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BONAIRE

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The REPORTER

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The Reporter At The Top of the World

Dennis Kellner atop Mt. Everest with *The Bonaire Reporter*

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Flotsam and Jetsam



The second round of the long-term sea water nutrient monitoring program for Bonaire was completed earlier this month. The previous monitoring in March showed that the waters around Bonaire are generally in good condition. However, there were clear signs of nutrient enrichment (from waste water). Nutrient enrichment can cause serious damage to coral reefs. Fortunately, the European Union recently approved the addition of a tertiary treatment step to the planned sewage treatment plant which should soon be installed in Bonaire. The study was done

by a group of STINAPA/Bonaire National Marine Park (BNMP) volunteers. The BNMP, departments of nature and environment protection from the Island Government and Central Government and the Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute (Florida) are all participating. The volunteers and BNMP interns collected water and algae samples, estimated fish population composition/abundance and made coral reef video transects. The survey was carried out at 10 sites along the west coast of Bonaire and Klein Bonaire. The samples were sent to Harbor Branch Oceanographic

Institution of Miami, and the results are expected at the end of this month. Special thanks go to all the participating volunteers, interns, as well as Capt. Don's Habitat, Toucan Dive and Wannadive, who helped tremendously with the logistics and provided the necessary air supplies. *K. v.Dijk, STINAPA*



► On December 16, 2006, **Continental Airlines will begin flying to Bonaire from Newark (N.J.) Airport.** (Currently the Continental website still shows only a flight via Houston.) Last week the Tourism Cooperation Bonaire (TCB) and Continental Airlines signed the contract. Continental started flying to Bonaire last December and has had mostly full flights.

► Last week **Jamaica formally signed a modification of its arrangement with Venezuela's agreement for 21,000 barrels of oil a day** to provide an additional 2,500 barrels per day for Air Jamaica. Under the "PetroCaribe" agreement, Venezuela sells oil to Caribbean and Latin American nations at world market prices but converts 40% of the payments to long-term debt at 1% interest. Fuel accounts for approxi-

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(Flotsam and Jetsam. Continued from page 2) mately 17% of the costs of the airline, which, prior to the deal, was projecting to lose about US\$75 million this year, against US\$136 million in 2005. **Air Jamaica flies to Bonaire every Saturday.**

► A proposal to increase the wage tax for retirement by 1.5% and simultaneously raise the retirement pension by NAf100/month will be sent to Parliament next week. The wage limit will be increased from NAf48.000 to 72.000 per year. The maximum old age pension will rise to NAf654 a month. In total the employee pays 4.5% of his or her salary, the employer pays 5.5%. The bill was introduced by Senator Ramonsito Booi of Bonaire and two Curaçao senators. Recently, Bonaire lawmakers salaries were boosted 25% (Bonaire Reporter 16 June 2006)

► Majority (Green Party) leader Ramonsito Booi said in a press release that the Bonairean government has no intention of taking away



Ramonsito Booi

long-lease land from the community. However, if people do not have the means to build a house they will have to return the long-lease land to the Government. According to Booi, they will get another piece of land once they have the money to build a house. Booi says that there is plenty of land available, but people have to follow the rules. Recently,

the government sent letters out to long-lease land holders of vacant land who have held the lease for years but did not build on it as required. Usually a person has to start building within one or two years. It has to do with the distribution of water and energy. It costs money to keep a lot of land undeveloped.

“It’s not about the taking away of the land, but the complying with existing rules,” said Booi. A person has to sign an agreement when he/she received the land, and in this agreement it is stated that construction should start within one or two years.

► The Bank of the Netherlands Antilles announced that counterfeit NAf100 bills are again in circulation.



The 2003 series bills have been copied. The bills are of reasonably good quality but can be well distinguished from the real ones in bright light. Some of the counterfeits also have the gold foil but do not have the gold colored shiny ink cartridge that can be clearly seen on the real bills once they are turned. A clear difference can be seen in the seal (see photo above) of the Central Bank that does not appear on the counterfeit bills.

(Continued on page 8)

coral glimpses

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



Dee Scarr photo

► Coral rock (a dead starlet coral) washed up on shore can give us a view we can't get when the coral animals are alive. The living coral would have been on the top right of this piece of skeleton, where all the little circles are. Each circle was the cup which the individual polyp secreted and upon which it rested. What we see along the sides, where the rock has been broken or worn, is a record of the growth of each cup as the coral head as a whole grew. □

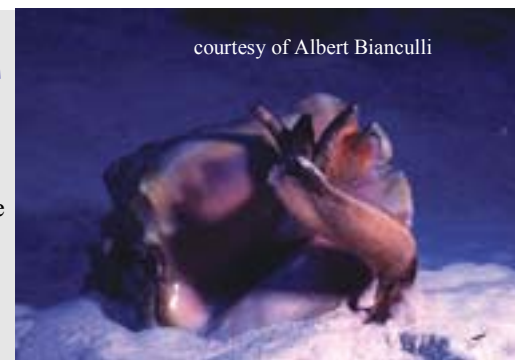
Bubbles from the Biologist

Did You Know...Conch Jump?

Queen Conch, *Strombus gigas*, are very large snails with gorgeous shells. They should be a common sight in the seagrass meadows of Lac Bay because that's where their favorite algae thrives, but they have been overfished and it's rare that I

see one while guiding snorkelers in Lac. Strangely enough, I see them more often on the calm side of Bonaire while snorkeling over the reef. From above, conch resemble the substrate because sand and algae collect on their shells. If you pick one up and look underneath, you'll see the most beautiful swirl of shiny pink and two brown eyes staring at you from long eyestalks. You may even be swiped by the conch's strong and pointy operculum. The conch uses its operculum to jump along the bottom and can make considerable headway (for a snail). Conch are protected in Bonaire, so if you see someone collecting them, you should report it to the Bonaire Marine Park – 717-8444.

□ Caren Eckrich



courtesy of Albert Bianculli

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.



On the Island Since...

2005 and 1999

Nelson Croft and Naomi Slotema

I was busy in Aruba setting up the Blokart® land-sailing, but the paperwork was going to take at least 13 to 17 months. Then a Bonairean politician invited me to come over and have a look because Bonaire urgently needed new tourist activities that would fit the non-polluting, ecological island's policy. So I came here for the first time in 2003. I thought this was a fantastic island, far more beautiful and greener than Aruba and the people were very friendly and sincerely helpful. The island's good-natured atmosphere attracted me immediately.

I come from the Information Technology business. I worked for 15 years as a sales manager and I traveled a lot for my work: Central America, the US, Asia – I worked one year in Taiwan – Japan, Singapore. I was in Beirut during the civil war. I went to Cuba, and before all that I finished the Higher Navigation School in Amsterdam, and I sailed one year with Greenpeace on the *Sirius* as a radio officer. I was part of the Dutch hang-gliding team for 12 years and also I did gliding.

Although I was making a lot of money in the IT business I was never a materialistic man, so after 15 years it was enough. I didn't like what I was doing anymore and I felt the urgent need to take off to a tropical island and to show people how to do things that are great fun. Land sailing comes originally from New Zealand, but it has become very popular in Holland, all over Europe and also in the States, Australia and Japan.

At one of the biggest sports fairs in the world in Munich, Germany, I met the people from Blokart who were looking for a distributor in the Caribbean. I was very enthusiastic about the product, and a survey I did showed that Aruba had the highest household income of all the Caribbean islands and more than a million tourists per year, so I thought it would be best to start there. But, as the paperwork was taking so long and I'd been invited to come to Bonaire in the meantime, I saw opportunities here. In consultation with several politicians we decided the track should be somewhere near Rincon to stimulate the social and economical activities in and around Rincon. Way too little is happening there as everything is centralized on the west coast. I applied for the permits and went back to Holland to prepare everything. In 2005 I met Naomi here on Bonaire at Little Havana and I thought she was very cute" *he smiles* "it might have been love at first sight..."

