dietitian with Bonaire's Department of Health and Hygiene, has a radio program every other Tuesday 9 to 9:30 on Bon FM. Write her at dietitan@bonairenews.com □



(Jazz 2005. Continued from page 3)

and launched X-Hale in 2004: modern jazz, with no aversion to funk and drum 'n bass elements. Powerful, swinging jazz, straightforward with their refreshing own versatile sound in jazz. A promising quartet! Clemens Horn, keyboard; Jan Flubacher, bass; Eike Druck, saxophones and Christoph Krieger, drums.

Freewinds Band featuring Stacey Francis: The *Freewinds* Band, since 1988, is a very special group. They played with many great stars in jazz like Chick Corea and John Novello. They are a well known guest in the harbor of Bonaire and performed in Bonaire's jazz club with local artists. Stacey Francis will be their featured vocalist. The band includes Steven Schlusel (bass and vocals), John Politakis (drums) and Patrick Zagury (guitar and vocals) and some additional guests from Curaçao and Bonaire.

Latin Quartet: Robbie Swinkels, guitar; Andreina Marcano; vocals. Carlos Jimenez, congas and percussion; Pepe on tenor sax.

Stingrays: Douwe Stingray, guitar; Steve Stingray, vocals; Orlando Stingray, bass; and Dick Stingray, drums.

Bonaire Jazz Trio: Guus Gerritsen, tenor sax; Benji, guitar; Lando Tjin Asjoe, bass; Guests: Linda Anthony, vocals; Henk Roozendaal, harmonica; Pieter Gerritsen, keyboard; Chris Morkos, drums. □



Henk Roozendaal

The Harbortown Jazz Festival Main Events:

May 20:	5:00 pm	Sunset jazz at City Café . Bonaire Jazz Trio with guests
	7:30 pm	Main concert at Plaza Resort . Denise Jannah, Ced Ride, Cedric Dandare and Avila Blues House band
	11:00 pm	Late night Jazz at City Café . X Hale and jammers.
May 21:	5:00 pm	Sunset Jazz City Café . Ced Ride, Avila Blues House band
	7:30 pm	Main concert at Bongos Beach . Cuban Express, X-Hale
	11:00 pm	Late night session at City Café . Cuban Express
	11:00 pm	Late night session at Karel's Bar . Stingrays
May 22:	11:30 am	Jazz brunch. Festival musicians at Rum Runners . Serving a special jazz menu: reservations 717-8290 / 2390
	5:00 pm	Main concert at Kon Tiki Beach Club with Freewinds Band featuring Stacey Francis, Delbert Bernabela Band

(Flotsam and Jetsam. Continued from page 3)

Nature Fee of \$10 per year (\$25 for scuba divers). Payment of the fee not only enables people to use the waters around Bonaire but it also provides a complimentary admission (regularly \$10) to Washington-Slagbaai National Park, which now offers a Visitors Center, museum with an archeology exhibit and a small library with information about the Park and Bonaire, all at the Park's entrance. Funds collected from the Nature Fee are used for research, monitoring, education, information distribution and maintenance of the National Parks and other natural resources.



► The Bonaire Barracudas Swim Club was honored to have **Greg Long** as a **guest coach** during his Bonaire vacation. Greg was a collegiate All-American at Stanford University in California, swimming freestyle and individual medley events. Greg was ranked No. 1 nationally in the 400 Individual Medley when he swam in the 15-16 age group. He can be seen pool-

side during the team's workout and demonstrating streamline technique for Barracuda swimmers in preparation for their upcoming meet in Curaçao at the end of May.

► **Roi Lamoenchi** is a plantation that has been restored to near original condition by Ellen Cochrane-Herrera. If you want a glimpse of "old Bonaire" you should visit. It's near the east coast between Bakuna and Punta Blanku. Roi Lamoenchi was a small plantation run by the Herrera family who originally came from the Dominican Republic. Next week **Ellen Cochrane-Herrera** will be a featured guest on **Bòi Antoin's TV program Herensia**, which every Saturday at 7:30 pm brings to life the heritage of Bonaire.

► To commemorate that **Washington Park's conversion from a plantation to a national park STINAPA** will hold its festival at the Park entrance next weekend. On the 29th of May a day filled with activities has been organized. As early as 8 in the morning guided activities will start; following the *Kasicunda* climbing trail to climb the 270-foot-high *Kasicunda* hill and continue on to the *Lagadishi* walking trail. If this activity sounds too exhausting there will be activities of lesser physical impact like strolling along the *Lagadishi* walking trail or a guided tour through the museum.

