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Jong Bonaire Students With the NEW Papiamentu-English Dictionary

The KEPORTER

he BES islands (Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba) are currently having another BES week this week (June 11 to June 18) in The Netherlands. It will be the third BES week as the islands move towards direct ties with Holland. These negotiations are to understand and negotiate the necessary changes within the Kingdom as well as the dismantling of the Netherlands Antilles.

During the last BES week in January an agreement was reached that the Dutch will guarantee, at minimum, an acceptable level of education, justice, social security and health care on the islands comparable with Holland's.

The constitutional change, once set for December 2008, is now tentatively planned for January

► American Eagle will reduce its Caribbean schedule from 55 to 33 daily departures out of San Juan beginning Sep**tember 3** and eliminate daily service from San Juan to Aruba, Bonaire and Samana, Dominican Republic. Service to Bonaire has been reduced to three days a week. On Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, the 55-seat ATR flight will operate from San Juan to Bonaire. It will return from Bonaire to San Juan on Wednesday, Friday and Sunday. The times and flight numbers are:

5049 LV SJU 7:30 pm – AR BON 9:31 pm Tues, Thurs, and

5051 LV BON 7:50 am -AR SJU 9:55 am Wed, Fri, and

The American Eagle schedule effective September 3, 2008, is available on www.aa.com.

These reductions are part of American's overall plan to reduce tion Minister Eurlings told Antilcapacity and costs in the face of skyrocketing fuel prices. The ATR fleet in the Caribbean has been reduced from 24 to 11 planes, with the remainder of the ATRs relocated to Dallas to cover flying in the US.

Ronella Tjin A Sjoe-Croes, TCB Director, said, "We have already reached out to Continen-

tal and Delta to determine their ability to provide additional lift and upgrade the size of the aircraft serving Bonaire. We have also inquired about the possibility of reinstating the four lost (American Eagle) fights, if the island was willing to put them under an MRG (minimum revenue guarantee).'

American Eagle transports 40% of the American tourists who visit Bonaire. Bonaire will lose about 25% of the total transportation capacity of travelers from the US with the cutback.

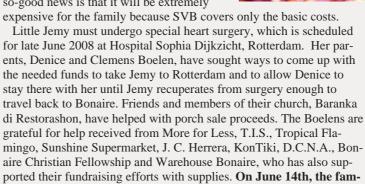
- Dutch Antilles Express (DAE) operations have been **limping along** but will begin a new schedule on July 1. The airline is also looking to make St. Maarten its second hub besides Curação. In weeks past DAE had only three of its five airplanes flying and last week flew from Curação to Bonaire via Aruba. When all are operational, DAE flies five planes - three prop-jet ATRs and two Fokker 100 pure
- ► Starting June 1, KLM replaced printed tickets with electronic ones. Some 99% of passengers on the Netherlands' biggest airline already use etickets, which are more efficient, safer and environmentallyfriendly, KLM said. If all airlines switched to e-tickets, it would save them €2 billion (\$3.1 billion) per year and 50,000 trees, news agency ANP reported.
- ► The €45 anti-pollution tax that's going to be introduced for round-trip flights between the Netherlands, the Antilles, and Aruba on July 1 will stay.

That's what Dutch Transportalean Transportation Minister Adriaens last week. The Antilles are afraid that this tax and the fuel surcharge that continues to increase would damage tourism. Eurlings said that he cannot ignore or adjust a law just like

Minimum wage earners

Can vou help Jemy?

Four-year-old Jemy-Viennethy Keller was born with a hole in her heart. She has increasing difficulty breathing at night because of it. Her heart is enlarged from straining to pump fast enough and strong enough in spite of its handicap. The good news is that surgery can repair the hole and let this little girl live a healthy childhood in Bonaire. The notso-good news is that it will be extremely



money for Jemy's surgery. Maduro& Curiel's Bank Bonaire has stepped up to help too, with a generous donation for the bank account opened at MCB just for Jemy's surgery. The account is MCB #101.505.704, under the title, "Jehova Jireh," a name chosen by Denice, which means "God the Provider." This account will be used solely for costs related to Jemy's

ily will prepare a barbecue at Warehouse Bonaire, to raise more

Can you help Jemy and her family? Please donate any amount you can into Jemy's surgery account. And don't miss the fundraiser barbecue at Warehouse Bonaire on Saturday, June 14th, from 11 am to 1 **pm.** The price is only NAf 10, with all proceeds going toward Jemy's

in the Antilles no longer will have to pay wage tax when Par- Court of the Netherlands Antilles liament approves its own draft law and the government adopts the law.

A most controversial item in the law is an increase of 15% in the minimum wage for all islands of the Netherlands Antilles except St. Maarten. In Bonaire the minimum wage is NAf 7.17/hour, the highest of all the Antilles except for St. Maarten which recently was set at NAf 7.79

▶ The Antillean judiciary system has suffered a "huge loss" with the passing of longtime Judge Luis de Lannoy last week, said Windward Islands Chief Prosecutor Taco Stein. Judge de Lannoy lost his bout with cancer early Thursday, leaving behind his wife, two children and a number of cases that this "fair judge" was set to preside over. De Lannoy (57) had studied law and was President of the Joint and Aruba for 14 years (1993-2007), before retiring early last

► An anonymous donor said that if Jong Bonaire can sell 500 dictionaries in the school donation program, he will donate US\$ 20,000 to Jong Bonaire. Already there are just over 200 dictionary donations promised. Reporter readers can really help this effort by donating at least one dictionary to the project for each one they buy for themselves. See the Dictionary Story on page 8 for full details.

Forty years ago (on June 5, 1968) Henry Toré, Rose Heitkonig and Alex Semeleer came up with the idea to meet and present their idea to establish community centers in the-

(Continued on page 4)

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Washington Park Celebrates 39 Years

n Sunday, June 1, Washington Park celebrated its 39th birthday and threw open the gates with free entrance to everyone for the day. The events kicked off at 8 am with guided activities like the Kasikunda climbing trail, the 270foot Kasikunda hill and the Lagadishi walking trail or the 792-foot Brandaris. There were more leisurely activities such as strolling along the walking trails or a guided tour through the museum. There was free transportation to Slagbaai for those who wanted to swim or snorkel. Recently the roads have been restored and are in excellent condition, so even regular cars can drive in the Park.

Festive activities centered at the Visitor Center at the entrance to the Park with treasure hunts, painting and coloring projects for the kids. There was live music from *TutiFruti* and *Sebari* and the folk dancing group of kids, *Rikesa di Rincon*.

Representatives of the weekly Rincon Market set up their stands with gifts, hand crafts, plants, local food, BBQ, cakes, homemade candies and cookies. Next year, 2009 will be a special year, with a very special celebration, since the Washington Slagbaai National Park will celebrate its 40th anniversary and the Bonaire National Marine Park its 30th anniversary. For more information visit the STINAPA website; www.stinapa.org. ■ L.D.



Byron Tromp and Arthur Sealy Washington inaugurated the First Washington Park Birthday Celebration Walk from the Stadium to the Washington Park entrance that Sunday. "We left at 5 am and got here at 8:15 am - 3 hours and 15 minutes," the dynamic duo announced proudly. "We've been training since January and we did the Special Olympics Walkathon. Now we're preparing for the Four Days of Bonaire Walk at the end of July where we do 25 kilometers a day for four days." These guys must be in good shape because they were very relaxed and animated by the time we ran into them having refreshments at the Park's Visitor Center Bar later in the morning. Way to go, guys!



Ranger Angelo Dovale danced with his wife, Rejeanne



One of the several interactive exhibits at the Museum attract the kids' attention.



Rikesa di Rincon performed folkloric dancing for an enthusiastic crowd

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Flotsam and Jetsam (Cont. from page 2) **neighborhoods of Bonaire.** They set up a committee that on a regudifferent neighborhoods to acquaint the people with the aspects of the work of a community center. In May 1972, four years after the first presentation of the idea, the buildings of the community centers of Tera Kòrá, Nikiboko, Antriol, and Nort di Saliña were dedicated.

- ► The Dutch economy is expected to weather the current global financial turmoil fairly well and will continue to outpace growth in the rest of the European Union, according to a report by the International Monetary Fund. The IMF maintained earlier forecasts of 2.1% in 2009.
- ► A major power outage at a facility in Steenrijk, Curaçao, crippled United Telecommunications Services (UTS) network **services** throughout the Caribbean last week, disrupting phone service in Bonaire and elsewhere, and severely affecting commercial banking. It was UTS's largest wide-scale service disruption in almost five years. The last similarly prolonged disruption occurred in 2003.
- ► Nearly 200 countries agreed on Friday to a moratorium on projects to fight climate change by adding nutrients to the seas to spur growth of carbonabsorbing algae. The surprise deal followed 12 days of haggling at the UN's Convention on Biological Diversity conference, halting the controversial plans for "ocean fertilization which has unknown risks." Those in favor say it could be a new weapon to fight global warming. It would also have led to the disappearance of coral reefs which are already suffering from more acidic seas.
- ▶ The Parliament of the Netherlands Antilles last Monday approved amendments to the penal code concerning punishment for terrorist activities, funding of terrorism and money laundering.
- **▶** The Island Government of Bonaire has added several price controlled products to its list to help stop the spiraling cost of food. Newly included are: oatmeal, cornflakes, toothpaste, tooth brushes, mouthwash, shampoo, detergent, scrubbing powder/ crème, dishwashing liquid, clean- Caribbean Club Bonaire. Guests ing products, bleach, baby articles were invited for the official presand toilet paper.
- ► The Inspectorate of Public Health noted that markets in the **Netherlands Antilles are flooded** with food products that do not comply with the labeling standards required by the Regulation on Food Labeling which mandates that consumer goods be labeled in Dutch, Papiamentu, English or Spanish.