"I was living on Bonaire since August 1999. Before that, in April and May of that year I'd been working as an intern at Eric Hagens' dental practice," *Naomi says*. "After I graduated I decided to go back to Bonaire as I had fallen head over heels in love with the island, so I packed my suit-

case and came here. I was 21 and the first certified dental hygienist on the island and it was a challenge! For six years I worked with Hagens, and the clients, especially, made it an unforgettable time for me. Even now, when I go out shopping, people still ask me, 'When are you going back to work again?' And for sure, I don't preclude the possibility.

I was going through a very difficult period in my life when I met Nelson. We became very good friends almost instantly, but for me that was all. I went to Holland, never with the intention of staying away for good, but I needed some time off. When Nelson came to Holland to bring me back to Bonaire I realized how much I cared for him and when he flew back I followed a month later.

"I thought this was a fantastic island, far more beautiful and greener than Aruba and the people were very friendly and sincerely helpful. The island's good-natured atmosphere attracted me immediately."

Then we started frantically with the land sailing. With the help of Cargill and the Damascus family we were able to build the track. Cargill donated the natural material for the track. It's environmentally neutral so we're not polluting the soil or the reefs. The Damascus Company did all the construction work. We had a lot of problems with the weather because when we were ready to open the wind dropped and then the rainy season lasted for a very long time last year. In mid-December 2005 we got our first two clients, two American nurses who ended up completely covered with mud, but they had a great time! Then Clay Owens – 83 years old – who came with his whole family from California to Bonaire was not allowed by his children to participate. He was watching his family having a great time and then he said, 'I'd rather die in a Blokart than sit here on a bench!' and he got up and raced the whole afternoon with his children and grandchildren." "It's a real eco-sport," *Nelson says*. "Without polluting, without destroying anything, we're offering a fun activity.

The tourist bureau is also proud and happy with the fact that Bonaire is offering a complete package with top-side ecological activities - it's really unique. Also Bonaire is the first place in the Caribbean where you can go land sailing, and the track we have is the largest built-for-the-



Naomi Slotema and Nelson Croft

purpose land sailing track in the world. Already we've seen a lot of SGB students. The sport is exciting. It's about speed and it's competitive. It's not just for tourists; it's also for the people who live here. Land sailing has been around for over a hundred years, and Blokarting is now a recognized sport with competitions all over the world. So we're planning on putting a Bonairean team together to participate in the first world championships next year. I think Bonaire can finish very high because we have fantastic surfers and sailors and we have unique circumstances because we can practice almost all year around.

Monday, July 17th, marked the first land sailing competition between the various islands in the Caribbean. It was held on Bonaire as part of the UTS-Chippie Challenge. Competing were 'sailors' from St. Kitts, Aruba, Curaçao, St. Martin, St. Eustatius and Bonaire... and Bonaire was the overall winner, not only in land sailing, but also in mountain biking, kayaking and swimming." *Nelson Croft (44) and Naomi Slotema (28) are both easy going; she's very sweet and considerate and he's a nice fellow who knows how to tell a story. They are two people who have a lot in common – they make a great couple.*

"The way I see it," *Nelson says*, "it all went a bit slower than I thought it would go. As an entrepreneur you always want things to go faster, but we manage to live off it and both of us are still very happy that we did it." "Not only is it a beautiful place to be every day," *Naomi says*, "but for me this is something entirely new and I am someone who needs change. I am learning something new: advertising, promotion, negotiating with sponsors, suppliers and dealers, and I am also organizing all the events, like the business competition on Bonaire. Nelson is the sales person and

I am the organizer and we're a good team. He gives me peace and adventure at the same time and he's full of stories and I love that.

I've always been very restless and in spite of all the stress that comes with starting a new business, Nelson gives me stability and that's very important to me. For me it's all about friendships and challenges and no problems. Nelson always says, 'There are no problems – there are only challenges!' And I think that is a beautiful way of putting it. I want to be happy and I want other people to be happy too, and if that's not the case it can make me very sad. That's something Nelson and I share."

"Naomi is a very sweet person and she's spontaneous and we laugh a lot. That's what I want to say for *The Reporter*, and all the rest I'd like to keep to myself!" *Nelson smiles*. "We're very good together and both of us love to travel but that has to wait for a while. I think it's very important to experience new things in life and to meet new people and to help people.

Plans for the future? As soon as possible I want to promote land sailing on the other Caribbean islands so that we can have competitions in the region. On Bonaire I'm thinking of developing other eco-sports, for instance in case there's no wind, but those plans are not ready to publish yet. My idea was to set up a showcase somewhere in the Caribbean to show that it was possible and that's how it went. Now I want to expand the activities on the other islands, but one thing is for sure; we'll stay here. Bonaire is just great; there are a lot of countries we still would like to see, but Bonaire will always be home..."

□ *Story & photo by Greta Kooistra*



LETTERS

BILLBOARDS –WHAT OTHERS THINK

Dear Editor:

Billboards have three levels of appearance:

Ugly
Uglier
Ugliest

It is interesting that as many communities around the world have, years ago, even decades ago, banned these eyesores, that Bonaire in 2006 is just starting to allow them.

Nothing wrong with a sign in front of your own business, but when they get plastered everywhere... this just isn't Bonaire anymore.

The government, who should not allow these things at all, should at least charge a monthly fee of NAf100 for all these signs that are not in front of a business. Either Bonaire would make some money or the signs would disappear.

B.B.

BILLBOARD LEGISLATION NEEDED

Editors:

It is not possible to stop development on Bonaire and billboards are part of it. Any profit or non profit organization on Bonaire needs to promote themselves in order to communicate their messages or their products. It necessary doesn't mean we must allow any kind or size of billboard and sacrifice our distinguishing trademark, this means the government, entrepre-

neurs, TCB, etc... must agree about the features a billboard must fill to be use on Bonaire (size, frame kind, etc...) and must do it soon.

Remember even the billboards companies on Bonaire generate work places and pay taxes that Bonaire needs. *Luis Gorrin, Gaia Productions*

Dear Editor:

Thanks for bringing up the billboards issue. This is just one of the many areas where legislation is needed. When are the politicians going to wake up?

When will they realize how we are spoiling our assets, of which we do not have all that many of, in the first place?

Keep up the good work!

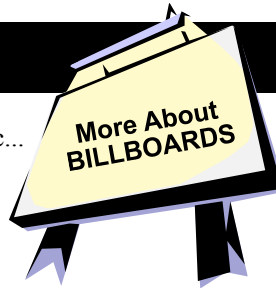
Rene H.

Dear Editors:

I completely agree with the vision that Bonaire is being poisoned by billboards. A few months ago I wrote an article about it in the *Amigoe*. When I was working for the government I was involved in legislation on limiting billboards on the island, using the laws on Bermuda on this subject as an example.

In my opinion we should get as much pressure on the island government as possible to set clear limits for billboards.

Hans Rietveld



DO CRITTERS CRY?

A BONAIRE
COMMENTARY

She plodded her way through the swells. She knew she was close; home. A long time gone now and many, many miles traveled.

Now, on this last leg of her journey, she was desperately tired and weak from hard days at sea, with nowhere to rest or eat, she'd pressed on, driven by instinct to deliver her precious burden to her secret place, Thelma pressed on east, from the sun, home.

Closer now, she could hear the faint sounds of the waves dancing along the shore line.

At the reef line, and desperate for food, Thelma munched on a variety of sponge, long her favorite. While not nearly as sweet as she remembered, the small meal gave her much needed energy to push on.

She scanned the shoreline, as best she could (she was quite near sighted), for familiar landmarks but found none.