The children can participate also in the activities but must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. At the Visi-

(Continued on page 17)

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(Flotsam and Jetsam. Continued from page 16)
 tor's Center at the entrance of the Park, there will be a treasure hunt, face painting, story telling and presentation of rhythmic poetry, painting and coloring projects and many other games for children.

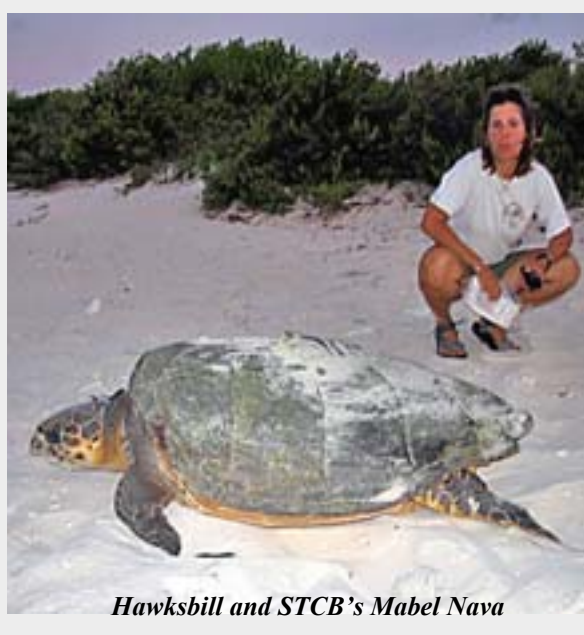
From 8 am the people of the Rincon Market will delight the visitors with local food, cakes, homemade candies and cookies, arts and crafts at the Visitor's Center at the entrance of the Park. In the afternoon Kaña Brabu will play live music from 1-5.

E.Beukenboom report

► The two youngsters in the **Benetton** ad this week are brother and sister Jonathan and Ristely Cranston. The ad is on page 12.

► On May 3rd the first nest of the season was discovered and confirmed at No Name Beach on Klein Bonaire. Since then two other nests have been confirmed by Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire (STCB) staff.

The staff members happened to be working on Klein Bonaire on the afternoon of May 4th and were surprised when they saw a hawksbill laying her eggs. Normally sea turtles nest at night, so the staff members were thrilled to witness this rare daytime occurrence.



Hawksbill and STCB's Mabel Nava

► We had some incorrect terminology in last week's Eagle Ray article due to an editorial error. The correct text should read, "The Eagle Ray arches its back and, for leverage, extends downward into the sand, **the two side-by-side pelvic fins at the base of the tail.** They excavate the sand by flapping their powerful wings and, in unison, vigorously move the snout and head up and down, creating suction, to uncover the prey."

► **There will be no Bonaire Reporter published next week.** Daughter Donna is getting married in the church in Antriol. The next issue will be available on June 3. □ *L./G.D.*

Kristu Hesus Berdad! A CD Made by the "Good Kids"



Stefan Evertsz, Sharitée Rosalia, Gov. Hubert Domacassé and William Evertsz at the presentation of the new CD, Kristu Hesus Berdad

Last Saturday a new CD, *Kristu Hesus Berdad*, of rap music made its premier at Wil's Tropical Grill. The young people from the Rock of Restoration Church who wrote and sang the songs are from Bonaire and want to demonstrate their faith in Jesus – by way of some pretty cool rap music. Brothers Stefan and William Evertsz teamed with songstress Saritée Rosalia to come up with a great blend of voices and messages. The group spoke in Papiamentu with a more than simultaneous English translation by the boys' mom, Elia Rosa Fischer. The CD is dedicated to the late Kenneth Charles Fischer, the boys' stepfather (*tata di kri-ansa*). The CD, at NAf25, is sold at Morayma's (next to Botika Korona) or call 790-9400. □ *L.D.*

(Continued from page 13)

Saturday morning. The night will still be young at that time, considering all the other events this coming weekend. So if you are still enjoying the nightlife at that time, don't hesitate to come, and let's welcome him with cheers and flowers.

As sponsorship for representing Bonaire you can deposit your donations on the following bank account: Maduro & Curiels Bank-Bonaire 10.10.18.67, Mr. Nazario I. Alberto.

For more information or sponsoring contact Reina Alberto at 785-3435. □ *Story and photo by Natalie A.C Wanga*



Friday, 20 May

Time schedule:

Start: Malmok Lighthouse: 3 pm

Arrival Spelonk Light house: around 7 pm

Spelonk –Willemstoren : around 11:30

pm (route description: From Spelonk, Kaminda Lagun, through different Kunukus near Yatu Baku, Maiky Snack, Jan Janga's Kunuku, Kaminda Sorobon).

