

The Alfredo Foundation

~ Providing opportunities for recreation, education and careers ~

By Lisa Davis-Burnett

Scuba diving, snorkelling, free swimming in the ocean – did you ever want to learn these skills, but feel you can't swim well enough, or it's too much money?

Did you think those things are just for tourists? Plenty of St. Maarteners do feel that way, but thanks to the Alfredo Foundation, there is now an opportunity for locals to gain these skills free of charge.

From swimming to scuba certification, this newly formed foundation is offering patient, professional instruction in pools, off beaches, and from boats. Right now six lucky St. Maarteners are getting their Open Water PADI certifications. PADI (Professional Association of Diving Instructors) is the largest certification agency for recreational scuba diving in the world. The students are so excited by what they have learned that they are signing up for the

next class: Advanced Open Water.

Pay it forward!

When someone does you a good turn, express your gratitude by passing a good deed onto the next person. That is the idea that started the Alfredo Foundation. It began with Alfredo Tapia, a licensed commercial diver and certified PADI Scuba Instructor from Peru, who has made his home in St. Maarten for many years. Alfredo spent more than 20 years in the Peruvian military, as a navy seal. He now has a commercial diving business here in St. Maarten, that keeps him busy, especially in high season, but he loves it. Alfredo feels so much gratitude to the island for allowing his family to make their home here, that he wanted to give something back to the community. He shared his mindset with the WEEKender, "I thought, what can I give? I don't have much money, but I can teach diving!"

With this simple idea, Alfredo sought out expert advice as to how to best donate his instruction to the community. "They told me, you have to form a foundation." This meant there had to be



First time? Students at the Divi Little Bay Pool.

at least three persons to head the foundation, Alfredo explained. Enter his colleagues and friends, Ms. Tswana Burleson and Mr. Stephan James. The papers were filed and the foundation was established on April 20, 2009, with Tapia as president, Burleson as secretary and James as treasurer. Their stated purpose is to allow St. Maarten adolescents and adults an introduction to their surrounding waters, providing them with un-

derwater courses in progressive levels: swimming, snorkelling, open water diving, and other more advanced levels that they can follow. Each course level will be offered according to the student's ability to accomplish the skills of the previous class. Although the courses are offered free of charge, participants must commit their time and energy to

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Gearing up! Left to right: Giovanni Parris, Tswana Burleson, Sheldon Labasti, Ryan James, Ricky Van Putten and Taft Primus.

INSIDE

Travel guide Wereldwijzer attracts Dutch tourists to Windward Islands

'Each island offers so much more than sea, sun and sand'

By Wim Hart

Among the travel guides about the Dutch windward islands of St. Maarten, Saba and St. Eustatius, the second edition of Wereldwijzer (World Guide) Sint-Maarten, Sint-Eustatius, Saba has earned its own niche in the world of tourism. Written in Dutch and destined for European Dutch travellers to this Caribbean part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, the guide presents a refreshing view of the three islands and contains much of the latest available information.

Mariëtte van Soesbergen is not just a casual visitor; she lived and worked on St. Maarten from August 2002 until October 2004. She used this time



Travel guide author Mariëtte van Soesbergen, "Thanks to The Daily Herald."

to travel to many of the surrounding islands, keeping her eyes and mind open for the multitude of cultural and natural aspects each of these islands are offering. Two travel guides – one about the Dominican Republic and one about the Dutch windward islands – are the result of her keen observance.

Increased popularity of the travel guide was the reason that publisher Elmar B.V., Rijswijk, Holland, asked Van Soesbergen to write a second, updated edition of Wereldwijzer Sint-Maarten, Sint-Eustatius, Saba. With 165 pages, printed on glossy paper and including many full-colour illustrations, the latest edition is more than

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By Sharon Van Arnhem

Promises, promises! Have you ever made a promise knowing full well that you had no intention of keeping it? Perhaps you got cornered with nowhere to hide and the only way out, as far as you could see, was to promise what you well knew you could not deliver; or maybe you're one of those people who just can't say "no." Have you ever cried out to God from deep distress, promising that if He got you out of this mess, you'll do so-and-so for Him or you would give Him such-and-such; then when He does come to your rescue and delivers you, all the promises go out the window? Or what about making impossible promises to our kids or telling our friends we would always be there for them no matter what, no matter when, no matter why?

Think of the bewildered bride left at the altar by the one who had pledged his undying love for her... or the tearful child, heartbroken over an empty promise from his delinquent parent. Why do we make promises we can't keep? Of course, we could come up with any number of reasons. For starters, we're human, and unforeseen circumstances beyond our control could force us to break promises we sincerely

Promises, promises!

meant to have kept: illness, death, sudden misfortune, job loss, accidents, forgetfulness, bad weather and change of heart. Our list could go on endlessly, but as we have all no doubt had our share of experiences on both sides of the fence, we can all relate to that feeling of elation when a promise has been kept, as well as that feeling of deflation when a promise has been broken.

While we cannot use the universality of the indictment against us as an excuse to not keep our promises, the simple fact is that the only person who will always keep all His promises one

hundred percent of the time is God. It's not even possible that He breaks a promise. He cannot lie; He cannot fail; He cannot go back on His Word! Whatever He has promised must come to pass: He is bound by His Word!

He promised us a Saviour to save us from our sins; He kept His promise when He sent us His only Son Jesus to die on the cross and take sin's penalty for us; He promised to take care of us; He keeps that promise daily by providing us with all that we need; He promised to never leave or forsake us; He keeps this promise by

staying with us all the time, even when we feel so far from Him. Promises, promises! And every single one of them is true.

That's why we can count on His imminent return, because He promised to return for His own and just as He said it, we know He will do it!

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What we should do

By Kenneth Cook



The first year I began teaching was in 2002 at the Seventh Day Adventist School in St. Thomas. The experience was revealing. Many of the students needed much attention and affection. Many times I had to go beyond the call of duty to reach students. Today I still perform duties outside my teaching responsibilities. There are teachers at various schools who do the same.

honour these teachers monetarily. This can be done on a monthly basis via the media. By doing this, the government, school boards and the private sector will encourage other teachers to go the extra mile.

Unfortunately, teaching can be a thankless job sometimes. This can frustrate and dampen the spirits of teachers. Another way we can respect the efforts of teachers is to encourage banks for example to provide reduced mortgage loans to teachers. This can be an attractive incentive for others who want to enter the profession. Another manner in which we can pay deference to teachers is by allowing one or two teachers to serve on school boards. These teachers can serve as a liaison between the board and the teachers. They can also give insight into the needs at their particular school.

What we should do this school year is to do a number of things to appreciate these types of teachers. I know there is a fiscal crisis going on, but provisions should be made to

Along with the principal, a teacher on a school board can suggest ways to improve the lives of teachers and students. We must remember

that all of us as humans have a need to be praised, respected and honoured. This should be the motive behind any attempt by governments, school boards, parents and the private sector to pay homage to teachers who go to the extreme to teach and help students. Some of these teachers are so dedicated that they sometimes forget their own obligations. We live in a society that often chooses to ignore the endeavours of dedicated teachers. When teachers for example strike for higher wages, some people view them as money hungry. On the contrary, these teachers, who do this, protest because they demand respect. I would like to end this article by stating that if we do not honour our teachers in general we cannot expect students and everyone else to respect teachers. Decades ago, teachers were very much respected on St. Maarten. It is time to bring those days back.

WHAT'S HOT?

This week's tip is the Website Instructions. This site is full of instructions on how to make or do anything.

You can get inspired a million different ways just by cruising through all their categories of ideas. The recipe section is full of easy classics that make you want to go home and start whipping up a batch of cookies or a pasta salad. If you are the DIY (Do It Yourself) type, there are so many projects at Instructions.com that your head will spin; but don't worry, there is probably a set of instructions on how to keep your head from spinning.

Make elaborate or simple gifts for birthdays, Christmas, or Valentine's Day and save money while being creative. Experiment with kitchen science and learn something new and exciting in the process. The wide array of possibilities is staggering, but fun!

You can share your own project ideas too. In fact, the Website is really a community of crafters, technicians, artists, and science buffs all interacting and supporting each other's efforts. Take some time to peruse this useful Website this weekend, and then jump into a new project of your own! Good luck!

