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BONAIRE

September 15 to 22, 2006 Volume 13, Issue 36

# The REPORTER

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SINCE 1994



The Leonard Domacasse Family at  
**Bonaire Day 2006** Page 10

# Flotsam and Jetsam

## BONAIRE The REPORTER



Last week we reported that Dutch Antilles Express (DAE) would stop flying to St Maarten if Insel Air was given permission to do the same. However, DAE changed its mind about stopping the flights between Curaçao and St. Maarten and announced last Tuesday that it would continue its regular services. "The schedule remains as it is," said DAE's Chief Executive Officer Floris van Pallandt. By stopping service between the two islands, DAE would "dig its own grave," he said Tuesday afternoon. Stopping service would have given the Central Government the right to censure the airline. "Our faithful passengers will be able to enjoy 14 flights per week versus the four that Insel Air will provide," he added. The DAE ticket price will be cheaper than the other airline, which charges NAf30 to 120 more per round trip.

► Now, everybody wants to get into the act. **Winair, the other Antilles government-owned airline that services St. Maarten and the windward Dutch islands, is seeking ways to operate its**

**own airplane on the Curaçao-St. Maarten route** and other destinations in the region as well.

► **DAE's flight schedule info is now online** at [www.flydae.com](http://www.flydae.com) as is information on how to book flights. Phone: 011-599-717-0808, Email: [reservations@flydae.com](mailto:reservations@flydae.com), Website: [www.flydae.com](http://www.flydae.com).

► Air Jamaica's safety record has earned it a place among 34 airlines in the world that have been accident-free since 1980, a performance which Transport Minister Robert Pickersgill this week hailed as outstanding. **In fact, it is only one of four national airlines in the Latin American and Caribbean region with that perfect safety record.** Pickersgill said there have been 1,004 airline crashes over the last five years, including 106 this year. Air Jamaica flies to nine US cities and London through its Montego Bay hub.

► **Caribbean Airlines is the new regional carrier** to be resurrected from government-owned, cash-strapped British West Indies Airways (BWIA). The

Trinidad and Tobago government, prime shareholder of BWIA, approved a substantial capital injection for the creation of the airline Friday.



The changeover from BWIA to Caribbean Airlines early next year is not expected to inconvenience passengers in any way. Caribbean Airlines will be based in Trinidad.

► **This week the TCB (Tourism Corp. Bonaire) is holding its Annual Marketing Conference** to evaluate its performance and hopefully increase the number of arriving tourists. Bonaire had 5.9% fewer visitors in the first six months of 2006 than it did last year in the same period. In the first six months of this year, 32,266 tourists visited Bonaire. According to the TCB the primary reason was because of the loss of airplane seat capacity. According to CHATA (the Curaçao tourism association) Curaçao had a 4.9% increase for the first six months of 2006 and a June 2005-June 2006 increase of 5.3%

TCB Director Ronella Croes anticipates an upturn in the latter part of this year because of the introduction of a second Continental flight and a few ArkeFly flights at the end of the year.

Compared to same period last year, about 14 % fewer American tourists visited the island in the first six months of this year. The European market lost 10%. Higher ticket fares and fewer available seats on the Quito and Lima flights are considered the main reason for the European drop.

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Hans Voreman abseilen

► **Two new activities have been added to the top-notch adventure tours provided by experienced guide, Hans Voreman.** Zip-lining and rope climbing on limestone rocks near Seru Langu (secured), and a two-day tour which can include mangrove kayaking, caving, snorkeling, climbing and a visit to Washington-Slagbaai National Park where the night is spent in a hammock with a BBQ dinner. Phone: 011-599-791-6272, Email: hans@outdoorbonaire.com, Website: www.outdoorbonaire.com.

## coral glimpses

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



Flotsam is continued on page 4.

# Bubbles from the Biologist

## Did You Know... Brittle Stars push-up when they spawn?

Most brittle stars are either male or female and some species spawn in synchrony along with the corals. Some spawning brittle stars push up onto the tips of their arms to release sperm or eggs into the water. The eggs of spawning species are fertilized in the water column, while other species brood their eggs (internal fertilization). The larvae are planktonic and very odd-looking with long, spiny projections. They eventually settle out onto the bottom and develop into juvenile brittle stars.

If you missed seeing them in this month's spawn, try again from the 9th to the 15th of October between 7:30 and 8:30pm. If you're out during the spawn, you might also see greedy brittle stars munching on the coral's egg/sperm packets. Be careful with your lights though, since bright lights will send them racing for cover. Try to shine the main beam of your light to the side of the brittle star so that the brittle star is just barely illuminated. □ C.E.



Biologist Caren Eckrich founded and runs Sea & 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.



**T**his star coral head is near a mooring on a popular shore diving site off Bonaire. The green color of this formation comes from the single-celled algae which live within the tissue of the living coral polyps. All the white marks are places where the coral tissue has been damaged or torn away, revealing the white skeleton beneath.

The pair of solid white marks on the right hand side could have been made by a parrotfish, but the curved line along the bottom right of this coral colony is very likely the result of a fin being dragged lightly along the coral. A simple misjudgment of distance that stresses the colony at best -- or that could be responsible for the death of a few dozen polyps. □

(Flotsam and Jetsam. Continued from page 3)

► **The Dutch Government set aside its intentions to introduce admittance and expulsion regulations for youngsters from the Netherlands Antilles.** The Council of State (Raad), a government advisory body, added that to force young offenders from the Netherlands Antilles to return to the Caribbean even though they are Dutch citizens would be against European human rights laws.

The Netherlands Antilles argued from the formulation of the idea that as its citizens have the Dutch nationality, a separate admittance and expulsion regulation for them would be discriminatory.

► The new Dutch passport that incorporates a "biometrics data" (photo and physical data of the passport chip) **has jumped the cost of a passport here on Bonaire from NAf125 to NAf140.** An announcement from the Executive Council emphasized that the passport picture of the applicant had to comply with a series of requirements, like a neutral expression (no smiles), good resolution of the eyes and a closed mouth. Personnel of the Registrar's Office are trained in the evaluation of these photos and can refuse ones that do not comply with the requirements.

► On Sunday, **Telecommunications Services of Trinidad and Tobago said damage was sustained by one of its submarine fiber optic cables between Caracas and Curaçao,** which is affecting Internet service on its island as well as other parts of the region. TSTT said customers may experience periodic interruptions while uploading or downloading informa-

tion from overseas websites resulting in their having to re-initiate the process. According to TSTT, the cause of the damage to the cable is not yet known as this can range from ships dragging their anchors to underwater seismic activity. The international carriers that make up the consortium of owners are investigating the location and cause of the problem and coordinating the repair.

► **Barbados and the Netherlands Antilles have agreed to start negotiations regarding a Double Tax Agreement (DTA) and Mutual Customs Assistance Treaty.** The Netherlands Antilles' State Secretary of Finance, Alex Rosaria, was recently in Bridgetown, Barbados, where he was received by the Barbadian Deputy Prime Minister, Mia Mottley.

"After years of behaving somewhat as indifferent onlookers, the Netherlands Antilles is pursuing a policy of being a committed neighbor," said Rosaria.

Late last year the Netherlands Antilles formally requested CARICOM to admit them as an associate member. Barbados is one of the most important CARICOM trading partners of the Netherlands Antilles. Trade and investment between the two Caribbean countries have been increasing in size and scope.

► **Bonaire's Police Chief Jan van der Straten wants a coast guard base in Bonaire,** as there are in Curaçao, Aruba, and St. Maarten. He says that he has indications that the island is becoming an alternative to those islands for the import and export of drugs. Van der Straten travels to the Netherlands this week to talk to the department of Home Affairs about the base.

The towers you see going up around the island are part of a radar system able to follow suspicious movements at sea, so a base is actually indispensable.



USS Kearsarge, US Navy photo

► **The USS Kearsarge, an amphibious assault carrier, moored at the mega-pier in Curaçao last week.** The ship is 257 meters (840 ft.) long with 1,200 crew. It recently participated in the Panamax naval exercise. During their rest and relaxation (R&R) period the crew members cleaned up a baseball field and painted nine houses of the senior citizens home. The presence of US capital ships in the southern Caribbean is a known irritant to Venezuela's President Chavez.

