

Only \$25
per Year

BONAIRE

October 12-26, 2007; Volume 14, Issue 33

The REPORTER

PO Box 407, Kralendijk, Bonaire - Email: Reporter@bonairenews.com - (599) 786-6125

SINCE 1994

Regatta Time

450 Swim to Klein Bonaire

Pages 3, 8-9



© Jong Bonaire 2007

Photographer: Chrisanta Martha

**The Future of Bonaire
According to Selibon**

Page 7

**Animal
Day**

Page 10

**Special Olympics
Shanghai**

Page 11

**New
Rangers**

Page 13

“A new hospital in Curaçao won’t do Bonaire any good,” said Bonaire’s Public Health Commissioner, Boy Clarenda, after Central Government Public Health-Minister Omayra Leeflang (PAR) visited and announced plans to build new hospitals in Curaçao and St. Maarten because the quality of the care in the current hospitals is in danger. As a key administrator in San Francisco Hospital for many years Clarenda should know.

“Building a new hospital in Curaçao is not a solution for Bonaire’s problems. The biggest problem for Bonaire is that often there’s no bed available in intensive care and/or the neonatal in a Curaçao hospital. The patient must be sent abroad in such cases. Even though it is a regional hospital, building a new one in Curaçao won’t guarantee that Bonaire’s problems are solved. Additionally what Bonaire needs are specialists in internal medicine and a trauma physician.”

► **Isla Refinery presented St. Elisabeth Hospital (Sehos) in Curaçao a check for NAf 6.4 million last Thursday morning for the acquisition of advanced apparatus for the treatment of cancer.** Only Venezuela, Colombia and Mexico have similar equipment. Now cancer patients can get more treatments. Sehos considers this a quantum leap for the entire Antilles, and the Wilhelmina Fund is very happy. The medical costs for sending cancer patients to Venezuela and Colombia are about NAf 12.000 per patient.

► **Fundashon Tene Boneiru Limpi (Keep Bonaire Clean Foundation) together with the garbage pickup company, Selibon, and the Foundation Recycling Bonaire want to make the people aware of the damage that plastic bags are causing**



Education Commissioner Silberie (L.) starts the campaign to eliminate plastic bags.

the environment. They want to do this via the schools. With the support of sponsors they have set up a big campaign to motivate the elementary school children to take plastic bags to school. For each plastic bag that the children bring in they may fill out their personal information then put it in a drum for a chance to win prizes. The idea is for each school to tie the plastic bags together to make a long chain. The campaign started last Monday and will last till December 14th. Selibon will pick up all the plastic bag chains and make a huge ball. The people of Bonaire will be reminded via billboards that many plastic bags get in the natural areas and cause a lot of damage. The organizers want to collect hundreds of thousands of plastic bags and hope to set a world record in the Guinness Book of Records.

► **Commissioner Anthony Nicolaas, who heads the Public Works Department, DROB, is putting pressure on to ensure Bonaire’s sewage project doesn’t get mired down in bureaucracy again.** Last Friday a meeting with all parties concerned was held to firm up details of the project. It is now expected that **construction will begin before the end of next year.** The EU and USONA are involved in the financial admini-



Dennis Lensink photo

► On Thursday, October 4th at 4 am, a ship from Santo Domingo, flying a Panama flag, the *Jenrader*, got too close to shore near Lac Bay. The ship was carrying cement to Bonaire and went aground. After 12 hours two tug boats managed to free it without damage. Even though the ship was having engine problems, the exact cause for the accident is unknown. *Dennis Lensink*

stration and monitoring of the implementation of the project.

Background: In 2001 the need for a sewage system along Bonaire’s waterfront was defined with bipartisan support, but the cost was prohibitive. The EU financed a pre-feasibility study that supported the need for a system to remove waste water from the shorefront area from Hato to Plaza, treat the water to remove bacteria and nutrients, then return the water to commercial waterfront properties to use for irrigation at a price much lower than WEB desalinated water. The plan was completed by April 2002, but it took a year for the EU to approve. Construction was to start in March 2004 but was stalled when environmental protection groups pointed out that treatment to remove coral reef damaging nutrients was no longer in the plan. The project was threatened until inclusion of the treatment reinserted and a complaint lodged with the EU Ombudsman was resolved.

► **How much rain was there earlier this week?** A lot. In Bolivia Plantation 70mm (2.5”) were recorded, in SABADECO 23mm, just under 1”.

► **The old hospital building on Kaya L.D. Gerharts will be restored and raining facilities set up. More than NAf980.000 is available for this.** FORMA will occupy the building in 2008 and will continue with the activities related to mandatory social training, SBO level 1, and other courses, like teaching people how to read and write. The government has appointed the Education and Culture Department (SEK) to lead the project. The school advisory team is made up of representatives of the Mariadal Foundation, FORMA and SEK.

► **Air Jamaica announced it will discontinue service to Bonaire on March 8, 2008.** Air Jamaica made its decision following the announcement that Delta Air lines will begin flying non-stop from Atlanta on February 9, 2008. Air Jamaica was the first airline to provide direct service to Bonaire from multiple US cities following the withdrawal of Bonaire service by Curacao-based airlines. Commissioner Burney el Hage, Commissioner of Tourism for Bonaire said, “We are grateful

(Continued on page 4)

This Week’s Stories

Klein Bonaire Swim	3
AMFO	4
Selibon	5
Envirowatch	
(Trash & Trees)	6
Selibon’s Future Plan	7
Young Chefs to Italy	7
Regatta	8,9
Animal Day	10
Follow & Gismo killed	10
Special Olympics Bonaire in Shanghai	11
Letters (No Anchoring)	13
New Rangers	13
Evert Piar at Rincon	14

WEEKLY FEATURES

Flotsam & Jetsam	2
Sudoku	6
Sudoku Solution	9
Pets of the Week (puppies)	10
Biologist’s Bubbles: (Squid)	12
Picture Yourself With	
The Reporter (Cowes, G.B.)	12
Classifieds	14
Dining & Shopping	
Guides	15
Blue Water news	16
Tide Table	16
Reporter Masthead	16
What’s Happening	17
Sky Park (Jupiter)	18
Stars Have it (October)	18
On The Island Since (Andreina Marciano)	19

Seventh Annual Jong Bonaire Swim To Klein Bonaire

© Jong Bonaire 2007
Photographer: Chrisanta Martha



Rosita Payman from Fit 4 Life ran the warm-up

Ideal conditions, calm seas, little current, light winds all combined made for perfect conditions for Jong Bonaire's biggest fundraiser, the community swim from Eden beach to Klein Bonaire last Sunday. A record 450 persons made the trip, some one-way, some return.

Dozens of individual volunteers and companies added their sponsorship to make the event a huge success. □ G.D.



Visiting yachtswomen and a yachtsman performed safety patrols in dinghies: Crews from yachts Wishful Thinking, Northwind and Heartsong III



© Jong Bonaire 2007
Photographer: Chrisanta Martha

Park Rangers on the Job



The Bonaire Barracuda Swim Club, with their President Lucia Marciano

Flotsam and Jetsam (Continued from page 2)

for the immense support provided by Air Jamaica over the years and regret that the airline decided to discontinue service." Bonaire-US service will be provided by American Airlines/American Eagle from San Juan, Puerto Rico; Continental Airlines from Houston, Texas, and Newark, New Jersey; and Delta Air Lines from Atlanta, Georgia. American Eagle will most likely drop Saturday flights from its daily schedule sometime in January 2008.

► **The Naturalization Test Regulation for the Netherlands Antilles went into effect on October 1.** "With this new regulation, the procedure in the Netherlands Antilles regarding requirements for foreigners who want to obtain Dutch citizenship through naturalization will be changed," the Central Government Information Service stated in a press release.

As of October 1, it will be required that a foreigner pass a written naturalization test consisting of two parts, in addition to all the conditions listed in article 8 of the Kingdom law on Dutch citizenship, before applying for naturalization. In St. Maarten, Saba and St. Eustatius, the naturalization test has to be taken in English, while in **Curaçao and Bonaire it will be in Papiamentu.**

Part one of the naturalization test will examine the applicant's knowledge of the community where he or she lives. Part two is an examination of the foreigner's knowledge and ability to read, speak and write the island's language. When both tests have been taken successfully, the foreigner will receive a certificate authorizing him or her to submit a request for naturalization.

For the first part of the test, an applicant must pay NAf 275 for administrative expenses and for the second part of the test, NAf 225.