-Lisa



THE DAILY HERALD'S BEST SELLERS LIST

Offered by:



FICTION

1. THE GIRL WHO PIYED WITH FIRE

By Stieg Larsson
"A hacker and a journalist investigate the disappearance of a Swedish heiress." (New York Times Book Review)

2. THE GUERNSEY LITERARY & POTATO PEEL SOCIETY

By Mary Ann Shaffer & Annie Barrows
"A journalist meets the island's old Nazi-resisters." (New York Times Book Review)

3. MY SISTER'S KEEPER

By Jodi Picoult
"A girl sues her parents after learning they want her to donate a kidney to a sibling." (New York Times Book Review)

4. UNACUSTOMED EARTH

By Jhumpa Lahiri
"Stories about the anxiety and transformation experienced by Bengali parents and their American children." (New York Times Book Review)

5. HIDDEN CURRENTS

By Christine Feehan
"The youngest of the telegraphic Drake sisters disappears while on her way back home." (New York Times Book Review)

5. FEARLESS FORTUNE

By Daniel Evanovich
"Stephanie Plum and her boyfriend get involved when her cousin's bank robbery goes bad." (New York Times Book Review)

6. DEAD UNTIL DARK

By Charlaine Harris
"Sookie Stackhouse falls in love with a bad-boy vampire." (New York Times Book Review)

7. MOSCOW RULES

By Daniel Silva
"Gabriel Allon, an art restorer and an occasional spy for the Israeli secret service, uncovers a Russian arms 'sales plot'." (New York Times Book Review)

8. TSAR

By Ted Bell
"The beautiful woman Alex Hawke falls for is the daughter of an evil Russian 'mastermind'." (New York Times Book Review)

9. THE OTHER QUEEN

By Philippa Gregory
"The captivity of Mary, Queen of Scots, at the hands of Queen Elizabeth I." (New York Times Book Review)

10. TESTIMONY

By Anita Shreve
"Sex acts caught on videotape ignite a scandal at a prep school in Vermont." (New York Times Book Review)

WHAT'S NEW

1. THE ASSOCIATE

By John Grisham
"A Yale Law School student has public service aspirations on graduation, but all goes awry when he is blackmailed with a video tape of a 5-year-old rape accusation, and finds himself in a Wall Street firm with an \$800 billion lawsuit on a military contractor aircraft." (New York Times Book Review)



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WEEKend thoughts

I wish I could just eat ice cream all the time... no more cooking at night... just lots and lots of food flavoured ice cream cartons, vegetable ice cream, chicken ice cream, rice and potato ice cream, tasty, cold and refreshing! It is a little too hot to cook, or to eat hot food forthat matter. Mark's Place has a great advertisement. "If you can't take the heat, get out of the kitchen." I would add, and make cold fruit salads, or cold potato salad, or chicken salad, or cold cuts, or gazpacho (cold tomato soup) or eat ice cream! With the surrounding tropical weather systems pulling away most of the island breeze, we are left boiling in our own sweat. Literally. Most people just aren't that hungry when it is as hot as this has been but do need the daily routine. That is where my great ice cream plan comes in. If someone, like local Italian ice cream makers Ena (from Mount Ena in Sicily) could just dream up something nutritious, healthy and tasty and if we make sure that the fatty fat will not apply to these products. I reckon we are in business over the summer months, and think, even seen the temperatures in the Middle East? The ice cream craze could well catch on in "hotspots" around the world. Then we'd be chillin'!

—Sanny

ST. MAARTEN CHECK-ME-OUT!



Full name:
Jeffrey S. Newton.

St. Maarten Nickname (if people here know you better as...):

Just Jeffrey, unless you count the times people have called me Shekaka (Ace Venture reference).

Age:
29.

City and Country of residence today:
Edmonton (Canada) for now.

Occupation:
Doing my PhD in soil ecology and teaching undergraduate students at the University of Alberta.

Recap your story:
My family moved around a

lot. In the end, I spent most of my youth in St. Maarten growing up as a teenager. Early on I held a fascination for the natural world around me. This eventually got me motivated enough to finish VWO at MPC and get into Wageningen University to get my undergraduate and graduate degree in Biology. I used

to specialize in insect succession on decomposing carcasses (my research always pulls a crowd) but have since switched to the wonderful world of soil micro-invertebrates. In short, I study mites that live underground. As a soil ecologist I am interested in the effects that soil animals, mostly mites, have on the vegetation aboveground. Check out my videos on YouTube.com (search: Jeffrey Newton mites). Soil mites are a very specialized field in science and so I had just a few places in the world I could continue my studies. By some stroke of luck, I got an opportunity to study under two big names in the small world of mite taxonomy right here in Edmonton. I am now half way through to getting my

PhD. And in case you have never heard of Edmonton, it is sometimes colder here than it is at the North Pole. I don't think many other St. Maarteners have shared the sensation of a -56°C wind chill. Some guys have asked me if your pee freezes before it hits the ground at these temperatures. The answer is yes, but more importantly no person in their right mind would pull out any extremities from the safety of their warm clothing in that weather!

What St. Maarten district are you from?
Blancpain.

Where did you go to school on St. Maarten?
Butterfly, Regina, Hillside and MPC.

What is your favourite St. Maarten memory?
Spending time with people I love (family, extended family and friends), hiking the beautiful trails (e.g. Backbay), BBQ-ing fish and conch in my back yard, racing, chasing lizards, surfing millipedes in the rain gutter, etc. There's really too much to have a favourite memory. It's all so special to me and has shaped the way I am today.

What was your biggest surprise when you left the island?

Finding out that I'm an island boy after all. Due to the travelling my family used

to do, I assumed that I had some clue of what to expect in the rest of the world. Today I know that I will keep being surprised every time I move to a new place. In particular, many St. Maarten expressions are engrained in me and I still have trouble not thinking it's a mongoose crossing my path here in the woods (they are actually squirrels!)

What are your accomplishments?
I have always had a passion for all living things and today I am getting my PhD degree so I can teach at the highest possible level of education. Personally I feel that accomplishments are hard to define because I don't really keep a score sheet. However, if I need to highlight something it would definitely be me making it into academia. Being a scientist enables me to study and teach what I love.

What are your goals?
Being a good dad for my daughter (I know you've heard that before, but wait till you have your own!) and a good partner for my better half. But besides that, I hope to travel some more with my new family after I get my PhD and eventually settle down and work as a teacher. I hope to inspire everyone around me to see the positive things around them and to always keep asking questions. To me, curiosity is the greatest gift of all.



What makes you special?
Probably my insatiable curiosity – that's what got me where I am today – also my strong morals, while having no religious foundation: I am an avid vegetarian (since I was 15 years old), don't drink or smoke and I go to extreme lengths to be honest and keep my word.

Where do you get your drive?

First of all, from my fascination with the complexity of life itself. I would like to be able to share this privileged perspective with as many as I can. Second, my mom always made me feel like everyone and anyone CAN make a difference, and knowing this I strongly believe I can do my part in bettering the world through education.

How long have you been gone?

About two years now. But before that I was working in SXM for about a year and a half after I got back from my studies in Holland.

Do you have any advice for the young people of St. Maarten?

I think sometimes you really need to liberate yourself from your surroundings. I used to read a lot and it gave me lots of fresh ideas and new perspectives, things that were hard to come by on a small island. So appreciate your unique surroundings but also look beyond that, that's the only way you and the island can move forward. Get an education and try to give back.

Are you planning to return to St. Maarten in the future?

SXM will always have a special place in my heart, but I feel like I have outgrown the place. It is not the same place anymore as I remember it. I think the island suffers from extreme overdevelopment and has gotten way too crowded. I would love to visit in the future though, show my new family my roots and do some educational nature hikes with kids like I did with the Nature Foundation.

TRAVEL GUIDE *Continued from page 1*

twice as voluminous as the previous one. The travel guide presents a neatly arranged summary of the many natural, historical and cultural highlights that each of the islands are offering for tourists. In addition, it provides a lot of practical information on the many beaches, dive sites, hiking trails, historical sites, flora and fauna, air and ferry links, constitutional developments as well as accommodations and restaurants and important Websites.

Full-colour maps present a clear view of each of the islands, their main attractions and geographical position in the Caribbean. "Each of the islands is so much more than just sea, sun and sand," the author summarises her opinion of the area.

While St. Maarten, St.

Martin, Saba and St. Eustatius are described in more details, under the heading of *Eilandhopping* (Island Hopping) the reader can also enjoy many of the tourist highlights of St. Barths, Anguilla and St. Kitts. For these three islands, the author has included so-called *daytrips* (day trips) that cover the most significant places of interest, accommodations and much more. Maps, which the author received from the Cadastre and Land Registry Office, offer a clear indication of these *daytrips*.

Through the travel guide, Mariette van Soesbergen tries to convey her love for the people of the tropical paradises of the Dutch Windward islands and surrounding islands to the outside world, she took *Weekender* during her recent visit here. She and her husband

Erwin enjoyed a vacation on St. Barths and St. Maarten from July 11 to August 1. While Erwin was working here as Advisor to the Cabinet of the Lt. Governor, Mariette worked for *The Daily Herald* as Journalist and Manager Special Editions from August 1, 2002, until July 1, 2004. Before returning to the Netherlands, she stayed on the island until October 2004 to complete her research for *Wereldwijd* *Dominicaanse Republiek* and first edition of *Wereldwijd* St.



Dutch language travel guide.

Maarten, Saba, St. Eustatius. "Thanks to *The Daily Herald*, which gave me the opportunity to work for them for more than two years, writing restaurant reviews (Out 'N About Dining Out, editor) and conducting many interviews, I came to know a lot of people and places here, while I also used to travel to other islands. All information that I collected through my work and visits, I gathered in big files. "I asked for the opinion of numerous indigenous people of St. Maarten and the other islands about matters that I, a Dutch Eu-

ropean, didn't understand. In addition, I visited the library of Leiden University, Royal Library in The Hague, which has a large Antillean department, and Tropen Instituut in Amsterdam. That's how the travel guides were put together. Winair on St. Maarten and Juliana's Hotel on Saba were my biggest sponsors."