► Due to Central Government-admitted bureaucratic failures **the law to increase the old age pension by NAf100 a month has been delayed.** Minister of Health Sandra Smith has promised that now that she knows what errors have been made she will see to it that it will be handled diligently.

► **Imprisoned (for corruption and money laundering) Curaçao politician Anthony Godett wanted to attend the official closing of the parliamentary year**

**on Monday, September 11, and the opening of the new parliamentary year on Tuesday, September 12.**

The requests were denied. "Of all Members of Parliament, I received the most votes," Godett said.



Godett Internet photo



► **Cellular phones in local jails and prisons are forbidden,** yet they seem to turn up every time a lock-up facility is searched. Perhaps prison officials might consider X-raying prisoners. Cellular telephones were found in the innards of four prisoners in El Salvador's maximum-security prison, authorities said last Wednesday. The director of the prison, Capt. Juan Ramon Arevalo, said the offenders had introduced the cell phones, wrapped in plastic bags, into their bodies through their anuses. Authorities also found nine cell phone chips and one charger.

(Continued on page 5)

(Flotsam and Jetsam. Continued from page 4)



► Last Saturday Bonaire police, aided by Customs officers, **intercepted two women at Flamingo Airport headed for Curaçao with goods stolen from shops along Kaya Grandi.** The two women were identified as initials M., 21 years old, and T., 22 years old. After documenting the suspected stolen goods (shown above) the police returned them to the shop owners. The two women are in jail pending a court appearance.

► **Some of Bonaire's more offensive billboards are coming down.** According to a report in the Papiamentu language newspaper, *èxtra*, **three of the five Digicel billboards will be removed** in accordance with an agreement reached with the government's Public Works Department, DROB. Several Bonaire newspapers, beginning with *The Bonaire Reporter*, ran articles last month condemning the billboard proliferation as unsightly and not in keeping with Bonaire's environmentalist character. Although the anti-billboard sentiment was focused on Digicel, other businesses are guilty of billboard pollution as well. You can't miss them.

► **An American tourist drowned while snorkeling** in the area between Oil Slick



*Dr. van der Vaart attends the stricken snorkeler*

Leap and Thousand steps last Tuesday. The victim, Robin Wadsworth, 42, disappeared while his two companions were SCUBA diving. Volunteers and two Marine Park Rangers dove to try to locate the missing man. His body was found on the bottom in a relatively short time. A fast boat rushed him to the Buddy Dive pier where he was pronounced dead by Dr. Dick van der Vaart. Our condolences go out to his family and friends. Although the cause of this accident is unknown, warnings have been published that repetitive deep free diving can result in a diver suddenly becoming unconscious underwater.

► According to health guru and dietitian Angélique Salsbach, **there's a lot of action on the Boulevard in the early mornings these days.** Starting around 5 to 5:30 am there are a number of health conscious people walking, jogging and cycling along the Boulevard. It's invigorating because the temperatures are cool and they even have the added bonus of watching the sun come up. It's free, it's fun and it's great for your health! You're welcome to join!



*Environmental Commission members following their installation by Police Commissioner van der Stratten.*

► **An umbrella Environmental Agency for Bonaire was officially installed last week.** Its aim is to protect the island's environment and enforce environmental regulations. Examples of violations might include discarding trash into the countryside, spear fishing, illegal construction practices, soil mining, etc. Members of the Agency come from STINAPA (National Parks-NGO), Police, Security Police, SELIBON (Waste Management) and DROB (Environmental, Land and Roads Department).

► **Habitat Dive Resorts is commemorating its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary in Bonaire** and its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary in Curaçao during this month. The resort was founded in 1976 by Capt. Don Stewart, who is recognized worldwide as a leader in the movement to protect our underwater environment. This year Habitat is making major upgrades to its Bonaire property.

To celebrate, on September 29<sup>th</sup> from 10 pm to 1 am at Habitat's Rum Runners Restaurant the eclectic **Sugaro Band** will present a live performance. Sugaro is well known on Bonaire, having performed at Habitat for several years, always drawing standing-room-only crowds.

► According to Solar Managing Director, Ruud van Baal, Martijn van der Valk's holding company, **Solar, will be taking over the management of the Caribbean Club Bonaire**, known better locally as "Hilltop," as of October 1 or November 1. Solar owns and manages Buddy Dive, Palm Trading and Bel/Tech and manages Belmar Apartments. At the moment the Caribbean Club has 26 units as well as apartments in the "tower" and a bar-restaurant. Under construction is a "Wedding Village" of eight two-bedroom cottages and a special bridal cottage. Their website: [www.CaribbeanClubBonaire.com](http://www.CaribbeanClubBonaire.com).

(Continued on page 8)

# Dine Like a King and Support Bonaire's Culinary Team

Bonaire's culinary level has been raised to a high level of quality and performance and one of the reasons is due to the hard work and devotion of the members of the culinary teams that have practiced and competed in the "Taste of the Caribbean" Culinary Olympics sponsored by the Caribbean Hotel Association. Every year an island-wide competition is held and our team must compete against much larger and "richer" islands like St. Martin, Curaçao or Puerto Rico. But because of all the effort and time and great attitude on the part of "Little Bonaire's" team, it's shown it's something to be reckoned with.



**Team Manager Floris van Loo (Rum Runners),  
Coach Vernon "Nonch" Martijn (SGB hotel school),  
Bartender Jane Coffie (Divi Flamingo),  
Chef Egbert de Vries (LeFlamboyant),  
Chef Waldi Gijsbertha (City Café),  
Pastry Chef Isidoor van Riemsdijk (Rum Runners)**

"Taste" so this **Friday, September 15, there will be a fund raising dinner at the Plaza to help send the 2007 team to the event.** This year's team will be cook-

ing their award winning three-course meal and Gold Medal Winner Bartender Jane Coffie will be serving the drinks that won her a Gold in all three categories: Rum, Vodka and Non-Alcoholic. Complementary wine will also be served. So pick up your phone and call for reservations now. They're NA/70 (\$40). Tickets must be purchased in advance before the dinner. Call 785-6135 or 785-5939. □L.D.



## Student Chef Poppie Back from Italy

Last Thursday, September 7, Miguel "Poppie" Saragoza, returned home from his two-month training ("stage") session in Italy. After working in a 1 Michelin star restaurant in Riccione, "Il Girasole," the ever popular Poppie returns to go to SGB-SBO for his advanced theory education in cooking. With the support of Notary Maarten Maartense for his ticket and SGB's Vernon Martijn and Ann Leong and stage coordinator Sara Matera, Poppie had a life time experience. This has made him more dedicated to the Horeca (food and beverage) career as well as learning about himself.



**Poppie flanked by Maarten Maartense and Ann Leong**

Welcome home, Poppie! □ Sara Matera

# The Snack Bar Detectives

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



This week: Enping Bar Restaurant  
Kaya Libertador S Bolivar



After several weeks of abstinence from Chinese food, Big D and I reckoned that the time had come to indulge ourselves a little. The "Enping Bar Rest." sits in the heart of Kralendijk. We pass its doors most days, but for whatever reason we have not ventured inside.

As the sun began to set on Bonaire Day, we left one of our regular watering holes and walked the short distance to Enping. Once inside, one sees that it has a cozy feeling. A few tables, a bar and the kitchen all fit compactly inside the small building. Looking around, it was comforting to see how clean our surroundings were. The kitchen is just behind the bar, partitioned by a wall, which too looked spotless.

We took up our preferred position at the bar and ordered a few cold ones.

As we have come to expect, the walls were covered by a menu that offered us more choices than we could cope with. I was adding to my Polar tally with increasing zest. I blamed the relentless heat, but D suggested that I had hollow legs. Maybe he's right!

A creature of habit and on something of a mission concerning Bonaire's definitive curry (my finding will be made public in the future), I decided on Mixed Curry with Rice. Big D, ever the bon viveur, went for a dish that even our host had not served before, Fu Dip Har. That of course spurred my intrepid associate to act on his instincts.

As we (ok, I) enjoyed a few more Polars, we were entertained by the ever present TV. Jaws 2 kept us suitably entertained while we waited for our meals. Mine arrived first. A huge plate of Curry complete with Chicken, Beef, Pork, Shrimp etc. etc. Next to it, another dinner plate full of rice. Then came the Fu Dip Har - a large omelet filled with meat, seafood and vegetables, again accompanied with rice. Although not the hottest curry that I have had, it could definitely be described as piquant and very tasty. Big D made agreeable grunts between mouthfuls, another success.