The Ministry of Education and Culture will supervise the examinations. When and where the naturalization test can be taken will be published soon, as well as the requirements to apply. Courses will be organized to give foreigners a chance to prepare for the test.

► The new Dutch judge in Curaçao, Frank Spreuwenberg, ordered that **only initials of suspects should be published except when the suspects hold public functions or have committed a crime that shocks society**, like the murder of Theo van Gogh. The ruling applies even if the individual(s) are convicted of the crime! The rationale is that they can appeal and may still be acquitted. Not complying with his rule is invading the privacy of

the person(s) involved. He urged journalists to consider this in view of the privacy of the suspects and convicts. Before the judge was assigned to the Antilean Court, he was press judge in the Breda court.

The judge went so far as to suggest that even if convicted criminals lose all their appeals, only their initials should still be used because people rarely are given life sentences, so they must be allowed to rehabilitate themselves when they come out of prison and not be stigmatized. A lot of people also still don't understand why photos of suspects are made unrecognizable in the newspapers and only their initials are used, while the names of the victims are often published. The argument is that the victims have done nothing wrong and don't need protection.

► **"Pitbull-like dogs" have been outlawed in Curacao.** Effective immediately, the breeding of these dogs is banned and punishable by jail. It's estimated there are 3,000 to 4,000 pitbull-like dogs on the island including cross breeds.

The law was motivated by attacks, sometimes fatal, on human beings. There won't be a massive confiscation, however, owners of pitbull-like dogs have to request an exemption for keeping their dog for as long as the animal lives. The owner must carry the exemption with him at all times, when walking the dog. Dogs with no exemption will be taken away from the owners and put to sleep. A NAf 5,000 fine will be imposed on the owner, or two-month imprisonment. The owner must also have a proper fence to make sure that the dog cannot get out. There are 39 features to determine whether a dog is pitbull-like or not.

► In what is likely to be the biggest takeover deal in the Caribbean in recent times, **Royal Bank of Canada (RBC) is taking over the Royal bank of Trinidad and Tobago (RBTT)** in an acquisition worth well over US\$2 billion. The RBC buyout is a mix of cash and stock.

► **Crew members of the Windjammer cruise liner, Polynesia, which often calls in Bonaire, are stranded in Aruba because the ship was "arrested."** Red Cross Aruba is asking for \$15,000 in donations to send the crew home. After having been without electricity and water on board the schooner for 30 days, the 31 crewmembers were taken to a Red Cross shelter. The ship is attached due to payment arrears and the crew has not been paid for a while. All the four schooners of the shipping company are chained and the owners have not managed to come up with the money to pay their debts. The crewmembers



► AMFO continues to position itself as the prime grant giver of Dutch poverty-fighting funds to the Antilles, but it appears that the help is not reaching the people because of AMFO's strict guidelines and secrecy. Last month we reported that an oft repeated subsidy for Bonaire hospitality students was refused. (See "Thank you from the students to the private sponsors" on page 6)

Last week top AMFO administrators, Director Stanley Betrian and Supervisory Board President Sybilla Dekker, visited St. Maarten, but none of the 86 requests that island made under the new AMFO procedures were ready to be financed, they said. The list included such respected organizations such as The Ark

are from Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, and St. Vincent. The Windjammer ships were regular visitors to Bonaire.

► **The Central Government can act against ships registered in the Netherlands Antilles that fish illegally in international waters.** They can be warned, fined and, if necessary, taken off the ships' registry, Transport Minister Maurice Adriaens said. According to the international environmental organization, Greenpeace, ships sailing under a flag of convenience from the Netherlands Antilles have been fishing tuna illegally in the Pacific.

► A World Tourism Confederation report highlights the fact that **tourism is one of the world's biggest industries, contributing 11% of the world's GDP**, providing a means of livelihood to millions and transporting nearly 700 million international visitors every year. ► **"Dengue fever is spreading across Latin America and the Caribbean in one of the worst outbreaks in decades**, causing agonizing joint pain for hundreds of thousands of people and killing nearly 200 so far this year. The mosquitoes that carry dengue are thriving in expanded urban slums scattered with water-collecting trash and old tires. Experts say dengue is approaching record levels this year as many countries enter their wettest months," said Dr. Jose Luis San Martin, head of anti-dengue efforts for the Pan American Health Organization. Locally residents of Bonaire can elimi-



Foundation, Ujima Foundation and the Dutch Quarter Community After School Program.

However, Dekker said that the projects were important for AMFO. "Our goal is combating poverty involving especially youth and youngsters, as well as social projects for the elderly and handicapped."

The Netherlands, as the donor to AMFO, withdrew its financing in 2005 because it was not satisfied with aspects of its operation. A new committee was named and during 2006 it worked on a new setup.

AMFO was re-launched in April 2007. To date hundreds of thousands of guilders have been spent on administration and administrator salaries but relatively little to the poor.

Upon its restart a new AMFO supervisory board was installed

with Dekker (a former Dutch Minister of Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment) as President, along with Louis Santini Jr., Alba Martijn, and Marva Richardson. The headquarters of AMFO were moved to Curaçao from Bonaire. NAf 23 million per year has been allocated to AMFO to be divided proportionately among the islands of the Netherlands Antilles. It was reported that only two Bonaire projects, out of the dozens submitted, were receiving AMFO support. G.D.

► **No premature babies are being admitted to the Neonatal ward of St. Elisabeth Hospital in Curaçao** since last Friday, because the infectious bacteria *Serratia Marcescens*, which was discovered last month and cleanup is still not completed. Three babies got skin infections, but the bacteria didn't lead to internal infections, said hospital director Dr. Douglas Pinedo. Normally there is room for 17 premature babies between 26 and 34 weeks in the ward.

► Not quite in time for Animal Day (see page 10) but significant nevertheless, **this Tuesday was the first time a case has come up in court on the island accusing someone of animal abuse.** The case concerns two horses. More information when available.

► **Fundashon Softball Team Nrd Braves invite you** to the 6th Dutch Caribbean Ladies Softball Tournament and the 2nd Challenge Cup, Mr. Bug, for Men.

Games start at La Sonrisa Ballpark in Tera Cora, Thursday, October 11, at 7 pm, and on Friday, October 12, at 2:30 pm. Opening ceremonies will be at 7 pm on Friday, October 12. The first pitch will be by Commissioner Mr. Anthony Nicolaas. Games will continue on Saturday, October 13 at 10 am. Ladies Finals will be at 5:30 pm. The games on October 14 start at 11am with the Men's finals at 5:15pm.

Ladies teams have players from Aruba, Curaçao and Bonaire. The men's teams will have



Sephos photo
Dutch State Secretary for Kingdom Relations, Ank Bijleveld-Schouten, and AMFO Director Stanley Betrian sign the AMFO "contract."

players from Curaçao, Bonaire and Boston, US. Softball Tournament 2007 will honor two outstanding people who support softball here on Bonaire in every sense: Mr. John Nicolaas, who will be honored for the 6th Dutch Caribbean Ladies Softball Tournament, and Mr. Juvenal Merced for the 2nd Challenge Cup Mr. Bug.

We warmly invite you to come and enjoy these international softball games. If you have any questions you can contact Tournament Coordinator Edsel Pieter

at 796-0406 or 700-5447. WWW.NRDBraves.com. -Edsel Pieter, public relations

► **Casablanca Restaurant has an email newsletter, the Casablanca News.** If you received it you'd have known of the 10% off the menu prices on this Regatta Monday and Tuesday. See their ad on the back page. □ G/L.D.



► **Errata:** In the last edition of *The Reporter* (September 28-October 12) we neglected to give photo

(Continued on page 5)

Flotsam and jetsam (Conti. from page 4)
credit to **Sigfried Molina** who
took the excellent photos for
the **Skol di Musika** article.
Thanks a million, Sigfried!

► **The situation at Bonaire's garbage landfill and the dumping of cesspool water at LVV (Agricultural Extension Service) has gotten the attention of Bonaire's government.** "The entire world can see on the Internet what is being done with garbage and waste water in Bonaire. We need to find a solution soon," says new Selibon Director, Jonchi Dortalina. "We have to make sure that Bonaire maintains its reputation as the cleanest island in the Caribbean. We are going to take care of that." Five months ago *The Bonaire Reporter* was the first to post the address of the YouTube video clip http://youtube.com/watch?v=gttD4_FvC0c made by *MegaFM* newscaster Sean Pe-ton and ScubaVision's Hendrik Wuyts which has been viewed by thousands. While much of the liquid waste comes from the visiting cruise ship, *Free-winds*, local septic tank and cesspit water is dumped there too.

