

**IT'S
STILL
FREE**

BONAIRE

November 3-November 10, 2006 Volume 13, Issue 42

The REPORTER

Kaya Gob. Debrot 200 - Email: Reporter@bonairenews.com - (599) 717-8988 SINCE 1994

Janice Huckaby Photo



Artist Olivia Janga To Present Queen Bonaire Art

Page 11

Flotsam and Jetsam



Island Council Member Eddy Thielman thinks the Bonaire Government has to give additional information about all development, past and present, in the Lac Bay/Sorobon area, not just about Mangrove Village. He presented an 11-point letter which asked for answers, especially in relation to other construction in the Ramsar Treaty protected area. He focused on the apparent lack of environmental impact assessments for any of the construction projects completed there over the last few years. He wants to know if any other similar projects are in the works as well and how will they be handled. He wants feedback about the Bonaire Nature Alliance (ALIANSA) complaints, their motivation and follow-up.

► **A political summit to reach a final agreement on the future constitutional status of Curaçao and St. Maarten is underway in the Netherlands.** Prime Minister Emily de Jongh-

Elhage and Dutch Administrative Reform and Kingdom Relations Minister Atzo Nicolaï made the announcement last Wednesday afternoon after Nicolaï met with the Netherlands Antilles Central Government. At press time we had no results from the meeting. Bonaire and the other two of the K3 (the three *klein*, little, islands including Statia and Saba) have already reached substantive agreement with Holland on their new constitutional status.

► **Airline ticket prices from The Netherlands to the Netherlands Antilles plummeted to 10% to 15%** as the KLM monopoly to the Antilles is being challenged by Arkefly and Martinair. Arkefly's weekly flights to Bonaire cost 545 euro and begin this Saturday, November 4, supplementing its four flights weekly to Curaçao. KLM is not concerned, it says, and welcomes free competition. Holiday season flights are already fully booked, it said.

► **Caribbean Star Airlines** (www.flycaribbeanstar.com) **announced that it has reinstated plans to offer new service to/from Curaçao.** The new service, which is on sale now for travel beginning December 1, 2006, will operate daily. Flight #771 departs Trinidad at 9:45 am, arrives in Curaçao at 12:10 pm. Flight #879 departs Curaçao at 12:45 pm, arrives in Trinidad at 3:10 pm. To celebrate the launch of the new

service, Caribbean Star is offering special **introductory fares starting at just \$69** each way for flights between Trinidad and Curaçao. Special introductory fares are applicable to purchases made by December 1, 2006, for travel anytime after the December 1, 2006, launch date.

Caribbean Star operates a fleet of 11 aircraft: four brand-new Bombardier Q300s plus seven Dash-8 300s, each with a 50-seat capacity. With the addition of the new Curaçao service, Caribbean Star now serves 13 Caribbean gateways with more than 635 flights per week.

► **Maduro & Curiel's Bank Curaçao notified 300-400 of its clients that their ATM cards had to be cancelled after the bank discovered that "key pads" with card readers had been installed at ATMs in Curaçao to gain access to the PIN codes of clients.** The practice is known as "skimming." PIN codes are sold abroad for third parties to take money from the accounts of unsuspecting victims. The bank believes it reacted before any money was taken from the accounts involved.

In the meantime, control of ATMs has intensified, while a new generation of more tamper-proof machines will be installed, as was already planned before this incident.

The bank added that in such cases, even if money had been taken, the clients would be reimbursed, as they were

BONAIRE The REPORTER

Table of Contents

IN THIS ISSUE:

Guest Editorial- Value of Growth	4
Letters (Visual Pollution, TELBO Billing)	5
Groenboom at Sunbelt Anniversary	8
Bonaire Eco-Swim	9
The Wake of the Lost Penguin	10
Croccantino says Goodbye	10
"Give me 5," says Divi Flamingo	10
Nightmare Crib Haunted House	11
Artists in Harmony, Janice & Olivia	11
Windsurf European Pro Freestyle Tour	13
Youth Tennis	18

WEEKLY FEATURES:

Flotsam & Jetsam	2
Biologist's Bubbles (Nassau Grouper)	3
SGB Stars (Meralney Bomba)	6
Snack Detectives (Men Wa Snack)	7
Pet of the Week (Mavis)	7
Picture Yourself (Maple, Canada)	8
SuDoku Puzzle	12
Classifieds	12
Tide Table	12
Straight Talk	14
SuDoku Answer	14
Reporter Masthead	14
What's Happening	15
Movieland Film Schedule	15
Shopping & Dining Guides	16
On the Island Since	
(Rignaldo "Rishi" Oswaldo Marin)	17
Sky Park (Back in Time, Rana)	19
The Stars Have It	19

not at fault. At the end of last week Curaçao police announced that they had taken two foreign-born men into custody, charging them with installation of the key pads. There were no similar incidents on Bonaire.

(Continued on page 3)

(Flotsam and Jetsam. Continued from page 2)

► **Ernie and Marie Franke** recently arrived on Bonaire to work with Trans World Radio. They didn't have a mailbox at their house on Kaya J.A. Abraham. So Ernie set about building a mailbox, totally using PVC pipe that would be keeping with the feeling of Bonaire. Even the wings go up when there's mail in the box. It's opposite the Divi Flamingo Beach Resort. Tourists stop by just to have their picture taken with a life-size flamingo. However, they don't leave a tip in the mailbox.

► Until a short-term loan of NAf15 million from local financiers was provided, the **Island Territory of Curaçao wasn't able to pay salaries to its government workers.** Finance Commissioner Eugene Rhuggenaath admitted that the money was simply not in the treasury since no one subscribed to an earlier bond issue. The financial sector does not have a lot of confidence in the Curaçao government at the moment due to reports of financial problems and uncertainty concerning constitutional reforms.

Meanwhile the Curaçao Education Commissioner is concerned that there is no money to pay study financing in November and December for students abroad.

► **Pensioned Dutchmen who spend their golden years abroad live, on average, a year and a half longer than the elderly who remain in the Netherlands,** according to the

(Continued on page 5)



Bubbles from the Biologist

Did You Know...

Nassau Groupers are in danger of becoming extinct?

The Nassau Grouper may be added to the Endangered Species Act listing due to over-fishing. At least in the times of Steller's Sea Cows and Caribbean Monk Seals, we could say we didn't know better. But now, with all of the knowledge we have about over-fishing and grouper decline, I still hear divers here on vacation expounding on what a fantastic grouper dinner they had the night before. Perhaps they just aren't aware? Hmmmm.

Groupers, in particular, are at risk in part because of their reproductive strategy. They migrate for many miles to reach their spawning grounds once or twice a year. The group then mass spawns over a period of a few days and their fertilized eggs subsequently drift with the ocean currents, develop into small larvae, and settle to the bottom (sometimes this development stage takes months). Once fishers realize where and when the groupers



Nassau Grouper Photo by Albert Bianculli

aggregate, they fish them out and can have a huge impact on the reproductive population. Groupers are apex predators and show little fear of humans. In fact, they are often curious and swim very close to divers—not great traits when people are allowed to spearfish, which is thankfully illegal in Bonaire. So, if you love the coral reef, don't eat reef fish. It's that simple. Choose Wahoo, Dorado, or Tuna – at least until we find out they are being over fished! □ *Caren Eckrich*

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.



OF WHAT VALUE IS GROWTH?

There exists in the corporate world a word which everyone has become familiar with. It is **growth**. This word has trickled down to all walks of life and in many cases has been made synonymous with progress.

In the corporate use of the word, it means a company must grow or its investors will not see high enough returns on the money they "bet" on this company. In everyday life it is used by politicians to convince their citizens that there must always be expansion, growth, progress. In reality these politicians are afraid of losing their jobs so will do anything, at most any cost to keep "progressing."