Information:

--Although it is meant to attract Dutch tourists, the Dutch language travel guide is (or will soon be) also available at Shipwreck Stores and Van Dorp. Copies of the guide can be viewed at Philipsburg Jubilee Library and St. Maarten Heritage Museum.

--Also check out www.uittgeverij.nl/marni.



Under the Sea Grape Tree

BY WILL JOHNSON

Miss Cornelia Jones

First woman Member of the Island Council

Miss Cornelia Rosina Jones was born on September 2nd, 1877 and died on December 22nd, 1943. His parents were George Jones and Sarah Stevens. Her mother was a white woman named Mary Jane Hassell (who died on November 13th, 1954) of whom I did not find any more records, but I remember her personally.

Miss Jones had three siblings: Alfred Jones, born July 18th, 1897; Eleanor, born September 10th, 1901 (she lived to well over 100 years of age and died in the USA); and Leonard, born Febru-

ary 6th, 1910, and died May 5th, 1959. As a baby Leonard contracted polio and was handicapped. In those days of uncompromising language usage he was simply known as a hunchback. When I was a boy this illness, as well as leprosy, was discussed so often that I was worried that I might catch either one of these dreaded diseases.

Miss Jones grew up in a much different Saba than we know today. I guess her personality was shaped by her mixed parentage. Something like Barack Obama; she was comfortable and loving with both the white side of her family and heritage as well as with her roots coming from Africa.

She is best known as a hostess; running the government guesthouse in The Bottom, and later on in Windward side. Her hostess function meant she was well-known by visiting officials from the other islands as well as from the



Miss Jones at the Windward side Guesthouse in the nineteen sixties.

Netherlands. She was often featured in magazines and

in newspaper articles. Not because she was famous, but because she was there. There were many journalists and writers coming to the island and they would always mention something about the guesthouse and Miss Jones. Everyone on Saba called her "Cutchie."

When the Little Bay Hotel was being planned, the same Dutch group also planned a hotel on Saba at the Guesthouse in The Levenstone early 1955

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Mama's Rasta Pasta



- 1 Tbsp. Peanut Oil
- 2 Garlic Cloves, minced
- 2 Ripe Plantains, sliced on angle, 1/4" to 1/2" thick
- 1 cup fresh Orange Juice
- 1 cup Onion, julienned

- 1 Tbsp. fresh Lime Juice
- 1 cup Red Bell Pepper, julienned
- 2 Tbsp. grated Romano Cheese
- 1 Tsp. Antilles Spice Clipper Red Inferno Sauce
- 8 oz. Angel Hair Pasta, cooked

Heat oil in sauté pan on high heat. Brown plantain slices on both sides. Add onions and bell peppers; stir fry until tender. Add garlic, orange juice, lime juice, cheese and Antilles Spice Clipper Red Inferno. Reduce heat and simmer for 1 minute; remove from heat. Reheat the pasta by pouring boiling water over it. Serve immediately with the sauce over the pasta. Garnish with grapes, sliced mango and additional grated cheese.



This recipe was brought to you by Lord & Hunter, Distributor of the Antilles Spice Clipper products. Available at all Lord & Hunter, Shipwreck, Cabana and Boardwalk stores as well as many other fine retailers on the island. Look for our distinctive ship-at-the-dock logo.

Recipe taken from: The Antilles COOKBOOK



From left to right: Mr. Rupert Sorton, Mr. Arthur Anslyn, Mr. Carl Anslyn, Mr. Ciro Kroon, Miss Cornelia Johnson, Administrator Walter G. Buncomper, and Mr. Matthew Levenstone early 1955



WILL

Continued from page 4

Bottom. It was a lovely plan that would include new construction of ten hotel rooms and a swimming pool. The Island Council turned down the request to build. Only the late Matthew Levenstone and Arthur Anslan were in favour, whereas David Doncher, Eugenius Johnson and John William Johnson voted against.

Many years later I asked Eugenius how was it possible that their party could have turned down this offer. He confessed that Miss Jones was a member of their party and that the investors had refused to guarantee her continued employment at the new hotel when it would be completed. That was in 1955. So looking back in time you can see how important a role Miss Jones played in the political life of Saba back then.

You will also be able to see that politics was the same then as it is now in the world.

Miss Jones' brief stint into the political life of the island made more history than the cancellation of a much-needed hotel project. I remember when Mrs. Elaine Gumbs Vlaun was elected to the Island Council of St. Maarten in 1983. Her party members were playing the woman part up big in the island council meeting. Obviously they were unaware of Miss Jones, until Mr. Claude Wathey got up and reminded them that Miss Cornelia Jones of Saba had been the first woman member of the Island Council of the Windward Islands and indeed she was.

Miss Jones entered active politics in 1951 as a member of the Nationale



Mrs. Coleta Hughes and Miss Cornelia Jones at the Windwardside Guesthouse (now Scouts Place.)

Volks Partij. On August 17th, 1953, she entered the Island Council to complete the term of Mr. Kenneth Peterson who had resigned.

In 1951 Miss Jones was on the list together with two other females Mrs. Ursula Dunkin-Hughes and Mrs.

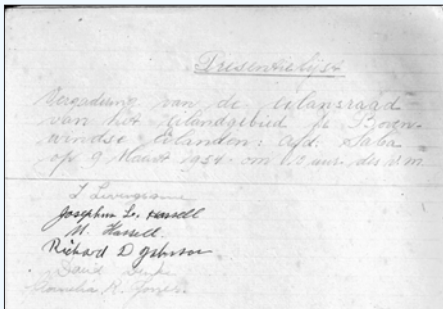
Millicent L. Wilson, born Simmons, (grandmother of present Island Council member the Hon. Rolando Wilson). Miss Jones got 0 votes, Ursula got 4 and Miss Millie got 4. The 0 came about, probably because she had agreed to vote for



Although she had no children of her own she loved the "little people" as can be seen here.



Home of the family of Miss Cornelia Jones at St. John's.



First meeting of Island Council attended by Miss Jones March 9th, 1954

another candidate on her party.

In 1955 she contested the elections on the Democratic Party list, but she did not get reelected. She did get 3 votes though, a big advance compared to the 0 in 1951. The other women threw in the towel and in 1955 Miss Jones was the only female candidate.

The Island Council meeting that admitted Miss Jones took place on August 17th, 1953. Mr. L. Reginald Carty, the Administrator at the time, presided over the meeting. First to be dealt with was a letter from Mr. Kenneth Peterson dated July 25th, 1953, requesting his dismissal from the council. Then a committee to verify the credentials was appointed consisting of Mr. David Doncker, Mr. Dalick Johnson and Mr. Ulric Hassell, Commissioner, but not a member of the Island Council. Mr. Peterson was not present at the meeting.

The only one to speak at the meeting was Mr. David Doncker who threw out but a few sarcasms. He said: "I have always been kept down in the Council. No matter what I ever asked for has been turned down, but all I have to say is that there has been a shift in the wind. Where it was blowing from it is not blowing from anymore." The meeting ended at 2:45pm and Miss Jones made history.

I always experienced her as a jolly person who liked a good joke. She could see humor in any situation. Her family home was uniquely located on an outcropping of St. John's overlooking The Bottom. On the way up from Fort Bay or The Bottom one



Another photo of Miss Jones with one of her "little people" whom she loved and cared for.

would run up the side path to their home to beg a glass of water. It is a great pity that the house was torn down after her death and the property is still unoccupied. It would make a great location for a new home. Miss Jones was a Roman Catholic. She never married or had any children, but several of the photos which I have of her she is always seen holding a child as lovingly as any grandmother could.

As is customary on Saba, when Miss Jones passed away she was buried in the family burial ground next to the home. I am certain that if anyone built a new home there that Miss Jones' spirit would not bother them. After all she loved company. That was what she lived for. She was never taught how to treat people and how to live with people of all races and creeds. That was a gift she was born with, and looking around she must have decided that all men are equal

before the eyes of God and should be treated courteously and respectfully.

Before concluding this article on my way to a meeting in The Bottom I went up through the bushes past the ruins of Miss Jones' former home. I found her grave next to that of her parents and her brother Leonard. I found a conch shell close by and I placed it on the grave while giving Miss Jones a talking to that her memory would not be forgotten. She died on December 23rd, 1979, at the age of 72. I later dug up the information in the "Saba Herald" and found out also that she had been given a decoration by Her Majesty the Queen for her many years of service to the island of her birth. I only hope that someone who cares for history will end up owning the property and will see to it that Miss Jones and her family will rest in peace. Amen.

ALFREDO FOUNDATION *Continued from page 1*

attend classes, read and study. It's not easy. The PADI Open Water Course involves having to pass a series of written tests as well as perform certain skills in the water. One such underwater skill is taking off a mask and putting it back on, all while remaining underwater.

Hobby or career?

