

**IT'S  
STILL  
FREE**

**BONAIRE**

October 7 to October 14, 2005 Volume 12, Issue 37

# The REPORTER

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SINCE 1994



*Bonaire Students  
Off to Study in Italy*

Italy Bound! The chosen five SGB culinary students with teacher Vernon "Nonchi" Martijn at Flamingo Airport last Sunday. (not in order) Channethon Jansen, Minosca Mercera, Angel Albertus, Shakira Mattew and Gianna Martines.



# Flotsam and Jetsam



**A**ir Jamaica said it will introduce new, less generous baggage weight regulations for checked baggage on October 6. "Passengers traveling economy class cabins to the US and Caribbean destinations will have a free allowance of two checked pieces, each weighing a maximum of 50 lbs (it was 70 lbs) with a total dimension of 62 inches. There will be no change to the free baggage allowance for first class passengers." Bags weighing more than 50 lbs and up to 70 lbs will get a US\$25 excess baggage charge, while baggage weighing more than 70 lbs will not be accepted as checked baggage and will have to be shipped through cargo services.

"Space permitting, passengers will be allowed to carry as excess baggage a maximum of three pieces. Each piece must not exceed 70 lbs and each will cost US\$75," said the airline. Air Jamaica flies to Bonaire on Saturdays.

► According to Dutch Antilles Express (DAE, the company that owns BonaireExpress and CuraçaoExpress) Director Floris van Pallandt, **service is improving.** He said, "The airline had zero cancellations in August, while the on-time performance was 94%, which, he said, is "very good in this industry." To compare: the on-time performance rate in May was 61%, in June 77% and 89% in July. The cancellation rate was 8% in May, 1.5% in June and 1.2% in July.

► Last week we reported that air traffic control in the southern Caribbean was suspended for 20 hours as a result of the printer breakdown. **Two second hand printers were ordered to back up the failing strip printer whose function is critical to control of Antillean air space.** The obsolete Brother M2528 printer that the software requires- costing \$300 each, plus \$1,500 express shipping- is a cheap price to pay considering the impact that a loss of air traffic control would have, said officials.

► **Drug monitoring for all plane passengers who arrive in the Netherlands from Surinam, the Netherlands Antilles, Aruba and Venezuela will continue** was the decision of the Dutch House of Commons following a hearing last week. The Chamber, however, expressed concern about the way some passengers are treated by customs authorities and the Military Police.



*The Special Olympics group after planting. L to R: Davika Bissesar, Natania Nicolina, Omar Leonicia, Roosje v.d. Hoek, Andries Anthony, Jan-Pieter v.d. Hoek, Richard Molina, Lucille Soleana, James Finies, Eliane Rosario and Helen Agostien.*

► **Special Olympics Bonaire gave the "We Dare to Care" a hand last Saturday** when a group of athletes from Special Olympics Bonaire accompanied by some board members planted about 75 trees and shrubs at the project, "Parke Publiko Boneriano." This charitable event was organized to join and support all the other volunteers in helping to make the park a reality. By doing this, Special Olympics Bonaire wants to show that they too "Dare to Care." Thanks to FKPD, LVV and Captain Don for donating the trees and plants and also a special thank goes out to Ordina Bernabela for supplying the group with drinking water.

► Representatives of the smaller islands of the Antilles protested against the intention of the Antillean government to restrict the number of state sec-

retaries in the next cabinet. According to Senator Ramonsito Booi, there is no need to even discuss the subject, be-

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## BONAIRE The REPORTER

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# IN THE SPOTLIGHT



**Omar Leonicia**  
athlete

Omar is one of the most patient and determined athletes you will find among the Special Olympics Bonaire family.

He started out with the sport of bocce and now enjoys his Saturday mornings at the bowling alley.

At first the leaders knew him as a very quiet young man. But not anymore! We recently discovered that Omar likes to tease a lot! In a good way ofcourse!

He also enjoys Mariachi music and loves his hometown Kunuku Bieu!

Omar is an inspiration to others because he is very determined. He will not give up! You will never find him sitting waiting for his turn, cause he's already thinking about his next move!

Keep up the good work Omar!

Athletes oath:

**"Let me win. But if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt".**

**Become a volunteer today!**

Join our enthusiastic group of volunteers. Your help is very much needed. Contact Roosje van der Hoek at 786-7984 or mail at [info@specialolympicsbonaire.org](mailto:info@specialolympicsbonaire.org)

**Be a sponsor!**

Your contribution will be greatly appreciated. Our account number is 105.780.04 at Maduro & Curiel's Bank Bonaire N.V. or if you wish you can mail a check to:

**Special Olympics Bonaire**  
Maduro & Curiel's Bank (Bonaire) N.V.  
P.O. Box 366  
Bonaire, Netherlands Antilles

**Special Olympics**  
BONAIRE  
DUTCH CARIBBEAN

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*Flotsam and Jetsam* (Continued from page 2) cause the Netherlands Antilles, as a country will soon disappear. He said, "I don't see why we have to hurry and handle this bill. **Didn't we agree to dissolve the country by August 2007?**"

► **The High Court in The Hague has confirmed the 15-month corruption prison sentence of Curaçao political leader Anthony Godett.** For the implications of this ruling see the story on page 18.

► President of the Joint Court of Justice of Aruba and the Netherlands Antilles, Luis de Lannoy, in his speech at the installation of seven new Antilles Court judges emphasized the **explicit desire of the Court to acquire more independence by getting its own statutes and budget.** He said, "I dream that one day I can stand up in the courtroom and say: 'Ladies and gentlemen, *bosnan ta liber pa papia Papiamentu*' (you are free to speak Papiamentu)." With that, Anita Geelhoed of the Netherlands, one of the seven judges who was newly installed, stated that also the Joint Court of the Netherlands Antilles and Aruba advocated an "Antilleanisation" of the Court.

► According to Central Statistics Bureau of the Netherlands Antilles, in Au-



**Judge Luis de Lannoy**



**Congratulations to Bart and Roulan, (aka Bob) who run the ever-expanding Wanna Dive operation on WannaDive's fifth anniversary. It was celebrated by a street party at the WannaDive Hut Hotel.**

gust **Bonaire's consumer price index rose 0.1%** as compared with the previous June. As a group, food costs rose the most (1.4%). Over the previous 12 months prices increased by 1.7% with respect to the same period a year earlier. Within the food sector the prices rose in all groups, with exception of cooking oil (-0.2%). Meat and fish rose the most (3.3%), followed by dairy products (1.3%), and potatoes, vegetables and fruit (1.3%). Housing costs increased between June and August by 0.4%. Increases in other sectors were personal

care (1.2%), living (0.3%) and health care (0.1%). The index for the transport and communication sector decreased in August 2005 by 1.8%, primarily because the cost of making cell phone calls dropped. Also a fall of 0.4% was registered in the spirits and smoke product sector. For more information contact the Central Office for Statistics of the Netherlands Antilles at (5999) 461-1031 -or fax 461696. E-mail: info@cbs.an.

► Bonaire now has a **Tourist Information Radio Program in English**, spearheaded by Lucia Beck of Creative Ideas. It's on Mega FM (101.1 FM), every day, 30 minutes after the hour, starting at 9:30 am until 7:30 pm. Hear local, regional and international headline news, local and international weather, flight information, island events like happy hours, live music, etc., island information, tourist attractions. The station will be doing live broadcasts during special events. Tune in next week for live coverage of Regatta 2005.

► The mother of Natalee Holloway, the girl who disappeared in Aruba, said on American TV that she would **go to the Netherlands to distribute posters and keep focus on her daughter's disappearance and the chief suspects.**

Beth (Holloway) Twitty, who is calling for a boycott of Aruba and other Dutch territories, presented her story on the morning show of two networks. She was responding to an interview that Joran van der Sloot, one of three young-

sters last seen with Natalee, gave to the program, "A Current Affair," in Holland, where he went to study after he was released.

Twitty claims Van der Sloot confessed having raped Natalee, but he denies it. He said neither he nor the other two suspects, the Kalpoe brothers, had sex with Natalee and that he left her alone on a beach before she vanished.



► Bonaire's dive pioneer, **Captain Don Stewart will be honored for his contribution to the dive industry on October 12 by being named to the International Scuba Diving Hall of Fame.** In addition to diving Captain Don has promoted environmental conservation and is credited with starting the Bonaire Regatta. He opened Bonaire's first "Dive Hotel" at Zee Bad, at what is now the Divi Flamingo Beach Hotel.

► **Japanese scientists have taken the first photographs in the wild of one of the most mysterious creatures in the deep ocean--the giant squid.** Until now the only information about the behavior of the creatures, which measure up to 18 meters (59 feet) long,

(Continued on page 5)

(Flotsam & Jetsam. Continued from page 4)



**A Sperm Whale with a Giant Squid in its mouth.**

has been based on dead or dying squid washed up on shore or captured in commercial fishing nets. **Such remains have been found on Bonaire shores in the past.**

Now Tokyo researchers have captured the first images of *Architeuthis* attacking bait 900 meters below the surface in the cold, dark waters of the North Pacific. "We have the first wild images of a giant squid in its natural environment," they said in a report last Wednesday in the Journal Proceedings B of the Royal Society.

