

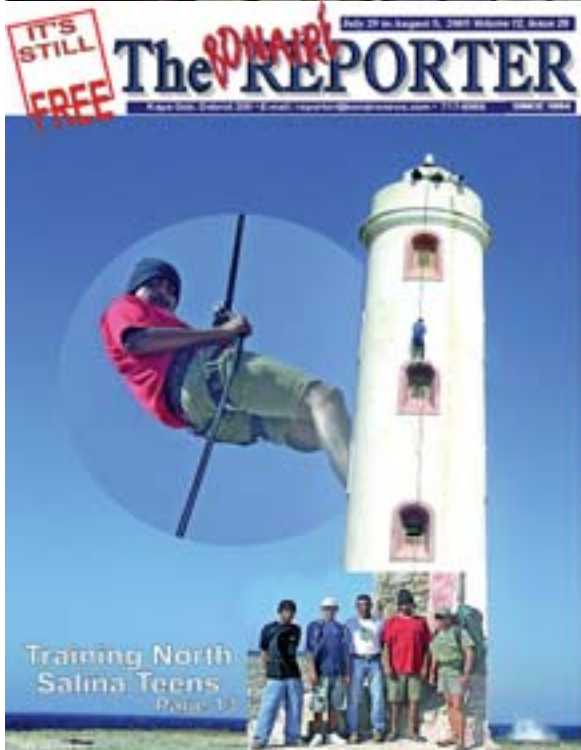
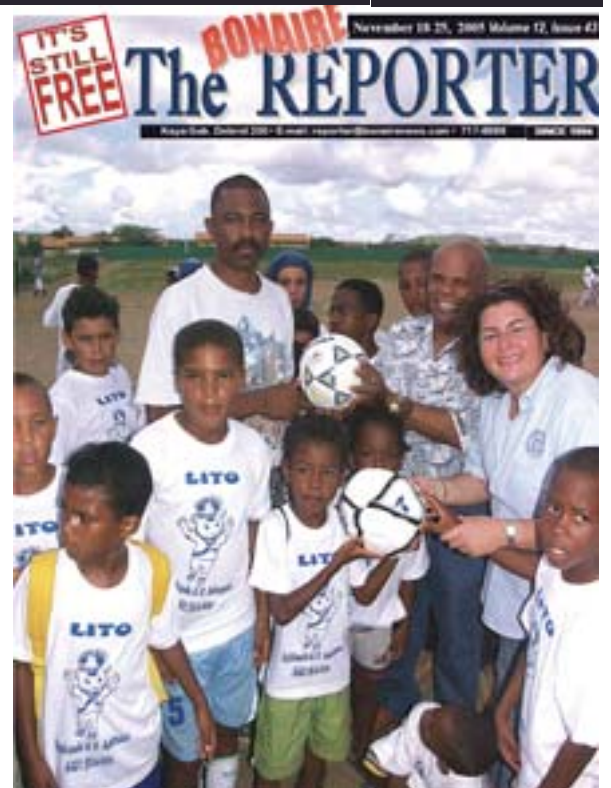
It's still  
Free!  
Happy  
New Year  
to all our  
readers

# BONAIRE The REPORTER

December 30 to January 6, 2006 Volume 13, Issue 1

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

SINCE 1994





# Flotsam and Jetsam

**T**he shortage of qualified air traffic controllers went away when Gino George and Hannah Saleh, following intensive study for three months in Jamaica, completed an Air Traffic Controller (ATC) course. The study met the requirements of the ICAO (International Civil Aviation Organization) and the Aviation Directorate. Following a period of apprenticeship at Flamingo Airport they will become licensed Controllers. In the photo the new ATCs are flanked by Tower Supervisor Wolter de Palm and Flamingo Airport Director, Marco van de Kreeke.



TCB photo



Theo Baken and Burney el Hage

► Theo Baken, Coordinator of USONA (Uitvoeringsorganisatie Stichting Ontwikkeling Nederlandse), presented a commitment for over **NAf1 million** to Commissioner Burney el Hage to raise

awareness of Bonaireans of the effect of tourism on the island.

Amigoe Photo



Amstel Brewery

► **The Amstel Antillean Brewery on Emancipation Boulevard in Curaçao is being dismantled.** The brewing equipment and other parts of the brewery will

be sent to other Heineken breweries in the region. According to Manager Gilmar Winklaar, the company has already found several buyers.

► **The cost for sending mail from Bonaire will increase as of January 2, 2006,** Nieuwe Post N.V. announced this week. They said it was because of rising inflation this year, which is expected to continue in 2006. The increase was approved by the Central Government.

The cost of sending an aerogramme (airmail) will be increased by four guilder cents, from NAf1.45 to NAf 1.49. For postcards, local and international, the rates will also be increased by four cents from NAf 1.45 to NAf 1.49. Local letter mail will be increased by three guilder cents to one guilder in the lowest weight class (up to 20 grams) and nine guilder cents in the highest weight class weight class (1 to 2 kilograms).

► **An American group from Houston, Texas, has acquired the majority of the shares in Banco di Caribe.** The group is headed by the very influential 78-year old Hushang Ansary, former minister and ambassador of Iran. Ansary has built an oil empire in the US and is acknowledged to have close ties with US President George Bush's Republican Party. Banco di Caribe will keep its name and personnel and management team will keep their jobs. Ansary reportedly has big plans for the bank. He sees a good future in the financial sector of Curaçao and its local oil industry.



Hushang Ansary



MCB photo

Riet Sealy receiving the first Money Card

► **Last week Maduro & Curiel's Bank (Bonaire) N.V. announced the availability of new pre-paid cards: "Visa Money Card" and "Kompa Leon Money Card."** Both versions of these pre-paid Money Cards are re-loadable at the MCB Bankcard Services department and can be personalized with the name of the cardholder printed. It is not necessary to have a bank account to get one of these cards. These cards are the perfect choice for a gift for any occasion, especially during the holiday season.

► **Thanks to the members of the Bonaire Talk Community** who raised money to create holiday gift bags to give to the caretakers at the Zuster Maria Hoppner Home. Thanks too to local contributors Alcon, The Island Supplier, Bonaire Gift Shop, Tropical Flamingo and KFC.

(Continued on page 4)

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(Flotsam and Jetsam. Continued from page 2)



► Some of the ever-increasing number of members of the **Amboina Dolphins football (soccer) team** celebrated **Christmas** at a festive party last week, complete with *bolo* (cake) and refreshments. The teams, “Babies” (6 to 8 years) and “Super Babies” (8 to 10), comprised of 60 youngsters, are coached by Ricardo “Kado” Alberto and other dedicated volunteers. *Photos: Laraine Katzev*



► **Last week, to say thank you to all the volunteers** for their assistance towards helping to make the Bonaire National Marine Park’s (BNMP) activities successful during this past year, the BNMP had a get together at the Canti Awa (Singing Water) Bar, a popular drinking and socializing spot for water-oriented people.

► This issue marks the first issue of *The Reporter* for 2006. We are beginning our 13<sup>th</sup> year of publication. **Please remember to say, “I saw your ad in *The Reporter*,” when visiting our advertisers.** Because of them “It’s still free.” *G./L. D.*



# EnviroWatch

**WANTED!**  
**Information Leading to the Capture of Criminals for Crimes against Nature**  
**Reward Possible**



*Underwater memorial for slain Queen conchs*

**Date & Time of Discovery:** Thursday, December 12, 2005, 10:30 am  
**Scene of the Crime:** Underwater sand channel, depth 25 meters (82 feet).  
**Location:** Bonaire National Marine Park, southwest coast.  
**Dive Site:** “Valley of the Queens,” AKA dive site #47 Salt City.  
**Number of Victims:** 55 mature adult Queen Conchs (*Strombus gigas*).  
**Nature of Crime:** Underwater slaughter.  
**Method of Execution:** Blunt force trauma and knife dissection.  
**Weapons:** Iron bar, hammer and knife.  
**Modus Operandi:** In-situ puncturing of the shell whorl to slice the attached muscle; breaking the suction holding the conch; overturning the shell and scooping out the living animal. The empty shells were left behind at the mating site.  
**Suspects:** Unknown number of divers using SCUBA equipment.

**Immediate Aftermath:** A report of the discovery was made to STINAPA from the site. Acting on the advice of the Director, a dedicated volunteer team of three concerned divers rescued and relocated 28 surviving Queen Conchs to a nearby deep water sanctuary.

**Underwater Memorial:** As a token of respect for the slain animals and reminder of the crime, a symbolic cemetery formation of the remaining shells of the 55 victims was arranged at the underwater location. *A.B.*

*An article about the conchs, which was written before this event and which kept the conchs’ location confidential, is published on page 13. Ed*



*Recovered shell evidence, showing puncture*

# TOP STORIES 2005

## The Reporter's Top Stories of 2005



**1** A series of eight articles brought into focus the important issues facing Bonaire that would be presented by the development on additional tourism facilities. The series, **A Balance for Bonaire**, is still a topic of discussion over six months after its publication. It's available free on *The Reporter* website- BonaireReporter.com.