The participants in the Alfredo Foundation's courses are a fortunate group. They have discovered a new appreciation of the environment and a new confidence in the water. This program can offer them even more, because not only is diving a hobby, but it can also be a career.

Alfredo is planning to take willing and capable students through a series of PADI courses that culminate with becoming a certified Divemaster. PADI Dive-masters can work at dive shops worldwide, utilizing a network and finding employment wherever PADI shops are located. They could even become Scuba Instructors, although the foundation cannot offer them that high a level. Alfredo: "If they save their money, they could take the instructor course, but it is expensive."



Ricky Van Putten and Giovanni Parris check their equipment before loading the gear on the boat.

For now, though, the first group of students is just completing its Open Water course. The charter class of Alfredo's course consists of Tswana Burleson, Ryan James, Taft Primus, Giovanni Parris, Sheldon Labasti and Ricky Van Putten. They are doing their dives on the weekends, and talking to their family and friends about the experiences they have had. Word

of mouth has been the main way this group got together.

One of the biggest proponents of the program is Tswana Burleson, the foundation's secretary. "I know most of the youths on the island, but I don't know who can swim, or who feels comfortable in the water and would want to learn to dive," she shared. But after two weeks of

discussion, Alfredo called her one day and said to get the class together, it was time to start. Tswana related the whole story: "Well, it so happened that Ryan, who works at the Post Office, came by our area that day delivering the post, and I asked him, 'Ryan can you swim?' He said, 'Yeah.' I said, 'You wanna go diving?' And he's looking at me like, 'What???' I said, 'You know,

ing!' Then Sheldon called, 'Yeah, listen, I heard about a diving course? I wanna come too!' Then Sheldon called Gino and on it went. Before the day was done, they had the class full. Tswana herself is just taking the course, and is encouraging all the participants. Our main focus is for local St. Maarten kids, so they can say, 'Hey, at least we also got a chance.' Here we have people coming from all over the world [to go diving], and they are living here and don't get the chance?"

Diving can be very expensive, the open water course alone can run more than US\$400. The foundation is hoping for some government support, but for now Alfredo, Tswana and Stephan are coming up with all the expenses from their own pockets. They are happy to have any support from the community that might come their way: any donation, especially diving gear, or boat use would be most welcome. Alfredo even mentioned that they would be willing to buy used diving gear at a reasonable price. They have had some help along the way, Divi Little Bay Resort is opening up



Diving a wreck, the students stay together as buddies.



Patient and professional instruction by Alfredo (centre, in blue shirt) makes everyone comfortable with the new equipment.



Ryan James and Ricky Van Putten, showing their spirit just before a dive.

diving...under water?' I quickly explained to him what the idea was, and he said, 'Of course, of course!' So I said, 'OK, do you know someone else that might be ready for such an adventure and would commit to doing that? If so, tell them.' And then he went back to work, and that same afternoon, I got a phone call, 'Is this Tswana? This is Taft, I wanna come div-

ing...under water?' I quickly explained to him what the idea was, and he said, 'Of course, of course!' So I said, 'OK, do you know someone else that might be ready for such an adventure and would commit to doing that? If so, tell them.' And then he went back to work, and that same afternoon, I got a phone call, 'Is this Tswana? This is Taft, I wanna come div-



Ricky Van Putten demonstrates an important skill, no mask and still ok!

The Alfredo Foundation will be starting a new class in the coming week and it welcomes all young adults between the ages of 19 and 35 years old. It notes that there are some strict rules and regulations that apply in order to follow the course and to become a part of the foundation, but encourages anyone interested to contact foundation members by phone or e-mail. Tswana Burleson (523-0259) tswanab@yahoo.com and Alfredo Tapia (520-3574) alfreddo@hotmail.com

A final word from Tswana:
"This is an experience that you will never regret."

Keep sailing!

Island Water World goes on-line

The "new" Island Water World is born with online shopping, a renovated logo and a new tagline. "Island Water World - keeps you sailing" - no matter where you are in the Caribbean. Just connect your laptop to www.islandwaterworld.com and shopping is made comfortable with a fully fledged e-commerce Website. To further sweeten the deal, Island Water World offers an online shopping reward with an extra 10% discount!

The company, under the leadership of Managing Director Sean Kennelly, has overcome considerable hurdles for online shoppers. Island Water World accepts credit cards where shipping and billing addresses do not match. This is a vital feature for a business dealing with a regional as well as international customer base. The marine retailer has teamed up with FedEx and regional air carrier LIAT to secure highly competitive air freight prices and as well as very reasonable sea freight rates. A shipping map on the Website gives an easy overview about available shipping options and destinations.

Online payments are secured by a so-called Thwarte certificate, a premiere international organization policing online stores. Payments can be made via Paypal or Visa or Master card. Kennelly explained his marketing strategy, "We are always looking for ways to enhance the value equation for our customers. With Sint Maarten being duty free and having excellent sea and air connections with most of the other islands in the region, we knew there must be a way to get products cost effectively and quickly to our customers on islands where we didn't have a store."

Large US based marine retailers and wholesalers, utilizing both printed catalogues and the Internet have been selling into the Caribbean for years. "It has always been an issue for us and other Caribbean-based businesses, dealing with large US corporations trading in our back yard," said Kennelly, "but this made us most competitive over the years. Our prices are much the same or even better as in the US, which is tough when trading in the Caribbean where you don't have the volumes of the large US giants. We have nevertheless been able to grow a loyal following in the Caribbean because we are physically



Ricky Benschop, Project Manager E-Commerce (left) and Managing Director Sean Kennelly demonstrating their Online Shop on a Touch Screen at the Island Water Store in Cole Bay, St. Maarten.

present. We not only have the goods, we are sailors - we know how our products work, we can help, we can advise and you know that in the unlikely event a product fails - we are here, nearby - just bring it back."

The website is dynamic and Island Water World will continue to feed its knowledge base and incorporate ideas of customers, suppliers and staff. Islandwaterworld.com also includes all the regular features you find in most websites - a personalized "Favourites" page, a strong "Search Engine", links to "New Items", "Specials" and "Promotional Items."

What about pricing and buying? The Island Water World online store is linked in real time to the inventory in Cole Bay Sint Maarten. "If we have a product in stock, the virtual store will reflect this. The pricing is our current pricing - up to date every

second," Sean explains and adds: "In fact you will see two prices: the store price, which is our shelf price in all our stores in the Caribbean and the online price, which is 10% cheaper. If you are a wholesale customer or a long term customer who has qualified for our cruiser discount program, you can log on and see the actual price that you will pay depending on the discount program you are on."

Every item shown online has been weighed - a task which took a couple of months. At checkout, if a customer chooses the FedEx prepaid option and has entered the shipping destination, the freight cost will be automatically calculated. In addition to the FedEx prepaid shipping option Island Water World offer LIAT "Quickpac collect", various sea freight collect options and of course store pick up at their location in Cole Bay, Sint Maarten.

"We have gone to great lengths to ensure your online shopping experience is a good one. We have a fantastic interactive map that shows you exactly where we ship and what shipping options to that destination are. If you are shopping and you select a hazardous or oversized item for airfreight, the system will warn you and direct you to alternate shipping options. If you ignore this, the airfreight options will be suppressed at checkout," Kennelly explained.

Island Water World is one of the very first marine businesses to bring an e-commerce Website to the Caribbean. Moreover, it is also one of the very few fully featured online stores of any type retailer in the region.

The virtual store is the new Website of Island Water World and links to the various stores (check out the Google maps!), contact numbers and e-mails, marina and yard services in Sint

Maarten, warranty and shipping policies, etc. "I am tremendously proud of our staff who have worked long and hard to build this virtual store and equally grateful to 'Litemoon', a St. Maarten-based media company, which has conceptualized the imagery, done the site makeover and ensured that we have been able to deliver a strong product in the simplest way. I am continually amazed at what can be achieved right here in the Caribbean," Kennelly concluded.

Based in St. Maarten, with stores in St. Lucia and Grenada, the company has been a retailer and distributor of boats, motors and marine goods in the Caribbean for more than 40 years. Island Water World is known for offering a wide range of products in stock at right prices.



Thinking

About Windows 7 - Part 2 of 4

Under the bonnet

Windows 7 uses the same kernel as Windows Server 2008 R2 (which is based on the kernel used in Vista, Server 2008 and Vista SP1), but that doesn't mean that there haven't been any changes. Similarly, Mac OS X and the iPhone may use the Mach kernel that Rick Rashid (the head of Microsoft Research) wrote 25 years ago, but that doesn't mean that Apple's operating system and revolutionary smartphone are at all comparable to the technology that the code was originally written for. The code within both kernels has been replaced and updated over the years.

The Windows 7 kernel has been through a code verifier that proves around 100 key properties, and it's been updated based on those tests. Low-level kernel locks that could block the Start menu and taskbar have been minimised to improve the speed of the user interface, and a new 'pre-wait' state for threads means that they're not held up by the dispatcher lock. There's also finer granularity in the page file database, which means that threads aren't waiting for memory locks as often.

