

**It's  
still  
Free!**

**Election  
Day  
Issue**

**BONAIRE**

April 27 to May 4, 2007 Volume 14, Issue 17

# The REPORTER

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SINCE 1994



**Island Elections** Page 10  
**Ramonsito Booi's UPB wins**  
**for an unprecedented third time**

Wilna Groenenboom photo

# Flotsam and Jetsam

## BONAIRE The REPORTER



**A** new hotel is big news on Bonaire which hasn't had a major hotel project begun, that was completed, in 15 years; that was The Point, now the Plaza Resort.

Divi's new, all inclusive, project was unveiled at the placement of the site billboard last week at Sunset Beach. The new Divi Resort will have 320 rooms, almost all with ocean view. Adjoining it will be The Residences at Divi Bonaire with 75 condominiums. Construction will begin this summer and the resort is scheduled to open in 2009. The property will be very luxurious, with several restaurants, bars, a spa, gym and numerous activities.

The unveiling was conducted by the Aruba and Bonaire Divi Resorts Director Alex Nieuwmeyer (far right), Project Leader Mark Nooren, (left) Bonaire Senator and Island Council advisor, Ramonsito Booi, and Lt. Governor Herbert Domacassé. Nieuwmeyer proudly announced in his speech that the project will have conservation of the environment and ecology as a priority, as they have been planning the construction in conjunction with Green Globe, an organization that acts as an environmental watchdog for hotel development. Another group Divi is cooperating with is Blue Flag. This European organization will help to make sure the beaches stay clean and preserved. Sunset Beach is considered the best natural hotel beach in Bonaire and will be open to island residents, as is the present Divi Flamingo resort, according to Sara Matera, General Manager for that Divi property. Divi will also be helped by experts from Holland and Bonaire to guarantee the impact on the environment will be reduced to a minimum. Nieuwmeyer added, "It takes a lot of effort to develop the resort and to train the employees. It will

attract many tourists. But it won't be mass-tourism that will be attracted to the island." According to Booi, the location is perfect for a resort of this quality. Negotiations between the government and Divi to acquire the property took four years.



► Activity is set to begin soon on rebuilding the stretch of J.A. Abraham Boulevard between the Post Office and Plaza Resort, running in front of the Divi Flamingo Beach Resort and Carib Inn (above). In addition to the road construction there will be landscaping, parking, a sidewalk, street lighting, and underground wiring.

► **The police corps of Bonaire will get 11 new officers:** five police candidates and six civilians for Immigration. Training of the new officers will start on May 7 on Curaçao. Training the police candidates will take 16 months, while training the Immigration workers for will take only 15 weeks.



► Bonaire's environmental policemen, who are part of SELIBON, the island's waste management company,

Elvis Cicilia and Roland Lourens, held a meeting with Bonaire's new Public Prosecutor, David van Delft (R), to discuss their responsibilities and begin a dialogue about enforcement of Bonaire's environmental protection ordinances.



Governor Domacassé and Dufi Martijn

► **Take a walk with the Governor of Bonaire.** Every Wednesday Governor Herbert Domacassé of Bonaire has a walk with a Bonairean citizen to talk about everything that's on his or her mind and about the island itself. This is the Walk and Meet Program. The Governor already had his first walk and talk with the renowned critic and ex-politician, Dufi Martijn. The Governor's objective is to close the gap between citizens and officials and also to keep in shape and stay healthy.

► **The UPB party was the biggest**

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**winner in the elections held last Friday.** It's an unprecedented third term for the party which will get five seats on the Island Council. Their winning was celebrated with a gigantic motorcade on Sunday. Only one other of the four parties participating in the election won seats: the Aliansa Demokrat Bonaireano took four. In total, 7,284 of Bonaire's 8,689 citizens eligible to vote turned out at the polls last Friday. See page 10 for full election results.

(Continued on page 3)

(Flotsam & Jetsam Continued from page 2)

► Ramon de Leon, Manager of the Bonaire National Marine Park, announced that the Park is starting the 5<sup>th</sup> round of the Nutrient Monitoring Program on May 1st.

**The schedule is as follows:**

May 1: Red Slave, Angel City and 18th Palm

May 2: Playa Lechi, Front Porch and Cliff

May 3: South Bay and Ebo's Special

May 4: Playa Funchi and Karpata DeLeon: "As usual we need help during the morning dive to count fish and collect algae and in the afternoon in the laboratory to filter water samples, identify algae and grind algae samples. If you are interested in participating please contact me by e-mail [marinepark@stinapa.org](mailto:marinepark@stinapa.org) or by phone 717-8444."

Continued on page 4

## FANTASTIC NEW LORA POSTCARDS



Habitat, Sand Dollar Grocery, Bonaire Dive and Adventure, Washington-Slagbaai National Park, Yellow Submarine, Plaza Resort, and several shops on Kaya Grandi.

So support the Bonaire Lora and buy a postcard! □ Sam Williams



Get this Lora post card

We hope you are familiar with the coolest bird on Bonaire – the Lora! This special parrot is quite the center of attention at the moment with a team of 10 international biologists on island researching the biology and conservation of this species.

As part of the Caribbean Endemic Bird Festival, which started on April 22nd, *Salba Nos Lora* (The Save Our Parrots Foundation) have launched a Lora postcard to raise money and awareness of Bonaire's beautiful indigenous bird. This 'not for profit' postcard is being sold at retailers across Bonaire, including Divi Flamingo, Belmar, Chat 'n Browse, Jibe City, Captain Don's

► **The Bonaire Culinary Team is Going For the GOLD medal at the Taste of the Caribbean competition to be held in mid-June in Miami.** The Team has held private practices and brainstormed several creative dishes sure to please the palate and the judges.

You can help refine the menu by attending the fund raiser dinners that will be on Sunday May 6, May 13, May 27, June 3 and June 10 at the SGB High School Restaurant, *Chez Nous*.

Ticket will be on sale soon through Jan and Margreth Kloos and Floris at Rum Runners Restaurant at Capt. Don's Habitat. The team bartender will be selected this weekend at the Balashi Bar Competition in Rincon. Stay tuned in *The Reporter* for more information.



L to R: Chefs Vladimir Gijsbertha, Egbert deVries, Coordinator Sara Matera, Sue Heemskerk, Chef Floris van Loo, Coach Will Heemskerk

## coral glimpses

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

There's a dead zone where these corals meet, indicating that the corals are battling each other. A look at the shapes indicates that the sheet coral is winning the battle: it is overgrowing the head coral. A second look at the shapes indicates that the victory is a slow one, since the living part of the head coral is significantly bigger than its overgrown side. □



(Flotsam and Jetsam. Continued from page 3)



► **In Curaçao the prime minister's PAR party won the most votes in its Island Council elections with 20,836 votes**, good for 7 seats, but the party, led by Emily de Jongh-Elhage, could soon find itself in the opposition back benches because the parties in favor of the Final Statement (Slotverklaring) did not win a majority. Ersilia De Lannoy's PNP received 7,524 votes, winning 2 seats. That means the PAR and PNP, the only 2 who favor have 9 seats, 2 short of the 11 needed in the 21-member Curacao Island Council. In Curacao 74,342 people voted.

If the DP, which did not take a position on the Final Statement, and Forsa Kòrsou, which is weak against the Final Statement, join the new government there is still a chance Curaçao will join the negotiations already underway to break up the Antilles. Otherwise they must make an agreement from scratch.

Developments in Curaçao have always have had an effect in Bonaire.



Ex-convict Anthony Godett's FOL party continued to lose ground, as the party won 2 seats; it formerly held as many as 8.

It may be difficult to form an island government in Curaçao because of the many parties winning Island Council seats. In summary:

PAR, 20.836 votes, 7 seats, leader PM Emily de Jongh-Elhage

MAN, 13.832 votes, 5 seats, leader Charles Cooper

FOL, 7.566 votes, 2 seats, leader Anthony Godett

PNP, 7.524 votes, 2 seats, leader Ersilia de Lannooy

NPA, 6.311 votes, 2 seats, leader Nelson Pierre

PS, 5.513 votes, 1 seat, leader Helmin Wiels

FK, 4.932, 1 seat, leader Nelson Navarro

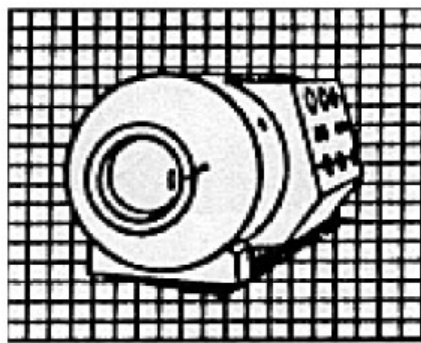
DP, 3.907, 1 seat, leader Norbert George

UPN, 1.660, no seat, leader Josephine Bakhuis-Trinidad

PLKP, 1.230, no seats, leader Errol Cova

MSL, 1.031 votes, no seats, leader César Prince.