- ► Marugia Janga, Island Council Member, has been made chairperson for the Partido Delar basis organized meetings in the mokrátiko Boneriano (PDB). She is she is the first woman to serve as chair of the PDB.
 - ► A new parish house for the Rincon Catholic Church will cost NAf 150.000. Of this, the Netherlands will provide NAf40.000. The remaining NAf110,000 will have to be raised by its parishioners.



▶ Venezuela fired several missiles in the nearby Caribbean last Friday in a display of military strength at a time of tense relations between Washington and the leftist government of Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez.

Five Russian Sukhoi fighter jets swooped over the military base on the island of La Orchila, dropping a 1,000 lb. bomb and firing a KH-59 missile at a seaborne target. A patrol boat fired an Otomat surface-to-surface missile at the same

► The Pentagon has decided to reactivate the US Navy's Fourth Fleet in the Caribbean, Central and South America. It's a move that has already stirred controversy within the wider region. The fleet will start patrolling in July and will answer to the US Southern Command in Miami. About 11 vessels are currently under the Southern Command, . The Navy plans to assign a nuclear-powered air craft carrier, USS George Washington, to the force.

The last time the Fourth Fleet was activated was in response to Nazi submarines in WWII.

- ► AWC (Antillean Wine Company's last wine-tasting of the season will be on Saturday June 14th at Kaya Industria 23 from 7 until 9pm. It's NAf20 per person for six to eight wines. Get wine educated and have fun too.
- On Tuesday, May 20, after more than two years of work by Bonaire building contractor Donny Winklaar and crew. lovely new villas were unveiled at the entation by owner Ronald. Gravesteijn. Henk Roozendaal, popular look forward to the reopening and local artist, presented a painting for the honeymoon suite. There are seven identical two-bedroom villas and a Jacuzzi-equipped honeymoon suite.

The Caribbean Club also has some great specials for this summer. During the months July and August when you book a 1bedroom cottage you will only have to pay the price of Studio



The management of Tourism Corporation Bonaire (TCB) signed a new Collective Labor Agreement (CLA) last Thursday with ABVO Civil Servants Union. TCB Director Ronella Tjin Asjoe-Croes and ABVO President Roland Ignacio signed the new CLA in the presence of TCB personnel. (TCB photo)

Garden View, only \$60 per night. in 11,500 This is a weekly saving of \$210. Also when booking a car with Caribbean Club during your stay you will receive a free Tusa Snorkel Set (retail value of \$47.50) Other conditions apply. Contact reservations

@caribbeanclubbonaire.com or call 599 717-5489.

- **▶** Bonaire Dive into Summer 2008 will hold its International Year Of The Reef Week, June **21-28**, to be hosted by the Sand **Dollar Condominium Resorts** focusing on Bonaire's role as a world leader in marine conservation. The week will feature dives and seminars with Jan and Alexandra Cousteau of EarthEcho International; REEF fish count dives and snorkels with Bonaire's own naturalist Jerry Ligon; interactive workshops with **Bryan Dias** from the Coral Reef Alliance (CORAL); and a parade and "Taste of Bonaire" food festival at Wilhelmina Park.
- **▶** Divi Flamingo Beach Resort & Casino is once again hosting the Handicapped Scuba Asso**ciation** for their annual dive trip to Bonaire. This year's visit is set for August 9-16 and is the group's 24th annual excursion to the resort. For able-bodied divers looking to do some good while on vacation, a our head here, and D'arcy Lopez dive buddy training course will be from Curaçao, who has the title, held at the hotel on August 6-8.
- **▶** The Bonairiaan Restaurant, run by teens in training from the Stitchting Project, will be closed until mid-August, according to Project Director Mick Smit. The colorfully decorated restaurant on Kaya J. A. Abraham #27 was open on Thursdays and Fridays serving coffee, teas and homemade snacks, but the extensive roadwork made it difficult to operate and attract customers. We the extended menu of homemade goodies.

▶ Toastmasters, International, on Bonaire is looking for English speakers.

Toastmasters International, a non-profit organization, was begun in 1924 in Santa Ana, California, at the YMCA. Today there are more than 226,000 members

clubs in 92 countries, of which Bonaire is one.

Three years ago a group on

Bonaire started the first Toastmasters club, "Flamingo Toastmasters," which was soon followed by two more, "Wayaka" and "Sentibibu." The clubs have been very successful in this short time, with a total of more than 70 members on the island. Now there have been requests for one in English.

Why is Toastmasters so successful here? According to member, Lucia Beck, "We don't just give speeches! Toastmasters develops competent leaders and communicators with communication, listening and time management skills - for example, how to lead, persuade and it even works with your kids. As one of the leaders explained, 'It teaches you how to send someone to Hell and they look forward to the trip!' All the advice we get is diplomatic and very positive," Beck says, "and sometimes we have to give an impromptu speech, like 'Why is the Sky Blue?' Volunteer instructors come to help us from Curação and have trained local mentors. Sherwin Pourier of RBTT Bank is 'Distinguished Toastmaster,' is the founder of the Caribbean Dis-

We have four speeches per meeting and we meet twice a month, for exactly two hours. Right now Papiamentu is the main language but we may present in Dutch or English."

Lucia continues, "But the new group will be totally in English. up a club. Interestingly, there is an professional it's now open for English-speaking Toastmasters club in Curação and all its members are local people!

New members pay NAf 135 to join, and NAf 35 a month. That includes the Competent Communicator manual, pins for each step, information from leaders who are easy to reach. Only requirement is that members be 18 or above."

For more information and/or to sign up, call Lucia Beck at 796-2953 or Sherwin Pourier at 511-

▶ One of the most popular fitness events in the world is the



four-day walk through Holland. Now a former Bonaire resident, Corah Perret Gentil, has organized a similar four-day event in Bonaire at the end of July. During the four days walkers, runners or bike riders will travel for 105 km, covering about 25 km/day. The event appears to be well organized with overnight camping at the intermediate stops. The cost to enter is NAf 100 per person with free participation for special groups. The event will benefit The Center for Children in Poverty Foundation. We will provide more information as the event

Nijmegen, Holland "Vierdaagse"

5220. They have a website: FlamingoToastmastersClub@yahoo.co m or WWW.Toastmasters.org. .

- ► News flash: Interiyours, the furniture and antiques emporium on the dirt road behind Warehouse Bonaire, has just received and unpacked a 40-foot container of unique and beautiful things for the home direct from Bali. Two weeks earlier they got a container from China as well. But when the word gets out customers gather round and often buy things as they get unloaded so visit soon. Interiyours is open Tuesday through Friday, 9 am to 6 pm; Saturdays until 1 pm. Tel. 717-5449.
- ► To celebrate the second printing of her book, Sailing and Cooking Throughout the Caribbean. author Saskia Romeijn Vermeer, will hold a book signing at Addo's Books and Toys on Kaya Grandi next Thursday, June 19, from 5 to 8 pm. She promises live classical piano music and some samples of snacks from the recipes in her book.
- ► Valerie's Airport Shop, operated for over 20 years by Paul and Maria Maduro, was taken over on June 1st by Jan Kees and Petra den Hartog. Valerie's Airport Shop, a stalwart supporter of The Bonaire Reporter, is open long hours and is known as the place where you can almost always find the special something you are searching for.
- **▶** Welcome to new advertiser, There needs to be at least 20 to set **Top Health Bonaire.** Staffed by a morning classes, Monday, Wednesday and Friday, from 8 to 9:15 am. Cost is NA*f* 75 per month. Come for a free trial class.

Other classes are in the evenings on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The fitness center is located on Kaya Nikiboko Nord in the La Hacienda building, near More For Less Supermarket. Call 796-3109 or 786-8908. **■** *G./L. D.*

Profiles: Peter Silberie - Tae-Bo Teacher and Coach for Physical and Mental Wellness

Peter Siberie is well known for his time in the for his time in politics as a deputy on the Island Council representing the Democratic (Red) Party since 2003. He achieved many things during those years, but today he feels that outside of politics he can also get direct results in his work with young people on Bonaire. When his political responsibilities as a member of the Island Council ended, he asked himself what he could do for the community directly. He wanted to find a way to reach out to young kids, to inspire them and transform their attitude towards life.

He is a passionate sportsman, active in many sports, but practicing karate has become a way of life for him. Karate is based on ancient concepts of martial arts. Besides karate Peter developed his own system of Tae-Bo when he studied in Holland. This came about when "heavy metal" music was played during the karate warm up. This was in the 80s, and it was a totally new concept to begin a class this way. He really liked it the beat, the dynamic energy- and brought heavy metal tapes with him to Bonaire when he moved back here to give karate classes.

The traditional art of karate is very strict and static, but his psychological approach led him to make certain changes and initiate movements following his intuition from Tae-Bo. The movements

build up the muscles, especially the heart muscle, increasing physical strength and mental power.

Karate is not just a "fighting" sport. That's only a small part of the discipline. There are both physical and mental aspects, and the mental part rules the physical part. Peter explains that if we practice and increase our mental abilities, our physical abilities will improve as well. We then learn to direct our focus and concentration on what we want to achieve. We learn to find a balance between our minds and our bodies and it changes our way of living our lives. We are much more in control because becoming aware of what we do, why we do it, and how we can do it becomes a way to live consciously.