"The most dramatic character of giant squids is the pair of extremely long tentacles, distinct from the eight shorter arms," the scientists said in the

(Continued on page 10)

## OP ED PAGE — LETTERS

### "IT" EXPLAINED

Dear Editor,

I'm pleased to see that your readers have noticed my article and that some responded to it. A pity though that the two respondents seem to misinterpret the deeper message of my story. The real essence of "The IT" is that Bonaire lacks the skills, talents, vision and experience within Government and some parts of the tourism industry to guide Bonaire in any direction or some kind of growth. Growth doesn't necessarily mean mass tourism although a certain "economy of scale" is necessary to survive in a global economy. I'm not in favor of an "Aruba scenario" either, but those who are blocking any progress and development are a bit selfish I think.

*Bert H. Gadoed*

### BROKEN PROMISES CAN BE EXPENSIVE

Dear Editor:

On the local radio station I heard the last information concerning the plans to construct a new hotel on the site of the former Bonaire (Sunset Beach) Hotel. The island government is currently negotiating in this matter with the Marriott group, and there are also another two groups interested in building a hotel on this site - Radisson and Hilton. As expected, the stumbling block is the condition put by Marriott, and certainly also by the other groups for the beach in front of



*A beach in Aruba*

the hotel to be reconstructed to meet the standards for a beach of a high level international hotel.

The local government should be warned not to repeat the errors made on Aruba and on Curaçao where the promises given to the hotel investors could not be fulfilled and, after lengthy legal proceedings, the governments were obliged to pay many millions to the investors.

There have already been several articles on the enormous amounts to be paid for damage to various investors by the government of Aruba, but I would like to mention in this connection a case on Curaçao which can be a similar problem on Bonaire - an unfulfilled promise to construct a beach.

In the begin of the 90s the Van der Valk international hotel group reached an agreement with the island government of Curaçao to build a beach, to be called Marichi Beach, close to the existing Plaza Hotel. The Van der Valk group would build another hotel at this beach and Marichi Beach would serve the guests of both hotels. A condition of the govern-

ment of Curaçao was that the beach would also be open to the local inhabitants. The sand was planned to be extracted from the bottom of St. Joris Bay on the northeast coast of Curaçao and transported by trucks to the beach site. Under contract to the Curaçao Department of Works a hauler started the project in November 1992, but in 1993 a joint effort of Reef Care, *Defensa Ambiental*, *Amigu di Tera* and *Pro Monumento* Foundation, all fiercely opposing the project, succeeded in halting the work, and that was the definitive end of the project.

Consequently, the Van der Valk group started very lengthy legal procedures against the island government, claiming an amount of NAf110 million for the damages caused by not fulfilling its commitment. In order to settle out of court, in March 2003 the island government formed a special committee to reach an agreement with the Van der Valk group. According to this committee, the damage in connection with the Mariachi Beach and three other claims was "only" NAf 35 million, NAf 18 million of which was for not realizing the Marichi project. Finally, in June 2003, the Van de Valk group agreed to settle for NAf27.5 million.

The Marichi Beach case is a warning for our island government. An action of similar environmental groups can block the realization of the beach construction also on Bonaire.

In addition, there would also be serious technical problems because there is absolutely no sea sand available on our island which could be used to build a beach.

*Jiri Lausman*



Bonaire's Sentro di Barios:

Platforma Rincon:  
"Solid as a Rock"



A Candidate for Funding  
from AMFO and the NGO

On Sunday September 18<sup>th</sup> *Platforma Rincon* held its first official general town meeting since being established on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. During the meeting the people of Rincon had the opportunity of not only exchanging experiences and opinions but were informed what the Platform had achieved in the last four months and what is planned for the future.

It was an impressive sight to enter the Sentro di Bario and see that, despite the fact that it was Sunday, the townspeople took the invitation very seriously and attendance was high. The sight of the new board was no less imposing: 10 people sitting at a large table and looking directly at their audience.

Each member of the board in his/her respective area had the opportunity to elaborate on their accomplishments and projects they want to see in the future.

In addition to the members of the *Platforma*, Ben Oleana, coordinator of *Fundashon Desaroyo Rincon* (Foundation for the Development of Rincon), was invited to speak as the project coordinator of the *Platforma*. Other speakers were Jeanette Juliet-Pablo, president of the *Unidat di Bario di Korsow* (Unity of the Neighborhood of Curaçao) and Pancho Cicilia of the NGO Platform. AMFO, as the principal subsidizer of the *Platforma*, together with various government institutions and officials, was also represented.

According to Jeanette Juliet-Pablo, people have different reasons for joining a neighborhood platform: to maintain the culture, nature, healthcare, childcare etc. "Compared to other towns on Bonaire, Rincon was always a very united, motivated village. It's an 'isolated area' with its hills and distance from Playa, it has its own history, its own specific nature and distinctive way of life and customs."



Christopher Frans and Ben Oleana at Platforma Rincon town meeting.

These common aspects don't necessarily mean that there are no differences within such a platform, she continued. Age differences can lead to different perspectives. What approach to use is also a point of discussion. Development work in *barios* requires a certain approach. Although the well known 'bottom-up approach' (starting with the populace) has been successful in many cases, it may not be right for the *Platforma Rincon*, with its various areas of focus.

A neighborhood platform requires a **vision**, including a **mission** and **strategy**, which should be clear to everyone. **Values** are also necessary and decided upon in the 'campaigning' process (e.g. respect). They should not necessarily be 'fixed' but can change or be replaced by others along the way. **Predetermined indicators** should also be known in order to be measured. For instance in dealing with teenage pregnancy numerical statistics are vital.

**Structure, communication, dialogue and hard work** to gain trust are also essential in a town *Platforma*, otherwise its

**"I hope that the Platforma Rincon will be a model for other towns and neighborhoods on Bonaire!"**

Ben Oleana

validity can be challenged by the population. Juliet-Pablo advised taking **surveys** to 'taste the feeling' among the people. **Continuous education** is vital for development in the town/neighborhood.

For a real change in development you need: a clear mission, pressure, capacity (human resources) and a plan. "Has Rincon these requisites for the continuous development?" she asked.

Christopher Frans as the young new vice president and Janie Rombley (second secretary) were appointed for the **Youth** section. Well known Roosje Vinck was assigned to the position of **PR** and head of the **Safety/Security** section. Ermine Pourier was elected 1<sup>st</sup> secretary of the **Spirituality** section. The **Senior Citizens** section is represented by Ms. Gacha Coffie, a dynamic lady who proved during the meeting to be an excellent mediator on burning issues.

The ever dynamic and 'fighter for a good cause,' Maritza Juan Pedro, was assigned the job of President and represents the **Infrastructure and Tourism** section.

Freddy Piar, as member of the board, is the head of the **Sport** section. The position of Treasurer was assigned to Mrs. Lourdes Winklaar, who, as **Culture** section representative, delighted us with colorful examples of cultural promotion.

And last, but not least, Echi Trinidad will assist Mrs. Winklaar as second treasurer and will work in the **Family** section.

Christopher Frans, a dynamic and eloquent SGB student, spoke on the following achievements of the **Youth Committee**.

"The St. Micheal Scouting group went on a summer educational trip to Aruba, subsidized by AMFO. Bonairean judokas (judo athletes) were successful this year and the Rincon section was no exception. They made us proud in the Dominican Republic and at the *Weganan di Reino*.

The new 'dojo' to be established is financed by AMFO. On the spiritual side, the praying group, 'It's Time to Pray,' will be representing Bonaire at the next Antillean Youth Explosion. During the summer the *Hobenan Aktivo Rincon*



Former Senator Edith Strauss-Marsera and Security/Safety committee representative Roosje Vinck

(Active Youngsters Rincon) trained 41 youngsters in different areas such as leadership skills. This project was also sponsored by AMFO.

Rincon had four representatives together with other youngsters from around the island, for the last Youth Conference Summit in St. Martin (Christopher Frans, Gino Offerman, Ajimil Janga and Jonathan Clarinda). Rayvah, (a computer training company) Rincon section, is also working on a plan in cooperation with the Youth section of the Platform. Finally, the folk music group, *Foyan Boys*, helped organize a youth folk music contest while *kuarta* lessons are also being given to the youngsters.

There are even more potential projects: musical instruments and Youth Day Rincon. The latter is planned for November 19 and should attract approximately 200 young people. The goal is to make an inventory of what goes on among youngsters in Rincon: their future plans, concerns, sexuality, interests etc."

At the end of his speech Frans urgently asked AMFO to help sustain this project.

Roosje Vinck, representing the **Security/Safety** committee, explained that the original commission, *Rincon Ban pa e Solushon* (Rincon, Let's go for a Solution), automatically merged into the cur-

(Continued on page 7)

(Platforma Rincon. Continued from page 6)



**Some of the speakers at the Rincon Platforma meeting**

rent Security /Safety section of the Platforma Board, so this section's achievements and projects were farther along than other sections.

The *Rincon Ban pa e Solushon* commission started as an urgent plan by Ms. Vinck and others due to the alarming

**NGO** Platforma Bonaire: *New address as of August*  
 I: Plaza Terras, Kaya Grandi 23, Rooms E,F,G. Tel. 717-2366, Fax 717-2367, website: [www.ngobonaire.org](http://www.ngobonaire.org), email: [Platform@ngobonaire.org](mailto:Platform@ngobonaire.org)



**AMFO:** Kaya Gob. N. Debrot #31, Bonaire. Tel. 717-7776, Fax 717-7779, website: [www.samfo.org](http://www.samfo.org), email: [info-bon@samfo.org](mailto:info-bon@samfo.org)

number of burglaries last year in Rincon.

On July 29, 2004, there was a high attendance at the first town meeting. The first priority to be resolved was the drug problem. The solution: work preventively. Police Chief Daantje and Lt. Governor Domacassé promised and followed up, providing extra supervision and sea surveillance radar on the Bonairean coast.