Willemstoren-Punt Vierkant: Saturday morning 1:30 am

Punt Vierkant-Waf /Fortie: Saturday

Pet of the Week



Perky and inquisitive little "Ria" was brought into the Bonaire Animal Shelter recently by the dog-catcher. The people who had her just had too many dogs and wanted to make sure Ria had an opportunity for a good life. So they called to have her picked up. Ria at first seems a little shy, but after she gets to know you she shows her very good character and intelligence. She gets along beautifully with the other dogs in her kennel too. Ria, a medium sized dog, is about eight months old, has soft, silky hair and such a sweet face. She has been examined by the vet, given her tests, worming and shots and will be sterilized before she is adopted.

You can always be sure you're getting a healthy and social pet from the Bonaire Animal Shelter. Stop by and see for yourself what a well run and happy place it is. The Shelter is on the Lagoen Road, open Monday through Friday, 10 am to 2 pm, Saturdays until 1. Tel. 717-4989.

Did you know that the Shelter offers very fine boarding accommodations for your dogs while you're away? The runs are big and roomy and are partially covered for shade and coolness. There is an outdoor "run" where the dogs get to frolic and play every day. And of course, there's "room service" for meals. It's safe, clean and your pet gets attention. For larger dogs the cost is NAf15 per day, smaller dogs cost NAf10 to 12 per day. Prices per day are lower for longer stays. You can go on vacation in peace, knowing your pets are well taken care of and safe. Call the Shelter at 717-4989. □L.D.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING

WEEKLY MOVIE SHOWTIMES

Late Show
Call to make sure: Usually 9:00 pm

Starts 20 May:
Guess Who
(Ashton Kutcher)

Starts 27 May:
Beauty Shop
(Queen Latifah)

Early Show (usually 7pm)

Starts 20 May:
The Ring Two

Starts 27 May:
Guess Who

Kaya Prinses Marie
Behind Exito Bakery
Tel. 717-2400

Tickets - NAF10,50 (incl. Tax)
High Schoolers - NAF7,75

NEW FILMS BEGIN EVERY
FRIDAY

SATURDAY 4 PM
Robots

THIS WEEK

May 15th to the 22nd - 3rd Annual King of the Caribbean at Lac Bay. Freestyle Windsurfing Competition Pro and amateur races in Lac Bay. The event will kick off the 2005 PWA Freestyle Tour. For info, see www.pwaworldtour.com or www.bonaireworldfreestyle.com More on pages 8, 9 and 10.

All that jazz See articles beginning on page 2 and schedule page 14.

May 15-22 Bonaire Beach & Culture Week

Friday, May 20—5 Towers Walk by Nazario begins -2 pm, Washington Park Entrance

Saturday, May 21—5 Towers Walk by Nazario ends, about 3 am, Fort Oranje, Playa

Saturday, May 21—Cleanup Dive (briefing 1 pm, dive 2-3:30 pm) with potluck BBQ & live Latin Jazz (5-6:30 pm), Photo Tours Divers, Yellow Submarine. Register at 717-2929.

Saturday, May 21—Donna and Hendrik get Married. Antriol R.C. Church *Our Lady of Coromoto* at 4:30 pm. All readers invited to church.

Sunday, May 22—C-Run 2/4/5 km. 7:30 am. Sponsored by COMCABON. More information call 717-8629, 780-7225.

Wednesday, May 25—Bonaire Culinary team serves "Competition Dinner," Blue Moon Restaurant, 7 pm. Donation: NAF50 includes 3-course meal, wine, taste of competition cocktails. Reservations: Laura at 717-8988, 791-7252 or Sara 786-9299

Saturday, May 28—Opening of Wilna Groenenboom Art Exhibit, 7-9 pm, Cinnamon Art Gallery. Exhibit continues until June 28. Ad on page 12.

Sunday, May 29th -Anniversary Day at Washington Park. From 8 AM.

MICRO MOVIE REVIEW

Seen recently in
Movieland Cinema:



THE RING TWO by Hideo Nakata, starring Naomi Watts. I would never have gone alone to this kind of movie, but, lucky me, I was accompanied by two lovely girls holding my hands. Thank you girls, you were my true heroines. Although I was scared witless and anticipating a sleepless night the girls thought the movie was pretty lame. The parts which I did see, when my hands or knees weren't blocking my view, were not only quite scary, but well done as well. The acting and the dialogues were solid and devoid of clichés. There were at least three scenes which deserve to be remembered. There is an instant classic scene with the reindeer. Really extraordinary. Next, Samara crawling out of the well. Boy, does she look creepy. Finally one of the girls noted that Sissy Spacek resembles Michael Jackson. If fear is your idea of entertainment I think you won't be disappointed and it's an excellent dating movie. You can squeeze her hand all night! □ *Dodo*

Live music from 1-5 pm. See story on pages 16 and 17.

