

**It's Still
FREE**

BONAIRE June 24-July 8, 2013; Year 20, Issue 13
The REPORTER
BES Island News Too

P. O. Box 407, Bonaire, Dutch Caribbean, Phone 786-6518, 786-6125, www.bonairereporter.com email: reporter@bonairenews.com Since 1994



**High School
Artists & Musicians
Page 10**

Flotsam and Jetsam

BONAIRE The REPORTER

The government health insurance will continue to cover physiotherapy and one-time dental care.

The coverage which was to expire next month was restored following extensive negotiations driven by the BES island's dentists and physiotherapists. There is a catch, because the islands must show that their plan provided the same results as the now revoked austerity package. The cuts now have been postponed until January 1, 2015.

That may be a year and a half away, but **the €1 million euro savings target must be met every six months.**

Minister Edith Schippers (VWS) agreed with the island's plan and the previously proposed measures will be postponed till January 1st, 2015, under the condition that the alternatives generate the projected saving of 1 million euro every half year. Furthermore Schippers instituted a workgroup (consisting of local governments, health care suppliers, the Chief of the Healthcare Office BES - *Zorgverzekeringskantoor BES* – and a representative of the VWS), who are to develop a plan for future public healthcare on the islands. **The budget of the health care costs in the Dutch Caribbean was 30% over-run (€20 million) in 2012.** It was not mentioned that BES island tax collections also were a lot more than anticipated.



► **WILLEMSTAD--** In the first official statement on the May 5 assassination in Curacao, police spokesman Reginald Huggins said **the killers of Curaçao parliamentarian Helmin Wiels** were hired by person(s) unknown.

Police named two suspects, one of whom has since been murdered. The corpse of 30-year-old Raul Jacinto "Bolle" Martinez, missing head and limbs, was found near the island's wind turbines. Martinez was the renter and driver of the car used in Wiels murder.

Police believe he was liquidated by his neighbor, L.L.F. (26), who was arrested in Zoetermeer, The Netherlands, last week. He was subsequently flown to Curacao and is in detention. Still another, unnamed, suspect in the Wiels murder is still on the loose, but Huggins gave no further details. He could not comment on who might have ordered the killing. The killing is the first murder of an elected member of Parliament in the Antilles.

► **"Kuminda Dushi -- Delicious Food" is the theme of the 2014 Jong Bonaire Calendar** and we think you will enjoy owning it and giving it to others. The teens of Jong Bonaire learned to make 12 traditional local recipes and they share them with you in the calendar. There is even a set of recipe cards included to make it an extra special gift item.



The annual calendar is an important fund-raising project for the Youth Center. The calendar is an effort to offer something of value instead of just asking for a donation. E-mail the Bestuur of Jong Bonaire at: jongbonaire@sunspotsbonaire.com and tell them how many you would like to purchase. Delivery is expected September/October and cost is \$12.99 each with discounts for purchases of 25 calendars or more.

► **A very much needed Food Bank, Stichting Voedselbank Bonaire**, has been set up on the island (See story in *The Reporter* Feb. 22-Mar. 8, 2013). Founded by Marjon Kranenburg and Nolly Oleana, the foundation distributes food parcels to needy families. **Every last Saturday of the month the foundation has a table set up in front of the Van den Tweel Supermarket from 10 am to 4 pm.** You may donate items either you buy in the market or bring from home (oil, rice, flour, washing powder, sugar, toilet paper, juice and milk in cartons, fruit and vegetables in jars or tins and meat and fish in tins). Any money raised goes toward supplementing the food parcels with items such as baby food and other items in short supply. You can make a donation at Girobank Bonaire, *Stichting Voedselbank Bonaire*, Account #21101128. For more information call Marjon at 795-4007



► **One engine of an Insel Air Fokker 50** burst into flames during take off. According to witnesses at the Bonaire Flamingo Airport, there was smoke and fire coming out of the right engine of the aircraft. The passengers had to evacuate through the cargo door and were assisted by the airport fire department. - *Courtesy of the Curacao Chronicle*

► Cooperation between Fundashon Mariadal (FM) and the Health Insurance Office (ZVK) resulted in a **solution for the waiting list for Bonairean MRI patients** caused by the defective MRI machine in Curacao. FM and the ZVK have organized a Saturday air bus from Bonaire to Aruba. The flights are operated by EZAir. The patients return the same day. The group is guided by Mrs. Antoinette Cicilia from the *Bureau Kwaliteit & Veiligheid Fundashon Mariadal*. Once the waiting list is cleared, patients will be sent for an MRI to Aruba again through the regular commercial flights.

► This year, **United Airlines is continuing its Bonaire-Houston-Bonaire service** with weekly nonstop flights during late August and throughout September.

► **The US Consulate General in Curacao announced the appointment of James R. Moore** as the US Consul General to Curacao and Chief of Mission to Aruba, Bonaire, Curacao, Saba, Sint Eustatius, and Sint Maarten.



► Last week **Chinese authorities gave courts the power to hand down the death penalty in serious pollution cases**, state media said, as the government tries to assuage growing public anger at environmental desecration.

In Bonaire, polluters are asked nicely to stop, if they don't usually nothing happens. But that is to change. But we don't think "death penalty."

► **CIEE Research Station Bonaire has been involved with lionfish research since the very first lionfish was confirmed on October 26, 2009.** To date, almost 5000 lionfish have been analyzed from Bonaire, most likely the largest, long term lionfish dataset in the Caribbean. They are continuing their work.

► **Holland America Line is basing eight ships in Fort Lauderdale and Tampa for its 2013-2014 Caribbean season. Two will call at Bonaire.** The only ship sailing round-trip from Tampa, *Ryndam*, will call as will the *Maasdam* from Fort Lauderdale.

► A restaurant guest for the BBQ at **Harbour Village's La Balandra Restaurant pointed out the a fringe benefit of dining there is the walk through the verdant gardens of the plush resort.** See their advertisement for the BBQ night on page 11 for more information.

► **The island's culture department SKAL is offering a series of lectures and workshops to commemorate 150 years of freedom from slavery.** See page 17, Happenings, for more details.

► **Popular Bonaire fitness trainer Rosita Paiman has begun leading classes at Bon Bida Spa and Gym.** She will lead the **Balance, Pump and Zumba** classes. Pass by the gym opposite Sand Dollar and chat with the friendly staff. Take a trial class, we bet you will enjoy it. ■ *G.L.D.*



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Game Gear

Eric Martig, Nolly Wilsoe, and Luis Soon received 44 pairs of recycled soccer and baseball shoes, 22 baseball gloves and some new soccer outfits for the boys and girls of Bonaire. Tom and Becky Starkweather (Sandy, Utah) and Devon Arnold (Dallas, Texas) brought them down to the island. Nolly and Eric are starting a new TEE ball league for girls and boys too.

Since 2001 Tom and Becky have donated over 400 pairs of clean and gently used athletic shoes, athletic gear, clothing, books and toys to Bonaire to benefit Maria Hoppner, Sebiki, Robbie Domacasse Tennis, Special Olympics Bonaire, Rincon SinterKlaus, and Jong Bonaire as well as other Bonaire non-profit foundations. ■ *Press release*



Boka Slagbaai, Seen From the Air

During a special air-to-air photo flight, photographer Tim Peters took this beautiful picture of the Cessna N19842 with Boka Slagbaai and the Salina in the background.

The picture was taken high above the sea from another Cessna aircraft with an "open door" to give the photographer a wider space to do his work.

Washington Park is a "prohibited area" for overflying air traffic, to protect the environment. But even far from the coastline, the Park, its salinas and the well known Mount Brandaris look impressive.

The Cessna N19842 is available for sightseeing flights around the island (up to three passengers), photo, (re)search and introduction flights, plus private flights to and from Curaçao. See page 13 for more information.


Date: May 1, 2013; Location: Bonaire North-west, overhead the sea abeam Slagbaai
Altitude: 1.500 feet; Airplane: Cessna 172; Pilot other airplane: Joop Rauwers
Contact: Bert Foks 786-7720 ■ *press release*

Is Sasha Van Duyn (left) the first Bonaire-born person to officially meet King Willem-Alexander and Queen Maxima?