AMFO financed the November 2004 town meeting with ex-drug addicts to keep brainstorming on solutions. Later came anti-drug workshops, not only for the youth, but also focused on the whole family, lectures by ex-drug addicts, special programs at schools, flyers and t-shirts. It's even become a tradition to wear these anti-drug t-shirts during sports events.

Currently, the Security/safety commission is waiting for approval by AMFO for the *Buriko* (donkey) project.

*Natalie A.C. Wanga*

The conclusion of the Rincon Platform Report will appear next week

## Tera Cora Honors Franklin Scherptong

Last weekend all Bonaire, but especially the *bario* of Tera Corá, honored Franklin Scherptong. Franklin grew up with music. His father is very musical and still plays. When he was seven years old he practiced on his father's accordion in secret –because no one was allowed to touch it. Finally he was ready and played a song for his father - *My Bonny Lies Over the Ocean* - and made his father proud. At 17, Franklin went to sea as an engineer-in-training. After many voyages and additional engineering education he returned to Bonaire and went to work at WEB. At that point his musical and social life began. Some years later he became a technical instructor at the SGB high school.

He's noted for his work done with great devotion and dedication. He spent six years studying music and plays many instruments: the bass tuba, steel pan, piano, organ, accordion, guitar, quato, bass and zither. In addition to his music, Franklin's passion is aviation, not as a pilot, but as a hobbyist, learning all about the world's aircraft and their movements

On September 12, 1999, Franklin was named "Treasured Citizen of Bonaire" because of his great musical merits and their effect on the island. Last Saturday, October 1<sup>st</sup> Commissioner Jonchi Dortalina paid another tribute to Franklin during a large party in his honor at the Sentro di Bario in Tera Corá which he helped found. Franklin received a special Plaque of Merit for his community contributions. Other neighborhood leaders as well as representatives from the barios of Rincon and Antriol added their praises and shared humorous stories about Franklin. Franklin then spoke of Tera Corá and its strong belief in Unity, Positivism, Peace, Love and Justice.

On his 12-base accordion, he delighted the crowd with his rendition of *My Bonny Lies over the Ocean*. In turn, Franklin was serenaded by talented vocalists and bands including Tutti Fruitti and Pal' i Wiri. It was a joyful evening for all! *G.D. with Barbara Mason Bianculli and excerpts from the book Portraits of Bonaire by Henk Roozendaal and Guus Gerritsen*



**Franklin with his family in Tera Cora**



**Franklin, the visionary, as seen in Portraits of Bonaire by Henk Roozendaal and Gus Gerritsen**



## The Bonaire Regatta--Next Week

For the last 37 years the Bonaire Regatta has combined spectacular sailing races with great entertainment for participants as well as for Bonaire visitors. Regatta House - *Kas di Regatta* - on the downtown waterfront, is the focal point for sailing. Class racing include Sunfish, Lasers, Catamarans, Yachts, microboats, traditional sail fishing boats and a variety of windsurfing events. Except for the 'Round Bonaire Race' for sea-going yachts and kids windsurfing, all races will be held in Kralendijk Bay. The breathtaking action may be watched right from Kralendijk's waterfront promenade.

**The Parade of Nations on Sunday at 7 pm** leads up to the **official opening at 8 pm in Wilhelmina Park**. There is even a **Boat Parade on Thursday evening beginning at 5:30 pm**.

Races will be held daily in the mornings and afternoons. Wednesday is a lay-day, which gives everyone the opportunity to go and watch the King of Lac Bay Freestyle competition at Sorobon. . A schedule of events appears in the Happenings section on page 15.

Sailors and non-sailors get together after the races at the festival, which offers exciting activities and live performances on the stage downtown. . *G.D.*



**Chamba II—Always one of the top boats in the yacht fleet.**

## Regatta 2005: Seen From the Windsurf World

by "Tonky" Frans,  
Bonaire's Champion  
Freestyle Windsurfer



**Windsurfers Payo, Kiri, Harvey, Jeagar and friend**

For outsiders it may appear that there is not much going on right now when it comes to Regatta. The truth is that for the outsiders it does look a little bit quiet around Regatta 2005. But this is only for people who are not participating in the event. The other side of the story is that, in the water sports world, and I will be writing particularly about the windsurf category, there is a lot going on. Local kids, teens and adults are training - and on a daily basis! You can see them when you pass by the seafront promenade from midday until the evening.

For the windsurf category, there are not many participants flying in from the other islands or other countries. For some years now it's been well known in the windsurf world that Bonaire's participants are very difficult to beat in the windsurf category, so therefore very few international participants bother to come to compete

against us. This year there will be many local teens participating, amongst which are the well known names like Kiri Thode and Choco Frans and other teens who are less well known. They all have one thing in common: they love windsurfing and they all want to be the winner in their category in Regatta 2005!

During the weeks prior to Regatta I strolled around the Regatta House in order to get a glimpse of these guys during their training sessions. They are training very hard, and you can see that their excitement is reaching high levels. I had a conversation with Ethienne Soliano, Jeager Sint Jago, Harvey Piar and Payo Soliano. They will all be participating in the Regatta.

**Ethienne Soliano** (NB56) started competing in Regatta in 1986. Being a faithful participant for so many years he

*(Continued on page 9)*





**Windsurfer Payo Soliano**

(Regatta 2005 from the Windsurf World. Continued from page 8)

started noticing that with the years passing by that the Regatta was losing many of its charms. Therefore he does not expect a lot. This year it is his 19<sup>th</sup> year of participation; a very remarkable achievement that definitely has to be celebrated when Regatta will celebrate its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2006 and Ethienne his 20<sup>th</sup> year of participation! For every year of the 18, Ethienne has placed in the top three. When asked if he thinks that he will achieve this again this year he responded: "I think that the only one who can give me a hard time in the Racing Formula category is Taty Frans. But I have been training enough and my mind is set positively so I am definitely ready for it!"

Ethienne will be participating only in the category Racing Formula because as he says, "I will leave the other categories for the Frans brothers to fight it out with each other."

Another guy you can see every day around the Kas di Regatta before or after

his training session is Jaeger **Sint Jago** (NB107). This year will be his fourth year of participation. In his first year he won Third place in the Optimist sailboat category and one of the last two times he won Third place in the Windsurfing category. Jaeger will be participating in Junior Formula Racing and also in Freestyle: "My most troublesome competitor is Choco Frans, and in case there is light wind it will be Kiri Thode. But I have been preparing myself very well in the waters where the competitions will take place. Therefore, I am going for the First place in Formula category this year. I only hope the wind will cooperate with us during the Regatta."

Speaking of wind, during these last few days it has not been very windy, and according to the wind websites on the Internet it does not look like this condition will change for Regatta 2005. But let's just hope and keep our fingers crossed that this is only a momentary condition and that the situation will change one way or another.

**Harvey Piar** (NB109) is participating this year for the second time in Regatta. "I am very excited since I think that Regatta 2005 will be big when it comes to the water sports part and especially the windsurfing category. This year the organisation has added a new category to windsurfing: Baby Class. This category is for all small children and I am sure that it will attract the attention of many spectators. I will be participating in the Junior Class Formula and Freestyle. I only hope that I will have better results this year. Since I am the rookie of the clan, I consider them all as my big competitors. Nevertheless I believe in myself, and with all the preparation I did already, I am ready to participate in Regatta 2005!"

I also spoke to **Payo Soliano** (NB63). He will be competing in the Junior Formula Racing and Freestyle classes. Payo is not a new face in our windsurfing world. For two years he has been participating in the Windsurf category. Both times he won second prize in the Big Kids Class. Payo: "I have been waiting so long for the Regatta that by now I am hungry to compete. Mentally I am totally ready for it. These days I have been doing my very best to practice as often as I can. I only hope for good wind this year because last year the wind was very bad. I am sure that under good conditions I will be able to beat my biggest competitor, Jaegar Sint Jago."

One thing for sure is that our Windsurfing participants are ready for Regatta 2005. When asked if there is something specifically that they want to say, something specifically to the readers, several answers were given:

Payo: "I want everybody to come and see all the action. If more people come to see us we will be more motivated and give greater shows, which will result in an even greater Regatta."

Harvey: "An invitation goes to all the readers to come enjoy the Regatta 2005 and also cheer for all the participants. This way we will make the Regatta bigger and better and Bonaire will have its Re-

gatta for many, many more years!"

Jaeger: "Everybody come and be great spectators along the beach by cheering for the participants!"

Ethienne: "Everybody, let's be more positive about everything and specifically about Regatta 2005. If all citizens help us to carry the Regatta, Regatta will grow and be even greater."

So, people, the message is clear. You should all come to the *Kas di Regatta* to enjoy all the competitions and festivities going on there but especially to motivate the participants. They are our local stars and the future of windsurfing. From October 9<sup>th</sup> to October 15<sup>th</sup> it will be Regatta 2005. Whose dream of winning will come true? How will they perform? And what do they think of their performance in the Regatta 2005? All of this in one week's time, when we will be back to tell you about the results of the windsurfing category in general and of these four guys in particular.