► **Bonaire will get a new recompression chamber.** A chamber is very important here since many tourists come to



the island to scuba dive and a chamber can quickly resolve many of the problems resulting from diving accidents. The present recompression chamber is very old and it is time for renewal. In addition to treating decompression sickness, the tank can also be used for other medical purposes, such as hyperbaric (oxygen under pressure) treatment that helps to cure stubborn wounds.

The Economic Development Foundation has approved the financing for the acquisition of the new decompression chamber for Bonaire, but additional donations are needed. You can make your contribution to MCB-Bonaire account number 868 384-00.



Gov. Domacassé with Mama Smile  
Extra photo

► **The Tourism Awareness program kicked off with a spectacular presentation at Fort Oranje this Monday.** All the prominent people on the island who have been working on the program were there, from Governor Herbert Domacassé to the ambassador of the project, Captain Don. The point of the program is to make Bonairean people aware of the impact of tourism on their economy and society.

The slogan of the program is simple: 'Smile, because Bonaire is fun!'

So who could better represent the program than 'Mama Smile.' Mama Smile (Poppy Rodriguez) arrived in person, in style, in a honking Model A Ford, dressed traditionally Bonairean, walking on a red carpet. There's even a theme song about Mama Smile that will be converted into a cellular phone ringtone.

After awards were handed out to the important sponsors of the program, Mama Smile cut a cake to symbolize the start of the project. The reception was concluded with a trailer of the movie about Mama Smile discovering the island, which will have its premiere on May 10<sup>th</sup>. This movie will be shown at Movieland and will later be available on DVD.

► Mother's Day is not far away. How to please her? Take her to the **Big Show for 'Mom' at Don Paranda, May 11<sup>th</sup>,**

► **Monday, April 30 - 19<sup>th</sup> annual Rincon Day event.** It's when the spirit of Rincon opens to all – no matter what nationality, what color, religion, what social class. It's a time for music, for dancing, for colorful costumes for great local foods. Spend at least part of the day in Rincon on Monday. You can even join in the blocks-long Simidan parade as the sun goes down.



Also don't forget to stop by the Book Sale Stand to benefit the youth clubs of *Hubentut pa Kristu* of Rincón. Beforehand they need donations of second hand books for youth in particular but any books in Dutch or English will be welcome. Please call Elly at 717-3227 or Carla at 717-7256.

As they did last year the Bonaire Bikers will hold a motorcycle parade to fund raise for the Pasadia Cocari, the elder citizens' center. To join the parade costs only NAf15 for which you get a T-shirt gift from sponsor UTS. The Bikers will contribute NAf1.500 to Cocari. Meet at the parking lot of Capt. Don's Habitat at 9 am where you can sign up and get your T-shirt. Habitat General Manager Jack Chalk will sponsor breakfast there. At 10 am the parade will leave. If you don't have a motorcycle or scooter you may still be a contributor for NAf15 and get your T-shirt. For more information contact Lando Francisca (Bonaire Motorcycle Shop), Norman "Palo Djo" Evertsz or Mocky Arends.

**from 8 pm until midnight.** The cost is only NAf50 and includes an open snack, salad bar and several prizes.

Musical entertainment will be the Trio Huasteca from Aruba, Nelson Tremus and Trio from Curaçao and Trio los Principes of Bonaire. The Shenikah Dance Group of Bonaire will perform for the moms of Bonaire. **Proceeds go to the FKPD, the foundation to benefit Bonaire's handicapped people.**

► **Do you really want to help Bonaire be better and have a great time too?** Then be on hand for the **Bonaire Rotary Club's fund raising Auction this Friday, April 27 at The Plaza Resort.** The donation entry price of NAf125 and includes beverages, a Caribbean buffet and participation in an exciting auction of "extravagant and extraordinary items." For tickets or information please contact Pieter Groenendal 786-6447, Marisela Croes 560-7863 or any Rotary member. □ D.R./G./L.D.

► As part of the Tourism Awareness Program TCB joined with Match Consultancy BV and the Hotelschool The Hague Performance Management BV to organize a "Train The Trainer" (TTT) Program. **Eleven persons took part in the six-day course** at the Plaza Resort. In the photo, in addition to trainer Annette van Rooijen, Jeaninne Wong Loi Sing, Denise de Jongh, Marcel Leurs, Diana St. Jago, Gilberto Lira, Merel Zanen, Jeanne Emers, Mary Tjin Asjoe, Juliette de Grijze, Imke Reingoud and coordinator Roosje vd Hoek – Goeloe. The project is financed by USONA.



# LETTERS



## SMALL IS GOOD, OLD IS OK

Dear Editor:

I read in the current *Bonaire Reporter* that the series of articles about historical houses has reached its end. This was a wonderful series, with beautiful photographs and very interesting copy.

I have always loved walking through the deserted houses like the one at the lighthouse, wondering what daily life was like, feeling the spirit of the place. This series helped fill in some facts.

My wife and I have been coming to Bonaire since the late 1970s. We are glad to see that things have not been absolutely ruined, but the increase in population and the excessive tourism interest in more more, more... have had an obvious negative effect.

We are Cap'n Don people, always staying at Habitat. The water is less clear, the

fish are less plentiful. The flavor of the island is at risk, and as the article points out, we want to come and find something uniquely Bonairean.

But we are the kind of tourists who want to appreciate the differences from our daily life. The more cruise ships you bring, the more you will be host to people who want their Coca Cola and scooter rentals and whatever immediate pleasures you can present that have little or nothing to do with what Bonaire is really like.

I hope and pray that the people of Bonaire will persist in their desire to keep the island's scale small and accept that growth is not always a good thing.

Thanks for your wonderful publication. It is a little vacation each Saturday as we read of our favorite place over morning coffee. Oh, to be under the water again!

Masha danki,

*Chris Ischay & Linda Wolfson*

## ELECTION FOLLOWUP

Dear Editor:

When I emerged from my dive on Sunday, I was curious as to why a car parked near mine had a huge Democratic Alliance Bonaire



(red party) banner. Then the Patriotiko (green party) parade began. Marie, the owner of the red banner, displayed that banner to the entire parade. She was the catalyst for lots of horn blowing and smiles and traded greetings with lots of people. I couldn't help but think of all the places in the world where such behavior would be dangerous and possibly fatal.

Hooray for Bonaire!

*Dee Scarr*

# STRAIGHT TALK

**I**t's all about dating, love, sex, friendship, and marriage - so let's talk. Email ([betty@bonairenews.com](mailto:betty@bonairenews.com)) your relationship questions to my attention.



Betty Wills

Dear Betty,

*I just ended a five-year relationship with a married man, but I still love him completely. I'm having a hard time moving on. He was the highlight of my life in spite of our time restrictions. Our time together was limited to daily Internet chats and month-long rendezvous, two or three times a year. When we were together, nothing else mattered. We were happy and felt truly alive. I didn't know he was married when we first met and didn't bother to ask. He told me eventually, and added that he was thinking about divorce, so I let our relationship move forward. A year into it, I started pressuring him to make a choice. I couldn't handle the deceit of being "the other woman" or having to share him with someone else. As it turned out, he did not choose me. I don't think I'll ever be able to find anyone else I could love so completely, much less find happiness ever again. My friends say happiness should not be based on a relationship...that it comes from within. What are your thoughts?*

ANSWER: I'm thinking lonely, sad, heartbroken people who claim they found happiness within are probably taking Prozac, smoking funny cigarettes, or drinking 80 proof - they might even be doing all three. It's really a case of putting mind over matter. Why should you mind if he doesn't matter? Try to get to that point because you obviously matter very little to him, or he'd be with you full time. His wife obviously matters very little or he wouldn't be cheating on her. So what really matters to him? Apparently, he does. He's putting himself first, and that type of person isn't what I consider to be the ideal partner, much less a good friend. You are being used under the pretense of "love." Pick yourself up, dust yourself off, and take one step at a time in a positive direction on the true road to happiness. Delete his email address, chat name, phone numbers, and all other references to him. Leave no reminders. In time, you will realize he really didn't matter all that much after all. □ Betty Wills

## JOKE OF THE DAY

The Smiths were dining out when his wife noticed a familiar face at the bar.

"Honey," she said as she pointed the guy out, "That guy at the bar has been drinking like that since I left him seven years ago."