On June 3, the Dutch royal couple visited the federal state of Hesse in Wiesbaden, Germany. They were warmly welcomed by a crowd of over 3,000 enthusiastic people, including Sasha Van Duyn, the daughter of Bonaire resident Tina Woodley and her husband, Achim Exner, long time Mayor of Wiesbaden. King Willem-Alexander and Queen Maxima plan to visit Bonaire in November. Maybe they will meet again here ■

Story & photo by Achim Exner







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Born on Bonaire... August 6th, 1976 – David Molina



David Molina

“I grew up in Rincon; my father was a carpenter and my mom a dressmaker at Cambes, a sewing workshop where they made uniforms. I am the eldest. I have three brothers and one sister. When I was five we moved to Aruba for three years. We came back to Bonaire when I was eight. After elementary school, I went to SGB Mavo and then to LTS – lower technical school.

I had a good, normal childhood with ups and downs. But then when my parents got divorced and I saw my mom struggling to keep us afloat it changed my outlook on life. I respect every one, I am not judgmental and I can empathize with the situation of others. However, at that time it was a tremendous burden for me to see my mom going through such hard times, and being the eldest I was also given too much responsibility. It was Mrs. Emmy Schermer who was working for the SGB High School as a professional in educational, learning and developmental problems who noticed my stress, and through her intervention – I am still very grateful to her – I could continue my studies in Curacao while living with a host family.

I went to Juan Pablo Duarte technical school in Buena Vista, Curacao, and it was a different world from the one I was used to. The first day I saw a student throwing a coconut at a teacher and it hit him hard in the back. Then I found out the teacher was the director of the school and I thought, ‘if this can happen to the director I have to watch out...’

Three years later I graduated. I was 17. My mother expected me to come home and help her, and a job at Bopec was available, but I decided to go to Holland to continue my education. Again it was Emmy Schermer who worked a miracle to make it possible financially.

I went to The Hague in 1994, but I couldn’t settle in. Most of my family was in Groningen, the very north of Holland, so I moved there and went to Polytechnic School. At first it was a bit difficult but then I got used to the place and the people, and as I was open to all the new impressions it didn’t take long and I was fully accepted. I had a wonderful time. After I graduated in mechanical engineering I went to College of Advanced Technology to do the teacher training pro-

gram. I passed my foundation year and then the law changed: you had to complete your studies within five years. If not, you had to pay off your scholarship for the greater part. All of a sudden it didn’t seem so attractive anymore, so when I got offered a job at an architectural firm as a draftsman-engineer, I accepted.

At first I was going to work for a year and then they would give me the opportunity to finish College of Advanced Technology at their expense. It was just after 9/11, 2001, and unexpectedly the company had to reorganize and the whole plan fell through.

From 1994 until 2012 – the years I lived in Holland – I only came to Bonaire three times. I had a full and busy life because next to work and study I also played indoor soccer at the highest level. Bonaire wasn’t appealing; I was travelling with my soccer team all through Europe and I was enjoying it – it was a different stage of my life.

Later I got a job for four years at a com-

“On Bonaire people have always gotten along fine; it is part of the culture. However, the island did change, because the younger generation has different needs, interests, norms and values....”

pany that made X-ray pictures for the metal industry. When the company reorganized I took a test and the result was that I was fit for police work. I applied at the Amsterdam-Amstelland Police Force and pending the appointment I worked as a detention supervisor at camp Zeist-Soest. There we guarded illegal aliens with criminal records who would be expelled, as well as people whose asylum request was not granted. I saw some things there; desperate people, people who’d committed suicide... it changed me. I looked at people differently. I talked a lot with these people and I listened. We didn’t have a lot when I grew up, but these people have absolutely nothing and still, many of them manage to go through life with joy in their heart and a peace we will never obtain.

I also worked with families and that hurt because you have to lock up children and it made me think, ‘I cannot change it, but it is inhumane,’ and that’s what I told my superintendant. It went against all my principles – because you know what? It could have been me and my children. It could have been you and your family... I had a girlfriend and a little son, Denric-



David Molina working on a traffic safety issue together with SELIBON’s Suyen Sussenbach

Davien, who was just born then in 2005. Not all those people were criminals!

When I was appointed in the Police Corps Amsterdam-Amstelland, I took the four-year training and I gained a lot of experience. Then I transferred to Corps Flevoland, in another province of Holland.

Shortly after, one of my colleagues told me they were looking for Antillean colleagues for the Police Corps RCN and that’s how I found out there were vacancies on Bonaire. I applied and was hired. Somehow I felt it was time. I wanted to be with my mother and grandmother – the two most important people in my life who have contributed to the norms and values

had to go on a trip for work – my boy came up to my bedroom and there, standing in the doorway at 6 o’clock in the morning, he looked at me and said, ‘Papa, you’re taking a plane aren’t you?’ And I answered, ‘How do you know?’ and then he said, ‘I know, grandma’s gone...’ and it broke my heart. Nobody had told him. How do children know these things ?

After the funeral I went back to Holland to arrange for everything. Then I flew to Bonaire and on October 1st I started working here. My family came later. For my mom, who had just lost her mother it has been a great support.

Police work on Bonaire is different from Holland because there is less bureaucracy and there’s a short connection with the management, but I got used to Holland, a bigger country where more and different things are happening, where you deal with many cultures and so, I have to adapt here – I’m still working on it!

On Bonaire people have always gotten along fine; it is part of the culture. However, the island did change, because the younger generation has different needs, interests, norms and values. It’s understandable because modern media reaches all the way to Bonaire as well, but still I find we need to watch over our values.

I’ve been away for a long time and I’ve been here too short a time to have a complete picture of the situation on the island. I think we should work a bit on the value called ‘respect.’ If we all work together we can accomplish anything. That’s my strong belief. It’s like the chain of a bicycle: all links together form the chain that moves the wheels.

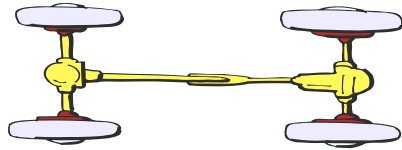
I came here to do my job and together with my family I hope to build our life, our future on Bonaire. It doesn’t feel like home yet, but when I am in Rincon and I meet some old friends and we’re having a beer together and local music is playing, then I feel it – the old familiar and precious feeling – I am home.” ■

Story & photos by Greta Kooistra



BONAIRE ON WHEELS

This is the 128th of a series of Bonaire Reporter articles by J@n –wear a helmet- Brouwer, featuring some of Bonaire's interesting vehicles and persons that are "on wheels."
Up to at least 200 articles!



THE SIMCA ARONDE-A LE MANS CAB ON BONAIRE

Bonaire/Antriol –

Maarten and Marianne Kete-laars from Brabant, the Netherlands, have been on the island since 2009. Maarten has a job as a teacher in physics, chemistry and technology, and Marianne is a financial director and developer at the SGB. Four years ago they sold their house in Holland and they bought a lovely house in Antriol. They shipped an old and reliable yellow and black Toyota FJ40. They prepared the four-wheel drive vehicle for the paved and unpaved roads of Bonaire and the jeep never disappointed them.



About a year ago they shipped another special vehicle to Bonaire: a Simca Aronde Elysee, built in France in 1959. They liked the four-door little limousine because of its smooth ride and comfortable suspension. A perfect car for the paved roads of our island.

Both Marianne and Maarten fell in love with Bonaire. They dove a lot and Maarten shot thousands of pictures of the unspoiled underwater world. Then Maarten started to love the island itself more and more and he started documenting the island and the island life with his camera. Marianne and Maarten really felt at home on Bonaire and they did not have the intention to leave at all. Then Marianne was offered a nice and attractive job in Europe that she could not resist. She gave up her job at the SGB as did Maarten. He has the intention to make his job out of his hobby of photographing.

So the lovely red and crème two tone Simca Aronde Elysee they imported just over a year ago unfortunately is for sale now. Only the march of time proves you never know what the future will bring...

The Simca Aronde P60 Elysee started her life as a cab in Le Mans, France. ("Aronde" is old French for swallow/jb.) This 1959 model is an original Simca design. Earlier models were copies of the Italian FIATs. The P60 is the first Simca with a monocoque body, a single shell body. So there is no chassis, and wheels and shocks are directly connected to the body. (In nature an egg is a

fine example of a monocoque/jb.) Techniques are still derived from FIAT's 1200cc model. This Simca Aronde has a "modern" Rush-engine of 1300 cc. It has four cylinders and pistons, eight valves and reliable push-rods. The engine is positioned in line and a bell house with the clutch connects the power plant to the four-speed gearbox. The shift is mounted on the steering column. No power brakes, no power steering, no power windows, poor man's airco. A generator and a rectifier to supply energy to the yellow colored French bulbs in the French made Marchall headlamps. This cute little Le Mans cab earned her money for years and years in France. Then she was imported to the Netherlands where the new owner restored her completely. Above all he discovered the complete history of the vehicle. So now Maarten and Marianne have a load of original documentation about their vehicle.