Thelma couldn't see any of the bright, cheery, pastel colored places where the land people lived. In earlier times, how she had enjoyed floating along just off the shore as the sun, setting behind her, painted the little island in colors of gold and yellow.

Now and then, she'd been able to hear the happy, melodious, sounds of the land people as they went about doing whatever it was that land people do. This was a happy place, an easy place to be.

It was much different now, all the boxes on the shore were big and gray, crowded so close she couldn't tell where one stopped and the next one started, and where there wasn't a big ugly box there were huge boards with pictures of new boxes, yet to be built.

Some of the big boards had pictures of land people, others had pictures of the metal things the land people moved around the island in and many of the other ones didn't seem to show anything at all.

It was all so different now, yet nearly identical to most of the other islands she had passed on her journey home, so much so that for a moment she thought perhaps this was the wrong place.

Then, in the distance Thelma heard a lone donkey calling out into the fading afternoon light. This was home.

She had great difficulty searching the coastline for the place she'd been born, nothing looked right. The search took hours in fading light and by the time she located a familiar rock-covered hill behind the beach she became confused and

frustrated with it all. Summoning her waning strength she worked her way through the surf line and crawled, dazed, onto the beach.

No warm, caressing sand met Thelma as she left the sea and after many painful minutes, dragging herself along broken rubble and stone she stopped to survey the spot she knew now had once been her home. Yes, the small hill just beyond where the sand used to be was still there, but the trees, oh, the shade trees were all gone now and the fragrant flowers she loved so much weren't blooming anymore.

There, on a litter strewn rock, she saw an old iguana gazing back at her. He nodded up and down in recognition and understanding. He had seen it all, the brutality wrought upon his friends and relatives, victims of the unconcerned land people in their metal things rushing along the roads, not slowing, not caring, emerald green testimonials of loss. Or worse, captured, skinned and cooked for the pleasure of the land people. The iguana, from his vantage point, felt very sorry for Thelma, for he could see that she shared his fate yet he had no means to console her.

A bottomless, empty feeling engulfed her as she realized this was no longer her place. As she slowly turned back to the surf line behind her Thelma saw yet another huge board on sticks, broken by the wind, the torn and faded picture bore the image of yet another big ugly box.

As the big board rocked back and forth with every gust of wind, a single, crestfallen Lora clung tightly to the swaying perch and braced himself against despair the night would surely bring.

He had no one now, his mate of more than 10 years and their two offspring had been stolen from their home by poachers while he was gathering food. He'd never found them and now to live out the remainder of his days in solitude to dream of what might have been. The Lora tried to muster a happy greeting for Thelma but couldn't find the spirit as she slowly worked her way back out to sea, alone, burdened with her eggs and now her sorrow.

Thelma turned back once more for a last look at what once was her home. Tears came to her eyes and fell into the Caribbean Sea as a string of pearls. Thelma moved further out through the calming swells. Somewhere in the distance, a lonely donkey hung his head low, donkey tears falling on the dust around him. □

Brian McCarley

It's been quite awhile since we have heard from Tonky Frans, Bonaire's very own professional windsurfer. Is he lost in space? Or is he out there ripping in the windsurfing world? We started an Internet search and found him in Fuerteventura. And this is what he told us.

I left Bonaire on April 25th 2006 to attend the Professional Windsurfer's Association (PWA) tour. It was my intention to attend both the PWA tour and EFPT tour whenever possible. After I'd made up my planned schedule I found the dates of the events had been changed. I do not know what happened between EFPT and PWA, but once I was in Austria, my first stop, I found out that all events had been rescheduled. All PWA events and EFPT events were on the same date. I got the impression that these two organizations were competing with each other and preventing the windsurfers from attending both tours – like I did successfully in 2005. Therefore I had to make a choice. It was either PWA or EFPT. I chose PWA.”

Tonky's schedule changed, and for 2006 he would be attending events in the following countries: Austria, Costa Brava, Lanzarote, Gran Canaria and Fuerteventura.

“The first stop was in Austria and featured the Freestyle discipline (the discipline that I am really good at). We stayed there from April 26th until May 6th. It was the same situation as at the King of the Caribbean event in Bonaire in 2005: NO WIND. We sat and sat, waited, and sat again, and in the meantime the days were passing. On May 6th we had to conclude that this event was over with no competition having happened whatsoever. This was a great pity for me. Earlier this year a Freestyle qualifier event in Bonaire had already been cancelled. Now here I was in Austria, a nice place to visit indeed, to attend a Freestyle event, and it also did not take place. When such an event doesn't happen, the prize money is divided between all the windsurfers who would have been competing. But the money you get is nothing compared to all the expenses you had during your stay - like accommodations, excess baggage and - not to forget - FOOD. It was very disappointing to me that this event did not happen because I was sure that I could

Windsurfing Reports

Where is Tonky Frans?



Heerss Tonky

have achieved a lot.

The time gap between Austria and Costa Brava was big: six weeks. My brother Taty and I went to Holland where we stayed with a very loveable Dutch family (Gert, Fiona, Robin and Micky - thank you). They are also crazy about windsurfing. We would go windsurfing in the Dutch waters. While I was in the Netherlands I was invited to host a windsurfing event, 'Lago di Amstel Freestyle Battle,' in Amstelmeer. It was an event organized by a friend of mine, Niek van der Linden. Niek has been helping me a lot, as an intermediary when it comes to Dutch windsurfing magazines. So when I had the choice of either going to Italy or staying in the Netherlands and giving something of myself to Niek's event the choice was easily made. I stayed in the Netherlands while Taty left for Italy.

was in full spirit. I also noticed that the events in Costa Brava and Lanzarote were being overshadowed by the FIFA World Cup. Both windsurfing events were for the Super-X discipline. Although I trained hard for this class, it seems that it was not hard enough because it did not go too well for me. In Gran Canaria it was another story in Wave. I was never an excellent Wave rider at the professional level. I decided to participate anyway, and I was astonished by my performance. Even my sponsor was pleasantly surprised and they emailed me about my performance in Gran Canaria, telling me that maybe I should opt for Freestyle and Wave instead of Freestyle and Super-X. I've got to make a decision now....

Now I am in Fuerteventura, the last PWA event in Freestyle. I truly hope that Bonaire will get the title. Of course the ideal scenario for me would be if I, Tonky Frans, get the title (Ha ha ha). But if one of the other Bonairean riders gets it, I will also be very happy.

People ask whether I'll be attending the Pro Kids Freestyle event (see next story) in Bonaire in August. It is a pity, but I cannot be there to show my support to all the windsurfing kids, especially the Bonairean kids. I have an assignment from my sponsor, an event that I have to host for them and therefore cannot come home yet.

I wish Ann Phelan and Elvis and the rest of the team who are organizing this competition lots of strength and all the best for the event. In spite of the fact that I cannot be there personally I will be with you and especially with all the participating kids in spirit. As for the remainder of the tour I'll be keeping you informed. Stay tuned.” □

Tonky Frans & Sapphira Coffie

The Amstelmeer event was a great success with many young windsurfers from Belgium and Germany. On the professional level it was me and Remco de Weerd who assisted during the event, and the windsurfers were clearly delighted to get tips and tricks from us.

After The Lago di Amstel Freestyle Battle I had to assist at a photo shoot in Lanzarote for my clothing sponsor, ION. It would not be an exhausting photo shoot like it was in Australia (I still owe *The Bonaire Reporter* some pictures on this ☺) since I did not have to windsurf and do the same move like 20 times in an hour! Everything was nicely arranged, and after four days of having photos taken of the new collection of ION clothing for 2007, I went back to Holland.