"The government's policy for picking up household and commercial waste is part of the Environmental Policy Plan 2003-2007," indicated Environmental Commissioner Anthony Nicolaas, chairman of the board of Selibon. "This plan will be adjusted and actualized. The policy focuses mainly on prevention, recycling and the responsible disposing of what is no longer usable. This way, a waste dump can be used for a much longer time." The policy plan has three ways to make this happen: laws and supervision, treatment installations, and provision of information. Nicolaas says that the Environmental Police have been acting more severely against violators of the Island Ordinance on Waste. The activities of the anti-pollution squad will be further increased. A process was started to recycle glass. A scale will be placed at the dump. There will be information campaigns to emphasize the policy. There is a cooperation agreement with the Dutch municipality of Breda to separate hazardous waste from other waste. The Environment Department of DROB and Selibon will do the project. "Selibon made a profit of NAf 575.000 in the first seven months of 2007, while the projection was only NAf 200.000," said Dortalina. *G.D. and BVO*



Pauline Kayes pphoto

Oil sludge and sewage combine in the "ponds" at LVV

Envirowatch Trash and Trees

A concerned resident sent this photo of trash dumped along Kaminda Broertje Janga (the lower "back road" to Rincon past SABADECO). The material apparently comes from an old repair shop (they kindly left a picture of the old shop so they could be traced) and was dumped on September 20 or 21. There are tires, cabinets, trash and more things. The sticker on the glass panes say 'patriotic,' but dumping this is not very patriotic at all! Selibon was called, they said they will sent somebody over to have a look and remove the trash.



This stately old flowering cedar tree on Kaya Grandi, which shaded the sidewalk and the building behind the Protestant Church was unceremoniously hacked down by a backhoe/loader last week. Was there any attempt to relocate it? Aren't old trees considered a treasure on Bonaire? How many years ago was this venerable tree planted and how long did it take to reach this size? Surely more years than the age of the machine operator.
□ L.D.



DO YOU SUDOKU?

Sudoku means "the digits must remain single" in Japanese. To solve the puzzle, enter the numbers 1 through 9 to the partially filled in puzzle without repeating a number in any row, column or 3 x 3 region. For a tutorial visit the web site www.Sudoku.shack.com. Solution on page 9.

Supplied by Molly Bartikoski-Kearney (who has to solve all the puzzles first.)

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

SGB students to Italy

Thanks to all the sponsors,
Who were there for us
When we most needed
them.

Also a **BIG** thanks
to Sara and Ruud.

Masha
Danki!!!

The Future of Bonaire- According to Selibon

On Friday, September 28th, Selibon, Bonaire's waste management company, called a conference to make some announcements. The new director of Selibon, ex-Commissioner Jonchi Dortalina, has come to the same conclusion as have many people around the world: you cannot continue filling up the "lèntfel" (the garbage dump). Also, the wastewater dump at LVV needs to be addressed. Selibon's answers to these problems are waste prevention and the separation of garbage. Together with "Tene Boneiru Limpi" (Keep Bonaire Clean) and "Stichting Recycle Bonaire" Selibon is starting two projects to help the reduction of garbage of Bonaire.



Maritsa Silberie, the Commissioner of Education.

The director of Stichting Recycle Bonaire, Wesley Chirino, explained that we the public, following the restaurants' example, can also start collecting glass. The public will be able to do their shopping and recycle at the same time. Big red containers will be placed at the supermarkets to receive your glass deposits. For this you can get a special bag made for carrying your glass and your groceries. Selibon will be sending information folders to every house on Bonaire. When you bring this folder to the Selibon office, you can get the bag for free.

Selibon is not only concentrating on these projects, but they are already thinking ahead. Mr. Dortalina said that in the near future more types of garbage may be collected separately like plastic bottles, paper/cardboard, wood and concrete. At this point there is only talk of the separation of garbage. What to do when we have the glass, wood, paper and concrete in different heaps on the lèntfel is still unclear. One of the options is to crush the glass to turn it into sand for building houses.

According to the new director of Tene Boneiru Limpi, Mr. Juny Janga, Bonaire is considered to be the cleanest island of the Caribbean by the tourists. Luckily, Selibon is trying to make Bonaire even more beautiful! □ *Mary Ann Koops*

Mary Ann Koops is a biology teacher at the SGB high school. Welcome, Mary Ann, to the Bonaire Reporter editorial staff.

The primary schools are starting a project which is expected to yield a lot of plastic bags and maybe even set a new world record. The children are encouraged to collect as many plastic bags as they can find (there are prizes to win). All the bags from one school will be knotted to form a long chain. All the chains from all the schools will be wound into a large ball, maybe the biggest "plastic-bag-ball" in the world: a new world record? This project starts now and ends December 14th of this year.

The children will get a small booklet, made by Lucia Martines Beck, with information about plastic. They are encouraged to take it home for their parents to read it as well. The booklet is called, *Sushi di Plèstik* (garbage of plastic) and the first issue was presented to



Redusí Reusá
Resikiá

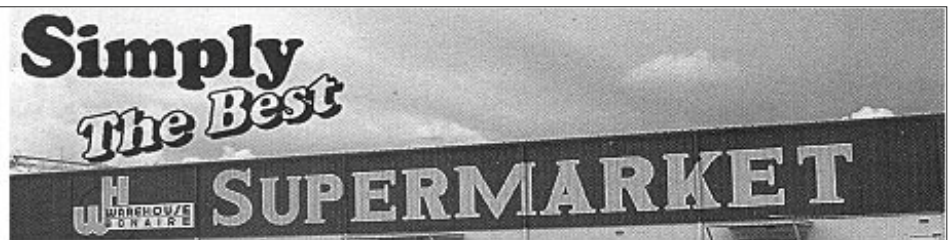
Young Chefs Off To Italy



This last Sunday a delegation of six culinary students (young chefs) from the SGB high school, with their teacher Liz Rijna (left), left for a three-week training program in Italy. Thanks to all who contributed to make this trip possible, especially to Maarten Maartense for his cooperation and support. The students are: Jobinella Winklaar, Robertico

Bernabela, Samantha Clarinda, Norison Conquet, Elvienne St. Jago, Derrick Piar. Also shown is sponsor Maarten Maartense (rear). We all wish the group much success in Italy. □ *Ann Leong*

See thank you from the students on page 6.



BONAIRE'S LARGEST AND BEST STOCKED SUPERMARKET
ALWAYS: FRESH FRUIT, VEGETABLES, DAIRY, BREAD AND MEAT



WAREHOUSE BONAIRE

Open:
Mon-Fri: 8-6
Sat. 8am-1pm
NONSTOP

Stadium
Kaya C.F. Croes
Kaya Industria
Kaya Industria
WAREHOUSE BONAIRE
Lisa Gasstation
Road to Airport →
← To town Abraham Boulevard

Kaya Industria 24, Kralendijk, Bonaire
Tel.: +(599) 7178700 • Fax: +(599) 7178785
info@warehousebonaire.com • www.warehousebonaire.com

40th Annual Regatta Is Underway



Herman van Leuween photo

Action at the start was muted by the light winds

Light winds at the start followed by a fierce electric storm and torrential downpour marked the start of the 2007 Bonaire Regatta, in its 40th year, making it the oldest in the Caribbean.

Here are 209 entries, including 31 yachts, the largest number in five years, making this the third biggest Regatta ever. We will have a Regatta wrap-up in the next edition.

This year's Bonaire Regatta is dedicated to the Lions Club for

all their service to the community and their involvement in Regatta's early years. The organization was founded in Bonaire in 1962 and they continue to help with projects concerning the elderly, the young people, health, the Red Cross and even buried a time capsule.

The very attractive logo and poster design this year is by Viktor Wijnand, a past Bonaire resident, who is also the Regatta's webmaster. Viktor, now living in Curacao, always returns to help



In the Parade of Nations the island nation of Trinidad and Tobago was beautifully represented by Diedre Pedersen and Daniela Bissessar

out during Regatta.

Elvis Martinus and Byron Tromp, friends since childhood,

are the spearheads and organizers of the past Regattas, Elvis for the last 15 years. He and Byron have

been working together for the last 10 years. They've been putting on Regattas that keep getting bigger and better every year. Helping them out this year are over 100 volunteers.

Byron reminisced the other evening after the press conference at Regatta House. From 1993 he was the Regatta festival director, then in 1998 became the General Coordinator.

Some of the first Regattas were organized by his dad, Nikki Tromp, during the 70s out of Flamingo Beach.

