

**IT'S
STILL
FREE**

BONAIRE

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The REPORTER

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SINCE 1994

VERKIEZING
STEMBUREAU'S UPB 27-1-2006

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	TOTAL
189	289	197	154	102	132	110	180	45	26	1424	
56	92	54	39	36	44	30	33	227	180	791	
11	30	21	18	10	16	29	54	5	4	198	
25	28	29	19	15	18	15	10	8	1	169	
2	6	6	9	10	24	4	0	3	1	65	
6	20	85	18	13	6	5	5	7	1	166	
6	8	9	15	12	4	3	7	0	0	64	
9	37	23	22	13	14	11	3	4	1	147	
8	23	25	31	8	10	6	1	3	4	23	
6	47	10	14	6	2	18	1	1	1	103	
41	36	40	54	46	49	103					
	359	616	499	393	271	319	335	358	308	220	



Election Results
pages 2 & 5

Flotsam and Jetsam

Election

Summary

Parliamentary election night last Friday turned out to be quite exciting because **all five islands of the Netherlands Antilles were linked by television coverage** for the first time. Ironically, it is the last time there will ever be a five-island election since the Antilles will break apart in 2007.



Emily de Jonge, the new PM?

- In Bonaire, **Ramonsito Booi's UPB (green) party took two of Bonaire's three seats** in the Antillean parliamentary elections. **Jopie Abraham's PDB (red) party held on to its single seat.** As far as Bonaire is concerned, its representation is the same as before the election. The parties

that the UPB was affiliated with in Curaçao for a ruling coalition, PAR and PNP, made strong showings, ensuring Bonaire's continued representation whatever central government is formed.

- Results of the parliamentary elections in Curaçao showed a **surprising turn toward moderation** with Anthony Godett's FOL party reduced to two seats and Errol Cova's PLKP losing its only two seats. Godett is facing jail time in his fraud conviction and Cova was ousted for making inflammatory statements opposing government policies. Resigning Prime Minister Ys' PAR party won 25.9% of the vote, taking five seats in the 22-member parliament. PAR's new leader, **Emily de Jongh-Elhage, is a bet for the future Prime Minister of the Netherlands Antilles.** The MAN party, which didn't win any seats in the last parliamentary election, made a comeback with 18.4% of the vote, good for three seats.

- **Prime Minister Ys presented the Governor with the letter of resignation** of his cabinet last weekend. According to protocol, the Governor has asked Ys to stay on until a new

cabinet is formed. Now that the current government is outgoing only current matters will be concluded and no new projects will be started.

- Dutch Kingdom Relations Minister Alexander Pechtold on the TV program Studio NL last week acknowledged the potential for the Netherlands in the Caribbean with its Antillean islands as a **hedge against the shrinking role of the Netherlands in the EU and the rising of Asian economies.** "The political future is positive," he said. "We have a rich past and a beautiful future. We should also consider the other side of the coin. It's not only how useful the Netherlands is for the Antilles, but also how useful the Antilles are for the Netherlands. We should realize that we have economic potential." Pechtold added that he thought that this process could take decades. For more election news see page 5.



Tiara's new plane

► **Tiara Air, a new airline in Aruba,** flew the first test flight with its Shorts 360-200, a venerable 33-seat

commuter airplane. Once approved, the plane will fly twice a day to Curaçao.

► KLM has announced its summer schedule and **Bonaire will gain one 12 MD-11 flight a week.** The daily flight from Bonaire to Peru will continue along with five weekly roundtrip flights to Ecuador via Bonaire on both the out-bound and Amsterdam-bound legs. The island is awaiting word of KLM's winter 2006-2007 schedule which is rumored to feature elimination of the Peru

flight in favor of non-stop 777 service from Amsterdam.

► Elsmarie Beukenboom notes that **downtown Kralendijk is darker than it should be.** Its because dozens of streetlights are burned out. She counted 48 out on the Shorefront Promenade, 26 along Kaya Grandi, 53 more in the town center and in the government building parking lot 12 more. That makes a total of 139 lights out and there still more to find. To its credit the gov-

ernment has recently installed a tall pole-mounted powerful spotlight complex that covers a wide area with fewer bulbs. More are planned. The power company, WEB, is responsible for street light maintenance.



New Streetlight

(Continued on page 3)

BONAIRE The REPORTER

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(Flotsam and Jetsam. Continued from page 2)



Photo Herman Leeuwen

Juvenile mangrove in Lac

► **Costs of safeguarding the world's fast-disappearing coral reefs and mangroves are small compared to the benefits they provide from tourism to fisheries, the UN Environment Program (UNEP) said last week.** The report, to be issued at a conference in Paris, estimated that intact coral reefs were worth \$100,000-\$600,000 per sq km (0.3861 sq mile) a year to humankind and a sq km of mangroves \$200,000-\$900,000 a year.

Under another survey, **coral reefs in the Caribbean** were estimated to be worth from \$2,000 a year in remote

areas to **\$1.0 million beside a tourist resort where it draws scuba divers.**

By contrast, the cost of protecting a sq km of coral reef or mangroves in a marine park was just \$775 a year, it reckoned.

The report, part of a recent trend trying to place a value on the natural world, said that pollution, global warming and expanding human settlements along coasts were among mounting threats to reefs and mangroves.

► **World Wetlands Day is celebrated each year on February 2.** It marks the anniversary of the signing of the Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar Convention) in Ramsar, Iran, on February 2, 1971. Bonaire contains several "Ramsar" sites.

World Wetlands Day was first celebrated in 1997. Since that time government agencies, non-government organizations and community groups have celebrated World Wetlands Day by undertaking actions to raise public awareness of wetland values and benefits and promote the conservation and wise use of wetlands. These activities include seminars, nature walks, festivals, launching of new policies, announcement of new Ramsar sites, newspaper articles, radio interviews and wetland rehabilitation. The theme for World Wetlands Day 2006 is "Wetlands and water - supporting life, sustaining livelihoods."

► **New license plate tax stickers for 2006** went on sale last Monday,

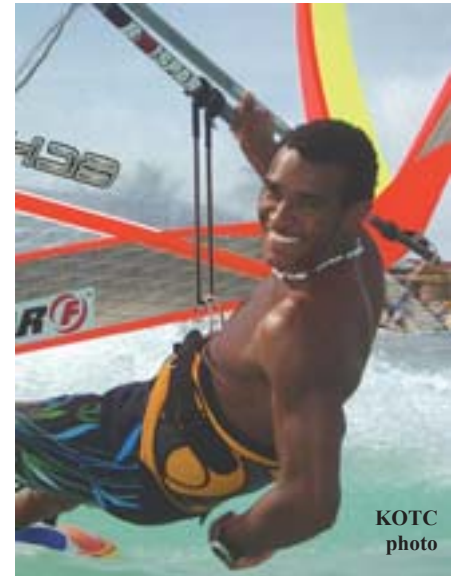
January 30. The stickers, good for six months, are red with white letters. The stickers good for a year are yellow with red letters. The new stickers must be on all cars on the road by March 4, 2006.



Gasoline powered cars with B or V plates must pay NAf340 for a full year or NAf170 for a half year, plus NAf4 for the sticker itself. Diesel powered cars must pay NAf1.500 a year; NAf750 for half (diesel fuel is untaxed at the pump). Taxis and AB (public buses) get about a 25% discount on these rates. Heavy vehicles, carrying Z plates, are charged NAf2.250 per year. Get them at the Island Ontvanger's office.

► Provisional dates set for the **Maduro and Curiel's 2006 King of the Caribbean, Professional Windsurfing Association Freestyle Qualifier** have now been set for April 6 to 9 at Lac Bay. Bonaire is one of the pros' favorite venues for freestyle. Local hot shots Tonky (see photo), Taty and Choko Frans, and the freestyle wiz kid, Kiri Thode, are already on the water training hard, preparing to unleash a slew of new moves sure to dazzle the

visiting pros and spectators. The entire Bonaire Sailing Team invites everyone to their training grounds. The purse is \$10,000 for the men and \$5,000 for women.



KOTC photo

For further information on the whole PWA World Tour, check out www.pwaworldtour.com or www.bonaireworldfreestyle.com. Email ann@bonaibcaribbean.com for event details. Sponsors include Maduro and Curiel's Bank, TCB., Bonaire Windsurf Place, KLM, Caribbean Wind & Sun Vacations, Budget Bonaire, Copal Gardens, *The Bonaire Reporter*, Windguru and Nettech NV.

► **A "prepaid" electricity meter, where the consumer must pay ahead**

(Continued on page 4)

Flotsam & Jetsam. (Continued from page 3) for his/her energy use, was installed for the first time, in Tera Cora last week. The action was motivated by the sharp escalation in the price of electricity which made many WEB (Water and Electricity Bureau) customers unable to pay their bills. Prepaying for electric power will allow a homeowner to better control his/her expenses and not get surprised by a big bill at the start of the month. Normally, if a consumer does not pay the electric bill the line is disconnected and WEB charges a large amount to reconnect. This does not apply to a prepaid account. WEB plans to pilot test a similar arrangement for prepaying water.