Meanwhile the FIFA World Cup fever

Windsurfing Reports

Get Ready For Freestyle

There's lots of windsurf news to report. July has been a stellar month for wind. The trades have been blowing since May, providing the best conditions for freestyle training. The Bonaire team has been globetrotting to Aruba, Spain, Italy and Germany, to name just a few locations. Soon many return for what is expected to be the hottest freestyle event in the Caribbean.

Currently Jibe City is hosting two summer ABK Windsurf Clinic run by Andy Brandt, the owner of the US-based schools. Jibe City is now an official ABK Site since January which attracts US visitors who want to feel the breeze and perfect their moves. Local pro and instructor Ronald Mayer is teaching the clinics along with Andy's US team.

On the other side of the fence The Bonaire Windsurf Place is hosting Kids Camps. Last week a slew of local and visiting tourist kids took to the water to learn to windsurf. It was awe inspiring to watch these windsurf fledglings hit the water and eventually windsurf. Local teacher Elvis Martinus along with Rene Van De Zande were the watchful eyes and instructors to these young newbies. Each day they met on land to have breakfast and their land instruction. Then off to the water to learn technique and strategy. Somehow the magic waters of Bonaire allow the beginner to advance at record reaches, and this past week was nothing short of wow. Elvis and Rene had their kids tacking and jibing like it was second nature. By week's end another breed of windsurfers left the water, proudly displaying their certificates. One proud parent told me her son was signed up for a second week. "He is completely addicted". What better addiction for a kid?



Instructor Rene Van de Zande from Bonaire Windsurf Place shows how it's done Ann Phelan photo

It was a family fest while the moms and visiting tourists also had their chance to learn to sail. The second annual Diva Women's Week was held at Bonaire Windsurf Place. Organized by Ann Phelan, two guest instructors, Beth Powell and Petra Kanz, volunteered their time to teach over 10 local and tourist women.

And on to more windsurf news. Bonaire was proud to host the first Pro Kids Event in 2005 and now prepares for the finals to be held in Lac Bay. The Pro Kids World's website's registration page is up and running. Go to <http://www.prokidsfreestyle.com/> for more information.

At press time we have riders arriving from Germany, France, Italy, Holland, Belgium and Canada. Team Curaçao is sending over 15 competitors. Word is film producer Dasher will be on site covering this exciting event.

Local kids are training with visiting Pro Kids who have arrived early to train for the Freestyle Championship being hosted by Bonaire August 3 to 6. Fourteen-year-old Dieter Van de Ey-

cken arrived last week with his family in tow. Dieter was greeted at the airport Bonairean style: Coach Elvis Martinus brought a vanload of sandy and salty kids right off the water to meet their new friend Dieter. The team was scrambling all over Dieter's gear, excited to see the Belgian winner's "toys." His family took their savings and flew to Bonaire for three weeks of training and competition. Good luck, Dieter. More young pros head to our windy waters in the week to come.

There are several exciting parties planned. August 3 is registration day for press and competitors at Lac Bay from 2-5. A grand opening ceremony will be held at Bonaire Windsurf Place from 7 to 9 pm. See the tentative schedule below for additional details.

Thursday August 3rd

14:00 - 17:00 Registration for press and competitors at Event Site
18:00 - 19:00 Captains Meeting with Race Director
19:00 Opening Ceremony
19:00 - 21:00 BBQ at Wind & Surf Beach Bar, Sorobon. Public welcome to buy BBQ tickets

Friday August 4th

12:00 - 14:00 Lunch
14:00 - 18:00 Freestyle Competition
20:00 - 23:00 Party at Hollandse Patio. The public is welcome to purchase dinner tickets

Saturday August 5th

10:00 - 12:00 Freestyle Competition
12:00 - 14:00 Lunch
14:00 - 18:00 Freestyle Competition
20:00 - 21:30 Bonaire Partners Ice Cream Party for competitors (location TBA)



Bonaire kid's welcoming committee

Ann Phelan photo

Sunday August 6th

10:00 - 12:00 Freestyle Competition
12:00 - 14:00 Lunch
14:00 - 17:00 Finals Freestyle Competition
17:00 - 19:00 Award Ceremony Sorobon

Sponsors: Maduro and Curiels Bank-Bonaire, Starboard, TCB Inc., KLM, Caribbean Wind and Sun Vacations, Coco Palm Garden, Ocean View Villas, Golden Reef Inn, Dakine, Jibe City, Aquaspeed, Rocargo, Bonaire Partners, Capt. Don's Habitat, Eden Beach, Hot Sails Maui, Bonaire Windsurf Place, Plaza Resort, Budget Bonaire, Windguru and Nettech NV.
□ Ann Phelan



Following the completion of the first day's route the event was cancelled.

► **The Vierdaagse (Four Days Walk) in Holland was cancelled because the heat caused health problems for many walkers, but not our Bonaire team.** Approximately 300 participants fainted and two died after temperatures rose to more than 30 degrees Celsius (86 degrees Fahrenheit). The website: www.4daage.nl has more info in Dutch and English. The organizers cancelled the walk, which dates back to 1909 and attracts some 44,000 participants from around the world. The "Bonaire Road-runner," Nazario Alberto, had a great first day. He started at 6 am and arrived at 11:45am. The other Bonaire walkers - the Martines twins and Customs Officer Nolly Wilsoe - also made it. Most participants were very disappointed (including Nazario) and thought that the organizers should have taken other measures like changing routes. -N.W.

► Last Wednesday Marlon Bermudez, representing the **Bonaire Lions Club**, and Marisela Croes, President of the **Rotary Club** of Bonaire, made a **joint donation to FKPD**, the Foundation that helps Bonaire's handicapped.

The funds were raised during the celebration of Littman Jeweler's 25th anniversary party at Wilhelmina Park on July 2nd. A group of visitors, leaders and Mrs. Lupe Uranie of the FKPD received this donation which will be used for their vacation activities during July. The Lions Club and Rotary Club were happy to be able to contribute to this vacation of FKPD.



► On Saturday, July 8th, a group of **divers and non-divers met at Bonaire Yellow Submarine for the third Clean-up Dive of the year.** After a comprehensive briefing by Susan Davis the group headed out to an area of coastline between Yellow Submarine and Town Pier. Although this area was cleaned in the July 2005 cleanup, there were new signs of dumping, as the cleanup crew brought up the following trash and removed it all for proper disposal: 6 plastic beverage bottles, 64 other bottles, 30 caps or lids, 18 pieces of clothing, 32 pieces of monofilament fishing line, 30 pieces of food service items, 9 wrappers or containers, 1 pull tab, 1 toy, 3 light bulbs, 6 pieces of plastic sheeting, 18 pieces of rope, 1 strapping band, 18 pieces of building materials, 5 automotive parts, and 7 tires.

The next quarterly underwater cleanup will be conducted on Saturday, September 16. All are welcome, divers and non-divers alike. Meet at Yellow Submarine at 1 pm.



(Flotsam and Jetsam. Continued from page 8)



Godett and supporters
extra photo

► Curaçao opposition leader **Anthony Godett finally went to prison** last week to serve the remaining nine months of his 15-month sentence for accepting a bribe and forging an IOU. His imprisonment was a media event because he was accompanied by family and party members, all proclaiming Godett's innocence. He made the request so he can be out in time to campaign for the May 2007 elections. He did not go to prison when he was first convicted two years ago because of appeals and because of the waiting list for non-violent offenders' jail sentences due to a shortage of cell space in Curaçao.

The Antillean Constitution does not block a person convicted of a crime from being elected to Parliament, even while in prison, although oddly enough it does for begging, vagrancy or being drunk in public, which were once considered major issues for elected officials.