Then they moved to the Bonaire Beach (a.k.a. Sunset Beach), then to Plaza in 95, 96, 97, during which Judy Diaz, Elvis' half sister, was one of the organizers



Byron Tromp



Elvis Martinus

(Continued on page 9)

40th Annual Regatta Is Underway

Regatta (Continued from page 8) (93-97). "Then in 1998 we moved back to Sunset Beach," Byron says. "We called it going back home." However, that didn't last long as Sunset Beach Hotel was failing and hadn't paid their WEB bill for so long that WEB threatened to cut the electricity and water. The Regatta committee begged them to hold off until after Regatta, which they did. A few hours after Regatta WEB cut the power and Sunset and "went from a 'Host Hotel' to a 'Ghost Hotel,'" says Byron.

The Regatta officially began following the All Nations Parade, a blocks-long march of 22 groups of the island's foreign-born residents. People from more than 45 countries call Bonaire home.

The waterfront was packed with people sampling the food and games and shopping for bargains. The sailing Regatta and the Festival will continue through Friday. Lots of youngsters are on the street since school is out in both Bonaire and Curacao.

Have a great time and be sure to see the free live performance of soul pioneer George McCrae on Friday night! □

L./G. D.



Caribbean Homes Donates 13 Sails to the Optimist Fleet

The bright new sails given to the Bonaire Sailing School Association. Sailing School President David van Delft with Caribbean Homes' Rene and Gisela and some of the sailing kids.

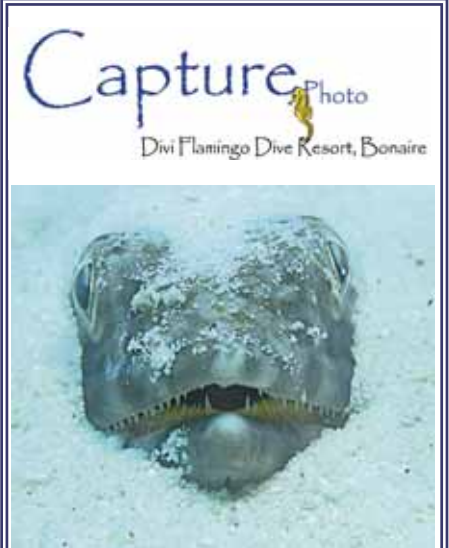
Rene and Gisela of Caribbean Homes saw a need and decided to fill it. "We want to do something for the children on the island," Rene says, "and when we heard that the Bonaire Sailing School needed new sails for their Optimists we decided to provide them." The sails were made in Holland but getting them here to Bonaire in time for Regatta posed a problem. "But," Rene continues, "we knew some KLM pilots and they agreed to transport them with the help of some of the flight attendants." All the sails arrived a week ago and it's taken this time to rig them, about half a day per boat. The kids are thrilled, especially since their sailing speed has been increased with new flat sails. At a little ceremony last Friday the kids, their parents, sailing coaches and friends toasted the new colorful sails with the Caribbean Homes logo. □ L.D.



Extra Photo

Thanks to Ronald Gravenstijn (left), owner of the Caribbean Club Bonaire, the Bonaire Sailing School Association received four *Splash* class boats. This class sailing boat is designed for sailors age 12 to 18 and is a bridge between the Optimist class for younger sailors and the Sunfish for older ones. □L.D.

Bonaire Lions 2007 with Elvis and Byron. In the early days, Larry Thielgard (not pictured), Captain Don's boat partner in the first Regatta, led the Lions in organizing the early events and helped make Regatta a Bonaire institution.



Capture Photo
Divi Flamingo Dive Resort, Bonaire

Sand Diver

Gotcha!

"...capturing your memories, one at a time"

Capture Photo
J.A. A braham Blvd. 40
Kralendijk
717-6151
capturecaribbean.com



SOLUTION TO DO YOU SUDOKU?

Puzzle on page 6

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

Animal Day -2007



Shelter Staff – some new, some old timers: Tineke, Monique, Marlies and Kenneth

Animal Day at the Shelter

It's hard to imagine a world without animals, especially those that are companions to man. Especially to recognize these friends of man on Bonaire, World Animal Day was celebrated last Thursday with an open house at the Bonaire Animal Shelter with volunteers, visitors, both two-legged and four-legged joining the "residents." Some Shelter dog "alumni" were brought in by their new owners, "just to show them off," one lady owner explained. A group from the FKPD (handicapped center) turned into smiling, happy people when they got to hold some of the puppies and

get licked in response. Dogs got washed, cats got groomed, nails got trimmed and pet owners chose from a vast array of Shelter tee-shirts, dog and cat toys, dog cookies, leashes, collars and other pet accessories. Thanks to a lot of donations from Bonaire Talk members the Shelter will now be selling these pet items on a regular basis. And of course all the proceeds go to the Shelter. Spirits were high and all the pet residents responded to the attention by wagging tails and jumping for joy. Thanks to the Shelter staff – Marlies, Monique, Tineke and Kenneth – for putting together a happy Animal Day celebration. □

L.D.



Angela experiences true Puppy Love

Follow and Gismo - Our Dogs Forever



Dive Friends Bonaire (Yellow Submarine & Photo Tours Divers) would like to share something with you. With deep sadness we want to express our grief for the departure of our beloved dogs, "Follow" and "Gismo." Most of you will remember them as the brown and the black dog strolling on the boulevard. Follow and Gismo were, for most of us, loved in Playa. Follow was the relaxed one and Gismo liked to tease. They liked running after cars and bicycles, but they'd never bite. They were like glue, always together during the day at Yellow Submarine, were they felt safe and loved. At night they were always seen at the restaurants and bars in town, never begging but always receiving some leftovers. They were deliberately killed by someone - by a coward - someone who has no respect for animals, no respect for people - someone who doesn't know respect. We are shocked and speechless that this happened and could happen. We cannot believe that someone was capable of doing this. This cruel, only a human can be. □

For Dive Friends Bonaire, Gerrie Fokke

Pets of The Week



Puppies, puppies and more puppies at the Bonaire Animal Shelter. It's puppy season again and the dog population at the Shelter is exploding. In one week alone 25 pups were dropped off. It's nice to have a lot of dogs to choose from, but not every one gets taken home by someone. You can help to prevent this overpopulation of unwanted puppies. **Donate to the Shelter Sterilization fund, MCB Account #10616410.** Any amount will be appreciated. And if you know someone who doesn't have the extra cash to have their pet sterilized, tell them to contact the Shelter. That's what the fund is for. Shown above are some of the candidates who've made it to adoptive status. All the rollicking cuties in this photo are about 3 1/2 months old; they've been examined by the vet, wormed, given their shots, are considered "social," and they'll be sterilized when they're old enough. Stop by and see for yourself. You can't find better or healthier pets! The Shelter on the Lagoon Road has extended their hours and is now open Monday through Saturday, 8 am to 1 pm and 3 pm to 5 pm. Tel. 717-4989. □

L..D.

S. O. Team Winning In Shanghai

As we go to press the Special Olympics 2007 in Shanghai is winding down. Bonaire proudly sent 14 athletes as well as coaches, officials and chaperones. The event, from October 2 to 11, saw a record 7,291 athletes from 164 countries. They participated in 21 different sport games and the ages of the athletes range from eight to 69 years. This was the first time that the games were held in Asia. This week the Games were threatened by Typhoon Krosas, but precautions were taken to move certain venues to safer places. On Tuesday several events were postponed as gale force winds hit the area.

Prior to the actual Special Olympics opening each of the teams was hosted by a town where the athletes could get acclimatized, practice and enjoy the warm hospitality of the local people.

During the games themselves all the athletes are eligible for

the Healthy Athletes program where they have free medical checkups. Our athletes benefited from this program in the last Olympics in Ireland in 2003. They got, among other things, glasses, and dental work done.

So far Bonaire's athletes have won **six Gold and five Bronze medals.**

The team, coaches and supporters return on Sunday, October 14, on the KLM from Holland at 3:20 am.

A final listing of all the awards and the closing ceremony will be in the next issue of *The Reporter*.



In Shanghai

Bonaire's Special Olympic Athletes and Coaches

Tennis:

Athletes: Urnix Martijn, Winella St Hilaire

Coach: Robert Domacassé

Bowling:

Athletes: Natiana Nicolina, Lucille Soliana, Johnny Hellmund, Omar Leonica

Coach: Elske Lucia

Bocce:

Athletes: Rodilio Weef, Rev-elino Engelhart, Selvine Offerman, Joanne Albertsz

Coach: Arlene Engelhart

Athletics:

Athletes: Marion Melaan, Patrick Bernabela

Coach: Glenn (Earon)

Rosario

Aquatics:

Athletes: Jean Pierre

Winklaar, Jurney Mar

Coach: Archibald Martijn □

L.D.