The Enping is easily missed so keep a lookout. Good food, nice atmosphere and friendly staff. Go on, try it, you know it makes sense! Watch out next week for a Snack Bar Detective first. □ *Story & photo by SBD*

# Pet of the Week

"Samantha" is a real show stopper with her beautiful blue eyes that look right at you. She and her siblings were dropped off in a bag at the Shelter recently - to be greeted by the staff as they came to work in the morning. It's a very good thing that they were brought to the Shelter rather than dumped in the *mondi* where they most likely would have died slowly and painfully from malnutrition. Samantha is about three months old, has a soft, caramel colored short haired coat, and the prettiest face. She shouldn't last long as an adoptee. She should grow up to be a medium sized dog, and because she shows alertness and intelligence she should be easy to train. You may see her at the Bonaire Animal Shelter on the Lagoen Road, open Monday through Saturday, 8 am to 1 pm. Telephone 717-4989.



"Samantha"

## Attention: All you dog owners.



Don't pass up the Shelter Dog Wash, Saturday, September 30, at Warehouse Bonaire's parking lot from 9 am to 2 pm.

**Come one, come all.** If you don't have a dog, just come and see the fun. The dogs get a special wash, and at the end the pet and the owner get a special surprise. It's only NAf7,50 and all the proceeds go to the Shelter. Warehouse Bonaire is the sponsor. Don't miss it. Last year it was a hoot! □ *L.D.*

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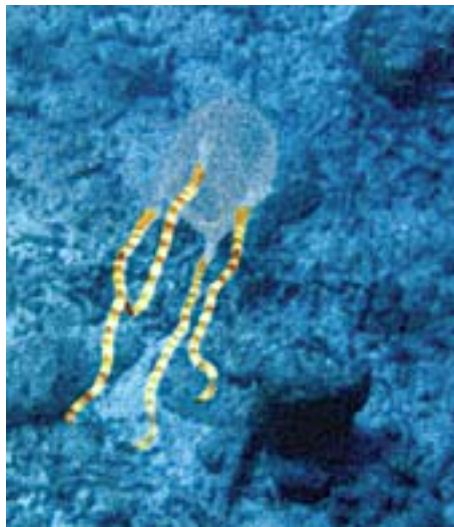
(Flotsam and Jetsam Continued from page 5)

► **The Butterfly Greenhouse, plus visitor center and botanical gardens, is now scheduled to open this month.** Butterfly Farm Bonaire is located at Kaminda Lac 101, on the road to Lac Cai. Email: [info@butterflyhouse.info](mailto:info@butterflyhouse.info), Website: [www.butterflyhouse.info](http://www.butterflyhouse.info).

► **Cactus Blue restaurant continues to get raves in the travel press.** In this month's *Caribbean Travel & Life* magazine it's mentioned along with another complementary article about Bonaire!



► Bonaire's BonAeroClub - flying club - has a Cessna 172, the world's most popular training plane. **If you want to become a pilot, Bonaire has the ideal conditions for learning to fly.** US FAA-licensed instructors do the instruction. To see Bonaire from a new perspective, the AeroClub offers sightseeing trips along the coastline of the island for about \$200/hour. Their website: [www.bonaeroclub.com](http://www.bonaeroclub.com).



Tish Dace photo

► **Although they're supposed to be rare, there have been more sightings of the stinging Bonairean Banded Box Jellyfish.** Their sting is very toxic to some people so it's recommended that the victims seek immediate medical attention.

► **The TCB and Caribbean Travel and Life magazine recently launched a six-month contest,** "Topside Treasures of Bonaire," on the magazine's website (<http://www.caribbeantravelmag.com/treasuresofbonaire>). Surf to the website to enter. The contest will highlight Bonaire's many above-water attractions including restaurants, shops, historical sites and activities. People participating in the contest can win stays at the Divi Flamingo Beach Resort & Casino, and two other Bonaire resorts. The prizes will be awarded in February 2007.

► **Telerin Car Rental is offering a \$43 all-inclusive-per-day special** for the next three months on all passenger cars and double cabin pick-up trucks with power steering and air-conditioning. Phone: 717-4108, Email: [telerin@bonairelive.com](mailto:telerin@bonairelive.com).

► **Want to know what flights are scheduled** to fly in and out of Bonaire plus lots more airport info? Then go to: <http://www.flamingoairport.com/flightinfo.asp>.

► When you visit a shop or restaurant, tell them, "**The Reporter sent me.**" Their ads keep **The Reporter** free. □ G./L. D.

## ArkeFly To Back Rock 'n' Roll

Fundashon Bonaire Entertainment (FBE) is pleased to announce that they now have a main sponsor in place for the forthcoming Rock 'n' Roll concert which is to be held at Plaza on November 10<sup>th</sup>. ArkeFly, the Dutch charter airline, is starting its weekly service to Bonaire in November and were keen to be involved. The FBE would also like to welcome on board the following sponsors: Plaza Resort, Rent-o-Fun, RE/MAX, Notary Marten Maartense, The Grand Palace Casino, Jody's Fashions, Duty General Construction and *The Bonaire Reporter*. Without their support, such events would not be possible.

Over the coming weeks, the FBE will actively be contacting businesses and individuals to offer them the chance to join the growing list above. The sponsor packages are surprisingly affordable and

will offer great returns. As well as advertising your company, sponsors will receive V.I.P. tickets for the concert, a buffet and after-show party. It is also a great way to get together with friends and business associates. If you want to get in early, you can call Bert or Jo on 717-2749 or email: [fbe@grupello.nl](mailto:fbe@grupello.nl).

The night will offer something different for Bonaire. Rene Shuman and Angel Eye will be performing live with their band a selection of Rock 'n' Roll hits from the biggest names in the business. The songs of Elvis, Little Richard, Jerry Lee Lewis (and many more) will be guaranteed to get everyone's feet tapping. Years of experience and loads of enthusiasm ensures that everyone will have a great time.

So, support the Fundashon and Bonaire, brush off your blue suede shoes and Rock 'n' Roll yourselves down to Plaza on November 10<sup>th</sup>.



**Be there or be square!** □  
*Antony Bond*



# Astronaut To "Land" On Bonaire

On November 25, Charles "Charlie" Bolden will visit Bonaire to speak to local school children and the community. Astronaut Bolden, who is a retired Marine Corps General, has commanded two space missions, including the first Space Laboratory mission dedicated to the study of Earth's atmosphere, and the first US-Russian mission with a Russian cosmonaut as a crewmember. In addition, Astronaut Bolden flew two other missions, one of them as pilot orbiting almost 650 kilometers (400 miles) above the Earth. In May 2006 he was inducted into the US Astronauts Hall of Fame.

The astronaut is especially interested in meeting school children while on Bonaire and talking with them about his experiences and his belief in setting and meeting personal goals. He will answer any questions the children want to ask him. Just before the visit from the astronaut there will be essay and poster contests for all age school children.

Times and locations of Astronaut Bolden's meetings with the school children, the media and the public will be announced in October. It is planned for the astronaut to meet with all sixth class students, many SGB students as well as separate presentations at Jong Bonaire, UniCollege and the Pelikaan School. There will also be an evening presentation for the entire community. Parents are invited to bring any students who did not have a chance to see the astronaut in school to the community session.

The visit of the former astronaut has been arranged by Bonaire residents Ben and Laura Buchbinder. Ben Buchbinder worked for NASA for many years before retiring to Bonaire. It was during his NASA work that he became friends with Bolden. Buchbinder has also been a consultant to the Hubble Space Telescope project. During his volunteer work at Pelikaan School, Buchbinder realized that a number of young people were very interested in space so he decided to invite the astronaut to talk with Bonaire's youth.

General Bolden is also a scuba diver and he will be visiting Bonaire for the first time. It is hoped that he will do some scuba diving and also try the local



Astronaut Charles Bolden

windsurfing since he loves to 'fly.'

In 1992, Bolden was Commander of the Space Shuttle *Atlantis* for the *ATLAS-1* Spacelab mission, when 12 scientific experiments were performed. The experiments were designed to learn about the Earth's climate and provided scientists with significant information about the atmosphere. Bolden was also Commander of his last flight, Space Shuttle *Discovery* in 1994, during which a Russian Cosmonaut flew with NASA for the first time.