► This week the British newspaper, *The Independent*, revealed **the truth behind Japanese vote buying at the International Whaling Commission**. All it took was a query to the Japanese for-

eign affairs office to reveal that the Japanese last year donated 617 million yen (\$2.9m) to St. Kitts and Nevis, the Caribbean nation that hosted the IWC conference. Japan also gave \$5.6m to Nicaragua, while the Pacific island nation of Palau got \$2.7m. All three countries voted with Japan, Iceland and Norway at the IWC conference in favor of the "St Kitts and Nevis Declaration," calling for the 20-year ban on commercial whaling to be eventually scrapped. The pro-whaling camp won the ballot by just one vote.



Herald photo

► **The multi-purpose frigate Van Amstel (in foreground) will be deployed in area waters for counter drug operations** in cooperation with the Coast Guard of the Netherlands Antilles and Aruba. The ship left the Dutch port of Den Helder in the Netherlands on July 3. En route it took part in a disaster exercise near Great Britain. During the Atlantic crossing the crew was trained in nuclear, biological and chemical protection, damage control, as well as in counter-drug operation. It will stay in the Caribbean region until December 8.

This fighting ship is 122 meters long and 14.4 meters wide, and draws six meters. Propulsion is provided by two gas

turbines and two diesel engines, giving the ship a maximum speed of 29 knots. The *Van Amstel* is equipped with NATO Sea Sparrow air missiles, Harpoon anti-ship launchers, systems to mislead radar, torpedoes to fight submarines, a Goalkeeper 30mm cannon and an Oto Melara 76mm cannon. The frigate also has a Lynx helicopter on board. The 135-member crew is under the leadership of Commander Pim Croiset van Uchelen.

► Bonaire's fixed-line phone company, **Telbo, has begun laying fiber optic cables on the island**. Fiber optic cable is made of hair-thin strands of glass. Light carrying signals are sent through the glass fiber which get converted back to electrical signals. The cable is being laid first in Antriol, Belnem, Hato and Sabadeco, while the other barios are to follow in a second phase. The cable is intended to carry digital cable television service via Internet, called IPTV, which the company hopes to introduce by the end of the year. It can offer video on demand to the home along with normal telephone services.

► **Be careful to secure your belongings at the Indian inscriptions at Onima**. Several visitors to the site found their belongings had mysteriously disappeared. Last week one group returned, realizing they had forgotten one of their bags, and discovered in a nearby cave two mattresses, some bags, their own towel and more. It's speculated that someone is hiding there waiting for people to stop. The visitors feel very safe at the inscriptions, "because there is no one around." So they leave their car open, have a look at the inscriptions and return

to their car. In the meantime it is robbed! This has been going on at least since last March. This time the police were informed. So if you visit the inscriptions lock-up... at least until the police nab the thief. -R

► For years STINAPA, the Bonaire Parks' NGO, has organized activities for children between four and 19 to teach them about Bonaire's environment. **Last year, 1,643 children participated in those activities. Eighty-two children passed a snorkeling course and received a certificate**. STINAPA has been working with schools since 1996 and has many class materials available. There are many more activities this year due to the education innovations. Together with the LVV (Agricultural Extension Service), the students did re-forestation on Klein Bonaire and in Washington Slagbaai Park.

► On Wednesday, August 9, **the police will begin impounding cars that do not have up-to-date license plate tags**. If you haven't gotten your 6-month update, go to the Ontvanger's office at J.A. Abraham Boulevard 27. The fees are: Diesel cars and trucks pay NAf754; gasoline powered cars pay NAf174; motorcycles and scooters pay NAf125; taxis and buses pay NAf126,50 and heavy vehicles (Z-plates) must pay NAf1127,50.

► Put it on your calendar: **Dia di Bonaire this year will be celebrated in the bario of Amboina** on Wednesday, September 6. □ G/L. D.

Picture Yourself with The Reporter

One of *The Bonaire Reporter's* most popular features is "Picture Yourself With The Bonaire Reporter." Over the years hundreds of people have sent us photos from every continent except Antarctica. But perhaps the most spectacular photo is the cover shot this week. Here's the story behind it:

Mt. Everest



Bonaire resident Jane Madden sent us a photo for the Picture Yourself section of *The Reporter*. She wrote, "To make a long story short in November of 2005, friends of ours, Tamara Brown and Dennis Kellner, a married couple from the Florida Keys, came to visit for a week. They fell in love with Bonaire, as we did, and before they left bought a piece of property and are in the process of building a home here where, once finished, they will permanently live. Dennis is a mountain climber and in March, 2006, he began the three-month round trip trek to climb Mount Everest, the highest point on planet Earth (29,028 ft- 8.847 m.). On May 23, 2006, Dennis summited Mount Everest. Attached is a photo of him on the summit of Mount Everest... with *The Bonaire Reporter*!"

Most of the climbers who summit Everest take their country's flag and take a photo with it. Dennis took two flags-the Conch Republic flag (the Keys own banner, where he lives now) and the Bonaire flag (soon to be his home)! So Bonaire now has connections on the ends of the Earth! He was lucky to get *The Reporter* photo as his camera froze up several times on the way up (it was about -15° F, that's -26° C!). Before he left on his trip, his wife, Tamara, laminated *The Reporter* so it would withstand the wind on the summit when he took it out for the photo!"



From a story by David Ball at the Keynoter newspaper:
Dennis Kellner at home in the Keys

It's just one of many experiences Kellner will take with him as he strives to do what only 168 people in the world have ever done - climb to the highest peaks on all seven continents. "It's called the Seven Summits, and not many people have done it," Kellner said while relaxing at zero elevation in his present Marathon, Florida Keys home. "I knew that if I had any chance,

I had to do Everest next."

Kellner had already successfully climbed the 20,320-foot Denali (also known as Mount McKinley) in Alaska, the 22,841-foot Aconcagua in Argentina, and the 16,067-foot Mount Vinson in Antarctica. Now all he needs to climb are the three "easy ones," he says, which include Kilimanjaro in Tanzania, Elbrus in Russia and Kosciuszko in Australia (however, Kellner said some still argue the Carstensz Pyramid in Indonesia is the highest peak of the Australian continent).

Some may consider Kellner's life unique, as they ask the question: why would a retired 55-year-old home builder risk life and limb to climb a mountain, just to turn around and come back down? Kellner is the first to admit that climbing is truly selfish, where climbers don't do it for world peace, to cure cancer or bring awareness to any cause. They do it to challenge themselves and to push the limits of what humans think is possible.

By the way, Jane Madden reports he intends to climb Bonaire's Mount Brandaris once they are moved in! G.D.

Tibet



Unusual as it is, it's not the first time that Mount Everest (although not at the summit) has been featured in *The Reporter*. In January, 2002, Bonaire residents Beverley Jimenez and Linda Baker took a recent edition of *The Bonaire Reporter* along with them on a trip to Tibet. Mt. Everest was in the background in their photo at the 5,800-meter-high Everest base camp.

Turkey



Many people who live on Bonaire send photos of themselves holding *The*

Reporter at the high spots of their vacation. Roger Burnham sent us these from his recent holiday. The first was shot in Troy (yes, that one, Helen) Turkey, with Marcia and Roger. The second from that same world-spanning trip was taken in Sapa Vietnam (north, near the China border) with four residents of Bonaire (L to R): Roger, a Hmong Woman, Susan Burns, Ann Joseph, Marcia Leatham.



Vietnam

Opheusden, The Netherlands



And the opposite is true as well. People who vacation in Bonaire send us photos of themselves when they return home. Sascha van Eldik sent us this picture of herself standing next to a windmill in Opheusden, The Netherlands. The reason why she wants to be pictured in *The Reporter* is, in her own words: "I've done a traineeship for five months. From February until last Saturday! I lived with my aunt and uncle (Agnes and Ap van Eldik- Green Label) and I will thank them this way. It means a lot to me. Masha danki!"