Picture Yourself With The Reporter Cowes, Great Britain



Here are Sue and Wil Heemskerk (from Wil's Gril) with part time Bonaire resident Edward Leask on his beautiful yacht, *Magical*, sailing around near Cowes, Isle of Wight, England. They were there celebrating Edward's 60th birthday with his friends and family. The funny thing is they forgot *The Bonaire Reporter* ashore. But Edward was able to connect to the Internet and print out the front page of the *Reporter* from the yacht's on-board computer! Edward's family and friends are looking forward to competing in the Bonaire Regatta aboard the day sailor *Elia Rosa*. □

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*, Box 407, Bonaire, Netherlands Antilles (AN). E-mail to: picture@bonairereporter.com. (All 2007 photos are eligible.)

Bubbles from the Biologist

SQUID GUARDS Did You Know...

Squid protect their gals? A friend of mine from Austria was diving here last month and had an amazing encounter with some Caribbean Reef Squid, *Sepiotheutis sepioidea*. He witnessed a large female poking her head repeatedly under a crevice in the coral rock. After a while, he looked into the crevice and there were egg capsules. The mama squid anchored each egg capsule (which had hundreds of eggs each) to the underside of a rock within the hole. What's even more interesting is that two large squid were above the female during her egg-laying and they came together three times. My friend was convinced that he had witnessed squid mating until he got home and read Dr. Roger Hanlon's book, *Cephalopod Behavior*. It wasn't mating, but mate-guarding! Two males battling over the female. After my friend sent an e-mail to the author, Dr. Hanlon wrote, "Those males were fighting over the female. More specifically, one of the males was paired temporarily with the female, and he was 'mateguarding' her. That is, he had mated her very recently and was protecting his investment...not letting another male near her so that his sperm would get preference for fertilizing the eggs being laid." Experiences like these won't happen if you're speeding along – you need a good buddy who is prepared to hang in one spot if you encounter something out of the ordinary. □ *Caren Eckrich*



Markus Taurer photo

Biologist Caren Eckrich teaches Coral Reef Ecology and Scientific Diving to American University students at the CIEE Research Station Bonaire. She's also the Director of Sea & Discover, a marine education center offering interactive learning programs to kids and adults. You can reach her at 717-5322 .



What Do You Have to Say?

Guest
Opinions

Letters to
the Editor

NO ANCHORS PLEASE

In regard to the article "New Port Facilities" published on page 7 of *The Reporter* issue of September 14 – 28, I would like to make the following remarks:

The Bonaire National Marine Park (BNMP) has been notified by the acting Harbour Master of the decision to anchor 10 cruise ships in a letter dated September 9, 2007.

The fact is that the BNMP has never been consulted nor participated in any survey to identify possible places to anchor, although the communication channels and cooperation between the BNMP and the Port Authority have always been excellent. The BNMP is always willing to help, advise and seek solutions for problems involving the protection of our marine environment.

The BNMP is totally against the decision to anchor cruise ships or any other ships either within or outside the boundaries of the protected area.

Anchoring is a very well documented damaging practice and the impact of this decision will be very negative for the reefs.

Ramon de Leon
Bonaire National Marine Park Manager



North pier plan

ADVICE TAKEN

As the North pier expansion will be ready for the next cruise ship season 2008-2009, the harbormaster was given the task of finding the best solution for all parties concerned in the upcoming 2007-2008 season. The Harbormaster of Bonaire runs the harbor and its activities under the direction of the Island Government of Bonaire. In our capacity as 'managers', the TCB consults with and report the recommendations of experts from various fields such as: port development, port security, marine conservation and engineering. We also meet with tourism professionals in both the diving and cruise tourism industry as our economy is almost wholly based on the tourism industry. Decisions are made in keeping with expert consultations, and it is the responsibility of the Harbormaster to put into action these decisions.

In regard to the upcoming season and the issues surrounding the handling of the second cruise ship in port, we have been examining six possible scenarios. Of the six possibilities available to our port, it has been decided that the **port of Bonaire will place the second ship in a drift position** while ferrying passengers to the pier.

Of the 79 calls to Bonaire this season, nine will involve a drift vessel. Cruise ships will be informed and guided by the Harbour Master as to how to place the ship in drift position.

New Park Rangers



Gregory La Croes, Karel Rosaria and Duvan Rios moved up from Assistant Ranger to Ranger, announced Elsmarie Beukenboom, Director of STINAPA. The Rangers completed numerous courses including PADI Rescue Diver, First Aid, Basic Mechanics, Computer Operation, Navigation, Radio Operation, Public Speaking, Basic Geology and Biology, Ecology, History and the Biology of Washington/Slagbaai and Marine National Parks as well as STINAPA information, to win the respected position of Park Ranger. Governor Herbert Domacassé and STINAPA's president, Evo Cicilia, were on hand for the promotions. □ *Press release*

As well, the cruise line will receive information to distribute to the passengers regarding Bonaire's protected environment, including the Marine Park rules. Selibon will be asked to provide extra trash bins to facilitate trash collection and removal.

We appreciate your concern and hope that this answers any questions you may have had.

Ronella Croes, Director, Tourism Corporation Bonaire

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

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

Commercial Ads only NAf1 per word, for each two week issue.
Call 786-6518 or 786-6125 or email info@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.

IS YOUR 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 & Janet). 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

Searching For GOOD Maid Service?

For Quality House Cleaning
CALL JRA

Serving Bonaire for more than 14 years
Honest, Reliable, Efficient, Thorough,
Low rates, References. One time or many
Phone 785-9041 ... and relax.

LUNCH TO GO

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

OUTDOOR SPORTS



Rock climbing/Rapelling/
Abseilen Every Saturday.
Call Outdoor Bonaire 791-
6272 / 785-6272

JELLASTONE PETPARK

Pet boarding / Dierenpension
Day and night care. Phone 786-4651

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!



Want to build or modernize? Work with a serious professional with experience, a good organization providing quick delivery and quality. Try us:

Quality On Time Construction NV.

We can do foundations, concrete, plaster, brick, carpentry and more.

Phone 796-6550

CONETAL CLEANING

SERVICE- NEW ON BONAIRE for HOTELS -

HOMES -APARTMENTS -

OFFICES

Services : check out, deep clean, retouch, ironing, washing, garden cleaning, landscaping
FLEXIBLE SERVICE, QUALITY CLEANING, EXPERIENCED CLEANERS Call: 796-6550

WANTED

Scuba Vision Nature films seeks Vietnamese Translator to translate from Vietnamese to English or to Dutch.

Will pay you for your work, call Hendrik Wuyts, 717-2844

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.

MAKE EXTRA MONEY

Reporters and feature writers wanted for *The Reporter*. Get paid by the word and for your photos. Stories waiting to be written. Send a sample of your writing to: info@bonairereporter.com or call George 786-6125

Marshé Rincon Honors Evert Piar



Evert Piar receives a scroll from Rincon

One of Rincon's favorite sons, Director of MCB Bank Bonaire, Evert Piar, was feted at a special ceremony last Saturday at the Rincon Marshé to celebrate his 40th anniversary of working for the Bank.



Doya and Evert Piar, mother and son

Illustrious and not so illustrious citizens gathered to honor the popular and well respected Piar. Speaking and in the audience were the Governor of the Antilles, Fritz Goederdrag, (another Rinconero), Lt. Governor Herbert Domacassé, Evert's mother, Doya, his sisters, MCB's Rudolf (Rudy) Gomez, Danilo and Heleen Christiaan of the Mangazina di Rei, Petra Cicilia of the Plataforma Rincon, Carmita, Baby and Maritza of the Rincon Marshé organization, Carmen Goeloe from Cocari (club for the elderly) and many others. Evert, known as Evie, started working at the MCB Bank as a teller in 1967. According to Orphaline Saleh, "He is a man of the people. He's very much his own man with strong values and a sense of responsibility for the community in which he lives." Piar has supported numerous charitable organizations on the island: FKPD (handicapped organization), 60 plus clubs for the elderly, Special Olympics, Rotary Club. As well he founded many; Jaycees, AKIB, Bankers Association, etc. etc.!

It is obvious he is much loved as a large crowd gathered on the stage to congratulate him after the ceremony. □ L.D.

CARIBBEAN CHANDLERIES

BUDGET MARINE



Budget Marine Bonaire is looking for a part time employee.