► The Aruba Club "Casibari" together with the government of Bonaire inaugurated the "Plasa Libertador

G. F. Betico Croes" and placed a bust of the Aruban Liberator at the corner near the post office last week.

► On Monday, David Dick, Antilles Minister of Justice, announced that a **"new structural policy approach to immigration" will take effect throughout the Netherlands Antilles beginning February 1.** "The time has come for us to focus on our own (people) and illegal immigration will not be tolerated any longer," he said in a statement issued in Curaçao.



"Illegal immigration has negative economic and social effects on our society. This new policy is essential and important for the future of all our islands," he said in his statement which shied away from details, but gave a general outline of some developments within the Immigration Department.

The new policies should inspire a more efficient department resulting from training for staff, shorter processing time for applications and stricter enforcement of the Law on Admission and Expulsion.

Dick plans to brief the Lt. Governors of the other Antillean islands to get their cooperation in executing the new instructions.

Enviro Watch

Illegal dumping continues to be a problem around Bonaire. It may grow after SELIBON begins to charge commercial interests a fee for dumping at the landfill. SELIBON has promised to increase their policing vigilance after the fees for dumping begin.

The material in the photos was dumped on January 26 or a day earlier at the first sidetrack to the left of the upper Kaminda Broertje Janga. It consisted of (bush) palm fronds, croton (the yellow-green variety), weeds and dirty gravel in paper "Caribbean Bakery Suppliers" bags. □ Sabine Engel/G.D.



He said the Netherlands Antilles always had and would continue to present itself as a multicultural society, a policy that brings with it the constant migration of people to the islands.

coral glimpses

(a bit of information about corals designed for Flotsam & Jetsam by naturalist Dee Scarr)

► **Every individual coral animal in a coral head is a clone** (an asexual reproduction) of every other coral animal in that coral head.

► **Welcome to Cactus Blue, a trend setting new restaurant** at Kaya J.A. Abraham 12 (on the main street about half-way between the downtown Government buildings and the Divi Flamingo Resort.) It opened on February 1, so you can be among the first to give it a try. It's run by Hagen and Corinna Wegerer, two well known personalities from Bonaire's water sports sector. Check out their ad on page 11. □ G./L.D.

Election News

Cover story

Ust 1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	TOTAAL
UPB	189	308	157	154	152	182	110	170	145	26	1424
PDB	24	32	54	50	50	44	40	28	28	187	731
PABOSO	11	20	24	19	15	14	18	15	10	4	139
LABOR	2	2	2	3	15	18	15	15	5	7	109
DEMOCRAT	2	6	8	10	15	15	4	5	7	1	103
LABOR	6	2	9	15	12	4	3	7	7	7	105
PDB	4	27	23	25	18	14	12	10	4	0	177
LABOR	4	24	27	21	8	10	10	10	0	0	146
DEMOCRAT	6	43	10	14	6	2	18	10	0	0	125
LABOR	41	56	40	54	44	40	105	20	0	1	409
	338	616	487	535	271	275	333	238	209	130	3678

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	TOTAAL
JANINA JE (JONE)	11	28	11	5	12	13	19	12	10	103
JANINA MSAH (HARUGIA)	20	50	52	42	24	22	32	20	20	322
SAURENWOOD TASH (TASH)	25	25	3	14	8	10	9	23	3	126
SHIRINGA FICHA S.S (JONE)	15	28	40	32	45	42	13	19	4	247
JANINA JE (JONE)	28	22	59	47	3	16	6	19	9	212
JANINA JE (JONE)	2	1	2	7	1	1	2	0	0	73
JANINA JE (JONE)	6	54	13	6	4	5	3	4	1	90
CHIRINO FELIDA (MIGHELA)	3	10	23	13	11	2	1	8	0	101
CRESTIAN ADA (MATA)	8	8	1	9	11	2	0	1	0	151
FRANS K. (KABUKI)	4	22	42	41	18	23	39	44	20	223
	261	362	333	343	337	304	234	213	181	2047

Results board at the Passengrahn

While the division of parliamentary seats for Bonaire remained the same as before last week's election the voting results told some interesting stories. Although elected for a four-year term, the new senators will probably serve a shorter term since the Antilles are set to be dissolved in 2007.

The top vote getters were the UPB (green) leader, Ramonsito Booi, "Monchi," with 1,424 of his party's total of 3,678; Jopie Abraham, head of the PDB (red), gathered 1,033. Incumbent Commissioner James Kroon collected 791 votes with strong support from his hometown, Rincon. The Democrat's Robby Beukenboom was the next biggest vote-getter with 407.

According to local observers, the Green's winning margin was due to

strong support from the European Dutch voters in Republiek, Santa Barbara and Belnem. The 731 vote margin, 11% of the voters, was narrower than in the previous elections when the UPB trounced the PDB. However, in this vote the PDB slate included candidates who previously ran under the PABOSO and Labor Party banners. The PDB would have most likely still have won a seat in parliament without the other parties in alliance because 2,208 votes were needed for a seat. Nevertheless, candidates Jona Chirino Felida (former PABOSO, 247 votes) and Kabuki Frans (former Labor, 272 votes) brought in a total of 519 votes to Abraham's party. Central Government elections are sometimes used as a barometer for the Island elections at the end of the following year. □ G.D.

Bonaire Lions Club/COMCABON Youth Race Results



Lions with winning runners

Last Saturday was the Fourth Annual Bonaire Lions Club and Comcabon Race for Youngsters, from the Stadium to Karel's Beach Bar. Thanks to the fine sponsors: Ennia, MCB, Karel's Beach Bar, RBTT, SSS and the Tung Fong Store.

Results were:

- Girls - 7 to 9 years, 1.5 k
 1. Gleni Albertina 6:20
 2. Mari Glendi Albertina 6:22
- Girls - 14 to 15 years, 4 k
 - Tammy Albertsz 18:52
- Women- 16 to 24, 5 k
 - Raquelita Martijn 37:38 (overall)

- Boys, 7 to 9 years, 1.5 k
 1. Maxim Wilsoe 6:09
 2. Jason Mejia, 6:23
- Boys - 10 to 11 years, 2 k
 - Aneldys Albertina 8:23
- Boys - 12 to 13, 2 k
 1. Sharlon Sumter 8:11
 2. Juan Carlos Mejia 8:40
- Men- 16-24 years, 5 k
 - Hilal El Lazkani 19:48
- Men - 25 and above, 5 k
 1. Rik Roozenburg 16:50 (overall)
 2. Junny Anthony 21:04
 3. Leugene Crestian 23:06 □

SGB Open House



Future students and their families at SGB

The SGB high school had an open house recently for everyone, especially for the pupils of the sixth grade in the basic (elementary) school and their families. SGB students manned exhibits, giving demonstrations of the different classes.

On display were books of the different subjects which are given during the first two years of SGB. During their second year at SGB students may choose which direction they want to take in their third year. This choice also depends on the marks they get in the first two years.

The directions (courses of study) are: AGO, PBL, PKL, TKL (vocational education), HAVO and VWO

(secondary education).

After HAVO 3 the students must make a choice between three profiles: culture and society, economy and society, or nature sciences.

After TKL 2 there are three sectors to choose from: economy, care and welfare, or technique.

In AGO, PBL and PKL, the different directions are: electricity, car technique, construction, metal technique, hospitality, administration, care and welfare.

□Helen Chung/SGB

W. Groenenboom photos



In the auto shop at SGB



Members of the Student Council publish a newsletter, SGB Express, once a month.

ROSITA'S FITNESS FACTS

Stretching

If you have an active lifestyle or are involved in the health and fitness industry, whether it be participating in your favorite sport, coaching, training or just keeping fit, you know how annoying and debilitating a sports injury can be. In reality, your body has been hurt and now needs time and care to repair itself. And on top of this, you're also losing the time you could have been putting into training and improving your sporting ability. Take it from me, a sports injury is one of the most frustrating occurrences that can happen to anyone who's serious about their health, fitness, sport or exercise.

So, Where Do You Start?

Most people now understand both the importance and the benefits of a good warm-up. A correct warm-up will help to raise body temperature, increase blood flow and promote oxygen supply to the muscles. It will also help to prepare the mind, body, muscles and joints for the physical activity to come. While warming-up is important, a good cool-down also plays a vital role in helping to prevent a sports injury. How? A good cool-down will prevent blood from pooling in your limbs. It will also prevent waste products such as lactic acid from building up in your muscles. Not only that, a good cool-down will help your muscles and tendons relax and loosen, stopping them from becoming stiff and tight.

While there are a number of basic preventative measures such as warming-up and cooling-down that help prevent sports injuries, there is one technique that has slowly been gaining in popularity. You've probably used this technique yourself at some point or at least seen others using it. But the real question is, how dedicated have you been to making this technique a consistent part of your athletic preparation?

STRETCHING. Yes, stretching. The simple technique of stretching can play an important role in helping you prevent sports injury. Unfortunately, stretching is one area of athletic preparation often neglected. Do not underestimate its benefits. Don't make the mistake of thinking that something as simple as stretching won't be effective.



Fitness Instructor Rosita Paiman helps Katie Moerlein perfect the ideal stretch.

Stretching is a vital part of any exercise program and should be looked upon as being as important as any other part of your health and fitness. One of the greatest benefits of stretching is that you're able to increase the length of both your muscles and tendons. This leads to an increased range of movement, which means your limbs and joints can move further before an injury occurs. Let's take a look at an example.