This Simca Aronde is adorable and has good looks: nice colors and nice chrome and polished aluminum details. Seats are comfortable, metal dashboard, an original cab meter, counting the old French Francs you have to pay for the trip: "Somme a payer: 8,00 Francs" the gauge reads. A nice and unique runner on the island. Unfortunately Maarten and Marianne will leave Bonaire and their cutie is for sale. Asking price is \$7500. (In 2010 the value of the vehicle was estimated €6500.) Just call Maarten: 700-3728 or send Marianne an email: Marianne@aquastills.com. I'd love to keep this four-door two-tone on our island! ■

Story and photo by J@n Brouwer

HELMETS ON WHEELS

THIS IS THE 19th OF A SERIES OF BONAIRE REPORTER SHORT ARTICLES BY J@N BROUWER, ABOUT HELMETS AND HELMET AWARENESS.

Dynamic Power Girl Wears A Shiro Helmet

Bonaire/Hato –

Just in front of the supermarket in Hato I spotted this brand new Shiro jet helmet. I immediately approached the owner: Miss Sherdeuna Bernabela, a lovely looking 23 years young attractive, sporty and well-dressed lady, fond of life and with the prospect of some more 77 years. I asked her permission to shoot a photograph and I explained to her about my little individual helmet awareness campaign. She smiled, surprised, and permitted me to take some pictures. Nice black jet helmet, aerodynamic design, ventilation holes, bright visor, letters and signs and words printed on the helmet in white and pink saying: "Girls Power."

At home I copied the photographs to my personal computer and enlarged them because of the details: a white Peugeot Fox two-stroke moped with aluminum rims and shocks in the front and the rear.

But above all: a simple and sporty short white dress, with black accents, a black leather bag, white open sandals and pink nail polish. This powered Bonairean girl knows about details. Her outfit fits her helmet and her helmet fits her. Thank you, Sherdeuna Bernabela, for protecting your head and promoting wearing a helmet! ■

Story & photo by J@n Brouwer



New Name Coming Soon: Voordeelmarkt Bonaire

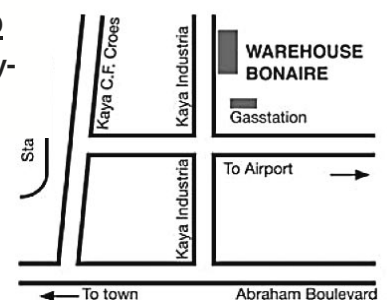


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Tourism History

HISTORY PART 9- The Airport And Airlift, Second Part of Two

In August of 1964, the Government of the Netherlands Antilles founded ALM (*Antilliaanse Luchtvaartmaatschappij*), the national carrier and successor to the KLM operations in the Caribbean. Main objective of the new company was to link the islands of the Netherlands Antilles by air and to operate international flights in the Caribbean, to Latin and South America and to the US. In that same year the head of the Tourist Office, Toon Abraham, engaged in deliberations with Trans Caribbean Airways to try to create a semi-direct connection between the US and Bonaire in cooperation with ALM. But ALM opposed this idea and it was not accomplished.



Flamingo airport building, as it was until 1976.

In 1966 the Government of Bonaire made great progress in negotiations with airline companies that wanted to organize direct charter flights from the US to Bonaire. The intention was to use turbo-jet aircraft on this route and medium range jets like the Boeing 727. In that same year the Hotel Bonaire director started organizing direct charter flights from the US to Bonaire, using planes like the Electra Turbojet and DC-7. But this was not to the liking of the government because these charter flights only brought tourists with one goal: to play in the Hotel Bonaire Casino. They came only for a short period and the hotel often had no rooms available to accommodate the traditional tourists who wanted to come for a longer period. Moreover, these flights were sometimes cancelled or arrived partially empty which meant loss of revenue for the hotel. And of course, being focused on nothing else but the casino, these gamblers hardly left the hotel and they were not interested in

seeing more of the island, so they did not contribute at all to the local economy. The government repeatedly tried to get the hotel management's attention to this matter but they replied that they could not act otherwise since they had to fill up their rooms.

The problem with airlift from the US to Bonaire via Aruba or Curaçao persisted for decades. ALM refused to cooperate in providing a direct flight to Bonaire from Aruba, where tourists arrived with PANAM or Trans Caribbean Airways. ALM, established in Curaçao and having the monopoly on this route, was not interested at all in accommodating hotels in Bonaire and its government. The Hotel Bonaire management continued to try to convince ALM to create this route, stating that it would increase local travel between the islands and thus more business for ALM. But the company persisted in its opposition.



Boarding 'The Flying Dutchman'

The Hotel Bonaire management, trying to discover the cause of so many cancellations by US tourists, found out that KLM, both in its New York and Miami offices, spread the story that there were no seats available on the ALM flights and that there were no rooms either in Hotel Bonaire. So ALM planes arrived partially empty in Bonaire and every hotel had rooms available.

And then there was trouble with the ticket price: a ticket from New York to Bonaire cost as much as a ticket New York – Curaçao. For a connecting ticket from Curaçao to Bonaire, KLM had to pay ALM, but ALM was not interested in this deal since KLM paid a lot less than a local passenger would pay for the same flight. This resulted in both ALM and KLM not being interested at all in promoting Bonaire. The ALM management demanded a government guarantee for these flights, something the Aruba government did give to other companies. But since ALM was not interested in establishing this route, the Bonaire government refused to give any

guarantee to this company which had the monopoly. The government stated that it could have given the guarantee under the condition that ALM would allow another company on that same route in case ALM would not be able to comply. The ALM management immediately replied that no other company would ever be allowed on the route that Bonaire requested. ALM could make this statement since one of its directors was also director of the Aviation Department of the Netherlands Antilles.

The frequency of flights between Curaçao and Bonaire was another issue. Until 1965, there was just one flight per day. In that year, the ALM management decided to double the number of flights three times a week for a period of three months. ALM stated that if the results of these three months were not favorable, they would have to sit and talk to the Bonaire government about the guarantee.

After this, ALM had to cancel several

(Continued on page 7)

Going on Holiday?
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History of Tourism (Continued from page 6)
 flights to Bonaire as a result of labor conflicts with its personnel. One of these flights was between Maiquetia (Venezuela) and Bonaire, just after an intensive promotion campaign by the Tourist Office in Venezuela. Representatives of travel agencies from Venezuela who visited Bonaire, invited by ALM, declared that only with a direct connection between Caracas and Bonaire would a development of Venezuelan tourism to Bonaire be possible. If tourists were to travel through Curaçao, it would be out of the question. Bonaire depended on flights from the Venezuelan airline company AVENSA from Caracas to Curaçao to bring Venezuelan tourists.

Later on, the strained relations between the Bonaire government and ALM improved slowly. It was not until 1967 before Bonaire got the direct ALM flight from Aruba, twice weekly. In the beginning these flights brought tourists to Bonaire on Monday and back to Aruba on Friday. Later the flight plan was changed, flying them in on Friday and back on Sunday, thus allowing them to spend the weekend in Bonaire. Direct flights from Caracas to Bonaire were also carried out, much to the satisfaction of the Bonaire tourist industry.