Must have excellent communications skills, comfortable with computers, able to lift and move merchandise. Knowledge of boats is a big plus, must be willing and able to learn about products.

Phone: 717-3710. Email: Bonaire@budgetmarine.com

Home Inspections

Know what you're buying

Over 25 years building experience

Frans Roefs 786-5329
Kaya P.N. Antonio Neumann #11
neptuneconstruction@hotmail.com



DINING GUIDE

See advertisements in this issue

RESTAURANT	PRICE RANGE / WHEN OPEN	FEATURES
Balashi Beach Bar Bar and Beach Service At the Divi Flamingo Beach Resort Waterfront	Open every day 8am - 8pm. Happy Hour, two for one, 6-7 pm.	On the beach Extensive snack/salad/burger menu available daily from noon.
Bella Vista Restaurant, Buddy's Pool Bar Sea Side 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	Buddy's Magnificent Theme Nights: Sat. - Steak Night; Mon. - "Dive and Dine;" Wed. - "Live Cooking by the Chefs;" Fri. - Free Rum Punch Party (5:30-6:30 pm) and All-u-can-eat BBQ for \$19.50 (7-10 pm)
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 to 10 pm	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
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	Biggest BBQ Buffet on Bonaire every Saturday from 6-9pm. Only NAf 28 or \$15.75.
Casablanca Argentinean Restaurant One block south of the Post Office 717-4433	Moderate Lunch Tues-Sat—11:30-2:30 Dinner 7 nights— starting at 6 pm	Indulge your whim—beef seafood, chicken, vegetarian Mondays—All you can eat and special slide shows starting at 6 pm Great value anytime.
Hilltop Restaurant At the Caribbean Club Bonaire—on the scenic Rincon Road 717-7901	Moderate Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner	Bar-Restaurant poolside—in Bonaire's hill country Frequent Dinner Specials Happy hours 5 to 6 daily, to 7 on Tuesday BBQ night.
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 780-1111
The Bonaire Windsurfing Place At Sorobon Beach Get away from it all. 717-5091, 717-2288	Low-Moderate Open from 10am-6 pm daily,	A genuine sandy beach restaurant cooled by the trade winds Top quality food and friendly service. Reserve for the Wednesday Beach BBQ.

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 bikes, scooters and quads. Professional repairs on 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

Interiours—(formerly 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. Now in new expanded location off Kaya Industria.

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, rapelling/abseilen and more reservations : 791-6272 or 785-6272 E-mail : hans@outdoorbonaire.com

PHOTO FINISHING

Paradise Photo in the Galleries Shopping Center downtown 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. Full service dive shop and photo shop too.

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.**

SKIN CARE

Curaçao Aloe... Fantastic products for your skin and body. Hand picked and manufactured in Curaçao. Available at many shops on Bonaire.

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:

Put your ad in *The Bonaire Reporter*.

Tel. 786-6518, 786-6125

Email: reporter@bonairenews.com

Did you know that listing in the Guides is FREE for every-issue advertisers?

CLEAR BLUE WATER NEWS

BONAIRE'S REEF-WATER QUALITY PROJECT

The quality of the water covering Bonaire's reefs may be the most important issue facing our island at the present time. It certainly ranks with the successful "Save Klein Bonaire" campaign of several years ago. Fortunately, the political situation, with the proposed new alignment with Holland, seems to be moving in the right direction. The new commitment to alternative methods of power generation should reduce our dependence on fossil fuel and will surely reduce our carbon dioxide emissions to the atmosphere. Now we must address the preservation of our prime natural resource, the **reef environment**, which is the source of income to fund the island's tenuous economic future.

Although the recent announcement that a sewage system to remove sewage waste water from the heavily populated shoreline zones and its associated infrastructure will be built, it's not until 2012 that the system will be operational

Light and Motion Sensor Program (LSMP)
Earlier this year, on May 28, a pilot program to establish a cost effective, long term reef water monitoring system was proposed and a pilot monitor was placed in the water at a site off Klein Bonaire to test the hardware and procedures needed to record and track the chemistry of the surrounding seawater. It is still there and the data produced has led to the decision to place numerous arrays of these sensors along the leeward coast of Bonaire, from Lighthouse Point to 1000 Steps. The test has also led the scientists to enhance the system with a multi-function array called "Rainbow Sensors."

The "Rainbow Sensor" arrays, consisting of 3 sensors each at depths of 5, 12 and 20 meters, are being placed at various intervals along the coast on independent underwater mooring lines. The sensors use advanced optics and temperature to monitor the seawater. Readings are continuously recorded every 8 minutes by each sensor. To keep costs manageable, a volunteer diver must visit each array every 7 days for cleaning and data retrieval. To date, all arrays are being serviced by volunteers. All the money for the hardware was donated by concerned individuals.



An LSMP sensor

This past week another Rainbow Sensor Array was deployed south of the business center. It started recording data on Friday, October 5 at 16:00Hrs. Our new service volunteer, Irene da Cunda, will be taking care of weekly cleaning and data retrieval. Thanks, Irene, for your help in this important project.

We Need Your Help
To continue the deployment of the sensor arrays, the LSMP needs additional dedicated volunteers and more donations. For specific information and to make a donation contact Albert Bianculli at: directab@gmail.com.

Last week Lynn and Todd Fulks, donated \$150 for a single array they named "Blue Marine." □ Albert Bianculli

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
10-12	13:22	1.8FT.	23:21	.0FT.					78
10-13	0:23	0.9FT.	13:56	1.8FT.					77
10-14	1:19	0.8FT.	14:36	1.8FT.					74
10-15	1:58	0.8FT.	15:24	1.8FT.					70
10-16	2:31	0.7FT.	16:08	1.8FT.					64
10-17	2:59	0.7FT.	17:04	1.8FT.					58
10-18	3:28	0.8FT.	17:53	1.8FT.					51
10-19	3:46	0.8FT.	18:46	1.8FT.					45
10-20	3:56	0.9FT.	19:40	1.7FT.					43
10-21	4:00	1.0FT.	10:14	1.4FT.	13:49	1.3FT.	20:29	1.7FT.	47
10-22	3:58	1.0FT.	10:11	1.5FT.	15:31	1.2FT.	21:31	1.6FT.	56
10-23	3:54	1.1FT.	10:30	1.6FT.	16:56	1.1FT.	22:25	1.4FT.	68
10-24	3:48	1.1FT.	11:05	1.8FT.	18:21	1.0FT.	23:29	1.3FT.	81
10-25	0:45	1.2FT.	3:33	1.1FT.	11:43	1.9FT.	19:51	1.0FT.	92
10-26	12:24	2.0FT.	21:23	0.9FT.					99
10-27	13:18	2.0FT.	22:42	0.8FT.					103

Who's Who on The Bonaire Reporter

Take The Reporter Home—1-year subscription: By mail to US \$65; By mail to Europe \$130. By Internet \$25

Published twice a month. For information about **subscriptions, stories or advertising in The Bonaire Reporter**, PO Box 407, Bonaire, Netherlands Antilles; phone (599) 786-6518, 786-6125, E-mail: info@bonairereporter.com

The Bonaire Reporter, George DeSalvo, Publisher. Laura DeSalvo, Editor in Chief. Address: P. O. Box 407, Bonaire, Neth. Antilles. Available on-line at: www.bonairereporter.com **Published every two weeks**

Reporters: Molly Bartikoski-Kearney, Elsmarie Beukenboom, Albert Bianculli, J@n Brower, Ronella Croes, Ramon de Leon, Caren Eckrich, Gerrie Fokke, Jack Horkheimer, Greta Kooistra, Mary Ann Koops, Dennis Lensink, Ann Leong, Edsel Pieter, Liz Rijna

Features Editor: Greta Kooistra **Translations:** Peggy Bakker **Distribution:** Yuchi Molina (Rincon), Elizabeth Silberie (Playa); **Housekeeping:** JRA .

Printed by: DeStad Drukkerij, Curaçao

©2007 The Bonaire Reporter

WHAT'S HAPPENING

HAPPENING SOON

October 7-13 - Bonaire Regatta Continues, 40th Year

Ladies and Mens Softball Games— all at La Sonrisa Ball Park

Thursday, October 11—7 pm

Friday, October 12—2:30 pm;

opening ceremony at 7 pm

Saturday October 13—10 am; Ladies Finals 5:30 pm

Sunday, October 14—11 am; Men's Finals 5:15 pm.

Friday, October 12—Caribbean Homes Soul Night with George McCrae, Wilhelmina Park, Midnight, free.