**2** In line with the wishes of the majority of the people of the Netherlands Antilles, Holland held a series of conferences to lay out a roadmap and plan for the breakup of the Netherlands Antilles by mid-2007. Bonaire is expected to establish "direct ties" with Holland. Curaçao and St. Maarten will become quasi-independent, à la Aruba. Serious negotiations to define the particulars will begin to be worked out in 2006.

**3** The airlift situation for Bonaire was changed by the morphing of BonairExel first into BonairExpress, then into Dutch Antilles Express. Fortunately, the service has improved as well. Divi Divi Airlines, the small-plane service to Curaçao, continued to enjoy a fine reputation for on-time performance and must be booked far in advance to get a seat.

Air Jamaica returned to Jamaican Government ownership, and the four flights a week to Bonaire from the Montego Bay hub to the US was reduced to one Saturday flight. In December, Continental Airlines began non-stop service from Houston, Texas, marking the first appearance of a scheduled US-flag carrier direct from US soil. It has been flying 100% full.

**4** ) San Francisco Hospital, Bonaire's only hospital, had to stop accepting patients for a time because Central Government insurance payments, despite hospital administration efficiency moves, were inadequate to cover expenses. Within a week

stopgap measures allowed the hospital to reopen. But Dutch Parliamentarians were chagrined and sent some direct aid. However, insurance payments still haven't been adjusted upward. Compounding the situation, Curaçao's St. Elizabeth Hospital was identified as being unsanitary and allowing conditions detrimental to patients.

**5** AMFO, the Antillean organization founded to distribute Dutch-provided charitable assistance, was put under suspension in the last quarter of 2005. While not accused of significant corruption, sloppy accounting practices and inadequate follow-up were cited. Ironically, a Poverty Conference held in Bonaire demonstrated the need for even more financial assistance, but new grants have been on hold for several months. A new director has been named and an announcement of AMFO's new direction is expected this week.

**6** In mid-February a fire swept the WEB electrical and water production facility in Hato. For a couple of weeks the island was subject to rotating blackouts until emergency temporary equipment could be brought in. At year's end the temporary equipment is still in operation. To make matters financially difficult for Bonaireans, the increase in world fuel prices over the past few years was reflected in a jump of 70%-90% in electrical rates, a situation with no end in sight.

**7** The Hand-to-Hand Tsunami relief effort to help the victims of the Indian Ocean catastrophe brought Bonaireans together and resulted in the largest outpouring of aid per-capita of any Antillean island. All Bonaireans, especially the organizers of the fund drive, deserve a special award.

**8** SCUBA diving, a Bonaire world-leadership position, evolved to new heights. Nitrox diving became commonplace, often at no premium over air. Mixed gas courses and very deep, very safe, dive trips multiplied. The world-famous Windjammer wreck collapsed on itself, creating a whole new environment, but restrictions instigated by the Venezuelan-owned fuel depot, BOPEC, has practically eliminated diving the famous wreck. And Capt. Don Stewart, Bonaire's dive pioneer, celebrated his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday in style at a mega-party at the resort that bears his name.

**9** Educational opportunities on the island widened when a new private high school for gifted students opened. The Uni College Bonaire teaches by using the latest concepts in self-paced education. And the Pelikaan elementary school, opened just last year, grew to over 100 students and has a long waiting list.

**10** Other signs of Bonaire maturity published in *The Reporter's* pages included the introduction of glass recycling; a glut of automobiles sometimes resulting in traffic jams; the first Business Fair for the island held in November introduced Bonaire to foreign investors; and a few people got it together to hold Bonaire's 1<sup>st</sup> Harbortown Jazz Festival which was a super success by any standard. G.D.



# Pet of the Week

We snapped this photo of "Enrico" as he was taking a few moments to relax in the dog quarters of the Bonaire Animal Shelter. What an elegant, stunning looking dog. Enrico is black and sleek and has a regal demeanor. He was born last April when his mother wandered into someone's yard and gave birth to him and his siblings. The owner of the garden brought all the dogs into the Shelter to give them a chance at life and an opportunity to be adopted. Enrico, according to the Shelter staff, is sweet, nice, alert and intelligent. He should make a very good watch dog too. As are the other adoptees he's in tip top health, has had his shots and has been sterilized. You may meet him at the Bonaire Animal Shelter on the Lagoen Road, open Monday through Friday, 10 am to 2 pm, Saturdays until 1. Tel. 717-4989. L.D.



"Enrico"



**ATTENTION PET OWNERS:** It's fireworks time again on the island until New Years. It may be fun for people, but it's hell for pets. The Shelter staff says this is the worst time of year for runaway dogs and cats who are terrified of the noise. As it has in the past, the Shelter will act as headquarters for lost pets. If you find a lost animal or are missing one, call them at 717-4989.

Please be cautious when setting off fireworks, making sure that children and pets are at a safe distance. A live firework could be a disastrous "toy" that a dog might try to retrieve. Plan ahead so that your pet will have a safe refuge from all that noise. If you have a particularly nervous animal you might check the article on "The Pet Project" below. Another suggestion is to make sure there are enough chew toys on hand - rubber, rawhide or other bones of pigs' ears. The chewing will help them release their fears and nervousness. L.D.

## Protect Your Pet - The Pet Project

### Calming Your Pet during New Years Eve fireworks- The third in a series

As we look forward to the New Year holiday I conclude my series about **Rescue Remedy**, a natural solution for pet stress. This homeopathically prepared formula was invented by Dr. Edward Bach in London about 1930. He discovered the calming properties of certain flowers and then prescribed them for people under stress. The previous articles described these flowers: Clematis, Cherry Plum, Rock Rose, Impatiens and Star of Bethlehem.

The remedy is helpful for all levels of stress- even for firework blasts.

#### How to give your pet the remedy:

Place one drop of the solution in your pet's water dish on the morning of December 31<sup>st</sup>. This will have a calming effect by the time fireworks begin. Your pet will drink many times, making the effect stronger.

During loud noise you may also give it topically. Place on or two drops on your palm and touch the pads of your pet's foot. Be patient. If five minutes go by and the remedy has had no effect, you may repeat it and place another drop on the foot pad. Repetition is the key, not large amounts. Remember that this isn't a sedative. It is first aid for stress.

#### Questions that are often asked by pet owners:

**Are there side effects to Rescue Remedy?** This unique formula has never induced side effects.

**How much is too much?** Give the remedy as described above. Continue to repeat. Do not give large amounts at

one time. The repetition seems to build effectiveness. This is a plant material and not known to overdose.

**May people take this remedy?** Yes. It was intended for people. Later it was noted that pets benefit. If an adult takes Rescue Remedy the dose is four drops in a glass of water. Use caution not to touch the applicator to either your mouth or your pet's mouth. That will contaminate the solution.

**My dog is afraid of lightning. Is it recommended for that?** Yes. This is a solution for all levels of stress.

**How much does it cost?** Just NAf1, and all proceeds go to the Bonaire Animal Shelter.

I say a special thanks to all those who helped make the Pet Project available in Bonaire.

#### Where to find Rescue Remedy:

- Jellastone Pet Hotel on the Lagoen Road (Please phone ahead 786-4651)
- Bistro de Paris , Kaya Gob. N. Debrot 46. 717-7070
- Sand Dollar Grocery, Sand Dollar Shopping Center, Kaya N. Debrot on the north hotel row

Florence Ditlow

References:  
Bach Center, Bach Flower Essences for the Family, May 1996  
bachcenter.com  
NaturesBrands.com  
If you have more questions about Rescue Remedy, call 717-4593 or email fhummingbird@yahoo.com  
Author Florence Ditlow is a Registered Nurse and certified in the use of Bach Remedies through the Bach Center



Florence Ditlow and her dogs.

## OP ED PAGE — LETTERS

### WHAT DO A TRUNKFISH AND A MERCEDES BENZ HAVE IN COMMON?

Dear Editor:

Last week's "Diving with Dee" article was fascinating. Trunkfish and other box fishes are always pleasant to watch, and it only adds to the sense of wonder to know more about their strange characters. A few statements in the article reminded me of some new, and even more surprising discoveries related to these fish, about which I learned only a couple of months ago, in *Natural History Magazine* (the magazine of the New York Museum of Natural History - <http://www.naturalhistorymag.com/master.html>? [http://www.naturalhistorymag.com/1005/1005\\_biomechanics.html](http://www.naturalhistorymag.com/1005/1005_biomechanics.html)), and then with more details from the DaimlerChrysler website <http://www.daimlerchrysler.com/dccom/0,,0-5-7154-1-503518-1-0-0-0-0-0-69-7145-0-0-0-0-0-0-0,00.html>.

As it turns out, these little swimming trunks can scoot at six body lengths per second - an impressive speed by any standard. Counter to our intuition, they have wonderful hydrodynamic properties. Their drag coefficient is just 0.2, which falls well below 1.5, the drag coefficient of a flat-faced box. The fish swim a straight path without rocking up and down in spite of having their dorsal and anal fins, which push the fish along, way off the central axis of its body.