The Hamstring muscles are put under a huge strain when doing any sort of sport which involves running and especially for sports which require kicking. Short, tight hamstring muscles can spell disaster for many sports people. By ensuring these muscles are loose and flexible, you'll cut your chances of a hamstring injury dramatically. Warm up prior to stretching. This is to prepare the body and mind for more strenuous activity and helps to increase the muscle temperature. By increasing muscle temperature you are helping to make the muscles loose, supple and pliable. Make sure to breathe slowly and easily while stretching. Don't hold your breath. This causes tension in your muscles, which in turn makes it very difficult to stretch. To avoid this, remember to breathe slowly and deeply during your stretching. This helps to relax your muscles, promotes blood flow and increases the delivery of oxygen and nutrients to your muscles. Stretch gently and slowly (avoid bouncing) to relax your muscles, which in turn makes stretching more pleasurable, relaxing and beneficial. This also helps to avoid muscle tears and strains that can be caused by rapid, jerky movements. And stretch only to the point of tension; don't overdo it because stretching is not an activity that was meant to be painful. This is one of the greatest mistakes you can make when stretching.

Professionals have become more serious about stretching and ultimately, flexibility. Coaches and trainers are just starting to realize how important flexible muscles are to helping prevent sports injuries. Flexibility has often been neglected in the overall conditioning of modern athletes. It's only now that its benefits are proving invaluable to all those serious about staying injury free. While injuries can occur at any time, they are more likely to occur if the muscles are fatigued, tight and depleted of energy. Fatigued, tight muscles are also less capable of performing the skills required for your particular sport or activity. Stretching can help to prevent an injury by promoting recovery and decreasing soreness. Stretching ensures that your muscles and tendons are in good working order. The more conditioned your muscles and tendons are, the better they can handle the rigors of sport and exercise, and the less likely that they'll become injured. So as you can see, there's more to stretching than most people think. Stretching is a simple and effective activity which will help you to enhance your athletic performance, decrease your likelihood of sports injury and minimize muscle soreness. So why not stretch. Till next time. □ Rosita

Owner-operator of Fit 4 Life at the Plaza Resort, Rosita Paiman, a physical fitness instructor, personal trainer and nutritionist, offers classes, a weight/exercise room and a staff to guide you in reaching your ideal physical fitness level.



Successful Lora Count

The Lora count this year was successful, says *Salba Nos Lora* (Save our Parrots Foundation) organizer Peter Montanus, but we'll have to wait until next week to find out exactly how many birds were counted. The figures from each team must be analyzed to determine whether or not certain birds were counted more than once.

Nearly 40 hardy volunteers showed up

at numerous sites around the island by 5:45 am last Saturday to be on hand as the Loras first leave their roosts. Their leaving is heralded by numerous loud squawks as the gregarious birds call to each other before taking wing. In Washington-Slagbaai Park groups from STINAPA and the Boy Scout Drum band – 25 people in all – stationed themselves in known roosting areas to await the sunrise. Outside the park about 26 volunteers were at 12 different sites.

The Bonairean Lora is a parrot species

that is found only on our island. This rare bird is threatened with extinction. The importance of an annual Lora Count is to determine how the population is faring, considering the problems of poaching and the ageing of the breeding pairs. □ L.D



Photo Herman Leeuwen

Reef Balls above ...

As a follow up to The Bonaire Reporter article of January 19th, this is a first hand account of the completion of Phase 2 of the Sand Dollar Reef Ball project.

Six years ago, after Hurricane Lenny, Dee Scarr and Carl Rudnick sat on the badly damaged platform at Sand Dollar and asked the question, "What can be done to rebuild this reef?" Reef Balls were being used around the world for just such a thing, and the idea of using them to enhance the beautiful Bari Reef at Sand Dollar was planted that day.

In November 2005, Jorgen Wetterings, the new Sand Dollar Condo Owners



Loading

President embraced Carl's idea and made it a reality. On Wednesday, January 25th, the big day arrived and over 40 Sand Dollar Condominium owners and guests

gathered to observe and participate in Phase 2 of the Sand Dollar Reef Ball project. A first for Bonaire, there was excitement in the air as we waited patiently for the large crane to arrive that would lower the balls into the ocean. A joint pilot project with the Bonaire Marine Park, there was much speculation and conversation about the project as the Sand Dollar owners mingled with Elsmarie Beukenboom from STINAPA, Ramon de Leon and his staff from the Bonaire National Marine Park, and Junny Janga and his Sand Dollar maintenance staff. The maintenance staff who actually fabricated the reef balls shared in the excitement of the day, and some of them assisted the Marine Park team in the placement of the balls. Many of the owners were proud sponsors of a ball and carefully inspected "their" ball to see how it would appear to the fish.

At 10 am the crane arrived,

and each ball was lifted onto a flat bed truck. Then slowly the crane and the truck drove around the buildings to the ocean in front of Bari Reef. It was a tight fit, and it looked like a scene from a monster movie as the crane slowly peeked around the end of the building.

Continued on page 9



The lift bag transported the balls from the crane

...and below



Dee Scarr photo

Din sets the ball in place

25 January, 2006, Sand Dollar Resort, Bonaire. At 10 am on Wednesday morning, 15 reef balls (RB) decorated the property at Sand Dollar. By 12:30 pm, all of the reef balls had been placed in the sea. The process was impressive in its efficiency and impressive in at least one other area: not one single individual coral animal (polyp) was killed, injured, or even threatened.

Of course, that's what we've come to expect from the Bonaire National Marine Park, and it was Park Rangers Din Domacassé and Sixto Trenidad and Manager Ramon De Leon who maneuvered each reef ball into position. Each RB was lifted into the water by crane and lowered to the bottom near the cliff. In

the water, a lift bag was used to move the RB.

The sites of each RB had been pre-selected by Sand Dollar owner Carl Rudnick, with naturalists Jerry Ligon of Bonaire Dive & Adventure, and myself. When an RB arrived at its destination, Sixto and Ramon released air from the lift bag as Din fine-tuned the landing of the RB. The low cloud of sand that appeared for a moment was all that marked the settling of the RB onto the bottom – and attracted several young wrasses and at least one goatfish, who came to explore the areas around the RBs almost immediately after they were placed.

"The reef off Sand Dollar has a terrific variety of residents," says Rudnick, "but the storm surge from Lenny reduced the habitats out there. The reef balls will provide new habitats, and we're looking

forward to seeing who moves into them."

Sand Dollar owners and guests can do more than simply look at the critters hanging around the RBs, Rudnick told me. The office at Sand Dollar has a brand-new logbook, and anyone who wants to record their observations of life around the reef balls is welcome to do so. (Be sure to date your entry and write legibly!) As time passes, these logs



Dee Scarr photo

Diver and liftbag

(Continued on page 9)



Dee Lawrence photo

A pelican's eye view of the placement

YACHTING AND WATERSPORTS PAGE

(Reef Balls, Above... Continued from page 8)

The experts from the Marine Park, led by Ramon de Leon, entered the ocean with the lift bag to prepare to receive the balls. Also in the water were Carl Rudnick, who directed the placement of the balls, Junny Janga, and Dee Scarr and Dee Lawrence who photographed the process. The crane operation was supervised by Randy Bernstein and Bob Pirolli. As the crane extended its long arm over the ocean, the balls were gently lifted from the truck into the water for placement. Each one was then lifted off the sand with the lift bag and moved to its optimal spot. All went smoothly for two hours with the exception of one ball that popped out of its hold and crashed into the sea. Still usable, it is a unique ball sitting along the others on the ocean floor. With the 16th ball placed gently on the ocean floor, the fish immediately descended on them, curious to inspect these concrete structures. There were parrotfish, small wrasses, slippery dicks, peacock flounders, banded butterfly fish "checking out" which ball might be suitable as their new home.



Reef Ball builders

Jerry Ligon, the naturalist for Bonaire Dive & Adventure, conducted surveys prior to the ball placement to provide a good baseline, and will now be periodically surveying the balls for marine acceptance.

The placement of these reef balls now provides a unique opportunity for snorkelers and divers alike to witness the marine assimilation and growth. Readers who are interested in supporting the project can buy a T-shirt at the Sand Dollar office. □ Photos by Diane Amos and Dee Lawrence, Story by Diane Amos.

Diane Amos is a new Sand Dollar Condominium owner and has been coming to Bonaire for 9 years.

(...And Below. Continued from page 8)

will be an invaluable record of this pilot project. Also, the logs can be useful when the Marine Park places their own RBs at Slagbaai.

Find out more about this project at www.sanddollarreefballs.com. □ Dee Scarr

Young Sailors Leave for Curaçao Regatta



Sailing Club off to Curacao Regatta on the Mermaid

Last Thursday Bonaire's young Optimist and Sunfish sailors set off to Curaçao Regatta with coaches and some parents on the M/V Mermaid. The regatta was held in Spanish Water. Ten kids (ages 10 to 12) sailed the Optimists; seven (ages 13 to 18)

sailed the Sunfish. Sipke Stapert, who's also been coaching the young sailors, competed in the adult class. Two of Bonaire's sailors competed in the new "Splash" category. This new class of boat is a cross between an Optimist and a Sunfish. □ L.D.