After the flight in 1994, Bolden returned to the Marine Corps where he served as Deputy Commandant of Midshipmen at the US Naval Academy. He retired from the Marines as a Major General and now serves as a consultant to NASA and other organizations.

Astronaut Charlie Bolden was born in South Carolina (US) and graduated from the US Naval Academy. He then became a Marine pilot and, in 1981, was named as a NASA astronaut. His first space flight was as a crewmember aboard Space Shuttle *Columbia* in 1986. This mission launched a communications satellite and also performed many scientific experiments. In 1990, Bolden was the pilot on Space Shuttle *Discovery* when the Hubble Space Telescope was launched into space.

Sponsors for the astronaut's visit are ReMax Real Estate, Support Bonaire Foundation, Divi Flamingo Hotel, Jake & Linda Richter, Jong Bonaire, The Pelikaan School and Ben & Laura Buchbinder. The astronaut's visit has been endorsed by the Board of Education, the RK Schoolbestuur and SGB. □ Jane Townsend

# Join the Swim to Klein Bonaire

In three weeks, the Jong Bonaire Youth will hold its annual fundraising event- *The Swim to Klein Bonaire*. This year the swim will take place on Sunday, October 8, at the beginning of the Bonaire International Sailing Regatta. This annual sport and social event brings together families and individuals of all ages to help support the youth of Jong Bonaire. The distance to Klein Bonaire is about 600 meters and can easily be managed by almost anyone who can swim.

The event will be held, as in past years, at Eden Beach Resort (starting point). The participating fee is NAf15. Participants will get a free meal, a drink, fruit and a T-shirt. All funding raised during this event will be used to support Jong Bonaire's water sport activities (including windsurfing) for Bonaire youngsters.

Tickets can be obtained in advance at several selling points, including Jong Bonaire, Bon-Fysiotherapie (physiotherapy center) and De Freewieler (cycle shop in town).

In order to save time and make the registration process faster the day of the event, it is advised to buy tickets prior to the date of the event and fill in the liability release form. The liability release form can be found on Jong Bonaire's website ([www.jongbonaire.org](http://www.jongbonaire.org)).

Tickets can be purchased the morning of the event if they are still available. □

Press Release



Rosita Payman from Fit 4 Life warms up the Klein Swimmers for the 2004 swim.

Keep it

Free

Pass on your REPORTER to someone.

Please.



## Bonaire Day 2006

Despite the dark clouds that spilled some rain, spirits were high at Bonaire Day at the Amboina Bario last Sunday. Scads of government officials including the Prime Minister were there, as were the press, the entertainers, people selling food, drinks, jewelry, plants and more. The event was opened by a parade led by the drum corps, play-

ing their mesmerizing beat – always a heart stopper. They were followed by the SSV (non-criminal police), the Boy Scouts, the Girl Scouts and other civic groups. Following a moving flag raising ceremony accompanied by the Bonaire national anthem sung by Olvin Bart, there were short speeches by the Governor, Deputy for Culture Geraldine Dammers and

Senator Ramonsito Booi. Then the entertainment began. People relaxed, visited the stands, had something to eat and drink, chatted with one another and had a real hometown kind of day.

Congratulations to those who organized it and made it happen. It was a day to remember. □L.D.





# Artists Selected

Last August there was an open show at the Kas di Arte, where artists were invited to submit their work to be judged as to whether it would be included in the show, "Homage to the Bonairean Artist," November 8 to 30. Fifty-three different artists submitted 72 pieces. The jury chose 67 of those works. The 48 participating artists for the show in November are listed below. □ Jackie Bernabela

- |                             |                       |                     |                      |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Willy Dijkstra              | Jay Haviser           | Thelma de Palm      | Sipke Stapert        |
| Linda Richter               | Elisabeth Saragoza    | Marianne Sluizeman  | Winfred Dania        |
| Hilda St. Jago-Marks        | Eefje van der Straten | Josephine Ebing     | Marjolein Verhoef    |
| Jake Richter                | Herman van Leeuwen    | Erwin R.P LaCruz    | Guno Gerling         |
| Inge Ilcken-Krynen (ilcken) | Nochi Coffie          | Jenny Rijna         | Olivia Janga         |
| Moan Silfhout               | Papa Melaan           | Gisela Zils         | Diana Winklaar       |
| Janice Huckaby              | Lambada               | E.A. Booi           | Christel Cosijn      |
| Sedney B. Marten            | Gemma van der Linden  | Renate van der Bijl | Ady Figaroa          |
| Jackie Bernabela            | Ronaldo Trinidad      | Peter Benekendorff  | Manuela Winklaar     |
| Pado                        | Nina Ledezma          | Andries Barneveld   | Edith Foks Ferrageau |
| Poco poco                   | Jose Smit             | Annemieke & Bob     | de St. Amand         |
| Patty van Esdonk            | Henk Roozendaal       | Koopmans            | Wilna Groenenboom    |
|                             |                       | Sandor Kratochvill  | Germaine Nijdam      |

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

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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](http://www.bonaireimages.com)

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### 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](http://www.supportbonaire.org) and help make a difference!

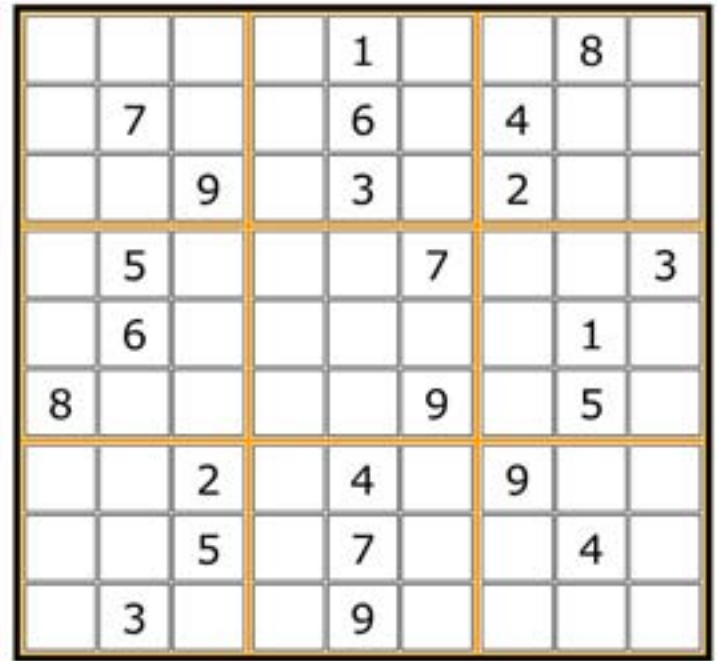
### LUNCH TO GO

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

# 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.Sudoku Shack.com](http://www.Sudoku Shack.com).

□ Molly Kearney (who has to solve all the puzzles first)



Complete solution on page 14.

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

Remember: Winds and weather can further influence the local tides

DATE	Time	Ht.	Time	Ht.	Time	Ht.	Time	Ht.	COEF
9-15	4:35	0.7FT.	19:53	2.0FT.					50
9-16	5:18	0.7FT.	20:37	2.0FT.					45
9-16	5:18	0.7FT.	20:37	2.0FT.					45
9-17	5:52	0.8FT.	21:25	1.9FT.					47
9-18	6:18	0.9FT.	22:05	1.8FT.					52
9-19	6:39	1.0FT.	12:33	1.2FT.	14:32	1.2FT.	22:40	1.8FT.	59
9-20	6:55	1.0FT.	12:24	1.3FT.	16:08	1.2FT.	23:19	1.6FT.	66
9-21	6:53	1.1FT.	12:35	1.4FT.	17:31	1.2FT.			71
9-22	0:34	1.4FT.	6:22	1.2FT.	13:02	1.5FT.	19:13	1.2FT.	75

### JODY'S FASHION

European Fashion for men & women. Best quality for good prices! Open: Tu-We-Th-Fr-Sa 1-5 pm. [www.jodysbonaire.com](http://www.jodysbonaire.com) Lagoen Hill 18

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BMW 520i – 4-door sedan, 1991, white, excellent condition. A CLASSIC! Call 785-9041

### For Sale

Misc For Sale: Roper Refrigerator NAf 300, Side-by-side, incl. ice maker, runs good; Safes: In-Wall (2) NAf 75 each/In-Floor (2) NAf 100 each; Scuba Tanks (5) NAf 160 Size 80 Aluminum; Wakeboard NAf 50, Slalom Water Ski NAf 50, 2 Water skis NAf 50 Call 717-8876

CITY BIKE FOR SALE- A Trek brand City-Bike in good condition. NAf 500 Call: 786-5136

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## BONAIRE The REPORTER

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We're looking for a partner to help grow The Bonaire Reporter.