Photo and story by "Tonky" Everon Frans



## KRALENDIJK TIDES (Heights in feet, FT)

Remember: Winds and weather can further influence the local tides

DATE	TIME	HEIGHT	COEF
10-07	1:50	0.8FT.	84
10-08	2:29	0.7FT.	78
10-09	3:05	0.7FT.	71
10-10	3:40	0.7FT.	62
10-11	4:07	0.8FT.	56
10-12	4:31	0.8FT.	56
10-13	4:52	0.9FT.	61
10-14	5:06	1.0FT.	70

## VESSELS MAKING A PORT CALL:

Alina	Freestyle	Marisol	Slow Dancin
Alter Ego	Gallivanter	Mimo	Sylvia K
Angie	Good Hope	Moana	Tish
Angelique	Guaicamar I, Ven.	Moonglow	Theis
Algese	Helde	Orion	Ulu Ulu, USA
Augustine	Jan Gerardus	Paws	Unicorn, Norway
Bedouin	Josina	Samantha Nova	Valenza
Bright Sea	Key Lara	Samba	Valkerie
Camissa, Chan Is.	Luna C. USA	Santa Maria	Varedhuni, Ger.
Cape Kathryn	La Baronne	Sandpiper, USA	Ventoso
Chalice	La Serena	Seascape	Vijia
Deneb	Lazzorone	Sea Witch	Wingin
Delphinus	Live Your Dream	Sho Fun Time	Ya-T, BVI
Elenoa	Makai	Side By Side	Yanti Paratzi
Endangered Species	Maggi	Sintella	Yus Do It
Flying Cloud, USA	Mandolin	Sirius	Zee Vonk

# First TRIMIX certification at Divi Tec Dive Bonaire



*Instructor Pepe Mastropaolo and student Andy Owens breathing Tri-mix*

**D**ivi Dive Bonaire has been offering a full in-house technical dive program for customers who'd like to explore the deeper parts of Bonaire. Divers staying at the Divi Flamingo as well as divers from other resorts are more than welcome.

To explore the reefs beyond recreational dive limits, recreational divers need additional training to do it safely and comfortably. All training is offered under the guidance of the well-known technical diving agency, TDI (Technical Diving International).

In addition special dive equipment is a necessity in technical diving. Divi Tec Dive Bonaire has all the goodies for teaching or rental. They are fully equipped with high-tech, state-of-the-art gear: high performance regulators from Scubapro, BCD and harnesses from OMS, and accessories from Dive Rite, as well as a variety of scuba cylinders from doubles to stage bottles with DIN or INT connection.

To supply the diver's need of a variation of gas mixes they have a full service gas blending station where any mix can be made in minutes. They carry helium as well, and it will be blended perfectly to your wishes. To verify the mix, a helium analyzer is available.

This week the first Trimix Certifica-

tion was issued. Congratulations to Andy Owens (see picture) from the US who followed technical dive instruction for the past two weeks and got certified for advanced nitrox, decompression procedures, extended range and trimix. To complete his package, Andy also took the gas blender class. Also one of the Divi dive team instructors, Pepe Mastropaolo, became a certified technical diver up to extended range.

Andy Owens has said already he'll come back to Bonaire to get his advanced trimix certification. According to Andy, Bonaire is a superb training location for technical diving and has much more to offer than a lot of people are aware of. On one of the trimix dives, they discovered a huge vertical wall at 195 ft., dropping down to the blue abyss, just off Klein Bonaire. Andy can hardly wait till next year to explore this wall while getting his advanced training.

All technical training is conducted under the professional supervision of Roger Haug, who is Director of the technical dive department for Divi Dive Bonaire. So if you want another challenge in diving, contact Divi Dive Bonaire at 717-8285 or e-mail: [dive@divibonaire.com](mailto:dive@divibonaire.com) or just check out the website at [www.diviresorts.com](http://www.diviresorts.com)

*Story and photo by Serge deGroot*

*(Flotsam & Jetsam. Continued from page 5)*  
Journal. They added that the giant squid appears to be a much more active predator than researchers had suspected and tangles their prey in their elongated feeding tentacles.

► **SELIBON employees and Bonaire youngsters cleaned up Donkey Beach and some beaches on Klein Bonaire last week.** The SELIBON employees sacrificed their Sunday voluntarily to clean up Donkey Beach near the airport. And groups from Jong Bonaire, the Boy Scouts drum band and Trupial Scouting plus others followed by cleaning up No Name and Jerry's Jam beaches on Klein Bonaire in cooperation with the crew of *Free-winds* and STINAPA.

► **The island is blooming right now**, thanks to recent rains, and our "opportunistic" trees and shrubs are taking advantage and flowering wildly in preparation to scattering their seeds during this possibly short wet period. Many of the dams are filled and we've even spotted flamingos enjoying the new watery areas. Especially gorgeous are the yellow flowering Brasilwood or Dyewood trees (*Brasia*) which dot the hillsides in the northwest of the island. A rather small, unobtrusive tree with strikingly deep grooves in the stem, it was sought as a source used to prepare a red dye. Unfortunately, the dye came from the roots so the whole tree had to be destroyed to get the product. In certain areas of the island

*(Continued on page 12)*



*Brasilwood or Dyewood tree in bloom*



# DOG WASH Success



Giant Schnauzer, Bruce "Nozem" Bartels, enjoys the wash and the attention at the Shelter Dog Wash last Saturday at Warehouse Bonaire.

A lot of dogs got washed last Saturday at the Bonaire Animal Shelter's fundraising Dog Wash in the parking lot at Warehouse. Twenty-six dogs emerged sparkling clean thanks to the efforts of Shelter volunteers. And the event brought in NAf795, all of which goes to help keep the Shelter open.

Every dog "customer" got a special prize at the end too – doggie snacks, canned dog food, even a photo of him or her with his or her owner. The photos will be on display at Warehouse Bonaire this week.

An event like this cannot be put on without the assistance of the generous donations of individuals and local businesses. Thanks go to the self-less volunteers who spent their Saturday helping out, to veterinarian Dr. Jan Laarakker and to the Klinika Veterinario Bonaire for donating the very special pet shampoo. Warehouse Bonaire was the primary sponsor (site, water, dog food, etc.) Other very kind supporters were Bellafonte Apartments (towels), Flamingo Communications (photo frames), Green Label Garden Supply and Landscaping (garden equipment, hose fittings), Jacobs Architects (posters), Kooyman (hoses) and Plaza. (towels). L.D.



# Picture Yourself with the Reporter Manietowoc, Wisconsin, US



Jacob Groth and his pig, Jack, check out *The Bonaire Reporter* while waiting to be judged at the Manietowoc County Fair. Jacob's grandparents, Henry and Margy Horneck, sent us this photo and reported that J & J took two red ribbon prizes. The Hornecks will be returning to Bonaire for Karnaval 2006.

**WIN GREAT PRIZES!** Take a copy of *The Bonaire Reporter* with you on your next trip or when you return to your home. Then take a photo of yourself with the newspaper in hand. **THE BEST PHOTOS OF THE YEAR WILL WIN THE PRIZES.** Mail photos to Bonaire Reporter, Kaya Gob. Debrot 200-6, Bonaire, Netherlands Antilles (AN). E-mail to: [picture@bonairereporter.com](mailto:picture@bonairereporter.com). (All 2005 photos are eligible.)



(Flotsam & Jetsam. Continued from page 10) where bulldozers have cleared the land the Brasilwood was annihilated, only to be replaced by the long-spined Cossie trees. So enjoy the extravagant show right now where the trees still survive.

► **A new weekly series in *The Reporter***, starting this week, is "In the Spotlight" about people involved in the Special Olympics. It appears on the back page.

► **Tonky Frans, Bonaire's leading freestyle windsurfer, will be providing "color" for the windsurfing event cover-**



**age of the 2005 Bonaire Regatta for *The Bonaire Reporter***. Coverage begins on page 8.

► **And don't forget to march in this Sunday's Nations parade that starts Regatta Week**. Details in Happenings section on page 15.

► **The Benetton model in the ad this week is Michael Trinidad from Jong Bonaire**. He's posing by one of the pillars in front of Harbourtown Realty on Playa Grandi. The Benetton ad is on page 10.

► **Enjoy yourself during Regatta Week.** G./L.D

### Got something to buy or sell?

REACH MORE READERS than any other WEEKLY NEWSPAPER by advertising in THE BONAIRE REPORTER

Non-Commercial Classified Ads (up to 4 lines/ 20± words):

**FREE FREE FREE FREE**

Commercial Ads only NAf0.70 per word, per week.  
Free adds run for 2 weeks.

#### 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. 8000m<sup>2</sup> nursery. Specializing in garden/septic pumps and irrigation. Kaminda Lagoen 103, Island Growers NV (Capt. Don and Janet). Phone: 786-0956

#### Bonaire Images

Elegant greeting cards and beautiful boxed note cards are now available at Chat-N-Browse next to Lover's Ice Cream and Sand Dollar Grocery. Photography by Shelly Craig [www.bonaireimages.com](http://www.bonaireimages.com)

#### MOVING INTO A NEW HOUSE?

*Make it more livable from the start.*  
**FENG SHUI CONSULTATIONS**  
Interior or exterior design advice, clearings, blessings, energy, healing, China-trained. Experienced. Inexpensive.  
Call Donna at 785-9332.

#### LUNCH TO GO

Starting from NAf5 per meal. Call CHINA NOBO 717-8981

#### SALT TREASURES BONAIRE

100% natural body salts "Scrub Me" 100% natural Bath Salts available at Chat-n-Browse, KonTiki and Jewel of Bonaire or call 786-6416 for more information.

#### JELLASTONE PETPARK

Pet boarding / Dierenpension Day and night care. phone: 786-4651 [www.bonairenet.com/jellastone/](http://www.bonairenet.com/jellastone/)

#### EMPLOYEE WANTED



We are looking for an experienced Secretary/Receptionist. For more information or to apply please call Marieke Schmitz telephone number 717-3630.