The secret to the dynamic stability of the boxfish lies in the keels that form the edges of the box and run nearly the entire length of the fish. In cowfishes, the keels even extend forward, beyond the body, to form horns. Adam Summers, the author of the *Natural History Magazine* article, put it very nicely. "The beauty of the fish's solution to the problem of propulsion and stabilization is that the functioning of the keels is entirely passive. In other words, it requires no active control from the fish. The vortices automatically stabilize a motion that might otherwise lead to very inefficient head bobbing. Not only is little energy required of the fish, but there are also no complex neural circuits needed for control; a clever set of immovable strakes, shaping the body from stem to stern, lets geometry and fluid dynamics, do all the work "for free."

And what does DaimlerChrysler have to do with all this? The boxfish is the basis for the automobile company's latest concept car. The result is a boxfish on wheels, with a very slippery drag coefficient of just 0.19 - comparable to an airfoil.

Genady Filkovsky.



Dee Scarr Photo

## First Swimming Medal for Bonaire

Three swimmers from Bonaire participated in the 2005 Netherlands Antilles National Swimming Championship held in Curaçao in early December. This annual event, organized by the Netherlands Antilles Swimming Federation (NAZB), is open to swimmers belonging to a NAZB-affiliated club who have met the qualifying standards for the competition. The Bonaire Barracudas Swim Team became affiliated with NAZB in the fall of 2004 and began swimming competitively in April, 2005, thus club members became eligible to participate in the Nationals for the first time this year. The meet was held at the *Sentro Deportivo Korsow*.

Samson Evertsz became the first Bonaire swimmer to win a medal in a National Championship by taking third place in the Minor (10 years and under) category 100 meter butterfly event. Other Bonaire swimmers' results:

Swimmer	Age	Event	Time	Place
Evertsz, Samson	9	50 meter Butterfly	47.09	12
Evertsz, Samson	9	200 meter Individual Medley	3:30.26	6
Evertsz, Samson	9	50 meter Freestyle	38.02	12
<b>Evertsz, Samson</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>100 meter Butterfly</b>	<b>1:42.28</b>	<b>3</b>
Wagemakers, Rooske	10	50 meter Backstroke	53.01	14
Binelli, Giada	13	50 meter Butterfly	39.25	e
Evertsz, Samson	9	100 meter Freestyle	1:27.19	12
Binelli, Giada	13	50 meter Backstroke	43.19	e

e = exhibition swim



The medal winners—Samson Evertsz (right)

photo and story by Valarie M. Stimpson

## The Windsurf Place Celebrates 10 Years

Since it was opened at Sorobon 10 years ago The Windsurf Place has been the “nursery” of the Bonaire windsurfers who’ve represented the island all over the world. Sometimes starting barely after they’ve learned to walk, many kids have been welcomed into the sport of windsurfing at The Place. It’s the home of Bonaire’s Windsurfing Kids, many of whom have grown up and become pros. They’ve put Bonaire on the windsurfing map of the world.

They’ve appeared on the front pages of windsurfing magazine. And they’re there for the young ones. The Place has hosted windsurfing camps for kids. It’s where it’s at for the windsurfing world.

Founders and owners, Elvis, Patun and Roger, hosted the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary party at The Place’s Wind and Surf Beach Bar – a real beach bar, on the beach, at the water’s edge. Along with top caliber snacks and drinks the guests were treated to some great slide shows depicting the history. (See how the little ones have grown over the last 10 years!) For more information, view their website at [www.BonaireWindsurfPlace.com](http://www.BonaireWindsurfPlace.com)

**The Wind and Surf Beach Bar is open every day until 6 pm, offering lunch, snacks and drinks. On Wednesday nights, starting at 6 pm there’s a BBQ with abundant local food for only \$10. Windsurfing videos are also shown on**



Norka, Roger, Patun and Elvis cut the birthday cake





# Picture Yourself In The Reporter 2005 WINNERS



**The Winners—Andy and Lee in Bali**

And the winners are ..... Andy and Lee Uhr who sent us this photo of themselves with *The Bonaire Reporter* in Bali. Why is it so unusual? The photo, taken during their trip to Hong Kong and Indonesia, was snapped while waiting for things to “warm up” just before a cremation ceremony. Note the fire in the background. Their prize is a *Bonaire Reporter* “Night on the Town” –a Pasa Bon pizza and two tickets to Movieland. Congratulations on a second win.

Runners up were Jacob Groth and his pig, Jack, taken at the Manietowoc County (Wisconsin) Fair ... and



**1<sup>st</sup> Runner up—Manietowoc County Fair**

John and Sue Ciurczak from Haledon, NJ, in Truk Lagoon, Chuuk, Federated States of Micronesia



**2<sup>nd</sup> Runner up—Truk Lagoon, Chuuk, Federated States of Micronesia**

**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 2006 photos are eligible.)



Nice Catch

Papy Cicilia sent us this photo and note: "This Marlin was caught on December 3<sup>rd</sup> by me alone aboard my boat *Culturita*. (It was caught on 80# test hand line. No rod used. Ed) Big Joe helped me to get it on board. On shore my usual fishing partner "Bubuy Caret" (visible in the picture near the tail) helped me to clean this monster of almost 90 kilos. I needed two and a half hours to finally bring the fish to the boat in the neighborhood of Klein Bonaire."



Muriel Anderson-Spychala photo

World's Largest Private Yacht?



Paul Allen

**O**ctopus, the yacht that called at Bonaire last week, is currently the world's second largest private superyacht (some say the largest is *Rising Sun* owned by Larry Ellison of Oracle, another software company). Measuring 414 feet (126.18 meters), it was delivered in 2003 to its present owner, Paul G. Allen. Paul Allen also owns the mega-yacht *Tatoosh*, which spent several months in Bonaire after Regatta.

*Octopus* sports two helicopters on the top deck and a 63-foot tender docked in the transom (one of seven aboard), as well as an eight-person submarine plus a remote-controlled vehicle for crawling on the ocean floor. Side hatches at the water line form a dock for jet skis. Some people associated with the boat have revealed that there's both a cinema and a music studio onboard. She was built by the German shipbuilder Lürssen (<http://www.luerssen.de/flash.html>).

*Octopus* and *Tatoosh* owner, Paul Gardner Allen, was born January 21, 1953. He is an entrepreneur who got rich by co-founding Microsoft Corporation with Bill Gates. He left the company in 1983 to combat Hodgkin's disease and has been slowly selling off his Microsoft stake ever since. He regularly appears on lists of the richest people in the world. As of 2005 he is ranked by *Forbes* magazine as the seventh richest, worth an estimated \$22.5 billion, of which \$5 billion is in Microsoft stock. G.D.

Windsurf Winners



Aquaspeed Photo

Following last week's End of the Season Regatta, Maximo Chirino (L) awarded beautiful trophies to the Windsurf Class winners.

KRALENDIJK TIDES (Heights in feet, FT)

Remember: Winds and weather can further influence the local tides

DATE	TIME	HEIGHT	COEF
12-30	11:58	2.2FT.	88
12-31	12:42	2.2FT.	96
1-01	13:32	2.1FT.	100
1-02	14:19	2.0FT.	100
1-03	0:11	0.8FT.	96
1-04	0:41	0.9FT.	88
1-05	0:58	1.0FT.	78

VESSELS MAKING A PORT CALL:

More boats than Bonaire has seen for a long while are now in port. If we've forgotten you, please let us know. Contact info on front page.

Alize	Freestyle	Sandpiper, USA
Altair	Galivanter	Sapristi
Always Saturday	Go Bucks	Scintella
Angie	Goril Two	Serenade
Anouk	Great Sensation	Sirius
Audentes	Guaicamar I, Ven.	Summer Breeze
Aurora	Hinnica	Sunny Side
Blue Moon	Honalee	Sun-Ra
Blue Star	Invictus IV	Syjoli
Camissa, Chan Is.	Island of Corn	Sylvia K
Cancubine	Jan Gerardus	Tatoosh, Cayman Is.
Cape Kathryn	Jennifer	Three Ships
Carisea	Kamana	Ti Amo
Celtic Avenger	Karminda II	Tigger
Cers	Kat-Anne	Trio
Cheers	Katinka	Ulu Ulu, USA
Delphinus	La Baronne	Unicorn, Norway
Destiny	Longo Mai	Umiak
Double Bogy	Maggi	Varedhuni, Ger.
Eclipse	Mahureva	Vendia
Endorphin	Maxolar	Vilje
Estefanie	Natural Selection	Von Voyase
Est-Oust	Okeanis	Ya-T, BVI
Finasia	Okura	Yanti Paratzi
Flam	One Way Wind	Zahi, Malta
Flying Cloud, USA	Paranda	Zee Vock



## SGB Christmas Market De Kerstmarkt Marshe de Pasku



One of the many eating places

Last Monday evening our high school, the SGB, organized a Christmas market, a yearly event that's always very well attended. This year it was again a very big success, with many children, students, parents and just local people showing up to enjoy the activities, sales, great food and entertainment.