Her husband said, "That's silly, no one celebrates that much!" □



# Turtles Love Klein Bonaire

**W**hy is it that whenever Klein Bonaire is mentioned, often-times the conversation turns out to be about sea turtles? Well, that's because sea turtles seem to love the beaches of our unspoiled islet of Klein Bonaire!

In order to understand the importance of the island in that respect, it is best to have a talk with an expert like Mabel Simal Nava from Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire (STCB) who knows Klein Bonaire and its turtles like the back of her hand.

According to Mabel, there is no way to tell why exactly the turtles like Klein Bonaire so much. But it's safe to state that it has to do with its unspoiled nature and the long sandy beaches. Not only the amount, but also the excellent quality of the sand on Klein Bonaire makes the island so attractive for Green Turtles, Hawksbills and Loggerheads alike.

About 75% of all nesting in Bonaire takes place on Klein Bonaire. That's why the beach commonly known as No Name Beach even serves as a so-called "index beach" for sea turtle research. This means that the number of sea turtles and nests counted at No Name Beach each year is the benchmark indicating the trends for sea turtle activity on Bonaire in general.

Last season, there were 12 turtles who dug their nests in the sand of No Name Beach. That beach seems to provide good conditions for the hatchlings since the rate of successful hatches goes up to 75% there. This is a pretty high score because not all nests survive and not all hatchlings reach the sea! But the STCB staff carefully watches over the sea turtles' well being. "We monitor every nest and save the hatchlings when they're in trouble. During nesting season, we walk the beach every other day," Mabel explains.

They mark the nests they find with a colored ribbon on a bush or tree close to the nest and specify its exact location on a so-called field sheet. If you have been on Klein Bonaire and strolled along the



STCB's Mabel Nava dressed for turtle action.

Wilna Groenenboom photo

beach with open eyes, you might have noticed small plastic poles sticking out of the sand here and there. These are marks that serve as points of reference for the STCB staff to indicate the location of a nest, for example "Hawksbill: 679", meaning that a Hawksbill has dug its nest at 79 steps from the 600 meter pole!

However, if you spend the day on Klein Bonaire, you don't have to worry about accidentally damaging a nest, as Mabel points out. The female turtles make sure they dig a hole deep enough (up to 60 cm!) for their eggs to be sufficiently protected. So you might well end up having your picnic on top of roughly 150 buried turtle eggs without even noticing.

All we ask of you is to keep Klein Bonaire clean and in its natural state. Remember: you are not the only one enjoying the peace and untouched nature of Klein Bonaire - so do our sea turtles! □ Quita Sareyka

*Quita Sareyka is a graduate biologist who studied turtles on Klein Bonaire and has returned for follow-up.*

*Bruce Bowker's*

# Gear Doc



## O-rings O-rings O-rings

Without o-rings we would not be diving. That is not entirely true because someone would have come up with some other way of sealing, using B-rings or Q-rings or onion rings or something.

Most o-rings are made from some sort of rubber and like the four huge o-rings that your car drives on, they wear out. When they wear out, dry out or get dirt in them they will leak air. A small air leak is not such a terrible thing that a diver has to

shoot to the surface like a Polaris missile and walk across the water to land.

Repairs should be made as soon as possible by a competent service technician – not a 16 year old kid in for a summer job.

I have had divers tell me that they had a leaking o-ring on their tank and therefore they were only able to dive 30 minutes and not their usual 60! It takes one huge air leak to lose 30 minutes worth. After checking the leak I would guess they might have lost three breathes in the entire dive. Something else was wrong. One manufacturer even builds regulators that leak air as part of an environmentally sealed system.

Minor o-rings leaks are not good but again, no need to walk on water when you have one. □ *Bruce Bowker*



*Since 1980 Bruce Bowker has been the owner-operator of the Padi 5 Sta Gold Palm Carib Inn. Tel. 717-8819.*



## Gimme Five Awards at Divi Flamingo



Every three months the Divi Flamingo resort awards employees who most satisfy their customers. Each time a 5 is written by a customer on the comment card with a staff name, the staff member earns a \$5 award. Last Friday the awards were handed out. Biggest prize winner that day was front desk clerk Mirna Arrendel who received \$45. It wasn't the first time for her, as she has received the biggest prize twice before. Her tactics are simple: always stay happy and always stay calm. Arrendel: "Whenever a customer comes to me with a problem, I make sure that problem will be solved before my duty is over. I always sense immediately when something is wrong, and when it's solved, it not only makes the customer feel good, but I feel good as well. □ *David Radomisli*



**Be an Angel -  
Pass on The Reporter to a Friend**



# Tintin Now In Papiamentu



*Bòi Antoin and Co de Koning*

Comic books about Tintin can be read in 73 languages. Up until now, Papiamentu was not one of them. But since last Monday things have changed. Co de Koning and translator Bòi Antoin, big Tintin fans since their childhood, got some sponsors together and managed to get 10,000 copies printed in Papiamentu to give to school kids in Bonaire and Curaçao. Their intention is to encourage school children to develop their drawing and writing talents and to give teachers the opportunity to use the books as a tool to educate in an interesting and enjoyable way.

Tintin may be, after the Bible, the most translated and the most published book (250 million) of all time. The Adventures of Tintin (*Kuifje* in Dutch) is a series of comic books created by Belgian artist Hergé, the pen name of the now deceased Georges Remi. What is distinctive about this book as compared to other comic books is the

## E ASUNTU DI FLORISOL



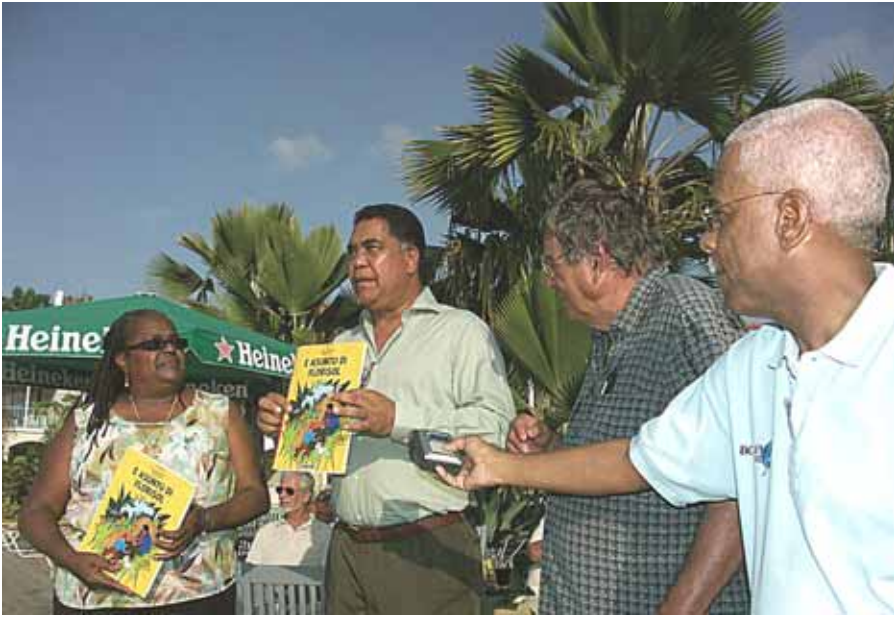
universal story lines and especially the drawings, which are very detailed. The hero of the series is the character, Tintin, a young Belgian reporter and traveler. He is aided in his adventures by his faithful dog, Snowy. Later, popular additions to the cast included Captain Haddock and other colorful supporting characters. The success of the series saw the serialized strips collected into a series of albums (23 in all), spun into a successful magazine and adapted for both film and theatre.

Usually Bonaire is the on the receiving end of gifts from Curaçao primarily because Bonaire is much smaller and her sister is-

*(Continued on page 9)*







*Mamita Fox, Ramonsito Booi, Co de Koning on the air with Bubui Cicilia of BonFM*



*(L to R) Captain Haddock (Melisa Morkos), Tintin/Kuifje (Max Maartense) and Professor Zonnebloem (Sarah-Ann Maartense)*

*(Tintin continued from page 8)*  
land simply has more resources, especially for education. But finally, for once, the roles have reversed and Bonaire has taken the initiative this time. Bonaire donated the first 5,000 of the 10,000 Tintin comic books printed in Papiamentu, to Curaçao school kids. The other 5,000 will be distributed to Bonaire's schoolchildren.

Last Monday, alongside the pool at Captain Don's Habitat, part-time Bonaire resident, Co de Koning, officially handed the first copy of the Tintin album in Papiamentu, *E asuntu di Florisol* (translated: The Sunflower Case) to Mamita Fox, best friend and stand-in for the unavailable Antillean Minister of Culture, Omayra Leeftang. Fox: "It's a great honor to receive these books, not only for me but for all Curaçaoeans. It's

a special day. I also want to say that whatever will happen in the future, referring to the breakup of the Antilles and Bonaire's direct ties with Holland, won't change the relationship between our islands. We will always stay close to each other as a brother and sister."