Many times people will say, "We all want and need growth," or, "It is inevitable," which is completely untrue. Not everyone wants growth when it is at the cost of quality of life, the environment and peace of mind.

As an analogy, look at the human body. If growth were a major factor we would all weigh 800 pounds or more and basically keel over dead. In any community, and more so in an island tourist-oriented community, this growth also brings with it serious problems.

As one example, when more hotels get built, more employees are needed but the island's local population can't supply them. With these employees come families who need schools. Schools need



teachers who need housing. All of this requires more water, more electricity, more roads. More garbage is produced which requires more landfill areas. More sewage is produced which requires better treatment. More cars show up, producing more parking problems and traffic congestion. More crime, so more police are needed. More laws, which create more government bureaucracy. And on top of everything, more taxes to try to pay for it all. All of these lead to a lesser quality of life, yet someone keeps telling us, "We all want growth," and others blindly agree.

Look at Bonaire years ago. It worked. People were happier. Taxes were lower. Requirements were far less. Traffic was not even a consideration. One could easily park most anywhere. Sewage was not a consideration since nature was able to handle it. Bonaire employed mostly its own people. Today look at the huge foreign work force! This by itself brings social conflict in schools, on roads and in daily life. But we are told, "We all want growth."

In corporate life, growth does mean more money for some, but in real life only a few will get anything from it. In corporate life these money makers stay only as long as the money keeps growing. When something goes wrong they bail out. Look at how many huge corporations which grew like a human body only to die or are on the verge of bankruptcy. Many cities have grown so much they are bankrupt. It is disappointing that those in charge cannot take cues from other areas that have already experienced the problems and learn from them.

In one community a local housing boom for much of this decade has been in full swing but so has a culture clash between area natives and newcomers. It's said that growth breeds tensions. Evidence of the conflict is everywhere, with skirmishes fought at municipal meetings, on the editorial pages and in online forums. Longtime residents are bewildered by the rapid growth and resentful of its by-products- traffic congestion, lost open space and crowded classrooms. They're struggling to preserve the familiar in an evolving community.

Cost of living worries many people. Others focus on the declining quality of life. Friends are constantly telling others to take advantage of skyrocketing real estate values and sell their house to the highest bidder. But then where does one go? Even a comparably-sized home would cost much more today than a decade ago. Everything, not just housing, is more expensive than it used to be. Paychecks don't go up the way all the bills

have gone up. No one holds it against anybody for wanting a good way of life, but there's a payback to everything. Bonaire is suffering these exact same problems, but instead of learning, it goes blindly forward.

Bonaire's reefs are suffering also. For many this seems insignificant but for those who study the sea it is a very serious problem. Loss of the reefs will have a huge economic influence on Bonaire. Other scientists are just waiting for the day when the population gets ill from eating fish contaminated with byproducts of all this "progress."

Anyone can state their own opinion, but when someone says, "Everyone wants growth," what are they basing that on? Have they polled an entire population? Not everyone wants growth and not every business can or should grow. Can you imagine a really great restaurant buying into this philosophy? It has 40 seats and is doing exceptionally well. With growth it has 75 seats next year and then 150 and soon so many that the quality drops and it goes under. Perhaps 99% of businesses in the world do not grow. Look at every small business here on Bonaire. Does one really expect all of them to become a Wal-Mart? Do the owners even want to get that big? Bonaire keeps telling the world how wonderful its nature is and how everyone respects it and wants Bonaire to be based on nature, but reality is just the opposite. □ *Believer in Quality*

LETTERS

VISUAL POLLUTION

Dear Editor:
Please consider publishing this as another service to the community.

To The Management / Responsible Persons at Digicel:

Your WEB page, billed as "Community Service," extols the many ways that Digicel extends a warm and friendly hand to the communities that you service (more correctly, **invade, encroach, defile** might be more accurate).

What gives Digicel the presumed "right" to move onto a beautiful little island to spew your visual trash all over the countryside?

You people have put billboards where there should be none; you have painted neighborhood walls with your red and white slop. Your brochures can still be found blowing through the once beautiful and litter free landscape.

Digicel purports to be community conscious and highly responsible. The photo (at right) is an example of Digicel's "responsible" handiwork.

I trust your market share on Bonaire did not meet your corporate expectations.

I can assure you that to continue down the same arrogant, ignorant path will not help to build the image that you so desperately seem to seek.

Perhaps you can summon up enough community responsibility to pick up your trash. □

Brian McCarley



McCarley photo

TELBO BILLING

Dear Editor:

I was very disturbed when I got the notification that Telbo will only give clients a partial itemized bill and then only if you pay NAf5 per month. What would you do if you go to Kooyijman and buy 11 items and get a cash register bill for NAf2148,34 non itemized? I know I would not be very happy and ask for an itemized bill.

The only bill I pay monthly which I can check is my phone bill. Every month I do try to look at my off-island calls and check them. But my local calls are more than 50% of my phone bill. I cannot check them.

How do I know that TELBO does not charge every Bonairean five local calls extra each month??

How do I know that TELBO does not add three extra calls on the Internet portion of every Bonairean using the internet dialup?

How do I know that no extra calls are added to my cellular calls?

How do I know that TELBO does charge me the special rate on Bonaire Day?

Just a few examples where we Bonaireans could be paying more than for what we use because we do not have access to itemized information!

I would like to suggest that you have a look at SKYPEOUT. I can go back months and see which number I called on what date, what time and how much the call cost me!

I would like to suggest to TELBO to put the phone bills (totally itemized, thus including local calls, calls to cellular, Internet calls and of course off-island calls) on the internet. Each subscriber would get a password and the username would be your phone number or, where necessary, another username. This would save TELBO lots of paperwork and money. We would be able to see our phone balance at any time.

For the people who do not have a computer I would like to suggest a meter giving the number of impulses and the total cost acquired up to date.

Hopefully my suggestions will make TELBO realize that we as citizens already have very little possibility to check our phone bill and it is NOT justified to charge a monthly fee for a standard service (a specified bill). □

Diana R. Gevers

(Flotsam and Jetsam. Continued from page 3)

Dutch Social Insurance Bank, SVB. According to SVB statistics the retired Dutch who live the longest reside in Canada. Retirees who live in Bonaire were not mentioned in the study. Perhaps it's because they are all still living?

► In upcoming Dutch elections the **governing Dutch Christian Democrats narrowly lead their Labor PvdA rivals** three weeks before a general election, but with neither side set for a decisive victory, protracted coalition talks seem likely.

PvdA triumphed in local elections in March but has seen a commanding opinion poll lead dwindle as the economy rebounded, and Prime Minister Jan Peter Balkenende's CDA has pulled ahead three weeks before the November 22 vote. Bonaireans are beginning to pay more attention to Dutch elections as they will be directly linked to Holland beginning in 2008.

► **The Coast Guard and police in Curaçao intercepted a boat with 40.5 kilos of cocaine and four crew.** The suspect vessel was spotted on radar south of Klein Curaçao at 1:30 am last Saturday. The boat, with three Venezuelan men and a Colombian woman on board, was stopped and towed to the harbor where police arrested them.

Suspecting that drugs had been thrown overboard before they caught the boat, the Coast Guard searched the area and discovered a local fisherman who led them to two packages he had

(Continued on page 6)

STARS of the SGB



This week's Star is Meralney Bomba in group HAVO 3B. The group was on an excursion to Klein Bonaire, so I asked if I could interview her. Meralney is 14, and her star sign is Aquarius.



You are now in Havo 3. Is it different from Havo 1? And in what way?

Yes, it's different. For starters it's a higher level that's being demanded of us. The pupils behave differently and we have new subjects and new teachers. The pupils used to be more naughty and less serious. The group used to be larger too.

What is a new subject for you?

French. Biology and Care are gone. I don't mind that. French is difficult but easy at the same time. It's easier to learn than Spanish.

What do you think of your group Havo 3B?