KRALENDIJK TIDES (Heights in feet, FT)

Remember: Winds and weather can further influence the local tides

DATE	TIME	HEIGHT	COEF
2-03	6:29	1.6FT.	81
	13:51	1.2FT.	
	17:58	1.3FT.	
	23:37	1.1FT.	
2-04	7:15	1.8FT.	69
	15:26	1.0FT.	
	20:22	1.2FT.	
	22:34	1.2FT.	
2-05	7:57	1.9FT.	57
	16:28	0.9FT.	
2-06	8:35	2.0FT.	50
	17:28	0.8FT.	
2-07	9:18	2.0FT.	48
	18:15	0.7FT.	
2-08	9:55	2.1FT.	52
	18:57	0.7FT.	
2-09	10:29	2.1FT.	59
	19:43	0.7FT.	

VESSELS MAKING A PORT CALL:

Alter Ego	Golden Eye	Samba
Angie	Goril Two	Santa Maria
Attitude	Guaicamar I, Ven.	Sandpiper, USA
Augustin	Harmony	Scintella
	Honalee USA	Sirius
Blue Moon	Il Songo	Siorse
Bright Sea	Isigare	Summer Breeze
		Spart I Vento
Camissa, Chan Is.	Manta Blue Water Rally	Stella
Casa del Mar	Maggi	Sylvia K
Cape Kathryn		
Chaina Doll	Natural Selection	
Churumrel	Ocean Breeze	Ta B
	Okeanis	Ti Amo
Delphinus	Okura	Udidi
Destiny	Onyva	Ulu Ulu, USA
	Orino	Unicom, Norway
Eagle's Wing		
Endorphin	Pela	Valhalla
	Pishi Porko	Valtair
Flying Cloud, USA	Pythial	Varedhuni, Ger.
Freestyle		a-T, BVI
Galandriel	Revlou	Yanti Paratzi

The Walk-a-Thon is Sunday!



All ages take part in the Walk-a-thon

It's your last chance to get tickets to join the Walk-a-Thon on Sunday, February 5, to benefit Bonaire's Special Olympics Team. For the last three years this event has been the major fundraising event on the island, and this year it can be even bigger. Everyone on the island is invited to walk, bike or even roller blade. **Or...you can just buy a ticket (NAf25) and cheer everyone on or sponsor a participant.** The more the merrier. The 30-kilometer route is that which the slaves took, from the salt pans to Rincon.

Meet at 5 am at the Slave Huts. You may leave your car at the Stadium in Playa and catch the FKPD bus at 4:30 am sharp which takes you to the start at the Slave Huts. All along the route, every 5 km, there will be a refreshment stop where you can get water, sports drinks, *pan dushi*, and fruit to keep you

going. There will be cars patrolling the route to pick up the tired, and the Red Cross will be there too to give aid if necessary. You may get a ride back to the Stadium from the Pasa Dia, the end of the route. And bikes will be transported back too.

But you have just until this Saturday (February 4) to get your ticket from one



The 2005 walkers from Aruba

YOU CAN HELP BUY A TICKET WHETHER YOU WALK OR NOT

of the board members (see box), at Croccantino Restaurant, TCB or Chat n' Browse (next to Lover's Ice Cream).

Not only will you know that you're giving to a good cause but you'll receive a goody bag with a t-shirt, cap, water bottle, and a hot meal at the end. Present your ticket and pick up your goody bag at City Café/Hotel Rocheline lobby on

Friday, February 3, from 4 to 7 pm, and on Saturday February 5, from 10 am to 4 pm.

This year the Special Olympics committee will also be selling stickers for NAf2 and handy Fanny Packs for NAf15. □ L.D.

Can't Do the Route? Still Want to Help?

With a donation of NAf25 or more to the Special Olympics Walk-a-Thon you can receive a copy of Co deKoning's book about islands, "*Samosir*." Author deKoning ("Islander") donated 100 copies of the book to Special Olympics. Get them at Croccantino Restaurant or Little Havana (during their opening hours).

Or you may donate by sending an email to specialolympics@bonairenews.com. A copy of the book will be mailed to you. The 75 copies will be available straightaway to the first comers; the remaining 25 will be assigned by lottery should there be more than 100 requests.



Get Your Tickets from: Board Members

National Director - Roosje v.d.Hoek

President - Lupe Uranie

Treasurer/Secty - Claire Sealy

Director, Special Events - Onnie Emerenciana

Head of Coaches - Chio Semeleer

Public Relations - Rooje v.d. Hoek
Board Members: Michael Gaynor, Aura Kock, Brenda Tjie Tjoe



Everyone's getting into the Walk-a-Thon spirit. Last week some of the sponsors along with the Walk-a-Thon organizers got together for a press conference and photo session at Capt. Don's Habitat.

Some Recommendations from the Pros who've done it!

Don't wear new shoes. Make sure yours are broken in already. Wear shoes that are a half to a full size larger than you normally wear.

Put baby powder on your feet. Then put Vaseline on your toes where you might have chafing. Bring along flip flops to change into if you can't wear your shoes.

If it's raining: (1) put plastic bags over your shoes and tie at the ankle, and (2) bring along another t-shirt to change into if you get chilled.



Stations along the way will be manned by:

Kitty (Carib Inn), Norka Loft, Iris Jesurun, Guus Gerritsen, Bud Pearson (Sand Dollar Grocery), Karen Chalk & crew (Habitat), Dorothy & Ian (Hilltop) and the Bonaire Motorcycle Club (Karpata)



Generous Sponsors 2006:

Title Sponsor - Maduro & Curiels Bank Bonaire

Also Benetton, *The Bonaire Reporter*, Bonaire Warehouse, BONHATA, Capt. Don's Habitat, Chat 'n Browse, Chez Nous, Co de Konig, Croccantino Restaurant, Dutch Antilles Express, Extra, FKPD, Flamingo Communications, Goddard Catering Bonaire, Party & Zo, ReMax, TCB, Xerox. □

Brigitte Kley Exhibit Opens at Cinnamon



A new and unique type of exhibit will soon premiere at the Cinnamon Art Gallery. Starting on Saturday, February 11, Brigitte Kley will bring her exciting collection of found driftwood art and brightly colored fabric paintings to the gallery. The exhibit premiere, which is open to the public, will take place from 7pm to 9pm on February 11th and light beverages will be served. This exhibition continues through March 23.

Brigitte was born in Berlin, Germany, in 1946, and her career as a tri-lingual secretary allowed her to work in France, Belgium, The Netherlands and Bavaria. Additionally, it offered her the opportunity to visit a wide variety of towns in different countries throughout Europe, allowing Brigitte to study the handicrafts of many different regions. This expertise with many mediums is now reflected in her current works.

Brigitte relocated to Bonaire in 1988. While in Europe, one of her favorite hobbies was knitting, but she found that in the

warm climate of her newly adopted home, knitted articles of clothing were not needed, so Brigitte began a quest for a new handicraft hobby.

Initially, Brigitte worked totally in driftwood and was pleased to see that a good supply was readily available around the island. However, she soon realized that her new passion would encompass sewing, and so her fabric art was born. The brightly colored wall decorations are reminiscent of prized quilts and will surely add to the décor of any room. Each one is unique and have themes which remind one of shared moments on Bonaire.....diving, snorkeling, sailing, or one of many other Bonaire snapshots which are kept in our memories. Currently, Brigitte decorates the vacation lodgings of Coco Palm Garden with her own wall hangers. Coco Palm Garden is a small, intimate inn in Belnem owned by Brigitte with Richard Dove.

Cinnamon Art Gallery is managed by Bonaire Artists' Foundation, a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the work of local artists in a permanent gallery setting. The Gallery does not accept any payment for the work of its featured artists -- when guests purchase Gallery art, 100% of the monies received flow back directly to the artist. Private donations provide all of the funding for exhibits and the on-going cost of maintaining the Gallery. 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. □ Susan Davis



Brigitte Kley

Ask the Dietitian Vitamin and Mineral Test



Getting Enough Vitamins and Minerals?

Take this test and you will soon know.. If your answer to each category is "seldom," give yourself 0 points.

I eat at least 3 serving spoons of vegetables (± 150 grams)...

6-7 days a week	10 points
5 days a week	7 points
maximum 4 days a week	3 points

I eat at least 2 fruits (apple sized)...

6-7 days a week	10 points
5 days a week	7 points
maximum 4 days a week	3 points

I eat 5 (thinly sliced) slices of whole wheat bread...

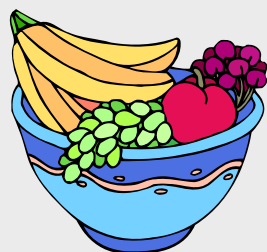
6-7 days a week	10 points
5 days a week	7 points
maximum 4 days in a week	3 points

I eat at least 3 or more small (egg sized) cooked potatoes or 3 serving spoons (50 grams each) of rice...

6-7 days a week	10 points
5 days a week	7 points
maximum 4 days a week	3 points

I eat 1 portion (± 75gram) meat, fish, chicken, meat substitutes...

6-7 days a week	10 points
5 days a week	7 points
maximum 4 days in a week	3 points



I use 3-4 portions of dairy products (1 portion= 1 glass of milk (150 ml) or 1 bowl of yogurt or 1 slice of cheese)...

6-7 days a week	10 points
5 days a week	7 points
maximum 4 days in a week	3 points

I use margarine or reduced fat margarine on bread or for cooking....