COMING

OCTOBER 2005
The **International Bonaire Sailing Regatta October 9 – 15, 2005.**

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 handicrafts, candles, incense, drinks and music. www.infobonaire.com/rincon

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

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

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

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 (NAF12 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 (**back on May 16th**). 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 Tippy Seagull, 5 pm. 717-2500.

CLUBS and MEETINGS

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

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

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. NAF5 entry fee. Call Cathy 566-4056.

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

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

WOMBANIA™



by PETER MARINACCI

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; Monday: Caribbean 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, 717-4321	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, Lunch 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.

Yellow Submarine—low prices - on the seaside at Kralendijk, at Caribbean Club, Caribbean Court and the Hamlet Oasis. Join their cleanup dives and BBQ.

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, DVD rentals, 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. 717-2345

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

Ramon De Leon and Sylvia de Boer

“I came to get some experience as a dive instructor,” *Sylvia de Boer* says. “I’d been in Australia for a year, backpacking and working on the Great Barrier Reef on a live-aboard boat that stays at sea for about a week. I went back to Holland, became a dive instructor, then went to Aruba to work as a dive instructor for four months. While I was there I got an offer to work at Toucan Dive on Bonaire.”

I wasn’t planning to stay at all; I figured I’d work here for a year, then go back to Australia. But it was so much fun that I stayed. During my holidays I backpacked through Peru and Ecuador, and when I came back to Bonaire it became very clear to me that this island had become home and I didn’t feel like leaving anymore. I stayed with Toucan for four years, then I started to sell dive equipment, first for Plaza, then for other dive shops, later for Curaçao. It became a wholesale business and I’m still working for them.

I met Ramon at Toucan. He’d arrived on Bonaire in April, I in September. We worked together in this great group of people of all nationalities, and slowly our friendship grew into a relationship. He’s a very strong personality, very straight and honest. That was very important to me, but also we have a lot of fun together. A year ago we bought this great house. We’d been living here for some years and when the owner put it up for sale, we bought it immediately.

Last September we got married on Bonaire. Two weeks before the wedding we thought it would be nice to give a barbecue party on our wedding day in our garden. We printed a little invitation on the computer and sent it out. Eighty people of 15 different nationalities showed up and it was a huge party. We had so much fun! Two months later our daughter Maria Sylvia was born on November 22, and I just couldn’t be happier! There’s nothing I miss here. My parents come every year from Holland to stay for six weeks and my mom was here when Maria Sylvia was born.

Last year in January Ramon and I went to Uruguay together for the first time. For me it was very important; he talks a lot about his family, his country and his past, and to see the places of his childhood with my own eyes and to meet his family made all the stories come to life. Next month his parents are coming for the second time, but it’s the first time they will see the baby!”

Sylvia de Boer (35) and Ramon De Leon (42) are a glowing couple, and the center of their joy and happiness is obviously their very cute five-month-old baby girl. “It’s great to have a baby,” Ramon says. “When I started living with Sylvia I thought, ‘Wow... this something special!’

Then, when we got this beautiful house, I thought, ‘This is something special!’ But when the baby was born it was something really special... it’s the best thing that ever happened to me! I can look at her face for hours and I almost cry. She’s such a happy, loving baby. We will protect her and teach her to think for herself. I think those are the two most important things you have to do as a parent. And every birthday I will give her another Rotweiler. We already have one, so by the time she’s 18 she’ll be surrounded by them and no guy will come close to her!

It’s amazing the way life goes. Between 1986 and 1989 lived in Europe, mostly in France and Italy, working in jobs related to my studies. Before coming to Bonaire I was living in Uruguay, Brazil and Chile, working as a marine biologist for the university in Uruguay and traveling a lot. I started diving for research for the university, then went into commercial diving and became a dive instructor. I started my own dive school in Uruguay and was traveling with groups to Brazil during the summer season. I’d heard a lot about Bonaire, so when a friend of mine organized a group to come here I joined them. I had it in mind to stay. It was an economic decision. We stayed at the Plaza, and when the group left I went with my CV to the dive shop and got the job right away! I thought, ‘This is too easy, it can’t be true!’

“In biology you have a rule: ‘When a certain population consists of a mixture, it makes the population stronger.’ That applies very well to Bonaire; it’s a mixture of cultures and that makes the culture itself very strong and more interesting as well.’