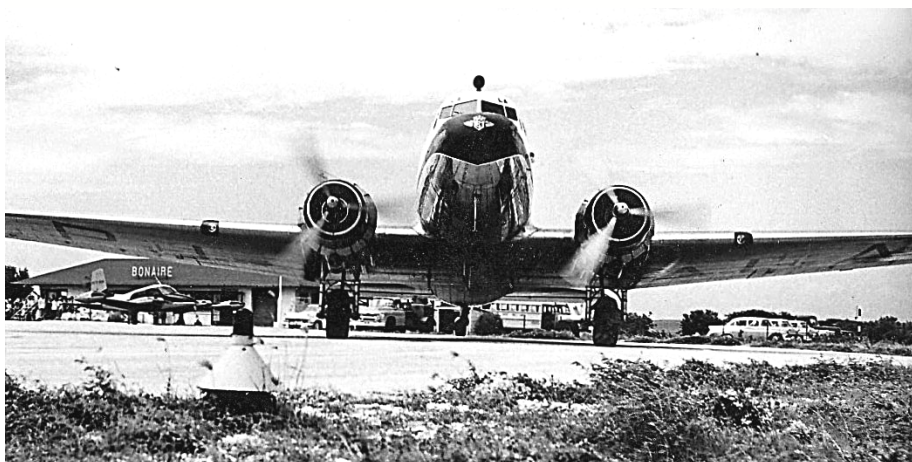
The government of Bonaire continued to struggle hard, trying to get direct international flights. But every time the airline companies told them that first they had to have an airfield that could accommodate jet planes, combined with facilities to serve these planes. Bonaire started to realize that it had to upgrade its airport before it could play a role in the aviation industry of the Caribbean. That's why the government included a project of extension of the landing strip of the Flamingo Airport in the second phase of its long-range plan. In 1967 the preparations finally began to extend the runway and to build a new terminal and apron. The Dutch Government agreed in 1969 to finance the extension of the airport, the terminal and a light system that allows planes to land safely (VASIS).

In 1970 the runway was 1750 meters long and 30 meters wide. On this strip a DC-9 could land and take off fully loaded.

In 1974 preparations began for the construction of a new terminal building which was completed in 1976. Still, hotels, airlines and foreign investors kept insisting on the construction of a longer runway. More and bigger jet planes would mean an increase in the number of tourists and an opportunity for investors to build new hotels. So the



Inaugural flight of the direct DC-10, beginning of a new era.



Takeoff... From the point of view of the iguana...(Photo Heit)

work on the extension of the runway continued. Minister Miguel Pourier succeeded in obtaining the financing by the European Community. In 1980 a runway with a length of 2400 meters and a width of 45 meters was inaugurated. In April of that year, the first Bonaire – Miami flight landed on the new extended runway.

When the Gulf War broke out in 1990, and it was to be expected that tourism to the Middle East would come to a halt, Hugo Gerharts succeeded in convincing the KLM top brass to add a new tourist destination to their schedule and start flying directly to Bonaire, using the island as a hub enroute to South America. In April of 1991 the first KLM DC-10 was welcomed at the airport.

In 2000 the runway was extended to 2880 meters. This is long enough for the biggest

planes like the Boeing 747 to take off, fully loaded, on their way to destinations in Europe, the US or Latin America, like Lima or Quito. KLM used Bonaire for a fuel stop for flights on their way to these destinations. The upgrading of the terminal building, the tarmac and the service facilities has been going on and on for years. Plans for a totally new terminal building are currently being developed. ■ *Evert Bongers*



Sources:
www.bonaireinternationalairport.com/history, research by Bòì Antoin)

Air Travel Update

The dying gasp of BonaireExel was DCE Airbus service. It did not last long

In 2000 Flamingo Airport's runway was extended to 2,880 meters (9,450 ft.) and several additional facilities were constructed to regularly service wide-body aircraft. Completed in 2002, the new facilities allowed the Boeing 747s and MD-11s serving on KLM's Amsterdam-Quito and Amsterdam-Lima routes to use Bonaire as a refueling point and a layover site for jets serving Aruba and Curaçao.

Business boomed at the airport that year. Approximately 35% more passengers used the facility than the previous year--371,805 vs. 276,185. The majority of the increase was due to international passengers, up 48%, all the more dramatic because domestic passengers dropped 19%, from 156,955 to 126,700. While domestic arrivals-departures dropped, international traffic shot up 170%. The increase from two KLM jumbo jet flights per week to 28 was the main reason for the increase. On March 28, Dutch Eagle Express, flying as BonairExel, began daily Miami flights, inter-island and Venezuelan flights. Major infrastructure improvements in the terminal, fuel facility and associated services were completed or underway. More than a half-million passengers were expected to pass through the airport in 2003.

In February 2003 the first meals were provided to the KLM Quito flight. Bonaire's new catering facility, operated by Goddard Services, provided beverages and meals to the four daily KLM flights, two of which operated in the very early morning hours.

Operations are much below those highs this year. On October 12, 2011, KLM began non-stop flights from Amsterdam-Schiphol to Quito and Guayaquil with a Boeing 777, bypassing Bonaire. This was a major setback for the airport traffic, but a boon for people sleeping near the airport; the wee hours were quiet again. ■ *G.D.*

MONTHLY Goat cheese recipe

Fresh and healthy



Grilled courgette filled with goat cheese and tomato salsa

Appetizer serves 4

Ingredients:

Goat cheese Semper Kontentu	200 gr
Courgette	75 gr
Tomatoes	100 gr
Clove of garlic	1 x
Shallot	1 x
Olive oil	50 ml
Fresh basil	

How to prepare:

Pre-heat the oven on 180 degrees. Slice the courgette in thin long slices and grill them on both sides. Dice the goat cheese and put on the courgette. Now roll up the courgette similar to the picture above. Season the courgette with olive oil, salt and pepper. Dice the tomatoes in small cubes, add olive oil, chopped garlic and shallot. Season with pepper and salt. Place the courgette packages in to the oven and leave it for 4-5 minutes. Place courgette on a plate and top with the salsa and decorate with fresh basil. Nice as a vegetarian appetizer or lunch. Enjoy the taste and love and care of Aletta's Semper Kontentu goat cheese.

Available at Warehouse Bonaire

Recipe by Rik de Hek



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Bonaire Chefs Off To Miami and A Blast From the Past

It's been six years since Bonaire sent a chefs' team to the culinary Olympics, "Taste of the Caribbean." Thanks to the motivation provided by Sara Matera, a longtime supporter of "Taste" participation by Bonaire, several top Bonaire restaurants and others, Bonaire is again entering a team.

This year's seven-member team includes: Team Manager, Floris van Loo (Rum Runners), Jr. chefs, Jesus Churcho Galan (It Rains Fishes) and Giovannie Veld (It Rains Fishes), Pastry Chef, Junior Janga (Bonaire Food Group), Chefs Rhashinda Donge (Rum Runners, Plaza), Robertico Bernabela (Divi), Bartender Tarimar Thom (Donna & Giorgio's).

The annual event, which showcases the fusion of Caribbean tastes with classic cooking, will be held at the Hyatt Regency in Miami from June 26-30.

The first time Bonaire sent a culinary team to the Taste of the Caribbean was in 1997 in Puerto Rico (See photos lower right). Chefs were Jeroen DeJong (Plaza Hotel), Martin Bouwmeester (Rendez Vous), Kees Leeman (Chez Truus), Alberto Rodin (Harbour Village) and Vernon Martijn (Rum Runners). Bartender was Liz Rijna. The culinary team won bronze medals and Liz won a gold medal as well as Bartender of the Caribbean (*Port Call / Bonaire Reporter archives*, October 10-16, 1997 issue).

There are currently nine Caribbean culinary teams registered for the event including Anguilla, Bahamas, Barbados, Bonaire, Jamaica, Puerto Rico, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago and the US Virgin Islands. Each participating team represents a Caribbean country that has held individual competitions to select their national team, comprised of two senior chefs, one junior chef, one bartender, one pastry chef and one manager. The participating team members represent hotels, restaurants or educational institutions in the Caribbean which are members of CHTA. The teams are vying for top honors including Caribbean Culinary Team of the Year, Caribbean Chef of the Year, Caribbean Pastry Chef of the Year, Caribbean Bartender of the Year and Caribbean Junior Chef of the Year.

This annual Caribbean food and beverage event is designed for culinary professionals to network, polish professional skills and cheer on colleagues in competition. Taste of the Caribbean also provides education through seminars, workshops, tastings and demonstrations, created to enhance performance, style and profitability in food and beverage operations.

Let's cheer our team to victory. If you are in Miami at the end of the month drop into the Hyatt and check out the event. ■ *Press releases/Laura DeSalvo*



Sara Matera and The 2013 Bonaire Chef's Team



The 1997 team: Chefs and Bartender

							
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Open House at the Park

Washington Slagbaai National Park celebrated its 44th anniversary with the annual Open House party at the Park entrance on Sunday June 9th.