6-7 days a week	10 points
5 days a week	7 points
maximum 4 days a week	3 points

Your score:

Add all the points of your answers to get your score. No matter what your score, it's important to know that if you are preparing to be pregnant, pregnant or breastfeeding you need more vitamins (folic acid and Vitamin D). Women older than 50 years or men older than 60 also need more Vitamin D.

If you have a score of 64-70 points:

You are getting enough vitamins and minerals. You are eating enough of the different food groups from the food guide pyramid. It is important to eat a variety in each food group.

If you have a score of 49-63 points:

You are probably getting a poor amount of vitamins and minerals. Maybe you are not eating enough of the recommended amounts of some food group. Review the questions again and see where you scored low and work on that. For instance if your score on the first question was low you know you need to eat more vegetables.

Less than 49 points:

Your vitamin and mineral intake is poor. You do not eat a great variety of food. Take a good look at your eating pattern and compare this with the food pyramid guide.

Angelique Salsbach

Angelique 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 dietitan@bonairenews.com or call her at the Dept. of Health Care 717-3737



Bonaire Reporter Classifieds— They are still free 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. 8000m² 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

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

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MOVING INTO A NEW HOUSE?

Make it more livable from the start.

FENG SHUI CONSULTATIONS

Also interior or exterior design advice, clearings, blessings, energy, healing, China-trained. Experienced. Inexpensive. Call Donna at 785-9332.

For Sale

1990 ISUZU TROOPER 5 DOOR AUTO Many new parts including, battery, tires, shocks, service etc. Drives very well, genuine reason for sale NAf5250; Tel: 786-8648

SCUBAPRO Twin Jet fins extra large, used once. Listed at \$179-; Sacrifice \$90- "or best offer"

Leave message for B. Olla at 717-8738 for call back.....

For Sale- 21" TV/VCR Quasar, TV works great, but not VCR. Call for more info. 100 naf 717-6862

For Sale: Ultra Classic Yoga Mats. Color: Black Price: NAf60. Call 786-6416

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

Wanted

The Bonaire Reporter is still looking 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

20-year old Belgian student looking for a job to live and work on Bonaire for about a year, or maybe longer. Preferably in the hospitality sector because I already have experience in that sector. dominickgeent-jens@hotmail.com (0032)(3) 322-7636.

Property

For Sale : **Washikemba Kunuku land** 2009 M² Private property incl. building permission Tel.: 717 2023 Cell :785 0918

For Sale: **Modern house Santa Barbara** Visit : www.posada-bonaire.com Tel.: 717 2023 Cell : 785 0918

Boats for Sale

For Sale - Cabo Rico 38 Yacht 1989, Excellent offshore cruiser. One-owner, little used, only 800 engine hours, many



sails, many spares, new s-s rigging. Includes Avon R2.8 inflatable and Nissan outboard. Luxurious interior. Bristol condition. Hauled out on Bonaire \$109,000. Phone/fax (599) 717-5038. Email to icarus@flamingotv.net

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.

UniCollege

Kaya Amsterdam #3 (behind Trans World Radio Activity Center)
Applications Open for 1st and 2nd grades: 2006-2007

- Development through self initiative
- Education through motivation
- Personalized coaching
- Safe learning environment
- School schedule: 7:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m. and 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.
- Classes held in spite of an eventual teacher absence
- No homework
- Computer supported education
- Dutch diploma

PARENTS: Information Evening on Wednesday, February 8, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.
STUDENTS: Come and see our innovative learning system on Saturday, February 11, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Verhoeven Opens at Kas di Arte

The new Kas di Arte, on the grounds of the old Artebon, will have its festive grand opening this Sunday, February 5, from 5 to 8 pm, in the newly renovated light blue building on the boulevard, Kaya J.N.E. Craane #34. The first exhibitor will be well-known, part time resident artist, Ronald Verhoeven. To celebrate there will be drinks, snacks, live music by the venerable members of Flor di Orkadia. Governor Hubert Domacassé and his wife Lena will open the exhibit.

Kas di Arte Board members will be manning stands selling Verhoeven's beautiful new book in color of his paintings from the last 10 years (in English and Dutch), activity calendars and agendas, mugs and silk screens with Verhoeven art, and the new Papiamentu phrase book by Terri Dovale, Barbara Lockwood and Geraldine Dammers.

Along with Verhoeven there will be an exhibition of photographs by Jan Willem Gramsma, the proceeds of which will go entirely to the foundation.

The Artist

Ronald Verhoeven has been a part time resident of Bonaire since 1988 and his paintings in this exhibit particularly reflect the influence of the island, its culture, colors and light. The exhibit is made up of 18 very large, very colorful pieces.

Born in East Java, Indonesia in 1937 Verhoeven moved to Holland with his parents in 1951 and graduated from the Academy of Visual Arts in Rotterdam in 1959. Until 1995 he was in advertising and an art director, having established his own advertising agency. In 1980 he began painting, then in 1995 he retired and handed over his agency to his son so that he could dedicate himself completely to visual arts. He has an atelier in Belgium and in Bonaire, and, for many years, until recently, one in France. He's had exhi-



bitions in the Netherlands, France, Belgium, and Curaçao. This is his third in Bonaire.

Art critic Anna van der Burgt says, "... his paintings show, like his personality, glitter and glamour one time and hesitance and silence the next. His pictorial language can be unruly and hard, but also searching and modest. In his studio a fierce battle goes on between the painter and his materials. Verhoeven usually paints two to four canvases at the

About Kas di Arte

The board of Kas di Arte, Artistic and Cultural Formation, replaced that of Artebon on November 1, 2005. The new board is: President- Jackie Bernabela; Secretary- Henny Verhoeven; Treasurer- Ilvio Cicilia; Board members- Wilna Groenenboom and Manuela Winklaar. The objective of the foundation is to strive to be a place of true art and culture in Bonaire in the widest sense of the word and particularly with the youth in mind. So they are joined by the foundations of JePeBon (youth theatre) and BONAI (youth archeology program).

"The first action of the new governing board," says President Jackie Bernabela, "is to try to bring in 'enthusiastic' funds and people to join and make a commitment to the foundation. Money is always the bottleneck; we already have the enthusiasm!" All the board members are volunteers at this time. However, the Verhoevens (artist Ronald and his wife Henny) have been funding and putting in a lot of manual labor themselves to restore the building and surrounding areas. Criollo Paint has helped with the paint and they have one helper.

"We have lots of potential," says President Jackie Bernabela. "We can have performances outside the building; we can have slide shows (like those at the hotels). We want to promote literature, theatre, art, music, dance – and in a more welcoming atmosphere." Artists are welcome to display their works and have shows. The foundation takes no percentage of the artists' sales but will ask a small rental charge for the building. For more information call Jackie Bernabela at 786-6333. □ L.D.



Henny and Ronald Verhoeven with Jackie Bernabela

same time."

We are delighted to see in this exhibit so many familiar Bonaire themes – but with a new way of depicting them. You find yourself drawn into another world, familiar and yet not so. It's mysterious and exciting. And the colors are magnificent.

Treat yourself to a rich visual experi-

ence and stop by the Kas di Arte. The show will continue until March 5. Hours are Monday through Friday, 10 am to noon, 2 to 5 pm during the exhibition. □ L.D.

Exhibition

Ronald Verhoeven

Join us February 5th
5 - 8 pm for the
official opening

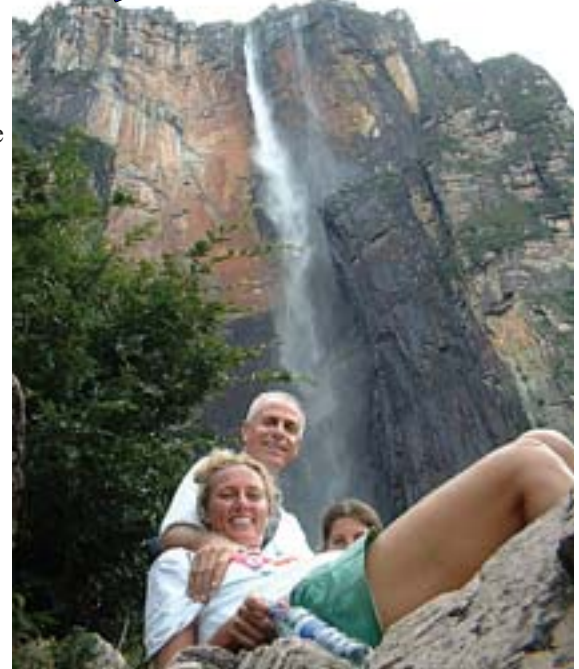
kas di arte

ARTISTIC AND CULTURAL FORMATION
KAYA J.N.E. CRAANE 34 (Boulevard)
BONAIRE N.A.