Plaza was a great place in the beginning. We had a small group, two boats and lots of fun. First I was an instructor, then I became the assistant manager, then manager. I loved working there. By the end we had more than 20 people, all nationalities, all friends. It was just a great time and a very, very good job! But when you work for people and they show you the limits of what you can achieve I lose motivation and I can’t work anymore. This kind of limitation - the ceiling - not any higher - is awkward. So, I quit in November 2003. We had our tickets for the trip to Uruguay, we had an option on



Sylvia De Leon de Boer, Maria Sylvia and Ramon De Leon

the house and I didn’t have a job anymore. I called Sylvia, ‘Were going on a holiday, and we will buy the house, but I just quit my job!’ She thought I was joking!

I started freelancing. I worked for Andre Nahr, Photo Tours, WannaDive and Divi Flamingo. A lot of people offered me a job and they made me feel really good. I knew I had friends. Then, many friends started to push me to apply for the job as manager of the Marine Park. I’d never thought about it, honestly. But I thought it would be a great opportunity. I’m a diver, I know the dive industry and I’m a marine biologist. I completed my application at Caracas Airport on our way to Uruguay. When we returned I decided to apply. It was February 2004 and a very long selection process started. While I was waiting I worked for Pascal at Photo Tours till July 2004. It was a special time: I did a lot of painting, building and moving things around, I was really having fun. And when they told me I was going to be the new Marine Park manager, I got scared! I’m always very confident and I always prepare myself very well, but how can you be sure? I saw it as a really big thing!

As a Marine Park manager your job has many different faces. You interact with many different people and users of the Park, like fishermen, tourists, dive operators and people living on the shoreline, and everybody has different interests. The part I like most about my job is solving conflicts between all those users, and I think I’m good at that. At the same time I learn a lot about other people’s way of thinking. We do a lot of maintenance; there are about 60 public buoy systems from Boca Bartol to Red Slave and about 30 around Klein Bonaire. We do law enforcement. The Marine Park has many

rules and we’re out patrolling every day. And we educate the local people and the tourists. It’s the only way to preserve the natural resources of Bonaire. I was always very lucky in my life, but this job is by far the best! It has so many different aspects and there are so many things to do. If I’m lucky enough to keep this job for the next 100 years, I will have 50% of the projects I have in my head done by the time I retire!

I am not a Bonairean and I never will be, but I have great relationships with Bonairean people and foreigners. I miss my country and my family and friends a lot, but in a good way. I’m not homesick. There are only two people from Uruguay on the island: Jose Maciel, the shoemaker, and I. That’s not enough to have a consulate! This island has a lot of South American influences, but it’s not South America, and that makes it so special. In biology you have a rule: ‘When a certain population consists of a mixture, it makes the population stronger.’ That applies very well to Bonaire; it’s a mixture of cultures and that makes the culture itself very strong and more interesting as well. I’m not thinking of going anywhere in the near future. I am a very simple person. When I look at my daughter I can’t see her growing up in any better place. There’s clean air to breathe, clean water, lots of space and very friendly people. We have been very lucky...” □

Greta Kooistra



Greta Kooistra

Jawfish Flats



Here's a jawfish completely outside his (her?) burrow

The "Flats" are a unique place. Drama, intimacy, betrayal and intrigue are part of everyday life. It's a place ignored by many divers. When snorkeling, it's the dead, desolate, coral rubble zone between the hard corals at the shoreline and the beautiful patches of branching elkhorn and staghorn corals near the drop off zone.

Peacock flounder, goldspot goby, leopard flatworm and lettuce sea slug inhabit the flats. Visiting goatfish, rainbow parrotfish and blue tangs graze the algae growth. Scorpion fish lie in ambush for any unsuspecting victim passing by. The intertwined dead branches of delicate corals that were crushed by waves and filled with sand cover the bottom. White sand patches highlight the monochromatic gray of the 9-12 feet deep (3-4 m) flat terrain. This is not a place that attracts the attention of human visitors seeking the bright colors of tropical fish and naturally sculpted coral formations. Photographers avoid this area in favor of the blue water zone of the sloping coral reefs.

The "Flats" have a hidden subterranean population. Here, on Bonaire, in the southern reaches of the Caribbean, just 12 degrees north of the Equator, the "Flats" are the preferred home of yellowhead jawfish. These small, slender, two to four-inch (five to 10 cm) long industrious fish are master builders with an understanding of sound engineering principles. They are tireless constructors and meticulously maintain their dwelling.