The second copy was handed to UPB party leader, Senator Ramonsito Booi. He was also very positive towards the relationship with Curaçao: "In politics some tough battles have been fought between the islands, but we will always be loyal to Curaçao. We are very thankful for the possibility to have been able to study on that island. I'm happy we found a way to show our gratitude with this initiative." Even Tintin/Kuifje (Max Maartense) and his companions, Captain Haddock (Melisa Morkos) and

Professor Sunflower (Sarah-Ann Maartense), were present during the handover ceremony. The three characters acted out a small part of the story, which began in Dutch, but concluded in Papiamentu.

The main reason De Koning said he began this project was his love for the book itself. This was apparent when he started speaking about it and even saw himself as a sort of Tintin, or better yet, Captain Haddock, mainly because he has the same interests as Haddock: whiskey and the sea. Another reason was that he wanted to share his love for the comic with the Antilleans.

According to De Koning, to find sponsors for funding the book in Bonaire wasn't a problem at all. "In a few weeks everything was arranged in Bonaire, especially because of the willingness of Bonairean sponsors

and publisher, Casterman. The problem was when we had to find funding for the books in Curaçao, where we tried very hard to find sponsors. Although Curaçao has many more businesses and the price for the books was much lower for them, we couldn't find any. That's when we decided to send it to Curaçao as a gift."

The copies of Tintin will be in the hands of school children by the end of June. All the teachers on Bonaire will also receive a copy in English, Spanish and Dutch. This edition of Tintin will probably be a stand alone, and copies will not be sold in bookstores. □ *David Radomisli*

# Bonaire Island Elections -2007



*There was some defacement of posters, but not extensively*

**B**onaire voters took a swing at the island's political piñata last Friday, but the UPB's power structure wasn't broken. The UPB Patriotic Party (green) led by Ramonsito Booi's UPB lost 1 seat in the 8-member Island Council but kept its majority with 5 seats. The ADB Democratic (red) party coalition headed by Jopie Abraham gained a seat and now has 4, still not enough to be represented in the Executive Council (BC) which runs the island. That will remain an exclusive UPB club. The two other parties in the election, Alerta (white) and PRO (orange), did not command anywhere near the 804 votes needed for a seat. Voter turnout was a respectable 83.9%, a few points higher than the last election.

This is the first time in Bonaire's history

that a political party has been in power longer than 8 years, or 2 terms. But the UPB, with a track record of paced development, airport expansion and job growth did it handily. UPB had fewer votes than the PDB in just one barrijo, Antriol. The Aliansa Demokrat Bonaireano, the alliance the PDB Democrats forged with two other parties, Partido Boneriano Sosial (PABOSO) and Partido Obrero Nobo (Labor), had enough effect to cut the UPB plurality by 1 seat, but that was not enough to tip the political balance of power.

Results:

- UPB 3,664
- ADB 2,855
- PRO 583
- Alerta 52



Compared to last year's parliamentary



*Results are posted live on the boards at the Passenghran*

election the UPB lost 33 votes while the ADB lost 93. Observers said last minute fumbling and a civil court ruling that reflected negatively on its leader hurt the PRO contenders.

Candidates who obtained most of the votes were:

- Ramonsito Booi (UPB) 1,218;
- Jopie Abraham (ADB) 737;
- James Kroon (UPB) helped by a massive Rincon voter response 734;
- Robby Beukenboom (ADB) 406 votes.

UPB members in the new Island Council will be Ramonsito Booi, James Kroon, Yonchi Dortalina, Maritsa Silberie and Anthony Nicolaas. For the ADB, Jopie Abraham, Robby Beukenboom, Marugia Janga and Nolly Oleana. □

*Story by G.D., photos by Wilna Groenenboom*



*Keeping tabs on the count*

Be an Angel ...  
Pass on The  
Reporter to a  
Friend



# EARTH DAY EVENTS



Tina Lindeken, Wilna Groenenboom, Irene Da Cunda, Bruce Brabec, Marlene Robinson, Carin Eckrich, Patricia Molina, Gielmon 'Funchi' Egbrechts and Mabel Nava. Youngsters joined in: Luis Ignacio Gorrin, Viktor Brower, Niek and Almar van Leeuwen and Daniela Simal.

They filled six pick-ups full of trash and hauled them to the land fill. About 99% of the trash was plastic, INCREDIBLE! They worked continuously from 8am to 12 noon.

Thanks to all who helped. □ *Info provided by Mabel Nava*

**I**t seems like every day could be Earth Day in Bonaire because of the constant awareness of environmental conservation and actions to preserve it. Nevertheless several special events took place:

## Beach Cleanups

Two windward-side beach cleanups were organized by STINAPA, the Park Authority and Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire (STCB).

At Playa Chikitu in Washington Park volunteers under the leadership of Crisanta Martha returned that beach to pristine condition.

At Baby Beach yachtswoman Linda Ridley brought along some fellow sailors who were joined by



## An Inconvenient Truth on Earth Day

**T**he environment is a hot topic these days with global warming now acknowledged by science and governments as fact. Many people are finally getting worried about the world's pollution because it actually is us, humans, who are a main contributing cause of it.

The story is eloquently told by the documentary, **An Inconvenient Truth**, made by Al Gore. Island conservations decided to show this documentary during Earth Day at Movieland in Bonaire last Sunday. Admission was free, thanks to sponsors, to attract more people and encourage them to talk about the problems the environment is coping with, not only in the world, but also in Bonaire itself.

Before the feature presentation a short

documentary produced by Hendrik Wuyts of ScubaVision and Sean Peyton of Pirate Radio was shown. It discussed the problems Bonaire itself is coping with at the landfill on the island. It showed how polluting items are just dropped there without selecting the waste that could be recycled. For example batteries, air conditioners, printers and lots of paper are just dumped. Sand is used to cover up the waste. A phrase used during the documentary: "The environment in Bonaire is a unique selling point for tourists so let's change this situation. Not tomorrow, but today!" The documentary can be seen on the Internet on the YouTube website, ([www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com)); just search for Bonaire landfill and Bonaire waste water dumping.

After the feature presentation the audience could ask questions. The plan was to have a panel of experts to answer these questions, but due to circumstances they weren't available so one of the organizers, Boudewijn Scholts, marketing director of Plaza Resort Bonaire and the President of BONHATA, took over the responsibility.

The audience seemed surprised about the drastic changes the environment has gone through due to CO<sub>2</sub> gasses. Other audience members were surprised that the problem wasn't the hole-in-the-ozone layer but that it actually was thickened by the gasses. One of the comments was that Bonaire's elected officials should watch this film. Another comment was to make Earth Day a yearly festival, showing documentaries about the environment. The documentary has been shown on several evenings and to SGB students last Tuesday. They were primed for it by teachers by using a special Al Gore kit and had to prepare projects that they had to present after the movie to acknowledge the problems and to do something about it. □

*David Radomisli*

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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!

**For Sale**

Last chance sale: Dining table, 5.0 surround sound system, DVD multi system, radio receiver, dive set, Tunisian carpets-top quality, Portuguese blanket, African, L- Am, Maltese, French, CR, Argentinean & Russian paintings (original and prints), Vodka collection, Bikes, dive set, sportsbox, tent, many books (Ludlum, Puzo, chronicle of WW 2 etc), diff. bags, iron board.....Simply call for appointment. 786-3558

Moving Sale- Saturday, April 21, 10:00 to 2:00 Sabadeco Villas 11, 717-2208 Framed pictures, queen and twin bedspreads, bed sheets, VCR player, small painted bench, potted plants, 4 (80 cu ft) dive tanks, garden tools, 7' stepladder, halogen floor lamp, miscellaneous items.

FOR SALE: Computer table - Excellent condition - NAf75, Computer Keyboard NAf 25 Phillips Computer Monitor with cables, etc. - NAf 150. Call anytime 786-4136

GE Side by Side Refrigerator/Freezer w/icemaker Water and ice in the door, 4 years old Like new 110 - 127 V/60 Hz Sell for \$950. 717-8876

26' CENTURY (Eduardono) Boat & 26' Galvanized Trailer Year Manufacture: 1999/2000 Open Bow/center console, Twin 200 HP Yamaha engines/Under 500 hours on engines, Anti foul painting, Portapotti, Fresh water sink and shower, strong Bimini top, Stainless Steel ladder, Live-well, Well maintained \$60,000. 717-8876.