#### JOB WANTED

Donna Gassert is looking for a job - 20+/- hrs per week. Work Permit not required. Will consider full-time position. Please .... call 717-7735 afternoons.

#### For Sale

Toshiba HD projection t.v-61A62, a.g. a.n, biggest in Bonaire: (1,3mx1,5mx0,65m) (4ftx5ftx2ft) with warranty: 2600Naf

Sony MHC-GN800 prof. Hi-Fi component surround system with 5 speaker boxes, MP3,mic,c.d. (3),double tape deck etc. 700Naf (was 1100Naf) also a Stroller 100Naf Tel.:717-7977

3 single Ikea beds for sale. White wooden head and base boards. 50Naf each or a special price for all three. 791-1886

Aluminum sliding doors for sale. Blue profiles. Second-hand. Sizes: 2m high x 4.75m wide (4 doors), 2m high by 1.6m wide (2 doors), 2.3m high by 3.5m wide (4 doors), 2m high by 4.8m wide (3 doors), 0.5m high by 1.1m wide (2 windows). Discount for buying all 5. 791-1886

LADA NIVA (jeep) for sale 1991-4X4 drive 1.6 Cyl. 95.000km NAf5.400 717-2844 or 786-2844

#### Property, Sales & Rentals

For rent: Fully furnished well secured one bedroom apartment with big porch and garden in quiet surroundings for max. 3 months. Tel.717-7977

For Rent: Fully furnished one bedroom apartment in Hato. NAf425. Water and electricity included. Available immediately, Tel.790-7674

For Rent: Comfortable 2-bedroom beach villa-weekly or monthly-choice location-privacy & security. Phone (Bon) (599) 717 3293; (US) (570) 586 0098. May 20 until Jan. 8th. [info@pelicanreefbonaire.com](mailto:info@pelicanreefbonaire.com) or [www.pelicanreefbonaire.com](http://www.pelicanreefbonaire.com)

RENT (available for immediate occupancy) Unfurnished apartment with one bedroom in Antriol. Price: NAfl. 800,- per month, exclusive utilities For more information: please pass by our office or call Amanda at Harbourtown Real Estate 717 - 5539

Regatta ta den Kurpa atrobe... Ta e temporada ku tur hende ke bin bishita nos dushi Isla Bonaire. Abo tambe ta bini bin selebra huntu ku nos den regatta? Bo ta buskando un lugar pa bo keda den e dianan ei?

Awe nos tin e lugar korekto pa bo s apartament aki ta kompletamente muebla den un area hopi tranquil

I pega ku playa. Dos kamer kuchina sala porch prijs pa huur lo ta NAf123- pa anochi. Pa mas informashon kontakt nos na RE/MAX Paradise Homes Tel 717-7362

Regatta is coming ... It's the time that every one comes to visit our sweet island of Bonaire!

Are you coming too? To help celebrate Regatta with us? Are you looking for a place to stay?

We have the right apartment for you. A two-bedroom, totally furnished, kitchen, bathroom and porch, in a very quite area close to town. Rental fee for only: NAf123- per night. For more information please contact us at: RE/MAX Paradise Homes: 717-7362

#### Wanted

Wanted - Video player/recorder to play European VHS tapes. Must be compatible with the PAL system and in good working order. Tel: 786-4456 or 786-8648

Wanted- Rowing machine- Buy, barter or borrow. 717-7657

#### URGENTLY NEEDED FOR AFTER-SCHOOL YOUTH PROJECT

Small School Bus or Large Transport Van suitable for 10 passengers, daily Use Noon to 6 pm. Softball & Bat, Computer Printer & Paper, Ink Cartridges. Call Mick Smit 786-6816, Stichting Project, Teen Training Center, North Salina

LOOKING TO BUY: Home Exercise Weight Training Equipment for Captain Don. Used, good working condition. No electric treadmill or step machine. Call Don & Janet 786-0956.

LOOKING TO BUY: Hewlett Packard HP Deskjet Old Model Computer Printer compatible with HP45 ink cartridge (42ml). Used, good condition. USB or SCSI.



## Ask the Dietitian

### Teach Good Food Habits to Your Child

**L**ike reading and writing, brushing teeth, and hand washing, learning good food habits is a life skill that can help your child live a healthy, satisfying life. Here's how you can nurture good food habits.

#### Give Your Child Enough Table Time

Does your child seem to play around at the table? That's normal. A young child does not have the coordination to eat as fast as you. So slow down yourself and eat at a pace that allows you to enjoy your food. Keep in mind that it takes about 20 minutes for the stomach to feel full. Rushing mealtime only leads to frustration for you, your child, and others at the table.



#### Be a Good Role Model. Your Child Watches What You Eat.

If you eat and enjoy vegetables, chances are your child will try them too, if not now, then probably later. It's not just what you say, it's also what you do. As kids grow up, a brother, sister and others in their life are role models too. Remember, most children want to grow up doing what others do.

#### Skip the Urge to Reward or Punish Your Child With Food.

Have you ever been tempted to say: "I'll be mad if you don't eat one more bite!" or "No dessert until you eat your vegetables!" or "Stop crying, and I'll give you a cookie."

Remarks like these may lead kids to eating problems. They may create unneeded conflict and struggles between you and your child at the table.

- Eating for parental approval or love teaches unhealthy behaviors, attitudes, and beliefs about food and themselves.
- Offering a food (dessert) as a reward for eating another (veggies) make some foods seem better.
- Getting a food treat to feel better teaches kids to relieve negative feelings by eating. This can lead to overeating later on.

#### Instead..... Use a Non-Food Approach.

Reward your child with attention and kind words. Console with hugs and talk. Show love by spending time and having fun together.

#### A Nurturing Place to Eat is.....

##### Caring, calm, and respectful.....

- Focus mealtime on eating and family talks that includes your child. Turn off the TV.
- Plan quiet time for eating so your child comes to the table relaxed

##### Comfortable and safe from injury....

- Always stay with a young child who is eating, even if you must do other tasks
- Get a stable, comfortable, child-size chair.
- Get easy-to-hold, child size utensils and cups.

AS

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 [dietitian@bonairenews.com](mailto:dietitian@bonairenews.com) □



COVER  
STORY

## Italy Arrived!

**E**xcitement ran high at Flamingo Airport last Sunday when five "star" SGB Hotel School students and their culinary teacher, Vernon "Nonchi" Martijn, prepared to leave for Italy.

It is an exceptional honor that the Emilia Romagna region of Italy

has extended an invitation to Bonaire to send five specially selected Bonaire SGB hotel school students to study in the region for four weeks. This will be the third year that Bonaire has been invited to send its students.

Parents, friends and family gathered to say their goodbyes, some of them teary. The students themselves were high with excitement, anticipation and a little bit of trepidation. "This is all new for me," said Shakira Matthew, "I've never been there, and I think it will be hard work." We asked why there were four girls and only one guy. Gianna Martines answered with a grin, "We (girls) rule the world! It's going to be hard there but great too." Angel Albertus, a twin, said this will be the first time she and her sister will be separated. Why does she think she was chosen to go? "Because I work hard and I love this work," she answered, as did Minosca Mercera who worked at all the fundraisers. The only guy, Channethon Jansen, said his aim is to be a manager, chef cook. His favorite food is *stoba* (stew), and learning to cook Italian will be certainly different!

These specially selected students will be doing a "stage" (intern) program in Italy's Emilia Romagna region, known for the best culinary arts in the country. They will be studying cuisine, Italian style, for four weeks. All expenses in Italy are paid by Emilia Romagna, but the students must pay for their transportation. Thanks to fund raising and generous donations the students were able to afford air tickets. We can also report they arrived safely in Italy (see photo above).

Also going to Italy this year were culinary students from Curaçao and Aruba. This is the second year students from Aruba and Curaçao have been invited.

L.D.



Sara Matera photo

*And here they are in Italy!*

Keep *The Bonaire Reporter* free.  
Support our advertisers.

## Pet of the Week

“Robin,” the cat, is truly special. She’s a tortoise shell tabby – with a particularly photogenic tongue. But that’s not what’s special. She is a cat that is totally ready to move to Holland. She has all her “papers” – all shots, rabies injection, an ID chip under her skin; she’s been



“Robin”

sterilized. What happened was that the people who wanted to bring her to Holland had their plans changed – but that was after all the work had been done to make her legal to enter The Netherlands. So here she is, still in Bonaire – that’s not bad – but she isn’t that happy in the Shelter Cat Cage with all the others. In that way she’s a “special needs” cat who would be much happier being an “only” cat, not part of a crowd. She’s a beauty; she’s affectionate with people and would be a pleasure to have around – whether it be in Bonaire or in Holland. You may meet Robin at the Bonaire Animal Shelter on the Lagoen Road, open Monday through Friday, 10 am to 2 pm, Saturdays until 1. Tel. 717-4989.

Thanks to all the wonderful volunteers and businesses who made the Dog Wash 2005 such a success. It was such an innovative idea, and everyone had a great and social time – four legged as well as two-legged! You may see all the dog “portraits” taken of each of the doggy customers with their owners at Warehouse Bonaire this week.