Kas di Arte open
Monday - Friday 10am - noon & 2pm - 5pm during the exhibition

Picture Yourself In The Reporter Angel Falls, Venezuela

This time Yaser, Marion and Vera Ghazzouli from Hairstudio de Kapper took their copy of *The Reporter* to visit the world's highest waterfall. Angel Falls has a total height of 979 meters (3,230 ft.). The waterfall has become Venezuela's number one promotional landmark. It's a three-day trip: fly into Canaima, then by boat (canoe) to the falls, sleeping at night in hammocks in front of the Falls. It's so beautiful there and so close to Bonaire. □



WIN GREAT PRIZES! Take a copy of *The Bonaire Reporter* with you on your next trip or when you return to your home. Then take a photo of yourself with the newspaper in hand. **THE BEST PHOTOS OF THE YEAR WILL WIN THE PRIZES.** Mail photos to Bonaire Reporter, Kaya Gob. Debrot 200-6, Bonaire, Netherlands Antilles (AN). E-mail to: picture@bonairereporter.com. (All 2006 photos are eligible.) □



WHERE TO FIND THE REPORTER

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



Car Rental Agencies: at the Airport

Banks:
MCB (Playa & Hato branches),
RBTT

Restaurants:
Bistro de Paris
Capriccio
City Cafe
Croccantino
Lost Penguin
Lover's Ice Cream
Pasa Bon Pizza

Dive Shops:
Yellow Submarine
WannaDive

Shops:
Benetton
Bonaire Gift Shop
Cinnamon Art Gallery
DeFreewieler
Exito Bakery
INPO
Paradise Photo

Photo Tours, Playa
Plantation Furniture

Hotels:
Buddy Dive
Capt. Don's Habitat
Carib Inn
Caribbean Club Bonaire
Caribbean Court
Divi Flamingo
Eden Beach Hotel
Golden Reef
The Great Escape
Plaza Resort
Sand Dollar Resort

Supermarkets:
Bo Toko, North Salina
Cultimara
Montecatini
Progresso
Sand Dollar Grocery
Tropical Flamingo
Warehouse

Government:
Bestuurscollege
Customs
Parliament Office
BVO

Others:
Bonfysio
Botika Korona
Caribbean Laundry
Fit 4 Life, Plaza
Hair Affair
Harbour Village Marina
Rocargo
San Francisco Hospital
TCB
Telbo

Bookstores:
Bonaire Boekhandel,
Flamingo Bookstore

Realty Offices:
Harbourtown
Re/Max
Sunbelt

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

02/06

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Who's Who on The Bonaire Reporter

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WHAT'S HAPPENING

MOVIELAND

WEEKLY MOVIE SHOWTIMES

Late Show
Call to make sure (Usually 9 pm)

Casanova
(Heath Ledger)

Early Show (Usually 7 pm)

King Kong

Kaya Prinses Marie
Behind Exito Bakery
Tel. 717-2400

Tickets - NAf14 (incl. Tax)
NEW FILMS BEGIN FRIDAY
CLOSED MONDAY TUESDAY
AND WEDNESDAY

SATURDAY 4 PM
Zathura / Cheaper By
The Dozen 2

THIS WEEK

Saturday, February 4—Big Rincon Marshe—stands selling gifts, plants, local fruits & drinks, BBQ, music, guest speakers at 10am—in the center of Rincon- 6 am until 2 pm.

Sunday, February 5 – Special Olympics Walk-a-Thon. See page 10.

Sunday, February 5 - Opening of the Kas di Arte – Artist Ronald Verhoeven, 5 – 8 pm, Artistic and Cultural Formation, Kaya J.N.E. Craane 34 (boulevard). Hours during the exhibition: Monday-Friday 10 am to noon, 2 to 5 pm. See page 13.

Sunday, February 5 - Bonairean Night Buffet with typical Bonairean dishes, live kriollo music and folkloric dance performances at the Divi Flamingo Beach Resort & Casino- 6-9 pm NAf35. Kids up to 12 years, pay their age in dollars. Reservations 717- 8285, ext. 444

Wednesday, February 8 - UniCollege Parents Information Meeting for parents of prospective new students. 7 –8:30 pm, Kaya Amsterdam #3, behind TWR activity Center.

Through February 9 - Catherine Salisbury's underwater photo exhibit, "Magical Encounters" at Cinnamon Art Gallery, Kaya A.P.L. Brion #1.

Arts and Crafts Markets at Wilhelmina Park on Cruise Ship visiting days, starting around 10 am to early afternoon. See Schedule above.

COMING UP

Saturday, February 11 - UniCollege open to students -to see the innovative learning system, 10 am to noon. Address –see above.

Saturday, February 11 – Live music by the "Flamingo Rockers," Coco's Beach Bar 7-9 pm

Saturday, February 11 - Brigitte Kley Exhibit Opening at Cinnamon Art Gallery; brightly colored fabric paintings and found wood art, 7-9 pm. See page 11. Exhibit runs through March 23.

Sunday, February 12 – Jazz Brunch at Den Laman

Tuesday, February 14-Jazz Event at Croccantino –more info next week

Tuesday, February 14 - Valentine's Day FKPD Fundraiser Fiesta at the Lighthouse at Harbour Village. All inclusive, food, drinks, entertainment, music, more, 7 pm - midnight

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/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, Thursday, Friday Divi Flamingo, Balashi Beach Bar – Live music by the "Flamingo Rockers" 5-7pm

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, and search for "Gibi."

Wednesday Divi Flamingo, Balashi Beach Bar – Live music by the "Flamingo Rockers" 5-6:30 pm

Wednesday The Windsurf Place at Sorobon – Live music by the "Flamingo Rockers" 7:30 to 9:30 pm

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday Divi Flamingo, Balashi Beach Bar – Live music by the "Flamingo Rockers" 5-7pm

Friday-Swim lessons for children by Enith Brighitha, a Dutch Olympian, at Sorobon from 1330 to 1630

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

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

Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday -Yoga Classes— Tel. 786-6416

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.

Daily - 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, 8:30 pm Call 717-8290 for info

Wednesday (2nd and 4th) 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

Kas Kriyo Rincon—Step into Bonaire's past in this venerable old home that has been restored and furnished so it appears the family has just stepped out. Local ladies will tell you the story. Open Monday thru Friday, 9–12, 2-4. Weekends by appointment. Call 717-2445.

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

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.

CLUBS and MEETINGS

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

Al-Anon meetings - every Monday evening at 7

February 2006 Cruise Ship Schedule

Date	Ship	PAX	Arrive	Depart	Pier
07 FEB TUE	SEA PRINCESS	1950	12:00	19:00	SOUTH
07 FEB TUE	AIDA VITA	1260	13:00	20:00	NORTH
14 FEB TUE	RIJNDAM	1258	09:00	18:00	SOUTH
20 FEB MON	SEA PRINCESS	1950	12:00	19:00	SOUTH
21 FEB TUE	AIDA VITA	1260	13:00	20:00	SOUTH
27 FEB MON	ARCADIA	1550	08:00	18:00	SOUTH
28 FEB TUE	RIJNDAM	1258	09:00	18:00	SOUTH

Karnaval 2006 Schedule:

- Feb 4 - Carnival--Tumba Festival
- Feb 17 - Carnival--Youth Parade Rincon
- Feb 18 - Carnival--Youth Parade Playa (Kralendijk)
- Feb 25 - Carnival--Adult Parade Rincon
- Feb 26 - Carnival--Adult Parade Playa (Kralendijk)
- Feb 27 - Carnival--Farewell Youth Parade
- Feb 28 - Carnival--Farewell Adult Parade
- TBA - 5km Run, 8:00 am, Sponsor: PA & Associates

Pets of the Week

The mom in the photo, "Natasha," wandered into someone's yard, obviously pregnant. The people brought her into the Shelter on a Saturday. She didn't waste any time giving birth and by the time one of the staff came into the Shelter on Sunday Natasha was a mom! She has two very beautiful female kittens, both calicos and both with blue eyes (at the moment). Natasha is shown here, relaxing with an expression of contentment with a job well done. But as soon as the kittens are weaned she will be sterilized and enjoy a life without worrying about becoming pregnant again. And, as part of the adoption "package," the kittens will be sterilized when they are old enough. Of course, all the testing for feline leukemia, shots, worming, etc. are also included in the cat adoption fee of NAf75.



"Natasha" and kittens

Stop by the Bonaire Animal Shelter where all the pets are the friendliest, most social and healthy on the island. It's on Lagoen Road, open Monday through Friday, 10 am to 2 pm, Saturdays until 1. Tel. 717-4989. □ L.D.