The ultimate goal is an inner peace, from which we draw to interact with others. There are more ways to reach a peaceful inner state of being. Tai-Chi and yoga for example share similar principles: using the Chi (life energy) in a conscious way gives us the experience of being the directors of our lives. Peter's classes also include a meditation as a discipline in concentration and focus, a practice shared by many other disciplines.

He bases his teachings to the kids (from 6 years up) on three principles; Respect, Discipline and Endurance. Through practicing

these qualities, children can build character. The guidance he gives the children isn't just about teaching the physical training. He also guides them through personal fears and obstacles they may encounter as well. He notices when someone needs his attention regarding personal matters. He takes them aside if they need to ventilate their problems and often he takes time to initiate a collective "sharing." If their school results are disappointing, Peter sees this as an opportunity for a more in-depth talk with them. The longer the kids practice

"I like to use reverse psychology.

I don't talk about what is wrong;

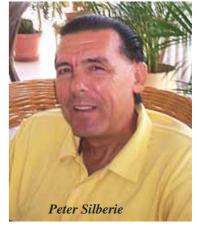
I just take the situation as it is and try to make changes."

their training, the more they achieve the result of being more in touch with themselves. "It's often a subtle process," Peter says, "but it is obvious to me and to others in their environment." He gives an example of a boy who refused to have any contact with his father,

although he suffered because of it. Now, his self-confidence has improved to the point that he has restored the contact and he and his father have become very close friends.

The fact that more boys than girls are participating in his trainings, Peter explains, may be the image of karate, which often is a misconception. The "attack" and "defense" elements of the sport are metaphors for the Chi (life) energy: opposite forces going outwards and going inward. One doesn't exist without the other. By making oneself aware of this dual force, one is able to direct it consciously. Peter hopes that his students will integrate this ability further into their lives. Especially during puberty they'll need to rely on their own inner strength. "By using their physical training and mental training, they experience what I am talking about and it becomes a way of life," he says. "I am talking from my own experience."

Some time ago he volunteered to give kick boxing classes to some students of the SGB where many of the students were having all kinds of problems. He was concerned that the physical condition of Bonaire youth in general was rather poor. He organized a group of students, and his own challenge was not to lose even one of them. After three weeks of intensive



training he saw changes. The students were more alive and much more motivated to use their newly discovered energies in a constructive way. On several occasions the group went to Curaçao to compete in international competitions. Peter is still in contact with many of them who are now studying in Holland.

"I like to use reverse psychology," he explains, "I don't talk about what is wrong; I just take the situation as it is and try to make changes." Normally he won't even explain or talk about his philosophy. "It's better not to. Just let people experience it. Talking about it often causes resistance."

During his classes Peter is really strict with the kids, but as a life coach and friend he is warm and

(Continued on page 7)



Sixth Jong Bonaire Triathlon



ong Bonaire's fund raising Sixth Mini Fun Triadal Sixth Mini Fun Triathlon

pants of all ages - from young teens to 66 years! There were alllast Sunday brought out 69 partici- kid teams, mixed kid-adult teams,

all-men, allwomen or mixedsex teams. It was a family affair with nonparticipating family members cheering on their favorite, shooting photos or running after them to give them water. The Jong Bonaire team, with Chief of Competition, Franklin "Paco" Veeris, went all out to put on a



Relay Fun competitors: Julius Melaan, Thasjana Rosario and Gilbert Seraus

very professional, well-run event. There was plenty of water, juice, oranges to keep the athletes hydrated and a nutritious meal afterwards. Times were kept – to the second - and just a short time after the last to finish the awards ceremony was held with the final results – to a standing room only audience.

The Triathlon consisted of swimming, biking and running in two categories: recreational (fun) and professional.

The distances are as follows: Recreational (Fun) - 850 meters swimming, 11.6 kilometers biking, and 5 kilometers running.

Professional - 1500 meters swimming, 23.2 kilometers biking, and 10 kilometers running.

Results are as follows: Female Pro: 1-Annemiek LeNoble; 2-Maria Schuttpelz

Male Pro: 1-Dirk Jan (DJ) Methorst; 2-Marcel Leurs

Relay Pro: 1-Rhian Evans, Sam Williams, Rowan Martin; 2-Mireille Boom, Monica Schreuders, Annette van Rooyen

Female Fun: 1- Simone Sweers Male Fun:1- Bruce Brabec (Bruce was first in this division last year); 2 -Daniel DeAnda

Kids Fun: 1- Manuel DeLima; 2-Asdrubal Marcano

Relay Fun: 1-Pam Werdath, Peter Werdath, Musha Ruiter; 2-Thasjana Rosaria, Julius Melaan, Gilbert Seraus

Relay Kids Fun: 1-Timoty Vaseur, Philip Winkel, Vernon Kromhout; 2-Bryan Bart Shodryon Jeanty, Ricky Alberto

Relay Mix: 1-Nicola Diamondaras, Ragenio Josephia, Arreau martina; 2-George DeSalvo, Enrique Vasquez, Naldo Frans \blacksquare *L.D.*



Female Fun winner Simone Sweers jumps the finish line.



Luis and Asdrubal Marcano both competed in all 3 events.

Now, results have a name!

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Relay Fun winners: Musha Ruiter, Peter

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his is an issue that most of us don't like to talk about, but can we close our eyes to the reality? Crime is increasing here on Bonaire. Most people you ask about crime say that although you might feel safe at a certain point the crime wave is picking up. We have to remember that Bonaire is part of a world infested with crime, so it can happen to us too. Everybody is complaining about it, from young ones to older people.

A schoolboy (19) complained that his laptop was stolen from his dining room. A hard working mother (42) bought a brand new car and the four wheel covers were stolen and to buy the same brand new ones will cost her more than NAf 400. Others said their bikes were stolen, even their dog, and we can mention even more. Our tourists are very



concerned about this matter, but one question the local people have is what the government is going to do about it.

"But our economy is causing all these problems," said a young woman (30) who is working and earning a minimum wage. She said, "Prices go up and cause inflation, and whenever there is inflation crime goes up. You don't know how it is to get up in the morning and think what you are going to feed your children before they go to school. Sometimes they have to skip school because there is not enough food in the house. How can they pay attention in school and keep up

with their homework? Desperation can make them do anything. It can make them get involved with gangs, robbing people and other problems. Fortunately my children have not gone that far, but I'm really afraid of what can happen to them or to any other child in the same situation. I raise government are performing on my children with love and understanding for the situation. But who can do something about it? For me it is the government and all the institutions involved in this matter. We need to get up and do something about it. The political parties have to stop fighting and remember that they themselves can be a victim of crime. They sometimes are too involved in their own political anxieties and forget about those who voted for them. We have to unite and stop crime."

Others said our economy depends on a large percentage on tourism. What will happen if the tourists stop coming because of

the crime wave? What then? Some tourists coming to Bonaire don't wear rose-colored glasses. They are pretty much alert as to what is going on in their surroundings. They are concerned about the local people who live here and how the local police and the island. If things get worse where does the Bonairean go from here? This is a world crisis.

Someone who's involved in tourism (52) said, "I'm bombarded with a lot of questions every day and sometimes I don't know what to say. I love my island and want to protect it from all negative thoughts. But we can't be blind because we are living in the reality of a crime wave. You have to be very tactful in your answer, not to hurt our island. I believe that the political parties and the Lt. Governor have to sit together and see how they are going to solve this problem. It's not easy to get rid of crime, but you still can mini-

mize it. We have to start at the root of crime and not just take it superficially, otherwise we'll be seeing a continual increase in the crime rate. Our governmental institutions are doing a lot, in schools and with the surveys given to homes in the barios, which is educational. We can't stay at the technical level, we have to put the practical things into action. The Bonaireans talk so they should be listening."

You and I are prone to be a victim of this crime wave, so just be alert and take precautions and

do not expose your valuable things.■ Siomara E.

Albertus



Send your comments to *The Bonaire Reporter*, P.O. Box 407, Bonaire, or email reporter @bonairenews.com.

100 Years Of Service

S even employees who have been dedicated to Divi Flamingo Resort for over 100 years (combined) were honored last week. These people represent Diving, Housekeeping, F & B, and Maintenance, who continue to bring service and product and a BIG Smile to all Divi guests. They are: Luis Boekhoudt, 25 years; Louisa Soliano, 20 years; Violita Martina, 20 years; Gerardus Joosten, 15 years; Serge de Groote, 10 years; Candida Cicilia, 5 years and Abdala Jean Charles, 5 years. Divi General Manager Sara Matera (left) and Human Resources Manager Marelva Soliano (right) with the group. ■ *Press release*



DO YOU SUDOKU?

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

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. Answer on page 12. Supplied by Molly Bartikoski-Kearney

Profiles (Continued from page 5)



friendly. Again, these opposites can exist because one can't exist without the other. His classes are growing. His wife and Tuki are helping him. His wife especially has become an important support for him. Tuki assists as well, so in spite of the growing number of students they will get their individual attention during the training

His classes are being given in Jong Bonaire every Monday through Thursday evenings at 7

pm. The Tae-Bo classes are available to grownups as well. ■ Photos & story by Lousie Rood



1ST ANNUAL BONAIRE BARRACUDA/SEDREBO INTENATIONAL OPEN WATER SWIM COMPETITION

The Bonaire Aquatics Club Barracudas and SEDREBO invite you to participate in our 1st Annual Open Water Swim Competition on Sunday June 15, 2008. The competition will take place along the shore of Bonaire's main town of Kralendijk. Race distances are 500m,1.5km and 5km. Swimmers of all ages and ability levels are welcome. Supporters an easily view the race course from the seaside Promenade so bring the whole family for a day of competition and fun.