Be sure to look for the Bonaire Animal Shelter stand set up in Wilhelmina Park during Regatta week (October 9 to 15). They’ll be selling Shelter T-shirts and other animal oriented items – great for gifts or for yourself. All the proceeds go towards keeping our Shelter open. *L.D.*



# WHAT'S HAPPENING

## Regatta 2005 Schedule

**WEEKLY MOVIE SHOWTIMES**

**Late Show**  
Call to make sure (Usually 9 pm)  
**Deuce Bigalow: European Gigolow**  
(Rob Schneider)

**Early Show (Usually 7 pm)**  
**Four Brothers**

**Kaya Prinses Marie Behind Exito Bakery**  
Tel. 717-2400  
Tickets - NAF14 (incl. Tax)  
Children under 12 - NAF12

**NEW FILMS BEGIN FRIDAY**  
CLOSED MONDAY TUESDAY  
AND WEDNESDAY  
**SATURDAY 4 PM**  
**Sky High**

### THIS WEEK

**October 9 - 15- International Bonaire Sailing Regatta**  
**Sunday, October 9**—Jong Bonaire 5th Annual Swim to Klein Bonaire, 8 am, Bongo's Beach (see page 11)  
**Sunday, October 9**—Parade of Nations. Meet at 6:45 pm in the empty lot south of the post office. Wear traditional clothes. Call Papy Cicilia 560-7440. Americans contact Donna Wuyts at 785-9332.  
**Thursday, October 13**—Regatta Boat Parade. Boats meet at 5:30 pm in front of Regatta House. Call George at 717-8988.  
**Until October 24**—Art Exhibit by Sipke Stapert and Dianir Rivas Torres at Cinnamon Art Gallery.

### COMING

**Friday, October 21 - Antillean Day, Market & Cultural Activities all day, Niki-boko Cento di Bario**  
**November 24-26**—Bonaire Investment Conference

### 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](http://www.infobonaire.com/rincon)  
**Saturday**—Mountain Bike Ride— Everyone is welcome, no matter what your skill level. It's free. Just bring a bike and your own water. Fitness trainer Miguel Angel Brito leads the pack. Telephone him at 785-0767 for more information.  
**Saturday -Wine Tasting at AWC's warehouse,** 6 to 8 pm, Kaya Industria #23. Wine NAF2,50 a glass.  
**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**-great prizes, 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.  
**Every Tuesday Night @ 6:30pm** - Bonaire-Talker Dinner/Gathering at Gibi's, known for great local food. Call Gibi at 567-0655 for details, or visit [www.BonaireTalk.com](http://www.BonaireTalk.com), and search for "Gibi."  
**Friday -Manager's Rum Punch Party, Buddy Dive Resort,** 5:30-6:30 pm  
**Friday- Open House with Happy Hour** at JanArt Gallery Kaya Gloria #7, 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** Slides 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.  
**Wednesday (2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>) Turtle Conservation Slide Show** by Andy Uhr. Carib Inn seaside veranda, 7 pm  
**Wednesday -Buddy Dive Cocktail Video Show** by Martin Cecilia pool bar Buddy Dive, 7 pm 717-5080

### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

**Bonaire Arts & Crafts (Fundashon Arte Industrial Bonaireano)** 717-5246 or 7117  
**The Bonaire Swim Club-** Contact Valarie Stimpson at 785-3451 or Valrie@telbonet.an  
**Cinnamon Art Gallery** - Volunteers to help staff gallery during the day. 717-7103.  
**Bonaire National Marine Park** - 717-8444.  
**Bonaire Animal Shelter** -717-4989.  
**Donkey Sanctuary** - 560-7607.  
**Jong Bonaire (Youth Center)** -717-4303.  
**Sister Maria Hoppner Home (Child Care)** Tel. 717-4181 fax 717-2844.  
**Special Olympics** - Contact Roosje 717-4685, 566-4685

### 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 - 6:30 pm** - call 567-0655 for directions.  
**Bridge Club** - **Wednesdays**, 7:30 pm at the Union Building on Kaya Korona, across from the RBTT Bank. 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 9:30 pm. 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 **2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday** of the month at 8 pm at Kaya Sabana #1. All Lions are welcome.  
**Rotary** lunch meetings **Wednesday**, 12 noon-2 pm - Now meeting at Casa Blanca Restaurant. 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.  
**CHURCH SERVICES**  
**New Apostolic Church,** Meets at Kaminda Santa Barbara #1, Sundays, 9:30 am. Services in Dutch. 717-7116.  
**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.** Wil-

helminaplein. 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

Send events to *The Bonaire Reporter*  
Email [reporter@bonairenews.com](mailto:reporter@bonairenews.com)  
Tel/Fax. 717-8988, Cel. 786-6518

All events are at Regatta House (On waterfront, between Harbour Village and Karel's) unless noted.

### Sunday, October 9th

07:00 - 10:00 2nd Pia Pia Regatta Walk  
08:00 - 12:00 5th Annual Swim to Klein Bonaire- Bongo's Beach  
09:00 - 14:00 Registrations  
18.30 - 19.30 Skippers meeting/Opening Regatta  
19:00 - 20:00 All Nations Parade Kralendijk Streets  
20:00 - 01:00 Opening Regatta Festival Wilhelmina Park

### Monday, October 10th

07.30 - 17.00 Sailing Races  
12.30 - 13.00 Press Briefing  
14.00 - 17.30 DJ Music / Activities- Broadcasting & Games  
16.00 - 20.00 After Sail Happy Hour  
20.00 - 01.00 Regatta Festival Wilhelmina Park

### Tuesday, October 11th

10.00 - 17.00 Sailing Races  
12.30 - 13.00 Press Briefing  
14.00 - 17.30 DJ Music / Activities Broadcasting & Games  
16.00 - 20.00 After Sail Happy Hour  
19.00 - 20.30 Fishing boats Registration  
20.00 - 01.00 Regatta Festival Wilhelmina Park

### Wednesday, October 12th

08.30 - 10.30 7th Annual Kayak race round Klein Bonaire\*  
10.00 - 16.00 microboat races  
10.00 - 17.00 Freestyle Windsurfing Sorobon Beach  
12.30 - 13.00 Press briefing  
14.00 - 17.30 DJ Music / Activities Broadcasting & Games  
17.30 - 18.30 20th Comcabon-WEB run\* WEB office  
18.30 - 22.00 Participants BBQ Party  
20.00 - 01.00 Regatta Festival Wilhelmina Park

### Thursday, October 13th

10.00 - 17.00 Sailing Races  
11.00 - 13.00 Kayak Race  
12.30 - 13.00 Press briefing  
14.00 - 17.30 DJ Music / Activities Broadcasting & Games  
16.00 - 18.00 Microboat races  
16.00 - 20.00 After Sail Happy Hour  
17.30 - 19.00 Working boat Parade Kralendijk Harbour  
20.00 - 01.00 Regatta Festival Wilhelmina Park

### Friday, October 14th

10.00 - 17.00 Sailing Races  
12.00 - 12.30 Press briefing  
14.00 - 19.00 DJ Music / Activities Broadcasting & Games  
16.00 - 17.30 Microboat races  
20.00 - 21.30 Award Ceremony / Closing Regatta  
20:00 - 24:00 'The Best Driver' Wilhelmina Park  
21.30 - 03.00 Regatta Festival Wilhelmina Park

### Saturday, October 15th

20.00 - 03.00 Closing Regatta Festival Regatta Boulevard

# DINING GUIDE

See advertisements in this issue

RESTAURANT	PRICE RANGE / WHEN OPEN	FEATURES
<b>Bella Vista Restaurant</b> Sea Side Restaurant at Buddy Dive Resort 717-5080, ext. 525	Moderate. Breakfast and Lunch Dinner during Theme nights only. Open every day	<b>Magnificent Theme Nights:</b> Saturday: Beach Grill; Monday: Caribbean Night; Friday: Manager's Rum Punch Party and All-You-Can-Eat B.B.Q
<b>Bistro de Paris</b> Kaya Gob. N. Debrot 46 (half-way between hotel row and town) 717-7070	Moderate Lunch and Dinner Closed Sunday	<b>Real French Cooking</b> in an informal setting Superb dishes prepared with care and love by a French chef Owner-operated Eat in or Take away
<b>Brasserie Bonaire</b> Royal Palm Galleries Kaya Grandi 26, Next to Re/Max, 717-4321	Low- Moderate Lunch and Dinner Open 11 am -2:30 pm 5:30-9 pm Closed Saturday and Sunday	Lots of parking in big mall lot <b>Kitchen Open 11 am-2:30 pm, Dinner 5:30-9 pm</b> Breezy terrace with airco inside—Also serving big sandwiches at dinner
<b>Calabas Restaurant &amp; Chibi Chibi Restaurant and Bar</b> At the Divi Flamingo Beach Resort. Waterfront 717-8285	Moderate-Expensive Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner Open 7 days	Get a view of the beach and turquoise sea while enjoying a breakfast buffet or à la carte lunch and dinner at the 'Chibi Chibi' restaurant & bar. Inspiring vistas and the <b>highest standard of cuisine.</b>
<b>Croccantino Italian Restaurant</b> Downtown at Kaya Grandi 48 717-5025	Moderate-Expensive Dinner Closed Monday	<b>Bonaire's Most Romantic Restaurant where dining is a delight!</b> Tuscan chef prepares exquisite dishes with authentic ingredients. Be served in a garden setting under floating umbrellas or in air-conditioned comfort. Take out too.
<b>The Great Escape</b> EEG Blvd #97—across from Belmar 717-7488	Moderate Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner Open 7 days	<b>Bar-Restaurant poolside—under the thatched roof.</b> Cuban cuisine. Champagne brunch on Sundays 10 am to noon. Happy hours 5 to 7 every day.
<b>The Last Bite Bakery Home Delivery or Take Out</b> 717-3293	Low-Moderate Orders taken 8 am-4 pm; Deliveries 6-7:30 pm, Closed Sunday	Enjoy a delicious dessert or savory baked meal in the comfort of your home or resort. This unique bakery offers <b>gourmet class items</b> -always from scratch- for take out or delivery only.
<b>The Lost Penguin</b> Across from MCB Bank in downtown Kralendijk Call 717-8003.	Low-Moderate Breakfast, Lunch, Early Dinner until 6 pm Closed Tuesdays & Wednesdays	Watch the bustle of downtown from this street side <b>Caribbean-style bistro</b> owned and run by a European educated Master Chef and his wife.
<b>Pasa Bon Pizza</b> On Kaya Gob. Debrot ½ mile north of town center. 790-1111	Low-Moderate Open from 5-11 pm Wednesday-Sunday	Bonaire's best. The <b>Real Thing!</b> Freshly prepared pizzas made with the finest ingredients. Salads, desserts. Eat in or take away. Nice bar too. Call ahead to eat-in or take out 790-1111

# 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.

## ART GALLERY

**Cinnamon Art Gallery** non-profit gallery for local artists has continuous shows. Each month a new artist is featured. Stop by. Free entry.

