

IT'S
STILL
FREE

BONAIRE

July 7 to July 14, 2006 Volume 13, Issue 26

The REPORTER

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Culinary Medals
For Bonaire
Page 8



The Bonaire island presentation by Vernon Martijn



Our Team at the Awards Dinner

Flotsam and Jetsam



The process of the restructuring of the Antilles will most likely stall until a new Dutch Government takes office. In any case, even before the Dutch Government fell after a row over Immigration and Integration Minister Rita Verdonk, the Government had already made it clear that the mini-summit for which the islands Bonaire, Saba and St. Eustatius were lobbying could not take place before September.

With the fall of the Balkenende II cabinet, the outgoing Minister of Internal Affairs, Johan Remkes, is charged again with the Kingdom Relations job. He replaces Alexander Pechtold. Remkes (55) had been Minister of Internal Affairs and Kingdom Relations in the first short-lived Balkenende cabinet. He was succeeded by Thom de Graaf, who then became Minister. De Graaf resigned in March, 2005 and his fellow party-member, Alexander Pechtold, became the Minister of Government Innovation and Kingdom Relations.

The cabinet crisis in Holland is a set-

back in terms of the target date of July 1, 2007, for Bonaire's plans for closer ties with Holland and disassociation from the government in Curaçao. However, Antillean reorganization was set as a priority item by the caretaker government.

► Netherlands Antilles Justice Minister David Dick introduced **new laws that will make it harder for unskilled migrants to settle in Bonaire** and the other four Antilles islands. The Minister said only people who bring what he termed "added value" to the islands should be granted work and residence permits. The new law took effect on July 1. Minister Dick said **foreign students** who want to follow a full-time course of higher education will be **given priority** and granted a residence permit as long as they comply with all requirements, an important factor considering the growth of medical schools on the islands. He added that **immigrants with little or no education should not be allowed** in the Netherlands Antilles unless **there are construction projects** that require a workforce that is not available locally. It will now be required that immigrants stay for at least one year as a legal resident before being allowed to request a permit for family members to join them. And partners of immigrants must be married to be admitted.

International terrorism and human trafficking has been pointed to as among the reasons for the tighter immigration controls.

► **Last Sunday marked the anniversary of the first meeting of the Bonaire Island Council.** It was 55 years ago that Lt. Governor H. C. M. Krugers opened the historic session which was commemorated in the Passagran last Sunday. The Councilors present 55 years ago were: Mrs. R. M. A. Heitkönig-Rigaud, L. D. Gerharts, A. E. Booi, J.C. van de Roe, J. B. Martis and J. A. Abraham. You will recognize some of the same names in today's political landscape.

► Last month the Bonaire Island Council **unanimously approved the purchase of additional land to expand the present sanitary landfill** for the sum of NAf250.000.

► You might have noticed **large quantities of scrap metal** being loaded aboard a ship for transport off the island. Next week we will tell you more about that activity.

► Central Bank Director Emsley Tromp forecasts that the **economic growth of the Netherlands Antilles will continue in 2006** and will be higher than last year. He believes the economy is still not growing to its full potential. He attributed this to high unemployment and government deficits that include the increase of interest rates on outstanding loans. Tromp predicts an overall economic growth of 2% in 2006 and increased growth next year.

► On Friday, June 23, the Director of Nature of the Dutch Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality (LNV) and the Director of Public Health of the Netherlands Antilles signed an **agreement**

renewing the 10-year-old cooperation between the Directorate of Nature of LNV and the Department of Environment & Nature (MINA) of the directorate of Public Health.

The agreement provides a continued basis for the highly successful technical exchange and assistance between the Netherlands and the Netherlands Antilles in the area of nature conservation. During the 10-year cooperation, draft policy plans of island nature and park management and island legislation drafts were prepared. **Right now work is being done to finalize a nature ordinance for Bonaire.**

► Passengers ticketed to fly on **Caribbean Star Airlines'** new Antigua-to-Curaçao service on July 13 will be given a full refund. The carrier postponed the launch to work on achieving Category One status under the Eastern Caribbean Civil Aviation Authority.

► **The opening of the new \$42 million airport terminal in Curaçao, originally set for July 1, has been rescheduled for July 31.** Bonaire passengers will have to continue to pay \$2 to transit through that airport. The old building will be renovated at a cost of \$1 million.

► **Parliament approved the ordinance "Tax on Earnings on Savings" late last month.** The law states that **non-residents who have savings deposited in bank accounts in the Netherlands Antilles will have to pay tax on the interest** earned on these savings. This tax varies from 15% to 30% depending in which European country the person lives.

Flotsam and Jetsam continued on pages 3 & 6

BONAIRE The REPORTER

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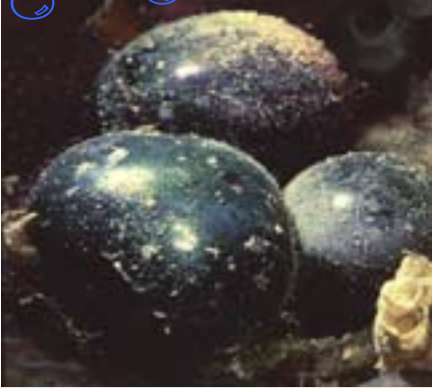
► The Kick-Off Dive for the Great Annual Fish Count was held last Saturday, July 1. Yellow Submarine/Dive Friends sponsored the event at the Yellow Submarine Reef site. Twelve certified REEF (Reef Environmental Education Foundation) Divers from Level II to Level V participated.

The group's total count for the Dive was an all-time high of 146 species with three new species added to the species listing for that particular dive site. Uncommon species found included bluelip parrots, yellow-throated pike blennies, semiscaled dash, rusty gobies, ladyfish, dog and cubera snappers, dusty and mimic cardinal fish, spotfin and reef butterfly fish, and a gray angel. The prize for Most Species Found, Level II, went to Johann and Visser with 58 species, Level III to Todd and Lynn Fulks with 102 species, and Level IV-V to Melody Hamilton and Chile Ridley with 118 species! Bryan and Phyllis Blackburn McCauley hosted a Taco Bar dinner at their home for all participants. □Linda Ridley. Photo courtesy of ReefNet



Ladyfish

Bubbles from the Biologist



Did You Know...

There are pearls Bonaire reefs? Have you ever been diving and had something small and shiny catch your eye? I can't count the number of times I've been asked to identify what divers describe as a small (1/2 to 2 inches across) glassy ball. A Sea Pearl, *Ventricaria ventricosa*, is a unicellular green alga that grows on Caribbean reefs and is commonly found attached to mangrove roots, sometimes growing alone, and other times you'll see them in small clusters. Some are encrusted with pink coralline algae, while others are algae-free and quite beautiful. Also known as "sailor's eyeball" the Sea Pearl alga is one of the

largest single-cell organisms in the plant or animal kingdoms. So, if you're looking for treasure, it's right out there waiting for you. □C.E.

Biologist Caren Eckrich founded and runs Sea and Discover, Bonaire's marine education center specializing in guided dives and snorkels for adults and adventure programs for kids. You may call her at 717-5322.

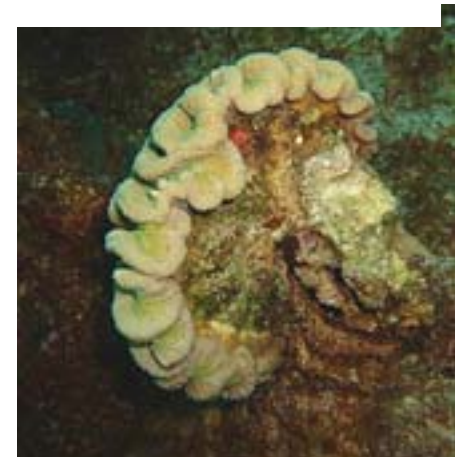


It's an event and has been for the last 13 years! Dia di Arte on Sunday, July 9, at Wilhelmina Park. It's fun for the whole family. See artists and their works, crafts, entertainment, local foods and more. Stroll the exhibits, meet new and old friends. From 10 am to 10 pm. Don't miss it! □

coral glimpses

(a bit of information about corals presented each week by naturalist Dee Scarr)

► This beautiful little coral formation began its attached life with what is now facing left, facing up. The coral polyps which had lived under the edge of the little head now receive more sunlight so they're expanding the edges of the colony. Dee Scarr photo



Flotsam and Jetsam continued on page 6



Bonaire Economic Report

DEZA, Bonaire's Department of Economic and Labor Affairs, has issued its comprehensive report for 2005. It describes all aspects of the economy. In the next weeks The Reporter will continue to pass on information from this report.