Don't forget to picture YOURSELF with *The Bonaire Reporter* wherever you go. Each year prizes are given for the best and most unusual photos. Of course, this year it will be hard to top the Everest photo, but we just saw a press release that said the world's first tourist space flights are planned for 2008. The commercial space line, called Virgin Galactic, said in a news conference at the Farnborough International Air Show near London, that it had collected \$15.6 million (£8.6 million) in deposits for the flights which cost \$200,000 per ticket. Among the 78 people who have reservations are former actress Victoria Principal, designer Philippe Starck and a senior member of an unidentified royal family who have all bought tickets for the world's first tourist space flights. □ G.D.





Ask the Dietitian

Not Only Love to Cook, But Put Love Into Your Cooking

When we cook we usually forget or overlook one important factor: the consciousness of the person cooking and the effect that this will have upon the food, and thus also on those who eat it. When food is being prepared, not only should the place be hygienic, clean and in order, but so should the state of mind of the cook.

A simple and familiar example of this concept at work can be seen in the way that home cooking, especially that of one's mother, holds a special place in our hearts. The love and care with which it is prepared more than makes up for the greater technical skills that may perhaps be found in a restaurant setting where stress, arrogance and greed may flavor the dish of the day.

Food cooked by a person who is angry, depressed or full of arrogance or hatred will have a different effect than food cooked with feelings of love, peace and the pure desire to serve.

So, before undertaking any food preparation, remind yourself that the project at hand can and should be an enjoyable, creative activity, rather than an unpleasant, time-consuming chore.

Below are two recipes for those wondering what to do with couscous. Both the Couscous Salad and the Pasta Salad are very light meals.

Couscous Salad

250 ml water 185g couscous

1 carrot, 1 red pepper, 1 tomato, 1 small cucumber, all finely diced
3-4 lettuce leaves, finely chopped
60 ml (2 fl. oz.) fat free or light dressing to taste
Handful of fresh basil, chopped

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

Pasta Salad

375 g pasta twist or shells
Boiling water
30 g olives, coarsely chopped
salt and pepper, to taste
1 carrot, grated
60 g broccoli
1 pepper, thin strips
2-3 fresh tomatoes, finely cubed
3 tbs lemon juice

Boil the pasta in a large pan of boiling water until just tender. Drain. Rinse with cold water and drain thoroughly. Mix all the other ingredients and add them to the pasta.

Serve with a salad dressing of your choice.

And always remember to add the loving ingredient. □ *Angèlique Salsbach*

Angèlique 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. Angèlique is an owner of Top Health Fitness and Health Center, Kaya Nikiboko Noord 44, Tel. 717-5662; email tophealthbonaire@yahoo.com



The Snack Bar Detectives

Their Mission: *To seek out the mysteries that lie behind the doors of Bonaire's snacks*



This week: E Teras Nikiboko Zuid

As the days get hotter, our tastes have changed a little. OK, the beer has to be ice cold; that goes without saying, but our appetites have jaded a little. We are starting to find that some of the more indigenous snack bars are a little easier on our stomachs. Big D had been given the wink that E Teras was back in business. It has been closed for some months due to a fire and the word was that it had been nicely refurbished.

As we walked into the bright and airy bar, we could see the work that had gone into the rebuild. As you sit at the tiled bar with everything looking like a new pin, you feel immediately welcome. As always, a round of Polar was ordered. My teeth tingled as the ice cold beer rushed into my mouth. Big D's didn't even touch the sides and he was already ordering the second! After several rounds, we decided to eat. No menus

here, just ask the bar staff what is available and they have all the information in their heads. We were attended to by a friendly señorita with a big smile. Spanish was going to be helpful so we enlisted the help of JJ, an old tar with much traveling under his belt.

We ordered our fare: Beef Steaks in garlic with fries/rice and salad and *Kabritu Stoba* (goat stew) with rice. In no time at all our hostess presented the food, cooked to perfection and not too overbearing. We normally leave after eating but were somewhat enticed by this hostelry. We drank some more, chatted with the locals and heard tales from JJ about the one that got away. We picked up our cheque with some trepidation. We needn't have worried; just NAf66 for two meals and more Polar than I care to remember.

I journeyed home thinking, "It's a tough job, but someone has to do it." We'll be back next week to do it all again! □ *Story & Photo by SBD*

Pet of the Week

“Here’s looking at you,” says “Dorothy,” as she peers out from her very special sleeping nook at the Bonaire Animal Shelter. How is it that cats seem to be the most relaxed of species? The world may be coming to an end, but if a cat is taking a snooze, nothing can make him or her respond.



-“Dorothy”

It’s nice to see Dorothy like this because previously she had a life on the streets – the tennis courts at Harbour Village, actually – where she and her brother, “Donald,” had to live the life of destitute vagrants. Lucky for them someone found them and took them to the Shelter where they are “Livin’ the Life,” turning into social and beautiful animals. They’re about seven months old, healthy and happy and ready to go to appreciative homes. The adoption fee for cats, NAf75, includes all the medical exams and testing, shots and sterilization when they’re old enough. See Dorothy and Donald at the Shelter on the Lagoen Road, open Monday through Saturday, 8 am to 1 pm. Tel. 717-4989.

The Shelter has a new dog catcher, **Ventje**, who’s doing a fabulous job of educating people in the neighborhoods about sterilizing their animals. When people call him to pick up their unwanted puppies or kittens he explains to them why the mother should be sterilized.

Take a peek at the Shelter’s own website, hosted and kept up to date by terrific volunteer, Bea Jones of Colorado: www.BonaireAnimalShelter.org Among other interesting information you’ll see current Pets of the Week. Thanks a million, Bea! □ L.D.

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.

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

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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>

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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

Carib Inn has **new dive tanks** available once again. Contact Carib Inn at 717-8819 or stop by, 8 am to 5 pm.

For Sale: **2 Olympus C-5050Z digital cameras**. Recommended for land use only. Buy both for \$200 or separately for \$150 & \$50. E-mail ellen@flamingotv.net.

For sale: very nice **decorative ceiling fan** 110V, with lamp max 60W, NAf50, tel 786-5591

For sale: large **modern mirror**, square Plexiglas (you can look through it) with a triangle-shaped mirror in the middle, NAf50, tel. 786-5591

FOR SALE: Boat, Container, bottle cooler and freezer. Tel 786-0730

FOR SALE- X box with 2 controllers and 2 games FIFA 06 & FIFA Street 2 for NAf450 Call 790-0407

For Sale: **Wooden Five-Drawer Desk**, pecan finish, very good condition, NAf225.00; Top-quality **Wooden Two-Drawer Filing Cabinet**, very good condition, NAf100; **Chest of Drawers** with five drawers, wood, good condition, great for storing spare parts, etc. NAf85; **Outdoor furniture**, round table, four captain's chairs, umbrella stand, all in good condition, NAf 100. If you are interested in any of these items, please call 717-2848.

Cars For Sale

1998 Toyota Camry, Black, Fully equipped. In good condition. NAf 12.500. Call 786-6550

2003 Jeep Wrangler "Sahara Edition". 21,000 miles. Automatic. AC and CD. Soft top. Seat covers and spare tire. Great condition \$15,000 or best offer. Call 786-6113 or email_brucezh@hughes.net

For Sale: 2000 Nissan Sentra, 4 door, auto/ac, NAf7.000 email- LadyLarson@Hughes.net

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

Wanted

UNICOLLEGE, Bonaire's non-government high school, is adding the second year of HAVO-VVO classes for the next school year and needs the following furniture and teaching aids: **Sofas & armchairs, Digital projector (beamer), TV set, DVD player**. If you have an extra one or haven't been able to sell yours, please think of donating them to the school. Please call 786-3666. Thank you.