I really like them; they're nice. They are not too busy. They can be really sweet; they help you (sometimes) and they're very social. I think they're positive minded.

What do you want to become when you grow up?

A hotel manager. Why? I already live in a hotel. My mother runs a hotel and I help her. I like it. And this way I'll get to travel a lot in the future. And that's why I chose French as a subject this year.

What package will you choose next year? (In the exam years pupils have to choose a certain package of subjects which will give them the basis for further study)

Economics and Social Studies.

What are your hobbies?

Drawing (I'm really, really good at that), playing with my dogs, being creative and sometimes swimming.

If you would describe yourself and your character, what would you say?

I would say that I'm kind, nice, quiet and serious.

Even when you were in HAVO 1 you knew you wanted to become a hotel manager. So I'd say you also have a definite goal in mind. That is also a characteristic of your personality. Do you agree with that?

Yes. I do. I know what I want, and I make sure that I get that.

What's your favourite band?

Happy Band and Prestige.

You mentioned you wanted to travel.

Where would you like to travel to?

Everywhere. I want to see the whole world.

What do you think about the SGB?

I think it's a nice school. They should build more classrooms though. And I really want air conditioning in all the classrooms.

What do you think about the teachers?

Some are nice and some are strict and tedious.

From which of these do you learn the most?

I think from the 'normal,' nice ones. I listen to them more and they make me laugh.

What else would you like to improve at the SGB?

More places to sit when you have time off between classes. And I would like more materials; more books that you can get information out of.

Where were you born?

On Bonaire.

What do you think of Bonaire?

It's a quiet and small island. There aren't many things to buy, like on Curaçao. I love going on a shopping spree, but that's not possible here.

But then you can save money!

Yes! That's true!

Where do you want to go for your studies?

I think I want to go to Curaçao.

What's your favourite dish?

Pizza and Pisca Salu ku Funchi.

What's the best place to go and get that?

My mom makes the best Pisca Salu of course. But to buy it you should go to Luigi's Divi Divi Bar Restaurant.

Is there anything else that I should really mention about you in this interview?

Yes! I really am very good at drawing. I even made a self-portrait.

□ Interview by Yvette van der Moolen; Assistant / photographer: Sue-Ann Mo (T2B)

(Flotsam and Jetsam. Continued from page 5) seen floating in the sea. When recovered, the packages turned out to be full of drugs.

► The Bonaire Businessmen's Association (AKIB), in cooperation with the Small Business Center (CKB), is organizing **two workshops in November**. The first will be on November 11, titled "Taxes and Your Responsibilities," conducted by two experts from the Bonaire branch of the Antillean Tax Service. The second will be on Saturday, November 18, titled "**Insurance and Pension for One and All**," presented by a representative of the Social Security and a private pension expert. AKIB plans to continue programs of this nature.

Each workshop costs NAf42,26 for AKIB members and NAf60,40 for others and includes supplies, a snack, drinks, tax and a participation certificate.

For more information and sign-up, visit the CKB office in the Lourdes Shopping Mall during office hours or call 717-2812. Please register early as there is limited enrollment.

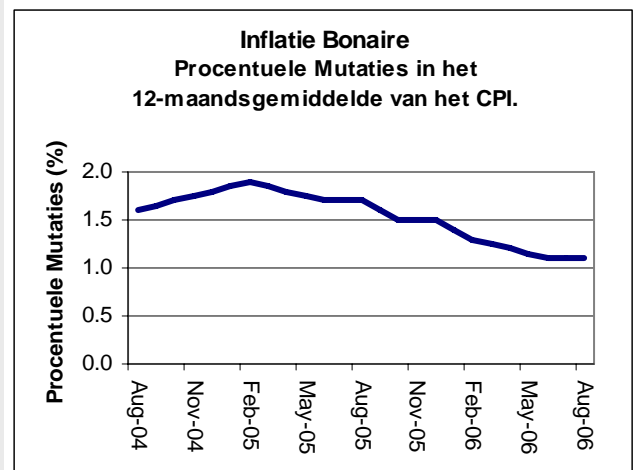
► Put it on your calendar, Sunday, November 12, a **free Day of Health in Bonaire to celebrate "International Day of Diabetes."** The theme is "Care for Everyone." There will be free testing of blood glucose and cholesterol levels, blood pressure, eyes, feet measuring and examination. Dietitians will be cooking; physiotherapist will demonstrate exercises; and there will be stands with exhibits and health products for sale. It's sponsored by *Sosiedat Diabetico Boneriano* and the Lion's Club, 11 am-5 pm at the parking lot behind the Catholic Church in Playa. Take advantage of this important activity.

► The Caribbean's top bartender, Jane Coffie, who serves superb drinks at Divi Flamingo, **participated last week in the Balashi Bartender competition in Aruba**. Last year the competition was held in Bonaire and Jane was the top winner. Her coach, Ibi Thomas, also of Divi, joined her as did other island bartenders, Joaquin Theodora from Lion's Dive and SGB hotel school student Papi Saragoza. Although our team gave a good showing, Curaçao won first, second and third. Ibi Thomas, who's encouraged and taught younger bartenders for years, received a plaque from Balashi for his dedicated bartender coaching. Balashi sponsored the event and paid for air and hotels for all the participants.



Ibi Thomas and Jane Coffie

► **The Bonaire Consumer Price Index rose 0.3% between June and August 2006**, according to figures from the Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS). The category for drinks and tobacco had the greatest rise, 0.9%, followed by food at 0.7%. The chart at the right shows the CPI trend over the last two years. □ G/L.D.



The Snack Bar Detectives

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



**This week: Men Wa Snack,
Kaya Neerlandia**

This week, the Snack Bar Detectives were joined by JJ for the last time. After 18 months on Bonaire he and his young lady (known as "Princess") were going to be sailing to distant shores. Well, with the Princess by his side, I am sure that he will be the envy of many.

Big D, JJ, and myself met up in one of our favourite hostelrys, the intention of course to partake in our favourite pastime, drinking! We were joined by a new boy this week. To keep his identity a secret we will refer to him as "Slim." A fresh faced young lad who has not had the benefit of seeing the real Bonaire, it was time to take him to school.

As the evening progressed, Slim gave a good account of himself by staying the pace. As seasoned drinkers, we don't hang around waiting for our beer to go warm. Our stomachs are usually the judge of when to stop drinking and when to start eating. We paid our tab and moved on to Men Wa.

Now, Men Wa is place that not everyone knows of but just about everyone has seen. It is located within the grounds of Gas Express, tucked neatly away in the corner. We took up our positions at the bar and resumed drinking. As it was JJ's last night as an honouree Snack Bar Detective, we allowed him to choose for all of us. After a quick discussion with a friendly local to



determine the best dishes, he made his decision. Curry Beef for himself, Sweet & Sour Shrimp for Big D and Sweet & Sour Pork for Slim. I was left with the mystery dish, A La Parrilla, which turned out to be a selection of meats "from the grill."

The Chef worked alone with great efficiency to prepare and cook three meals simultaneously. Surprisingly quickly, they were ready, all served with a mix of salad, fries and rice. First impressions were good - appetizing smells and pleasing to the eye with portions large enough to satisfy the biggest hunger. JJ had done us proud. We laughed and joked through dinner until all that was left were four empty plates, a resounding *Hopi Bon* from us all.

A few more drinks brought the evening to a close. It was the end of an era for the Snack Bar Detectives. As we went our separate ways, I reflected on some of our great nights out.

Ladies & Gentlemen, JJ has left the island! □ *SBD*

Pet of the Week

Here's Bonaire Animal Shelter's Marlis with "Mavis."

Just a week or so ago little "Mavis" was found with her brother and sister - out in the *mondi* - living as wild cats with their mother. Had they not been found by a Good Samaritan and brought into the Shelter their future would have been dire (as prey for wild dogs, starving for food and water). As it is, the mother is still out there and because she's obviously not sterilized, she'll be producing even more litters, one after another.