Part 5

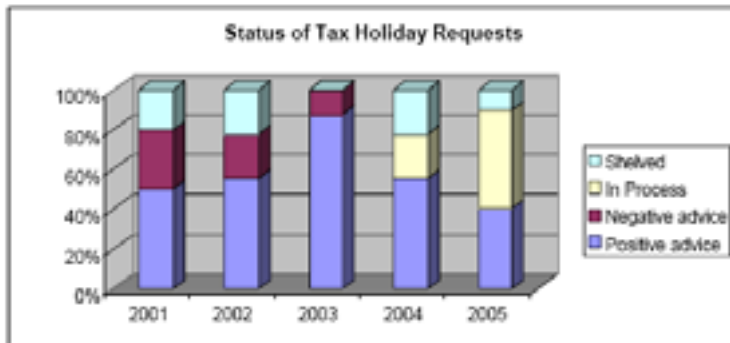
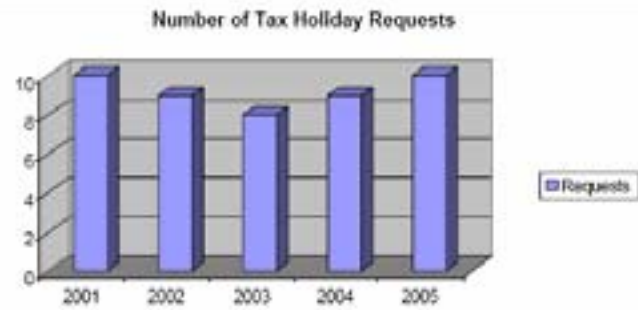


Tax Holidays

In 2005 there were slightly more tax holiday requests than in the previous years, 10 in total. (Tax holidays provide tax relief for a set period of

time- sometimes for as long as 10 years- for developers as an incentive for them to invest in Bonaire. Included may be import duties, profit tax and other perk. **Tax holidays are not available to local entrepreneurs.**) These tax holiday requests are mainly for projects in the HORECA sector such as small hotels and apartment complexes. The requests that are in process since 2004 are projects that have been put on hold or delayed by the developers themselves. The requests in process since 2005 are mainly projects that require further information or companies that have undergone changes during the petition (change of owner of company, director, type of company, etc.) which delays the entire tax holiday process.

Moreover, some tax holiday requests from B.V.s had been put on hold since, by law, only N.V.s were eligible for a tax holiday, but this issue has now been solved and tax holiday request from B.V.s are now being handled by ministerial order until the proper changes have been made in the law. □
DEZA Report



The island you love could use your help!

Bonaire is undergoing dramatic social and environmental changes, some good and some not so good. There are many non-government charitable organizations on Bonaire working to keep Bonaire a great place to visit and live, but they cannot do it alone.

In the US, about 90% of funding for charitable organizations is from individuals, not corporations or government. The non-government charitable organizations on Bonaire are no different. They need the help of individuals to continue and expand the important work they do for Bonaire.

That is why Support Bonaire, Inc. (SBI) was created. SBI is a US 501(c)(3) organization that provides financial and non-financial support to educational, social and environmental charitable organizations and projects on Bonaire. The good news is that US taxpayers can make a charitable contribution to many of Bonaire's worthy causes and deduct the contribution on their income tax return. Plus, SBI absorbs all processing fees and overhead so 100% of the donation goes directly to the organization designated.

To learn more about Support Bonaire, Inc. and the organizations we support, please visit our website at:

<http://www.supportbonaire.org/>

Donations can be made on-line via the website.

You can make a difference.

Support Bonaire, Inc.

Opinions

BONAIRE BULGING

In case you didn't notice, Bonaire is pregnant - pregnant with hotels. While the conception of several properties may have happened, the births may be several years away. Last week the Bonaire government announced the signing of an agreement for the Divi chain to build a new hotel with 250 rooms and 60 apartments on the site of the former (Bonaire) Sunset Beach Hotel. In our mind the beginning of construction of the new Divi will plainly mark a turning point in Bonaire's fortunes.

Then, during a presentation at the Caribbean Hotel Association conference (CHIC) in Miami last week, Victor Lopez, Vice President of Development for Hyatt Hotels and Resorts, said that Hyatt will include Bonaire in its planned Caribbean expansion. "We hope to announce an exciting high-end project in Bonaire by the end of the year," he said. Hyatt's plans were confirmed to the press by Bonaire's Senator Ramonsito Booi. Although Hyatt hotels are most commonly thought of as high rise, that is not always the case. For example, there is a luxurious 92-room Hyatt in Key West, Florida.



Hyatt Key West - Hyatt photo

Several months ago the plan for a major hotel school complex north of SABEDECOCO was announced. Infrastructure improvements to support that property are underway. Other projects of upward of 50 rooms are also in the works, like a new resort at Sorobon near KonTiki. There are numerous smaller developments currently underway as well, even Marriott is mentioned.

But for these hotels to thrive, more than buildings are needed. These babies will need more power and water than Bonaire can currently provide. Even waste management for a large property is a challenge on an island without central sewage, and that project is years behind schedule.

If you have tried to book a flight between Bonaire and Amsterdam or most American cities you will find that, for

Letters

PRAISE FOR NEW DIVI PLAN

As authors who contributed to the series, "Finding Balance for Bonaire," we would like to congratulate the Island Government for the apparent resolution of the fate of the Sunset Beach property. By limiting the hotel to 250 rooms (plus 60 condos), the character of the site and the island should be preserved and enhanced. Further, by attracting Divi Hotels to this site, the new hotel will be built and operated by people who know and respect our island and have a strong link with the Bonairean community. We hope this assures that there will be no massive structure on the land.

We hope that both the Government and Divi see to it that direct beach access is provided to the public at the North end of the property and that adequate parking facilities are provided for the public as well. The Sunset Beach has been an important amenity for all Bonaireans for many years and should remain so.

Another important task will be to increase visitors to the island to fill the new beds without just taking tourists from the existing hotels. Occupancy rates should be pushed beyond the 85% level before any new hotels open, especially a large one.

Finally, this is an opportunity for significant new employment and the developers should be required to provide as many jobs as possible (including training) for Bonaireans and other Antilleans. Given the history of Divi on the island, this should certainly be the case.

Pabien!

Alan Gross & Jane Townsend



Not high rise

peak periods, even if well in the future, seats are scarce. The arrival of a discount airline, like Jet Blue or Spirit, can balloon tourist arrivals like in a heartbeat. Jet Blue will begin offering a 2 pm daily \$129 flight from Aruba to New York on September 15. The talks several years ago between Bonaire and Spirit should be revived.

No matter what accommodations Bonaire offers, or how many airlines fly into Flamingo Airport, the unique

quality of Bonaire must be preserved at all costs. That means maintaining cultural integrity, providing a good quality of life for its citizens and keeping the environment as unspoiled as possible. The island's tourism planners may make it easier to get here, but by offering visitors a rewarding vacation experience it should be even harder to leave. Do it and the new Bonaire baby resorts will thrive. □ *G.D*

Flotsam and Jetsam continued from pages 2 & 3



A Piper Navajo, the type of airplane that flies the MedicAir flights.

► MedicAir introduced a **new airplane last month to make ambulance flights from Bonaire** to destinations in the region where hospital patients can get specialized treatment. The new airplane is a Piper Navajo Chieftain and has a seating capacity of 10. As a stretcher takes up two seats, eight persons, including the pilot, can be transported together with the patient. The airplane made a test flight to Miami and back, and the first patient has already been taken to Curaçao. MedicAir-owner, Renee Winkel, is very pleased with the new acquisition.

► There is a proposal in Parliament to **increase of the premium of the Social Insurance Bank (SVB) by 1.5%** to raise an additional NAf7 million to cover the cost of medical referrals abroad.

► Curaçao politician, Island Council member and Member of Parliament, **Anthony Godett, asked the Curaçao Public Prosecutor to allow him to serve his time** as soon as possible. Convicted last year of bribery, money laundering and the drawing up a



Anthony Godett

false bill for NAf106.000, Godett is awaiting court-ordered incarceration. The case captured the headlines for many weeks.

Sixty-six cells became available in Bon Futuro prison this week when the Women's Prison was relocated. There are about 70 people on the prison's waiting list.



Internet photo

► The dome of **Montserrat's Soufriere Hills volcano partially collapsed** around 1 pm last Friday. Lava flowed down Tar River Valley to the sea on the island's east side and ash clouds towered at least 12,000 feet into the air. Another blast occurred last Monday. Flights in the region were not affected, as sometimes occurs by the collapse.

► **The Bonaire Lions Club elected their 2006-2007 Officers:** President -Ronald Schleper; Outgoing President – Jursi Marshall; 1st V.P. - Rijnaldo Timp; 2nd V.P. – Oswin Cristina; Secretary- Marlon Bermudez; Treasurer-Randolf Luciano; *Domador*-Jose Boekhoudt; Tail Twister-Carmen Beck; Directors: Rolando Pourier, Francisco Soleana, Calino Molina, Riëncy Holder, Hubert Nicolaas.



Rotary photo

► Visitors from the Aruba and Curaçao Rotary Clubs, Bonaire Jaycee representative Clair Sealy, and honorary member, Soer Swinda, along with many guests made for a special Rotary Club Annual Turnover Dinner on Saturday June 24. For the first time in Rotary Club Bonaire's history, a woman, Marisela Croes, (left in photo) of Rocargo and Benetton) was made President.

The first upcoming fundraiser, Marisela announced, will be the "Rotarferia," to be held in September. The revenues will be going to the Breakfast-in-School project.

The Bonaire Rotary Board for 2006-2007: Marisela Croes - President; Pieter Groenendal - Secretary; Sara Matera - Treasurer; Ruud Vermeulen - Incoming President 2007-2008; and Sergeant at Arms - Edsel Winklaar.

► **Peter Odle**, owner and managing director of the 76-room Mango Bay Hotel in Barbados, assumed the leadership of the Caribbean Hotel Association (CHA) as President for the 2006-2008 term. During the Closing Gala of the 2006 Caribbean Hotel Industry Conference (CHIC), held June 28 at the Hyatt Regency Miami, outgoing President Berthia Parle, MBE, officially passed the gavel to Odle.



Peter Odle

► Did you know that **15 of the 17 Football World Cups have been won by only six teams:** Argentina, Brazil, Germany, England, Italy and France. It remains to be seen who will take the trophy this Sunday, but unless it is won by Portugal, which knocked out England last Saturday, it again will go to a former winner. And this year, the dominance is even more pronounced with an all-Europe final four. For more perspective on the World Cup read "Bondy on the Ball" on page 9.