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 2nd and 4th 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

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Bonaire Arts & Crafts (Fundashon Arte Industrial Bonaireano) 717-5246 or 7117

The Bonaire Swim Club- Contact Valarie Stimpson at 785-3451;

Valrie@telbonet.an

Cinnamon Art Gallery - Volunteers to help staff gallery. 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

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
Tel/Fax. 717-8988, Cel. 786-6518

DINING GUIDE

See advertisements in this issue

RESTAURANT	PRICE RANGE / WHEN OPEN	FEATURES
Bella Vista Restaurant Sea Side Restaurant at Buddy Dive Resort 717-5080, ext. 538	Moderate. Breakfast and Lunch Dinner during Theme nights only. Open every day	Magnificent Theme Nights: Saturday: Beach Grill; Monday: Caribbean Night; Friday: Manager's Rum Punch Party and All-You-Can-Eat B.B.Q
Bistro de Paris Kaya Gob. N. Debrot 46 (half-way between hotel row and town) 717-7070	Moderate Lunch and Dinner Closed Sunday	Real French Cooking in an informal setting Superb dishes prepared with care and love by a French chef Owner-operated Eat in or Take away
Cactus Blue Blvd. J. A. Abraham 16 (half-way between town and Divi Flamingo) 717-4564	Moderate Dinner Closed Sunday	Trend setting décor and menu Bonaire's newest hot-spot to eat and drink Owner-operated for top service
Calabas Restaurant & Chibi Chibi Restaurant and Bar At the Divi Flamingo Beach Resort. Waterfront 717-8285	Moderate-Expensive Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner Open 7 days	Get a view of the beach and turquoise sea while enjoying a breakfast buffet or à la carte lunch and dinner at the 'Chibi Chibi' restaurant & bar. Inspiring vistas and the highest standard of cuisine.
Croccantino Italian Restaurant Downtown at Kaya Grandi 48 717-5025	Moderate-Expensive Dinner Closed Monday	Bonaire's Most Romantic Restaurant where dining is a delight! 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.
The Great Escape EEG Blvd #97—across from Belmar 717-7488	Moderate Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner Breakfast every day; Lunch, Dinner Tues-Sun.	Bar-Restaurant poolside—under the thatched roof. Cuban cuisine. New kitchen. New cook Happy hours 5 to 7 every day.
The Last Bite Bakery Home Delivery or Take Out 717-3293	Low-Moderate Orders taken 8 am-4 pm; Deliveries 6-7:30 pm, Closed Sunday	Enjoy a delicious dessert or savory baked meal in the comfort of your home or resort. This unique bakery offers gourmet class items -always from scratch- for take out or delivery only.
The Lost Penguin Across from MCB Bank in downtown Kralendijk Call 717-8003.	Low-Moderate Breakfast, Lunch, Early Dinner until 6 pm Closed Tuesdays & Wednesdays	Watch the bustle of downtown from this street side Caribbean-style bistro owned and run by a European educated Master Chef and his wife.
Pasa Bon Pizza On Kaya Gob. Debrot ½ mile north of town center. 780-1111	Low-Moderate Open from 5-11 pm Wednesday-Sunday	Bonaire's best. The Real Thing! Freshly prepared pizzas made with the finest ingredients. Salads, desserts. Eat in or take away. Nice bar too. Call ahead to eat-in or take out 790-1111

SHOPPING GUIDE

See advertisements in this issue



<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>BEAUTY PARLOR Hair Affair. Expert hair cutting, styling, facials, waxing and professional nail care.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION APA Construction are professional General Contractors. They also specialize in creating patios and walkways with fabulous sprayed and stamped concrete pavement.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>WannaDive - They make diving fun while maintaining the highest professional standards. In town at City Café and at Eden Beach.</p> <p>EXTERMINATOR Professional Pest Control is at your service. Get rid of all the pests that invade your home and garden. Experienced and reliable.</p> <p>FITNESS Bonfysio offers comprehensive fitness programs to suit your needs whether they be weight loss, sports or just keeping in shape. Convenient schedule.</p> <p>Fit For Life at the Plaza Resort Mall. Classes in Pilates, Aerobics, TaeBo and more. Professional trainers, fitness machines and classes for all levels.</p> <p>FURNITURE The Plantation Has lots of classy furniture and antiques at very competitive prices. Stop in to see great teak furniture and Indonesian crafts.</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>GIFTS, SOUVENIRS AND LIQUOR The Bonaire Gift Shop has an wide selection of gifts, souvenirs, liquor, dive watches, digital cameras, things for the home, T-shirts all at low prices.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>The Great Escape Under new management. Quiet and tranquil setting with pool and luxuriant garden in Belnem. Cyber Café, DVD rentals, restaurant and bar.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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</p> <p>PHOTO FINISHING Paradise Photo in the Galeries Shopping Center offers fast, fine processing for prints, slides, items and services . Now-full digital services.</p> <p>REAL ESTATE / RENTAL AGENTS Harbourtown Real Estate is Bonaire's oldest real estate agent. They specialize in professional customer services and top notch properties.</p> <p>Re/Max Paradise Homes: Lots of Choices—International/US connections. 5% of profits donated to local community. List your house with them for sale.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>REPAIRS Bon Handyman is here if you need something fixed or built. Ultra reliable, honest and experienced. Electrical, plumbing, woodworking, etc. 717-2345</p>	<p>RESORTS & ACTIVITIES Buddy Dive Resort offers diving, Adventure Fun tours including kayaking, mountain biking, cave snorkeling and exploration.</p> <p>RETAIL Benetton, world famous designer clothes available now in Bonaire at prices less than those in US. For men, women and children.</p> <p>SECURITY Special Security Services will provide that extra measure of protection when you need it. Always reliable.</p> <p>SHIPPING Rocargo Freight Air and sea shipments in/out of Bonaire. Customs agents. Professional and efficient. FedEx agent.</p> <p>SUPERMARKETS Visit Warehouse Bonaire to shop in a large, spotless supermarket. You'll find American and European brand products. THE market for provisioning.</p> <p>VACATION CLUB Lower the cost of vacationing in Bonaire and other places. Visit Perfect Holiday Solutions to discover how you can get discounts and more.</p> <p>WATER TAXI Get to Klein Bonaire by Ferry. Ride the <i>Kantika di Amor</i> or <i>Skiffy</i>. Hotel pickup.</p> <p>WINDSURFING The Bonaire Windsurfing Place 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>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.</p> <p>YOGA Yoga For You. Join certified instructors Desirée and Don for a workout that will refresh mind and body. Private lessons too.</p> <p>ATTENTION BUSINESSMEN/WOMEN: Put your ad in The Bonaire Reporter. Phone/Fax 717-8988, Cel 786-6518</p>
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Kenneth Kross

“I had a wonderful childhood, not that there weren’t any problems, but the overall feeling I have of those days is one of happiness. I was raised with a lot of love from my parents and also from my grandmother. They were the three most important people in my life.

I was born in Paramaribo, Surinam, in 1963. I have one sister. My father was the principal of a school and my mom was a teacher. When I was 13 I decided I’d become a Spanish teacher. At teacher’s college I studied Spanish and English. After I got my bachelor’s degree I started working at high school while studying for my master’s. I was 19 years old; I had one student who was older than I, and he told me: ‘I won’t call you Sir!’

The days were tense. In 1980 we had the coup and in 1982, when I graduated, we were in the middle of the military regime. In December that year 15 opponents of the military regime were executed in cold blood. Being a young man, it had a big impact on me and the way I thought my life was going to be. You dream of building a future in your country and all of a sudden everything falls apart. Your mind is full of doubts because you love your country, and I do love Surinam tremendously, but still you think about leaving. But I stayed - also when the civil war broke out in 1986. Then the country had to deal with an economic crisis: devaluation of the money and poverty. Salaries were completely down and dreams got lost. But by staying all through those difficult times, I became the person I am now. I learned that happiness doesn’t depend on money or political circumstances. I learned to live with what I had and I went on with my study. I worked very hard all those years.

But I also enjoyed life. I love music, every type of music, but especially salsa, modern jazz and American gospel. I also did karate for years and became a second dan, black belt. When I was 20 I had a girlfriend and together we had a son, Mark, who’s now 21, and a daughter, Kimberly, who’s 13. They’re living in Holland with their mom because after 14 years the relationship ended without any conflicts. I’d known Joan, my present wife, for years. We’d been working together at school; we were colleagues and good friends; and then we started living together. She also had two children from a previous marriage, a son, Natanael, who’s 15 and living in Surinam with his father, and a daughter, Sharella, 13, living with us here on Bonaire. In the beginning we lived together with our four children in Surinam, but after two years the

mother of my children wanted them to live with her in Holland and I decided to let them go. Joan and I stayed for another year in Surinam.

During my years in Surinam I worked as a teacher in all the districts around the country, and it’s a big country, about four times the size of Holland. I also worked as a school principal and as a school inspector. Then I was offered a job in industry as personnel manager. It was an excellent job in those days in Surinam (the economy was doing a bit better), but I became a workaholic. Not only was I the personnel manager, I was also head of security for the same company, working at night as well. Health wise I wasn’t doing so well, and when I got sick with an infection and had to be hospitalized for a week I started thinking. I love children and my two children had left for Holland. With this job it was going to be very difficult to see them as often as I wanted to because I had only two weeks vacation a year, and also I wanted to spend more time with my family at home. And so the desire grew to change our life and to see if there would be possibilities elsewhere.

“...15 opponents of the military regime were executed in cold blood. Being a young man, it had a big impact on me and the way I thought my life was going to be. You dream of building a future in your country and all of a sudden everything falls apart.”

I always loved the Dutch Antilles. At school they said that in the Kingdom the Dutch Antilles and Surinam were like brothers, like family. I’d been on vacation to Curaçao in 1988 and had immediately fallen in love with the island. In 1990 I spend three months on Aruba; it was a nice experience. I didn’t think about Bonaire, maybe because it’s not so well known. So, when Joan and I were about to change our life we got a phone call from a friend who told us they were looking for a Spanish teacher at SGB high school on Bonaire. I applied and was hired immediately.

Although I wanted to go it was a difficult decision! I had a lot of security, benefits and privileges in my job. They even offered to double my salary, but because I’d learned that my happiness in life doesn’t depend on money I could make the decision to leave the company and free myself. Freedom is more pre-



Kenneth Kross and family

cious than a good position, money or privileges. All the decisions I’ve made in my life I’ve put in God’s hands and I’ve never had any regrets.”