Thursday, October 18—ReMax Paradise Homes Party—To Celebrate its 4th Anniversary. Drinks, tapas, Latin style jazz. At their office at Royal Palm Galleries, 6 to 8 pm. All invited. Pg. 3.

Sunday, October 21 – Antilles Day—National Holiday

COMING

Wednesday, October 31—Halloween Arts & Crafts Market at Wilhelmina Park during cruise ship visits, 10 am to early afternoon: *Wed., Oct. 31 (Crown Princess); Friday, Nov. 2 (Emerald Princess)*

Saturday, November 10—7th Annual EcoSwim. Call BONHATA or go to www.aquamoonadventures.com

Sunday, November 18—Dia di Gracia—Contribute what you don't need to be given to the needy. Call Meredith Nicolaas (717-4658 or 786-2024), Shela Winklaar (510-7412) or Mamita Fox (717-2953 or 796-1919)

Saturday, December 1—Bodybuilding Competition. More information contact Judel at 786-0290

REGULAR EVENTS

Daily

- HH 2 for 1 (all beverages) 6-7 pm, **Divi Flamingo Balashi Beach Bar**
- HH—50% off- **Buddy Dive Resort,** 5:30-6:30 p.m.
 - **Divi Flamingo Casino** open daily for hot slot machines, roulette and black jack, Monday to Saturday 8 pm– 4 am; Sunday 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) with live mariachi- **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. **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. 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 Ware-

house Bonaire. Great wines. NAf20 per person for 6 to 8 wines.

- **Soldachi Tours**—See the real Bonaire and be transported back in time. Learn about the history, culture and nature by Bonaireans from Rincon. Call Maria Koeks for more information—796-7870.

- **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.

- **Mountain Bike Training for riders of all levels (also Tuesday)** at 5pm. Bonaire Wellness Connexions, Eden Beach, 785-0767, email info@bonairewellness.com

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

- **Dinner and a Show at Casablanca Argentinean Grill—Reporter writer Albert Bianculli presents his Multi-Image Production "Bonaire Holiday"** at 6:30pm, 7:30 pm & 8:30pm

- **"Dive & Dine" Buddy Dive Resort,** 6:30 –9:30 pm

- **Soldachi Tour of Rincon,** the heart of Bonaire, 9 am-noon. \$20-Call Maria 717-6435

Tuesdays

- **Margarita & Taco Tuesdays!** With \$2.50 Margaritas and a Taco bar! Plus Live music by the Flamingo Rockers, 6-8pm **Divi Flamingo, Balashi Beach Bar**

Wednesdays

- **Beach BBQ & music at The Windsurf Place at Sorobon,** 7–10 pm. Reserve ahead. Tel. 717-5091, 717-2288

- **"Live Cooking by the Chefs"** with live music by the Flamingo Rockers Unplugged - **Buddy Dive Resort,** 6-10 pm

Thursdays

- **Flamingo Rockers, at "Admiral's Hour"** for yachtsmen and others, Vespucci Restaurant, Harbour Village Marina. HH drinks, gratis tapas, 5-7

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

- **Friday Weekly Market at Wilhelmina Park** with local art, music and food; summer fashions, jewelry, glasswork, Bonaire pictures, driftwood art, paintings and all kinds of Bonaire souvenirs, 9 am to 2 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, Live music by Flamingo Rockers, **Divi Flamingo, Balashi Beach Bar** 6-7 pm

- **Free Rum Punch Party** (5:30- 6:30 pm) with Moogie Nation, followed by 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- Land & Ocean Bonaire by Fish-Eye photo staff, 8 pm on the big

screen in front of Bonaire Dive & Adventure.

Tuesday—Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire presents the *Sea Turtles of Bonaire Slide Show.* Every 1st & 3rd Tuesday, **Buddy Dive Resort,** 7 pm—717-3802.

Wednesday—Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire presents the *Sea Turtles of Bonaire Slide Show,* every 2nd & 4th Wednesday at **Bruce Bowker's Carib Inn** (717-8819) at 7pm.

Wednesday—Diving Facts And Fiction - An Evening with DIR slide/video show by Caribbean Gas Training, 8 pm, **Bonaire Dive & Adventure,** 786-5073

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 : 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 Bonaire Talker Gathering and Dinner at Gibi's - Tuesday - 6:30 pm - call 567-0655 for directions.

Bridge Club - Wednesdays, 7.30 pm at Sunrise Pool Bar. all levels, NAf2.50. Call Joop 717-5903 or be there by 7:15. **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 Thurs-

day of the month at 8 pm at Kaya Sabana #1. All Lions welcome.

Rotary lunch meetings Wednesday, 12 noon-2 pm - 'Pirate House', above Zeezicht Restaurant. All Rotarians welcome. Tel. 717-8434

Toastmasters Club meets every two weeks. For more information call Crusita de Palm at 786-3827 or Lucia Martinez Beck, at 786-2953.

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 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, Sundays, 10 am. *Rincon, Kaya C.D. Crestian, in Papiamentu,* Sundays, 8:30 am.

Children's club, Saturdays, 5 pm, in Kralendijk

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

New Apostolic Church: 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, Sunday at 8 am and 7 pm in Papiamentu, 717-8304.

Our Lady of Coromoto in Antriol, Saturday at 6 pm 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
Emailreporter@bonairenews.com
Tel:786-6518 or 786-6125

Did you notice this?
It could be your ad for only
NAf 88 once a month

The best value for print ads in Bonaire: **The Bonaire Reporter**
Call 786-6125, email– info@bonairereporter.com



BONAIRE SKY PARK*

*to find it... just look up

The Moon Meets the King of the Planets and an Emperor Star

I'd like you to mark three nights on your calendar as the nights to watch the Moon as it visits the biggest planet and a super big star: Sunday October 14th, Monday the 15th and Tuesday the 16th. This Sunday evening just after dark face southwest. And



if you have a really clear unobstructed horizon you'll see an absolutely beautiful three-day-old crescent Moon complete with Earthshine which will look like a dark blackish gray full Moon nestled within the crescent and which, according to folk myth, is often called "The Old Moon in the New Moon's Arms." Then if you draw an imaginary line up and to its left, along that line you'll see two bright objects which the Moon will visit in the next two nights.

The first is a reddish light and it is one of the biggest stars we can see with the naked eye. And I suggest you see it now because it will soon disappear from evening skies for quite awhile. Its name is **Antares** and it marks the heart of **Scorpius**, the Scorpion, which is just getting ready to set below the southwest horizon. Directly above it and much, much brighter, is the biggest of our solar system's planets, **Jupiter**, the king. Now although they'll be lined up in kind of a row this Sunday night, 24 hours later on Monday, the Moon will have moved up and past Antares to its left and will be just a little bit fatter as a four-day-old Moon and will make a lovely triangle with Antares and Jupiter.

So if you're lousy at finding stars and planets, use the Moon on Sunday as well as Monday to find Jupiter and Antares. Then 24 hours later the triangle will have opened up and be much wider and a five-day-old Moon only two days away from first quarter will be parked off to Jupiter's left and just to the right of the teapot shaped portion of stars of **Sagittarius**.

Once again, this Sunday a very skinny crescent Moon is below Antares and on a line with it and Jupiter. On Monday it is just past Antares and below Jupiter and makes an exquisite triangle with them. And on Tuesday it makes an even wider triangle when it is parked between Jupiter and Sagittarius' teapot. And now for the super mind blowing goodie part. Although the Moon looks like the biggest and brightest object this weekend, it is not. In fact it is only a 2,000-mile-wide sphere and so close to us it takes its light only 1 1/3 seconds to reach us. Jupiter, the second seemingly brightest object, is 88,000 miles wide, so huge we could fit over 300 million of our Moons inside it. But it is so far away we see the light that left it 47 minutes ago. Antares, however, is the mind blower because it is 600 million miles wide, so huge we could fit 2 1/2 trillion Jupiters or 719 quadrillion Moons inside it. And it is so far away it takes its light 600 years to reach us. So get outside to do some Moon, Jupiter and Antares watching, Sunday, Monday, Tuesday. □

Jack Horkheimer



THE STARS HAVE IT

For the Month of October 2007

By Astrologer Michael Thiessen

ARIES (Mar. 21- April 20) Outbursts of passion may cause arguments with your mate. Visit friends or relatives you don't get to see very often. A new you could help your attitude. You can take advantage of opportunities if you are quick to make a move. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Saturday.