► **Bonaire Gift Shop, a longtime Bonaire Reporter advertiser, has announced their new web site,** highlight-

(Continued on page 7)

Educational System Questioned

A group of parents, concerned about *Enseñansa di Fundeshi* (Foundation Based Education), together with the parenting committee (like the PTA) of every primary school and also the parents representing the Education Platform conducted a survey, approved by school authorities, to get opinions from parents whose children are being educated by the *Enseñansa di Fundeshi* method. The results of the first Cycle 1 classes (4-8 years old) are in question.



Prime Minister Emily de Jongh-el Hage and students

The traditional grade level system was replaced on Antillean islands in 2002 by the *Enseñansa di Fundeshi*. The new system has been criticized for lack of learning materials and incompletely prepared teachers. Additionally, Papiamentu was introduced as the language of instruction in Cycle 1. The concerns were partially based on the existing situation:

1. There is an enormous backlog in producing learning material in Papiamentu
2. There is not enough reading material/literature in Papiamentu
3. There is also a backlog in the development of instruction material for Dutch as a second (or foreign) language.
4. The teachers' ability to use/apply and to instruct in Papiamentu has never been evaluated

The results were presented on May 8th at Jong Bonaire when many parents attended the meeting. During the meeting, some critical opinions were presented. The primary parental concerns parents have about their children's education are:

1. **Their preference to use both Dutch and Papiamentu as instruction languages.**
2. **Their preference to receive the child's report card with the child's grades.**
3. **Their concern with the lack of teaching material.**
4. **Their preference to stimulate the children to reach their educational goals.**
5. **Their concern that their children are not ready to go into the "second cycle."**

The urgent need to have effective communication with the concerned departments was highlighted, and the parents should do their best to get all the information they deserve to know.

After discussion with the parents, the decision was made to take the following steps: To arrange a meeting with the Commissioner of Education, SEK (Education and Culture Department), the School Board (*Schoolbestuur*), as well as the Minister of Education. In these meetings the concerns of the parents must be brought to attention in order to discuss the results of the survey. The necessary improvements have to be made in order to guarantee a good education and future for the children.

The inquiry was held at all six primary schools using *Enseñansa di Fundeshi*.

- 1) Kolegio San Bernardo /47 parents represented
- 2) Kolegio Kristu Bon Wardador /135
- 3) Kolegio Papa Cornes /126
- 4) Kolegio Reina Beatrix /103
- 5) Kolegio San Luis Betran /34
- 6) Kresh /25

In total, 470 concerned parents filled out the survey. The questions were:

- 1) Are you content with the manner in which *Enseñansa di Fundeshi* is going?

(Flotsam & Jetsam. Continued from page 6)
ing their stock of wines and liquors available at their downtown Kaya Grandi store. Locals can check product types before coming to the store. Visitors may even plan for their beverage needs in advance of their trip, simply by ordering online and requesting delivery to their hotel or apartment. Bonaire Gift Shop offers a nice selection of wines, Scotch whiskey, rum, port, brandy, champagne, vodka, gin, and beer as well as souvenirs and t-shirts. For more information, visit www.bonairegiftshop.com, or email info@bonairegiftshop.com.

► **Good news.** One of the favorite new Bonaire dinner restaurants, **Cactus Blue, is now open for lunch.** Enjoy the Caribbean flavor the restaurant is famous for starting at \$6.95. Open Monday through Saturday, 12 to 2 pm, and at 5 pm for dinner. See their advertisement on page 13.

► **Xavier Medical School announced they are coming back to Bonaire** in a big way next September. As they promised when they left last year, the school said they will make additional investments of over \$3 million towards condos

for student and faculty housing on Bonaire and have over 500 students enrolled on their Bonaire and Aruba campuses in two years.

► If you'd like to live in a house with **traditional Bonaire style architecture** but with interiors of modern materials and comfort visit the showing of the unique Old Lagoen Villa project on the Lagun Road. There's a Wine Tasting event **this Thursday** (the first day this issue is available, so act fast and say you're interested because you read it in *The Reporter*), July 6, from 5 to 7 pm at the site at Kaminda Lagun 45 to introduce the project. Fine wines provided FREE by AWC, the Antillean Wine Company.

► Something new at Bonaire's most romantic restaurant—**Crocantino, for the finest Tuscan-style Italian food.** Every evening Chef David offers several exciting, creative specials. Always something different. See their ad on page 6.

□ G/L. D.

- 2) Which language do you prefer to be used as the instruction language?
- 3) Which language would you prefer being given as a subject?
- 4) Which manner of evaluating your child's schoolwork do you prefer?
- 5) Do you find there to be enough educational material available?
- 6) Do you agree with your child being in age mixed classes (4, 5, 6) (5, 6, 7) (6, 7, 8)?
- 7) Do you think we are ready to start the second cycle?
- 8) Do you agree that your child is free to do as (s)he likes, and cannot be

□ Press Release and G.D.

Bonaire Wins Big at Taste of the Caribbean



A jubilant Janey Coffie wins the Gold Medal. Shown with CHA President Berthia Parle and Bartender Judge Josue Merced-Reyes



Janey gets congratulations from chef team members Isidoor Van Riemsdij and Floris Van Loo.

There was high excitement in Miami last week at the Hyatt Regency Hotel when the Caribbean Hotel Association held its annual Conference (CHIC) and "Taste of the Caribbean" culinary Olympics. For the first time since the last century there was a record number of 16 culinary-bartender teams from all around the Caribbean competing. "Taste" was conceived to promote the development and refinement of contemporary Caribbean cuisine, incorporating indigenous ingredients and Caribbean culture and traditions. While maintaining a focus on food and beverage professional development in the region it also seeks to help promote tourism and overall economic growth in the islands by enhancing the food and beverage experience offered to visitors at Caribbean resorts and restaurants. In addition the event frequently predicts new culinary trends in the US as many of the Caribbean ingredients and cooking methods used in the competition find their way onto American menus in restaurants and homes.

Head Judge, Rick Crossland, Senior Vice President of the Culinary Development for Bahama Breeze, says, "It's exciting to watch these masters at work as they sift, chop, sauté, reduce and garnish indigenous Caribbean ingredients to create artistic, mouth-watering delicacies, right before your very eyes."

In the Bartending competition, competing teams prepare a variety of

drinks to demonstrate their creativity, skills, personality and showmanship. They have 10 minutes to create each of their drinks: vodka, rum and non-alcoholic.

This year, in addition to the cooking competition, each national culinary team gave a demonstration of its country's indigenous cuisine, highlighting the region's rich diversity and variety. Alec Sanguinetti, Director General and CEO of CHA, declares, "Caribbean cuisine is a true representation of all the cultural and migratory influences the region has welcomed since Christopher Columbus arrived on its beaches in 1492...from native Indians, European settlers, African slaves to more recent migratory streams such as Arabic, Asian, other European and Hindu. All have amalgamated their individual stories into the Caribbean collective self and added their spices, flavors and techniques to its cuisine."

Bonaire's chef-bartender team has been practicing for months for the competition, offering three-course "practice" meals on Sundays at the SGB Hotel School, Chez Nous.

Culinary Competition Results:

Gold Medals: Bahamas, Curaçao, St. Lucia, St. Maarten/St. Martin, Trinidad & Tobago

Silver Medals: Anguilla, Antigua & Barbuda, Barbados, British Virgin Islands, Jamaica, Puerto Rico

Bronze Medals: Bonaire, Grenada, St. Vincent & the Grenadines, Suriname, US Virgin Islands



Vernon Martijn wins third place in the Team Manager's Presentation, with (left) CHA President Berthia Parle and Head Judge Rick Crossland

At an early morning awards ceremony last week for the "Taste of the Caribbean," sponsored by the Caribbean Hotel Association at their annual "Chic" conference at the Hyatt Regency in Miami, chef-bartender teams from 16 different islands in the Caribbean gathered to hear the results. Competing against many more experienced bartenders, Bonaire's Janey Marie Coffie garnered the Gold Medal. Wowing the judges with her skills, Janey was awarded, by unanimous consent, "The Most Creative Overall Drinks" for her three drinks: "Caribbean Breeze" (non-alcoholic), "Calabas Reef" (vodka) and "Divi Melon Coconut Cocktail" (rum). Janey has been a bartender for only two years, but she shows poise, talent and charisma. She went on to compete against bartenders from St. Maarten, the US Virgin Islands and Anguilla for the "Best Bartender in the Caribbean" and came in second. This makes her the Second Best Bartender in the Caribbean.

Bonaire's Culinary Team won a Bronze medal for their three-course meal: "Sorobon," a marinated conch ceviche served with yogurt cucumber ice cream; "Kunuku Cattle," whole roasted leg of lamb with papaya stew, tutu and a pork stew; and "Bonaire Lighthouse," a chocolate mousse mango jelly with chocolate ganache, sponge cake and ginger caramel sauce.

During a competition for the Team Managers to explain their country's culture, foods and history, Bonaire's Team Manager Vernon "Nonchi" Martijn won Third Place. Chefs on the team are: Team Manager: Vernon "Nonchi" Martijn (SGB Hotel School), Team Captain Floris Van Loo (Rum

Runners), Vladamir Gijsbertha (City Café), Isidoor Van Riemsdij (Rum Runners) and Karel "Egbert" deVries (Le Flamboyant). Well Done! □ L.D.