The jawfish's elongated pale body shines with a pearl-blue iridescence in the bright sunlight. The translucent tail, dorsal and anal fins are also elongated. The blunt shaped head is broad and large in comparison to the slender body. The mouth and lips are low on its profile, and two large black eyes, rimmed with a cobalt blue circle, are widely spaced and high on the forehead. The underside of the head from the mouth to the gill slits has a series of folds, like an accordion, that can expand the throat to two to three times its normal size. When the throat distends, a black stripe within the folds is displayed.

At first, my dive partners were reluctant to visit this desolate area. Now they are in agreement that observing these social creatures is amusing and enlightening. Since the jawfish seem to prefer the shallow reef area, they are ideal subjects to help pass the time during our safety stop or, after deep dives, the last decompression stage of our dive plan. Their behavior has mesmerized and entertained us for hours. With a low, slow, careful approach we can position ourselves within inches of their burrow. I have used

my magnifying glass to examine tiny details on their bodies many times. Typically they retreat to the safety of their nest by swimming backwards in the vertical body position while maintaining eye contact, when we first arrive. When this happens, we simply back away a short distance, calm our breathing, have some patience and wait for them to re-emerge. In a short time they accept our presence and continue with their



Notice the eggs held in the mouth of this male jawfish

endless housekeeping chores.

The jawfish are easy to locate when you become familiar with their extraordinary swimming manner. After emerging from the burrow they levitate vertically above the entrance and go up and down in the water column with an undulating movement. I wonder if we become spellbound by this motion. To find the jawfish, swim into the shallows. When you feel you are in a likely spot, hover horizontally just above the sand and coral rubble and look around the area. When feeding, they will pluck floating plankton from the surrounding water about one to two feet (30 to 60 cm) above their nest. This motion is uncommon since all the other nearby creatures are crawling, hiding or swimming parallel to the bottom.

Once started, burrow and nest building is a non-stop activity that will hold your attention until your air supply is nearly exhausted or you start to get cold. It seems females feel the need to relocate more frequently than males. The first step is to scoop out a bowl-shaped depression at the chosen location. Next, selected bits of coral are located and placed piece by piece, creating an interlocked framework around a center tube-like shaft. Repeated, final adjustments are made at the entrance and then the framework is buried with sand. One of the females transported fresh sand from almost two feet (0.6 m) away for this purpose. When the shaft is completed, a nest chamber is excavated below by removing sand and other debris from inside and spitting it out away from the entry hole. All this is accomplished unaided, by mouth power alone, with very few breaks for food. Since the entire structure is level with the bottom, shifting sand, invasion by unwanted visitors and damage from grazing fish, requires constant vigilance, cleaning and maintenance for the jawfish inhabitant.

We have observed other interesting interactions and behavior patterns between apparently mated pairs of animals. As sharp-eyed divers, not biologists, the only clue we have regarding the sex of individual subjects within pairs is the fact that the male of the species incubates the clutch of eggs in his mouth. In a behavior called "churning," he holds and displays the gelatinous clutch and, using his jaw muscles, rotates the entire egg mass in the water without dropping it. Now and then he deposits the egg mass within his burrow and resumes normal feeding and nest maintenance.

This observation answered one of our first concerns about his feeding frequency during the unknown duration of the incubation

period. Some males scoop sand from their nest while holding the eggs. Then, after spitting out the sand, "churn" the egg mass to clean away any remaining particles of sand. The male may also be quite shy when handling his fatherly responsibility and remain below in his burrow or peer out just at the entrance. We have seen the nearby female survey the surrounding visitors, then approach her cautious mate to caress and stroke his face and head with her tail as if reassuring him that all is well. After this intimate, affectionate interaction, he confidently emerges into the water column displaying a mouth bulging with eggs and repeatedly performs his "churning" duty before the surrounding astonished audience of divers.

It appears that this relationship between mates is not continually monogamous. Burrow moving by unattached individuals seems to take place at random intervals or after severe weather related wave surges. In one instance, an identified pair of subjects had just produced a new clutch of eggs. The male was happily engaged with his tasks for two days when we observed his mate interacting with another fish that had constructed a burrow closer to her nest. In due time, the first male released his hatchlings and disappeared from the scene of this domestic unrest. We have not been able to precisely ascertain the frequency of egg production or incubation duration. Our best estimate is that egg production is only influenced by periods of calm water conditions and mated tranquility. Incubation in the male's mouth appears to take only three to four days before release. The eggs may have a more pronounced yellow cast when freshly produced and then turn to green and finally gray just before release.