Real American pillowtop mattress set for sale. Please see at J.A. Abraham #10 (behind Cactus Blue Restaurant)

Looking for a 1st stage regulator to fill flat tires? Carib Inn has 2 now available at only \$65 each. These are used but rebuilt and include LP hose. These are not to be used for diving. Call 717-8819 or stop by the Carib Inn.

For Sale: Sony Digital Camcorder, boxed and unused, Model DCR HC96E in PAL format, takes Mini DV tapes has widescreen, 3 Mega pixel still camera, Carl Zeiss Lens, 2 Years guarantee, includes new case, tapes etc. Unwanted gift \$720, Call: 717-2675

Selling dive gear, printer/scanner, pots & pans, bed/bath linen, Benetton

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Evening Classes start on May 14th, 2007 from Monday to Thursday.

For more information, please contact us.  
Tel: 717-3966; Fax 717-3970

Email: [Nataliaferreira\\_xusombonaire@yahoo.com](mailto:Nataliaferreira_xusombonaire@yahoo.com)

clothes, tables & chairs and much more. Call 717-4494.

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**Cars & Scooters**

For sale - 2003 red Chevrolet Celta. In excellent condition, great mileage. Asking NAf 10,000 ONO. Call 795-9409

For sale - 1999 Nissan, 4 -door, diesel pick up, special rust coated, NAf 8500 791-6272

For Sale: Toyota Corolla 1995, 8 valves, Insurance paid till December 2007. Engine in good condition; can be used as holiday car, and can be sold afterwards. Possibility to lease. 25 euro a day; minimum 7 days. Asking price; NAf 1.900, or 850 euro or \$1000. Contact: 529-0119

FIAT BARCHETTA Cabrio, 1997, yellow, with hard-top and wind-stop. Make an offer... Tel. 796-5591.



For Sale: Kia Spectra 2002, A/C, Radio, 4 doors. In very good condition. Price: NAf 9500,00. Call: 786-1230\



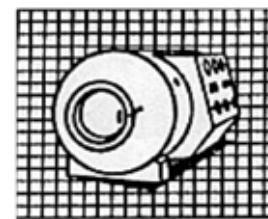
**Property**

Harbour Village Marina Front Condo For Sale- Large one bedroom, 2 bath apartment located in a secluded all condo building away from the hotel traffic. Full kitchen and laundry, tons of storage space, large patio with walkout to marina dock. Private owner sale. [www.luxurybonaire.com](http://www.luxurybonaire.com)

HOUSE FOR RENT: 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, open kitchen-living room. Niki-boko-Sabana. Call 717-7741 (9am-noon, 3-6 pm) NAf1.000 per month plus deposit.

Historic home for rent, tastefully renovated 4 bedroom, 3 bath, living room, family room dining, foyer, laundry room with side and back patio, yard, short term and monthly. Fully furnished. Reasonable rates. See [thecraanehouse.com](http://thecraanehouse.com) for photos. Contact us at [reservations@thecraanehouse.com](mailto:reservations@thecraanehouse.com).

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**Wanted Staff**

Part-time Administrator wanted. Must be multilingual-English, Papiamentu, Dutch. Call 512-6375.

**Wanted**

Wanted: Second hand books for our sale on Dia di Rincon. Special youth books are very welcome, but we can use all books in English and Dutch! The profit is for the youth clubs of Hubentut pa Kristu of Rincon. You can give a call to Elly 717-3227 or Carla 717-7256.

Reporter staff member wishes to house sit long-term starting now. Call David 700-7536, email= [dradomisli@hotmail.com](mailto:dradomisli@hotmail.com).

**Events**

Holistic 3 day Retreat Planned June 2007 by visiting expert on Ayurveda, involving yoga, massage & diet. Direct questions to email [fhummingbird@yahoo.com](mailto:fhummingbird@yahoo.com)



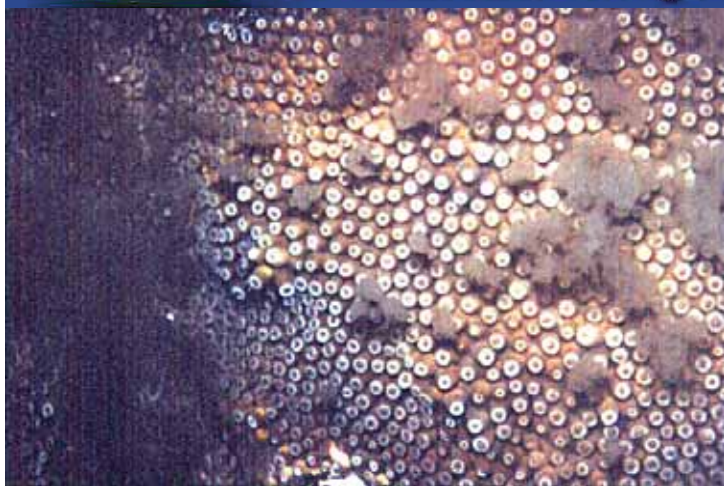
**For Sale**

Bed for sale NAf400.00, phone after 6 pm please 717 2791

# A Shrink Studies SCUBA

## Curiosity

www.DivePsych.com



Coral spawning

Curiosity is one of the main reasons I and many others scuba dive. The recreational dive industry has known that for many years, and marketing materials emphasize the excitement of discovery and exploration and new experiences underwater.

Litman & Spielberg (2003) said that curiosity can be "broadly defined as a desire to acquire new [information and] knowledge and new sensory experience that motivates exploratory behavior." So, curiosity has at least two types: (a) information seeking, or cognitive curiosity, which stimulates information-seeking, exploratory behavior and (b) sensory curiosity, which stimulates sensation-seeking, exploratory behavior.

In the online survey we conducted in

early 2004, the Spielberg State-Trait Personality Inventory (STPI) percentile ranks for trait curiosity for scuba divers were significantly above the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile rank of the average working adult for all age groups. In fact, the percentile ranks of youthful divers 18-22 years old were at the 89<sup>th</sup> and 94<sup>th</sup> percentile

ranks for females and males, respectively. Even divers 33 years and older were at the 81<sup>st</sup> and 69<sup>th</sup> percentile ranks for females and males, respectively. (Figure 1)

What is not so obvious is why trait curiosity declined for male scuba divers across increasing age groups, but remained relatively high for females. Could it be that older male divers lose their intellectual curiosity and settle for less sensation-seeking and more relaxing dives? That would make sense if they believe they know everything there is to know and have seen everything there is to see and have done everything there is to do.

I reanalyzed the trait curiosity data by sorting it according to the number of lifetime dives by age group. But, the number of lifetime dives did not correlate with the

decline in trait curiosity percentile ranks for older male divers.

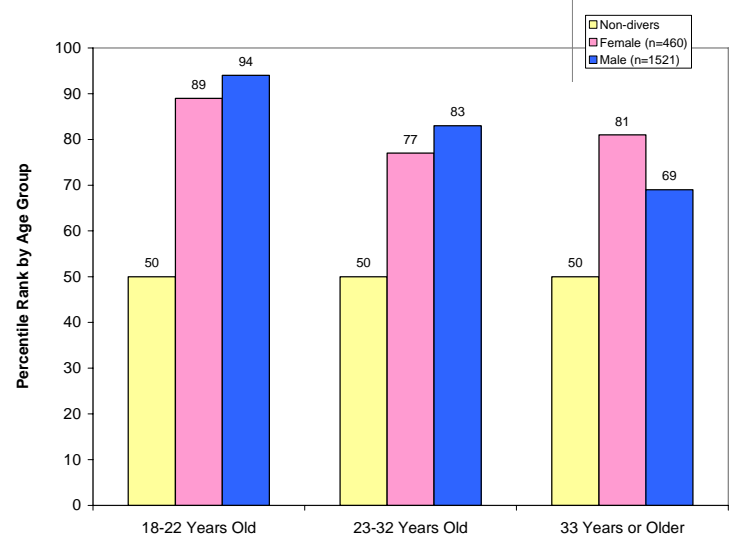
Something else had to be going on, so I sent some of the data to Charles D. Spielberg, Ph.D., ABPP, Distinguished Research Professor of Psychology, Center for Research in Behavioral Medicine and Health Psychology, University of South Florida in Tampa. He is the developer of the STPI.

Dr. Spielberg had this comment about the data:

"Regarding your question of why older male divers have lower curiosity scores, it might be that the most curious who are also very low in anxiety have moved on to other activities. The very high scores of the youngest divers suggest that curiosity is a strong motivator for their becoming involved in diving."