Bondy On The Ball



BBC photo

Germany's Goal keeper Jen Lehmann

Well, what a hectic time it has been since the qualifying groups. The World Cup always delivers some surprises and 2006 has not been any different. Above is a table that shows the second round and quarter final results. This week we will have a look at the highlights, lowlights and surprises!

Argentina had looked worthy to progress, so, it was a little surprising to see them struggle against Mexico. The Mexicans took the game to Argentina and ruffled a few feathers with the opening goal. An equaliser followed shortly and it remained that way until extra time. With a sensational self-made goal, Rodriguez teed himself up and fired in the winner 8 minutes into extra time. Argentina 2-1 Mexico.

Sunday was a big day. First off, England took on Ecuador in what should have been a foregone conclusion. The game started brightly enough and a classic Beckham set piece got England off to the start they needed. Eriksson chose a diamond formation with Rooney the lone striker. The team looked awkward and gave away the ball with ease. However, they managed to hold on and took the result. England 1-0 Ecuador.

Sunday afternoon in City Café was unbelievable. The place was a sea of orange with just a scattering of Portuguese shirts. As the match kicked off, it became apparent that this bore little resemblance to the beautiful game. Hol-

SECOND ROUND
Germany 2-0 Sweden
Argentina 2-1 Mexico

England 1-0 Ecuador
Portugal 1-0 Holland

Italy 1-0 Australia
Switzerland 0-0 Ukraine
(Ukraine win 3-0 on penalties)

SECOND ROUND
Brazil 3-0 Ghana
Spain 1-3 France

QUARTER-FINALS
Germany 1-1 Argentina
(Germany win 4-2 on penalties)

QUARTER-FINAL THREE
England 0-0 Portugal
(Portugal win 3-1 on penalties)

QUARTER-FINAL TWO
Italy 3-0 Ukraine

QUARTER-FINAL FOUR
Brazil 0-1 France

land looked good value to go forward, but a combination of bad refereeing and Portugal's play acting ruined the

game. The Dutch team unfortunately failed to rise above it and elected to follow suit with play acting of their own. The match saw an unprecedented 16 yellow and 4 red cards issued by a referee who was clearly inept. His dismissal from the World Cup after the game was testament to his performance. In a game that saw nine players against nine, the end could not come quickly enough. Apart from the few Portugal fans, a groan of disappointment ran through City Café as the final whistle blew. A defeat is bad enough, but to lose like that was hard to bear. Portugal 1-0 Holland

Monday brought no real surprises but the awakening of the French national side begun Tuesday. After lacklustre displays that saw them struggling to qualify, they pulled off a brilliant performance against on form Spain. France has some big players, none bigger than Zidane, who chose this game to show what he was capable of. Despite Spain going ahead, France never looked like losing. After this performance, they have finalists written all over them. Spain 1-3 France.

The first of the quarter final matches saw the host's line up against Argentina. Both these teams were favoured to feature in the last four so something had to give. In an evenly fought contest, it took extra time and penalties to separate them from their 1-1 draw during normal play. Germany's goalkeeper, Jen Lehmann, became the hero of the hour with two crucial penalty saves; his inclusion in favour of Oliver Kahn seemingly



BBC photo

France's Zinedine Zidane

justified. The match ended on a sour note when players and officials from both sides clashed on the pitch, with punches thrown between the rival camps. It later emerged that unused Argentina substitute, Leandro Cufre, was red-carded after the game for his part in the melee. Germany 4-2 Argentina.

Saturday saw heartache (for me) and more surprises. England had the dubious pleasure of taking on Portugal. The Dutch supporters on the island came out in force to see if England could dish out some revenge on behalf of their national side. The game was fairly well matched and Portugal left the theatrics in the dressing room, concentrating on the football that they are capable of. The game was pretty open with few

chances at each end. England looked the stronger and seemed to be getting the edge over Portugal. However, Beckham was substituted following an injury and England started to lose shape. In the 62nd minute, Rooney got his marching orders for stamping on Petits groin (ouch). The 10 men battled sufficiently to see off extra time and take their chances in a penalty shoot out. Sadly, that is exactly what they didn't do, Lampard, Gerrard and Carragher all failed to score from the spot. Exit England and exit David Beckham who steps down as Captain. England 1-3 Portugal.

France again came up trumps as they took on champions and favourites, Brazil. Once again, Zinedine Zidane bossed the midfield and gained man of the match. The Brazilians seemed shell shocked from early on as they witnessed the skill, pace and organisation that the French possessed. It took 57 minutes for the French to score, but when they did it was sublime. Zidane whipped in a cross that was spectacularly volleyed in by Henry. They have developed late in this tournament but France deserves their place in the semis. France 1-0 Brazil.

Well, that just leaves two semis, one play-off and the final. My predictions this far have been blown out of the water, but, I fancy a France vs. Germany final, let's see!

Until then, let's keep the game beautiful.....
□ Tony Bond



Tony Bond was born and raised in England, happy to leave the cold of Europe behind but still follows his passion for Manchester United (Man Utd) FC.



Where to watch-

Three Reporter advertisers have announced they have facilities to see all the great World Cup action.

SEE YOU AT CITY

Sponsored by

At City Café there will be eight (8!) TVs set up including a huge 50-inch flat screen. In the mornings City will offer a breakfast buffet for NA/10,50. In the afternoons they have a special lunch buffet for NA/12,50.

At The Great Escape watch in the comfort of the thatched roof bar by the pool and sample their huge selection of beers. (the boss won't find you there).



Wind and Surf Beach Bar on the beach at The Windsurfing Place, Sorobon □ L.D.



Graduation Day

Another high school class has graduated to the next step in their lives; some to jobs, others to further study - perhaps advanced vocational training or additional academic study. Most students were lavishly and beautifully dressed to commemorate the important step in their lives.

The SGB (Community High School) is somewhat unique in the Dutch system as it does not focus on either academic or vocational studies but combines them in a single school. The Bonaire SGB high school announced that it will offer the fourth year of pre-university secondary education, VWO, in the next school year. VWO level education began three years ago, and the current class will be the first that won't have to continue their education in



*Two top students of the HAVO track:
Left: Alexandra Mendoza, middle: Fleurtje Veldkamp*



More graduates. Isabella Wu, the girl in the red dress, was the top academic student. Douglas Abraham stands behind her.

either Curaçao or Aruba to qualify for university entrance. The SGB will increase the tuition by NAf5 per student and the lease of books and class materials by 15%. The high euro makes books coming out of Holland expensive and rising expenses made the hike necessary. Bonaire students did better in their exams than in former years. 90% of the HAVO students, 80% in the vocational and theoretical education students, and 100% of the AGO levels passed their exams. □ G.D.

ANNOUNCEMENTS Happy Anniversary



Happy Anniversary to Hose Mercera and Drucela Mercera-Shepard who celebrated "sailing together in matrimony" for 39 years on June 22nd. Our warmest congratulations to them. □

**Readers are invited to send their photos of their anniversaries, engagements or weddings to *The Reporter*.
The photo and text will be printed free of charge.**

Windsurfing Report

European Freestyle Tour - Greece

The European Freestyle Professional Tour (EFPT) and its riders were happy to be in Mykonos, Greece, after four events that didn't have enough wind to compete. The organization in Mykonos was at best, like always. It included free pickup and transfer from the airport, free rooms in a 4-star beach resort only for 18 to 35-year-olds and the food. What can we say - from Greek salads, *Souvlakies*, *Giros Pitas* and the traditional sauce *tjasikie*.

The EFPT tour had a few newcomers: guys from Israel, Russia, and for the first time, a local freestyler from Greece.

Ruben Petersie and Clay Finies, who showed up for the first time on the European freestyle tour, represented Bonaire. They were made welcome by the organization as Bonairean riders.

The first day of the event the conditions were not good for the competition to begin. This made most of the riders very nervous, after having four events, all with no wind and no results.

The second day again the wind was still not strong enough. While we were waiting for wind we had fresh cold coffee



Clay on the beach

shakes provided by Nescafé, and the DJ pumped music while we played beach soccer.

On the final day the wind was blowing gusty and offshore around 17 to 20 knots, temperature 28°C, with the water temperature around 18°C.

The first heat started at 10 o'clock. Ruben Petrisie was in the second heat against an Israeli freestyler and won the heat on a close decision. Clay Finies

showed his amazing abilities but unfortunately did not make it through the first round. They finished the single elimination with Clay in 17th position and Ruben in 9th position.

After that the judges decided to go for the double elimination where the riders get a second chance to improve or defend their positions. The wind was a bit up and down and super gusty but it was still possible to sail.

Clay was beaten again by a Slovenian freestyler.

Ruben Petrisie fought through the heats against the Greek local hero, then had to meet with the Polish freestyle champion. One more heat to go and Ruben could make it to the quarter finals. Ruben then was against the Austrian guy who had many years of experience in competitions. The wind was super light during this heat and both riders were searching for the wind gusts to get onto plane. The Austrian got some gusts on the outside while Ruben was looking around on the inside to stay close to the judges.

The final heats were sailed at a very high level with riders like Antxon Otaegui (Spain), Andre Paskowski (Germany), Remko De Weerd (Dutch) and Norman Gunzlein (Germany) show-



Ruben at speed

ing amazing moves during the heats.

I must say that the level here on the European Freestyle Tour has been raised. Next stop is the Greek island Rhodes.