Entry Fee: \$20 includes Pasta dinner, cap & 1 raffle ticket

Sign-up, race orientation June 14 Saturday followed by Pasta dinner Check in begins June 15 Sunday

7:30 5 Kilometer race begins 10:00 500 Mmeter race begins 11:00 1.5 Kilometer race begins

AWARDS CEREMONY WILL BE HELD AFTERWARDS AT THE KAS DI REGATTA

BARBEQUE LUNCH, SNACKS AND BEVERAGES WILL BE AVAILABLE MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT PLUS RAFFLE WITH GREAT PRIZES

It's Back --- The Papiamentu-English Dictionary

The new Second Edition of the Ratzlaff Papiamentu-English Dictionary was launched Tuesday night at a press conference at Jong Bonaire. The author and the board members of presented copies to key government officials at the event.

Jong Bonaire, in an agreement with the Trans World Radio Dictionary Foundation, has had the book updated and has reprinted this Second Edition of the dictionary as a fund-raising effort for the Jong Bonaire afterschool program for teens. Any profit from the sales of the dictionary will go to help fund activities for the youth center and also toward future reprinting of the dictionary so that it will never become unavailable again.

Jong Bonaire also announced its School Dictionary Program during the press conference. Companies and organizations that wish to donate copies of the dictionary to a school can purchase 20 or more copies at a discounted price of NAf 60 for schools. The donated dictionaries will be delivered to any school in the ABC Islands chosen by the company, along with a letter notifying the school of the gift and the donor.

Serapio Pop from *Scholengemeenschap* Bonaire (SGB) high school received the first donation of dictionaries from Evert Piar of Maduro & Curiel's Bank Bonaire and also from Bonaire Rotary. MCB will be donating 20 dictionaries to schools on Bonaire, and their sister bank, Caribbean Mercantile Bank N.V in Aruba will also donate 20 dictionaries.

VIP.com, an online company in Curaçao purchased 100 books to donate to schools in Curaçao and KPMG will donate another 50 dictionaries in Curaçao.

Companies or organizations who wish to participate in the School Dictionary Program can send an e-mail to

schools@papiamentudictionary.com along with their name, address and contact information so that someone can get back to them to complete the donation.

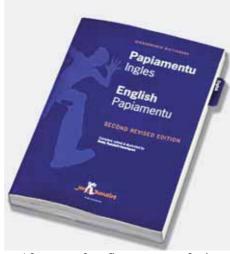
"This dictionary is an important tool for people who speak Papiamentu as well as English speakers who want to learn the language," said Jong Bonaire board member Alex Senchi during the launch. "It helps capture and preserve the Papiamentu language and also helps promote its use. As more companies, governmental agencies and organizations deal with the European Union, this dictionary should prove extremely helpful," Board member Rene Hakkenberg added.

"Stichting Jeugdwerk Jong Bonaire is very proud to play a role in the return of this important book, especially since its author, Betty Ratzlaff-Henriquez, has spent so many of her years in the Antilles working with youth projects," said Senchi.

On Bonaire, copies will be available at Addo's Bookstore and Flamingo Bookstore on Kaya Grandi and Bonaire Chat 'n Browse at the Sand Dollar Shopping Center.

The dictionary will also be for sale in Curação and Aruba. Retail price of the dictionary will be \$45 (or NAf 80.) This Second Edition of the Papiamentu-English Dictionary has been printed on slightly lighter paper in an effort to keep printing and shipping costs low. As a result, the book can be sold at close to the same price as 10 years ago.

For people not living on the ABC islands, the book is also available on-line at http://www.papiamentudicitonary.com The price on-line is also US \$45 but buyers must also



After more than five years out of print, the Ratzlaff Papiamentu-English Dictionary is once again on the market... and in a very special way

pay shipping and handling costs when they order on line.

The return of this important dictionary has been a combined effort between Jong Bonaire, Trans World Radio and Mike Gaynor of Bonaire Chat 'n Browse, who pushed for the return of the book and will manage the sales effort.

Some of the changes in the Second Edition include the addition of over 100 words that were missing from the original version of the Dictionary. There is also a new section that explains some of the differences between the Papiamentu of Aruba and that of Bonaire and Curaçao. The biographical information on the author has been updated and information on the new sponsor of the

dictionary, Jong Bonaire, is also included. This new version also has a divider page between the Papiamentu and English sections. This means that users will not have to turn the book upside down to switch from one section to the other.

From the author

"I see more and more English speakers moving to the islands who want to learn Papiamentu," says the author Betty Ratzlaff -Henriquez. "I think that is just great. It is the best way to be part of the culture." jects including the revisions and additions to this Second Edition of the Papiamentu/ English Dictionary. Other projects include publishing a collection of inspirational writings by Bicento with illustrations by Betty.

Her commitment to the Papiamentu language began in 1949 when she arrived in Aruba as one of the first youth workers in the organization known as TEAM. Intensive study in the first year along with daily contact with Antilleans gave her the basics of the language.

Betty Ratzlaff-Henriquez started collecting and defining Papiamentu words in 1958 while teaching Papiamentu on Aruba. She began work on the First Edition of this dictionary in 1985 when she was working for Trans World Radio and teaching the TWR staff the language. TWR created a foundation and published the dictionary in 1992.

In addition to her language contributions, the author is also well known in the Antilles for her camping ministry for youth which began in 1960. In 1964 she founded Centro Juvenil Washington in Aruba. Recognition for this work was made in 1979 when she received the Woman of the Year award by the five major newspapers.

In 1997 she retired and returned to her native Canada but she did not leave the Antilles behind. A year later she married Bicento Henriquez, a life-long family friend

who had lost his wife of more than 50 years. Since then Betty and Bicento have lived in both Aruba and Canada, but at the end of April 2008 they packed up and returned to Aruba where most of Bicento's children and grand children live.

Since their marriage, Betty and Bicento have worked together on a number of projects including the revisions and additions to this Second Edition of the Papiamentu/ English Dictionary. Other projects include publishing a collection of inspirational writings by Bicento with illustrations by Betty. They have also launched a website for their inspirational writings, inviting visitors to read, comment, and post questions at: www.bbhenriquez.blogspot.com

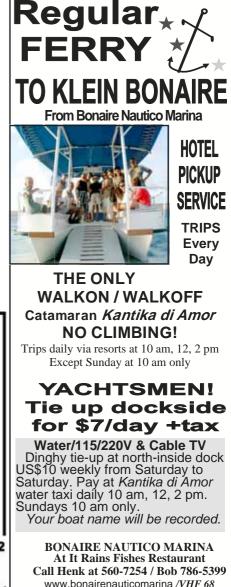
Betty has also written a book in the Papiamentu language entitled *Centro Juvenil Washington – 1965-1995. 30 Aña di Historia.* This book about the Aruba youth center can be ordered online at bvratzlaff@gmail.com with CJW30 in the "subject line."

Jong Bonaire is an after-school program for teenagers, which has been in operation since 1999, providing a safe, structured environment for the island's high school students. Building self-esteem, self-confidence and self-discipline are three important goals of Jong Bonaire. Activities at Jong Bonaire include help with homework, computers, sports, drama, community involvement, drug prevention, arts and crafts, music and many others. For more information about Jong Bonaire, call 717-4303 or e-mail: manager@jongbonaire.org

■ Alan Gross/Jane Townsend







info@bonairenauticomarina.com

The Role of Jong Bonaire in the Second Edition of the Papiamentu-English Dictionary

The popular Papiamentu-English Dictionary by Betty Ratzlaff-Henriquez has been out of print for a number of years even though there has been a constant demand for it. The original publisher and owner of the copyright, Trans World Radio Dictionary Foundation, was looking for an organization to handle the reprinting because of their reduced personnel on Bonaire.

Stichting Jeugdwerk Jong Bonaire saw this as an opportunity to help preserve the dictionary and also to raise funds for its afterschool program for teens on Bonaire. A large portion of the income from sales will go to Jong Bonaire for this purpose. Another large portion will be set aside to be used for future reprinting of the dictionary so that it remains an important part of preserving the language.

Jong Bonaire is committed to the formances in the competitions use and preservation of the Papiamentu language, which is the primary language of the youth center. It is used for all the teen programs and activities as well as staff and bestuur meetings. Any non-Antillean staff member must learn the language to be able to work at the center.

Jong Bonaire and its members are also active participants in the Arte di Palabra competitions in Papiamentu, which are held each year on Curação. Several of the youth center members have brought home prizes for their per-



Jong Bonaire Scuba Class

which celebrate the language.

Jong Bonaire has had the dictionary redesigned with a new cover by Bart Landheer, a frequent donor and volunteer with Jong Bonaire. Landheer, who is a designer and photographer, spends about half his time on Bonaire. He has also created a website for the new dictionary:

www.papiamentudictionary.com The Jong Bonaire organization also worked with the author to revise and update parts of the dictionary and then arranged for the printing. Administration of the

project will be handled by the youth center's bookkeeping staff who will work with Bonaire Chat 'n Browse to fulfill orders.

About Jong Bonaire

Jong Bonaire is an after-school program for teenagers which has been in operation since 1999 providing a safe, structured environment for the island's high school students. The center has a staff of eight professionals and a corps of part-time workers and volunteers to provide an effective ratio of staff to youth. This investment in a professional staff allows Jong Bonaire to dependably serve the

teens and their families with a wide variety of programs.