These changes matter more for parallel multithreaded applications on massively multiprocessor and multicore systems with many gigabytes of memory (like Intel's Larrabee) than for standard desktop software; this is how Windows 7 will scale up to 256 processors. There are fewer changes than Microsoft made to the kernel between XP and Vista, but they're significant for the future.

What Microsoft isn't doing is throwing away the whole kernel - or the whole Vista code base - and starting from scratch. To avoid the same compatibility issues that Vista faced, Microsoft isn't changing the driver model, the graphics sub-system or the componentisation model for Windows 7. Drivers now run in a sandbox, so that a driver hanging won't

affect other drivers or apps, but they don't need to be rewritten to support this. The version number is even staying at 6.1, so software vendors have fewer changes to make in installers. "That's not a statement about the amount of energy put into this release or the scale or scope of the release," Sinofsky points out. "I don't think it's necessary to break everything to have a big change."

New features

M3 doesn't have all of the features that will be in Windows 7, but it does include HomeGroups and Libraries. HomeGroups aim to simplify home networking. Set up a HomeGroup and any other Windows 7 PC on the same network will offer to join it automatically. Through a HomeGroup, you can share printers, photos and Libraries - virtual folders that work like iTunes or Photo Gallery to give you one view of items in multiple folders. Searches include results from Libraries in the HomeGroup, websites and external drives as well as those on your PC. Keywords are highlighted and you can filter by size, date and other metadata.

Windows Media Player finally comes with a wider range of codecs (DivX, XviD, H.264, AAC, ABC HD and the Flip format), and Media Center supports IPTV and DVB-T. Put a DVD in your PC and it will play automatically. And you can play shared music from a HomeGroup on any PC, or even stream it to a DLNA device like a Sonos ZonePlayer. Pairing a Bluetooth headset is faster, there's a built-in A2DP stereo driver and sound will be routed to the right device - so you'll get a VoIP call in your ear rather than a system beep.

Microsoft claims that graphics rendering in DirectX 11 will be smoother and quicker. In a demo comparing different methods of rendering without a graphics card, GDI delivered 60fps but with a GDI+ lagged 60fps on curves; GDI+ produced smooth edges but only 13fps; and the new DirectX2D API (for 2D vector graphics) managed 30fps with smooth curves and anti-aliased edges. GDI+ will be removed in Windows 7 and GDI



will run on the Windows Imaging Component to take advantage of this. There's also a new UAnimAPI for animating under interface elements such as icons.

Using the new DirectWrite text processing system will be twice as fast as rendering text in GDI, according to Microsoft. We can confirm that character edges are certainly much smoother and ClearType now uses blending to smooth horizontal edges to match the way that it uses sub-pixel rendering to smooth vertical lines.

When will Windows 7 be released?

Microsoft has stated that it plans to release Windows 7 to manufacturing starting the end of July 2009, with general retail availability set for October 22, 2009.

What are the hardware requirements?

Microsoft has published hardware requirements for Windows 7 Beta. It is expected that the same requirements will be valid for Windows 7 Final. It is generally accepted that computers that are running Windows Vista will

be capable of running Windows 7 as well.

Recommended Specs Minimum Specs
Processor speed: 1GHz (either 32-bit or 64 bit) 800 MHz (32-bit)
Memory (RAM): 1 GB 512 MB
Graphic card DirectX 9.0 capable
DirectX 9.0 capable
Graphics Memory 128 MB (for Windows Aero) 32 MB (No Windows Aero)
HDD free space: 16 GB 16 GB
Other drives: DVD-ROM DVD-ROM
Audio Audio output Audio output

Which editions of Windows 7 will be released?

Microsoft will release six editions of Windows 7. Not all of them will be made available worldwide though:

Windows 7 Starter - Designed for low end computer systems like netbooks, comes with severe limitations.
Windows 7 Home Basic - Designed for emerging markets only.
Windows 7 Home Premium - Worldwide available, one of the main end user systems that comes with a solid feature set.

Windows 7 Professional - Worldwide available, aimed at small to medium sized businesses, professionals and enthusiasts.

Windows 7 Ultimate - Will only be available online
Windows 7 Enterprise - Same as Windows 7 Ultimate but only available to organizations and large companies.

What are the differences between the six Windows 7 editions?

Each version builds up on each other: Windows 7 Starter -> Windows 7 Home Basic -> Windows 7 Home Premium -> Windows 7 Professional -> Windows 7 Ultimate / Enterprise

All 32-bit editions will support a maximum of 4 Gigabytes of computer memory. The 64-bit editions will support the following amounts:

Starter / Home Basic: 8GB
Home Premium: 16GB
Professional / Ultimate / Enterprise: 192GB

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WEEKEND REVIEW

Aug 8 to 14, 2009. Volume 19 No.071-076

SATURDAY

High quality of BES in schools education could create gap

The fact that the Netherlands will be making large investments in education in Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba, the so-called BES islands, will result in a gap in quality of education between these islands and countries Curaçao and St. Maarten, according to Dutch Education Minister Ronald Plasterk.

Five locals becoming private pilots

Five students of Caribbean Flight Academy (CFA), a St. Maarten-based flight training school, passed the FAA Private Pilot written exam recently. CFA managing director and lead instructor Ricardo Wilson said the five prospective pilots showed that it was possible to train at home to become a pilot.

Union, TelEm in court over dismissals

The attorneys of St. Maarten Communications Union (SMCU) and the management of St. Maarten Telecommunications Operating Company will face off in court on August 12 over what the union sees as the unfair and unjustified dismissal of three workers from TelNet in December 2008.

Sixth man held for Maho store robbery

Police arrested a sixth man Thursday in the Gold Creations jewellery store robbery on Saturday, August 1. Suspect J.J.F. was arrested without incident, for his suspected involvement in plotting an armed midday hold-up of the Maho jewellery store, police said in a press statement Friday.

MONDAY

Man shot during robbery attempt

A bar patron and his owner stopped a crook from robbing customers at a Sucker Garden bar early Sunday. Customer E.L. was shot while helping to disarm the robber.

'Acknowledge obesity as a chronic disease'

Obesity should be acknowledged as a chronic disease in the Netherlands Antilles, several Parliament members argued during the consideration of the report 'Obesity, the Silent Epidemic' in a public meeting last week Thursday in Willemstad.

Kingdom laws at Parliament

Four of the five draft consensus Kingdom laws have arrived at the Antillean Parliament. According to Chairman Pedro Atacho, these laws will be discussed during a Central Committee meeting after the opening of the new parliamentary year in September.

The four draft Kingdom laws that have arrived at Parliament are those on Public Prosecution, the Joint Court of Justice, the Council for Law Enforcement and the Police.

New pricing plan for Festival Village

Stichting Overheids Gebouwen (SOG) St. Maarten will submit to the Executive Council a new comprehensive maintenance and operation plan for the management of St. Maarten Festival Village. The purpose of the move is primarily to increase the usage of the Village, a facility which some in the community have dubbed the "second white elephant right across from the first" (the New Administration Building).

Minister Duncan wraps up regional cooperation talks

Constitutional Affairs Minister Roland Duncan on Friday wrapped up a nine-day visit to several Caribbean countries. The purpose of the visit was to give the Caribbean Islands insight into the constitutional changes taking place in the Netherlands Antilles and to explore and strengthen ties in the region.

TUESDAY

DP motion on MO defeated

Sparks flew in Dr. A.C. Wathey Legislative Hall on Monday as members of the Island Council debated a motion presented by the opposition Democratic Party (DP). The National Alliance (NA), which voted down the motion, said the document being presented to the Council for approval had been thrown out of an earlier Tripartite Committee meeting.

Man lies to daughter about armed robbery

A man thought it would be



A section of Ennamplein under water after the flash flooding caused by rainfall associated with the passing of a tropical wave that brought showers, thunderstorms, gusty winds and choppy seas.

funny to lie to his daughter about being robbed. The police didn't. Officers rushed to a Back Street store last week Wednesday on an armed robbery complaint, expecting to talk to "victims" of a crime. Instead, they met a woman identified only as M.B. who explained that her husband had prank-called their daughter about a robbery.

Duncan briefs Richardson on Dominica possibilities

Constitutional Affairs Minister Roland Duncan on Monday briefed Economic Affairs Commissioner Frans Richardson on his visit to Dominica, a stop-over which was part of the Minister's nine-day visit to several Caribbean countries. During talks held in Dominica, the last destination visited, the Minister used the opportunity to discuss relevant tourism and trade issues with Dominica's Minister of Tourism Ian Douglas and other officials.

Man shot in thigh

A man was taken to St. Maarten Medical Centre (SMCC) with a bullet wound after a shooting at a Pond Island bar Sunday. Police said 39-year-old R.A.U. had been shot in the right thigh about 6:30pm when two groups of men opened fire at him and patrons of Carmita Bar, situated behind Le Petit Chateau brothel.

Back to bicycle basics

Ten St. Maarten and St. Eustatius police officers learning to patrol on bicycles started their one-week training early Monday. The men and women, dressed in bike shorts, shirts and helmets, rode at dawn from the Philipsburg police station to John Cooper/José Lake St. Ballpark, the venue for their

training in manoeuvring and combat using the bicycles.