The Final results for Mykonos:
1st Norman Guenzlein G 186 (JP, Neilpryde, Chiemsee)
2nd Remko De Weerd H 23 (Fanatic, Gaastra, Fiberspar)
3rd Andre Paskowski G 2 (F2, North, Camaro, Pat Love, Oxbow)
7th Ruben Petrisie NB-50 (Exocet, Camaro, bThe Loft, Gsport, Reptile-Masts)
25th Clay Finies NB-79 (Dakine, Sign Studio, MCB, Remax) □ *Story & photos by Ruben Petersie*

Picture Yourself with The Reporter New Jersey, USA

Barbara Treue writes, "My husband, Don, daughters, Tara and Melissa, and I have been coming to Bonaire for over 20 years. We purchased a house at Lighthouse Beach before it was even constructed. We are neighbors and very good friends of Delno Tromp. He came to stay with us in New Jersey for a week to help celebrate our daughter's wedding. The picture of Tara and new husband, Bryan, was taken at the wedding, April 28th, in New Jersey. Reading *The Bonaire Reporter* from left to right are: Delno Tromp, Melissa Treue, Barbara Treue, Tara Treue- Del Rio, Bryan Del Rio and Don Treue."



Our best wishes to the happy couple. □

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.) □

Bonaire Reporter Classifieds— They are still free Got something to buy or sell?

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FREE FREE FREE FREE

Commercial Ads only NAf0.80 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.

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.

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

LUNCH TO GO

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

JELLASTONE PETPARK

Pet boarding / Dierenpension Day and night care. phone: 786-4651 www.bonairenet.com/jellastone/

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

SUPPORT BONAIRE

The Island you love could use your help! Support Bonaire, Inc. provides support to Bonaire's non-profits.

To learn more about making a US tax deductible donation visit www.supportbonaire.org and help make a difference!

For Sale

Wooden, five-drawer desk, in good condition, NAf225.00 -Wooden bookcase, in excellent condition, NAf150.00 - Luggage racks (set of two), F NAf25.00 each. If you have an interest in these items, please call 717-2848.

For Sale – 2 twin beds with box springs and mattresses. NAf250 each. Call 717-8989

For Sale: 18 arm ceiling chandelier; New cherry wood dining table, 4 chairs; cherry wood saloon table, 1 x 1 meter; 2 fauteuils (arm chairs) with round wood antique table. Come and see, make an offer. Tel. 717-6605

Below deck boat fuel tank, alum. 65"x20"x24" NAf350, - Call 785-9047

Wooden rocking horse for children up to 4 years. Good condition, any good offer. Call 785 – 9047

Comfortable 3 seat couch. Blue

DO YOU SUDOKU?

Sudoku means "the digits must remain single" in Japanese. To solve the puzzle, enter the numbers 1 through 9 to the partially filled in puzzle, without repeating a number in any row, column or 3 x 3 region. For a tutorial visit the web site www.sudokushack.com. □ Molly Kearney (who has to solve the puzzles)

Complete solution on page 14.

6			5	9		1	8	
7			4					3
	2	1	6				5	
	3	4	2				6	
	9			8	7		4	
	8				6	5	1	
	7				1	2	9	
3					5			1
	1	2		6	4			5

with earthy color squares and big pillows. Lightweight. 9 months. Asking price NAf700. Call for a try out and drive it home! Call: 786-3558

Cars For Sale

Toyota 4Wheel Runner, 1995 87.000 km, Air conditioning, 4x4 drive, any good offer > NAf10.000,-Call 785-9047

FOR SALE (NEW LOWER PRICE) Ford Escort LX, 1995, new transmission and many other parts. Drives great. NAf4900 or \$2800. Call 786-0372.

Car for sale Chevrolet Celta 2003 Tel: 786-9998

FOR SALE Mazda 323 (Protege) bj 2000 automatic, Airco- NAf8650,- Call 786-4314

For Sale- Suzuki Swift 1.3- airco, power steering, power brakes. CD radio player, 2 x 800w speakers. Very well maintained car, just serviced. Economical in gasoline. NAf2.000, Call at any time: 786-9389

LADA NIVA (jeep) for sale 1991-4X4 drive 1.6 lt.; 95.000km NAf2.400 717-2844 or 786-2844

Wanted



Wanted: A Good Home Hello, we are two female dogs of 2 years old. We are looking for a new

home because our boss is leaving for Holland. We are very fond of children and like to run a lot. We are very good watchdogs; if you treat us well we will protect you and your family. We are also trained and therefore we will obey you. We also had our injections and we cannot have puppies anymore. Our names are Bongo (blond) and Elsa. Who will give us a new home? Call Myrna 786-7365 or ask the Animal Shelter 717-4989.

US based Windward Islands national seeking to return to the warmth of the Caribbean earnestly desires an accounting position in Bonaire or neighboring islands. Qualifications: MBA, CPA. Contact Dre at (718) 919 -0396 or e-mail ahf2000@juno.com

Has anyone a manual for the Sharp cash register XE-A120 lying around?? Call AWC, 717-7547

WANTED: VHS video recorder/ player for use in Lora (parrot) research. Call 09-510-4021

Vacation Rental

Cozy guest cottage available. Studio with kitchen, airco, cable TV, two single beds (or king) and pull-out sofa, bikes, kayak, porch, yard and private entrance. Five minute walk to seaside promenade and 10 minute walk to town. \$50/night. Contact: seabeans@hotmail.com

Property

House for Sale – Nicest and prettiest house in Antriol, good neighborhood, swimming pool, 2 bathrooms, 3 bedrooms +/- 3.000 sq. meters. Place for another house. Was \$450,000, now \$375,000. Call 717-7362 or 717-6605

For rent: Fully furnished 4 bedroom house NAf900. Fully furnished 1 bedroom apart. NAf700. Beautiful yard, quiet and private. Tel. 717-7977



Introduces "Pop-Up" Retail to Bonaire

Bargain-hungry Bonaire residents have a new place to indulge their appetites. But shoppers will need to pay extra attention to find the store, which—owner Molly Kearney claims—adds to the fun and the satisfaction of finding that great deal. Outlet Mol, a new shop offering top quality women's wear, opened last Friday, June 30, at Les Galleries, offering merchandise from "the world's number one retailer of women's sleepwear, bras, panties and clothing." Kearney's arrangement with the manufacturer prohibits her from using the brand name in ads and interviews, "but this is the first name everyone thinks of" for intimate apparel and other clothing.

The store's unusual strategy began with Kearney's first visit to Bonaire in May 2005. Stopping on Bonaire during a Windjammer cruise, she fell in love with the island and jumped ship.

"Bonaire has a very laid back feel, and every person I met here was welcoming. The blue, blue waters were gorgeous, especially for a girl who grew up in the middle of North America." But she hadn't packed for a long stay. "I needed island wear," she said, "But money was an issue. I'd just quit my job managing inventory for Victoria's Secret, so I was

hoping to find a bargain." After years in the clothing industry, Kearney was also particular about style. The clothes in some stores were close, but she didn't buy very much.

When she returned to the island two months later, Kearney started researching distribution channels that would let her bring in high quality women's wear at a good value. Selection was another concern: "An island is like a small town. The variety is usually limited, and that means you could treat yourself to a special new dress and then find the woman sitting next to you at Mona Lisa wearing the same thing." The solution is a "wide and shallow" assortment: a lot of different styles, but not in every color or size. Kearney plans to keep prices low by keeping overhead low, using one of the most interesting recent innovations in retail: the "pop-up" store. Very stylish stores—as well as major retailers like Target—are opening stores for just a month or two. Then they'll shut down, regroup and restock, then open again somewhere else.

"The storefront at Les Galleries is great," she added. "It's a terrific place to launch the store." Plans are for Outlet Mol to stay in that location until early

August, when Kearney will go on another buying trip. On her return, Outlet Mol will pop-up again. "It could be back at Les Galleries, or it could be in another location, depending on how much I find and what's available." (The next sale dates and location will be advertised in *The Bonaire Reporter*; savvy shoppers can also sign up for an email announcement at Outlet Mol store.)

The first shipment includes swimwear tops and bottoms (sold separately, to meet women's sizing needs), swim cover-ups, tank tops, shrugs dresses, jeans, pants, bras and panties. Shop early; with wide and shallow stocking, many items are one-of-a-kind. Sales will be final (no returns) and cash only. □

Press release

Pet of the Week

Don Ricks has been a volunteer at the Bonaire Animal Shelter for two years, and he's one of the residents' favorites, according to the dogs especially. Tails wag and happy looks appear when he reports for work every Friday morning. And one of Don's "favorites" at the Shelter is pretty little "Cindy." She is so affectionate and sweet, and as you can see from the photo, she just melts into his arms. Her fur is a soft butter-scotch color and is a pleasure to stroke. Those deep brown eyes of hers are so expressive and just exude happiness when someone pays attention to her. Cindy is about five and a half months old. Everyone thought she would grow up to be a medium sized dog, but maybe not because she's growing like a weed. "I may be sweet," she says, "but I'm turning into a terrific watchdog too." Drop by the Shelter on the Lagoen Road to meet Cindy and her Shelter mates. New opening hours are Monday through Saturday, 8 am to 1 pm. Tel. 717-4989.



Volunteer Don Ricks with "Cindy"

Who can resist a cuddly puppy? But when there are too many to be cared for properly it turns into a very sad story. Recently a mother dog with seven puppies was brought into the Shelter. She'd been living on the street where she got pregnant twice a year with big batches of pups. People in the neighborhood would each adopt one of the pups, but finally there were no more people but still plenty of pups. So someone brought her and the pups in. Two of the puppies have been spoken for already. After they're weaned the mom will be sterilized and put up for adoption too. She's probably breathing a sigh of relief!