If interested call: 011 599 717-8988

or email:

[partner@bonairereporter.com](mailto:partner@bonairereporter.com)

## The Midwife

In the maternity ward of the regional hospital in Raamsdonkveer, the Netherlands, a woman was brought in. Everything was rushed for the delivery; no complications were expected but things might go quickly – it was a second child – so the gynecologist was called from Breda immediately.

Twenty-one-year-old Marieta, a young woman from Bonaire, was in her third year as a nurse. She was keeping vigil with the woman and her husband. But all of a sudden, the time had come: the woman went into labour, with the gynecologist nowhere in sight. Marieta was startled at first but immediately sprang into action, even forgetting to notify a colleague. The baby was coming, and she knew instinctively what to do. With the child delivered, she cleaned its face and mouth, cut the umbilical cord and put it on its mother's breast. The tension was relieved, there was joy and there were shared tears. In Bonaire they say, *Duna lus*, a man has been given the light!

Margarita Reina Winklaar, born in Rincon, was the second child in a family of 12. She came from a truly Bonairean family; her forefathers were inhabitants of the island since the times of slavery.

"I went to school in Rincon, and then to secondary school in Kralendijk, the school house SGB is in now. I took the bus every day. I had a pleasant upbringing, but for the fact that I was, physically, a small child; everyone always towered above me. I didn't like that very much. There obviously wasn't any Internet or television back then, so I started collecting stamps. I had a couple of pen pals, from all over: Europe, South America, Surinam, and the Caribbean. In the last year of



*Margarita Reina Winklaar*

secondary school, I decided to become a doctor. There were teachers trying to urge me to become a teacher, but I had no mind for that. I lack the patience to work with children – maybe because, as the eldest daughter, I often had to take care of my baby brothers and sisters. My father was away a lot; he was a fisherman and used to spend whole weeks at sea, and of course my mother had her hands full with 12 children."

Marieta finished school in Bonaire and left for the Netherlands as an 18-year-old. In the end, she decided not to study to be a doctor or teacher, but she entered a course to become a nurse.

She received a traineeship in Raamsdonkveer, through Maria Hoppner, a practicing midwife who used to be a well-known benefactor in Bonaire. Marieta lived and worked at the regional hospital for three and a half years before she could wear her insignia: a cross for nursing, and a little stork for delivering. She was qualified!

"Shortly before, this life-defining moment occurred: the delivery I did on my own when I was 21. That made a big impression on me; I can still feel the excitement to this day. A birth, giving life, that is the most beautiful thing. There is nothing that compares to being able to help people with that."

She finished her education and managed to land a job as midwife-in-training in Rotterdam. But before she started, she went on holiday to Bonaire, with a stopover in Surinam. "I met one of my pen pals there, for the first time, after having corresponded with him since my teens. I had a recent picture of him when I arrived at Zanderij Airport, and he had one of me. I quickly felt that everything he had written was true. I felt at ease. After a week I continued to Bonaire to visit my parents. A few days after, he suddenly turned up at Flamingo Airport. He met my family and said he would be coming back to the Netherlands with me, to study to become an accountant. Well, I guess you understand this was the beginning of our lifelong relationship."

Marieta and her husband Soeramin lived in the Netherlands for four years. In 1972, she became a registered midwife; that's when they decided to go back to Bonaire. December 1973 brought Marieta three big changes: a wedding, a new house and a new job; all major celebrations in one month – making them easy to remember. "Now I work as a midwife for the Island Government, a situation which stems from the fact that a lot of women didn't used to be insured for medical costs in case of a delivery – even though the husband was. They automatically came to me, a social worker, instead of to a doctor. It often made for some difficult encounters, with people in dire circumstances. Now, everyone is properly insured, and people can choose freely

between a doctor or a midwife." In 30 years of practice, Marieta was involved in some strange and interesting deliveries. Once she did two simultaneously, running from one house to another; or the unexpected twins, in the days before scanning equipment, requiring a second bed to be assembled at the last moment; a delivery with severe complications, with emergency transport by plane to Curaçao; or socially difficult people, 15-year-old mothers with wanted or unwanted first-borns, with either an unknown father or one who didn't want to be involved... "When they come to me, they're usually pregnant for some time, and they wrestle with the thought of having and raising a child. If they are physically healthy and able to deliver normally, I say: I'm here to bring life, not the other option. If you don't want to keep the baby, you can always put it up for adoption. I bring them into contact with a psychologist, the child welfare board or social service; they can help them further. After the delivery, I usually talk about contraceptives, although personally I'm not a big fan of them. But sometimes contraceptives are the lesser of two evils. We spend a lot of time educating schools and local social centers, creating awareness among young people. Unfortunately, the information we give them often is not in line with what happens in the home, in the family. There is a problem there! You never see the parents at meetings, and the kids see and hear a different reality at home from what we teach them. But we continue: if our education helps in only one case, it has been worth the effort."

*(Continued on page 14)*

(Portraits. Midwife. Continued from page 13)

She looks determined and picks her words carefully, almost gravely. But a smile softens her statements. Her conviction, founded on religious beliefs, is plain, but she will not force them upon young women. They have to make their own choices. But can they?

“The time when Bonairean women were duped by men is over; these men would act the macho and dump a girl as soon as she was pregnant. Nowadays, the women are quite independent and emancipated and are well equipped to make their own choices. Don’t forget women on this island have a long history of independence. In the times of slavery, they were separated from the men so they had full responsibility for their children. And later, when a lot of men went to work at sea or in the oil refineries in Curaçao and Aruba, there was a surplus of women in Bonaire. Again, they had to take care of themselves and the children. This generation has had the time to look around; that helps too! In Bonaire, macho behavior is looked down upon. If you feel like fooling around, you can leave. The women aren’t afraid to live alone or raise their children by themselves.”

Bonaire’s 12,000 inhabitants are joined each year by the approximately 150 babies born, of which 80 are boys and 70 are girls.

In December, the deliveries are at their peak – twice as many as in other months. It’s a good month to have a child (the coolest of the year) and... there’s Mardi Gras (Karnaval) in March. Marieta handles about 90 deliveries per year, or two-thirds of the island’s total. After 30 faithful years of midwife service, she can lay claim to a little over 3,000 births. There’s quite a few ‘grandma-births’ among them, meaning she delivered the children of women she herself delivered.

“I can look back on a beautiful time. I have done, and still do, what apparently I was born to do. I still love my work, and I have no intention of stopping. The only thing I sometimes long for is a long vacation, because that is hard to get in this profession. You just have to be there when it’s time, and it’s difficult to put in a replacement nurse if you have monitored the entire pregnancy.”

Marieta’s niece has arrived. She raises her seven-week-old grandchild into the air with a proud laugh, just as she did seven weeks ago: *Duna lus*, proud and happy with a new life. She cuddles the little one when it starts to cry because of the bright sunlight. Like a real grandmother; with tender love and care. □ GG/HR

## Picture Yourself with The Reporter Eagle River, Alaska, US

Sy and Corky Halberg, long-time Bonaire visitors and *Bonaire Reporter* subscribers, sent us another photo of themselves, this time

in Eagle River, Alaska, where some Bonaire folks might want to be right now to escape the heat in Bonaire. The mountains are part of the Chugatch range. □



**We need more  
Photos.  
Send yours in  
today**

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

### DO YOU SUDOKU?

**And the  
solution is:**  
(puzzle and  
directions on page  
12)

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

### Who’s Who on The Bonaire Reporter

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**Features Editor:** Greta Kooistra **Translations:** Peggy Bakker **Production:** Barbara Lockwood **Distribution:** Yuchi Molina (Rincon), Elizabeth Silberie (Playa); **Housekeeping:** Jaidy Rojas Acevedo. **Printed by: DeStad Drukkerij, Curaçao**

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# WHAT'S HAPPENING

**MOVIELAND**

**WEEKLY MOVIE SHOWTIMES**

**Late Show**  
Call to make sure (Usually 9 pm)  
**Miami Vice**  
(Jamie Foxx)

**Early Show (Usually 7 pm)**  
Pirates Of The Caribbean:  
**Dead Man's Chest**

**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** September:  
**The Ant Bully**

## THIS WEEK

**September 4 - 29** - Activities with Ned & Anna DeLoach at Buddy Dive. Call 717-5080 for schedule and more information.