You could even get your car serviced

Each class could decide to organize an activity, sell food and drinks, etc. in order to raise money for a class trip or other class needs. This year there were different activities, such as a haunted house, two different "disco" classrooms, a place to get a professional manicure, have your picture taken and framed, play games, have work done on your car such as an oil change, checking the brakes, having your car vacuumed and much more.

The school band, "The Youngsters," played some nice Christmas music. Also there were some dancing shows on the big stage by "The Christmas Chicks," "The S-Chicks" and a rap show by "Talento Skondi." There were lots of great snacks and good food, like hotdogs, hamburgers, roti, as well as sweets.

Also there was a lottery with great prizes like a cell phone, MP3-player, webcam and much more, thanks to various sponsors. The door prize was a roundtrip to Curaçao, but unfortunately no one came to pick it up, so everyone who came should check the ticket they got at the entrance and if it has the **number 843** on it, come in to claim the prize from Mr. Kross or by calling 786-9020. You have until January 4<sup>th</sup>.

Well, I think that everyone who came agrees with me that this year again it was a great success, and it probably will keep on being a success every year to come because in this event every class who participates demonstrates their talents and gets rewarded for it!

Photos & story by Fleurtje Veldkamp



## Motorcycle Santa at Rincon



Santa Larry, elves and the kids at the Rose Inn

For the fifth year in a row, Santa Larry on his motorcycle has distributed gifts to children in Rincon. Headquartering at Rose Inn last Saturday afternoon, Santa, with his elves, Martin, Molly and Bob, handed out gifts to about 40 youngsters. Gift sponsors were Larry's Wildside Diving, ReMax and Malvina of Rose Inn. On Christmas Day Santa showed up at Jibe City on his motorcycle, giving out gifts to the kids and having photos taken. Gift sponsor was The Hangout. L.D.



# Salisbury at Cinnamon

Following on the heels of a successful exhibit last February, Catherine Salisbury will return to the Cinnamon Art Gallery premiering 26 new images as the Gallery's special guest starting on **Saturday, January 7<sup>th</sup>**. The exhibit premiere, which is open to the public, will take place from 7 pm to 9 pm and refreshments will be served. The exhibition will continue through February 9.

Catherine explained that most of the photos taken for the exhibit were done on the east coast of Bonaire where the animal life is very rich. "I spent many hours under the water with the eagle rays of Cai. On one photo shoot I got 21 eagle rays in one image. I think that I got to know a little more about what makes them tick. They are very curious animals. When turtles pass by they come and take a look. When a manta ray passes by, they all come. When humans are diving on the reef, they also swing by for a look. Sometimes I would go alone and find a

little place on the reef to hide. And like clockwork, after 15 minutes of quiet time, they would come. They seem to sense your heartbeat and all they want is to get a visual contact."

Catherine prefers to work in a panoramic format when possible. This year Catherine and her partner, Dominique Serafini, will be doing a 26-episode television series on Global TV in Canada called "DreamWrecks." She tells us, "As hosts of the show, we'll be taking our viewers around the Caribbean and the Red Sea to the most spectacular shipwrecks. I'll be taking photos, and Dominique will be creating a series of paintings... and for sure we'll be getting into a whole pile of trouble!" Filming begins in February and the series starts airing in Canada in September, 2006.

Catherine was born in 1963 in Montreal, Canada. Her love for animals began very early. "By the age of nine, I con-



vinced my father to buy me a horse, and I had numerous cats, dogs, rabbits, turtles, birds and fish." She graduated from Concordia University with a Bachelor's of Fine Art, specializing in film and photography. Over the last 20 years, she's begun and run newspapers and magazines, including the alternative news-weeklies *The Montreal Mirror*, *Ici Montréal* and *The Coast in Halifax*, as well as the monthly magazine, *CoastLife*. "In 1999, when I gave up my day-to-day job as publisher, I decided to come to Bonaire. Since then, I have turned my publishing and photography skills exclusively towards the sea." In 2002, Catherine co-authored "DreamWrecks—The Best Shipwrecks of Aruba, Bonaire & Curacao," with Serafini, a book of ship-

wreck stories from the region.

The Cinnamon Art Gallery is located at Kaya A.P.L. Brion #1 in downtown Kralendijk, just off of Kaya Grandi. For more information, contact the Gallery at 717-7103 or [info@CinnamonArtGallery.org](mailto:info@CinnamonArtGallery.org).

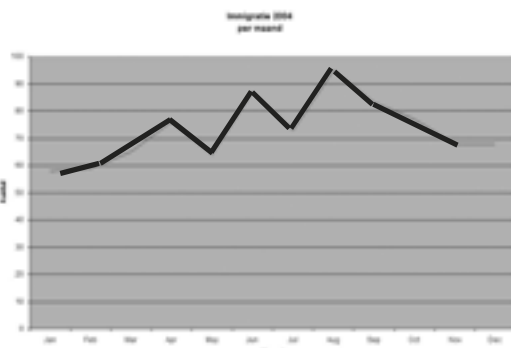
*Susan Davis*

# Bonaire's Population Goes Up, Up, Up – But Slowly

While 2005 figures are not yet available it is useful to look at last year's figures to get an idea of population trends. There was consistent population growth in 2004. Although 83 people died, they were replaced - and more - by 148 births. And although 514 people left the island, 876 entered. To make a long story short, we increased in population by 424 – from 12,690 to 13,114. At the end of 2004, Bonaire was adding more than twice the number of new residents than at the start of 2004.

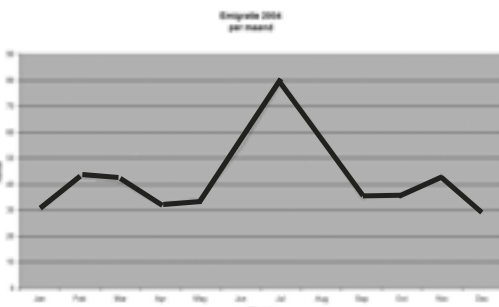
## Immigration Graph

As you can see from the Immigration Graph, we had more people entering the island in June and August, mostly coming from Holland and the other islands of the Netherlands Antilles. As a matter of fact the majority of immigrants during the whole year came from those two places – a total of 679 people (out of 876). Numbers of immigrants from other countries only registered single digit numbers. However, January and February seem to be slower months.

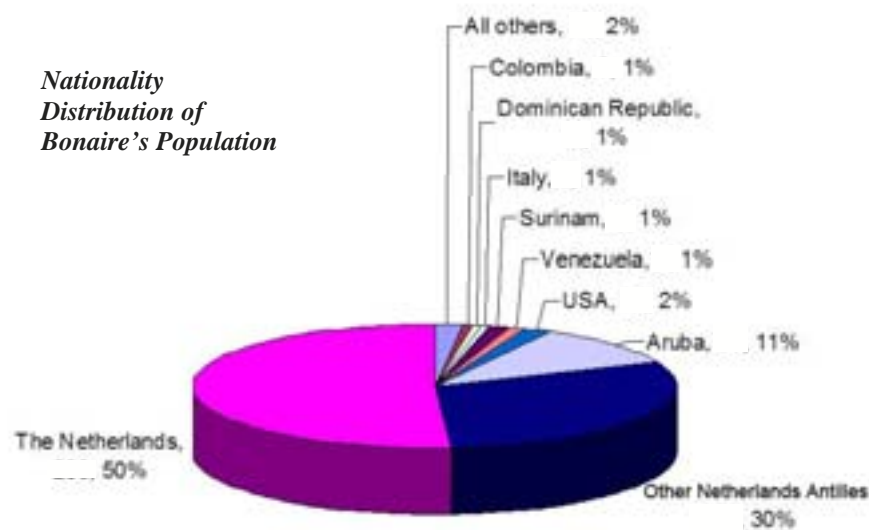


## Emigration Graph

The Emigration Graph shows us that there is an exodus between mid-June and mid-July, again with the majority going to Holland or to the other Netherlands Antilles islands. Many are teachers and contract workers. The majority of emigrants to those two places number a total of 418 out of 514. Other countries again register only single digit numbers.

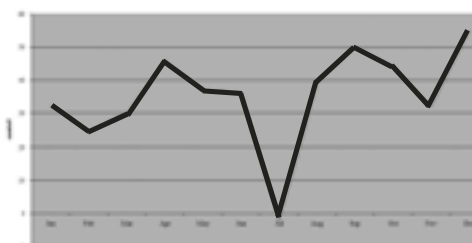


## Nationality Distribution of Bonaire's Population



## Growth Graph

The Growth Graph shows that during the year the population continued to grow, with between 25 and 55 added per month, which means we had more immigrants and babies being born than people leaving and/or dying. However, in July everything nearly equaled out; actually we were 2 people fewer than in June.



There were 80 new male births in 2004 and 68 females. Each month had about the same number of births except for December when 15% of the total year's babies were born. In 2004, 42 men and 41 women died, pretty much spaced out during the year.

Thanks to the personnel of Bevolking (Census Department) for providing us with these figures and graphs. 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.