Entrance to the Park was free for all on this day commemorating the opening of the 'National Park Washington' on May 9, 1969, marking the birth of the **first nature sanctuary in the Netherlands Antilles.**

The day started off with guided tours on the nature trails, guided hikes up the Kasi-kunda and up to the highest point of Bonaire, Mount Brandaris. There was a local market set up at the entrance of the Park which included art produced by locals, stalls selling all sorts things including jewelry

and plants and trees and of course lots of food and drinks stalls. There was a kids' area which was busy all day with children painting and coloring nature pictures and getting their faces painted with all sorts of designs, from tigers to butterflies to Spiderman.

After lunch the bands set up to play their music and despite the heat many people took to the dance floor to shake a leg. The music and festivities ended at 5 pm. More than 140 cars entered the Park that day, and many of the people who explored deep inside the Park took a well deserved dip in the ocean at the Slagbaai plantation site. The photos tell the story. ■ *Press Release/L.D.*



Cars and people all entered for free



Back from the hike



Face paint



Great food from Yuchi

Bonaire Remembers...

Captain Art Lamour

Art Lamour, who wore a shark's tooth imbedded in gold rings on every finger was a magician extraordinary, hotel showman and an outstanding trainer



of stage animals, passed away last week after a short hospital stay. He first materialized in Aruba in the mid-60s. He pioneered scuba diving and multi-hulled sailboats on that island but resettled on Bonaire permanently in the 90s.

He had come and gone to Bonaire throughout the years, but this time he decided he would stay. And stay he did. A fierce wind reversal storm drove his boat, the *Bon Bini*, onto the seawall. His few possessions were strewn ashore near Karels Beach Bar and left him with hardly a single thing.

Friends brought him clothes, sneakers, pots, pans.. Locals even cooked and brought him

meals, anything to help him back on his feet. He had the boat towed to Kaya Amsterdam and camped out and lived inside the boat until it was fixed.

He always had a monkey with him and told how he used to train animals for a living in the US. He also had a baby goat he raised and trained on Bonaire too.

You were one of those people who came and went on Bonaire, Captain Art. You were never forgotten by its people and will live long in their hearts. ■ *Christie Dovale/G.D.*

Polly Burge 1931 - 2013

Bonaire lost a longtime friend with the passing of Shirley Paulette (Polly) Roberts Burge (81) on June 6, 2013, after an extended, severe stroke illness. Polly and her husband, John, were part-time residents for many years beginning at Sand Dollar and later moving to a larger home at Hamlet. They were avid divers and underwater photographers until an accident prevented them from traveling to their home on Bonaire. Polly was always there with her great southern hospitality, a good story and a cheerful smile.

Polly was a PADI Master SCUBA Diver with a number of specialties including Rescue Diver and Deep Diver, but her favorite in which she excelled was underwater photography. She was a prize winning underwater photographer having many of her images displayed internationally. Though she has not been here for a long while, there are still many people on Bonaire who will miss her. Our thoughts and prayers are with John and his family during this difficult time. ■ *Pam Teitel*



Saturday Market

At a recent Farmers' Market (*Marshe di Kunukeru*) Onnie Emerenciana (left) was selling his healthy plants and Sidney Manuel his bio organic *Tera Pa Mata* (potting soil) for \$3 a bag! Call Sidney at 560-2570 if you want some. This month's Farmers Market is on **Saturday, July 6, at Kriabon (Farmers' Cooperative)**, from 8am to 1 pm. Local fruits, vegetables, plants, homemade juices, cakes, breads, jams, jellies, live animals and more. It's worth a trip, lots of fun and you'll meet old friends and make new ones in the super friendly atmosphere. The Market is at Kaminda Yatu Baku #55, next to Aquamarin School. ■ *Laura DeSalvo*



ART DAY IS SUNDAY!

The 21st edition of **Dia di Arte** is **Sunday, July 7, from 11 am to 11 pm at Wilhelmina Park.**

Come and get to know Bonairean artists, musicians and writers together with some international stars. After the official opening there will be an exhibition of local dance and painting for the children. All day live bands will perform. You may buy CDs of local music, original paintings and handcrafts. Sample deli-



Art Day 2012

cious Creole dishes, seafood, homemade *lamunchi* and tamarind juice, fruit punch, chocolate, candy and cakes.

Let the kids enjoy the organized games. Relax with a cold beer or a soft drink at the well stocked bar. Hang out for a few hours. Come and have a look, admire, applaud our island's talents and buy art works from the many artists who will be displaying and selling their original works at special "Art Day" prices. Don't miss this opportunity for fun, culture and entertainment. ■ *Press release*

Young Talent IV

JUNE 15-29

@Appetite



This year's YOUNG TALENT exposition of art work from the SGB opened last Friday, June 14. This was the fourth consecutive year that students from the *Scholengemeenschap Bonaire* (SGB) have shown their work. This year the work was amazing – creative, innovative, breathtaking, beautiful.

There was sculpture, oils, watercolors, experimental photography, video. Their themes were Pop Art, Surrealism, Identity and Close-up. The exposition focuses mainly on the work of exam

students but some exceptional work from younger students is also on display. "They're incredible," art teacher Karine deWit says. "There's a lot of talent here, and it should get promoted," she emphasizes. "While teenagers in Holland and the US spend their weekends at malls, these kids are out having fun doing photo shoots!"

At the opening night the energy was high. Families and friends were there. Artists proudly posed by their works, teen singers and musicians gathered to perform (see cover). Many thanks to Appetite restaurant (Kaya Grandi 12) for acting as a replacement for the sadly defunct Kas di

Arte. Appetite was a perfect backdrop for the varied art pieces. The exhibit goes until June 28 at Appetite (open Monday-Friday 10 am to 10 pm, Sunday 5pm-10pm). ■

Laura DeSalvo/Press Release



Artist-Singer Semariel Marten and Gerald Alberto



Photo artist Kaile Fines with her mom and brother. Her art is in the background.



"DaVinci Once Again," a (believe it or not) photo by Jouenne Mariana.



SGB Art Teacher Karine deWit

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International Kite Surfing Events Boost Bonaire

The world's best kitesurfers converged on Bonaire in early June to participate in two exciting weeks of competition. Conditions were fabulous with strong steady winds throughout.

They came from Germany, Canada, Brazil, Italy, Australia and included Bonaire experts like Hagen Wegerer, who organized the international competition, Peter Zweers and Lars van der Laan and upcoming riders Bertie Verginie (15) and Sil Romeijn (13). International stars included Riccardo Leccese (Italy), currently world champion, Aaron

Hadlow and the Dutch master of extreme Ruben Lenten. Also riding were 16-year-old Job Heemskerk of Zandvoort, Renske Shepherd from Bonaire, Levi Solleveld, Lewis Cathern and others.

Kite Ride Bonaire is a socially committed organization, which has an eye for the sport-competitive element. The organization is involved in the development of youngsters to teach the importance of sport, motivation and willpower.

The photos tell the story. ■ G.D.



Above: Action at the windward turning mark
Below: The KiteSchool bus never saw so many kites flying



Bertie and Sil aloft



Wild Card winner Jop Heemskerk



Everybody's flying



Kitesurfers Pieter Zweers and Hendrik Wuyts talk at Hagen's food trail trailer

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Letters to the Editor

FIRST WASTE WARRIOR AWARDS
In our last edition we mentioned that it was a pity that while individual were being encouraged the recycle by SELIBON there was nothing yet organized for commercial establishments like hotels and restaurants. However, we soon discovered that some places were recycling anyway. **We therefore name Bruce Bowker's Carib Inn and Pasa Bon Pizza as the island's first Waste Warriors.**



Bruce Bowkers Carib Inn

Dear Editor:

I am a dive instructor at Bruce Bowker's Carib Inn. I started my own recycling collection at the Carib Inn, with permission from Bruce, the week I read about the new SELIBON center in *The Reporter*.

I have 3 bins outside: one for all colored glass, one for metal and the final one for plastic.

We have had a dead battery bin inside the shop for a long time.

I am allowed during work time to be driven to the recycling center twice a week, with the help of our over-enthusiastic mute/deaf 'tank guy,' Edward.

Since we are a major retail shop we receive a lot of excessive packaging such as plastic bags and wrapping, Styrofoam, and cardboard.

The glass color sorting is done by hand here with gloves, and so is the easier job of metal and plastic sorting.

Although some guests and staff still forget to recycle at times, the impact has still been very positive.