Kenneth Kross is a gentle person. He has patience and understanding and he’s flexible. He’s someone who knows himself quite well and who is well balanced. “When I arrived on Bonaire I thought it was small, but not smaller than Aruba. I thought it was quiet, but I could use the silence because I’d been working so hard to keep things going properly for the company I’d worked for. But I thought Bonaire was a beautiful island and I still think so. The people made me feel at home. When Joan arrived two months later she really enjoyed it, especially the sea. Both of us love to swim! Joan also went to work at SGB as a teacher in economics and administration.

At the moment I work seven days a week. I’m personnel manager at SGB; I’m studying theology at the University of Kampen, Holland, through the Internet; and I’m also the assistant minister at the Protestant Church on Wilhelmina Plein.

In Surinam I went to church frequently, but in Bonaire I built up a tight and strong relationship with God. I’ve grown and become more active in church here. Domi (minister) Jan Jonkman inspired me and guided me and he involved me more and more in the church work and also trained me to become the assistant minister.

In 2003 I went to Holland for seven months to find out if I’d like to live there (I am still adventurous; we both are), but two things happened to me there. I found out that I missed my family and Joan, who is my great support, and I missed Bonaire – the climate, the beauty and the freedom - and I experienced a calling to

do spiritual work on Bonaire. I myself experienced all the good God has done for me in my life and I would like other people to experience that too. I also know what it means to live far from God because I did that too for a while. That’s why I think I can tell the difference.

Our church community is a very lively one. In Rincon we put new life into the club house for the youngsters, *Hubentut pa Kristu*, with the goal of keeping them off the streets, and we’re planning to do the same in Playa. The government has given us half of the old building that’s behind the church, and now we’re looking for funds to carry out the project. My study can still take years, but my appointment has been confirmed for this year, April 2006, when Domi Jonkman retires. He will stay on the island and support me. It’s a pity that I can’t stay at SGB, but the work would be too much, as I will not only be a minister but also a pastor and I want to do it right. But I will always contribute to the school and the children in whatever way I can.

I love Bonaire; Joan and I got married here, we’re raising our children here, because in the meantime Sharella has two more sisters: Kristel, who was born in 2002, and baby Miriam, born in 2005. We bought a house because I want to stay for a long time. Sometimes I think of going back to Surinam when I am old, but I think this is a very good place too. Look, every year thousands of people travel thousands of miles to see a beautiful place like Bonaire... and we? We live here!” □

Story and photo by Greta Kooistra



Antique Living Houses of Bonaire

Mentor (triptych)

by Wilna Groenenboom

Preserving Bonaire's Architectural Heritage



“I was born in 1952 at ‘Mentor,’ the bright orange house at the end of Kaya Korona. My parents, Cor Vis and Helana 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.”

This is how the “Born on Bonaire” article about Hubert Vis, published 7 October 2005 in *The Bonaire Reporter*, began.

Those three sentences tell a lot about a century of culture and history of the Vis family and Bonaire. Paintings show us his

grandparents Helena and Leando Nicolaas who built the house. We are talking here about the island’s first and probably the only family factory that produced bricks and tiles.

This house caught my attention some time ago. On the Kaya Korona side they lopped some trees down and made a little “greenhouse” in the shade of those trees. This cleared the view to the house and its surroundings. Everybody knows this house by its name, **Mentor**, which means “middle,” according to Toontje Vis, in the middle, between Antriol and Noor di Salina.

The family house was built in 1886. You

can (barely) see the date in the top of the white ridge-piece (photo bottom left). The walls of the main house are made of stone which was found in the surrounding area and after being built was plastered. At that time not many houses were built this way.

This house has normal shutters on most sides. The doors on the front side have green etched glass (lower photo, under painting). This gives a special relaxing atmosphere when you are in the living room. It serves as a kind of sunscreen.

In the house are a lot of beautiful, historical and cultural old items, from old cupboards to beautiful oil lamps. The one on the right has a reflector at the back to give more light in the dark. The left one gives

less light because of its very beautiful and fine decoration of flowers.

This house has the same historical and cultural quality as the Boekhoudt house shown in a previous issue, not only because of its architecture but also because of the furnishings in the house. The next two stories will tell more about the family business. □

Story & photos by Wilna Groenenboom

Wilna Groenenboom is an artist and photographer who teaches art at the SGB high school





BONAIRE SKY PARK*

*to find it, just look up

Use the Moon to Find Mars, Aldebaran and the Pleiades

Mark this coming Sunday and Monday, February 5th and 6th, as the two nights when an exquisite first quarter Moon will visit both the red planet Mars and the giant red star which marks the eye of Taurus the Bull, Aldebaran. And as a bonus we'll throw in The Pleiades, the Seven Sisters.

This Sunday evening February 5th, about one hour after sunset, face west-southwest. And if you look high above the horizon you will see an exquisite first quarter Moon. And parked right below it, much dimmer than it was a couple of months ago but still very bright, is the planet which we've been visiting for the past quarter century, rouge-gold Mars. It's still brighter than most of the stars we can see although it is only 1/6th as bright as it was when it was at its closest and brightest on October 30th. So I strongly suggest you see it now before it zooms away from us. It's pretty easy to find, especially this Sunday when you can use the Moon as a finder parked right above it.

Now if you have really good eyesight and look just up to the left of the Moon you will see the tiny cluster of stars called The Pleiades, the Seven Sisters, although the bright moonlight close by will lessen their brightness. But if you look at them through a pair of binoculars you'll be absolutely stunned. They're named for the Seven Daughters of Atlas. And according to western legend they are actually riding on the shoulder of Taurus the Bull, so Taurus has to be close by and indeed he is. If you look just to the left of The Pleiades you will see the bright red star Aldebaran, which marks Taurus' eye. Now a group of stars which form a V shape are called the Hyades and mark the face of Taurus so you can see The Pleiades are indeed riding on his shoulder. Now on Monday February 6th the Moon will be past The Pleiades and just above and to the right of Aldebaran.

And what I'd like you to do Sunday and Monday is to compare the reddish colors of Mars and Aldebaran because while they'll look quite similar in color there will be some subtle differences. See if you can detect and describe them. The other differences between them are not subtle at all, however. Mars is a 4,000-mile-wide planet in our solar system, only 100 million miles away on the 5th and 6th, while Aldebaran is a super giant red star far beyond our solar system, 400 trillion miles away! The only reason it looks about the same size and brightness as Mars is because it is so far away. In fact it is 29 million miles wide, so huge we could fit over 397 trillion Mars inside it. Think of it this way: when we look at Mars we see the light that left it about 9 minutes ago whereas when we look at Aldebaran we see the light that left it 65 years ago.

So get out this weekend and use the Moon to find the red planet Mars and the red super star Aldebaran. I guarantee you'll be impressed. □ *Jack Horkheimer*



The Pleiades



THE STARS HAVE IT

For the week: January 29 to February 4, 2006
By Astrologer Michael Thiessen

ARIES (Mar. 21- April 20) Use your quick wit to win points with friends. You'll be able to break bad habits if you put your mind to it. Try not to donate to organizations if you can hardly afford to take care of yourself. Your lack of interest in your partner is a problem. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

TAURUS (Apr. 21- May 21) Don't expect anyone else to pay your bills for you. Your ability to put things together will be appreciated by your comrades. You will have to be careful not to let infatuations with colleagues get out of hand. Over spending or unexpected bills could set you back. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21) Hide your cards and learn to say no. You haven't been watching your spending habits and you may have been neglecting your duties. You could be tempted to overspend on unnecessary items. Promotions will be yours if you have acted professionally in times of crisis. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) Not the best time for business trips. Uncertain get-rich quick schemes will not be as lucrative as you anticipate. You can meet new friends who will let you know just how valuable you are. You should not get involved in joint ventures. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

LEO (July 23-Aug 22) Emotional upset may prevail on the domestic scene if you have neglected your duties or your mate. Speak of your future goals, intentions, and commitments. You are best to get out of the house this week. You won't have to look for the action. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) You need some excitement in your life, and meeting new people in exotic destinations will certainly satisfy your desires. Think twice before you volunteer information. There might be one who is quite willing to take the credit for your work. You will have a childlike approach this week, big hearted and full of spunk. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) You may find that you can be the recipient of valuable information if you're willing to be a good listener. Your loved ones could set you off. Your lover may not understand your needs so you must figure out a way to communicate them. They will jump at the chance to do something without you if it sounds like more fun. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) Problems with in-laws may cause friction in your personal relationship. Look into intellectual and physical games that will test your abilities. A little rest will do wonders. Don't let any money slip through your fingers this week. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) Your questions will help you ferret out secret information. Deception will play an important factor in relationships. You could be cornered, so be prepared to tell the truth. You can win if you're open and up front with your boss. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) You need to do more things that you enjoy. Involvement in fitness clubs will be conducive to engaging romantic connections. Travel will be on your mind, but you should be sure that you've got all your work up-to-date. Reevaluate your situation. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) Investments concerning your residence will be profitable. You will find that unfinished projects at home will be most satisfying. Communication will be the source of your knowledge and you must be sure to spend time with those who have more experience. Your boss may be pushy. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) Someone you live with is ready to play emotional games. Situations could easily get blown out of proportion if you have made unreasonable promises. Let your lover know what your personal intentions are. You could be tempted to overspend on unnecessary items. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday. □