## 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.

## COMPUTERS

**Bonaire Automation B.V.** fills all your computer needs: hardware, software, supplies, service, repair and more.

## DIVING

**Carib Inn** is the popular 10-room inn with top-notch dive shop and well stocked retail store. Best book trade on Bonaire. Good prices on regulator repair, dive computer H.Q.

**Dive Friends Bonaire (Photo Tours Divers-Yellow Submarine)** -low prices - on the seaside at Kralendijk, at Caribbean Club, Caribbean Court and the Hamlet Oasis. Join their cleanup dives and BBQ.

**WannaDive** - They make diving fun while maintaining the highest professional standards. In town at City Café and at Eden Beach.

## 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 a 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.

## Nature Exploration

**Outdoor Bonaire** for individually guided kayaking, hiking, biking, caving, rapeling/abseilen and more reservations : 791-6272 or 717-4555 E-mail : hans@outdoorbonaire.com

## PHOTO FINISHING

**Paradise Photo** in the Galleries Shopping Center offers fast, fine processing for prints, slides, items and services . **Now-full digital services.**

## 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.**

## SUPERMARKETS

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/WOMEN:**  
Put your ad in *The Bonaire Reporter*.  
Phone/Fax 717-8988, Cel 786-6518



# Born on Bonaire....

## Hubert Vis

“I was born in 1952 at ‘Mentor,’ the bright orange house at the end of Kaya Korona. My parents, Cor Vis and Helena Vis-Nicolaas, had 12 children. Father was chief of the hygienic service but also a businessman; he owned a brick and tile factory and a carpenter shop. He owned a bakery together with his brother and a bar/restaurant which he operated for a long time until he rented it to a Chinese.

I had a good childhood; very few problems. At 17 I left for Holland to go to a teachers’ college. I wanted to become a teacher; to teach others, to transfer knowledge - all that was attractive to me. Life in Holland was completely different. Both the culture and the climate came as a shock to me. The way people interacted with each other, especially the lack of warmth, was something I had to get used to. I had one brother living in Holland, but he was three hours away from where I was, and with the little money I had I could only visit him once a month. After five years I returned to Bonaire and started teaching at the Stanislaus School in Rincon, then later at the Watapana School. I’d left the island when I was still a boy and came back as a teacher. Suddenly I was ‘Sir’ to everyone!”

*Hubert Vis, head of the cultural department and director of the museum, is a thoughtful and quiet person, but also open minded, friendly and relaxed. “In Holland I’d met a girl from Friesland, Anneke. She’d seen something of the world as she had been living in the States as part of a student exchange program at high school. Three months after I’d gotten back to Bonaire she came... to stay. A year later, in 1975, we got married.*

In Holland Anneke had been a group leader at a boarding school. In Bonaire she was a homemaker the first three years until she found a job at an administration office. In 1977 we got a foster child, a boy named Tico, and in 1979 our daughter Ñeka was born. It was around that time that we both got the itch to study again. We adopted Tico and in 1980 returned to Holland to live in a very small town in Friesland - Augustinusga: one church, one supermarket, one soccer field! The little old house we lived in was freezing cold in winter time. I would wake up with icicles in my moustache! I started studying to become a high school English and geography teacher, and a year later Anneke stepped in, doing English and domestic science.

In 1981 a friend, a single mother with a child, moved in with us and stayed for three years, being a great support to Anneke. For me it was different this

time in Holland. I had my family and I didn’t feel so lonely, but it wasn’t easy to go from a paid job to living on a scholarship when you have a family to support.

After five years I completed my studies and was offered a job at a high school in another province, five hours away by train. I’d leave the family on Sunday night and return on Friday afternoon. Anneke was still studying, and around that same time our son Ibo was born in 1985. It wasn’t easy for her: two small children, a baby and her studies and me being away the whole week... it was hard. After she finished her studies she came to live with me in Alkmaar. Around that time we had another foster child, Geeske, whom we took care of, off and on, for about a year. In 1986 Hidde was born. His mother was Anneke’s sister. She couldn’t take care of her baby so we took him in.

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“Once someone came to visit me and told me, ‘Bonaire is a navel where many souls have to go through to be able to reincarnate again,’ and that’s just how I feel about Bonaire.”

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It was always our intention to come back to Bonaire, so we’d never made any lasting moves; we always lived ‘out of a suitcase.’ But what kept us in Holland was Hidde. Off and on we took in other children - George, Roos, and Juny, a nephew of mine, and in 1991, another foster child, a four-month-old baby, Irving, our grandchild, the son of our adopted son Tico. The house was always full!

My school closed in 1994. Anneke was working as a manager for an organization that provided schooling for adults. I started working as a substitute teacher, as a trainer for a foundation, as a Papiamentu teacher, giving night courses in Amsterdam, and as a translator. So, in that same year, when Hidde’s mother came to take him with her, we felt free to go back to Bonaire. I was offered a job with the government of Bonaire to take charge of what was to become SKAL, the department of culture.

On our wedding anniversary in August 1996 I was on the plane to Bonaire with our son Ibo, who was 11 years old. Anneke stayed in Holland. Her

father had just passed away and she moved in with her mother for a while.

For Ibo it was a big thing, a tremendous change as school wasn’t child friendly at all. On Animal Day he went to school with a little chicken and the teacher punished him by throwing him out of the classroom! For me it was different. I was happy to be back after the original plan of staying six years in Holland had turned into 16 years! But the fact that Ibo was having a hard time gave me a lot of headaches, so I transferred him to another school where he found a teacher with a heart for children and he started doing much better.

At the end of January 1997 Anneke and Irving came to Bonaire. Our daughter Ñeka had left for Ecuador in 1996 for a student exchange program, after which she returned through Holland to Bonaire to finish HAVO high school here. Finally I had my whole family, except for Tico, with me on Bonaire. But it didn’t last long as in 2000 it turned out that Irving needed special education. We sent him to the Watapana School, but that was a complete failure. We found a foster family for him in Holland where he could get special education. But soon after we found out that he and his foster mother didn’t get along and there were huge problems. I went to bring him back to Bonaire, and in August 2002 Anneke and Irving left for Holland. At the moment she’s living with Irving in Alkmaar again, and he’s doing job training to become a cook.

Ibo went back to Holland after HAVO, and now he’s studying Middle Professional Education in graphic design. Our daughter Ñeka is finishing a Higher Professional Education study in international hospitality and management. Our son Tico did it the hard way, but now he’s training to become a cook. Hidde lives with his mom in Belgium; he finished his studies and started working. And...I am alone on Bonaire.

I feel like a cosmopolitan who found his base on Bonaire. I would go back to



Hubert Vis

Holland for my family, but... I can’t see myself in Holland anymore. All the time I lived there I was always very conscious of the fact that I belonged to ‘them,’ and over the years that feeling has grown worse as the non-tolerance towards immigrants has grown in Holland. But it’s still an option for Anneke to come back to Bonaire when Irving is ‘ready.’

I am still the head of SKAL and I like my job. We’re involved in any cultural thing that takes place on the island: music, literature, dance, art, drama, the museum, festivals and projects. The management, the execution and the subsidizing from the island territory of Bonaire all goes through SKAL. But I see a new future for SKAL on Bonaire, something like that on Curaçao, *Cas di Cultura*, House of Culture, however, that has to be a foundation and then I’ll have to choose to either go with the foundation or stay with the government. We’ll see.

For me Bonaire is a magical place; it’s a combination of the material and the spiritual worlds. It’s as if here the door to the spiritual world stands wide open. Many people feel that way. Once someone came to visit me and told me, ‘Bonaire is a navel where many souls have to go through to be able to reincarnate again,’ and that’s just how I feel about Bonaire. The local people should become more conscious of what their roots are and how rich they are in culture.

I see my future here. I love my island and I feel I am a rich man, spiritually rich. The responsibilities I got in my life have determined my road, but they also made me wiser and I find it has been worth it.”

story and photo by Greta Kooistra



## Popular Curaçao Politician Anthony Godett Must Go To Prison

The High Court in The Hague upheld the conviction of Curaçao political leader Anthony Godett. The High Court was the final appeal possibility for the popular Curaçao politician, who will now have to go to prison for 10 months minus the month and a half he already spent in jail between September 7 and October 18, 2003.