Brandon Djordjevich

Pasa Bon Pizza

Dear Editor:

I am also surprised about the hotels not participating in the recycling effort. We have been recycling glass bottles for years and began recycling cardboard and plastic about a year and a half ago.

We now include all plastic, like Saran Wrap and all the many plastic bags from the pizza dough, as well as all of our cans.

The BonRecycle truck picks up all of our separated recyclables once a week. We simply put it out by the front gate.

We may be able to eliminate one trash can because of our recycling!! It requires very little effort! And the benefits are many!!

Just wanted to share.

Lisa Pawley

Picture Yourself With The Reporter On A Megayacht In The Panama Canal.



Two of Bonaire's newest residents, Cher and John Floyd, have been visiting the island on their motor yacht *Champagne Cher* for the last eight years. While transiting the Panama Canal they remembered to have their photo taken for our Picture Yourself column.

The couple fell in love with our island, people and scuba diving. They decided to buy a home here. Cher was very active with the Sea Turtle Conservation group and various other charities on Bonaire. We heartily welcome you. ■

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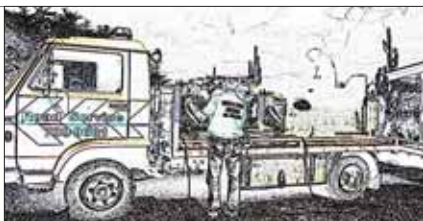
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Chevrolet S10 Pick-Up, built in 2006, double cabin, colour silver, 58.000 kms. Owners leaving island. Price \$3750. Cell: 782 1431

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Bonaire-Sun Rise/Set, Moon Phase and Tides

Day	High	Low	High	Low	High	Sunrise	Sunset
Mon 24	00:46 1.12 ft	09:35 -0.34 ft	15:03 0.16 ft	18:50 0.09 ft		06:13 AST	19:03 AST
Tue 25	01:43 1.06 ft	10:21 -0.36 ft	16:07 0.28 ft	20:26 0.16 ft		06:13 AST	19:03 AST
Wed 26	02:40 0.96 ft	11:04 -0.37 ft	17:00 0.41 ft	22:04 0.19 ft		06:13 AST	19:03 AST
Thu 27	03:39 0.84 ft	11:44 -0.35 ft	17:48 0.55 ft	23:37 0.19 ft		06:13 AST	19:03 AST
Fri 28	04:38 0.71 ft	12:22 -0.32 ft	18:33 0.68 ft			06:14 AST	19:03 AST
Sat 29		01:01 0.15 ft	05:37 0.57 ft	12:58 -0.27 ft	19:16 0.79 ft	06:14 AST	19:04 AST
Sun 30	L. Quarter	02:19 0.09 ft	06:36 0.44 ft	13:32 -0.22 ft	19:58 0.88 ft	06:14 AST	19:04 AST
Mon 01	June	03:31 0.03 ft	07:36 0.32 ft	14:03 -0.15 ft	20:38 0.93 ft	06:14 AST	19:04 AST
Tue 02		04:38 -0.02 ft	08:37 0.22 ft	14:29 -0.09 ft	21:18 0.96 ft	06:15 AST	19:04 AST
Wed 03		05:44 -0.07 ft	09:41 0.14 ft	14:51 -0.04 ft	21:56 0.96 ft	06:15 AST	19:04 AST
Thu 04		06:47 -0.10 ft	10:53 0.08 ft	15:03 0.01 ft	22:34 0.95 ft	06:15 AST	19:04 AST
Fri 05		07:47 -0.12 ft	12:36 0.05 ft	14:49 0.04 ft	23:11 0.93 ft	06:15 AST	19:04 AST
Sat 06		08:44 -0.14 ft	23:47 0.90 ft			06:16 AST	19:04 AST
Sun 07		09:33 -0.15 ft				06:16 AST	19:04 AST
Mon 08	00:24 0.86 ft	10:12 -0.16 ft			New Moon	06:16 AST	19:04 AST

Studios for rent 1-2 persons, \$510-\$565 all inclusive also use, gardening, TV , internet, furnished, linen, Selibon, gas, water, electr., except aircro , terrace, Phone 796-2529 or visit during daylight at Hato or www.bonaireverhuur.com

For RENT: Spacious apartment in Belnem. Fully furnished, living + dining area with full kitchen. Private parking. Long term rent \$750.00 per month. Phone 796-5530.

House For Rent : 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 5 min. walk from the ocean in playa Pabow. tel: 717-8603

For rent: new guesthouse, Sabadeco Furnished, 1 bedroom, 1 bath, screens, excellent breeze, lots of privacy Excl. Internet, TV: Price USD 770,- tel. 795-0124, email: sar@xs4all.nl

VACANCY
MIVABO, the nonprofit organization for disabled citizens, seeks an additional board member to volunteer to help us achieve our goal of a 100% accessible Bonaire. By lobbying the government for a modern disability policy on Bonaire we can play an important and active role making it easier for locals and visitors to shop, vacation, conduct daily business and enjoy the sea! We provide information to the public using local and social media, letting people know where to go and what areas to avoid due to inaccessibility. The work is demanding from time to time but plan on taking from 8 to 12 hours per week. More information can be found on MIVABO at www.mivabo.org. Not sure whether it is right for you? Mail us your telephone number; we will call you for more details. Or mail your CV and a bit about yourself to info@mivabo.org.

Sudoku Puzzle

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

Sudoku Solution

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

SHOPPING and SERVICE GUIDE

AIRLINES

Divi Divi Air- Bonaire's "on time airline" with 16 flights a day between Bonaire and Curaçao. Your first choice for inter-island travel. Now flying to Aruba.

APPLIANCES /TV/ ELECTRONICS/ COMPUTERS

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



AUTOMOBILE DEALER

Check out **Auto City Bonaire** for the widest selection of new car brands on Bonaire including Chevrolet, Honda, Isuzu, Suzuki, Subaru. Used cars too.

Complete service department. Hertz rentals.

BANK

ORCO Bank offers one-on-one attention, personal banking. Each client is a person, not a number.

Office in the historic building at Kaya Grandi 48.

BARS

Zazu Bar at the Harbour Village Marina is all you expect in a great bar. Super bartender, quality drinks and friendly service. Plus Bonaire's only Rum Bar— over 50 types!

BEAUTY PARLOR

Hair Affair. Expert hair cutting, styling, facials and facial waxing. Great new shop on Kaya Grandi. Walk-in service too

CARS AND BIKES

De Freewieler sells bikes and all kinds of bike accessories. They do professional repairs on almost anything on two wheels. **Have your keys made here too.**

Want to see You See Your Business' Advertisement Here? Contact *The Reporter* at 786-6518 or email laura@bonairereporter.com. Your "bottom line" will look better as a result of advertising with us.

DENTURE REPAIR

All Denture Lab—for the best denture care by an experienced professional. Repairs while you wait. Next to Botika Korona on Kaya J. G. Hernandez.

ON and IN the WATER

Budget Marine has what anyone with a boat needs, and if it's not in stock they can order it quickly. You can also find special hardware for general use and components for solar and wind electric systems.

Dive Friends has four dive schools and three retail shops so you always get the best deals and can be assured of top notch training. Remodeled shop open now.

UNDERWATER VIDEO

ScubaVision - Pro video of your Bonaire vacation, above and/or below the water with a custom DVD by Bonaire's top videographer, Hendrik Wuyts.

GARDEN SUPPLIES AND SERVICES

Green Label has everything you need to start or maintain your garden. They can design, install and maintain it and offer plants, irrigation supplies and garden chemicals. Off Kaya Industria, behind Lucky Supermarket.

HOME CARE

Bonaire Second Home Care can handle all the needs of second home owners on Bonaire including inspection, management and cleaning.

OPTICIAN

Buena Vista Optics is Bonaire's most up-to-date place to get eyeglasses or contact lenses. The combination of experienced personnel and advanced equipment and technology make it a top value

PHOTOGRAPHER

Bonaire's creative video and still photographer for the wedding or other important events in your life. **ScubaVision**, Kaya Grandi 6. See website scubavision.info or ScubaVision on YouTube

A Directory listing is free for regular advertisers in *The Reporter*
Call Laura at 786-6518 for information

REAL ESTATE /RENTAL AGENTS

Caribbean Homes, "the Refreshing Realtor," specializing in luxury homes, condos, lots, rentals and property management. Yacht sales too.