To help fight this problem of rampant pregnancies resulting in unwanted puppies, the Shelter has established a Sterilization Fund so that people who can't afford to sterilize their pets can get some help. You can help by donating to the fund. The monies go only towards sterilization. **Give to the fund at the MCB Account #10616410 "Sterilization Fund." Or go through Support Bonaire, Inc. www.supportbonaire.org.** □L.D.

DO YOU SUDOKU? And the solution is: (puzzle and directions on page 12)	6	4	3	5	9	2	1	8	7
	7	5	9	4	1	8	6	2	3
	8	2	1	6	7	3	9	5	4
	1	3	4	2	5	9	7	6	8
	5	9	6	1	8	7	3	4	2
	2	8	7	3	4	6	5	1	9
	4	7	5	8	3	1	2	9	6
	3	6	8	9	2	5	4	7	1
	9	1	2	7	6	4	8	3	5

KRALENDIJK TIDES (Heights in feet, FT)

Remember: Winds and weather can further influence the local tides

DATE	TIME	HEIGHT	COEF	DATE	TIME	HEIGHT	COEF
7-07	8:19	0.8FT.	51	7-11	0:46	2.2FT.	94
7-08	8:46	0.7FT.	63	7-12	1:31	2.1FT.	98
7-09	9:25	0.7FT.	75	7-13	2:21	1.9FT.	99
7-10	0:01	2.2FT.	86	7-14	3:18	1.8FT.	95

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)

United 93
(Opal Alladin)

Early Show (Usually 7 pm)
The Da Vinci Code

Kaya Prinses Marie
Behind Exito Bakery
Tel. 717-2400

Tickets - NAf14 (incl. Tax)

NEW FILMS BEGIN FRIDAY
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK
THURS THRU SUN
2 MOVIES 7 & 9PM
MON THRU WED. 1 MOVIE 8PM

SATURDAY 4 PM
R.V. / Cars

THIS WEEK

Thursday, July 6—Wine Tasting & Introduction to Oud Lagoon Villas, Kaminda Lagun #45, 5 to 7 pm

Thursday, July 6—Find out all about having a stand at the Rincon Marshe. Stand holders and interested parties invited, 8 pm at the Marshe office, Plasa Commerce, Rincon

Saturday, July 8 – Underwater Cleanup Dive at Yellow Submarine. Sponsored by Yellow Submarine & Net Tech, 1 pm. Potluck BBQ at 5:30 pm. Call 717-2929.

Sunday, July 9—Dia di Arte, Wilhelmina Park—art, music, food, entertainment. See pages 3 & 18

COMING

July 17-19 -Diva Women Windsurf Clinic at Bonaire Windsurf Place. Three free local scholarships available. For details or to register call Ann Phelan at 786-3134.

REGULAR EVENTS

Daily (more or less)

- HH 2 for 1 (on all beverages) 5-7 pm, **Divi Flamingo Balashi Beach Bar**
- HH—**Buddy Dive**, 5:30-6:30
- HH **Cactus Blue** (except Sun.) 5 to 7 pm,
- 2 for 1 appetizer with entrée, **Cactus Blue**
- **Divi Flamingo Casino** open daily for hot slot machines, roulette and black jack, Mon. to Sat. 8 pm– 4 am; Sun. 7 pm– 3 am.
- Daily - by appointment -**Rooi Lamoenchi Kunuku Park Tours** \$12 (NAf12 for residents). Tel 717-8489, 540-9800.

Saturdays

- **Grill Night on the Beach, Buddy Dive**
- **Rincon Marshé**—6 am - 2 pm. Enjoy a Bonairean breakfast while you shop, fresh fruits and vegetables, gifts, local sweets, snacks, arts, handicrafts, candles, incense, drinks, music. www.infobonaire.com/rincon. **Extra big Marshe 1st Saturday of the month.**
- **CANCELLED Until August 19. Wine Tasting at AWC's warehouse**, 7 to 9 pm, Kaya Industria #23. Great wines - NAf2,50 a glass.
- **All You Can Eat BBQ at Divi Flamingo** with live music, 6 to 9 pm, NAf26,50. Call for reservations 717-8285 ext. 444 .

Sundays

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

Mondays

- **Caribbean Night**, - live local music—**Buddy Dive**.
- **Soldachi Tour of Rincon**, the heart of Bonaire, 9 am-noon. \$20-Call Maria 717-6435
- **Kriyoyo Night BBQ Buffet** featuring Chef Gibi and Los Princes Mariachi, **Golden Reef Inn**. Band 7 pm, BBQ at 7:30 pm. Reservations \$20, walk ins \$25. Drinks available for purchase. Call 717-5759 or email info@goldenreefinn.com

Tuesdays

- **Live music by the Flamingo Rockers**, 5-7 pm **Divi Flamingo, Balashi Beach Bar**
- **Wine & Cheese/ \$1 glass of wine**, 5-7 pm, **Divi Flamingo Balashi Beach Bar**
- **Buy a Bucket of Beer & get free chicken wings**, 5 to 7 pm, **Cactus Blue**

Wednesdays

- **Open Mike Night** with Moogie, 7 to 9 pm, **Cactus Blue**
- Live music by **Flamingo Rockers Divi Flamingo, Balashi Beach Bar** 5-6:30 pm
- **Beach BBQ 7-10 pm & Live music by Flamingo Rockers -The Windsurf Place** at Sorobon
- **Movie Night at Buddy Dive**

Thursdays

Live music by the "Flamingo Rockers" 5-7 pm-**Divi Flamingo, Balashi Beach Bar**

Fridays

- **Harbour Village Tennis, Social Round Robin** 7 to 10 pm. \$10 per person. Cash bar. All invited. Call Elisabeth Vos at 565-5225
- **Live music by the "Flamingo Rockers" Divi Flamingo, Balashi Beach Bar** - 5-7 pm
- **Swim lessons** for children by Enith Brighitha, a Dutch Olympian, at Sorobon from 1330 to 1630
- **Manager's Bash**—free Flamingo Smash & snacks, **Divi Flamingo**, 5-7 pm
- **Manager's Rum Punch Party, Buddy Dive Resort**, 5:30-6:30 pm, followed by **All You Can Eat BBQ**
- **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

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. 717-8290 for info.
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 (STCB) Slide Show by Bruce Brabec. Carib Inn seaside veranda, 7 pm. Tel. 717-8819.
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 pm. Call 790-7272

Accolade to Din Domacasse

Chief Ranger Din Domacassé was awarded the coveted Bonaire Accolade environmental award in June by Captain Don Stewart. Captain Don, in his congratulatory remarks said, "Din Domacassé, you are a most extraordinary Environmental Ranger. Few know of the enormous tasks which you have successfully accomplished over the years.

Your admirable involvement with visiting divers and naturalists alike is Bonairean gallantry and dignity. Our knowledge of thieves of the sea is well known. Less well known is the ranger's role which at times can become extremely difficult in their duty to ensure that Bonaire remains environmentally perfect.

You stand firm and unbending above and beyond the call of duty, even in the face of extreme intimidation. Further your ongoing teaching of the wonders of their own sea to Bonairean children.

Din, with your compatriots at the helm, know that *dushi* Bonaire will always remain environmentally perfect. The caring divers of the world salute you, Din Domacassé." □



Accolade Recipient- Din Domacassé



The STINAPA team of Rangers and support staff surround Din

Cancer Survivor Support Group Majestic Journeys Bonaire N.V. Lourdes Shopping Center 2nd Level Kaya LD Gerharts #10. Call 717-2482/566-6093 for details

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 Zezicht. 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— Call Roosje 786-7984

Volunteers to train children in sports. Contact Quick-Pro Track and Field - Rik 717-8051

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

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 Menu Bonaire's newest hot-spot to eat and drink. Margaritas a specialty 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 Dinner Closed Monday	Bonaire's Most Romantic Restaurant where dining is a delight! Tuscan Chef David 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 Breakfasts Only	Bar-Restaurant poolside—under the thatched roof. Breakfast Buffet 7:30-10 am every day Happy hours 5 to 7 every day.
The Last Bite Bakery Home Delivery or Take Out - Now in Playa—next to Xerox 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 4 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
The Bonaire Windsurfing Place At Sorobon Beach Get away from it all.	Low-Moderate Open from 10-6 pm daily, Wed. night BBQ at 7 pm	A genuine sandy beach restaurant cooled by the tradewinds Top quality food and friendly service BBQ night a specialty

SHOPPING GUIDE

See advertisements in this issue



AIRLINES

Divi Divi Air. Bonaire's "on time airline with 16 flights a day between Bonaire and Curaçao.

BAKERIES

Larry's Bakery—Specialists in whole grain bakery products—good taste and good for your health! Other great pastries and breads.

The Last Bite Bakery—Now in town next to Xerox. Fresh baked specials every day. Make it a regular stop.

BANKS

Maduro and Curiel's Bank provides the greatest number of services, branches and ATMs of any Bonaire bank. They also offer investments and insurance.

BEAUTY PARLOR

Hair Affair. Expert hair cutting, styling, facials, waxing and professional nail care.

BICYCLE / SCOOTER/ QUADS

De Freewieler rents scooters and quads; professionally repairs almost anything on two wheels. Sells top brand bikes. Have your keys made here.

DIVING

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

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

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

FITNESS

Bonfysio offers comprehensive fitness programs to suit your needs whether they be weight loss, sports or just keeping in shape. Convenient schedule.

Fit For Life at the Plaza Resort Mall. Classes in Pilates, Aerobics, TaeBo and more. Professional trainers, fitness machines and classes for all levels.