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. 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)

## 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/)

## Boat for Sale

Why import a sail boat when you can own a fast Regatta winner built right here? Classic 21' Bonaire Sail Fishing boat recently refurbished is for sale for NAf14,000 (\$8,000) Call George 786-6125/717-8988.



## Properties

For Sale : Modern house in Santa Barbara Visit : [www.posada-bonaire.com](http://www.posada-bonaire.com) Tel.: 717 2023, Cell :785 0918

For Sale : Washikemba - Kunuku land 2009 M<sup>2</sup> Private property incl. building permission Tel.: 717 2023, Cell:785 0918

## Space For Rent

Need a low priced centrally located activity space for concerts, shows, receptions; cocktail, birthday, staff parties, church meetings, porch sales, work-shops, yoga or fitness classes, cooking work-shops, presentations, etc?

Rent our spectacular "Oasis terrace" or "Rock-garden area." We offer kitchen and bar facilities, a dance floor, dining area and performance stage. Capacity over 500 people. Call "We Dare To Care Foundation" Parke Publico Bonairiano. Kaya Soeur Bartola, Tel: 717-4262 or 786-1592, 786-6467. Email bismar@bonairelive.com or jamesfinies@flamingotv.net

## Wanted

### The Bonaire Reporter is searching for a Partner

Join us to "Publish in Paradise." Working partner with journalism writing/editing skills, business sense and energy desired. Call The Reporter at 717-8988, 786-6518. Email qualifications to: [search@bonairereporter.com](mailto:search@bonairereporter.com)

## For Sale

Sunbeam Portable gas grill. Never been used. With Outside cover and new filled gas cylinder. NAf425. Tel. 717-4915

1997 VW Golf – asking NAf3.700  
2002 Honda Quad NAf8.200  
Call 786-2489 or 717-5468

FOR SALE/ tel: 786-5209. To collect by Jan 5/6.

Large Refrigerator, NAF. 650,00  
Small Stove, NAF. 50,00  
Microwave 110v., NAF. 80,00  
Toaster Oven, NAF. 35,00  
Deep Fryer 220v, NAF. 75,00  
Dining Room Set (4 chairs) NEW, NAF. 300,00  
Living Room Set, NAF. 450,00  
Book Shelves (wicker), NAF. 250,00  
Mahogany Table, NAF 200,00  
High Chair, NAF. 50,00  
Folding Table, NAF. 15,00  
TV (LG, no remote), NAF. 150,00  
DVD home theatre, NAF. 400,00  
Bunk Bed, NAF. 450,00  
3 High Quality Standing Fans, NAF 75,00 ea.  
Double Bed with matching table, NAF 650,00  
2 plastic tables, NAF. 25,00  
Sharp TV with VHS, NAF. 100,00  
Children's training potty, Ea. NAF. 5,00  
Set child potty/diaper pail, NAF. 15,00  
Ab Lounge training machine, NAF. 300,00  
Washing Machine (old, but works great), NAF. 350,00  
Partial double bed (missing platform/mattress), NAF. 50,00  
Baby Gate, NAF 35,00  
Telephone w. clock, NAF. 30,00  
Telephone, NAF 20,00  
Voltage Regulator, NAF. 75,00  
Set dumb bells, NAF. 10,00.

For Sale: 1 used futon sofa-bed, 4 used rattan kitchen table chairs wf cushions. Prices negotiable. Contact David Colvard at Sand Dollar or email [dcolvard@mindspring.com](mailto:dcolvard@mindspring.com)



# The Valley of the Queens

(This article was written before the incident described in EnviroWatch (page 4) where nearly all of the colony was devastated by hunter-divers. Ed.)

**R**oyalty should be treated with great respect. I believe the royal lineages deserve a place of honor. At the very least, in our modern political world monarchs demand our admiration. Their presence portrays order and embodies tradition and stability in human society.

In the animal kingdom we have reserved royal connotation for some of the most fearsome predators at the top of the food chain. During the age of dinosaurs, Tyrannosaurus Rex reigned supreme, and today, the African lion is "The King of Beasts." In the marine environment there is a magnificent example of royalty among the invertebrates, a soft-bodied snail feeding on algae and debris in the sea grass beds, named in 1758 as the Queen Conch!

## The Mysterious "Valley of the Queens"

We are getting ready for a dive at the "Valley of the Queens." Barbara and I named this place several months ago when we discovered over 80 large, mature Queen Conchs buried beneath the soft sand at a depth of 82 feet (25 meters). We encountered them while we were searching for a Spotted Eagle Ray who also patrols this sandy area for the juvenile Queen Conch, one of its favorite menu items.

After many repeated visits over the past 12 weeks, our debriefings after each dive were filled with puzzling questions about the behaviors we were observing. The animals have been protected from uncontrolled harvesting by humans throughout the Caribbean Region as a threatened marine species by the Cartagena Convention of the CITES Treaty, and, on Bonaire, it is illegal to take conch from the sea.

At this site, far from their traditional feeding grounds in Lac Bay, the conch were arranged in circles, often touching each other, in what appeared to be interactive social groups of six to eight individuals. Many were deeply buried in the soft sand with only the indentation notches of their wide flared shells exposed to accommodate the protruding eyestalks. Some were moving from group to group leaving behind tracks in the sand. The trails remained undisturbed, preserved from the waves above by the deep-water location and easy to retrace because of the conchs' slow, steady and determined progress across the seabed. Others were awkwardly positioned on top of each other at odd angles, unbalanced by the heavy weight of the large, spiral shaped shell mass and many protruding horns around their wide whorls.

Our main objective on this dive is to visit and photograph each group of conch and count all the animals we can find. In anticipation of exceeding the no decompression limits for the depth and time required to accomplish our mission safely, we are preparing additional air supplies that may be necessary for some extended shallow water decompression at the end of the dive.

### What is a Queen Conch?

The Queen Conch is an invertebrate marine snail with a soft body and a very hard, spiral shaped protective shell. The shell is formed by the thin layer of flesh-like mantle tissue of the animal from the calcium carbonate that is extracted from



Cute youngster "peeking" at the camera

the seawater. The inside is lined with a smooth, hard, pearly layer, in a rich rose or pink color. In the adult stage, up to 1 foot (30 cm) long and 4.5 pounds (2 kg), the outer lip of the shell is widely flared with a wavy edge, and there are protruding knobs around the heavy thick end to deter natural predators.

Sexual maturity is reached between three and a half and four years of age when the shell is about 8 inches (20 cm) long. From 185,000 to 460,000 eggs are laid in bundles of long gelatinous strings up to 75 feet in length. Baby conch larvae float in the water for three weeks before settling in the sand and growing a shell. They live to at least six to seven years, and perhaps as long as 26 years in deep-water habitats. Adult queen conchs glide vertically by pedal muscular waves and can also move by a shell thrusting motion known as 'hopping' or 'leaping' by making use of their strong muscular foot. They are most active at night, and can travel up to 300 feet (100 m.) before resting.

### Near Extinction?

The biggest problem facing the Queen Conch is human commercial exploitation. Queen conchs are highly valued as a nutritious and cheap food source used in chowder and salads throughout the Caribbean Region. They are also easily collected in shallow inshore waters by free divers, and their beautiful pink shells are sold as souvenirs. All efforts to "restock" the oceans by aquaculture farming have failed. The captive-bred young conch, as one scientist observed, "seems to be missing the know-how that makes it possible to escape predation."

Mute evidence of over-fishing can be seen in the huge piles of old conch shells, called "conch middens," found on many islands in the Caribbean including Bonaire. Trade restrictions on live and dead Queen Conch (*Strombus gigas*), parts and products have been agreed to, and they have been listed on Appendix II of CITES since 1992, meaning that they are subject to quotas.

A commissioned CITES report shows that continued intensive fishing has led to population declines resulting in the total or temporary closure of the fishery in a number of locations. In several areas, a shift to remote and deeper harvesting areas increased harvest of juveniles, and low adult population densities suggest that several populations are seriously depleted. Illegal and unregulated fishing and trade, including the unauthorized harvest of Queen Conch in foreign waters and transfer of the meat across international borders, without adequate monitoring programs, are seen as the main causes for the reported declines. Jamaica and the Turks and Caicos Islands are the only two major commercial exporters of Queen Conch where current management was



Live juvenile at left, mature adult on the right

found to be adequate and were categorized as of 'least concern.'

### Time for Positive Action!

It is illegal and against the Bonaire National Marine Park regulations to harvest Queen Conch. Strict enforcement is called for and you should report verifiable, suspicious activities to the authorities immediately (717-8444) upon discovery. I suggest that you should not purchase any articles made from conch shells or fragments of conch shells. Since the origin of frozen conch meat is subject to question, I also feel it is a good idea to eliminate it as a food source at home and in restaurants. The proper authorities should be notified and asked to investigate any sign or reports of "fresh conch" for sale.

As a positive display of awareness and respect by all the residents and visitors to our island, regarding the demise of the Queen Conch on Bonaire, we advocate the removal of the "middens" of the previously harvested animals by placing all the piles of shells back into the sea, creating a new reef habitat and suitable burial for these innocent creatures!