Sunbelt Realty offers full real estate, rental, and insurance services. If you want a home or to invest in Bonaire, stop in and visit.



RESTAURANTS

Bistro de Paris— Waterfront location at the Harbour Village Marina. Superb menu, genuine French dishes in a waterfront ambiance. Airco if you want it.

La Balandra at The Harbour Village Resort offers Bonaire's most spectacular setting. Superb cuisine, top notch service. Eat on the deck or with your feet in the sand.

Pasa Bon Pizza—Bonaire's quality pizza-Best ingredients, best baking and best taste. Great salads and lasagna too. Eat in or take away.

RETAIL

Benetton, world famous designer clothes available now in Bonaire at prices less than those in US. For men, women and children.

Bona Dea is Bonaire's newest Caribbean lifestyle shop featuring good taste gifts, apparel, shoes, accessories and home décor

SECURITY

Special Security Services will provide that extra measure of protection when you need it. Always reliable.

STORAGE

The Storehouse (Mangazina in Papiamentu) offers Secure Storage for Vehicles, Household Items, Diving and Sporting Gear, Business Files or Inventory. Across from the northern hotel row.



SHIPPING

Rocargo Freight Air and sea shipments in/out of Bonaire. Customs agents. Professional and efficient. **FedEx agent. What would we do without their superb services?**



SPAS/GYM/HEALTH

Bon Bida Spa & Gym World Class fitness and health facility- Classes, top notch machines, trainers. Day, monthly or annual rates.



SUPERMARKETS

TOP Supermarket—

Conveniently located **downtown** at the old Culti-mara location. Featuring a complete selection including liquors, fresh meat, fruit and vegetables.



Warehouse Supermarket on Kaya Industria—Big air conditioned market with a friendly staff, the largest selection and lowest prices on the island. They stock what you need.



MADE ON BONAIRE

Semper Kontentu goat cheese. Ask for it at restaurants and look for it in the markets. Lovingly handmade. Mugs available.

VARIETY STORE

The Tung Fong Store is a great asset to everyone on Bonaire because it stocks so many thing we want: clothes, hardware, food, auto and bike supplies. If you don't see it... ask for it. They probably have it.

WATER TAXI

Get to Klein Bonaire by Ferry. Ride the *Kantika di Amor*. Hotel or downtown pickup The only water taxi to Klein Bonaire with an easy on/off built-in ramp at Bonaire Nautico (It Rains Fishes Restaurant)

BONAIREAN VOICES



Helen Thode

A WOMAN'S IMAGE

The International Day of the Woman is being celebrated worldwide in different countries. It's the day that women are being recognized for their achievements regardless of their nationality, ethnicity, languages, culture, economics or political opinions.

It is a moment to remind ourselves about the strong fights, goals from the past and different possibilities that women have achieved for themselves and future generations.

In 1975 the United Nations declared that the International Women's Day was to be celebrated March 8th of every year following. Two years later the UN General Assembly made a resolution to proclaim women's rights and peace and International Women's Day would be observed every year by the members of the assembly. In adopting this resolution the General Assembly recognized the role of women in our communities, to maintain equality and an end to discrimination.

Mrs. Helen Thode (46), secretary of TCB for eight years, reminds us about these words, recalling the fights that our ancestors had in the past for our liberation. Helen, a talented lady, writes poems for various occasions. Here is a list of some of her activities.

1. She is a member of the (*vakbond*) board, helping to maintain workers' rights.
2. She is Coordinator of the Maskarada festival in the Nawati group.
3. She volunteers with the Little League Baseball organization for the Caribbean Series.
4. She is the Regatta Treasurer.
5. She is a member of the "Holy Spirit" choir in Rincon.
6. She's the mother of a seven-year-old boy, Jeadan.
7. She loves her mother, Mrs. Edith Thode (68).

For Helen the a woman's role is very important and the image of being a woman is very special. She explains, "It could be a daughter, a mother or a grandmother. Today we have various women in our community who are professionals, presidents of organizations or who occupy high positions like Mrs. Silvana Janga-Serfilia, Mrs. Maritza Silberie and Mrs. Carine Thielman-Marchena. Plus you have those women who are like your godmothers (in Helen's life she admires Mrs. Olga Abdul-Semeleer) who give you the strength and courage to continue regardless of obstacles. They made you believe in yourself and know that any-

thing you want to achieve in life you can do it."

Helen continues "It's still to be lamented that a lot of young women today don't finish school; they are wasting their youth. They get pregnant at a very young age without being prepared for the new challenge. Everyone can fail in life, but we need to get up and continue. These youngsters can get up and make it happen to achieve their dream. Get busy with positive things, go back to school, take some courses or get a job. The community has to give these children a second opportunity. They can even work and go to school. If the chance is not granted to them you know already what they will become.

Even we adults are struggling because the economy has weakened but we have learned how to deal with it and so we have to teach the younger ones also how to deal with it. What is in style today is not so important, but nutrition and being respected are. Our ancestors have fought for the image of the woman to be respected."

What Helen counsels is that women of today continue the fight for our values, to put them on high in every aspect of our life. For the men she said, "Love, respect, value and cherish the woman you have in your life. Recognize features of your women and value them. Women need to be loved."

If we all respect the image of the woman, we are respecting our mothers, sisters, daughters, aunts and more. ■

Story & photo by Siomara E. Albertus



Regular Water Taxi TO KLEIN BONAIRE

From Bonaire Nautico Marina



HOTEL PICKUP SERVICE TRIPS Every Day

THE ONLY WALKON / WALKOFF Catamaran *Kantika di Amor*
Up to 27 people and supported by a brand new larger sister Catamaran *Kantika Too*

Daily trips via resorts 10 am, 12 , 2 pm Except Sundays at 10 am only Also available for group trips

YACHTSMEN! Tie up dockside for min. \$10/day+tax
(max 1.90 meter draft),

Water and 115/220 v. Dinghy tie up at north-inside dock at US\$10 weekly up from Monday till Monday.

BONAIRE NAUTICO MARINA
At It Rains Fishes Restaurant
Call Henk at 560-7254 / Bob 786-5399
www.bonairenauticomarina / VHF 68

Summer Camps

School is out and day camps are in. This summer Bonaire has several excellent programs for youngsters to have a fun time, learn new things and give them some experiences away from their parents. Island visitors and local youngsters are all welcome.

Sailing Point Kids' Weeks takes advantage of the unmatched natural conditions available for sailing on Bonaire— smooth seas and steady winds. It's for youngsters between 8 and 15 years old, have been organized by sailing instructor Mark Dieperink, run through June, July and August. The 5-day per week program focuses on activities on or in the water. Besides sailing on 5-person boats there's also catamaran sailing, wakeboarding, beach volleyball and other games, swimming, snorkeling, water skiing and a wind-up BBQ on Klein Bonaire. Cost is \$350 (\$300 for locals) including drinks, lunch and snacks. Call 788-4882 or email sailingpointbonaire@gmail.com. See their ad below for more information.

The **Bonaire Summer Tennis Camp** is a great opportunity for your kids to learn and grow as an athlete as well as having a unique camp experience all while having tons of fun. Danique Sweers is the founder and head coach for the camp open to kids from 4 – 13. Children will be taught basic tennis skills such as score keeping, forehands, backhands, volleys, and serves all while playing fun tennis. Other activities include swimming, games, arts and crafts, volleyball, water games, relay races and there will be prizes too. The camp will run for six weeks, Monday-Friday, beginning July 5. Price is \$100/week for half days,



\$200/week for full days. Go to Facebook.com/Bonairesummercamp or email Danique_Sweers@yahoo.com for more information

Caribbean Wind & Sun Vacations is hosting summer kids camps focusing on windsurfing for July 18 and 27th. The camps are open to children 8+. Each day will feature a set schedule with a planned activity, lunch and an early afternoon program. Children may join by the day or participate all week long. Activities include attending the Donkey Sanctuary, windsurfing, snorkeling and beach combing. Prices start at \$50 per day.

More windsurfing when windsurf guru **Andy Brandt** returns to Jibe City for a one-week camp beginning August 17 and includes freestyle. The 5-day camp commences Monday morning and ends Friday late afternoon. There is land and on the water instruction as well as video formats and viewing. To book either the Wind & Sun Vacations camp or Andy Brandt's windsurf camp contact ann@bonairecaribbean.com.

Other "Vacantie Plan" day camps have been organized by the different crèches and elementary schools as well. Information is available at the schools. ■ G.D.