Building self-esteem, selfconfidence and self-discipline are three important goals of Jong Bonaire. Activities at Jong Bonaire include help with homework, computers, sports, drama, community involvement, drug prevention, arts and crafts, music and many others. The scuba diving certification program is just one activity that helps prepare teens for job opportunities in the Bonaire economy. Another group is learning about nutrition and how to prepare food.

Other members are exploring the possibility of one day becoming a nurse. Members of Club Sosial spend time at the old people's home and hospital helping the patients and nurses. Others help at the local animal shelter, feeding and bathing the animals. The teens are learning to volunteer and to give back to their community while they explore possible career options.

The sports program is an essential part of the effort to build selfconfidence, discipline and teamwork. With two full-time sports leaders the center organizes teams in several sports and conducts competitions.

Positive Discipline is the operating principle of Jong Bonaire. It is a system that rewards and reenforces good behavior. The young people soon learn that they get more attention for positive

behavior than for negative actions. All programs are designed to build and to maintain links between the center and the families. Throughout the year, parent nights and family activities are held to help strengthen family ties.

The need for donations is ongoing since the staff and Board of Directors make every effort to assure that no teen is excluded for economic reasons. If a parent is unable to pay the modest monthly dues, sponsors are found so that the teens can continue as members. Because the average member contribution is less than NAf 1 15 (\$8) per month, the center can not support itself with membership dues alone and must rely on outside donors for the bulk of its funding.

The Island Government of Bonaire contributes approximately 30% of the Operating Budget. Another 35% is provided by AMFO. The Foundation must raise the other third of the operating budget every year through grants and corporate or individual contributions plus local fundraising activities, parents' contributions, and rental of the facility.

Jong Bonaire

Kaya Simon. Bolivar 16 Kralendijk, Bonaire Netherlands Antilles

tel: +599-717-4303 fax: +599-717-6467

manager@jongbonaire.org www.jongbonaire.org. ■ Alan Gross/Jane Townsend



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Orange, Oranje And Of Course, Football

It's going to be a big party at the Holland clubhouse in Le Flamboyant during the upcoming EK soccer. At least that's what it looks like. They painted the whole place orange, hung up big TV screens and they'll give free Polar beer away after each goal the Dutch team makes. They will also have a barbeque for NAf 15 p/p. If this isn't enough you can become a member for NAf 25,- and win lots of great prizes. Holland beat Italy in their first game, so things look good for the Oranje.■

Photos & story by Dennis Lensink





European Championship Soccer 2008 preliminary, quarter, semifinals and the final match will be shown at many bars and hotels through the month of June. Enjoy the camaraderie.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lou Barlass Becomes a GREAT
GRANDMOTHER For A Second Time!

A nnouncing the birth of Great Granddaughter Alex Charles Barlass, born June 1, 2008, at Holland Hospital in Holland, Michigan. She was 5 pounds, 4 ounces and 18 inches long

She gurgles like a true SCUBA diver!

Proud Parents: Kayla Kohnely & Derek Barlass ■ Sharon Barlass



Bertica Frans 30 Years At MCB

n May 1, Bertica Frans, celebrated 30 years of service at MCB Bonaire. During her career she held various positions in the bank. She began as a secretarial assistant to Evert Piar (in the photo with Bertica) at the time when the bank had only 12 persons. During the last four years she's been part of the on-line



banking team. The bank honored her with a dinner attended by her family and colleagues at It Rains Fishes restaurant as well as the customary envelope.

MCB release



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Keeping Bonaire Clean

B onaire has the reputation of being the campaign in Rincon was cleanest island in the Caribbean. This is due in no small and has repart to the efforts of Selibon, sulted in the island's waste management privatized company. In more of the recent weeks they have been very active.

Last week Selibon's Environmental Police uncovered an illegal operation that could have affected the health of the island's food **shoppers.** A pickup truck was intercepted leaving the landfill full of food and beverages that had been discarded because they were out-of-date or otherwise defective. The goods were intended for resale in local groceries.

According to Selibon's PR and Marketing Coordinator, Lucia Martinez-Beck, the landfill now has a scale to weigh incoming trucks with trash in order to determine the dumping fee. It fied Selibon. The perpetrawill be installed soon. However, twice a month the landfill will be open, free, to private, non-commercial people to dump. There are plans to segregate areas of the landfill for different types of trash: paper, glass, metal, etc.

The neighborhood cleanup and educational

CALL WITHIN THE ANTILLES FOR

a success public acting as watchdogs for illegal dumping. Every house was given a flyer about

waste man-

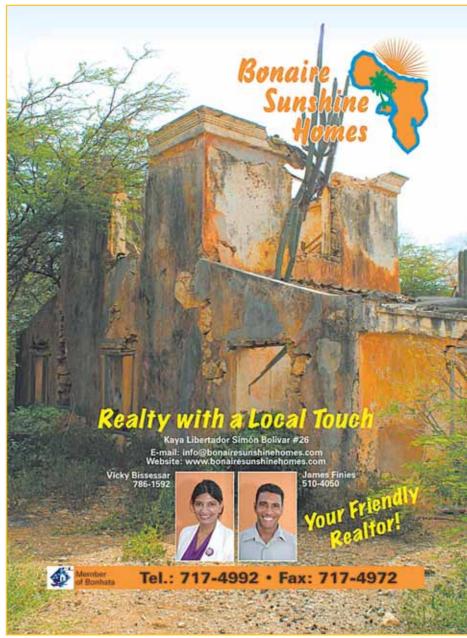
agement and the fines for anyone caught dumping in the wrong places. Students from **Jong Bonaire made** 10 signs placed at illegal dumping spots, saying, "Stop - Don't Throw Trash Here. There is a **NAf 5.000 fine!"** Two young men driving around the mundi saw guys dumping trash, took photos with their cell phone of them and their license plate and notitors were caught, charged and fined.

People and organizations having an event in a public place must give a deposit ahead of time which will be cao company will be workrefunded after the event if the area has been cleaned **up**. Selibon is taking steps with DEZA to ask for a deposit from construction



companies, the amount to be determined by the cost of the construction. The same will apply. They get the deposit back if they clean

On June 16 a company from Curação will come with a crusher and take away 1,500 derelict cars from the landfill, the streets and the mondi as well as the mountain of scrap metal from BOPEC and WEB behind Consales Cash and Carry that a Venezuelan company used to store the scrap to ship off island. They did take some but left most of it. The Curaing on the island, gathering the cars and the scrap for about two weeks. They will then ship it off island, possibly to China. \blacksquare *L.D.*









greenlabel@telbonet.an

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DINING GUIDE

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 ambiance 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		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)
Calabas Restaurant & Chibi Chibi Restaurant and Bar At the Divi Flamingo Beach Resort Waterfront 717-8285	Moderate Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner Open 7 days	Biggest BBQ Buffet on Bonaire every Saturday from 6-9pm. Only NAf 28,50 or \$16.
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 Bonaire's first Argentine grill 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
Philips Cooking and Organizing www.philipscooking.com 701-1100	Personal Chef	For Private Dinners, Catering, Party Snacks and Wedding Services Let Philip do it all

SHOPPING GUIDE

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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 instore financing too.

RANKS

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.

CELLULAR SERVICE

Mio offers by far the clearest, most phone reliable signal on the island. And their personnel are trained and friendly. Check out their unlimited calling plan.

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.

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.

Top Health Bonaire Fitness and Health Center Modern workout rooms and machines, professional trainers

and low prices make it easy to lose weight and get fit.

FURNITURE, ANTIQUES

Interiyours— New name, same owner and location. Has lots of beautiful, often one-of-a-kind furniture, antiques, crafts and accessories from mainland China and Indonesia.

GARDEN SUPPLIES AND SERVICES

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Sunshine Homes is the realtor with a local touch. Ask them to show you the good value homes they list. Call them if you are thinking of selling your home.

RESORTS & ACTIVITIES Puddy Dive Resert offers

Buddy Dive Resort offers diving, Adventure Fun tours

including kayaking, mountain biking, cave snorkeling and exploration. Full service dive shop and photo shop too.

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SOLUTION TO DO YOU SUDOKU?

Puzzle on page 7

Career

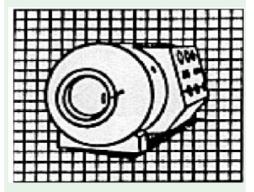
Opportunities

he Mariadal Foundation at San Francisco Hospital is offering the opportunity to study for two very useful and needed careers: ziekenverzorger (orderly) and verpleegkundige (nurse). It will take three years to become an orderly (Intermediate Vocational Education level 3) and four years to become a nurse (Intermediate Vocational Education level 4). A high school PKL diploma is a prerequisite for the first and a TKL for the second.

The first year of both studies is the same. You will have lessons for one week and then work for three weeks, so you will immediately start working at your profession. When you are a certified as an orderly, you may continue to study to become a nurse, which will take another three years. After you have the nurse diploma, you can continue your studies in the Nether-

lands at the HBOv (School of Higher Vocational Education). The studies will start September first. If you like helping people and you do not mind working at all hours, please contact the following people: Henna Doedel, 717-8900 ext 712 or Liana Francees, 717-8900 ext 744. ■ *Mary* Ann Koops





ollowing the turnover of a NAf 10.00 donation from BONHATA, Bonaire's dive medicine doctor, Dick van der Vaart, said, "I am very proud on the new recompression chamber which we're installing on Bonaire. It will be the best facility in the Caribbean." According to Sara Matera, BONHATA President, the donation is in line with its aims of supporting social improvement projects on Bon-

During the last two years about 400 people were treated in the chamber, not only for decompression sickness, but also for wound healing. The new chamber will have digital monitoring and be capable of providing pressurization to a depth of 50 meters (165 ft.).