When the jawfish are suddenly frightened by an intruder, such as a parrotfish or goatfish, they may dive into the burrow head first. We have also noticed two jawfish occupying the same burrow for several days with and without an egg clutch. This seems to be a temporary cohabitation situation until the female constructs her own private quarters nearby. One female constructed three burrows at the same time before she was satisfied with her final choice of location. Abandoned burrows may be used as a conjugal mating nest. We have noticed that some of these unoccupied dwellings are occasionally maintained and cleaned of debris.

Juvenile Jawfish seem to maintain a solitary existence, constantly feeding, until they reach adult size. When they move into a group they will interact with specific body language. This may include touching on the flanks, intertwined upward movement, and nipping each other with their mouths. When the jawfish wish to rest or seek privacy, they will select a piece of coral that fits over their burrow entrance and move it into position as they back down into their nest. It forms a perfect cap over the entry tube.

At the present time the "Flats" are inhabited by six mated pairs and 12 juveniles that we have identified. We have filled countless pages in our log book with their behavior. They have provided continuous entertainment and enjoyment during our deco and safety stops. We hope to expand our search area and identify more subjects with every encounter we have with these engaging creatures of our ocean world. □ *Story and photos by © Albert Bianculli*

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

Three Wonderful Planets and Several Bright Stars for the End of the Month

Getting started star gazing is easy. All you need are clear starry nights, your naked eye and a little information. Mother Nature will provide the starry nights, you have the naked eye and The Sky Park can provide ideal conditions. As for the information, it's right here. And before you know it you'll know an awful lot—from the origins, history and mythology of the stars to the super duper science behind them. Plus best of all, you'll learn how to find them!

The Sky Park at the end of this month is a wonderful place to begin. We have three wonderful planets that are super easy to find, plus several bright stars just begging to be seen.

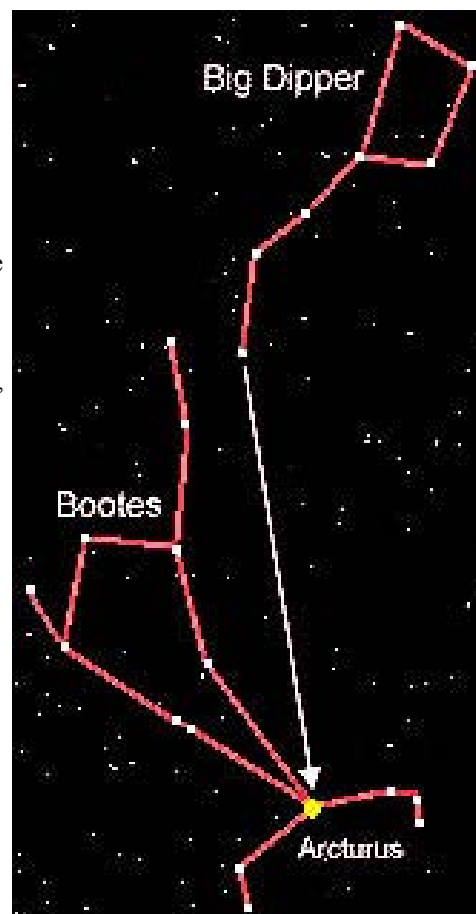
Next weekend, beginning Friday, May 28th and Saturday, Sunday and Monday nights about an hour after sunset, face due west where you'll see several bright stars. Directly above due west will be the star **Procyon** which marks the eye of **Orion's** little dog but alas, since Orion is a winter constellation, he has almost set for the season along with his big dog.

Almost directly north-west you'll see another bright star, **Capella**, the brightest star of **Auriga the Charioteer**. And above and directly between Capella and Procyon, you'll see **Pollux** and **Castor**, the two brightest stars of **Gemini the Twins**, which stand upright on the western horizon every May 30th just after sunset. And this year to the left and below Pollux

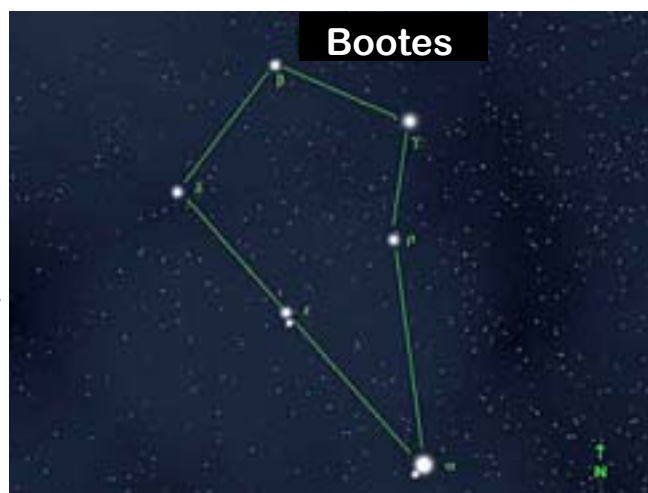
you'll see the planet that has made all the news this past year because we've been visiting it with our **Cassini spacecraft**, the wonderful ringed planet, 75,000-mile-wide **Saturn**. If you or a friend have a small telescope please look at Saturn now before it disappears below the horizon because its rings are in one of the best positions possible for viewing. And as an extra added attraction, up to Saturn's, Procyon's, and Pollux and Castor's left, forming a great triangle with them, you'll see the brightest star of **Leo the Lion**, **Regulus**, which marks Leo's heart.