WEDNESDAY

DP condemns

Marlin's outbursts

Dictatorial, un-parliamentary, and disrespectful to the people's representatives were some of the words used by opposition Democratic Party (DP) Island Council members to describe the outbursts of Leader of Government Commissioner William Marlin in Monday's Island Council meeting on the economic impact of the labour permit policy for foreign workers. DP had implemented the policy on January 12 when the party was still in office, but the National Alliance (NA)/Heyligher government said the policy needed to be reviewed and that "something better" would be put in place.

Investigators checking response to 'Danny' reward

Investigators are checking how many persons who called with information about slain businessman Haresh "Danny" Dayalan's killing actually know anything about the crime. A US \$25,000 reward is available for information leading to the arrest of the gunman who shot Dayalan outside his Cole Bay home on May 26. Family and friends offered the reward through three weeks of advertisements in *The Daily Herald* in July. Authorities believe most callers were just trying to claim the money.

DP 'blacked out' from constitutional issues

The non-negotiable and fixed date on which St. Maarten will attain country status must be in "black and white" and agreed to by all

relevant parties in the Kingdom before any talks can start on a date for the next election, which should be for the first parliament of St. Maarten, Democratic Party (DP) leader Island Councilwoman Sarah Wescoat-Williams said Tuesday.

THURSDAY

Trenches blocked midway hurricane season

Despite tragic experiences with flash flooding in the past, various trenches have yet to be cleared by the Public Works Department. St. Maarten is currently in the most active period of hurricane season and, according to Public Works Commissioner Theo Heyligher, the annual programme to clear the trenches has not been approved.

New citizens should

Integrate not segregate

Lt. Governor Franklin Richards explored 37 New Dutch citizens Wednesday to integrate into the population. It was not a new theme for Lt. Governor Richards to new citizens in the Kingdom. He has told more than 100 other persons the same thing in two past naturalisation ceremonies. He insisted that they meet and associate with others in the community to build a better St. Maarten nation.

Stanley Gumbs murder suspect facing 30 years

A packed court room, four heavily armed members of the police A(rrest) Team, and a suspect shackled at his feet marked the beginning of the long-awaited Stanley Gumbs murder trial Wednesday, during which the Prosecutor requested thirty years for main suspect D.C.O. (29).

'Terror' gets four years for shootings

A 28-year-old man with the nickname "Terror" was sent to prison for four years Wednesday after the judge found him guilty of involvement in two shootings. Judge Rick Smid said he found it proven that Rawle E. Ward had taken part in the September 16, 2008, shooting of a Middle Region couple, and had shot at a man in Dutch Quarter on May 3, 2009. Ward was found guilty of the possession of a semi-

automatic firearm.

New MPC/Sundial Director is ready for challenge

With twenty years under his belt in education and ten in the banking sector, new General Director for Milton Peters College (MPC) and Sundial School John Wolff says he is ready to take up the challenges at the helm of St. Maarten's largest secondary school.

FRIDAY

Richards calls for political maturity

Members of the Island Council must exercise political maturity in debates and not be intolerant of opposing views as St. Maarten seeks to become a country within the Kingdom. Lt. Governor and Island Council Chairman Franklyn Richards said Thursday. He sent a letter to all members this week imploring them to adhere to the rules of order.

One seriously hurt in head-on collision

Male driver W.R.G. of Ford Expedition M-6330 was seriously injured when a head-on collision with Dodge Durango P-225 left him with fractured ribs and other injuries, early Thursday morning.

Bridge closed for two weeks as of Monday

Captains and other vessel operators will not be able to use the Simpson Bay Bridge channel to enter or leave the lagoon as of Monday. This closure will continue for the next two weeks for repairs to be completed.

Proposal to delay election sent to Advisory Council

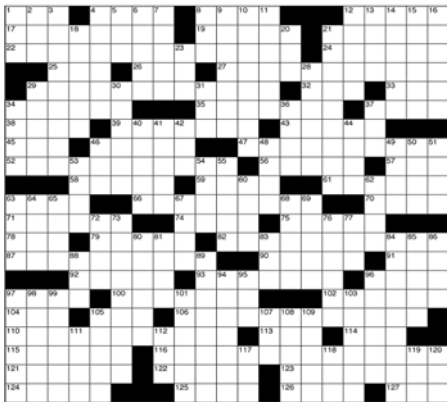
The Council of Ministers has sent to the Advisory Council a draft law to postpone the Antillean Parliament elections scheduled for January, in light of the constitutional changes.

Marlin comments on 'shut up' statements

Leader of Government Commissioner William Marlin contends that his "shut up and go home" comments in the Island Council Monday were not directly to any particular member or group. He said the statements were just to point out that people who caused the mess with the January 12 Labour Policy, but now were critical of the new government's handling, should simply leave the matter alone.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

NOTE: Ten verbs associated with "summer water fun" appear in the theme answers of this puzzle (some more obvious than others).



ACROSS

- 1 Famous straight man's first name
- 4 Hoof sound
- 8 Soup with sushi
- 12 Pursue, as prey
- 17 Frequent Enrol Flynn co-star whose son played Gilligan's skipper on TV
- 19 Misbehave
- 21 Comedy Muse
- 22 Stoplight milieu
- 24 Peter of "RoboCop"
- 26 A conjunction
- 27 Rocket from Roddick
- 28 Dictatorship that turned 50 this year
- 29 1977 Wimbledon winner
- 32 Toxic-level monitor: abbr.
- 33 Out of practice?: abbr.
- 34 Make like a pig
- 35 Ins-cryption?
- 37 On this page
- 38 Oil of
- 39 Painter Henri
- 43 "A Confederacy of Dunces" author
- 45 "Westworld" guy
- 46 Subway type
- 47 Beetle Bailey's topkick
- 48 Genesis's antonym
- 50 Cross the threshold
- 51 Lana contemporary
- 58 Label again
- 59 Rent
- 61 On the divan
- 63 Sabot, e.g.
- 66 "Valley's" star
- 68 Fuse, in a way
- 71 Useless
- 74 Customer
- 75 TV nerd of note
- 78 Advice addressee
- 79 Ovid's "The Love"
- 82 "Here We Come A-Caroling," e.g.
- 83 "Some Like It Hot" co-star
- 90 Full of pizzaz
- 91 Encyc. unit
- 92 Real name of Kirk Douglas, _____ Danielovitch
- 93 Hair care's Curtis et al.
- 96 Portion (out)
- 97 Joyce Carol Oates novel
- 100 Tickler gives
- 102 Hugs, to Hugo
- 104 Judge's adj.
- 105 D.C. summer hrs.
- 106 Bulge
- 110 Dish of greens
- 113 Light touch
- 114 Lao-tzu's idea
- 115 Still
- 116 Star who inspired this

DOWN

- 1 _____ relief
- 2 Eskimo knife
- 3 "Drat"
- 4 Laptop's power
- 5 Fond du _____ Wis.
- 6 Ersatz fat brand
- 7 "Goodfellas" Oscar-winner
- 8 Scratch or dent
- 9 Glacial masses
- 10 Stabilizes
- 11 Word go
- 12 Beatles tune, "_____ Woman"
- 13 Shower buy
- 14 Fascination
- 15 Rather, to Rimmel
- 16 Method of self-defense
- 17 Bingo call
- 18 A.L. winter hrs.
- 21 Household mini-mum these days
- 23 Leaves in hot water
- 28 Put on the bulletin board
- 29 Worth _____
- 30 _____ cases (generally)
- 31 Jazzman Montgomery
- 34 Bob Hope film, "The Seven Little _____"
- 35 Memo abbr.
- 37 A pronoun
- 40 Have _____ (talk)
- 41 Sensuous dance _____ de la cité
- 44 Knowledge
- 46 Whopper
- 48 Ms. Ferraro, to friends

- 49 Goldie's daughter
- 50 Motorcyclist Robbie's dad
- 51 Actress Cheryl
- 52 Unshackle
- 54 Plant pouches
- 55 Nail's cousin
- 60 Ambience
- 62 Hole punchers
- 63 Complication
- 64 Sharpen
- 65 "Vibes"
- 67 Mishandle
- 68 Columnist Estrich
- 69 Wipe out
- 72 Falls (behind)
- 73 Top job
- 74 Alice's face?
- 77 English cathedral city
- 80 Has faith in
- 81 Ben-Hur pulled them for _____ years
- 82 Compass pl.
- 84 Summums
- 85 Words of denial
- 86 Elation
- 88 Edge
- 89 Poe classic
- 94 Wearing away
- 95 D-Day craft
- 96 "My friend," in Marseille
- 97 Google's domain
- 98 Je Balzac
- 99 "Beethoven" with again
- 101 Awake into the wee hours
- 103 Indigenous
- 105 Concert, e.g.
- 107 Federal rival
- 108 John's family
- 109 Fred's wife
- 111 Lupino et al.
- 112 Mag features
- 113 Cannes prize, the Palme
- 117 Avenue
- 119 Language ending
- 120 Hwy. kin

SOLUTION TO TRULY CHEESY PUNS



Business Week in Review

August 8 to 14, 2009, Volume 19 Nos. 071-076

SATURDAY

Government's economic relief amounts to no more than "a waiting game" until the effects of the worldwide financial downturn subside, claim large supermarket owners. They criticised government for talking a good game, but not delivering on any "real" relief for the business sector or the population in general.