After 20 years of operation it was time for a replacement chamber. The Recompression Chamber Foundation which operates and maintains the chamber still needs NAf~300.000 to pay for the new equipment. \blacksquare *G.D.*

here are Tabbies and there are Tabbies. "Felicia," our Tabby Pet of the Week, is very unusual and special: she loves dogs and is just fascinated by them. How rare is that in a cat? She's so attractive with her three colors and happy little face. As a very young kitten she had the brains to look for refuge off the streets after she'd been abandoned. But the people whose garden she went to couldn't keep her so they brought her into the Shelter. Felicia is about eight months



old and is very affectionate with people. So if you're looking for a friendly cat to be friends with your gentle and friendly dog, Felicia is the perfect one. The cat adoption fee of NAf 75 includes shots, testing for feline leukemia, worming and sterilization. You may be sure that the animal you adopt from the Bonaire Animal Shelter is in perfect health and is socialized with humans.

Speaking of socialization, the volunteers who have been working with the cats have been doing a fantastic job. I've never seen so many affectionate cats before. As I entered the cat cage to take some photos, many of them came running up to me. As I sat in the chair several of them jumped up on me, purring like mad and looking for attention. One of those cats, I learned had been brought in as a wild, scary kitten, terrified of people. But with the love and care of the Shelter staff and volunteers that cat is now one of the most social, affectionate ones.

Everyone is welcome to stop by the Shelter. It's even on many of our tourists' lists to visit. It's on the Lagoen Road and is open Monday through Saturday, 9 am to 1 pm, 3 to 5 pm. Tel. 717-4989. WWW.BonaireAnimalShelter.org The Shelter staff is now maintaining the website and they're doing a fine job. They're keeping things up to date and you may even find *The Reporter's* Pets of the Week. ■*L.D.*

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Recompression Chamber Foundation, established January 16, 1986 PO Box 335, Bonaire, Netherlands Antilles Donate direct to MCB-Bonaire Account 868384-00

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KRALENDIJK TIDES (Heights in feet, FT)

DATE Time Ht. Time	Ht. Time H	t. Time Ht.	`	COEF
6-13 6:51 1.0FT. 10:2	23 1.0FT. 11:57	1.0FT. 22:00	1.9FT.	44
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6-26 4:40 1.2FT. 5:4	9 1.2FT. 12:05	1.0FT. 20:16	1.7FT.	53
6-27 5:47 1.1FT. 7:4	4 1.1FT. 11:52	1.0FT. 20:36	1.8FT.	51

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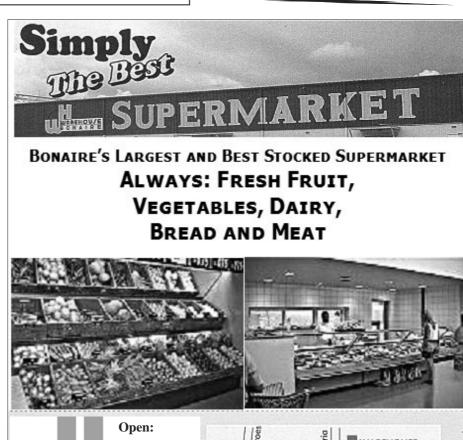
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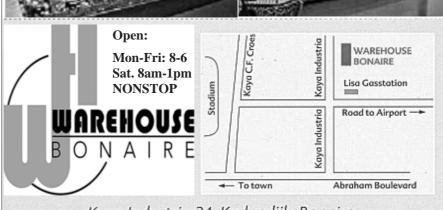
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Bubbles from the Biologist Photo: Humann's Reef Creature ID book

Did You Know....

Did you know that the Common Comet sea star is able to regenerate an entirely new body from a single severed arm? The Common Comet star (*Linckia guildingii*), found in Florida, Bermuda and the Caribbean, inhabits the coral reef and is usually beige or tan in color, although it occasionally appears light red or purple. The Common Comet star is named for its Comet-like appearance during regeneration when the large regenerating arm resembles the tail of the comet with the smaller new rays forming a star shape in front. Although regeneration can occur as a result of damage or predation, adult sea stars can voluntarily detach an arm as a form of asexual reproduction, or even split their bodies in half to produce two new individuals! Wow! ■ *Jean Pearson*.

Jean Pearson lives in Maine, and is a sophomore at Colorado College. She is a Biology Major and Studio Art Minor. Jean studied at CIEE Research Station Bonaire during the spring semester.



Picture Yourself With The Reporter Timbavati, South Africa



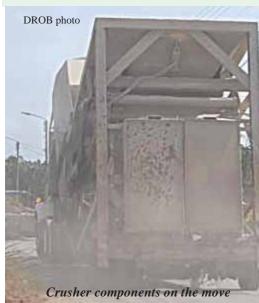
B ob and Cynthia Tseng, Bonaire Gold Ambassadors, are pictured reading *The Reporter* "during a break tracking a Leopard in Timbavati, South Africa. On the left is their tracker, Patrick, and on the right is their guide, Scotch, a Timbavati Ranger.

P.S. We found the big cat and got some great photos. (shown in foreground inset)

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: info@bonairereporter.com.



 $\mathbf T$ he island Government has given permission to Wilca, NV of Gunter Seraus to move the giant rock crusher from its present site near Onima to a newly defined industrial area in the east side Santa Clara area. The change is expected to be completed in two weeks. The crusher site at Onima was a problem to the residents of Rincon and to drivers on the Rincon road. Hopefully the new site will not be as bothersome. Large quantities of crushed stone and sand are needed to power Bonaire's current building boom. \blacksquare G.D.











MILE COUNTY STATES

HAPPENING SOON

Saturday, June 14 – Outdoor Marshé in the center of Rincon. Have breakfast, stroll the stands selling fruits, vegetables, herbs, local food, gifts, candles. Get a taste of local flavor from some of the friendliest people on the island – from 6 am until 2 pm.

- -BBQ to help raise money for Jemy's heart surgery (page 2)
- Wine Tasting at AWC the last of the season at AWC warehouse on Kaya Industyria 23 across from Warehouse Bonaire-Rocargo, from 7 to 9 pm. Great wines. NAf 20 per person for 6 to 8 wines. Call 560-7539
- Signup for 1st Annual Bonaire Barracuda/Sedrebo International open Water Swim Competition, 5 pm at Kas di Regatta: email BonaireBarracudas@hotmail.com

Sunday, June 15 - Father's Day

-1st Annual Bonaire Barracuda/Sedrebo International open Water Swim Competition. Check in 7 am. Awards ceremony at Kas di Regatta

Thursday, June 19 —Book signing, Sailing and Cooking throughout Caribbean, Addo's Books & Toys 5-8pm (page 4)

Friday, June 20 – Summer Solstice –longest day of the year

Sunday, June 22-Taste of Bonaire at Wilhelmina Park opens Dive Into Summer, 6 pm

Monday, Tuesday, June 23-24 – San Juan Festival at Sentro di Bario, North Salina and Rose Inn, Rincon, and La Tropicana, 8 pm. Fire jumping at the barrios, at the home of Doei Diaz (next door to Richard's Restaurant), at the Bonaire Museum and at Rincon.

Sunday, July 6 – Dia di Arte – WWW.BonaireArt.org, Email: artandculture65@hotmail.com - more information in future issues

Bonaire Wellness Month June 1-29, 2008, Schedule of Free Events:

6:30pm- Eden Beach Resort **Mondays June 16, 23** 6:15- 7:30am Mountain Bike Ride (all levels) Eden Beach

5- 6:30pm Hiking, Eden Beach Resort

6-7 Lecture "Healthy Lifestyle"-Bon Fysio *

Tuesdays June 17, 24 6:15-7:30am Mountain Bike Ride (For advanced riders) starting from Eden Beach [Miguel]* 8-9am Fun Swim & Snorkeling, Eden Beach

5- 6:30pm Mountain Bike Ride (all levels)

6-7pm Health Check Up, Bon Fysio Wednesdays June 18, 25 6:15-7:30am Mountain Bike Ride (all levels), Eden Beach

5- 6:30pm Hiking, Eden Beach 6-7pm Workouts for Supreme Core Stability, BWC Fitness Center

Thursdays June 19, 26 6:15-7:30am Mountain Bike Ride (Advanced riders), Eden Beach

8-9:30am Hiking, Eden Beach Resort

5- 6:30pm Mountain Bike Ride (all levels)

6–7 pm Health Check Up, Bon Fysio Therapy Center

Fridays June 20, 27

8- 9:00am Fun Swim & Snorkeling. Location: Eden Beach Resort [*Miguel*] **Saturdays June 21, 28**

8-9am Running Clinic, Bon Fysio 10:30-11 am Lecture "Back Injuries and Prevention," Bon Fysio *

5-6:30pm Mountain Biking Ride (all levels)

Sundays June 15, 22, 29

4-5 pm Fun Swim & Snorkeling, Eden Beach

Sunday June 29 Closing Ceremony + Party 5:30pm Eden Beach *Please register in advance for

*Please register in advance for lectures via telephone 717-7030/7850 or email Bonfysio@telbonet.an

REGULAR EVENTS

- The popular **SGB High School restaurant, Chez Nous**, is open to the public. Four-course dinners with welcome cocktail on Tuesdays. Seating begins at 6 pm. Lunches on Wednesday & Thursdays. Call 717-8120, ask for Chez Nous or email: keesleeman@telbonet.an
- 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**, 6-10pm

- 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. Big Marché first Saturday of the Month—www.infobonaire.com/rincon.
- All You Can Eat BBQ at Divi Flamingo with live music, 6 to 9 pm. Call for reservations 717-8285 ext. 444.
- 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.