When he goes back to jail depends on the Curaçao Prosecutor's Office, which said Godett's case would be handled just like those of all the others who are still awaiting incarceration because of the limited space in Bon Futuro Prison. "But everyone's turn comes sooner or later," added the prosecution spokesperson.

Meanwhile, Godett's Dutch attorney, Gerard Spong, announced immediately after the High ruling that he would file a complaint with the European Court with the request to suspend the sentence. In addition, a pardon request will be filed with Antillean Governor Frits Goedgedrag.

However, because of provisions in the Antillean Constitution, Godett can not only be elected, but can remain in both Parliament and the Island Council. The constitution (article 46) suspends the active voting rights for anyone who has been legally locked up for more than one year, but that is not the case for passive voting rights. Those rights (article 48) are suspended for persons excluded from exercising the right to vote, "except those who have been excluded from such right on the basis of the legal deprivation of liberty, or of jail sentence for some reason other than begging or vagrancy, or for an act that proves their being drunk in public."



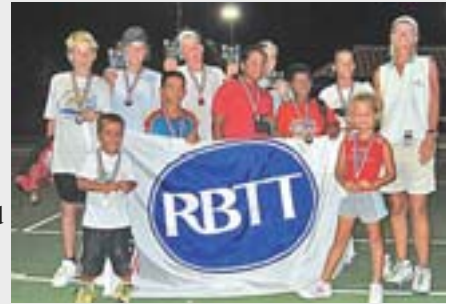
Anthony Godett is embraced by a supporter

In other words, people sentenced to jail in the Netherlands Antilles, who are not beggars or vagrants, can participate in elections, confirmed Curaçao's foremost constitutional expert Carlos Dip when asked for an explanation. He said the law was antiquated and based on an incident in 1917 when a vagrant was elected to the municipal council of Amsterdam. So shocked was the political establishment that it was decided to include in the constitution that persons locked up for the above reasons could not take office.

To prevent people held for their political beliefs from also being excluded from the democratic process, the exclusion from exercising the passive voting right was limited to this category, perhaps without full realization that this would allow criminals sentenced to prison for other crimes, including corruption, as in the case of Godett, to be elected. The Dutch constitution has since been changed, meanwhile, that of the Antilles, which was modeled after that of Holland, has not.

## Junior Tennis Results

Last weekend saw the start of the 2005-2006 RBTT tennis ranking season. A series of nine tournaments will be conducted between now and the end of May 2006. In June 2006, the finals and elimination games will be held. The RBTT tennis ladder is in its third year, and about 80 Bonaire children between the ages of 4 and 18 years play. RBTT Bonaire Branch Manager, Judy Diaz, wished the children success at the opening. Tennis director of the Harbour Village Center, Elisabeth Vos, explained the rules to the children.



The results of the first tournament for classes A through E were as follows:

E: Kendra Domacassé won over Yannick Finies 10-4

D: Jevon May will play finals this week against Marijn van Erp;

C2: Michael Bergsma won over Samara Ellis 6-4

C1: Arnd Chirino won over Harm Bruining 6-1

B: Win Chung Xuan won over Boy Roozendaal 4-0;4-1

A: Gino Meeuwsen won over Thammy Albertsz, 2-4;4-2;Tiebreak 14-12

For information on ranking and registration call Elisabeth Vos at 717-690/ 565-5225/ elisabeth@flamingotv.com. Elisabeth Vos

Not only that, but the constitutional "loophole" would allow Godett to remain in both Parliament and Curaçao's Island Council while in prison, even though he wouldn't be able to function as a Council member. As long as he does not resign, he maintains his seat and cannot be replaced, confirmed Dip.

Godett, whose FOL party won big in the last two Curaçao elections, has already hinted that in such a scenario his sister, Mirna Louisa-Godett, will become the next Antillean Prime Minister, as was the case in 2003 and 2004 when his candidacy was similarly blocked.

Godett, whether or not he is made to serve

his prison sentence before the January 27 federal elections, can head the FOL party list and be elected to the next Parliament. However, he cannot pass the anti-criminal screening requirement that is performed by law enforcement authorities.

Godett was sentenced to 15 months in prison (three more than he initially received), of which five months were suspended by the Appeals Court in July, 2004. He was found guilty of allowing himself to be bribed as a civil servant, money laundering and having a fraudulent NAf107,000 "IOU" drawn up.

G.D.





# BONAIRE SKY PARK\*

## Venus and Mars' Rival Pay Each Other a Very Close Visit

Last week I explained how this week the Moon would pay a visit to both the brightest planet, Venus, and the star called the "Rival of Mars," Antares. And this week I'd like to show you how to watch the slow approach and very close meeting of Venus and Antares.

On Thursday this week, October 6<sup>th</sup>, about 45 minutes after sunset, face southwest where you'll see an exquisite crescent Moon parked right beneath our twin sister planet, 8,000-mile-wide Venus, which is a sight that will truly knock your socks off. Then on the next night, Friday the 7<sup>th</sup>, the Moon will almost slam into Antares, whose name literally means the "Rival of Mars" because it resembles Mars in color, and when Mars is at the right distance, looks like the same brightness. But Antares is not an 8,000-mile-wide planet like Venus. It is a super star! It's so huge that if we placed one edge of it where our Sun is it would stretch out past the orbits of Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars and Jupiter. In fact it is so huge it could hold 280 trillion Venuses or Earths.

So this week you have a chance to see our 2,000-mile-wide Moon visit both Venus on the 6<sup>th</sup> and Antares on the 7<sup>th</sup>. After that it will move farther and farther away, night after night. But then something magical happens between Venus and Antares because they will slowly approach each other, night after night, and have a super close meeting a week from this Sunday, on October 16<sup>th</sup>. And I guarantee that if you go out every night just after sunset and keep track of these two you will be amazed at how dramatically they'll change their position from night to night.

This Friday, when the Moon is close to Antares, Antares and Venus will be 10 degrees apart from each other, or to put it simply, since a full Moon is one half a degree wide they will be 20 full Moon widths apart from each other. But that's not for long because the following night they will be two full Moon widths closer, only 9 degrees apart. On Sunday, the 9<sup>th</sup>, two full Moon widths closer, still only 8 degrees apart. And on Monday, the 10<sup>th</sup>, another two full Moons closer-only 7 degrees apart. On Tuesday, two full Moons closer, still only 6 degrees apart. And then on Wednesday, you guessed it, also two full Moons closer or 5 degrees apart. On Thursday they'll be a whopping three Moons closer. Only 3 and 1/2 degrees will separate them. And on Friday they really start to close in and are only 3 degrees or six full Moons apart. On Saturday, 2 degrees or four full Moons apart. And on Sunday, the 16<sup>th</sup>, they'll have their closest meeting of all when only three full Moons would separate them, little more than 1 and 1/2 degrees apart!

So Sunday the 16<sup>th</sup> is the night when the brightest planet visits the rival of Mars! After which they will slowly move away from each other. Indeed on Monday, the 17<sup>th</sup>, they'll once again be 2 degrees away from each other or four full Moons apart.

Wow, what fun! Keep track of them every single night. It's addictive.

*Jack Horkheimer*



*Moon under Venus on October 6<sup>th</sup>*



# THE STARS HAVE IT

For the week: : October 3 to October 9, 2005

*By Astrologer Michael Thiessen*

**ARIES** (Mar. 21- April 20) Take your time; do not make any decisions in haste. You may have difficulties with foreigners. Your charisma will no doubt attract a lot of attention. Avoid any over indulgences. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

**TAURUS** (Apr. 21- May 21) You could have a need to make some changes this week. Past partners may try to come back into your life. You will meet potential new mates through friends or relatives. Spend some time with people who can shed some light on your personal situation. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

**GEMINI** (May 22-June 21) Passion is about the best way for you to relieve tension. Don't be shy; if you want to spend more time with a special person, make a commitment. All your energy should be directed into moneymaking opportunities. Caustic language may cause you to want to get out of the house. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22) You can make money through your creative efforts. Don't hesitate to sign up for lectures or seminars that will enlighten you. Look closely at motives and honesty in your personal encounters. Travel and educational pursuits may help alleviate the stress you have been feeling. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug 22) Stretch the truth, and you may get blamed for something you didn't do. Try not to push your philosophies on others. Family members may want you at home, when your heart is telling you to spend time with someone you recently met. Don't let your emotions get out of hand. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) You might find group functions tiring. You will need to spend extra time sorting through your work. You will be able to talk about emotional problems with your partner. You should get out and meet new people this week. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) Don't blow situations out of proportion. You can win points if you present your ideas this week. Resist secret affairs that could be detrimental to your reputation. Money may slip through your fingers. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) Take whatever time you can to get to know each other all over again. You will enjoy events that lean toward theater, art, or music this week. You don't like confrontations at the best of times; however, you may find them difficult to avoid. Your charm will mesmerize members of the opposite sex this week. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) Responsibilities with respect to older relatives may be a burden. Try to address the real issues in order to turn things around. You can find out interesting information if you get a chance to talk to people you respect. Your financial situation may be draining and it's time to make some serious changes. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) You will have a childlike approach this week, big hearted and full of spunk. Get together with friends and catch up on reading and letter writing. Don't allow colleagues to stand in your way. Use your high energy and dynamic approach to win favors from superiors. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) Changes regarding your image will bring you greater confidence. Be ready to explain your actions. Don't fall for damaging rumors, and refuse to get involved in gossip. Your attitudes are changing rapidly. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) Monitor your budget carefully to avoid unnecessary stress. You may have more people on your domestic scene than anticipated. You can pick up some overtime this week. New romantic partners may attend a function that puts you in the limelight. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.