Their disappearance is a significant blow to both human economies and the ocean ecosystems. It is uncertain how many Queen Conch remain in the Caribbean. Can they come back? Only action and time will tell. *Photos and text © Albert Bianculli, 2005*



*Albert Bianculli has visited Bonaire since 1970 and now lives here full time. See his show every Sunday night at Captain Don's Habitat Aquarius Conference Room beginning at 8:30 pm. All images are original, unretouched slides, shot on location and composed within the viewfinder.*

# IN THE SPOTLIGHT



**Rezino Hanze**  
athlete

When Rezino is among us, we always have to double check if he's really there.

He is such a quiet and calm boy, that sometimes you "lose" him in a crowd.

He enjoys his Fridays at the tennis court, participating in the Special Olympics tennis program and spends his Saturdays at the bowling alley.

Rezino's best friend is Urmix, also a Special Olympics athlete, participating in the same sports as him.

His favorite bowling coach is Gabrielle Nahr. Whenever we are dividing the group, he quietly raises his hand and gestures that he wants to be in her team.

We have seen Rezino grow in the sports, because of his determination to show off to the girls that he is very able to do his sports well.

Rezino is an inspiration to us, because he will never give up trying to be the best.

Never give up Rezino!

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





# WHAT'S HAPPENING

## MOVIELAND

### WEEKLY MOVIE SHOWTIMES

#### Late Show

Call to make sure (Usually 9 pm)

#### Elizabethtown (Kirstin Dunst)

Early Show (Usually 7 pm)

#### The Legend of Zorro (Antonio Banderas)

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

: The Curse Of The  
Were-Rabbit / Goal  
(Holiday Matinee Extra)

#### THIS WEEK

**Saturday, December 31—Comcabon Fun Run** 2/4/5 km -5:30 pm. Tel. 717-8629 or 780-7225—Richard Pietersz

**Saturday, December 31 – New Years Eve—Parties at Buddy Dive (see page 10) and Divi Flamingo**

**Parke Publiko Boneriano celebration for New Years.** All Welcome. Free entry—music, bar, food, games, 5 pm to ?

**Saturday, January 7—Opening of Salisbury exhibit,** 7-9 pm. All invited. Cinnamon Art Gallery See page 11

#### COMING UP

**Jan. 7 to Feb. 28 - Karnaval 2006 Arts and Crafts Markets** at Wilhelmina Park on Cruise Ship Visiting days, starting around 10 am to early afternoon: Jan. 10 –Sea Princess, Aida Vita

**Saturday, January 14- quarterly Clean-up Dive.** All welcome, divers and non-divers. Contact sponsors Yellow Submarine (<http://www.bonaireyellowsubmarine.com>) or NetTech (<http://www.nettech.an>).

#### REGULAR EVENTS

**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](http://www.infobonaire.com)

com/rincon

**Saturday—Mountain Bike Ride—** Everyone welcome. It's free. 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. Great wines - 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, Divi Flamingo

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

**Tuesday –Yoga 5 pm, Beginner; 6:30 pm, Intermediate, Harbour Village Spa** 786-6416

**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), & search for "Gibi."

**Wednesday –Yoga 8.30 am, Mixed Level, Plaza Resort,** 786-6416

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

**Friday –Yoga 8.30 am, Mixed Level, Buddy Dive Resort,** 786-6416

**Friday- 5-7 pm Social Event at JanArt Gallery, Kaya Gloria 7.** Meet artist Janice Huckaby and Larry of Larry's Wildside Diving. New original paintings of Bonaire and diver stories of the East Coast every week

**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.

**Monday- Dee Scarr's Touch the Sea slide Show** at Captain Don's Habitat, 8:30pm Call 717-8290 for info

**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

#### BONAIRE'S TRADITIONS

**Mangasina di Rei, Rincon.** Enjoy the view from "The King's Storehouse." Learn about Bonaire's culture. Visit 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**

#### January 2006 Cruise Ship Schedule

Day	Date	Ship name	Time	Location	PAX	Line
Tue	Jan.10	Sea Princess	1200-1900	S.Pier	1950	Princess Cruises
Tue	Jan.10	AidaVita	1300-2000	N.Pier	1260	P&O Germany
Tue	Jan.24	AidaVita	1300-2000	S.Pier	1260	P&O Germany
Tue	Jan. 31	Rijndam	0900-1800	S.Pier	1258	HAL First Call

about 12 noon at Lac Cai. Dance to the music of Bonaire's popular musicians.

#### 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, 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 welcome.

**Rotary lunch meetings Wednesday, 12 noon-2 pm -** Now meeting at 'Pirate House', above Restaurant Zeezicht.

All Rotarians welcome. Tel. 717-8434

#### 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.** 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

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

# 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. 538	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>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 Breakfast every day; Lunch, Dinner Tues-Sun.	<b>Bar-Restaurant poolside—under the thatched roof.</b> Cuban cuisine. New kitchen. New cook Happy hours 5 to 7 every day.
<b>The Last Bite Bakery</b> Home Delivery or Take Out 717-3293	Low-Moderate Orders taken 8 am-4 pm; Deliveries 6-7:30 pm, Closed Sunday	Enjoy a delicious dessert or savory baked meal in the comfort of your home or resort. This unique bakery offers <b>gourmet class items</b> -always from scratch- for take out or delivery only.
<b>The Lost Penguin</b> Across from MCB Bank in downtown Kralendijk Call 717-8003.	Low-Moderate Breakfast, Lunch, Early Dinner 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



<p><b>APPLIANCES/ TV/ ELECTRONICS/ COMPUTERS</b> <b>City Shop</b>, the mega store, has the island's widest selection of large and small home appliances. Fast service and in-store financing too.</p> <p><b>ART GALLERY</b> <b>Cinnamon Art Gallery</b> non-profit gallery for local artists has continuous shows. Each month a new artist is featured. Stop by. Free entry.</p> <p><b>BANKS</b> <b>Maduro and Curiel's Bank</b> provides the greatest number of services, branches and ATMs of any Bonaire bank. They also offer investments and insurance.</p> <p><b>BEAUTY PARLOR</b> <b>Hair Affair.</b> Expert hair cutting, styling, facials, waxing and professional nail care.</p> <p><b>BICYCLE / SCOOTER/ QUADS</b> <b>De Freewieler</b> rents scooters and quads; professionally repairs almost anything on two wheels. Sells top brand bikes. Have your keys made here.</p> <p><b>BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION</b> <b>APA Construction</b> are professional General Contractors. They also specialize in creating patios and walkways with fabulous sprayed and stamped concrete pavement.</p> <p><b>DIVING</b> <b>Carib Inn</b> 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.</p> <p><b>Dive Friends Bonaire (Photo Tours Divers-Yellow Submarine)</b> -low prices - on the seaside at Kralendijk, at Caribbean Club, Caribbean Court and the Hamlet Oasis. Join their cleanup dives and BBQ.</p> <p><b>WannaDive</b> - They make diving fun while maintaining the highest professional standards. In town at City Café and at Eden Beach.</p> <p><b>FITNESS</b> <b>Bonfysio</b> offers comprehensive fitness programs to suit your needs whether they be weight loss, sports or just keeping in shape. Convenient schedule.</p> <p><b>Fit For Life at the Plaza Resort Mall.</b> Classes in Pilates, Aerobics, TaeBo and more. Professional trainers, fitness machines and classes for all levels.</p> <p><b>FURNITURE</b> <b>THE PLANTATION</b> Has lots of classy furniture and antiques at very competitive prices. Stop in to see great teak furniture and Indonesian crafts.</p>	<p><b>GARDEN SUPPLIES AND SERVICES</b> <b>Green Label</b> 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.</p> <p><b>GIFTS, SOUVENIRS AND LIQUOR</b> <b>The Bonaire Gift Shop</b> has an wide selection of gifts, souvenirs, liquor, dive watches, digital cameras, things for the home, T-shirts all at low prices.</p> <p><b>HOTELS</b> <b>Golden Reef Inn</b> is the affordable alternative with fully equipped studio apartments in a quiet Bonaire neighborhood. Just a 3-minute walk to diving and the sea.</p> <p><b>The Great Escape</b> Under new management. Quiet and tranquil setting with pool and luxuriant garden in Belnem. Cyber Café, DVD rentals, restaurant and bar.</p> <p><b>METALWORK AND MACHINE SHOP</b> <b>b c b- Botterop Construction Bonaire N.V.</b>, offers outstanding fabrication of all metal products, including stainless. Complete machine shop too.</p> <p><b>Nature Exploration</b> <b>Outdoor Bonaire</b> for individually guided kayaking, hiking, biking, caving, rapeling/abseilen and more reservations : 791-6272 or 717-4555 E-mail : hans@outdoorbonaire.com</p> <p><b>PHOTO FINISHING</b> <b>Paradise Photo</b> in the Galleries Shopping Center offers fast, fine processing for prints, slides, items and services . <b>Now-full digital services.</b></p> <p><b>REAL ESTATE / RENTAL AGENTS</b> <b>Harbourtown Real Estate is Bonaire's oldest real estate agent.</b> They specialize in professional customer services and top notch properties.</p> <p><b>Re/Max Paradise Homes:</b> Lots of Choices—International/US connections. 5% of profits donated to local community. List your house with them for sale.</p> <p><b>Sunbelt Realty</b> offers full real estate, rental, and insurance services. If you want a home or to invest in Bonaire, stop in and see them.</p> <p><b>REPAIRS</b> <b>Bon Handyman</b> is here if you need something fixed or built. Ultra reliable, honest and experienced. Electrical, plumbing, woodworking, etc. 717-2345</p>	<p><b>RESORTS &amp; ACTIVITIES</b> <b>Buddy Dive Resort</b> offers diving, Adventure Fun tours including kayaking, mountain biking, cave snorkeling and exploration.</p> <p><b>RETAIL</b> <b>Benetton</b>, world famous designer clothes available now in Bonaire at prices less than those in US. For men, women and children.</p> <p><b>SECURITY</b> <b>Special Security Services</b> will provide that extra measure of protection when you need it. Always reliable.</p> <p><b>SHIPPING</b> <b>Rocargo Freight</b> Air and sea shipments in/out of Bonaire. Customs agents. Professional and efficient. <b>FedEx agent.</b></p> <p><b>SUPERMARKETS</b> Visit <b>Warehouse Bonaire</b> to shop in a large, spotless supermarket. You'll find American and European brand products. THE market for provisioning.</p> <p><b>VACATION CLUB</b> Lower the cost of vacationing in Bonaire. Visit <b>Perfect Holiday Solutions</b> to discover how you can get discounts and more. Free gift for learning how.</p> <p><b>WATER TAXI</b> <b>Get to Klein Bonaire by Ferry.</b> Ride the <i>Kantika di Amor</i> or <i>Skiffy</i>. Hotel pickup.</p> <p><b>WINDSURFING</b> <b>The Bonaire Windsurfing Place</b> can fulfill all your windsurfing dreams and more. They offer expert instruction, superb equipment on a fine beach. Lunch and drinks too. BBQ and windsurf videos Wednesday nights.</p> <p><b>WINES</b> <b>Antillean Wine Company.</b> 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.</p> <p><b>YOGA</b> <b>Yoga For You.</b> Join certified instructors Desirée and Don for a workout that will refresh mind and body. Private lessons too.</p> <p><b>ATTENTION BUSINESSMEN/WOMEN:</b> Put your ad in <i>The Bonaire Reporter</i>. Phone/Fax 717-8988, Cel 786-6518</p>
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# On the Island Since...