But the good news is that these darling grey striped tabbies, happily ensconced in the Shelter, have turned from wild, fearful kittens to friendly, alert, sweet purring machines that just love to be held. They've been examined by the vet, given their tests and shots and have proved to be little social animals. So they're up for adoption to good homes. You may see Mavis and her siblings at the Shelter on the Lagoen Road, open Monday through Saturday, 8 am to 1 pm. Tel. 717-4989.

Since the beginning of the year there have been **106 adoptions**, and every single one has or will be sterilized when it's old enough. The Sterilization Fund helps out with this as well as helping those people who cannot afford to have their pets sterilized. It's mind boggling to think of how many unwanted kittens and puppies this program has helped to avoid. But the program needs contributions. If you can help, you may transfer your donation to "**Sterilization Fund**" MCB Account #10616410. For on-line credit card donations go to website: www.supportbonaire.org.

No matter what the amount of your contribution you can help prevent litters of unwanted cats and dogs on the island. □ *L.D.*



Marlis with "Mavis"

Groenenboom Exhibit at Sunbelt Anniversary

Last Friday Sunbelt Realty celebrated its 12 ½-year (half of 25) anniversary with a reception at Bambu and introduced its new magazine, website (www.sunbelt.an), photography by Wilna Groenenboom and gave a check to a deserving group on the island.

The magazine shows, along with nearly all Sunbelt's listings, photography by Groenenboom of details of houses in each of the neighborhoods.



Corine van der Hout hands over check to Outreach's Alejandro Martinus and Richandro Emerenciana

(Continued on page 12)



Artist-photographer Wilna Groenenboom at her exhibit

Best Views on Bonaire

Steps from the sea on the northwest coast of Bonaire, **stylish, superb home or income property.** Adjacent to a small, full-service hotel making it perfect for your full-time home, seasonal get-away or income rental. Architect designed with flowering inner garden, the villa, exemplifying both Caribbean and Antillean architecture, is perched just above the ocean. View of the sea from nearly every room! Unobstructed more than 180 degree view of the west coast.

Living room, modern kitchen, three bedrooms, (one a separate apartment), airco, 3½ baths, Travertine floors and baths, luxury fittings, atrium, two terraces, mature tropical gardens and much more.

Lot: 811 sq. m. (8730 sq. ft). House: 226 sq. m. (2433 sq. ft.)

\$535,000 Contact Sunbelt Realty >>>> ▶▶▶



Picture Yourself with The Reporter Maple, Ontario, Canada

Danny McVicar writes, "(I'm) here at my school, J.A. Gibson, in Maple, Ontario, Canada, with a copy of *The Bonaire Reporter* that I brought home with me.

I am wearing my Bonaire Ambassador medal that I got this year. I am 10 and have been to Bonaire 10 Augusts in a row plus one more before I was born. I got to miss one week of school while I was in Bonaire with my parents this year. We stay at the Carib Inn every year." □



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



Sunbelt Realty

*Your own piece
of Paradise*

**Sunbelt Realty
Kaya LD Gerharts 8
Tel 717 65 60**

info@sunbelt.an www.sunbelt.an

2006 Bonaire Eco-Swim: Challenging But Rewarding Experience for All

Approximately 100 swimmers gathered on Saturday morning, October 14, at the dock of Captain Don's Habitat, anxiously waiting for the 8 am start, to participate in either the one-mile, 5K, 10K or kids pier-to-pier swim along the shoreline of Bonaire. This event has steadily grown throughout the years, and this year marked the largest participation ever. The swimmers represented 14 different states in the US and several countries.

As active as these swimmers were during the race, so was the current.

"As a seasoned swimmer, this was the hardest swim I've ever done," said Sue Welker, head coach of Naperville Waves Swim Club and 2006 Coach of the Year, who participated this year and placed 12th overall in the 10K with a time of 4:02.39. "That's the excitement about coming down here. You don't know how the current is going to be. It can be a challenge of a lifetime or just a weekend getaway. Either way, two thumbs up for the island of Bonaire!"

George Weber, a master's swimmer with the Central Oregon Masters Aquatics, was just one week shy of his 76th birthday when he decided to travel to Bonaire to swim the metric mile, where he finished with a time of 53.56. "Each year I have a birthday swim, and this year the swim was going to be in Bonaire," stated Weber. "The race was a lot of fun, my breathing was easier since I was



Naperville Waves Coach Sue Welker, Ernst Lisek, Michelle Sims, Simon Hunt, Amanda Hunt at Captain Don's Habitat

swimming at a lower altitude than what I am used to in Oregon, and my buoyancy was better, where my feet didn't drag. My swim was very enjoyable during the first ½ mile, until the turnaround point, then it became tough with the current. As the oldest participant of the race, I want to be an encouragement to older swimmers by saying, just keep on going!"

Randy Nutt, Event Director, said to the swimmers after the event, "On behalf of Aqua Moon Adventures and all the volunteers, I'd like to say a big "Thank You." I never tire of mentioning that it is the swimmers who create the adventurous and wonderful atmosphere at these events. Your smiles, laughter, and enthusiasm create happiness and inspiration for everyone. It is our hope that we added a little excitement and friendship into your life as you did ours."

The Bonaire community, including the Marine Park and local boaters as well as kayakers, played a significant role in keeping the waters safe for the swimmers. One of the kayakers, Gabriel from Bonaire, shared his knowledge with the swimmers about the local current.

Bob Bruce, head coach of the Central Oregon Masters Aquatics, participated in his first Bonaire race and placed 5th overall in the 5K. "This was a great place for a race. I swim in Open Water

races all the time and enjoy the outdoor surroundings of Oregon, but nothing compares to looking at the beautiful scenery while swimming around this island. This trip was right down our line of interest."

Bonaire swimmers who placed in the events included: Pieter Zweers, Carmen Bernabela, Isidoor Van Riemsdyk, Giada Binelli (First place, 5K, with fins), Jamal Trenidad and Diane Werdath.

Information for next year's event will be posted at <http://www.aquamoonadventures.com/>. □ *Christine Manna*



The Awesome Austin Ladies: Sheila Peters, Claire Secker, Jane Scott, Cheryl Ridall, Leslie Blanke, Susan Bartlett

The "Wake" of the Lost Penguin

Last Sunday was the "wake" of the Lost Penguin which has been owned and operated by Renota and Ton. The couple, who ran the restaurant so very well for the last four years, has sold it. They've had a very loyal following, many of whom showed up to partake of the sumptuous free buffet put on by Ton and organized by Renota, featuring most of the favorite items from their menu. We all shall miss them.

A sharp-eyed reader informed us during the "wake" at the Lost Penguin that, incredibly, a penguin appeared on the cover of last week's *Reporter* (October 27-November 3). "It's up in the bell tower," she said. This must mean that the Penguin lives.

We hear the new owners will be opening soon. □ *L.D.*



Past owners and operators of The Lost Penguin: Renota Michels and Ton van der Willigen

Croccantino says Goodbye Papaya Moon Cantina Says Hello

Last Saturday night was time for another goodbye to a fine restaurant on the island. Croccantino – which has been operating and serving magnificent Italian food since the early 90s - closed its doors. Owner Elizabeth Wigny, who has overseen and run the restaurant since 2000, and her staff invited friends for a last hurrah and a wonderful party. It was a typical Croccantino evening – good friends, fine food and drinks served with love, and cool jazz by Guus Gerritsen and his group: Benji, Lando, Boy, Hans and Henk. A surprise performer was bass player Hershell Rosario who flew over from Curaçao to play for the special occasion.

The new owners of the restaurant are the Perpich and Brietzke families (the wives of each of the guys are sisters) who will reopen the site as "Papaya Moon Cantina," specializing in TexMex cuisine with accompanying drinks like Margaritas and other south of the border refreshments. Papaya Moon expects to open mid-November.