Court lifts lien - The lien on goods of Lido Supermarkets was lifted by the court Friday after the judge found that there were sufficient assets/funds to cover a claim of US \$3.5 million made by business associate Richard Gibson Sr. Gibson placed a lien on the Lido group two weeks ago because of monetary issues related to the Mega Yacht Mall under construction in Cole Bay. Gibson is leasing the land to the supermarket group.

MONDAY

SCDF - The St. Maarten Carnival Development Foundation is still in the "red" for approximately US \$120,000. Despite ongoing efforts to secure funding, the foundation is finding it extremely challenging to "dig itself out" of its financial hole. Slow economic times are also compounding matters, with long-time donors either maxed-out or not having given a commitment.

Tax fatty food - Antillean Parliament President Pedro Atacho (PAR) suggests lowering the tax on vegetables and increasing the tax on high calorie food. This measure should stimulate consumers to start eating healthier. Atacho launched his proposal during a public meeting in which the obesity report of the Ad Hoc Committee Approach Overweight and Obesity was discussed.

TUESDAY

Work permit policy - The removal of the "acculturation exam," the housing requirement, three professions from the moratorium list, and the lowering of the adjusted employment permit fees for domestic workers and gardeners are some of the sweeping changes proposed for the controversial January 12 employment permit policy. Leader of Government Commissioner William Marlin said all commissioners had "signed off" on the proposed changes, which will



Pearl Development/Owner Bay Beach Resort co-managers Joshua Gold and Michael Delante stand in front of the newest addition to the resort, called The Lighthouse. (Gromyko Wilson photo)

be submitted to Governor of the Netherlands Antilles Frits Goedgedrag for ratification.

Director's Licence rejected - The Island Council on Monday threw out an appeal by Crew's Nest Bar and Restaurant for a Director's Licence on the grounds that the applicant, an American citizen, is attempting to circumvent the system to obtain a residence permit.

WEDNESDAY

No short-term contracts - Workers who have continuous employment should not be granted short-term labour contracts, Labour Commissioner Hyacinth Richardson told the Island Council on Monday.

556 work permits granted - A total of 556 employment permits were approved in June and July says Labour Affairs Commissioner Hyacinth Richardson. He also confirmed in Monday's Island Council meeting that the mandate given to Department Head Raphael Boasman to decide on employment permit requests has been temporarily revoked, adding that the amended regulation leaves room for granting the mandate anew.

Economic recovery - An economic "comeback" in St. Maarten is not likely to occur before mid-2010, Windward Islands Bank (WIB) Managing Director Ian Beaulieu said yesterday. While the worldwide downward trend seems to be slowing, he said, the relevant "drivers" have to take place for the economy to recover.

The Lighthouse opens - The 18 three-bedroom condos making up The Lighthouse at Oyster Bay were snapped up by long-time investors who have ties to St. Maarten long before the foundation of the

building was completed, a testament to the continued appeal of St. Maarten, developers said at the official opening Tuesday.

THURSDAY

SHTA - St. Maarten Hospitality and Trade Association recently presented a list of economic relief proposals to Economic Affairs Commissioner Frans Richardson and is awaiting a response from either Richardson or the Executive Council.

UFA - The United Federation of the Windward Antilles has renewed its call for a labour mediator and a Health and Safety inspector for businesses. In a letter to Labour Commissioner Hyacinth Richardson, UFA Adviser Willy Haize said the law has provided for St. Maarten to have its own mediator since 2000.

UFA - The United Federation of the Windward Antilles is calling on government to increase the minimum wage to Nafl. 2,000 per month for those it classifies as "ordinary workers", Nafl. 3,000 monthly for "junior workers" and Nafl. 4,000 monthly for senior workers. UFA Adviser Willy Haize said the current minimum wage is insufficient for workers and it is only creating "more poverty and crime." He also believes that the increase will help eliminate the abuse of workers.

FRIDAY

TeCell - Mobile telephone provider TeCell will discontinue its "TC to TC" unlimited plan, possibly as early as September 1, 2009. Commonly known as the "\$45 plan," the package allows TeCell customers to call other TeCell numbers for free.

Coldwell - Quality Living For All (QLFA), one of the community programmes initiated by Coldwell Banker Real Estate, managing Director Ian Beaulieu said yesterday. While the worldwide downward trend seems to be slowing, he said, the relevant "drivers" have to take place for the economy to recover.

TeCell mobile services down - Lightning struck TeCell Group telecommunication equipment located on Hill Wednesday night, affecting mobile and Internet services in the immediate area and mobile services in Saba and St. Eustatius.



Brenda's Corner



By Brenda Carly

Household Hints

- If you need to open a bottle of wine and there is no corkscrew around, you can try running the neck of the bottle under very hot water for two minutes. This will cause the glass to contract slightly and you can pull out the cork.
- WD40 will remove tomato stains from clothes. Just spray on, leave a minute or two and then wash off.
- A little white toothpaste makes a handy chrome cleaner.
- To prevent drowsiness when driving, hang a cinnamon scented air freshener from the mirror and this will mean less fatigue.

Quick & Easy Recipe

Ham and Cheese Strata

Ingredients

- 6 cups cubed whole wheat bread
- 10 oz frozen broccoli (thawed)
- 6 ounces sliced ham (chopped)
- 1/2 cup chopped red peppers
- 1 onion sliced
- 1 cup sharp cheddar cheese
- 6 eggs
- 2 cups milk
- 1 tablespoon mustard

Method

Heat oven to 375°. Coat a 2 quart baking dish with non stick spray. Put half the bread cubes over the bottom. Cover with half the broccoli, ham, peppers, onion and cheese. Repeat layers.

Whisk the eggs, milk, and mustard with a little black pepper until blended. Pour evenly over the mixture. Bake uncovered for 50-60 minutes until puffed and golden.

This can be made ahead of time, left in the refrigerator and cooked when required.



Church News Bits

Far-right gains in EU elections

Jewish, Christian and Muslim groups across Europe have voiced alarm at gains by far-right groups in European Union parliamentary elections, fearing the parties may gain more clout on the European stage than their numbers suggest. "The success of the far-right and nationalist parties that won seats in the elections on the basis of racist, anti-Semitic and xenophobic platforms points to a clear erosion of tolerance and a clarion call to European officials to immediately engage in inter-cultural dialogue", the Paris-based European Jewish Congress said in a statement. Far-right groups in half a dozen countries registered gains in four days of polling for the 736-seat European assembly. Only 43 percent of Europeans showed up at the polls.

In Britain, the anti-immigrant British National Party garnered about 6 percent of the votes and won its first seats in the European parliament. In the Netherlands, the anti-Islamic Freedom Party (of Geert Wilders) won an even larger share of the votes - 17 percent - and captured 25 parliament-

ary seats. Parties in Austria, Hungary, Denmark and Romania also scored gains, as did Italy's anti-immigrant Northern League Party.

Door-closing for refugees

Volunteers went door-to-door in five Catholic parishes in Karachi, Pakistan, raising money to support people displaced by the ongoing anti-Taliban military operation in North West Frontier Province. About 35 volunteers coordinated by priests of the Pontifical Mission Societies collected about US\$ 187 as well as bundles of clothes and food items, including rice and flour on June 7 and were to return to the streets later in the month. The Christian Welfare Society, a Protestant organization, conducted a door-to-door collection among its community on June 8. The money is being used to support grass-roots church efforts to help the displaced. Around 150 families have found sanctuary in the compounds of a technical school and a Lutheran church in Mardan, just outside the area of conflict.

Biggest looser had powerful experience

'Being raised in a Catholic



By Gerard van Veen

family and Polish on top of it, food is huge," said Kathy Skell, explaining how she and her daughter Kristin Steede, both members of St. Denis parish in Shiocton, Wisconsin, became contestants on NBC-TV's "The Biggest Loser." At their first weigh-in last September, Skell weighed 293 pounds and Steede 360. By the season finale May 12, Skell had dropped nearly 100 pounds and Steede 167. Neither won the grand prize, but Skell said they did win: "When I was on 'The Biggest Loser' ranch, at night it would be dark out and the sky was filled with so many stars and you're just changing your life for the better," she said. "You knew there was a God up there that was looking over you. It was a powerful, powerful experience."

Going Green

Making a homemade wind turbine



By Anthony Prall Jr.

Ten years ago I bought some property on the east shore of St. Maarten. I am an engineer and my wife and I wanted a place to practice our hobbies. We found a great piece of property. The problem was the electric company could not give me good reliable electrical power.

I was told that my property could never get more than 30 amps of power at best. That wasn't really a problem in my mind, however, it would be nice to have at least 60

to 80 amps for air conditioners and pool pumps and more, since so much of life in the 21st century is dependent on it.