**September 7—October 15—Coral Spawning in Bonaire.** See September 1<sup>st</sup> issue of *The Bonaire Reporter* for complete timetable.

**Friday, September 15 - Bonaire Culinary Team Fundraiser Dinner.** Tickets NAf70 (\$40) at the Plaza. Call 785-6135 or 786-5939. See page 6.

**Saturday, September 16 -Quarterly Underwater Cleanup.** All welcome-divers and non-divers alike. Meet at Yellow Submarine at 1 pm.

**Sunday, September 17—Pelikan School fundraising concert** on the *Free-winds*. Tickets available through the Pelikan school.

## COMING

**Friday, September 29 - Famous Sugaro Band,** Rum Runners at Capt. Don's Habitat, 10 pm - 1 am. 717-8290.

**Saturday, September 30 - Bonaire Animal Shelter Dog Wash,** at Warehouse Bonaire's parking lot, 9 am to 2 pm. Only NAf7,50. See page 7.

**Wednesday, October 4—Animal Day sponsored by the Bonaire Lions Club.** Everyone welcome. Bring your animals. Vet will be there. Prizes for best cared for pets. Wilhelmina Park, 4:30—7 pm.

**Saturday, October 7—Big Rincon Marshé**—a real Bonairean experience. Stands selling gifts, plants, produce, music, drinks, local foods, BBQ, community discussions "*bou di ramada*" Not to be missed! [www.infobonaire.com/rincon](http://www.infobonaire.com/rincon).

**Sunday, October 8 - Jong Bonaire Klein Bonaire Swim.** See page 9.

**October 8-16—Bonaire Regatta.** For stands call/fax 717-8408

**Sunday, October 15 - Rotary Club Bonaire Fundraising concert** on the *Free-winds*

**October 20-23—Mountain Bike events** sponsored by "Offroad Valley Bikers" from Curacao. Locals invited to participate. **October 20—race in Washington Park; October 21—**island bike tour. Call DeFreewieler, 717-8545, or 510-3790, 560-4055. [WWW.orvb.org](http://WWW.orvb.org).

## 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 Sunday) 5-7
- 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.
- By appointment -**Rooi Lamoenchi Kunuku Park Tours** \$12 (NAf12 for residents). Tel 717-8489, 540-9800.
- **Parke Publico** children's playground has reopened

### 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](http://www.infobonaire.com/rincon). **Extra big Marshé 1st Saturday of the month, 6 am-2 pm.**
- **All You Can Eat BBQ** at **Divi Flamingo** with live music, 6 to 9 pm, NAf26,50. Call for reservations 717-8285 ext. 444.
- **Wine Tasting** at AWC's warehouse, 7 to 9 pm, Kaya Industria #23, across from Warehouse Bonaire. Great wines - NAf2,50 a glass.

### Sundays

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

### Tuesdays

- **Live music by the Flamingo Rockers**, 5-7 **Divi Flamingo, Balashi Beach Bar**
- **Wine & Cheese/** \$1 glass of wine, 5-7, **Divi Flamingo Balashi Beach Bar**
- **Buy a Bucket of Beer & get free chicken wings**, 5-7, **Cactus Blue**
- **Caribbean Gas Training free** "Beyond Gravity - An Evening with DIR," 6 pm, Bonaire Dive & Adventure 786-5073.

### Wednesdays

- **Open Mike Night** with Moogie, 7-9, **Cactus Blue**.
- Live music by **Flamingo Rockers**,

**Divi Flamingo, Balashi Beach Bar** 5-6:30.

- **Movie Night at Buddy Dive**

### Thursdays

- **Live music by the Flamingo Rockers, Divi Flamingo, Balashi Beach Bar**, 5-7
- "Admiral's Hour" for yachtsmen and others, Vespucci Restaurant, Harbour Village Marina. HH drinks, gratis tapas, 5-7

### 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
- **Swim lessons** for children by Enith Brighitha, a Dutch Olympian, at Sorobon from 13.00, for children 0 - 18.
- **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"** slide show-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 .

**Wednesday (2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>) Turtle Conservation (STCB) Slide Show by Bruce Brabec.** **Carib Inn** seaside veranda, 7 pm, 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

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

**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 FORMA Building on Kaya Korona, across from the RBTT Bank. All levels invited. NAf5 entry fee. Call Cathy 566-4056.

**Darts Club** plays every other **Sunday** at City Café. Registration at 4, games at 5. Tel. 717-2950, 560-7539.

**JCI - First Wednesday of the Month-** Junior Chamber International Bonaire (JCI Bonaire, formerly known as Bonaire Jaycees) meets at the ABVO building, Kaminda Jato Baco 36 from 7:30 to 9:30 pm. Everyone is welcome. Contact: Renata Domacassé 516-4252.

**Kiwanis Club** meets at APNA Plaza, Kaya International, every other **Tuesday**, 7 pm. Tel. 717-5595, Jeannette Rodriguez.

**Lions Club** meets every **2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday** of the month at 8 pm at Kaya Sabana #1. All Lions welcome.

**Rotary lunch meetings Wednesday**, 12 noon-2 pm - Now meeting at 'Pirate House', above Zeezicht Restaurant. 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; [Valarie@telbonet.an](mailto:Valarie@telbonet.an)

**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 pm in English. Tel. 717-8332

**The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints**, Kaya Sabana #26 Sundays 8:30 - 11:30 am. Services in Papiamentu, Spanish and English.

**Catholic San Bernardus** in Kralendijk - Services on **Sunday at 8 am and 7 pm** in Papiamentu 717-8304 . **Saturday at 6 pm** at *Our Lady of Coromoto* in Antriol, in English. Mass in Papiamentu on Sunday at 9 am and 6 pm. 717-4211.

**Assembly of God (Asemblea di Dios)**, Kaya Triton (Den Cheffi). In English, Dutch & Papiamentu on **Sunday at 10 am. Wednesday Prayer Meeting at 7:30 pm.** 717-2194

## Send event info to:

**The Bonaire Reporter**

**Email** [reporter@bonairenews.com](mailto:reporter@bonairenews.com)

**Tel/Fax.** 717-8988, Cell. 786-6518

# DINING GUIDE

See advertisements in this issue

RESTAURANT	PRICE RANGE / WHEN OPEN	FEATURES
<b>Bella Vista Restaurant</b> Sea Side Restaurant at Buddy Dive Resort 717-5080, ext. 538	Moderate. Breakfast and Lunch Dinner during Theme nights only. Open every day	<b>Magnificent Theme Nights:</b> Saturday: Beach Grill; Monday: Caribbean Night; Friday: Manager's Rum Punch Party and All-You-Can-Eat B.B.Q
<b>Bistro de Paris</b> Kaya Gob. N. Debrot 46 (half-way between hotel row and town) 717-7070	Moderate Lunch Monday - Friday 11 am-3 pm Dinner Monday -Saturday 6-10pm	<b>Real French Cooking</b> in an informal setting Superb dishes prepared with care and love by a French chef Owner-operated Eat in or Take away
<b>Cactus Blue</b> Blvd. J. A. Abraham 16 (half-way between town and Divi Flamingo) 717-4564	Moderate Dinner Closed Sunday	<b>Trend Setting Menu</b> Bonaire's newest hot-spot to eat and drink. Margaritas a specialty Owner-operated for top service
<b>Calabas Restaurant &amp; Chibi Chibi Restaurant and Bar</b> At the Divi Flamingo Beach Resort. Waterfront 717-8285	Moderate-Expensive Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner Open 7 days	Get a view of the beach and turquoise sea while enjoying a breakfast buffet or à la carte lunch and dinner at the 'Chibi Chibi' restaurant & bar. Inspiring vistas and the <b>highest standard of cuisine.</b>
<b>Crocantino Italian Restaurant</b> Downtown at Kaya Grandi 48 717-5025	Moderate Dinner Closed Monday	<b>Bonaire's Most Romantic Restaurant where dining is a delight!</b> 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.
<b>The Great Escape</b> EEG Blvd #97—across from Belmar 717-7488	Moderate Breakfasts Only	<b>Bar-Restaurant poolside—under the thatched roof.</b> Breakfast Buffet 7:30-10 am every day Happy hours 5 to 7 daily.
<b>Pasa Bon Pizza</b> 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 <b>Real Thing!</b> Freshly prepared pizzas made with the finest ingredients. Salads, desserts. Eat in or take away. Nice bar too. Call ahead to eat-in or take out 790-1111
<b>The Bonaire Windsurfing Place</b> At Sorobon Beach Get away from it all.	Low-Moderate Open from 10am-6 pm daily,	A <b>genuine sandy beach restaurant</b> cooled by the trade winds Top quality food and friendly service

# 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.

## 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

**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.

## GENERATORS

**Island Generators** has diesel powered generators for all your electrical needs. Order now and feel secure.

## 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 785-6272 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

**Caribbean Homes,** "the Refreshing Realtor," specializing in luxury homes, condos, lots, rentals and property management.