Then if you simply face 90 degrees to their left, due south, the brilliant king of the planets 88,000-mile-wide **Jupiter** will be staring you in the face. It's just begging you to get out your telescope which will show you the biggest four of Jupiter's several dozen moons. Plus if that's not enough, to Jupiter's left you'll see **Spica**, the brightest star of **Virgo**, and way up to **Jupiter's** left, the brightest star of **Bootes, the Herdsman**, **Arcturus**. And do you remember how easy it is to find Arcturus and Spica by using the **Big Dipper**? Simply turn around and face north, find the Big Dipper, then shoot a curved arrow through its handle and that arrow will arc you to Arcturus and then speed you on to Spica. Of course this weekend, as a bonus attraction in their vicinity, is super bright Jupiter.

And now for those of you who like to do your viewing in early, early morning, especially if you're out to watch a glorious Sky Park sunrise, face east about 4 am. Just above the horizon you'll see reddish orange 4,000-mile-wide **Mars** which is racing toward us every day and will become brighter than any star in the heavens during the first week of this November. And if you need some help finding it, on Monday morning the 30th a last quarter **Moon** will be parked just to its right, and on Tuesday morning the 31st will be parked directly underneath it. How easy to find Mars is that? So get ready next weekend for three wonderful planets and several wonderful stars. □



Use this chart to find the Constellation of Bootes the Herdsman



THE STARS HAVE IT

For the week:
May 20 to May 27, 2005

ARIES (Mar. 21- April 20) Take precautions while traveling; you don't have to get anywhere that fast. Don't take offense at comments made by coworkers. Expand your knowledge and sign up for courses and seminars. An older loved one may be having problems. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

TAURUS (Apr. 21- May 21) Pamper yourself; the self esteem it brings you will be most gratifying. Your relationship appears to be stressed out and depleted. Don't be too eager to dismiss someone who works under you. Plan your week thoughtfully, but try not to rely on others. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21) Uncertainty about your relationship is prevalent. Don't let an incident at work play on your mind. Travel and creative hobbies will be your best outlet. You need to take a good look at all sides of an issue before making a decision. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) You should get out and meet new people this week. Travel for business or pleasure will be enlightening. Hidden matters are likely to surface. You will enjoy physical activities more than you think. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

LEO (July 23-Aug 22) A new relationship can be yours if you get out with friends. You need to keep the peace and you will have to bend in order to do so. Get involved in fitness programs that will bring you in contact with new friends. Your attitudes at work will open new avenues for you. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) You may have a hidden adversary who would love to prove you wrong. If you join intellectual or cultural groups, you should meet individuals who stimulate you. Plan a trip to the country or take a drive to the beach. Real estate investments could be prosperous. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) Seminars will provide you with knowledge and amusement. You will attract new love interests. Your attitudes at work will open new avenues for you. Do not travel unless absolutely necessary. Be careful. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) You can make money if you put your mind to it. You will need to work diligently in order to accomplish even the smallest amount. You may want to stay in the background this week. You won't get the reaction you want from your mate this week. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) Romantic encounters will develop through group activity. You may be offered opportunities that will result in a higher earning potential. You can make financial gains through investments and dealing with other people's money. Don't be shy; show your abilities! Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) Your best efforts will come through hard work. Trips should be your choice. A day at the beach may satisfy the whole family. A passionate encounter with your mate should help alleviate that pent-up energy. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) Enlist coworkers in order to get the job done on time. Your diplomatic approach and rather outgoing nature will enhance your reputation and bring you the support you need. You can gain valuable cultural knowledge through dealing with foreigners. Confusion regarding other people's money and joint ventures will come to a head. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) Offer consolation, but don't give them any direction. Help elders get their personal papers in order. You will have to check your cash flow before you decide to indulge in hobbies or entertainment that may be beyond your budget. You might find that a coworker has been two faced. Your lucky day this week will be Friday. □

Jack Horkheimer