His comment certainly applies to my son and me. One September a few years ago Daniel and I observed star coral spawning on Bari Reef. We had almost given up on our third night out when Daniel spotted a few puffs on a coral head behind us and then another and then whole sections of the reef seemed to erupt in concert. On another trip he and I lay still for about 10 to 15 minutes on the sandy bottom waiting for a male

Trait Curiosity of Scuba Divers Compared to Non-divers



yellowhead jawfish to pop out of his hole and aerate a mouthful of eggs. I suspect Daniel and I would score quite high on trait curiosity and hopefully always will. Like father, like son. □

Story & photo from David Colvard, M.D.

To find out what your Trait Curiosity percentile rank is, go to [www.DivePsych.com](http://www.DivePsych.com) and look under *A Shrink Studies Scuba* for SELF-ANALYSIS QUESTIONNAIRE (STPI FORM Y-1) for Trait Curiosity.

David F. Colvard, M.D., is a private psychiatrist and clinical investigator in Raleigh NC, and a divemaster. He hosts [www.DivePsych.com](http://www.DivePsych.com) which provides evidence-based information for divers on psychological and stress factors in scuba divers.



# Pet of the Week

Meet “Jessica,” a lovely chocolate brown pup, who’s four months old. Young Jessica is such a gentle personality that she’s been put into the puppy cage with much smaller pups than she is. But they don’t seem to worry about size; they others just think she’s their older sister. Jessica is a real beauty. Notice her smiling face and pink mouth. Her previous owner had to leave the island and Jessica as well. But with her attractive good looks and mellow personality she shouldn’t have to wait too long before just the right new owner shows up! Of course, she’s been declared in excellent health by the vet, has had her shots, worming and testing and will be sterilized when she’s old enough. All that is included in the adoption fee. You may see Jessica at the Bonaire Animal Shelter on the Lagoen Road, open Monday through Saturday, 8 am to 1 pm. Tel. 717-4989.



“Jessica”

Boy! That was fast. Our three puppies, pictured in the photo in this column last week, Alex, Felicia and Aaron, **were all adopted** thanks to their new owners seeing them in their photo. Congratulations to all and best wishes for a wonderful future together! □ *L.D.*

## 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
4-27	4:45	1.3FT.	9:38	1.5FT.	16:21	1.0FT.	22:55	1.5FT.	46
4-28	6:01	1.2FT.	10:18	1.4FT.	16:07	1.1FT.	23:05	1.6FT.	53
4-29	7:24	1.1FT.	11:16	1.2FT.	15:28	1.1FT.	23:23	1.7FT.	60
4-30	8:38	1.0FT.	12:20	1.1FT.	14:20	1.1FT.	23:50	1.8FT.	66
5-01	0:11	1.8FT.	10:03	1.0FT.					71
5-02	0:42	1.9FT.	11:03	0.9FT.					75
5-03	1:13	1.9FT.	11:58	0.8FT.					78
5-04	1:47	1.9FT.	12:36	0.7FT.					79

## Who’s Who on The Bonaire Reporter

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# WHAT'S HAPPENING



Ron Sewell

## -THIS WEEK

**Friday, April 27 - Bonaire Rotary Fundraiser Auction for school breakfast program**, Caribbean Point Restaurant, Plaza Resort, 7 pm. Donation NAf 125, includes beverages and a Caribbean buffet. Extraordinary auction follows. For tickets contact Pieter Groenendal 786 6447, Marisela Croes 560 7863 or any Rotary member.

**Saturday, April 28 - World Tai Chi en Qigong Day**—See notice top right

**Saturday, April 28—Randal Corsin Quartet concert**, Topsy Seagull, Plaza Hotel, 8:30 pm

**April 30 - Rincon Day—One of Bonaire's biggest parties!** See page 4. National Holiday and celebration of the Queen's Birthday too

**Wednesday, May 2— "Bonaire's Birds" - talk by Jerry Ligon**, Capt. Don's Habitat, 7 pm

**Wednesday, May 2 -Arts and Crafts Market at Wilhelmina Park** 10 am to early afternoon: May 2 - *Crown Princess* (last ship of the season)

**Wednesday, May 9 -"The Sex Lives of Parrots" - talk by Rowan Martin**, Capt. Don's Habitat, 7 pm

**Wednesday, May 9 -"Lora di Boneiru" - talk by Odette Doest (in Papiamentu)**, Rose Inn, 7 pm

## COMING

**Sunday, May 6 -First Bonaire Culinary Team Fundraising Dinner, Chez Nous at the high school**—more information later

**Friday, May 11 -Mother's Day fund raising party at Don Paranda for the FKPD (foundation that assists persons with disabilities)** 8 pm. Three musical groups and a dance group will entertain. Bar, snacks and salad are included in the NAf50 price. Tickets available from FKPD staff, at Angelo's and the Bonaire Bookstore in downtown Kralendijk.

**Sunday, May 13—Island wide Oriole Count**—details on MegaFM

**May 17-20—3rd Annual Bonaire Heineken Jazz Festival.** More information: [www.bonairejazz.com](http://www.bonairejazz.com)

## REGULAR EVENTS

### Daily (more or less)

- HH 2 for 1 (all beverages) 5-7 pm, **Divi Flamingo Balashi Beach Bar**
  - HH—50% off **Buddy Dive Resort**, 5:30-6:30
  - HH **Cactus Blue** (except Sun.) 5-6
  - 2 for 1 appetizers with entrée 6-7, **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** \$21 (includes tax). Discounts for residents and local people. Tel. 717-8489, 540-9800.
  - **Parke Publico** children's playground open every day into the evening hours.
- ### Saturdays
- **Steak Night** On the Beach (a la carte) - **Buddy Dive Resort**, 6—10 pm

- **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.

- **Bike Trips**—Meet at Eden Beach Activity Center 4 pm. Free. Helmets mandatory. 785-0767

- **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

- **Fish or Meat Dinner Special for only \$10**. **Buddy Dive Resort**, 6 -9:30 pm
- **Reporter writer Albert Bianculli presents his Multi-Image Production "Bonaire Holiday"** at 6:30pm, 7:30 pm or 8:30pm., Casablanca Argentinean Grill
- **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...** usually a real blast
- **Live music by Flamingo Rockers, Divi Flamingo, Balashi Beach Bar** 5-6:30.
- **Caribbean Night A la Carte - Buddy Dive Resort**, 6—10 pm

### 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
- **Buddy's Bingo Show - Buddy Dive Resort**, 8- 9:30 pm

### Fridays

- **Mixed Level Yoga** 8:30am, Buddy Dive 786-6416
- **Harbour Village Tennis, Social Round Robin** 7 - 10 pm. \$10 per person. Cash bar. All invited. Call Elisabeth Vos at 565-5225
- **Live music by the "Flamingo Rockers" Divi Flamingo, Balashi Beach Bar**, 5-7 pm
- **Swim lessons** for children by Enith Brighitha, a Dutch Olympian, at Sunrise Poolbar and Sportsclub, for children 0 - 18.
- **Manager's Bash**—free Flamingo Smash & snacks, **Divi Flamingo**, 5-7 pm

## Saturday April 28 -World Tai Chi Qigong Day

Bonaire will join the world wide event to promote health and fitness at Parke Publico starting at 10 am. Current Tai Chi practitioners will be present to receive further instruction for their art and anyone interested to see or learn about Tai Chi for health and fitness of mind and body is welcome. Photographs of last year's Bonaire event can be seen on the web at the following address:

<http://www.worldtaichiday.org/photos/2006WTCQD/2006Photos/BonaireCaribbean2006.html>

- **Free Rum Punch Party** (5:30 pm - 6:30 pm) & **All-u-can-eat BBQ**, 7-10 pm, **Buddy Dive Resort**

### FREE SLIDE/VIDEO SHOWS

**Saturday- "Discover Our Diversity"** slide show-pool bar **Buddy Dive**, 7 pm, 717-5080

**Monday—Dee Scarr's "Touch the Sea"** Slide Show, Capt. Don's Habitat, 8:30 pm. Call 717-8290.

**Tuesdays & Wednesdays—Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire** presents the *Sea Turtles of Bonaire Slide Show*. Every 1st & 3rd Tuesday at Buddy Dive Resort (717-3802) at 7:00pm. Every 2nd & 4th Wednesday at the Bruce Bowker's Carib Inn (717-8817) at 7:00pm.