One thing I noticed right away about my property was the wind. It was blowing, almost all the time. In fact, here on the east side of St. Maarten, the wind blows about 350 days a year. Suddenly I had the solution to my power problems!

There are two basic types of wind turbines. The most common is the horizontal axis wind turbine or (HAWT). It uses 2 or 3 blades like a propeller on an airplane. This type can produce good power in medium to strong winds, and sometimes can make a noise in very high winds. Then came the vertical axis wind turbine or (VAWT). This turbine is better for lower wind conditions, and has no noise from the blades.

I had the idea of putting up a couple of store-bought turbines and making some electricity for my own use,

and later adding some solar panels. Now my property has 220 volts at 100 amps of always available electric power.

Next comes the story of how I home-built an electricity producing VAWT wind turbine.

A home-built wind turbine costs close to nothing to purchase. If you have some fabricating skills and some electronic know-how, then you can build one too. A Vertical Axis Wind Turbine



Vertical Axis Wind Turbines (VAWT)

can easily adapt to changing and turbulent wind patterns. They are easier to assemble than HAWTs. With parts supplied in kits, VAWTs can be constructed from easily obtainable materials.

There are a number of vertical axis wind turbine VAWT videos and designs or plans, on the internet. The building process can be seen on various videos found via Google or Youtube. Look it up... "Homemade Savonius VAWT Wind Turbine". If you are more inclined to purchase off the shelf, keep in mind our comments regarding the total power you can expect to achieve at your home. As a general rule of thumb, most household sized wind turbines will produce an "average" of one tenth of their rated output. Thus, a 1,000 watt (1kw) wind turbine would produce an average of 100 watts per hour. Look at your electrical bill and figure out how much power you consume per day/month/year. Don't let a salesman get away with telling you his 1kw wind turbine can take you off the grid!

<http://www.greenterrafirma.com/diy-va-wt.html>

Back to the DIY wind turbine enthusiast...

I am presently gathering my own parts to make three



Horizontal Axis Wind Turbines (HAWT) in Guana Bay

prototype VAWTs that I am building here on St. Maarten. A 1,000 watt, A 3,500 watt and a 10 kw or more just for the fun and experience. You can follow the progress of the building and

designing at www.caribbeanenergystore.com/savonius.html

If you are interested in helping build one of these. Call or e-mail me this week to meet and discuss how you can become part of this exciting new team of energy entrepreneurs. All the information and training you will receive is completely free of charge.

Next week we will go into more on building your own homemade wind turbine.

Email: info@caribbeanenergystore.com

Website: www.caribbeanenergystore.com

Phone: (599) 581-8348



This is a 20 Kw Commercial VAWT used by a Famous Food supplier.

WEEKender WalkAbout

By Lisa Davis-Burnett

Friar's Bay to Happy Bay

In the mid-day heat of an August Tuesday, we set out to the French side. Having lived his whole life on this small island, it was amazing that my son, as well as his mother, had never been to Happy Bay, so we were excited when our resident snorkelling expert, Ilja Botha, invited us to join her for a "research trip."

W e turned left off the main road from Marigot, and followed the natural drainage that comes out of Colombier towards the sea. Driving up at the edge of Friar's Bay never fails to put a smile on my face. It's no wonder that plenty of people choose this remote little beach as their favourite, over the likes of Orient, Mullet and Great Bay. It has a certain feel about

it. Like you are off on your own for as long as you want, and nothing back behind you on the road and beyond really matters.

The day was quiet, but a few local teenagers were enjoying the last week before school starts, (good for them!) and quite some tourists were parked under umbrellas with their paperback books looking all engrossed. We parked and trotted across the hot sands to get to the cool shallow waters, headed past the Kall Beach Bar and the Friar's Bay Beach Bar. Our goal was the far end of the beach where the trail to Happy Bay heads up the hill.

Here's my advice: If you take the trail to Happy Bay, wear some shoes! It's a fairly easy hike, and there is even some shade and nice views of the

rugged coastline below. Definitely worth the effort, too, because when you arrive on the other side of the point, Happy Bay lives up to its name.

Happy Bay, a sweet spot for sure, welcomes you as soon as you enter her world. The sand is soft, white and clean. The small beach curves in a perfect crescent, with rocky outcrops at each end. There is shade under the sea grape trees (copyright infringement, W!ll!) and a few palms. I was expecting it to be devoid of human influence, but that wasn't the case. A nice man named Danny has begun a little Lolo shack and he plans to have some chairs and umbrellas to rent in the near future. We had a water, a soda and a Gatorade, ice cold and just a dollar each, and enjoyed a conversation about

the area and his struggles to get started on this remote little stretch of paradise.

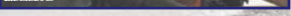
We hit the water for a great snorkel, so refreshing and clear, but I'll let Ilja tell you about that (see below) and then packed up for our return hike to Friar's Bay. After the quiet and solitude of Happy Bay, Friar's seemed a little hectic, funny how your perceptions can shift.

Afternoon adventures are not complete without something to snack on, so we found a seat at the Friar's Bay Beach Café and ordered a little nosh. The place was jumping, but we were taken good care of, despite the minimal order we placed. It was a great way to unwind before re-entering the real world of traffic, jobs and errands that must be run.

Happy Bay, a sweet spot. A perfect crescent of clean, white sand.



Happy Bay Beach Bar: Danny is the easy going gentleman who offers cool drinks now and later will have more amenities.



Snorkel your way through the summer!!

By Ilja Botha

Is the heat getting to you? How about the traffic? What would you say if I told you there is a way to cool off your body and your temper? And it's free! Get away from it all and go for a swim or a snorkel. Enjoy our beautiful island...our visitors spend thousands of dollars or euros to get here and see and experience these wonders. Why shouldn't we as well? Don't get so caught up in your daily routines that you miss the joy of just being alive. The sea is free!

This week's featured site:

Friar's Bay and Happy Bay

* [1 snorkel = easy snorkelling spot; 2 stars = good spot for spotting marine life]

Friar's Bay and Happy Bay are next to each other but both have a very different feel. The one bay cannot be reached without going to the other first. Friar's Bay is the beach with lounge chairs, lovely restaurants and a watersports centre, and Happy Bay only has one small beach bar for some cold drinks. For shade at Happy Bay, you'll have to bring your own umbrella or sit under the palm trees. Mind the coconuts! Friar's Bay is famous for its full moon parties and Happy Bay attracts sunbathers and families that prefer to bring their own picnic and enjoy peace and quiet. Friar's Bay is easy to reach through two access roads, one just under Grand Case, and one not far above Marigot. Happy Bay you can only reach by walking the trail that leads from the right side from Friar's Bay over the hill to Happy Bay. Check the story above for a description of the hike.

Friar's Bay



Both bays offer calm waters and protection from northerly swells and winds. The bays both have lots of juvenile fish and in both bays squids can be spotted. The left side of Happy Bay, between the boulders, has big parrotfish and a nice sized trumpet fish. The right side of Happy Bay is the home of two young living elkhorn corals. A rare site around the island these days. Snorkelling alongside the right of Friar's Bay brings you to a small secluded pebble beach and has some more dramatic stone formations under water than Happy Bay.

For a full day of snorkelling, a small hike and lots of relaxation, pack up your snorkel gear and comfortable shoes and go for these two gorgeous bays this weekend! No need to carry heavy drinks on your back, both bays offer them nice and cool.

Creature Feature - Squid

We were lucky enough to spot a couple of Caribbean Reef Squid while we were snorkelling off Happy Bay. These creatures are truly amazing. They are classified as cephalopods, making them relatives to octopus, cuttlefish, and the chambered nautilus. Biologists have found these animals to be quite intelligent, able to solve problems and learn from their mistakes. Incredible for invertebrates! They can change the colour, shape, and texture of their skin. This is thought to be how they communicate, or hide (camouflage) themselves or scare off predators by looking big and fierce when threatened. We tried not to threaten these two little ones, as we swam. For a long time they simply watched us watch them.

Friar's and Happy bays

How to get there: Signs pointing out two access roads from the road between Marigot and Grand Case to Friar's Bay. Walk from Friar's Bay to Happy Bay.

Where to snorkel: When facing the sea in Friar's Bay on the right side alongside the rocks, and in Happy Bay on both sides. The right side is calmer though.

Sea conditions: The bays are protected in most weather conditions. Do not attempt to snorkel if there is surf on the beach. Facilities: Friar's Bay has two restaurants which rent out lounge chairs and umbrellas. There is a watersports centre too where you can rent kayaks and so on. Happy Bay has a shack with cold drinks.

MASK CLEANING AND DEFOGGING TIPS

- Scrub a new mask (old, dirty, dry mask) on the inside of the glass lenses with plain white toothpaste to remove factory film and/or dirt. Rinse the mask. Use a tooth brush to remove any toothpaste stuck in the corners.
- Into your clean, dry mask, spit and rub it around. Give the mask a quick rinse, put it on your head and immediately start your snorkel.
- Or for a more hygienic approach, apply defog solution according to manufacturer's directions.

Caribbean Reef Squid



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