This evening served as another example of a **philosophy of life on Bonaire: Enjoy the moment, for tomorrow it may be gone.** □ *L.D.*



New owners: Pam & Carl Perpich (daughter Taylor), Pat & Ray Brietzke (son Andrew) with (L) Elizabeth Wigny and Chef David

"Give Me 5," says Divi Flamingo



Some of the 41 Divi employee winners with General Manager Sara Matera who handed out the fivers

"Give Me Five," a contest hosted by Divi Flamingo for their employees, awarded a total of \$590 to 41 Divi Flamingo employees. To be a "Give Me Five" winner the employee must have had a written compliment from a guest during the last quarter. Many of the winners are employees who work behind the scenes.

General Manager Sara Matera passed out the \$5 bills: 16 employees received \$5, six received \$10; six got \$15; four got \$20; three got \$25, four got \$30. The two top winners were Orlando Thomas who, with seven commendations, got \$35, and Mirna Arrindell, winning a total of \$45, with nine guest compliments. Congratulations to all. You're a super team. □ *L.D.*



One of the big winners, Alvin Clemancia, gets his five - times five from Sara

The Nightmare Crib Haunted House



It was scary. It was creepy. It was shocking. It was not for the young or those with weak hearts. Terrifying live creatures jumped out at you, threw slime on you and even rose from the dead. That was the second annual Halloween Haunted House at Capt. Don's Habitat. Karen Chalk and her team of ghouls and goblins really outdid themselves with creative ways to surprise and astonish those brave enough to walk through the dark rooms with eerie lighting, frightening sounds and cold winds.



Volunteer Joy Jenkins reported that the "House" made so much money just in the first two nights that they would be able to give even more than expected to the selected charities. Congratulations on a job well done. It's obvious there was a lot of work and thought put into the project...and you all seemed to be having a wonderful time doing it! Can't wait until next year! □ L.D.

Artists in Harmony – Janice and Olivia

After local artist, Janice Huckaby of JanArt read the article in *The Bonaire Reporter* about Bonairean artist Olivia Janga, she invited Olivia to come to her workshop to see if she would be interested in taking some classes with her.

"In the beginning I gave her a stack of artists' magazines and I asked her to look through them and tell me what style she liked because that's the most important thing. People have to paint what they like. She came back with examples of landscapes and nature. As I've taken thousands of pictures of Bonaire we looked through them for a Bonairean equivalent of the painting that she chose from the magazine because what Olivia wants is to paint Bonaire and that's the same for me. It's nice to have that goal of life in common!

Olivia is an attentive student: she listens and she does it right away. We started by painting an old Bonairean house in acrylic paint, but she also wants to do oil, water colors and pastel; she likes it all. Now she's working on her second painting, an impression of Old Blue. As Olivia is spastic, fine line drawing is hard for her, but everything else is right there - colors, composition and light. Olivia can paint realism in an impressionistic style.

She's here every Tuesday from 10 to 2, and she immediately goes to work as soon as she arrives. She can stay forever. We could spend years doing this until life

brings us to different paths. I always wanted to give something back to the island, but nothing really appealed to me. It was really special that this came to me."

Olivia herself is having a wonderful time, according to her friend and former group leader, Varenia Thomas. "She's enjoying the fact that she's becoming more professional and also she's very enthusiastic about working with different kinds of paint. She likes Jan and she likes Jan's work a lot. Olivia was so pleased with the first painting she made at Jan's, an old Bonairean house, that she took lots of pictures of it and asked the FKPD (the center for the handicapped in Rincon where Olivia is a client) if she could take it home!" □ Greta Kooistra

Just before we went to press, we received a report that Olivia Janga will represent Bonaire's artists and make a presentation of one of her own paintings to Queen Beatrix during her visit on November 8 and 9. Ed.



Olivia Janga and Janice Huckaby Kooistra photo



(Sunbelt's Anniversary and Groenenboom Exhibit. Continued from page 8)

Groenenboom's articles, "Antique Living Houses of Bonaire," have run as a regular feature in *The Bonaire Reporter* for the past year. During the reception there was a showing of her photography depicting architectural details of Bonaire's houses.

In further celebration of the anniversary, Director/Owner Corine van der Hout presented a check for NAf12.500

to the Bonaire Youth Outreach Foundation. As Corine explained, it's "a project related to our working field." A special project of Outreach is youth working together with a construction professional to repair the homes of the elderly who cannot afford to do it themselves – fixing leaking roofs, broken windows, replacing doors, water and electricity problems and more.

Sunbelt Realty offers full service: buying and selling real estate (housing and commercial), rentals, management services and appraisals. □L.D.

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

Non-Commercial Classified Ads (up to 4 lines/ 20± words):
Free ads run for 2 weeks.

Commercial Ads only NAf0.80 per word, per week.
Call or fax 717-8988 or email ads@bonairereporter.com

JANART GALLERY

Kaya Gloria 7, Bonaire Local Art, Art Supplies, Framing, and Art Classes. Open Tu-We-Th & Sat 10 am- 5 pm Friday 1- 7 pm; or phone 717-5246 for appt.

MOVING INTO A HOUSE NEW TO YOU?

Make it more livable from the start. **FENG SHUI CONSULTATIONS** Also interior or exterior design advice, clearings, blessings, energy, healing, China-trained. Experienced. Inexpensive. Call Donna at 785-9332.

BONAIRENET

The leading consumer and business information source on Bonaire. Telephone (599) 717-7160. For on-line yellow pages directory information go to <http://www.yellowpagesbonaire.com>

CAPT. DON'S ISLAND GROWER Trees and plants, Bonaire grown. 8000m² nursery. Specializing in garden/septic pumps and irrigation. Kaminda Lagoen 103, Island Growers NV (Capt. Don and Janet). Phone: 786-0956

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

JELLASTONE PETPARK

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

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!

LUNCH TO GO

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

Vacation Rental

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

For Sale

Surfboard. Good condition. Any reasonable offer.
Aluminum Dock ladder, Bruce, 717-8819 8 am to 5 pm.

Toilet - complete, clean in perfect condition. US style. NAf 95 Bruce, 717-8819 8 am to 5 pm

Cars For Sale

For SALE: Mitsubishi Galant 1995, automatic. Naf. 6.000 786-4014

For sale: **FIAT BARCHETTA Cabrio**, 1997, yellow, with hard-top and windstop. Tel. 786-5591.

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.

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

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

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
11-03	3:24	1.1FT.	10:52	1.8FT.	18:27	1.0FT.	23:22	1.3FT.	81
11-04	0:54	1.1FT.	2:42	1.1FT.	2:44	1.1FT.	11:33	1.9FT.	
							19:55	0.9FT.	90
11-05	12:12	2.0FT.	21:21	0.8FT.					97
11-06	13:02	2.1FT.	22:35	0.7FT.					101
11-07	13:50	2.1FT.	23:32	0.6FT.					99
11-08	0:23	0.6FT.	14:41	2.0FT.					94
11-09	1:15	0.6FT.	15:38	2.0FT.					85
11-10	1:54	0.6FT.	16:29	1.9FT.					74



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

Red Toyota Lite Van from 1996, excellent condition Call 700-2056 and get a good offer!

Chevy C30 Truck differential (rear end). Any reasonable offers. Bruce at 717-8819 8 am to 5 pm

Property, Sales & Rentals

House for rent per 1 January 2007 \$ 400/ NAf700 PM, 3-bedroom in Playa/Antriol. Let me know if you are interested by sending me your email at: b.antoine@telbonet.an. For more info. you can call telephone: 790-6818



Porch sale: Saturday & Sunday, Nov. 4 & 5 – Beautiful things – some inexpensive, some not so inexpensive. EEG Boulevard 12 (Belnem)

European Professional Freestyle Tour- Anapa, Russia, Black Sea Cup

The third big event on the European Freestyle Pro Tour organized by the Russian Windsurfing Federation took place at another new destination: Anapa, Russia, on the Black Sea.