### BONAIRE'S TRADITIONS

**Kas Krijo 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](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 Claire 717-8290 **Volunteers to train children in sports.** Contact Quick-Pro Track and Field - Rik 717-8051

### CHURCH SERVICES

**Protestant Congregation of Bonaire.**

Kralendijk, Wilhelminaplein. In Papiamentu, Dutch, English on Sundays 10 am. Rincon, Kaya C.D. Crestian, Services in Papiamentu on Sundays at 8.30 am. Children's club Saturday 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 - 11:30am. 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

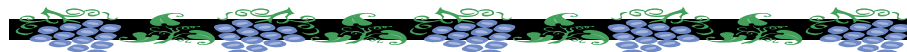
Send event info to:

**The Bonaire Reporter**

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

Tel:786-6518 or 786-6125

# DINING GUIDE



See advertisements in this issue

RESTAURANT	PRICE RANGE / WHEN OPEN	FEATURES
<b>Balashi Beach Bar</b> <b>Bar and Beach Service</b> At the Divi Flamingo Beach Resort Waterfront	Open every day 8am - 8pm. Happy Hour, two for one, 6-7 pm.	Extensive snack/salad/burger. Menu available daily from noon.
<b>Bella Vista Restaurant</b> Sea Side Restaurant at Buddy Dive Resort 717-5080, ext. 538	Moderate. Breakfast daily 6:30—10 am - . Lunch daily 11:30 Dinner on theme nights 6—10 pm	<b>Buddy's Magnificent Theme Nights:</b> Sat. - Steak Night A la Carte; Mon. - Fish or Meat Dinner Special (\$10.-); Wed. - Caribbean Night A la Carte; Fri. - Free Rum Punch Party (5:30- 6:30 pm) and All-u-can-eat BBQ for \$ 19.50 (7-1- pm)
<b>Bistro de Paris</b> Kaya Gob. N. Debrót 46 (half-way between hotel row and town) 717-7070	Moderate Lunch Monday - Friday 11 am-3 pm Dinner Monday - Saturday, 6 to 10 pm	<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	<b>Biggest BBQ Buffet on Bonaire every Saturday</b> from 6-9pm. Only NAf 28 or \$15.75.
<b>Hilltop Restaurant</b> At the Caribbean Club Bonaire—on the scenic Rincon Road 717-7901	Moderate Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner	<b>Bar-Restaurant poolside—in Bonaire's hill country</b> Frequent Dinner Specials Happy hours 5 to 6 daily, to 7 on Tuesday BBQ night.
<b>The Last Bite Bakery</b> Kaya Grandi 70 717-3293	Low-Moderate Open Tuesday through Saturday 7:30am-5:30pm; Sat. 9am-2pm	<b>NAf10 take out lunch every day -</b> main dish with 2 side dishes. Special on Tuesday and Thursday: Lasagna.
<b>Papaya Moon Cantina</b> Downtown— Kaya Grandi 48 717-5025	Moderate Open everyday except Tuesday For Dinner	<b>Margaritas a Specialty</b> 2 for 1 Happy Hour 6-7:30 Incredible Mexican Cuisine
<b>Pasa Bon Pizza</b> On Kaya Gob. Debrót 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 780-1111
<b>Patagonia Argentinean Restaurant</b> At the lighthouse, Harbour Village Marina 717-7725	Moderate Lunch Tuesday-Friday Dinner Tuesday-Sunday	Authentic Argentinean Cuisine Owned and operated by the Pablo Palacios Family from Argentina The beef is here and more.
<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. Reserve for the <b>Wednesday Beach BBQ.</b>

# 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. Now flying to Aruba.

## APPLIANCES /TV/ ELECTRONICS/ COMPUTERS

**City Shop,** the mega store, has the island's widest selection of large and small home appliances, furniture, TV, computers, cell phones and more. 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 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.

## 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.**

## PHOTO SERVICES

**Capture Photo** at the Divi Flamingo. Photo classes, camera rental, digital processing, all state of the art!

## 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.

## 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.

**Valeries Airport Shops** — Convenient shopping for unique items, magazines, gifts and more.

## 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.**

## SUPERMARKETS

**Warehouse Supermarket on Kaya Industria**—Biggest air conditioned market with the, largest selection and lowest prices on the island.

## WATER TAXI

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

## 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:

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# On The Island Since -2000

## Corinna & Hagen Wegener

“I met Hagen in Guernsey, a British Channel island, when I was 19. I was studying retail management there. I was born in Germany and he in Guernsey. He’d studied at a hotel management school in Salzburg, Austria. Hagen excelled in cooking and was given a chance to work with the master chef and through him he’d gotten a job as a chef in a 5-star hotel in Arosa, Switzerland. When I met Hagen he was 23; he’d just come back from working a winter season in Arosa. We fell in love.

Once I had completed my studies and Hagen had worked the summer season on Guernsey, we decided to travel the world. We took planes, trains and automobiles and we traveled through India, Australia, Thailand, Indonesia and Singapore. We backpacked for about a year and while we were traveling through Australia we completed our PADI Open Water class on the Great Barrier Reef in 1987, so that’s almost 20 years we’ve been diving. We didn’t know then, but it would be our love for diving that would bring us to Bonaire. The traveling broadened our minds and it changed us; it felt like if you set your mind to something you can do it, you can do anything.

Hagen had grown up on a relatively small island and I in a small town and our parents were somewhat old fashioned; Hagen had traveled to Spain with his parents, but I had never left Germany before I’d gone to Guernsey, so we had to see what was going on in the world. We came back to Guernsey penniless.”

“I was offered a position in the food and beverage department in the hotel company my father worked for,” Hagen says “and what basically transpired out of this is that I had not only a talent for cooking and customer care, but also for design. So I started remodeling the restaurants and turned them into something fresh for people to experience. I took what I’d learned in Austria and Switzerland and brought it to Guernsey. I’d learned to think outside the box and Britain was realizing they could do more than roast beef and Yorkshire pudding. So, it was definitely the right time.”

“We got married in 1990,” Corinna fills in, “and we had our first son Sebastian in August 1992, and in 1993 we opened our restaurant, Pelican’s Café, on Guernsey. We figured if we could set up concept ideas for somebody else then we could do it for ourselves and... it worked. It was a very modern concept and friends and family didn’t give it much hope, but we were dedicated, hard working, young and energetic, and after five years we’d become an award win-

ning restaurant when we received the Igon Ronay Award. We managed that three years in a row; then somebody came along and asked if he could buy our restaurant. We thought about it. By that stage we had three boys: two, five and seven. I had them in between serving tables – ha! ha! - and we’d always wanted to travel again and we thought selling the restaurant would give us the means and the freedom to do so. We sold everything and packed our bags. Three little boys, eight suitcases and a plan was all we had... Planes, trains and automobiles again...

First we stopped in the Florida Keys. It was the first time the boys had been on a plane and also we had to adjust our lives to live with each other and realize that we could have some fun. Somewhere in between selling our restaurant and traveling we’d become dive instructors; our passion for diving was still there. We just took it one day at a time; we went from day to day and faced whatever

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**“The traveling broadened our minds and it changed us; it felt like if you set your mind to something you can do it, you can do anything.”**

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came up. Most of all we just felt free, free from schedules and responsibilities. Every place we visited we learned about the people and their culture and we raised our children to have more awareness and they loved it. They were young enough not to be too attached. They also lived one day at a time at that age. And they really appreciated the fact we were there for them all the time; it gave them a lot of strength and confidence and it built a family bond.

From the Florida Keys we took a plane to Micronesia in the South Pacific; we went to Hong Kong and Malaysia, then back to the Caribbean.” “We visited quite a few islands of the Bahamas, the less populated,” Hagen says, “and one time we were the only people on a seven-mile-long sandy beach, ... not one footprint in the sand... fantastic. We went to Belize, Cayman, Barbados, Curaçao and finally Bonaire. We fell in love with the island the moment we set foot on the ground. We felt: ‘This is it; this is where we want to be!’ We went job hunting. We’d decided to wait a few years before going back into the restaurant business – we wanted to turn our love of diving in a career.” “Good fortune gave me the job as dive operations



Corinna, Sebastian, Christian, Florian and Hagen Wegener

manager at Buddy Dive,” Corinna says. “It turned out to be a very demanding job, well beyond eight hours per day, which meant that Hagen worked part-time and took care of the boys as well so they could settle in.

We’d left Guernsey in October 1999 and we came here December 2000. It felt good; the boys enjoyed having a home and toys because as much fun as traveling is, it becomes very tiresome to live out of suitcases. But... in a way we still felt our adventure was continuing. Before we knew it five years had gone by and the boys had grown up and had become fairly self sufficient; we decided it was time to go back to our roots, the restaurant business. So we started working on the concept of Cactus Blue and again everything just fell into place. We were lucky to find the location; it was just a shell and we could start from scratch and let our imagination flow. We’ve never said ‘What if?’ or ‘If only’; we are the kind of people that when we have a dream we go for it and make it reality and if everything might go wrong... so what, we would still have each other and that’s enough to start again!