**Harbourtown Real Estate** is Bonaire's most experienced 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.

**Best Buddies and Pearls**—Stunning fresh water pearl jewelry, fashion, gifts, t shirts. Under new management.

## 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, gifts, Brunotti and Reef featured... 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. Shop at Kaya Industria 23, Tuesday-Saturday 9 am-12 noon.

**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



# On the Island Since ... August 2001

## Norca Aurora Guadalupe Loff-Hernandez

“My father is from Surinam. He was a pilot in WW II and then a pilot with KLM after he went on vacation to Venezuela. I don’t know how he ended up all the way in this very small village called Santa Barbara del Zulia, but it was there that he saw my mother, sitting on a bag of rice. He was 26 and she was 16. Three months later they got married and they’re still together, living in Caracas.

My mother was 17 when I was born and two years later my brother came. When I was nine we moved to Surinam, at the time a Dutch colony, and that’s why I speak Dutch so well. We lived there until I was 14, then we moved to Caracas where my father bought his own business. After high school there I went to an in-between university degree school for market research. In the meantime I was working for Gerber Baby Food in the credit department. When I finished my studies I was promoted to the market research department. After a while I went to the manager to ask him why my colleague, a man, was making more money than I. The manager answered: ‘Because he’s a man and you’re a woman, that’s it!’ So, I went to look for something new.

I like challenges – I don’t like things the easy way. I had an aunt in Montreal, Canada, who got me all the information about what kind of papers I needed. So I arranged everything and even got a scholarship. When everything was ready I quit my job. Gerber threw me a great goodbye party with all the honors and a Cartier watch! I went to study at Concordia University in Montreal. I was the vice-president of the Latin-American student association, helping the students in every way I could and I was organizing Latin parties and those were the best! Also I was elected Miss Latin American Music! So, in other words, not a worry in the world!

I stayed in Montreal for two and a half years, and by the end of my last six months I met Pierre. He was Swiss-Canadian, born in Switzerland. I thought he was out of this world - gentle and handsome. His company was sending him to Caracas to be the sales manager for Central and South America. When my father heard I was dating someone he sent my mother to see what kind of a person his daughter was seeing. Pierre was so charming that my mother fell in love with him. When Pierre met my father in Venezuela he told my dad ‘When Norca comes, we’re going to live together!’ ‘No way!’ my dad answered, ‘You have to get married first!’

I graduated in 1981 with a Bachelor’s Degree in Commerce, Major Marketing. Then I flew back to Venezuela. I’d always been very independent, very busy, very social and out-going and I didn’t take things too seriously. But nevertheless I got

married. My mother told me that Pierre was a very good man and it was true because he spoiled me tremendously. But I was always very spoiled, you know, especially by my parents and by me! Well, we went to get married in Barbados because I couldn’t come home without being married, and from that moment on everything went wrong. The official came two hours late, I lost my good luck charm, my wedding present from my husband fell to pieces and we started quarreling and we never really made up again, but anyway... it’s another experience in life. When we arrived in Venezuela we were confronted with many problems, mostly cultural. He didn’t want me to work - I had to stay at home, but I had learned so much and I wanted a career.

**“...one night in Caracas, my niece, her boyfriend and I... were kidnapped by three armed men. We drove around for two and a half hours. It was a very scary situation. They took everything we had plus the car and we were dumped in a very bad neighborhood. When I saw a taxi I screamed at the top of my lungs and the car came to a stop, screeching – just like in a movie...”**

In 1983 I had a painting exposition in Maracaibo where I exhibited my pastels. When Pierre told me I would never get a job, I got one at the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Nigeria in 1984 as the social secretary of H.E. the ambassador, and I stayed there till 1987. I was happy again! Then I worked for a year with ‘Marubeni de Venezuela’ as assistant to the director Light Metals and Petroleum where I was, amongst others, responsible for the administration of aluminum exports to Japan. That was great! Japanese people are the best people to work with!

The marriage wasn’t doing too well, but we had two children, Michel, 24 now, and Chantal, 22. When Michel was nine and Chantal seven, the marriage ended and Pierre went back to Switzerland. When they were 13 years old, my children left to live with their daddy. It was a big sacrifice for me, but I understood they needed their father too, and you always want the best



Norca Aurora Guadalupe Loff-Hernandez

for your children, and Switzerland had very good opportunities. Now Michel is an electrician and he’s planning on coming in January to Bonaire to live because he feels he’s lost a lot of time with his mother. My daughter is office coordinator with the Olympic Committee in Lausanne. I am very, very proud of my children.”

*Norca Loff-Hernandez (55) is an extremely vibrant lady with lots of personality, good vibrations and very entertaining.* “When Pierre left, my life began again. I took over the family business, ‘Matex’, a manufacturer of doormats and car mats for Chrysler and Mitsubishi. I did that for six years, doing good business. Then I sold the company because I felt it was time for something different. For three months I didn’t do anything. Then a friend called me asking if I wanted to go to Boston to help his 17-year-old son who was going to study there, to settle down. And so I ended up in Boston. When the boy was all set I went to study myself: Restaurant and Catering Business at Harvard University. It was something I’d always wanted to do. When I’d finished my study I went back to Caracas where I got offered a job by the boy’s father who owned a chain of 40 fashion shops and I became their purchasing agent.

I was always traveling and I loved it; I had lots of lovely friends and delicious dinners everywhere! Then, one night in Caracas, my niece, her boyfriend and I, who’d gone out to look for gasoline for the car, were kidnapped by three armed men. We drove around for two and a half hours. It was a very scary situation. They took everything we had plus the car and we were dumped in a very bad neighborhood. When I saw a taxi I screamed at the top of my lungs and the car came to a stop, screeching – just like in a movie – and that’s how we got home.

At that point I decided to leave Caracas and start a new life. I have friends in Curaçao, my daughter’s godmother, who is like

family to me and there I stayed. I didn’t have a job, was traveling a lot and only doing fun things. In 2001 I was offered a job as a manager for Select, a manpower agency on Bonaire. It was a very good package, so I thought ‘Why not!’ My friends in Curaçao said: ‘You’re crazy! What are you going to do on Bonaire? There are no men there – only fishermen!’

Well, I am still here! From Select I went to work for the De Antillen N.V. as the office manager, and when they closed their doors on Bonaire I started working as the manager of the Wind- and Surf- Beach Bar at the Bonaire Windsurf Place at Sorobon. And so one of my dreams came true because I always wanted to have a restaurant to spoil my guests with my cooking and desserts. It has been a very good decision and it’s still a challenge because you have to make sure that your guests are coming back and... that’s what they do! It’s the most beautiful location on Bonaire and the island is a beautiful island, clean and it smells nice. It gives a good energy; it’s still safe; it has no protocol considering the way you dress; and the people are sweet. They wish you a good day and a good week and a nice weekend; something you never experience anywhere else in the world.

Life is great, but you have to make it yourself; it’s a matter of action and reaction. I speak four, five languages and sometimes I don’t even know with what switch I got up! I love to help people and everything I do, I do with love. I am strict and responsible in my work, but I am also easy going and I love to laugh and I am never angry. I can’t complain about my life. I have always done what I wanted to do and that’s what I am still doing.”