September 1996

## Betty Sojo-Baca

**I** haven't changed much since I left my country. The only thing that's different is that although I am the youngest of three brothers and two sisters, they now feel I am protecting them, that I am their mother. My father was an artist, a composer of folk music, and my mother had a talent for the kitchen. She owned a restaurant called *El Chalan*- the Horse Dealer - where she cooked typical Peruvian food. Neither of my parents is alive; they are resting now.

I was born September 3, 1962, in Chimbote, on the north coast of Peru. I struggled a lot during my childhood, and I've been working since I was very young, helping my mother. But I did go to school, college and university, and I became a dietitian. I started working at the Regional Hospital of Chimbote. During one of my birthday parties I met Pablo Sojo. He'd come with a relative of mine and it was love at first sight. He has a big heart and he is a noble man, an uncomplicated person. He was working as a heavy machine operator at a steel factory called Sider Peru. We lived together for seven years; it took a long time for us to marry because neither family wanted the other. But the more they were against it, the closer we got. We got married February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1990. Now my family adores him and his family adores me!

I worked at the hospital for five years. Just before I was about to quit working there I got pregnant with our daughter Tania; she was born in 1995. After the baby's birth we decided to emigrate because salaries were very low and we couldn't make it. We wanted to go to Australia because at that time they were offering a lot of incentives, but we couldn't get the money together for the trip. So we decided to go to the Antilles. But again there was little money, so Pablo went first.

In Peru, Aruba is very well known, and lots of Peruvians are working there. Pablo went to Aruba for only three days in 1996 to see what it was like, but it was very difficult and he couldn't stay. At the airport, on his way back, he met Sra. Lennie Leon from Bonaire who lives in Rincon. She's a little woman who is working for SELIBON, and I think she might be the only woman working there. We are still very grateful to her because she grabbed his hand and took him to her house in Rincon and in a very short time she got him a job and a work permit.

Pablo has always been very lucky! He started working for Silvosa, a Bonaire construction company, as a heavy machinery operator. Two months later I arrived." *She closes her eyes:* "It was fan-

tastic...I saw it as paradise... When I stepped foot on Bonaire every door opened. I've always wanted to have the opportunity to express my gratitude to all the people I've met. Everything and everybody here has been fantastic. And I consider Bonaire my second home.

I left my child in Peru with my brother who also has a daughter five years older than Tania. She was five when we went back to get her. She stayed on the island for two months, but she wasn't doing well at all health-wise, so we took her back to the family in Chimbote. She's 12 now, and she's a super bright girl just like her father. Every year she gets the best marks in school and she wants to study engineering. My brother is still taking care of her; his daughter is 17 now. We left when our daughter was very little, and even now it is still not easy. We see her every year and we are very close. She calls me to tell me what she's doing, but she also says, 'Let me stay here in Peru. When I am ready to come, I'll come to Bonaire...' Pablo and I are planning on staying for good on Bonaire."

**"...he met Sra. Lennie Leon from Bonaire, who lives in Rincon ... We are still very grateful to her because she grabbed his hand and took him to her house in Rincon and in a very short time she got him a job and a work permit."**

*Betty Sojo-Baca (43) seems to be a somewhat reserved woman, in many ways very to the point, but as time passes she shows her other side and reveals a passionate personality.*

"When I arrived here I applied for work at the hospital as a dietitian, but they didn't accept me because I was a Latina and there was a problem with the languages. But I am very happy I was rejected because then I was hired at Sunset Beach Hotel as a cook with a very good salary and I stayed there until the hotel closed.

In 2003 Pablo left Silvosa and went to work for Somafe, a Portuguese-owned construction company. When Sunset closed I took a six-month sabbatical to rest. I went with Pablo to Caracas for a vacation, and when I came back I started



*Betty Sojo-Baca with Marco Antonio Alarcon-Artiaga, husband Pablo Sojo-Flores, Carlos Martin Pasache-Cano and Henri Sojo-Flores*

working as a cook at Capt. Don's Habitat. I worked there for two years, but I developed health problems because of the changes in temperature: being in the hot, hot, kitchen and then going out in the cold. It caused me problems with my tendons and I lost the strength in my hands and couldn't lift the heavy pots anymore.

Then I went to work with Benito Dirksz' Special Security Services as a guard. I worked at WEB Hato for eight months at night. Then Benito noticed that I was stressed, so he put me at WEB Playa, a day job, where I worked for two years, sitting at the entrance. Nothing ever happened there. I am very grateful to Sr. Benito Dirksz and the company for giving me the chance. Benito is a beautiful person! I liked that type of work very much because as a child I always wanted to be a detective. But when I told my mom she said she didn't want me to work with the police. Then I told her I was going into the army and she cried and cried, and finally I gave in and became a dietitian!

Two months ago I wanted a change. By chance I walked into the small shop in Cultimara. I met the wife of the owner. He's Dutch; she's from Chile; and we started talking. They live and have their company in Curaçao. The woman, Janet, and I talked and talked and she offered me the job of working for them. They liked me and put all their confidence and responsibility on me. I work 12 hours every day without a real break. I like the work and I have all the freedom to do what I think is best.

My life here is always very busy. A year ago I was the social assistant for *Arriba Peru*, the social, cultural and sports association for Peruvians on Bonaire. I also am very interested in natural medicines; it's one of my hobbies. I love to dance the salsa, but I also love all the Pe-

ruvian music. And I love to cook; to me it is an art to prepare a meal. You have to put all your love in it. I have it in my veins.

I am hoping, dreaming, that some day in the future I will be able to open a small restaurant with Peruvian food. That's, I think, our goal in life, and hopefully, little by little it will work out. I am always working. Last Sunday I went for one hour to the beach; I usually never have time!

But I like everything on Bonaire, especially now, because 36 days ago two of my nephews and Pablo's brother came to Bonaire. Now I feel much happier! Now we are five Chimbotanes to the core!"