After some training in Turkey I flew with some Turkish freestylers to Krasnodar, a city that's about 200 km away from Anapa. The flight was very unpleasant since Russia is the number one country where airplanes crash. I can understand it because the people on board had all kinds of electronic devices running. Some were on phones calling, others listening to music or working on their laptops during the whole flight.

The flight attendant was serving the food without a cart so she was struggling the whole time because of turbulence. The airliner was very old and noisy.

When we arrived it took about 30 minutes to open the door so we could get out of the warm aircraft. Then the immigration control took about another two hours because of being very strict and, of course, lack of language knowledge. From there it was a two-hour drive to Anapa.

Anapa is a pleasant village in the south with a nice mountainous coastline and an amazing view over the Black Sea. It was built in the 13th century on ruins of ancient Gorgippija where Genoese sailors and merchants had constructed a trading station protected by a castle and named it Mapa. In 1475 Turks captured all the Black Sea colonies of Genoa. They erected a city here and then a fortress - Anapa.

The organizers arranged free rooms for the top 10 riders on the 2006 Tour Ranking list. They even arranged their own airline to pick up the board bags and other



Ruben Petrisie

equipment of the riders who flew through Moscow so they could avoid any problems flying with the smaller domestic airlines.

The weather forecast did not look too promising for the week. On the first day we had an excursion tour around Anapa, including swimming with dolphins and horseback riding. At night they had the Daily Black Sea Cup news going on, followed by the opening ceremony with a spectacular Russian chill-out scene where everybody could sit on these giant couches and enjoy the video clips from the previous years. The second day the sun showed up instead of the wind. It was extremely warm for Anapa during this time of the year.

After lunch 10 riders were selected to have a Russian bath. They actually cover your whole body with some black mud and afterwards wash it off in hot spring water. Even though I was selected I did not take part because of the ladies and the



Ruben meets the Russian press

cameras, everybody wanted to film me during the whole process.

This event was really good for me because I was getting more interviews, TV and media coverage than all other riders. They even selected me to do the news in the Russian language which was extremely cool for the locals and the organization.

On the third day the wind seemed to kick in a bit. After lunch it was decided to run an "expression session" at another location close by. The press and the camera crew were ready and the riders put down a little show. I was pulling off some smiley moves for the cameras until the wind died and the show ended in less than two hours.

The fourth day still had no wind, but there were lots of interviews with many different magazines and sport broadcasting channels from Russia. The questions they ask the most were: What we as pro riders do when there is no wind? Also where do we think is the best place to windsurf?

My answers:

When there's no wind we hang out and socialize with the locals, try to invent new freestyle moves and talk about the sport. We make time for the media and get exposure for our sponsors.

I suggested the best place for windsurfing. There's no place like Bonaire - warm constant winds - a destination where you will have super flat, flat, shallow, choppy and wave conditions, all at the same time. Otherwise, for those who can't travel so far, Alacati, Turkey, is also pretty o.k.

The European Freestyle Pro Tour once again suffered through a great event with no final results. The awards ceremony was held first for the Russian Sailing Federation Race results. They made me dress in a completely white costume to represent one of the organizers who took third place but who could not present a prize to himself. It came off as extremely funny, and the audience really liked it.

Everyone is looking forward to hosting a bigger event next year and are also planning a great indoor event for the future. Next up - the European Freestyle Pro Tour Finals in Croatia. I'm aiming for a top 8th position at the end of this 2006 season. My greetings to all. □ Ruben Petrisie

STRAIGHT TALK



It's all about dating, love, sex, friendship, and marriage - so let's talk. Email your relationship questions to my attention: reporter@bonairenews.com.

Question from:
"To believe or not believe."

Dear Betty – I'm a mother of 2 and still live with the children's father. He is still married, but his wife and other children live in Holland. He is a smooth and flirty public figure and is well liked by the women. He has cheated several times in the past but since we started living together our relationship has been going great.

Recently, I heard gossip that he is back to his cheating ways, although he denies it. I have a strong suspicion that the gossip is true as I was one of his women with whom he had an affair while still living with his wife. Should I cut this player loose now or stick around hoping the gossip is untrue?

ANSWER: Believe it, or not your situation is not unique, especially the "smooth and flirty public figure" part. The name Bill Clinton comes to mind. In a survey of American women, they were asked, "Would you sleep with President Clinton?", and 86% replied, "Not again."

Unfortunately, there are quite a few married men who maintain a second family, have children with multiple women, and/or keep a mistress or two on the side. Their behavior gives new meaning to Genesis 1:28 wherein

God said, "Be fruitful and multiply." I don't think He intended it as a green light for men to plant their seed in every garden they visit! One guy bites an apple, and now they all want to be Johnny Appleseed.

You already know the extent of your man's fidelity. He is married to someone else and living with you - not what I consider a very strong foundation on which to build a healthy, loving relationship.

As for the gossip – well, it could go either way, but usually where there's smoke, there's fire. Suspicion usually results from a gut feeling, and gut feelings are instinctual. They are also honest, which is more than I can say for married men who cheat on their wives. I've found it's always best to listen to your gut. It really doesn't matter if the gossip is true. What does matter is the fact you don't trust him, and trust is essential in a loving relationship. Without it, you have nothing.

□ **Betty Wills**



Joke Of The Day

A man ran a classified ad: "Wife wanted". Next day he received a hundred letters. They all said the same thing: "You can have mine."

**DO YOU
 SUDOKU?
 ANSWER**

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

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

Who's Who on The Bonaire Reporter

Take The Reporter Home—Subscribe Yearly Mail to US \$110; On-line \$35
 Published weekly. For information about **subscriptions, stories or advertising** in **The Bonaire Reporter**, phone (599) 717-8988, 786-6518, 786-6125 fax 717-8988, E-mail to: **Reporter@bonairenews.com** **The Bonaire Reporter**, George DeSalvo, Publisher. Laura DeSalvo, Editor in Chief. Address: Kaya Gob. Debrot 200-6; Bonaire, Neth. Antilles.
 Available on-line at: **www.bonairereporter.com**

Reporters: Caren Eckrich, Wilna Gronenboom, Jack Horkheimer, Molly Kearney, Greta Kooistra, Christine Manna, Yvette van der Moolen, Ruben Petrisie, Sue-Ann Mo, Snack Bar Detectives, Michael Thiessen, Betty Wills

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**

©2006 The Bonaire Reporter

WHAT'S HAPPENING

MOVIELAND

WEEKLY MOVIE SHOWTIMES

Late Show

Call to make sure (Usually 9 pm)

Zwartboek (Carice van Houten)

Early Show (Usually 7 pm)

The Covenant

Kaya Prinses Marie
Behind Exito Bakery
Tel. 717-2400

Tickets - NAf14 (incl. Tax)
Children under 12 - NAf12

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 November:
Open Season

THIS WEEK

Saturday, November 4—Big Monthly Rincon Marshé, 6 am to 2 pm. A Real Bonairean Experience. Music, local foods, drinks, stands selling gifts, produce, crafts, plants. Special guests discuss topics "bou di ramada" (on the porch).

Arts and Crafts Markets at Wilhelmina Park on Cruise Ship Visiting Days, starting around 10 am to early afternoon: Wednesday, Nov. 1 - *Silver Shadow* (first call), Sunday, Nov. 5 - *Rijndam*.

COMING

Wednesday, Thursday, November 8, 9 - Her Highness, Queen Beatrix's visit to Bonaire

Friday, November 10—Arke Fly's "Back to Rock n Roll concert, Plaza. See page 6.