FURNITURE, ANTIQUES

The Plantation Has lots of classy furniture and antiques at very competitive prices. Stop in to see great teak furniture and Indonesian crafts.

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. Incredible selection of pots.

GIFTS, SOUVENIRS AND LIQUOR

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

HOTELS

The Great Escape Under new management. Quiet and tranquil setting with pool and luxuriant garden in Belnem. Cyber Café, DVD rentals, restaurant and bar. **New! Spa!**

METALWORK AND MACHINE SHOP

b c b- Botterop Construction Bonaire N.V., offers outstanding fabrication of all metal products, including stainless. Complete machine shop too.

Nature Exploration

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

PHOTO FINISHING

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

REAL ESTATE / RENTAL AGENTS

Harbourtown Real Estate is Bonaire's oldest real estate agent. They specialize in professional customer service, top notch properties and home owners insurance.

Re/Max Paradise Homes: Lots of Choices—International/US connections. 5% of profits donated to local community. List your house with them to sell fast.

Sunbelt Realty offers full real estate, rental, and insurance services. If you want a home or to invest in Bonaire, stop in and see them.

REPAIRS

Bon Handyman is here if you need something fixed or built. Ultra reliable, honest and experienced. Electrical, plumbing, woodworking, etc. 717-2345

RESORTS & ACTIVITIES

Buddy Dive Resort offers diving, Adventure Fun tours including kayaking, mountain biking, cave snorkeling and exploration.

RETAIL

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

SECURITY

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

SHIPPING

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

TOURIST SERVICES/ INTERNET

Make **Chat 'n' Browse** your headquarters for phone service, Internet connection, great clothes, footwear and gifts. In the Sand Dollar Mall.

WATER TAXI

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

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.

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.

ATTENTION BUSINESSMEN/WOMEN:

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

Did you know that listing in the Guides is FREE for weekly advertisers?

Born on Bonaire

Felix Antonio "Papy" Cicilia

Very early in my life, when I was six years old, I became an altar boy, and when I was 12 I thought I had a religious vocation. So I went to the seminary in Curaçao to study to become a priest. I stayed there for four and a half years, but then a priest from Aruba became the new rector. I had problems with him so I left the seminary. After I'd gone everyone else left too and the seminary was closed.

I went back to Bonaire and finished the Lourdes MULO. I wanted to study; I wanted to become a sports teacher or a play director, but I was one of nine children and my dad, Herman Miguel Cicilia, was a carpenter and my mom, Anna-Maria Francisca Cicilia-de Palm, was a seamstress. There wasn't any money so I applied for a scholarship. The official who was in charge didn't think much of my ideas; what was Bonaire going to do with a play director? And a sports teacher would never find a full-time job on Bonaire either, so he thought. However, I could get a scholarship from a foundation called 'Sticusa,' but only to become a social worker. I was 18 and two scholarships were available. Someone else and I went through the whole application process with good results, but then a third party showed up and he also applied for a scholarship. So, someone had to be dropped because this third person would get the scholarship anyway as he came from a well-known family. The other person and I were equal and they couldn't decide whom to let go, so neither one of us got the scholarship. That's how it was in the old days; people were really narrow-minded.

When I was at the seminary I'd been a big financial burden to my parents, so I wanted to help my family and I started working. My first employer was the MCB bank where I worked in the Collection Department for a month! I was really energetic, and there I found myself sitting in a room all day long, without any daylight, just papers and money! The salary at the time was NAf150 a month.

During that month I was offered a job at what is now ENNIA insurance for a better salary: NAf240, exclusive of commission. I worked there only two days, and then I was convinced by Mr. Humberto Ellis to work for the Post Office; the salary was NAf234. I took the job, and I'm still grateful to Mr. Ellis, because now, after 38 years, I have my pension!

I started out as a ticket counter clerk, but I took management courses, government official training, for four years and a course for middle and top executives in the postal system. At 26 I was head of the administration, I did the continuous audit

and I was also deputy manager of the Post Office in Bonaire. The year was 1976. I married Yolanda Francisca Agostien. Before I got married I already had had two children with someone else: a son, Harvey Felix, born in 1970, and a daughter, Jeamaliria, born in 1973. In 1977 Yolanda gave birth to a son, Daedalus Antonio, and in 1981 another son was born, Siangolgo Heracles. All my children are living on Bonaire and I am the proud grandfather of six grandchildren, soon seven.

"We had to start from the bottom. We were given the building where Flamingo Communications now sits; we brought some tables from home and we sat on wooden crates. The books were ours, so were the tape recorders and cameras and we drove our own cars - everything was ours!"

In 1978, when I was 28, I was approached for something quite different; the Bonairean government wanted to start a cultural department. They'd asked Frans Booi, who was a teacher at the time, to establish the department and he needed an assistant. All the parties involved voted for me. Why? I had a very good administrative background, executive qualities and a love of culture. I'd always been active in sports and culture. I danced in a folkloric dance group, I wrote plays and directed them and also I was an actor. The highlight was the leading roll I played in 'Konshenshi di un pueblo' ('Conscience of a people') a play we performed in Bonaire, Curaçao and Aruba. And I also wrote, published and recited poetry.

I've always been a sports fanatic too. I played soccer, volleyball, baseball, softball, ping pong. I was an athlete, a boxer, a competition diver and a body builder. I played billiards and tennis, dominos and basket ball and I am a certified diver and a fisherman. I've got my diploma acknowledged by FIFA as a soccer referee and I have an international diploma as a volleyball referee. I have my international badge as a body building referee and my international accreditation as a softball umpire. I've been on the board of many, many different sports associations

and I've been promoting sports all my life."

"Papy" Cicilia (56) is a handsome, strong guy in the prime of his life, top-fit and to-the-point and way too young to be retired! "January 15, 1979, was my first working day at the cultural department," he continues. "I was the deputy head and Frans Booi was the head. We had to start from the bot-

tom. We were given the building where Flamingo Communications now sits; we brought some tables from home and we sat on wooden crates. The books were ours, so were the tape recorders and cameras and we drove our own cars - everything was ours! The first year we had to make a budget and the following year we got the money for salaries and to furnish the office. We wrote a manual for culture management and then the work began. We made an inventory; it was a lot of field-work, listening to the old people, getting information about the customs and habits of the old days, not only the oral history but we also had to sift Bonaire's topography to find out about the original names of places and the geology of the island, the caves, the different rock formations, flora and fauna. We did an anthropology research for folklore, art, music and dance, food and costume. It was a very extensive inventory.

Then we had to process all the information, but also we had to advise the government. And then the information had to be presented through radio and TV programs, lectures, newspaper columns and via cultural exchanges here and abroad. We also had to guide cultural groups and projects. Estrella Nicolaas became our secretary; Max St. Jago our handyman; Mrs. Hilda Anthony did the house keeping. Herbert Cesilia was our camera man and when Max St. Jago started to do more field work we added Winfred Dania as a handyman. That's how we worked together until 1994. Then the service was decentralized, and Frans Booi chose to be placed on half pay.

I'd been guiding the whole decentralization process, and by the end of 1996 the island territory of Bonaire could take over the department from the Central Government. Then they told me they would take over the department, but they wouldn't take me... and that was nothing



Felix Antonio "Papy" Cicilia

but politics - because at that moment the Red Party was in power and they had already named Hubert Vis in my place. So, I got my notice of dismissal and I had to ask to be placed on half-pay; that's what I got and then I sat at home...

In 1999 the Green and Yellow Parties won the elections and I was asked to become the coordinator of the government's information service. I did that for 18 months, but my heart was still with the culture department and so I asked if I could go back. I had no problems with Hubert Vis being the head; I have a lot of respect for him, but the people had given me my nickname Papy 'Cultura,' and that is enough for me. So in 2001 I came back, but at the end of 2002 I was named chairman of the board of directors of Post NV. They were having problems and so they named me the interim director of Post NV in Curaçao. I did that for a year, but then Anthony Godett won the elections in Curaçao and his party fired all commissioners and directors, and I came back to Bonaire.

Seven months later Godett's cabinet fell and again they called me back to Curaçao. I stayed there until May 2005 and when the job was done I came back to Bonaire - to the culture department.

Officially I retired May 28 this year but on June 29th they're throwing a farewell party for me, and as you see, everything is already in boxes. I'm taking everything, even the clock on the wall because it's all mine, and as my

work is my hobby, I will continue everything from my house - that is, when I am not at sea, fishing in my little boat, the *Culturita*, because that's one of the things I like best in life!" *Story & photo by Greta Kooistra*





Dive Into Adventure Wrap-up

Participants and the international press pronounced the first edition of Dive Into Adventure Bonaire a success. Whether they attended the many educational presentations or got involved in the many eco-adventure or dive activities there was something to do day and night. The participants and visiting press got involved with snorkeling, diving, caving, land sailing, kiteboarding, kayaking, windsurfing, touring the island and Washington Park.

On-island and overseas experts and celebrities gave a hand to make sure all had a great time. They included Dee Scarr, Dos Winkel, STINAPA's managers, Bill and Alice Miller, Larry Baillie, Charles Mazel, Hendrik Wuyts, Elvis Martinus, Hubert Vis, Walt Stark, Caren Eckrich, Benji Schaub, Captain Don and Philippe Cousteau. The TCB offers its gratitude to them all.