• 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

- "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

• "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 pm

Fridays

- Harbour Village Tennis, Social Round Robin 7-10 pm. \$10 per person. Cash bar. All invited. Call Elisabeth Vos at 565-5225
- 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

Sunday- Creature Feature- John and Suzie Wall of Buddy's Digital photo center present a multimedia slide Presentation about Buddy's House Reef - pool bar Buddy Dive, 6:30-7 pm, 717-5080 Monday-Dee Scarr's Touch the Sea Slide Presentation, Capt. Don's Habitat, 8:30 pm. 717-8529

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

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.

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 at 7pm; every Sunday at 5pm. Phone: 786-7699. **Al-Anon meetings** - every **Monday** evening at 7 pm. Call 790-7272

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

Bridge Club - Wednesdays, 7.30 pm) All levels, NAf2,50. Call Joop 717-5903 for venue.

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 - '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.

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 Kral-

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: Centro di Bario Nord Saliña, Sundays, 10 am. Services in Dutch. 700-0379.

International Bible Church of Bonaire, at SGB High School auditorium (Kaya Frater Odulfinus, off Kaya Korona.) Sunday services in English at 9 am; Sunday evening prayer meeting at Pastor's home, 7 pm. Fridays, 6 to 8 pm, Light & Life Club, children 5 to 12 yrs. 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 –

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

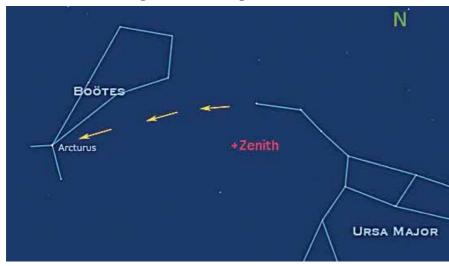
Ministerio di Kristu Hesus Services Sunday mornings at 10 am at Jong Bonaire Youth Center in English, Dutch and Papiamentu. Preaching the full gospel. Contact: 786-2557.

Send event info to:

The Bonaire Reporter Email reporter@bonairenews.com



Bootes And The Bright Star That Opened The World's Fair Of 1933



ll throughout June if you go outside into the Sky Park just after it gets dark A and look almost overhead you will see a very bright star which was very famous in the early 20th century because its light was used to open the World's Fair in Chicago in 1933.

During June, just after it gets dark out, face north where just to the west of the North Star you will see the seven stars which make up the Big Dipper. Four stars mark its cup and three stars mark its handle. And as all you regular viewers know you can use the handle to find a very bright star. Simply draw a line through the handle and continue that line in the same curve or arc and you'll "arc to Arcturus," which is the brightest star of the constellation, Bootes the Herdsman. But those other stars are less bright than the Big Dipper's, and if we draw lines between them would look something like a kite.

Now, although astronomers usually call Bootes the Herdsman, he is also called the bear driver because some legends say that he chases two celestial bears around the North Star. You see, the Big Dipper is part of the constellation, Ursa Major, the big bear, and the Little Dipper is part of the constellation, Ursa Minor, the little bear. Bootes is also called the plowman because some European cultures see the Big Dipper as a plow and Bootes as the plowman endlessly turning up celestial turf as he steers his plow, endlessly circling the north star.

At any rate it's his brightest star Arcturus which was super famous three quarters of a century ago when it was used to open the World's Fair in Chicago. The reasoning behind this was that 40 years earlier, in 1893, Chicago had also hosted a World's Fair. And astronomers believed that Arcturus was 40 light years away. So someone came up with the bright idea that wouldn't it be nifty if the light of Arcturus, which left it in 1893, could be used to open the World's Fair when its light arrived 40 years later in 1933. So a device was set up whereby the rays from Arcturus were passed through a telescope which focused this light onto a photo electric cell which then generated a small electrical current which was then used to turn on the lights of the fair. And it really worked! Only one problem, however, since then we have discovered that Arcturus is a bit closer, 37 light years away. So early 20th century astronomers got it wrong, but only by three years, which is pretty

Arcturus is the 4th brightest star we can see and is 23 times wider than our Sun, a whopping 20 million miles wide. Plus it is 115 times brighter. It is actually speeding toward us and will do so for another couple of thousand years. After which, however, it will speed away from us and fade from sight in only half a million years! So see it now before it disappears out of sight. ■ Jack Horkheimer



ARIES (Mar. 21- April 20) Your charm will be captivating. Join a club to work off that excess energy; but consider ways of doing that without spending the money. Your best efforts will come through hard work. Don't torment yourself. Disharmony in the home will be extremely stressful. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a

TAURUS (Apr. 21- May 21) You might find it difficult to control your emotions. You need a break from your daily routine. You could find yourself having problems with coworkers and employers. Social activities will be satisfying. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Wednesday.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21) Time is money and you must be ready to take action in order to reach your highest potential. Go over their important documents and take the time to suggest alternatives. Entertain those who can provide you with valuable information and knowledge. Don't get talked into get rich quick schemes. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Saturday.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) Plan events like camping or white water rafting. Your best efforts will come through hard work. You can bet that someone in a higher position is watching to see how busy you are. Get on with your life. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Monday.

LEO (July 23-Aug 22) A new image can be the result if you change your look. Try to be understanding. Partnerships will be favorable and contracts can be signed. You will be accident prone if you aren't careful this month. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Friday.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) Insincere gestures of friendliness may be misleading. You will drive your emotional partner crazy this month. It might be best to keep your ideas to yourself this month. Health problems may prevail if you don't take care of them immediately. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Monday.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) There might be one who is quite willing to take the credit for your work. You may be uncertain about some of your coworkers and your boss. Look after financial transactions this month. Think twice before you agree to take on any new projects. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Monday.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) Try to stay calm and do the best you can. Check into art objects or precious stones. You can do well in group endeavors. Leave things as they are for the moment and focus on reaching your highest potential at work. You may want to sign up for courses that will encourage you to have more confidence in yourself. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Thursday.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) Inharmonious situations at home may be extremely upsetting for you this month. Dig deep, ferret out any hidden concerns be fore you sign your life away. Get rich quick schemes will not be successful. You may have difficulties with foreigners. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Tuesday.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) You can get a great deal accomplished if you bring work home. Problems on the home front might be a little disconcerting. Look into intellectual and physical games that will test your abilities. Do your work at home, if you can. Someone may be trying to make you look bad. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Monday.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) You will be tempted to shop till you drop. Do not overspend on entertainment. Hard work will payoff if you refrain from expressing your opinion to superiors. You should be in business for yourself. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Monday.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) A change is as good as a rest. Don't go looking for change. You may have ignored or neglected your mate lately. A series of misunderstandings may be at fault. You will have a greater involvement in groups; however, they may not be to your advantage. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Tuesday. ■

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What's Coming Our Way?

FI Pueblo

In the last issue of this series we finished the "island developments tour" at Hilltop where at the end of Kaya Barcadera the grounds of El Pueblo have been prepared for construction. So why not continue right there? In other words, the what, where, when and who about the development called El Pueblo, that's coming our way there.

Two to three years ago there was only the Caribbean Club resort (then 26 units) and five private homes. That is changing now. A small apartment complex has risen (Hilltop Apartments), and very recently the oceanfront "Wedding Village" - nine villas, one with a special bridal suite - was completed. Management of both is in the hands of the Caribbean Club (see Flotsam and Jetsam item). We also learn from their website that Caribbean Club is planning to add extra apartments and Hilltop Oasis here, which will result in a 50+ unit resort.

But for now let's focus on El Pueblo, to be located just north of the Caribbean Club, right on the ocean up on the cliff. The people behind the project are the same ones who are currently finishing Waterlands Village (across from the airport, with the wall paintings), however, this project will be something completely different.

There is no construction going on yet at the site. The various lots have been laid out and we see the beginnings of what will be a road, but that's about it. That will change in the upcoming week with the building of the first foundations. Eventually 27 villas will arise at this location (see photo). Stunning sea views here. Before building permission was granted, the developers did extensive cave exploration to secure grounds for future inhabitants and wildlife.

Although possibly not everyone supports construction at this location, it is good to hear that the home septic tank systems make use of the latest technology, a four-chamber, Bio-Rock system. The water coming out at the end of this septic system is totally free of nutrients (you could almost drink it, but we pass the glass as you may imagine), and therefore doesn't do any damage to the reefs by contributing to algae growth. We encountered this same system before at the wooden fit in very well. houses on platforms at Kaminda Sorobon. Hopefully we are witnessing a trend on the island. Sustainable aspects of the project are



The unspoiled views from El Pueblo are unparalleled on Bonaire



Aerial View, Bonaire Caribbean Club is on the right



Bio-Rock system installed in Holland

also reflected in using only pressure treated wood and fully insulated roofs.

Except for the cliff side, the land will be enclosed with a cactus fence, making it a gated community, and mainly zero file (needing little water) vegetation will be planted.

Two different home types will be built. The names, "Adobe" and "Santa Fe," tell us that inspiration comes from a style of construction found in the pueblos (villages) near Santa Fe, with a clear Mexican touch. Having fajitas, nachos, enchiladas or tacos on the porch for dinner will probably fit in very well.