Sunday, November 12 - International Day of Diabetes, parking lot behind Catholic Church in Playa, free—11 am—5pm. See page 7.

Saturday, November 25—Sint Nicolaas arrives in Bonaire, Wilhelmina Park. Sponsored by the Fundashon Sanikolas. Call 717-8482 for more information.

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.) 5-7
- 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 open everyday into the evening hours.

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, 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, 2nd Saturday of the month, 7 to 9 pm, Kaya Industria #23, across from Warehouse Bonaire. Great wines. NAf20 per person for 6 to 8 wines.

- **Flea Market every first Saturday of the month** from 3 to 7 pm, Parke Publico. Everyone welcome to buy and to sell. NAf5 per selling table. For more information and reservations for a spot, call 787-0466.

Sundays

- **Live music 6-9 pm while enjoying a great dinner** in colorful tropical ambiance 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 per-

son. 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 (2nd and 4th) Turtle Conservation (STCB) Slide Show by Bruce Brabec. Carib Inn seaside veranda, 7 pm, 717-8819.

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

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 **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 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

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

Protestant Congregation of Bonaire. Kralendijk, Wilhelminaplein. Services in Papiamentu, Dutch and English on Sundays at 10 am.

Rincon, Kaya C.D. Crestian, Services in Papiamentu on Sundays at 8.30 am. Children's club every Saturday at 5 pm in Kralendijk.

Sunday School every Sunday at 4 pm in Rincon. Bible Study and Prayer meetings, every Thursday at 8 pm. in Kralendijk.

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

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 Monday - Friday 11 am-3 pm Dinner Monday -Saturday 6-10pm	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.
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 daily.
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 10am-6 pm daily,	A genuine sandy beach restaurant cooled by the trade winds Top quality food and friendly service
ADVERTISE YOUR RESTAURANT	IN THE BONAIRE REPORTER Every Week	And get listed in this directory FREE

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.

CALENDAR

Bonaire Creations new 2007 Calendar available now at shops around town.

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 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.

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 Galeries 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.

The Touch Skin & Body—Birkenstock shoes for men and women. New styles

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, Monday-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 for weekly advertisers?

On the Island Since ... 1967

Rinaldo "Rishi" Oswaldo Marin – Doktor di Wowo

“My parents were married for more than four years when my mother went to Isla Margarita to pray to the Virgen del Valle, this special virgin, and the result was she got pregnant with me. This virgin has been my patron saint all my life and I believe in her because in the end everything always turns out well for me. Of course I have to work on it too.

Both my parents are Bonairean, but I was born on Curaçao because my father, Baselio Marin, was working there for Shell, mostly on tankers. He traveled a lot - to New York, Amsterdam, Venezuela and Russia. His father had also been a sailor, Pedro Marin, and he came from Isla Margarita, Venezuela.

In Curaçao I went to kindergarten and elementary school and also I was an altar boy. All the cassocks were too big for me because all the other altar boys were big guys and I was tiny for my age. One day during mass I knelt down and when I got up the heel of my shoe got stuck in the cassock and I fell all the way down to the first row. The whole church was laughing, and I never forgot it!

When I was 10 we moved to Bonaire. Every day after school I had to fight my way out because I came from Curaçao, and as a stranger you weren't accepted. It wasn't like now, with all the nationalities we have here. In those days, everyone used to know everyone.

After primary school I wanted to go to technical school. I liked cars and airplanes – engines. Once I did a test at school with someone who'd come especially from Curaçao and he said, 'You're willing to take an engine apart and to put everything back together again, but you can't find the time to read a book!' I didn't have patience for that, you know, and still, for instance when I buy something, I put it together and read the instructions afterwards or not at all if the thing is working properly.

My mother, Rosa Bella Winklaar, didn't want me to go to technical school, so I went to MAVO high school. When I finished there was this scholarship available to study to become an ophthalmologic assistant. I had to wait though and in the meantime I worked for Don Stewart at Aquaventure in the dark room at Hotel Bonaire. My father was also working for Don but as a dive guide. Don did the underwater photography and I'd develop and print the pictures. That was in 1974; I was 17. When I was 18 I went to get my driver's license. I took Eddie Statie, another dive-guide, with me to the exam and he got it too.

To tell you the truth, I wasn't in a hurry to go to Holland. At the time it seemed so far. When you wrote a letter it would take almost two weeks for the mail to arrive. But of course I went. I was 19 and all by myself. From the age of seven I had to wear glasses and when we came to Bon-

aire I had to go every year to Curaçao for a check up for new glasses. When they broke you had to do without, because there was no facility on Bonaire to take care of that.

All my life I've felt lucky because the scholarship was there the moment I finished high school and it was a great opportunity. However, before I went to Holland I had to work as a trainee for several weeks on Curaçao with the eye doctor, Dr. van Bokhoven, because they wanted to make sure that I was interested in the subject.

“After half an hour in the air, the section of the plane where I sat was filling up with smoke and the stewardesses acted kind of nervous. I thought, ‘Gee, now I’ve spent all that time studying for nothing!’”

So, in Holland I went to work at the Eye Hospital in Rotterdam and I lived there too, and that was lucky because I didn't have to go anywhere by bus or train. I didn't have to cross a street. I just had to open a door and I was at work!

I didn't like the work at all. I had to wash people and change the sheets and because I was a live-in I also had to work all the holidays. I was homesick too, not much, but enough to become quiet and withdrawn. But after a while things went better because Dr. Spierenburg from Curaçao became the head of the clinic. He helped me a lot and also I had someone to speak Papiamentu with. I started working at the polyclinic and as time passed by the eye doctors became very supportive and friendly. I could talk to them, ask them questions and discuss my lessons with them. As the training was quite new for Holland they'd all help make up the program for the course. The course took nearly three years, during which I worked one year as a trainee in Bonaire at the polyclinic next to the Protestant church.

After my graduation, I got my diploma March 31st, 1979. I flew back to Bonaire on Friday the 13th. Everybody told me not to fly that day, but I went anyway. After half an hour in the air, the section of the plane where I sat was filling up with smoke and the stewardesses acted kind of nervous. I thought, ‘Gee, now I’ve spent all that time studying for nothing!’ I became a little superstitious that day! Well, it turned out an oxygen tank had exploded or



Rinaldo "Rishi" Oswaldo Marin – Doktor di Wowo

something like that. It was handled well afterwards. When I arrived I immediately started working at the polyclinic and that's 28 years ago.

About four times a year Dr. Hilgers, the eye doctor from Curaçao, would come to Bonaire to see his patients here, and of course they could visit him in Curaçao, but on Bonaire I was the only one who knew about eyes. It was a responsible job.”

Dr. Marin (49) is impressive; he's tall and quite a personality. But he's also a wonderfully social man with a very nice, dry sense of humor.

“In Holland I had a girl friend. She was from Curaçao and studying to become an eye doctor, and when we came back to the islands we were traveling a lot back and forth between Bonaire and Curaçao, but somehow it didn't work out. Then, 27 years ago, I met Stella Wijman from Bonaire. She was good at sports, a nice girl. We got married August 4th this year. After all those years I thought, ‘Let's give it a try!’ I liked sports; I played baseball and tennis and I also did some shooting. In Curaçao I took a course and became an instructor with the Dutch Marksman Association. I participated in the World Championships in Atlanta to qualify for the Olympics, but when that didn't work out I quit. I'd witnessed something grand; all those countries, people from all over the world, Japanese girls in their kimonos, all the big shots and hot shots and every shot from every shooting magazine – it was unforgettable... but then I decided to put all my time in my two boys.

Before the first one was born I'd bought a big book of names, but when he was born on my birthday, August 5th, 1982, I had to give him my name. Now they call

him Rishi-chiki, little Rishi, but he's not little at all – he's very tall!