*I look at them- Betty and her men - she's beaming. They're sitting next to each other, first from left to right, Marco Antonio Alarcon-Artiaga (40), then Betty's husband, Pablo Sojo-Flores (43). Betty is in the middle, then comes Carlos Martin Pasache-Cano (33) and Henri Sojo-Flores (26). It's a beautiful sight to see them all together. The three of them are still new on the island. They've never been abroad before and they're suffering from homesickness, still counting the days, but already appreciating Bonaire for what they feel it is:*

"Clean, beautiful people, not only clean from the outside but also from the inside, fresh air, no pollution and tranquil." *Betty smiles looking at her family:* "Sometimes I miss my country so much that I would love to lift up my house and put it there, in Peru. But we're staying here because the situation is much better and more stable." *story and photo by Greta Kooistra*



## Pasku Briante – A Brilliant Christmas – Kids Helping Kids

**Pasku Briante – A Brilliant Christmas** – Last Friday more than 200 needy youngsters were given a spirited and fun Christmas party by 30 of the volunteer teens of the Bonaire Youth Outreach Foundation at the Trans World Radio building. There were games, visits with three different Santas, refreshments and gifts. Energy was high and even the parents enjoyed it and had a lot of laughs and fun. This is the sixth consecutive year that volunteer teens from the program have gotten together to put together gifts and a big party for these young children between the ages of two and 12.

*Pasku Briante* sponsors this year were the Rotary Club, Plaza Trading and Trans World Radio which donated the building for the afternoon.

The Outreach group of teens, begun in 1995 and led by Dennis Martinus, makes a huge contribution to the youth of the island, offering spiritual, social, educational and physical activities to 40 young people from the ages of 13 to 18. As well as the *Pasku Briante* they participate in a number of other community programs like assisting in the old folk's clubhouses, cleaning, painting and doing repairs. They have a radio program every Saturday afternoon 3 to 6 on Digital 91.1 FM to discuss issues important to teens like AIDS, drugs, pregnancy and fear. They've set up a hotline where kids can call in for help in dealing with their problems. Bonaire Youth Outreach Foundation is proving to be an extremely effective counter to bad influences. *L.D.*



Some happy kids with their mom



Outreach Teen Volunteers

## Ask the Dietitian

### Try Non-alcoholic Drinks At Your New Years Eve Party



Every year we look forward to the arrival of the holiday season with anticipation and then look back in frustration after we see all the weight we've gained during the holidays. So try to enjoy this pleasant time together with families and friends without upsetting your diet balance.

We don't need to deny ourselves the pleasure of holiday treats; we just need to **eat everything in moderation**. Be sure to **eat a wide variety of foods** and to **eat balanced meals**. Use **sugar in moderation**. It appears in soft drinks, sugary beverages, sweets, cakes, pies, etc. **Balance the food you eat with physical activity!** It doesn't matter if you don't lose weight during the holidays.....But make sure you **maintain your regular weight!** By **exercising at least 30 minutes a day** you can help control any holiday weight gain.

It's also easy to drink much more than you anticipate when you're partying in the New Year. It's very hard to keep track with so much excitement around. And those salty appetizers only serve to make you thirstier than normal.

Here are two tasty drinks, low in calories, that will fit nicely into your diet.

Have a nice New Years Eve party in harmony with friends and relatives.

#### Jack Frost Punch

2 diet lemon sodas (the 2-liter bottles)  
1 large container of 100% cranberry juice (or fresh cranberry juice sweetened with Splenda®)  
1 bottle of club soda (the 2-liter size)  
Mix all of the above in a large punch bowl.  
Garnish glasses with orange slices if desired or float a bit of mint.

#### Frost on the Mountain Cooler

½ gallon of pineapple sherbet  
2 liters of Sprite or Seven-up Light  
1 can of unsweetened crushed pineapple  
Pour soda into a large punch bowl; stir in the pineapple; carefully scoop sherbet out of the container and add to the punch

Best wishes for 2006. *Angélique Salsbach*

*Angélique Salsbach, a dietitian with Bonaire's Department of Health and Hygiene, has a radio program every other Tuesday 9 to 9:30 on Bon FM. Her patients have successfully won the "Battle of the Bulge" and become healthier. Write her at dietitian@bonairenews.com* □







# BONAIRE SKY PARK\*

\*to find it, just look up

## Celebrate New Year's Eve with the New Year's Eve Star

New Year's Eve is one of those nights when a lot more people than usual stay up late. And if you happen to go outside at the stroke of midnight you will see something very special which I like to call the **New Year's Eve Star**.

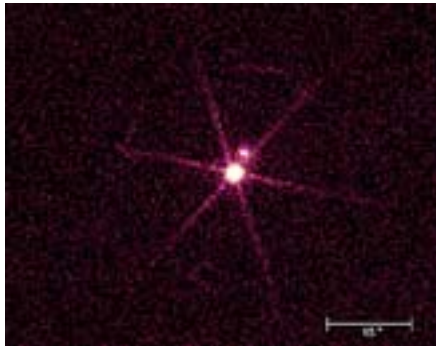
Around 8 pm, Sky Park Time, this Saturday, December 31<sup>st</sup>, New Year's Eve, face due south. And first, like all good astronomers, let's draw an imaginary line from the due south horizon straight up to the zenith point overhead and then down the other side of the sky to the horizon due north. This line is called the **Meridian** and it divides the eastern half of the sky from the western half.

Now as our **Earth** slowly and endlessly rotates from west to east we are treated nightly to the grandest optical illusion in nature - that of watching the stars appear to rise in the east, slowly travel across the sky all night long and eventually set in the west. And if you watch the stars every single night you will eventually deduce that the highest point any star reaches above the horizon in its nightly journey is when it is on the meridian.

Now this is very important to telescope users because the higher a sky-object is above the horizon the better its telescopic image will be. So several years ago when I was researching which planets would be high up off the horizon for viewing that New Year's Eve I stumbled across something which to me was and still is an amazing coincidence, something which I had never read about in any astronomy book. That coincidence is that no matter where you happen to be on New Year's Eve, **Sirius**, the brightest star we can see, will slowly climb up the southeastern sky hour after hour and at midnight will reach its highest point almost on the meridian. Think of it - the brightest star visible from our planet reaches its highest point above the horizon at midnight every New Year's Eve! How wonderful! How poetic! Almost like a cosmic reminder that this most brilliant of stellar lights is welcoming in and shining on the New Year, giving us all hope for a bright new beginning.

And even better, if you happen to miss it on New Year's Eve because it's too cold or cloudy out, don't fret because Sirius will be in almost the same spot at midnight each night for the first week of the New Year. And think about this as you gaze up at Sirius this New Year's Eve. Sirius is actually a double star! That fact is not discernable without a sophisticated telescope, yet primitive African tribes are aware of it. Just how is a mystery. And it's very close cosmically speaking, only 8½ light years away, which means that when we look at Sirius this New Year's Eve we will actually be seeing the light that left it 8½ years ago in June of 1997.

So step outside at midnight and make your New Year's Eve bright with cosmic light. Happy New Year and keep looking up! *Jack Hockheimer*



*Actual Chandra telescope photo of the double star system of Sirius*



*If Sirius had a planet, the view of its suns might be something like this.*



# THE STARS HAVE IT

For the week: December 25 to 31, 2005

By Astrologer Michael Thiessen

**ARIES** (Mar. 21- April 20) Do not trust others with important information. You can convince anyone of anything. Problems with in-laws may cause friction in your personal relationship. Broaden your horizons and look into programs that will teach you awareness and relaxation. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

**TAURUS** (Apr. 21- May 21) Avoid being intimately involved with clients or colleagues. Anger may cause you grief; control your temper and try to sit back and calm down. Good time for romance. Your attitudes at work will open new avenues for you. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

**GEMINI** (May 22-June 21) Take some time to change your house around. You should be making plans to spend some time with the ones you love. Someone you least expect could be trying to make you look bad. Don't overreact to someone's advances. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22) Try not to be too harsh with your mate. You should catch up on correspondence. Try to put your money away for a rainy day. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug 22) You can learn from those who have had similar experiences. Some situations may be blown out of proportion. Take care of any pressing medical problems that you or one of your parents may be suffering from. If you can, make phone calls instead of going out. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) Changes will not be easy for the youngsters involved. Your ability to work with detail could help you achieve your goals. Insurance pay outs, tax rebates, or just plain luck. Your greatest gains will come through your creative ideas. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) You may be emotional about the way an organization you belong to is handling its business. You may be emotionally unstable if you let someone you care about get away with verbal abuse. You can get the attention of important individuals but it might not be the time to get them to help or to back your ideas. Someone you work with may be withholding valuable information. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) Travel will also entice you. Be careful not to push your luck or take too much for granted when dealing on either a personal or professional level. Don't be afraid to push your beliefs and attitudes. You can find out important information if you listen to friends and relatives. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) Your outgoing charm and obvious talent will be admired. You may attract attention if you get out socially. Think twice before you speak. You should be in business for yourself. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec 22- Jan. 20) Daydreaming will be your downfall. Start sending out those resumes. You can expect your mate to get fed up and make the choices for you or back off completely. Hard work will bring rewards. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) Plan your day carefully. Take a second look; another person's philosophy may be extremely different from yours. Someone you least expect may not have your best interests at heart. Try not to hang out with co-workers if you wish to avoid problems later. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) Travel could be in order. Do your own thing and everything will settle down. You could have trouble persuading others to accept your ideas and opinions. New relationships will surface through work relate events. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.