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 Antriel, 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

Free

Free: 1. Canon printer cartridge: BC-29F 4 colors; 2. Brother Replacement Cartridge Model PC-201; 1. FAX/Copier/Scanner Brother 1850MC + one Printing Cartridge (the fax sending option works for sure!) Call: Diana 717-5225 or 717-8603



Porch Sale: August 5, 9 am to 4 pm, #7 Lighthouse Beach Resort, Portable gas barbeque, 16ft. ladder, tools, stereo, HP color printer, household goods, Chinese bicycles - email- LadyLarson@Hughes.net

Snorkeler's Notebook: Politics on the Reef

As I snorkel Ol' Blue, enraptured by clarity and color, I can't let go of a nagging thought recently put in my mind by former US Vice President Al Gore: "We have only 10 years to 'fix' global warming." Without concerted human intervention to halt climate change, diverse reef ecosystems like this one will disintegrate into a heap of rubble. At Ol' Blue today, however, all the reef's residents seem unconcerned with my pangs of conscience. Yet, it's hard to escape environmental politics while floating in the midst of teeming life that may no longer exist in the near future.

And then it begins: an interrogation by the citizens of the reef. First, a plate-sized Queen Angelfish beckons me to follow her while inquiring, "Who did you vote for in the last presidential election? Was it a candidate who would support serious action on global warming?" Just as I am about to answer, a duo of Rock Beauties butt in, "Yeah, what kind of car do you drive? A gas guzzler or a hybrid?" No sooner are the bubbles out of my mouth to reply when one morose tarpon rolls into view and puts it quite bluntly: "Are you living an environmentally accountable and sustainable life?"

I start wondering if too many spicy wings from Wil's Grill are causing me to hallucinate my own personal version of Walt Disney's *Finding Nemo* at Ol' Blue. Just as I am about to leave, I bump into a large barracuda in the shallows. You know the kind, the one with the menacing jaw and sharp teeth. She doesn't mince words, "Listen lady, 70% of the world's reefs could be gone in the next 50 years. So don't just float in here looking for us to provide you with a few moments of rapture. Think about what you have done for us lately!" Surprisingly, it was the flounder--who articulates most succinctly while eying me most suspiciously: "If every snorkeler and diver who visited the underwater world was compelled to act on our behalf after he/she removed those fins, well, that would be a force to be reckoned with." The final word, though, comes from a school of silversides chattering in unison, "Bonairean people can't do it alone. Remember to pay your Nature Fee!" As I remove my fins, a pooping parrotfish swims by yelling, "Tell George W. Bush, this is what we think of him!"

I silently promise to do everything they have asked. Does anyone want to help me send President Bush a message? □ *Pauline Kayes*



Tarpon : "Are you living an environmentally accountable and sustainable life?" Albert Bianculli photo

Lora Project Update

Exciting Times for the Loras

The Lora chicks are almost done growing and they are getting ready to go! Even inside their rock nests the chicks are stretching their wings and flapping like crazy to get their flight muscles ready for the big day! Some of the older chicks now look almost like grown up parrots, but for a bit of filling out, and they all have real characters. There are a few who are placid, but many of them are kicking, screaming and biting when it's time to get weighed and measured. I think in the next week there will be some chicks leaving their nests.

Whilst this time is extremely exciting it is also worrying because this is the time poachers may strike. Did you know there are more parrots in captivity on Bonaire than there are in the wild? Taking a Lora chick from its nest is illegal and poaching is the primary reason this parrot is endangered. In the past very few chicks have fledged from their nests and now there is a desperate need for young individuals ("fresh blood") in the wild population. I have heard a few people say "there are many Lora" but in fact even when there are several hundred birds the population is still quite small and so vulnerable to catastrophes, such as disease or drought, and the population

Sam Williams and his colleague, Rowan Martin, are on the island for six months as part of their doctoral research, studying the Bonaire Lora. Both of them hope that their research, which will extend over a three-year period, will benefit the Loras' conservation.



Almost ready to fly in the wild... unless he gets poached!

can also become weakened by inbreeding.

We can all do our bit to help this year's baby parrots fledge into the wild. Do not buy a Lora chick! If you are offered a Lora chick please get as many of the person's details as possible and report it to STINAPA or the police. You could even take a trip out into the mondi and if you see any suspicious activity report it! Future generations may not have the opportunity to see Loras on Bonaire if poaching continues. □ *Story & photo by Sam Williams*

**DO YOU
SUDOKU?**

**And the
solution is:**
(puzzle and direc-
tions on page 12)

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

**KRALENDIJK TIDES
(Heights in feet, FT)**

Remember: Winds and weather can further influence the local tides

DATE	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	COEF
7-28	2:13	1.6FT.	11:33	1.0FT.					75
7-29	2:16	1.5FT.	2:20	1.5FT.	11:37	1.0FT.	23:41	1.5FT.	68
7-30	11:15	1.1FT.	20:10	1.5FT.					61
7-31	10:10	1.1FT.	19:39	1.6FT.					53
8-01	9:05	1.1FT.	19:48	1.7FT.					45
8-02	6:10	1.0FT.	20:05	1.8FT.					39
8-03	6:26	0.9FT.	20:30	1.9FT.					37
8-04	6:50	0.8FT.	21:05	2.0FT.					40

WHAT'S HAPPENING

MOVIELAND

WEEKLY MOVIE SHOWTIMES

Late Show

Call to make sure (Usually 9 pm)

Over The Hedge
(Voice of: Bruce Willis)

Early Show (Usually 7 pm)

Poseidon

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

Saturday, July 29—End of the month Flea Market at Parke Publico— 3 to 8 pm – General info call Vicky 786-1592. Booth info call Elisabeth 717-6907/565-5225

Sunday July 30—Bonairean Night at Divi Flamingo's Calabash Restaurant with all the local specialties and more. Live Music. \$20-total. Call for reservations 717-8285 ext. 444.

Tuesday, August 1— Match Consultancy announces its "Hospitality Awareness Program" for 2006-2007, Divi Flamingo, 7 pm. Everybody invited.

Thursday, August 3- Opening ceremony Pro Kids Event Windsurfing Championship at the Windsurf Place from 7-9 pm.

Thursday-Sunday, August 3-6 – Pro Kids Event Windsurfing Championship, Sorobon Beach. Schedule on page 7

COMING

Saturday, August 5—Big Monthly Rincon Marshé—Now a Bonairean tradition – stands selling gifts, fruits and vegetables, candles, drinks, BBQ, local foods and sweets, music, friendly people, 6 am to 2 pm. In the center of Rincon. Info: www.infobonaire.com/rincon.

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

Saturday, August 5 – Artists are invited to submit up to three pieces of art between 9 am and noon for the "Homage to the Bonairean Artist" to be held in November. Artists may sign up at the Bonaire Museum, Kaya J.C. van der Ree. Telephone 717-8868. Questions? Call Jackie Bernabela of SKAL (same address as the Museum), 786-6333.

Sunday August 6—Bonairean Night at Divi Flamingo's Calabash Restaurant with all the local specialties and more. Live Music. \$20-total. Call for reservations 717-8285 ext. 444.

Friday, August 11 – Pre-exposition at Kas di Arte of all works submitted for the November exposition, "Homage to the Bo-

nairean Artist" - 5 to 9 pm at Kas di Arte.

Wednesday, September 6 - Bonaire Day will be celebrated in the bario of Amboina
Saturday, September 16 -Quarterly underwater cleanup. All welcome-divers and non-divers alike. Meet at Yellow Submarine at 1 pm.

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 Marshé 1st Saturday of the month.**
- **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@goldenreeffinn.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**
- **"Admiral's Hour" for yachtsmen and others**, Vespucci Restaurant, Harbour Village Marina. HH drinks, gratis tapas, 5 - 7 pm..

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.