On November 18th 1984, our second son, Raynard, was born. I've spent a lot of time with them, on their education, but also on their sport, Little League. They played in many countries: St. Domingo, Venezuela, Mexico, Colombia, St. Croix, Puerto Rico, Barbados, Aruba and Curaçao. We went to all these places with them. They were and still are great kids, very nice boys.

The eldest is working at Kooyman's. He's living with us together with his little son, Shamal, who's four. I've been so lucky; he's the light of our lives! My other son is in Aruba and he's a nurse. October 15th he also became a dad when his daughter, Mary-Ann, was born.

After our boys were grown up I was thinking about adoption, and if Shamal wouldn't have lived with us I would have adopted because I've got plenty of energy to raise another child.

When my first son was born I thought there isn't a place as beautiful as Bonaire anywhere in the world to raise a child, and in spite of the fact that so many things have changed I still feel the same. It is a beautiful island, and the best part of my job is that I can do it here because on Bonaire people still talk to each other and we take our time. As long as I am working I never gave a patient an appointment for a certain time. Every visit takes as long as the patient needs and that's also Bonaire...”

Story & photo by
Greta Kooistra





RBTT youth tennis competition 2006; Results 9th round

Last weekend the ninth round of the RBTT youth tennis competition was played at the Harbour Village Tennis Center. More than 80 children from 3 up to 18 years old competed. On Sunday rain delayed play but eventually all were played.

The results of the games so far:

- E: 1st and 2nd place: Yannick Finies beat Almar van Leeuwen 10-3
3rd and 4th place: Nathan Finies beat Max Witten 10-7
- D: 1st and 2nd place: Constantijn Bottrop beat Josephine Marshall 4-2
3rd and 4th place: Jordan de Meijer beat Ties vd Ouweelen 4-0
- C1: 1st and 2nd place: Jaimylee van Kouwen beat Alexander Hart 6-2
3rd and 4th place: Christopher Pourier beat Jordan Coffee 6-3
- C2: 1st and 2nd place: Walter beat Nadia Dabboussi 6-3
3rd and 4th place: Zaira Groenendal beat Kaile Finies 6-2
- B: Halve finale: Boy Groenendal – Kevin Dijkhof
Halve finale; Lothar May beat Krystel de Palm 4-1;4-1
- A: 1st and 2nd place: Thammy Alberts played against Daniel Carrillo
3rd and 4th place: Denzel and Hage overcame Ryan Rasmijn 4-3;1-0 □ *Press release*

The next round is set for November 25 and 26. On December 16 and 17 there will be finals for most groups. For more information call Elisabeth Vos: 09-565-5225.



BONAIRE SKY PARK*

*to find it... just look up

Looking Back In Time 30, 40 and 2 1/2 Million Years Ago

You know, everyone is fascinated with the concept of time travel. And although actually going back in time is only a thing of science fiction, you can actually look back in time and see things as they existed long ago. So in this very special edition of Bonaire Sky Park, let me show you how to see some things as they actually existed 30 years ago, 40 years ago and 2 1/2 million years ago and explain why I've chosen them.

Now most of you know that light is considered to be the fastest moving thing in the universe. In fact it travels 186,000 miles a second, which means that whenever we look at the **Moon** we never see it as it exists at the moment but as it existed 1 1/3 seconds ago because it is about 240,000 miles away. When we look at the **Sun** we also never see it as it actually exists at the present moment but as it existed 8 1/3 minutes ago because it is 93 million miles away. And the closest star to the sun, **Proxima Centauri**, is so far away that we see it as it existed 4 1/4 years ago.



RANA

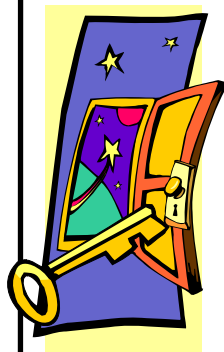
RANA (Delta Eridani) is in the middle of the western flow of the Constellation of Eridanus, the River. Just to the east of Epsilon Eridani, lies the star Rana. Star names are sometimes a confusing mess. "Rana" seems to have been erroneously transferred in the 20th century from the Latinized version of an alternative name for Deneb Kaitos, "Rana Secunda," which means (from old Arabic culture) the "second frog" (Fomalhaut being the "first frog"). Better to call the star by its Greek letter name, Delta Eridani, though this barely fourth magnitude (3.54) star is actually the fifth brightest in the celestial stream.

Well, believe it or not, this Saturday, November 4th, marks the 30th anniversary of this column. So to help celebrate I decided I'd like to find some visible star 30 light years away so we can look at something this week as it actually appeared when I first started this column. And happily we found one. It's to the right of **Orion the Hunter** in the constellation, **Eridanus the River**. Its name is **Rana** and when we look at it this week we are seeing it as it actually existed when I started.

All of which leads to a question. If whenever we look at the stars we are actually looking back in time, depending upon how far away a star is, just how far back in time can we see with the naked eye?

Well this is a good month to find out because if you go out any clear, moonless night in November between 8 and 10 pm, draw a line from the brightest star of **Cassiopeia** to the brightest star in the great square of **Pegasus**, and two thirds of the way up that line you'll see a tiny faint cloud which through telescopes reveals itself to be a gigantic family of billions of stars. It's called **M-31**, the **Great Galaxy in Andromeda**. And it is so far away it takes 2 1/2 million years for its light to reach us. So we see it now as it existed 2 1/2 million years ago. So here's to you, M-31. □

Jack Horkheimer



THE STARS HAVE IT

Sunday, October 29 to Saturday, November 4, 2006

By Astrologer Michael Thiessen

ARIES (Mar. 21- April 20) A little overtime may help you reduce the workload. Your mate will enjoy helping out. This may not be your day if you are overly melodramatic and unnerving everyone around you. Watch your tendency to live for the day and to spend too much on entertainment and children; it could set you back. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

TAURUS (Apr. 21- May 21) Be discreet and don't present your ideas until you're certain that they're foolproof. New relationships will surface through work related events. Consider applying for a job in another part of the world. You may want to talk to your boss about your future goals. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21) Confusion could result when communicating with others. Don't let your personal partner hold you back. Limitations at work might set you back. Don't get into heated discussions. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) Matters pertaining to your home environment will be favorable if you are direct. Don't let your family put demands on you. Don't be too quick to voice your opinion. Listen to others carefully. You will be able to find the perfect outfit and the greatest new accessory for your house. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

LEO (July 23-Aug 22) Try to control your irritability if you're experiencing emotional problems with your partner. Heed the advice given by family or old reliable friends. Tempers will mount if you're too pushy at work or at home. Coworkers may not be giving you all the pertinent information. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) You could do extremely well in competitive sports events. You could be cornered, so be prepared to tell the truth. Dealing with foreigners will be most enlightening. Try to make arrangements with close friends or relatives to spend a few days away. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) You can evade the issue as usual by being affectionate, fun loving, and far too active for your lover to catch on. Get involved in competitive sports. Friends will appreciate your attention and playful nature. Confusion is apparent and you'll need some sound advice if you want to do the right thing. You will want to complain about the injustice that is going on. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) Show what a dedicated person you can be. Don't let criticism upset you. Hassles will delay your plans. Empty promises will cause confusion. You could experience delays in shipments or mail, and should be careful while traveling. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21). You can come into money that you don't necessarily work for. Social activities will be satisfying. Accept the inevitable, and opportunities for advancement will follow. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22- Jan. 20) Try not to lend or borrow money this week. You may have difficulties finishing projects you start. You can learn valuable information if you listen and observe what others are doing and saying. Get out and get active. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) There's a good chance that they won't come back. Turn your present relationship around or start a new one. Your outgoing nature might work against you this week. Risky ventures may turn in your favor. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) Secret affairs may only cause complications in your life. Don't count your chickens before they hatch. Don't play on your partner's emotions. You may have to explain your actions to your family. Your lucky day this week will be Friday. □