Unique and popular was the "It's a Knockout" event at the stadium on Wednesday evening. Teams of locals and visitors together competed in a variety of imaginative and exciting games. The final winner was the Ennia Ramblers



Winning team of It's a Knockout



The foreign press enjoys some kayaking.

team under Captain Ronella Croes: Paco Veeris, Katherine Healey (a tourist), Cass Lawson (international press) and visitor Todd Washowich. Bonaire bands like Pal i' Wiri entertained at different times during the week

TCB is especially grateful to Nick Davies of Clever 'n Smart for his help. □

TCB photos-G.D.

Snorkeler's Notebook: Poetics on the Reef

During my innumerable snorkeling adventures on Bonaire, I am invariably told by divers that I *should* dive so that I can truly and totally be immersed in the underwater world. It seems that "just snorkeling" is considered by some as a less spectacular, more placid experience. I beg to differ. On behalf of snorkelers everywhere, I hope to reveal how the liberating practice of no tanks, no gauges, no regulators, no weights and one snorkel and a mask can elicit "poetics" that William Wordsworth, 18th century English romantic poet, would envy.

Unencumbered and unrestrained, with an unlimited air supply, I have the leisure to appreciate the "spontaneous emotion recollected in tranquility" that Wordsworth defined as poetry. As the Romantic poets believed, in nature could be found the temple of the spiritual for the refuge of the soul. As I hover over my "temple," I imagine what poetic theories Wordsworth, Coleridge, and even Byron would have invented had they snorkeled. What kind of poetry would John Keats have created if he had snorkeled the Invisibles: fields and fields of staghorn coral like someone is growing it; trumpetfish literally "hanging together" in groups of six, heads neon blue or canary yellow; elkhorn coral arms, years in the making, embracing grunts, snappers, and others who refuse to be seen; and then a swirling cloud of tangs spreading across the reef like blue ink, dragging in others to revel in their blue moment. Perhaps, instead of "Ode to a Grecian Urn," Keats would have given us the classic "Ode to Blue Tang" with lines like these taught in every beginning poetry class: "O to the blue black purple hues of the tang-- forever swimming into immortality." But, alas, there is only my dream of Keats in a mask and snorkel, perhaps a long repressed memory from a graduate course in the Romantic poets.

Are other snorkelers having similar poetic inspirations and intuitions? Or is unlimited air intoxicating me into some kind of reverse-narcosis? I only know that seeing six sherbet-colored rainbow parrotfish in the shallows at 18th Palm, fins out of water, compels me to spontaneously emote and recollect in tranquility the archetypal mystery unfolding before my eyes. And it sure does my soul good too. □ *Pauline E. Kayes*



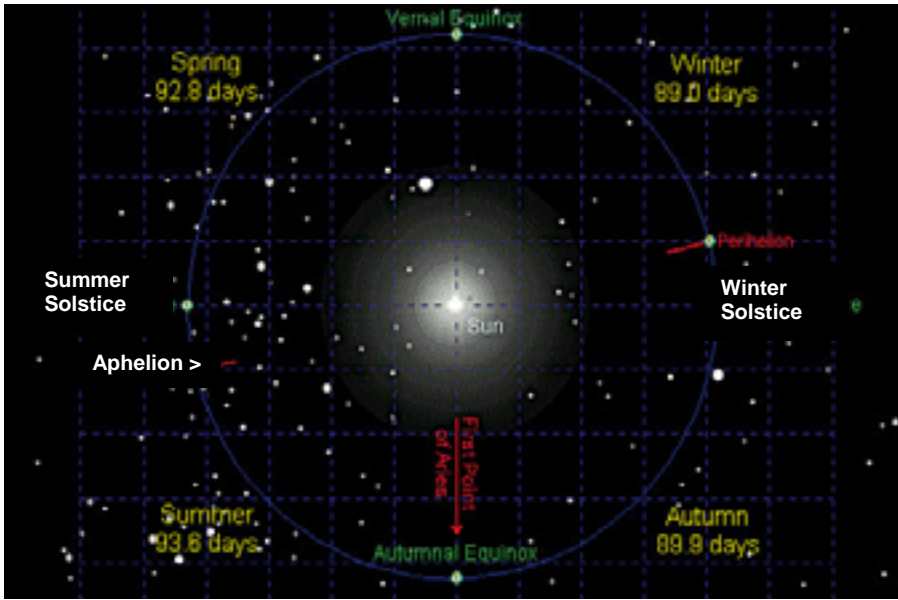
Tangs



BONAIRE SKY PARK*

*to find it, just look up

Earth at Aphelion This Week and



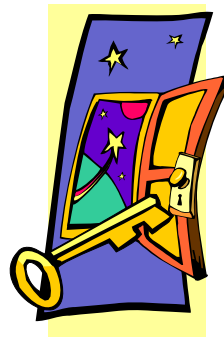
Believe it or not our **Earth** is at **aphelion** this week, which is always fun to explain, and if you don't catch **Saturn** in the next week and a half you won't see it in evening skies again until the end of this year.

First let's find my favorite planet, ringed **Saturn**. This coming weekend, Saturday and Sunday, July 8th and 9th, about 45 minutes after sunset, while there's still a bit of twilight out, face west. And if you have a really clear, flat horizon you'll see the first planet out from the **Sun**, tiny 3,000-mile-wide **Mercury**, then just above it, good old 75,000-mile-wide **Saturn**. And just above Saturn, tiny 4,000-mile-wide **Mars**, which right now is as dim as it ever gets. Three planets lined up in a row on an imaginary line called the ecliptic, which is the path along which all the planets, our **Sun** and **Moon** travel. But Saturn is the one we're zeroing in on because it will be gone by mid-month.

So if you've got a small telescope, this week and next is the time to take a look at it because even through a small telescope you can see Saturn's rings. I suggest looking at it at about 100 to 150 power through any telescope. And in case you see a bright pinpoint of light close to it, that's its largest Moon, 3,200-mile-wide **Titan**, which is even bigger than Mercury and which we've been visiting for the past two years uncovering remarkable secrets. In fact, we now know that Saturn has 47 moons, and we're probably going to discover more before our mission to Saturn is ended.

Now everyone has heard that **Jupiter** is the king of the planets, 88,000 miles wide, which means that since our Earth is only 8,000 miles wide we could line up 11 Earths across its middle. And the spherical body of Saturn is indeed smaller than Jupiter, being only 75,000 miles wide. But if you count Saturn's rings then Saturn is exactly twice as wide as Jupiter, 176,000 miles wide. And because Saturn's average density is less than water, astronomers sometimes joke that if we had a bathtub big enough to hold Saturn it would actually float. Talk about a ring around the bathtub!

And now for my annual comment about aphelion, this week Earth is at aphelion. It simply means that Earth is several million miles farther away from the Sun than it was six months ago in the first week of January when it was at its closest or what we call **perihelion**. Indeed in January our Earth was only 91 and 1/2 million miles away from the Sun, but this week it's 94 and 1/2 million miles away, three million miles farther. So why isn't it colder out? My annual clue is the word "tilt." Think about it as you watch Saturn! □ *Jack Horkheimer*



THE STARS HAVE IT

Sunday, July 2 to
Saturday, July 8, 2006

By Astrologer Michael Thiessen

ARIES (Mar. 21- April 20) You need to interact with others if you want to expand your knowledge. Business trips will be more productive than trying to fight the red tape facing you. Hide your cards and learn to say no. Read some books on self awareness. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

TAURUS (Apr. 21- May 21) Sudden romantic connections may be short lived. You can evade the issue as usual by being affectionate, fun loving, and far too active for your lover to catch on. Friends or groups that you're affiliated with may want you to contribute more cash than you can really afford. Real estate investments will payoff. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21) Extend an invitation to clients you enjoy spending time with. Take time to listen to children and help them with projects that seem impossible to them. Double check your work and be sure that your boss is in a good mood before you do your presentation. Secret affairs will eventually backfire on you. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) Minor health problems could result through exhaustion. Loss or theft may occur if you are careless with your belongings. You will be up and down emotionally. Close deals that have been up in the air and move on to new ones that appear to be profitable. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

LEO (July 23-Aug 22) Things may not be as harmonious as you would like with colleagues or employers this week. You are best to be discreet. You need to spend less time daydreaming and more time accomplishing. You have more than enough on your plate already. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) You'll be able to break bad habits if you put your mind to it. You need to look into some private matters before you can proceed with your plans. You will be in an overly generous mood this week. If you act with anger you may blow the relationship. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) Unexpected bills may set you back. You need to do something energetic and different. Opportunities to show your worth will enhance your reputation and bring possible advancement. Misunderstandings at work could easily lead to your demise. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) Be honest in your communication and don't lose your cool if someone backs you into a corner. Don't try to deal with important issues or make changes that will upset the apple cart. You will enjoy physical activities more than you think. A romantic infatuation from your past may surface if you frequent places that you both used to go. Your lucky day this week is Thursday.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) You need a day to rest and relax with the one you love. Close deals that have been up in the air and move on to new ones that appear to be profitable. You can make life easier for an older member of your family. You will back yourself into a corner if you are baited and your stubbornness will only make matters worse. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) Check your personal papers and make sure everything is in order. Sit back. You can make the most headway if you put in some overtime. Assist a relative or good friend by setting of a budget for them. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) You must deal with an emotional problem with your loved one that you have been avoiding for some time now. The talk you have may be eye-opening with regard to your present situation. You will be misinterpreted if you get involved in other people's problems. You have to feel free to come and go as you please to achieve happiness. Your lucky day this week is Sunday.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) You will have a problem sorting out your true feelings when it comes to your relationship. You will get out of shape easily if you don't keep on top of things. You will find that money could slip through your fingers. You can accomplish a lot if you direct your thoughts toward starting your own small business on the side. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday. □