Although the sea is close by (there will be a footpath to down below), each home will have its own swimming pool, and it will be delivered "turn key," meaning that owners need only bring their personal belongings. All the rest –from a TV set to teaspoons- will already be there.

However, before that a lot still needs to be done and it won't be finished before the end of 2009. ■ Marcel Leurs



Sewer Signup



Minister Eurlings, Prime Minister De Jongh-Elhage and Commissioner Burney El Hage signing the declaration of intent for the tertiary water treatment system for Kralendijk.

utch Minister Camiel **Eurlings of Transport** and Communication said that his working visit to Bonaire was very important. His comments, quoted in the Dutch press, indicated he was captured by the warmth and friendliness of the island's people. He keyed on the environment and the airport in his public statements: "The (tertiary) water treatment system for Kralendijk is very important for the coral reefs of Bonaire. There is € million allocated for this in the budget of my ministry (separate from the general transition funding), so the project can be carried out soon.

The water treatment system is a project that has been in the works for almost 20 years. The European Union has already allocated €19.5 million available for the project.

In reference to Flamingo Airport, Eurlings said that The Netherlands will assume her responsibility and will make between 55 and 95 million guilders investment to bring the airport up to world standards by August, 2008. Work will begin in the Fall.

Press release



Klinika Veterinario Bonaire Animal Hacnital Dierenartsen team:

Animal Hospital Dierenkliniek

Drs. Arie Binksma Drs. Hans & Etty Lambeek

Drs. Seib Fietsma Drs. Ytzen v.d. Werf

Kaminda Lagun 24A, Tel 717-4255

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Island View

LET'S TALK ABOUT SEX, BABY

(Currently there is discussion about keeping pregnant high schools girls out of school when they begin to "show" Editor)

t's normal that a Lehild at a certain age will get interested in its fellow humans in a sexual way. In fact it is just biology working, otherwise we would stop existing as the human species. In the old days it was normal that as soon as a girl was able to reproduce, she would marry and take care of the household of her husband. But now, the

realization that women have the same rights as men has kicked in. Furthermore, for the development of our society as we know it, it is not wise anymore to leave 50% of the workforce at home. It is also not a good idea to let the young people start in the workforce without an education. So now we want to have every child in school for at least 16 years, beginning at the age of four. And after that investment we would like to see something in return in the form of a job and a career. That means that it is considered "not smart" to start by having children at any age younger than

However, biology runs its own course, and it does not wait for an education and a career. Every teenager gets infected by a sex drive so strong that it will overshadow everything else in his or her mind. Biology lessons at school and the media can teach them everything theoretical about sex. But school can teach them almost nothing about relationships and commitment. That is where the parents and society come in. They have to teach their children to wait for the right moment, not to confuse sex with love, and to use contraceptives and disease prevention! Too often, this is not done, or not in the right way. Then some girls pay the ultimate price by getting pregnant at a very young age.

Why is teenage pregnancy so horrible? Often the girls are from a socially disadvantaged background. Statistics show that children from teen mothers are more likely to experience malnutrition, a bad living environment with violence and drugs, and they are more likely to die in their first year... and 75% of teenagers who get pregnant were born from teenage mothers themselves. It seems like a spiral going down from the first mistake a girl makes followed by generations of mistakes.

Bonaire needs educated people. But if those people have a child



too young, they will have lessened their chances of getting a good education and ultimately a good diploma. This leads to fewer chances in the job market. They have more chance of ending up in jobs which don't pay enough to be able to care for their child. This can lead to a life of crime and or violence, trying to make ends meet. Here we are in that downward spiral again.

The figures for the Antilleans living in the Netherlands (a breakdown of Bonaireans is not available, Ed.) are not something to celebrate. In 2003, for every 1,000 teenage girls between 15 and 19 years old, about 33 gave birth. (That means, of course, that a lot more got pregnant, but they either got an abortion or the pregnancy terminated naturally). Compare this to the lowest teenage pregnancies figure in the world: In the Netherlands four out of every 1,000 teenagers in that age category had a living child. You see a striking difference. In the Netherlands teens of Surinamese and Antillean origin contribute one third to the teen pregnancies. So even amongst Antillean teens living in another country, too many get pregnant too soon.

What can we do then? Shun them? Take them away and hide them because they set a bad example for the others? These are the girls confused by hormones and the promises of their "boyfriends." And now they are even more vulnerable because of the extra hormones from their pregnancy. If you take them away from their friends, they will be marked for the rest of their lives, and they are already marked because of the child that is coming. Also, refusing to let them get a proper education will only aggravate the problem. Because then they will have even less chance of getting a good job; their child will most likely experience poverty, and that will have an effect on his or her education, etc. Plus, children up to

Colored Rainbow

The 31st of a series of Bonaire Reporter articles by J@n Brouwer, featuring some of Bonaire's interesting vehicles that are "on wheels."

Bonaire/Playa he Toyota Hilux truck owned by Wanna Dive has just been repaired and restored after suffering a minor collision. Despite its multi- colored appearance the vehicle was invisible at the wrong moment and a little repair had to be done to the right front end of the almost always reliable truck.

Originally this car was produced in Japan and made mostly of metal. During the last couple of years the car was intensively modified on Bonaire. Now the truck consists of a steel chassis, an engine and some paneling made of steel, but the amount of wooden parts is increasing every day! The part of the car behind the cabin is completely made of wood, the floor of the passenger compartment is made of wood and even the benches in the cabin of this "woody" are made of the natural material produced by trees! No problems with termites yet!

Nobody knows with what color the truck left the factory in Japan, years and years ago. At this moment the car is painted yellow, orange, green, blue and even black-board black!

The car, registered: 1612 - V, is equipped with a very standard four-cylinder engine and an ordinary four-speed gearbox. No power steering, no extras. Only power brakes and belts for safety. This is a very ordinary utility vehicle but made of steel and wood.

The top of the four side doors are cut off. There are no windows any more and the drivers and passengers just enjoy the ecologi-



The multi colored "woody" from Wanna Dive. Nicole Schuppers (18, enjoying life) is one of the three regular drivers of this tribute to Bonairean auto-culture.

cal and natural system of air conditioning.

The car is fitted with a red plastic Neptune Marine fuel tank, a tank normally used by small boats. It holds 22.7 liters/6 US gallons and is now "on wheels" instead of in the water.

Regular drivers of this running rainbow are Mieke Hermans, supervisor of the Wanna Dive Hut Bonaire hotel, Nicole Schuppers (18) and Noortje de Jong (20). The last two are temporary all round employees who are on the island for five months to complete their internship for colleges in Holland. (Noortje just arrived on the island of Bonaire on the first of June and she already fiddles around with paint and brushes.) Life at Wannadive is full of colors, like the truck!

Nicole explains, "This truck is used every day. It is a real workhorse and our way of transporting unique truck! ■ men and equipment. It is really fun to drive this car and the seats are quite comfortable because of

the right angle of the back. I really like it. The wooden parts of this car do not rust of course and we repaint the vehicle regularly. It is so easy to maintain! And it is fun. The paint dries in a couple of minutes. Then the car is ready to serve again!"

Nicole Schuppers has been connected to the Wanna Dive Hut Bonaire for the last four months. She really likes the work and the

Wanna Dive Hut Bonaire is a low budget hotel, especially for divers, with accommodation for over 40 persons. At the present only breakfast is served. The hotel is open every day of the year.

Feel free to enjoy the relaxed atmosphere and enjoy a cold

drink at the open air bar, enjoy life and get a closer look at the

Story & photo by J@n Brouwer



18 years old are, by law, obligated more information about proper to go to school and receive an education, whether they are handicapped, sick, healthy, pregnant, male or female. Pregnancy is not a crime. Having to deal with a child when you yourself are still a child is hard enough. They should not be punished even more than they (usually only the girls, and not the impregnator!) already are.

We all feel that this is a big problem, and we would really like to fix it. Let us start talking to can work on solving the teenage these teenagers (both the girls and the boys!). They obviously need

sexual behavior, relationships and preventing pregnancies. If we let the media be the sole informer for these teenagers, we are in deep trouble. Then they might think it is normal for a girl to throw herself half naked at men in sexy clothes and sunglasses. If a girl gets pregnant, why do we not ask why?

If you have more scientific information on the natural sexual behavior of teenagers, then you pregnancy problem. Denying the existence of sexual behavior of

teenagers and punishing some teenagers for their stupidity of not using contraceptives is not going

It takes two to tango and a dance floor. We (parents, school and society) had better make sure that they know all about the good things and the bad things that may be. Let's talk about sex. Because

whether you like it or not, they will dance!■ Mary Ann Koops

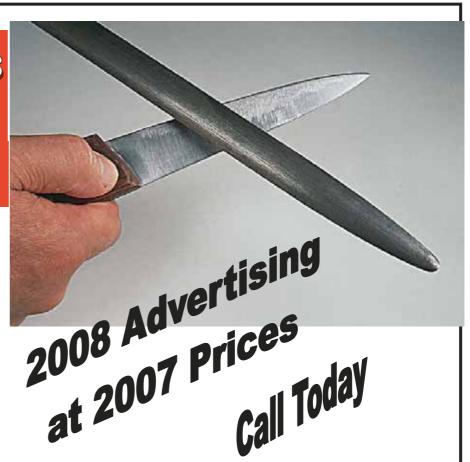
Koops teaches Biology at the SGB High School.



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