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

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 Zeezicht. All Rotarians welcome. Tel. 717-8434

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

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

The Bonaire Swim Club- Contact Valarie Stimpson at 785-3451; Valarie@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. Wilhelmplein. 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, Cell. 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 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.
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, Wednesday night BBQ at 7 pm	A genuine sandy beach restaurant cooled by the trade winds 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. Your first choice for inter-island travel.

APPLIANCES /TV/ ELECTRONICS/ COMPUTERS

City Shop, the mega store, has the island's widest selection of large and small home appliances. Fast service and in-store financing too.

BAKERIES

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 monthly 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.**

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. Shop at Kaya Industria 23, Tuesday-Saturday 9 am—12 noon.

ATTENTION BUSINESSMEN/WOMEN:

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Phone/Fax 717-8988, Cel 786-6518

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Antique Living Houses of Bonaire

Kas di Porchi
Leon Thelmo Paula

by Wilna Groenenboom

Preserving Bonaire's Architectural Heritage



This house belongs to Leon Thelmo Paula (81) and his wife Adelaida Paula-Janga (78) still living here together. They had three daughters, one of whom has passed away.

Leon's first job was on a ship going from Curaçao, then later from Aruba, to Maracaibo for oil. At first he was a servant to the ship's officers; later he worked in the engine room, first as a fireman, then as an oilman. His responsibility was to make sure the engines performed smoothly.

In 1953 he moved with his family to Bonaire and needed a house. So Juan Lorenzo and Julio were assigned to design and build one. Leon then worked for the Bonaire government until he retired.

In my research for *Cas di Porchi*

houses, I found that there are basically two types of this style house. I will call them the low and the high model. This one is a real low one.

In the low model the way the tin roof is placed (middle photo) makes the walls look lower. You can clearly see the beams under the tin roof. The low version of this type house has nearly no gutters to catch rain water. But there are exceptions. For instance the neighbors on the right side have gutters and a cistern, but this is not usual.

This extra extension of the roof gives extra shade at noon. And because there is less sun coming directly through the windows they can have clear rather than colored glass.

This house still has its original wooden shutters for wind protection in combina-

tion with glass for the light. This shutter-window combination we can also see in the tiny bathroom window (photo middle right below).

A Cas di Porchi can have from one to four porches around the house: in a corner, in the middle, or more or less around the house. Furthermore, there are "inside" models and "half in- and outside models." With this house we can see that the porch is built inside the house, in the front. (Next time we shall see a "half in- and outside model")

The original building had a cement floor, but the family changed it a few years ago to tiles.

In the left photo we see a traditional

Thonet chair. The first Thonet chair ever made was in 1830 by the Austrian chair maker, Michael Thonet. He discovered a method to make many chairs easily. He first wet the wood, then it was steamed, making it easy to bend it into the form he wanted. When it dries it keeps its shape. The model we see in the photo was one of 50 million pieces made between 1859 and 1910. He made 60 different styles of chairs, benches, tables etc. On Bonaire we often see this chair, in different forms, in a number of houses. This one is a simple model with a perfect seat, with an open "structure," so fitting in this climate still after nearly 150 years. □

Story and photo by W.G.

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 the Largest Planet and A Super Large Star

August will begin with a cosmic bang because during the first week of August a waxing Moon will pay a visit to both the king of the planets and a giant star, which means you'll be able to use the Moon as a finder to locate two wonderful celestial objects. On Tuesday, the first night of August 2006, face southwest an hour after sunset while there's still a bit of twilight. And the brightest thing you'll see will be a lovely first quarter Moon. And directly above it, the second brightest thing in the sky, looking very much like a bright star, will be the king of the planets, **Jupiter**.

So right off the bat on the first night of August you can use the Moon to find the largest of our solar system's planets. Now we all know that when the Moon is **waxing** it is growing because that is what waxing means in astronomical terms. And it always moves from west to east. In 24 hours time it moves approximately 13 degrees or 26 times its own width toward the east. So 24 hours later, on Wednesday, August 2nd, we can expect the Moon to be well past Jupiter and a little bit fatter. So on Tuesday night look up to the left of the Moon to find Jupiter. On Wednesday look up to its right. On Thursday night, August 3rd, 24 hours later, an even fatter Moon will be parked next to the j-shaped pattern of stars we call **Scorpius** the scorpion and to the right of the bright star which marks the scorpion's heart. It is called **Antares** and it is one of the biggest stars we can see with the naked eye.

So you can use the Moon to find Antares on Thursday night. And 24 hours later you can use it again as a finder when it will be just past Antares. Once again: the Moon below and to Jupiter's right on Tuesday the 1st; the Moon below and to Jupiter's left on Wednesday the 2nd. Thursday, the 3rd, the Moon is parked to the right of Antares, and on Friday it's to the left of Antares.

But now comes the fun part: comparing the Moon, Jupiter and Antares. You see, our 2,000-mile-wide Moon will be less than a quarter million miles away on the first four nights of August whereas 88,000-mile-wide Jupiter, which is so huge we could line up 44 Moons across its middle, will be 490 million miles away. But the mind blower is Antares, which is 700 times as wide as our almost one-million-mile-wide Sun and is so far away that it takes 604 years for its light to reach us. Isn't it easy to find planets and stars if you use the Moon as a finder? □ *Jack Horkheimer*



Jupiter over the quarter Moon



THE STARS HAVE IT

Sunday, July 23 to
Saturday, July 29, 2006

By Astrologer Michael Thiessen

ARIES (Mar. 21- April 20) You may have to take a short trip to visit someone who hasn't been well. Don't overreact if your partner has a poor attitude. Short trips will prove to be more fruitful than you imagined. Don't avoid situations that may deteriorate; try to mend them. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

TAURUS (Apr. 21- May 21) Your ability to put things together will be appreciated by your comrades. You may have difficulties with foreigners. Don't take your frustrations out on loved ones. Your temper may get the better of you if a colleague has tried to ruin your reputation. Your lucky day this week is Wednesday.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21) Patience will be of utmost importance. Try to control your irritability if you're experiencing emotional problems with your partner. Help children complete projects they're having difficulty with. New romantic partners may attend a function that puts you in the limelight. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) You are ready to blow up and your stress level has gone into over drive. You can utilize your versatile mind and dazzle others with your speed and accuracy. Get involved in groups that will help you meet established individuals. Try to include the one you love in your plans this week. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

LEO (July 23-Aug 22) You can meet new friends who will let you know just how valuable you are. Physical work or exercise should be part of your schedule. You will enjoy interacting with those who come from different backgrounds. Romantic opportunities will develop through friends or relatives. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) Travel will lead you in new directions. Make changes to your living quarters that will please the whole family. Minor fevers or infections will develop if you're over-stressed. Put your thoughts into action. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) Your partner may make you feel jealous and unloved. Generosity will put you in the poorhouse. Travel and entertaining conversation will be informative and uplifting. You will have the ability to capture the interest of others. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) You should get out and meet some of those clients that you only speak to on the phone. You can accomplish the most if you travel for business purposes. You are best to work behind the scenes on projects that require detail or precision. You can't live your life for others. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) Don't let other people meddle in your private affairs. If you act with anger you may blow the relationship. Be discreet about any information you uncover. Your fickle nature may cause jealousy. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22- Jan. 20) Renovations to your domestic scene will pay high rewards. Cultural activities open your eyes to new ways of doing things. Deception regarding joint finances or investments will cause upsets between family members. Matters pertaining to work must be completed before you leave. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) Don't overspend on items for your home. Don't be too quick to judge. Move into a leadership position if you are determined to do so. Travel will be favorable. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) Get busy trying to make more money. You need to focus on yourself, not on others. Wait and get all the information before consulting your boss. Moves or the possibility of having someone different living with you may be difficult at first. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday. □