□ Story & photo by Greta Kooistra



## Sunfish Sailors Need World Championship Funding



Last Sunday, September 10th, the BSSA (Bonaire Sailing Association) organized belated sailing races for the Dia di Boneiru. Five Optimists as well as six Sunfishes competed in two classes. The Sunfish racing class consisted of the three sailors who will be representing Bonaire in the coming Sunfish World

Championships 2006 in Charleston, South Carolina, US: **Sipke Stapert, Vianco Serberie and Victor Brouwer**. These men are really looking forward to the upcoming event. If you have wondered who those guys in the little sailing boats with the white sails are, training between Bonaire and Klein Bonaire nearly every day ... well, now you know. They might be the future sailing world champions.

In these last weeks before the World Championships (September 30 to October 7) they will be training as much as possible. In the meantime the BSSA World Championship Committee is still raising funds, because taking part in this event is very costly. **The amount needed for three people is more than NAf11.000.** Thanks to a number of sponsors part of this amount has already been received. But they are not there yet!

In Charleston the sailors will be able to promote their country and their sponsors. Be proud of the sailing history of Bonaire

and support our young Bonairean talents. If you are interested in sponsoring, please contact one of the members of the BSSA World Championship Committee:

Artie de Vries tel 717-7972

Sipke Stapert tel 717-2019

Elisabeth Vos tel 565-5225

Jan Brouwer tel 786-3637

You can also transfer money to the Sunfish World Championship account:

MCB account nr# 114-026-04

attn E.Finies-Vos / WK Sunfish. □ *Johannetta Brouwer*

## Turtle Tracking Update



Bonaire's ex-turtle, "Heit," according to satellite tracking, continues to spend her time in the reef and lagoons of Los Roques islands, about 100 miles east of Bonaire. No further reports are planned unless she moves. □

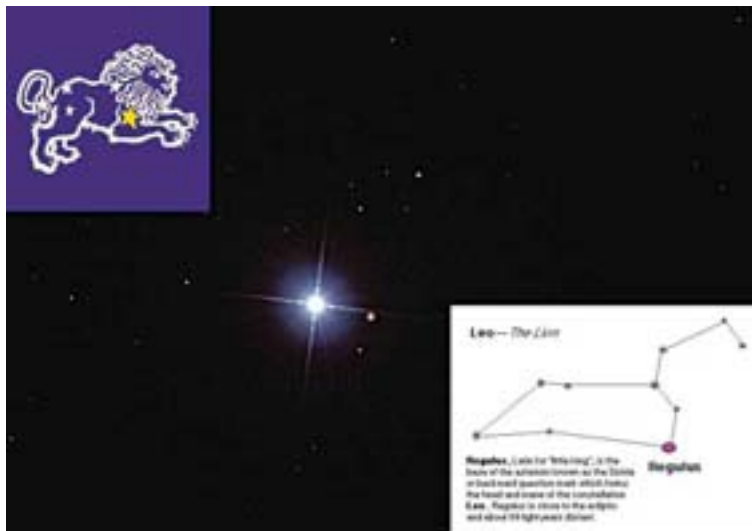


# BONAIRE SKY PARK\*

\*to find it... just look up

## Using the Moon as a Finder

At least once a month the Moon passes close enough to an important planet or a famous star so that you can use it as a planet and star finder. And such is the case next week when you'll be able to use the Moon four days in a row



Regulus marks the heart of Leo the Lion

to find not just one planet but two of them plus a very famous bright star.

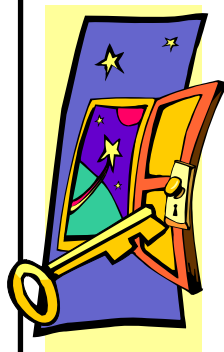
Next Monday, September 18<sup>th</sup> about 40 minutes before sunrise when it's starting to get light out face due east. And if you have a clear flat horizon you'll see a super bright light which is planet #2, 8,000-mile-wide **Venus**. Then if you draw an imaginary line up and leaning to the right it will pass very close to two medium bright lights. The first one is **Regulus**, the star which marks the heart of the ancient constellation, **Leo the Lion**. And directly above it planet #6 from the **Sun**, 75,000-mile-wide ringed planet **Saturn**, which we've been visiting for the past two years with the **Cassini space craft** which just a few weeks ago discovered a chain of about a dozen lakes. The lakes range in size from six to 62 miles wide and they're filled not with water like on **Earth** but contain a mixture of liquid methane and ethane. Wow!

Now although Saturn and **Titan**, its largest moon, are almost a billion miles away, nevertheless you can actually see Titan through a small telescope because it is so huge. In fact it is over 400 miles wider than the planet **Mercury**.

Next look directly above Saturn and you'll see an exquisite waning, which means shrinking, crescent Moon complete with **Earthshine**, which looks like a black full Moon nestled within the crescent. It's one of my personal favorite kind of Moons. Now in case you're not sure you've found Saturn or Regulus, the next day on Tuesday the 19<sup>th</sup> an even skinnier crescent with Earthshine will be parked directly between Saturn and Regulus, which will make them super easy to find.

Then 24 hours later on Wednesday the 20<sup>th</sup> an even skinnier crescent will be parked not quite half way between Regulus and Venus. But one of the niftiest days for viewing and most challenging to see will be on Thursday the 21<sup>st</sup> when a slim-as-it-ever-gets crescent Moon will be almost visually on top of Venus. To see it you'll have to have a super clear, super flat horizon and you should look about 30 to 35 minutes before sunrise, not 40 minutes.

So, once again, using the Moon as a finder, on Monday the 18<sup>th</sup> the Moon is parked right above Saturn, on Tuesday the 19<sup>th</sup> it's parked between Saturn and Regulus. On Wednesday the 20<sup>th</sup> a much skinnier Moon is parked almost half way between Regulus and brilliant Venus and on Thursday the 21<sup>st</sup> Venus and the Moon make an exquisite duo that will take your breath away. And in fact if you have a pair of binoculars handy the two of them together will be absolutely magnificent! So next week get up with the chickens and find two wonderful planets and a lovely star. □*Jack Horkheimer*



# THE STARS HAVE IT

Sunday, September 10 to Saturday, September 16, 2006

By Astrologer Michael Thiessen

**ARIES** (Mar. 21- April 20) If you go shopping, only take what you can afford to part with. Your sensitive nature will allow others to read you well. Partnerships could prove to be lucrative. Your talents are likely to be discovered. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

**TAURUS** (Apr. 21- May 21) You can help them more than they can help you. Tempers will mount if you're too pushy at work or at home. Your mind will be on matters that deal with secret affairs. You will be quite excitable this week. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

**GEMINI** (May 22-June 21) Resist any idle chatter. Your involvement in organizational events could open doors to new and exciting opportunities. Social events will lead to a strong and stable relationship. You can make major accomplishments while on short trips. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22) Ask those in key positions to help you overcome the delays and to support your concerns in order to move on. You are best to keep hard feelings to yourself. Don't be taken advantage of by any fast talking salesperson trying to part you from your cash. If you go shopping, only take what you can afford to part with. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug 22) Be sure to get involved with those who can introduce you to unusual forms of entertainment. You can make money but not through harebrained schemes or gambling. Positive changes regarding your personal status are evident. Your contributions will be valued and helpful. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) Do not blow situations out of proportion. Listen to a good friend who is truly looking out for your best interests. Get back into the swing of things. Social events may lead to a romantic interlude. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) You may find yourself changing plans for some form of entertainment. You can expect to have some problems with skin, bones, or teeth if you haven't taken proper care of them. Stay away from social unpleasantness. Travel will be favorable. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) You can accomplish a great deal. You will have to check your cash flow before you decide to indulge in hobbies or entertainment that may be beyond your budget. The experience will be good. Help if you can, but more than likely it will be sufficient just to listen. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) Get together with friends who like to participate in indoor sports. You must not let others talk you into doing things that will probably limit you financially at a later date. Be sure to spend time helping children with projects that are too difficult for them to accomplish alone. Investments that deal with property will be lucrative; however, upsets with family members may be likely. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) Discuss your objectives with peers or lovers. Disputes on the home front may be hard to avoid. Listen, but don't make any rash decisions. You may find your mate somewhat perturbed. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) It's a good time to make changes to your living quarters that will give you more space. Mingle with those who can further your goals. You can make money through solid investment plans. Travel is evident, but be cautious while in transit. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) Take some time out. Your ability to take hold of a situation will surely bring you popularity and leadership. Don't draw too much attention to yourself at work. You can make favorable changes in your home environment. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday. □