February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2006, we opened the doors of Cactus Blue. It’s a new innovative concept that we brought to the island, and although we call our cooking ‘Caribbean Cuisine,’ the proper term is fusion – cooking that combines techniques, flavors, seasoning and ingredients from different cuisines. Now, after 14 months we’re doing incredibly well; we’re very pleased. We’ve been featured in the *Chicago Tribune*, *Wall Street Journal*, *San Francisco Chronicle*, *Caribbean Travel & Life*, *Sport Diver Magazine* and *Conde Nast Traveler*. So, it’s fantastic we had so much exposure in such a short time and on the island the style of cuisine has been accepted and

people seem to want more of it. We don’t measure our success by how much money we have in the bank, we measure success by the feedback we receive from our customers and by the personal satisfaction and enjoyment it gives us. And again, what we do now is another family adventure, because the boys are as involved as we are.

Sebastian is now 14, Florian is 12 and Christian is 9; they help with ideas and help with the work – everybody is part of it. And again we’re traveling; we’re going to Canada and Niagara Falls this summer and last October we took the boys to New York. The first thing they noticed wasn’t the buildings, or the cars or the number of people, but they said: ‘Look how big the trees are!’

We don’t live day by day; we have definitely worked by a five-year plan, but if we have a new plan, we’ll go with it. We try to remain open minded, we always like to think we can still get up and go, but we do have the boys’ education to think about, so for the next couple of years we have to stay put; the teenage years are not a good time to uproot.

The island has a very comfortable feel about it and you make it what you want to make it, and it’s not about appearances here. We grew very tired of that; because you never win; there’s always someone who has more than you do. It’s a useless way to pass the years. We left the rat race, but yet, there is competition, there is progress, you still have to succeed on some level, but you do it for yourself and that’s the fundamental essence of it all. You have to fit in with life on Bonaire, Bonaire does not have to fit in with you and... it never will. That’s the key to life on Bonaire.” □



Greta Kooistra

## Cement Truck Turnover



*Concrete Spill at SABEDECO photo montage by Sam Williams*

A loaded ready-mix cement truck turned over at the entrance to Sabedeco Terrace on Monday. The driver was not badly hurt, but several wheelbarrow's full of concrete were spilled on to the road. The fire department was called in to wash it away and torches were used to disassemble the truck so it could be righted. With the acceleration of new construction on Bonaire work-related accidents are increasing. □ *G.D.*

## Picture Yourself With The Reporter Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA



*Jake's Wedding*

On March 10, **Jake Barlass**, son of Scott and Sharon Barlass of Bonaire, married **Jummy Alowonle** in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Jummy's family is from Nigeria and the festivities were attended by over 300 guests including many family and friends from Nigeria, Jake's US Marine Corps brothers from Camp Pendleton, California, and folks with a Bonaire connection. Pictured with *The Bonaire Reporter*, from left to right, are Art and Anna Kleimer, Shelly and Richard Craig, Jummy and Jake Barlass, Norberto Donati and Elizabeth Wigny, Murray and Nadine Rubin, and Sharon and Scott Barlass who are dressed in traditional Nigerian attire provided by Jummy's grandfather, King of the Yoruba people. After a mini-honeymoon in California, Jake deployed for his third tour in Iraq and Jummy is living in Minnesota. Jake is a past winner of *The Reporter's* "Picture Yourself" competition with a photo of a buddy and himself in an Iraq bunker. □

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# BONAIRE SKY PARK\*

\*to find it... just look up

## How to Find Uranus Using Mars as a Finder

Have we ever got something nifty for you to see. In fact three mornings in a row, Saturday, Sunday and Monday, April 28th, 29th and 30th, you'll be able to easily find a planet rarely seen by many stargazers because it's so dim that you really need a bright object close by as a finder. I'm talking about the seventh planet, **Uranus**, and with clear skies and a bit of luck you'll be able to use **Mars** as a super finder.



Artists conception of Uranus, its rings and moons

Now most amateur stargazers have seen the other naked eye planets. In their order out from the **Sun** they are **Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn**. And the reason they're seen easily and often is because they are quite bright against the background of stars.

But Uranus is a different story because it is so incredibly far away. You see, whereas Jupiter is half a billion miles away and Saturn is a billion miles away, Uranus is almost twice as far as Saturn, two billion miles away. And even though it's eight times the diameter of Mars it is still always very dim as seen from Earth, thus the need for a bright planet finder. But it's worth looking for with the naked eye and especially through a pair of binoculars.

This Saturday, April 28th, one hour before sunrise face east where close to the horizon you'll see a reddish gold light which is planet number four, 4,000-mile-wide Mars. And if you've got really clear dark skies right next to it, less than one degree away, which is less than the width of two full Moons side by side, you'll see a faint green light which is Uranus. But let me caution you. It is so dim that it is just on the edge of naked eye visibility, which means you have to have dark skies and really good eyesight. However if you have a pair of binoculars you'll have no problem finding it. In fact you'll be able to compare the difference in color between reddish-gold Mars and faint greenish Uranus. Even so keep in mind that Mars will be 91 times brighter than Uranus.

But if you're clouded out on Saturday, 24 hours later on Sunday the 29th they'll be even closer, only 3/4 of a degree or 1 1/2 full Moons apart. And if Sunday doesn't work for you, on Monday the 30th they'll be only slightly more than one degree or two full Moons apart.

Once again Saturday, Sunday, Monday. And please if you have a pair of binoculars, use them. And if you have a small telescope you'll even be able to see not only the round disc of Mars but the round disc of Uranus. Now because Uranus is so far away it moves much slower in its orbit than does our Earth. In fact it takes Uranus 84 years to make one trip around the Sun. And it's a really weird trip because Uranus is tilted on its side. Plus even though we can't see them from Earth, Uranus has rings like Saturn. So get thee out this weekend with a pair of binoculars or a small telescope for a rare chance to use Mars to find Uranus. □ *Jack Horkheimer*



# THE STARS HAVE IT

Sunday, April 22 to Saturday, April 28

By Astrologer Michael Thiessen

**ARIES** (Mar. 21- April 20) Don't give them the use of your credit card. Family members will not be happy with the amount of time you are spending away from home. You may find yourself in a heated dispute with a friend if you try to change your mind. Don't let your stubborn nature get the better of you. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

**TAURUS** (Apr. 21- May 21) You will be emotional with regard to your personal life. You can convince others to follow suit. Your ability to communicate with ease will win the hearts of those you are in touch with this week. You can expect sorrow to evolve from the information you discover. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

**GEMINI** (May 22-June 21) Do not yield to children or relatives when they really don't deserve it. You will find that unfinished projects at home will be most satisfying. Family trips or projects should be on your mind. Tell it like it is. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22) Try not to let relatives or friends cause any friction with your mate. You can get phenomenal returns if you present your ideas to those who can back your interests. Put some energy into getting back into shape. Listen to reason. You are ahead of your time, and trying to stay in one spot could be asking too much. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug 22) Help others solve their dilemmas. You may find that others do not do things the way you want; however, if the job gets done, let it pass. Problems with in-laws may cause friction in your personal relationship. Avoid disputes with family; their complaints can't change anything anyway. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) Travel will entice you; however, a tendency to overspend is quite possible. Uncertainty regarding your mate may emerge; reevaluate what you see in each other. You will learn a great deal from people with different cultural backgrounds. Purchases will be well worth it and they will last a long time. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) However, you must not neglect your family. You could have a need to make some changes this week. You may be emotional and quick to judge others. Chances to express your ideas and beliefs can bring popularity as long as you're not arrogant. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) When the work is done, they may serve you for a change. Eliminate situations that are no longer to your advantage. Try not to be too lavish with your lover. Your domestic scene could continue to be in an uproar this week. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) Don't overspend to impress others. You could be disillusioned if you let relative in on your emotional thoughts. Do something together and you'll be surprised how sweet a deal you can make. Don't make large purchases unless you have discussed your choices with your mate. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) Don't be critical or overly opinionated with dislikes; it could cause disapproval and unwanted opposition. You can sell your ideas to those who have the money to back them. You may be overreacting to a situation at hand. Invite friends or relatives into your home. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) Don't gamble unless you can afford to lose. Be careful when dealing with investments. Raise your self esteem and your confidence if you want to get back into the mainstream again. You may have been too nice to a friend who just wanted to take advantage of you. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) You may find yourself caught in the middle of an argument that has nothing to do with you. You can make profitable investments if you purchase an art object for your home. You should look into making some physical changes, such as new hair color or toning up your body. Don't be afraid to say what's on your mind. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday. □