TAURUS (Apr. 21- May 21) Avoid getting involved with married individuals. Unexpected bills may set you back. Don't let siblings put pressure on you. Find ways to make extra cash. Start making things or reusing rather than buying ready made. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Monday.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21) You should be able to tie up loose ends this month. Praise will be yours if you have been pursuing your goals. Don't let friends convince you that you should contribute to something you don't believe in. Go over their important documents and take the time to suggest alternatives. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Thursday.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) You will be accident prone if you aren't careful this month. Don't press your luck with your loved ones. You can spend a passionate evening with someone you cherish if you make your plans early. Sign up for courses or join fitness clubs. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Wednesday.

LEO (July 23-Aug 22) You will feel tired and rundown if you have allowed yourself to get into a financial mess. Do not borrow or lend money or belongings to friends or relatives if you wish to avoid any hassles. You'll be angry if those you live with aren't pulling their weight. Your outgoing nature will win hearts. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Sunday.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) Loved ones may be annoyed if they feel restricted. Anger may cause you grief; control your temper and try to sit back and calm down. Someone you work with may be withholding valuable information. Compromise if you wish to have any fun at all. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Sunday.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) Problems with skin, bones, or teeth may mess up your schedule. Your temper may erupt if you have allowed others to cost you too much money. Younger relatives may seek your advice. False information from someone trying to start problems is likely. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Tuesday.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) Concentrate on your job. Take a second look; another person's philosophy may be extremely different from yours. Delve a little deeper if you really want to know the score. You can come up with ways of earning extra cash. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Sunday.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) You will get upset over trivial matters. Find a way to consolidate. So smile! Don't bang your head against a wall. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Sunday.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) You may find yourself mixed up in a triangle of sorts. Just be yourself. Uncertainties about your living arrangements may be unnerving. Travel opportunities must be taken advantage of. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Friday.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) Get together with friends for some competitive physical activities. You can prosper if you invest in property or mutual funds. Relatives may play an important role in your personal life. Residential moves will be in your best interest. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Friday.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) Social functions will bring you in touch with new lovers. Put your energy into learning new skills or picking up valuable information. Past partners are likely to reappear. Think twice before you speak. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Saturday. □ Michael Thiessen

On The Island Since... 1990

Andreina Marciano

“I was studying the hotel business in Venezuela and I got a very good opportunity to work at Harbour Village as a beach girl, serving food and drinks on the beach. I was 26, a good age. I was still studying, so every vacation I had I came to work here. I’d always planned to come to Bonaire after I graduated. I loved the weather, the beach, the freedom and the people.

When I graduated in 1994 I wanted to come to Bonaire badly, but I was shy and I didn’t want to ask the hotel for a job. But one day when I was in Caracas buying something in a store, I met this person who worked for the company that hires people to work for the hotel and he said: “Andreina, I heard you graduated. Would you like to come to work for Harbor Village in Bonaire?” Out of the blue!

So, I came in 1994, just with my hand luggage because it was supposed to be just for the season, but... I stayed two years. I worked the food and beverage department and after two years they hired me and I had to go back to Venezuela to get my things and to tell my mom that I was definitely going to stay for two more years... which became 14 years!

The hotel was my school. I learned so many things. When the spa opened I became the person in charge and I was trained to do all the treatments. I’ve always done sports in my life; I am really a fitness freak, and I bike and run. Because of that they trained me to become a fitness teacher at the spa as well. But I wasn’t officially certified as an instructor so I decided to take training in the US, in Puerto Rico, as it is the closest to Bonaire. It was tough but fantastic, and just when I had finished my education in Puerto Rico, 9-11 happened and the hotel closed.

For me, at the time, it was quite dramatic. I had to look for a new job and because I came from Harbour Village I felt I had to find at least another hotel at the same level. The option was Plaza Resort. They only had a vacancy for a night auditor, working from 11 at night till seven in the morning. It was a terrible shift for me because I was only working, eating and sleeping, and in the daytime I was teaching aerobics at Joe’s Fitness Center.

Then the people of the jazz club called me to ask if I wanted to sing with them. It was hectic but very satisfying because I was doing the three things I love best: hotel, fitness and singing.

I come from a family of 10 children; we are all musicians. When my mom married my dad she told him she wanted many children so she could build her own orchestra! We all went to music school, and all my brothers and sisters became professional classical musicians. I am the youngest and I sing popular music. When my mom first heard me singing jazz, she said, ‘Andreina, why are you singing music from bars?’ I will never forget that – but...

I am special. I was the number 10 child, and I am special in everything.

My father, Luis Marciano, has been working his whole life as an agricultural engineer. When I was four, he was the Venezuelan consul in Peru and we lived for four years in Lima. When I was 13 he had a mission and we went to England where we lived for three years. My dad is now 85; my mother is 81 and they are the best! My father is a *luthier*. It’s a French word for someone who makes wooden instruments, and he started doing it when he was 82.

My mom, Josefina, is very creative. She’s more energetic than I am. With my uncles and aunts, brothers and sisters, nieces and nephews - 46 people in total – four generations – we go on a tour in Caracas during the Christmas holidays to perform and we even made a CD, *Navidad en Familia*, and we were all so proud! We have a very beautiful family; they are full of love and very grateful for what life has given them. I feel the same way – it’s something that comes from the family.

So, when the jazz club asked me to sing with them I said yes. They needed a femi-

“I’m very much into telling people to get fit – it will make them feel better – and to eat healthy – because the body will appreciate it ...”

nine vocalist, and in 2000 I had my first concert with Dikazz at Kontiki. Oh my, I was scared! But they say if you don’t get scared it’s because you don’t feel it – I still feel it – I’m still kind of nervous every time I perform. I stayed with the jazz club as long as it existed, for four years. Nowadays I’m singing with Cabaco Trio, Lando Tjin-A-Sjoe, Carlos Jimenez and myself. It’s a bit difficult because we don’t have melody instruments, but it’s going very well and the people like it and if they like it – we like it! We play at Donna and Giorgio’s every Friday and whenever we’re invited.

Next to singing, I’m working at Harbour Village – I went back three years ago. I was at Plaza for four years and because of them I have the job I have now because Plaza has been another school for me. I’m really grateful. At Harbour Village I’m the front office manager and I love the job! Wonderful team, wonderful co-workers and time to teach aerobics and to sing!



Andreina Marciano and friends

I’m teaching aerobics at Angelique Salsbach’s Top Health Fitness on Kaya Niki-boko Nort and my message for everybody is that they have to do exercise. I’m very much into telling people to get fit – it will make them feel better – and to eat healthy – because the body will appreciate it – and... to do the things they love; that’s the biggest hint in life – everything you do, you have to do it with love. I also tell people that if you can’t go to a gym, do something else: go for a walk, with the dogs of course (I am a fan of dogs), go swimming or snorkeling, work in the garden or do housework – just move your body – and dancing... Wow! That’s the best workout!”

Andreina Marciano is a lovely person, full of life, down to earth, very comfortable with people, and she knows exactly what she wants. Her happiness is contagious; she really makes you feel good.

“I am very transparent and I don’t like to hide things, but I am also an extremely picky person and extremely demanding. I think it’s something my mom taught me. I am very humble, but the truth is that I get many calls from people who want me to work for them.

My ambition is to be somebody you can trust and rely on, a person with integrity. That’s what’s important to me – money is not important. You need it to make a living, but that’s all. The most important thing is that people respect me for who I am.

Another thing I’m doing is that I’m the voice of the travel channel radio station 97.1. It’s a station for tourists with all kinds of tips and information. I record it and I’m on the air all day.

Many times people ask me, ‘Andreina, where do you get the energy?’ But I am

very energetic and creative. I always believe that things happen when they have to happen. At Plaza it was work, work, work, but thanks to that Harbor Village called me and said, ‘Now you have the experience to go to the next level and become the front desk manager.’

“I love Bonaire because it gave me so many opportunities I never would have found in Venezuela. That’s very important because it’s one of the reasons I’ll stay here. Bonaire is my home – that says it all. But every Christmas I have to go to Caracas to fill my body and soul with the good spirit of my family and to sing with them of course.

I am a person who prays a lot – I don’t go to church – but I believe there’s always someone there who’s protecting me, and one of the great things that happened in my life is finding one of my best friends from the past again, Carlos Jimenez, after 23 years. Our relationship is working very well and finding him made my life better. Together with Carlos and my two dogs, who are my children (they are the most popular dogs in town) I live a very happy life.

I love the people of Bonaire, I love the way they are, the way they’ve accepted me, and after so many years it’s like I’m part of them. Bonaire has so much to offer. We definitely have a jewel and we’re living in paradise.”

□
Story & photo by Greta Kooistra