KIDS WEEK



SPORTS AND GAMES IN / ON (AND AROUND) THE WATER

Do you love nature, adventure and water, you are like a fish in the water, do you love challenges and you are not afraid, and between 8 and 15 years? Then this is the activity for you! Together with your friends you can now explore. You learn together various water sports and this week is full of actions.



WHAT ARE YOU GONE DO?

Learn to sail (5pers in a boat), Wakeboarding, Beach Games Beachvolleybal, Snorkelling, Water skiing, catamaran sailing, Swimming, Water Play, End Bbq on Klein Bonaire.



WHEN? The whole holiday period each week, Monday to Friday from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm, only participate for 2 or 3 days is also possible.

WHERE? Kas di regatta, kaya Herman J. Pop, Kralendijk.

FOR WHO? Are you between 8 t / m 15 years? and you can swim well.

REGISTRATION: Via e-mail: sailingpointbonaire@gmail.com

COSTS FOR A WHOLE WEEK ?

\$ 350,- pp. 5x including lunch, drinks, snacks. Do you live on Bonaire \$ 300 (sedula)

WHAT SHOULD YOU BRING ?

Swimming gear, swim shirt, sunscreen, water shoes, dry clothes, sunglasses (with cord), cap and snorkelling gear.

Guest Editorial

Grand Debut of Hannes Minnaar with the Concertgebouw Orchestra.

It was about five years ago that **Hannes Minnaar** gave a piano concert in the Plaza Resort on Bonaire. At that time he had not yet finished his conservatory studies and played works by Bach, Beethoven and Schubert. He was announced by the Martina Consocium as the “a child prodigy on the piano.” And that was not saying too much as he played the stars of heaven. And that on a little rickety Yamaha piano of the *Skol di Musika* that had just been tuned by Hans Faassen. But according to Hannes, that was still a lot better than one of those electronic fake pianos.



Hannes Minnaar

The concert by Hannes Minnaar was for me the moment that I realized that we needed a good, concert grade piano. The penny had fallen. Even as Hannes accepted the old piano, it became clear that a concert piano would give us the opportunity to bring good pianists to Bonaire, for classical music, but also the lighter genre, such as jazz. And that’s how it happened with a handful of enthusiastic friends. A grand piano was brought in, a Yamaha C5, and an organization, the Classical Music Board was founded, which for four years has been organizing classical concerts with much success and public interest.

Hannes Minnaar succeeded as all of us expected. He finished his studies in 2009, with a 10 and that same year he scored a 2nd place at the Geneva piano competition. In 2010 he was awarded the prestigious 3rd prize at the Queen Elizabeth competition in Brussels. Then he made a beautiful CD with works by Rachmaninoff and Ravel for which he was awarded a Classical Edison (order via web site www.caminada.nl). Recently, on May 14 he performed with the 125 year old *Concertgebouw* work, considered one of the best in the world, conducted by Herbert Blomsted. For a sold out Concertgebouw Hannes Minnaar played with much success the 4th piano concerto by Beethoven.

The beginning of the 4th piano concerto by Beethoven is very characteristic. It starts with a piano solo, after which the orchestra plays a friendly theme. This is developed with a little mysterious feeling until the soloist returns with some quasi improvisation. Hannes took it easy and with much concentration attained a beautiful balance with conductor Blomsted between the piano and the orchestra.

In the first part Hannes’ playing was graceful, smooth and somewhat subdued. For me it could have been more pronounced. A certain flatness was felt.

Everything changed in the 2nd part with a short “Andante con Moto” followed by a “Rondo.” There the orchestra opens and strongly emphasizes the melancholy tone

and décor. Initially the pianist plays a modest role. The force of the big orchestra and the modest figure of Minnaar reminded me of the drawings of Jean Jacques Sempe, who made beautiful prints for the cover of the New Yorker in the 60s. In a gigantic backdrop of skyscrapers or mountains we find a fragile little man, sometimes at a piano, sometimes on a little bench, modest and understated.

Gradually during the second part of Beethoven’s 4th piano concerto Hannes Minnaar comes to life as he should. In a question and answer game the piano takes the lead and a brilliant and joyful spectacle follows in the Rondo in which temperamental outbursts are interspersed with subtle modesty. The orchestra follows. Beethoven was at times an excitable personality with striking outbursts and that could well be heard in the music.

The applause was abundant and long lasting. Hannes had to return four times to accept applause and flowers. Unfortunately there was no short encore.

Hannes Minnaar made a huge step in his 29th year on this evening in the Concertgebouw in his already flashy career. A performance with one of the world’s best orchestras is a dream for musicians that want their ambitions to be rewarded. And that will not escape the international music scene. We will hear much more from him, I think.

Afterwards I visited Hannes in the room for soloists. He stood beaming besides the conductor Blomsted, relieved and happy with his successful evening.

We talked about Bonaire and reminisced about the then Plaza concert and the rickety piano. I told him that we now have a great grand piano on the island.

Hannes Minnaar would like to return to the island, so he said.

Work to be done by the Classical Music Board Bonaire: Hannes is awaiting your invitation. ■ *Guus Gerritsen*



DID YOU KNOW?

Corals have body odor? It so happens that specific corals release an odor when toxic seaweed comes into contact with them. This chemical signal attracts gobies to trim the seaweed. As coral reefs are declining, seaweed is a serious threat and has begun to replace corals. Corals release this odor and attract gobies within just minutes of seaweed contact to defend them against competition. In return for acting as coral bodyguards, the gobies are provided with food and shelter from their host corals and gain toxins from the seaweed to use as protection against predators.



Photo Credit: Danielle Dixon

The next time you are diving and see a goby nearby a coral you’ll know they have a powerful alliance against natural seaweed enemies! ■

Gabby Lout

Lout is a Marine Biology major from Seattle University in Washington. She is studying at the CIEE Research Station in Bonaire for the spring semester.



Student Concert Goes From Strength To Strength.

Hans Faassen’s piano and Elgar Verschuur’s guitar and violin students took part in the half yearly concert organized for them by their teachers on Sunday 16th June at the Plaza Resort Bonaire. The concerts give the students a chance to experience taking part in a public performance in front of a large audience in a public venue. Some had only been playing four weeks and without a trace of any nerves performed well.



Hans Faassen, Grep, Estien, Rafa, Devagni, Charlotte

The concert was well attended and the improvement in playing from the previous two I attended was obvious. The students were dedicated and focused and performed a variety of pieces ranging in style from classical to modern and many played duets with their teachers. Grep Linkles’ Chopin Prelude was inspiring

and he shows a lot of promise with mature playing for one so young. It was good to see a few more adults taking part and it shows you are never too old to start something new.

The next concert will be held in January 2014 and anybody interested in taking up the guitar, violin or piano should contact Elgar or Hans (hansfaassen@gmail.com). Don’t worry, you won’t have to perform unless you want to. ■ *Story & photo by Carla Hay*

25 Years of Service



Three Tax Service (Belastingdienst) employees recently celebrated 25 years in service. Pictured are Cliff Frans, Cyrill Vrolijk and Edward “Eddy” Thielman

WHAT'S HAPPENING

CLOSE-IN EVENTS

Monday, June 24—St. John's Day—Feast day of St. John, sowing time after harvest. The Lord is asked for rain and to calm the strong winds

Saturday, June 29—St. Peter's Day—Feast day of St. Peter and St. Paul—time of high winds. Bonaireans ask the Lord via San Pablo (St. Paul) to calm the winds and via San Pedro (St. Peter) to bring Bonaire's men home safely from the sea.

Sunday, July 7- Dia di Arte-Bonaire Art Day, at Wilhelmina Park—more on page 9.

Kids Camps— June, July and August— Sailing, Tennis and Music Camps. Details in this edition on page 15

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES BY SKAL (Government agency for culture art and literature) TO COMMEMORATE THE 150 YEARS OF THE ABOLITION OF SLAVERY

June 24, 25, 27, 29—Talks about language (Papiamentu), African history, culture -at Forma, 7-9 pm. Everyone invited

Tuesday, June 25—Talk on African history, Cultural Identification by Arthur Sealy -7-9 pm, Sentro di Bario, Nikiboko

June 28-29—Free for young people -African dance and choreography, hip hop, modern workshop- sponsored by SKAL, DS Dansschool & New Generation Dancers. 28th-3-5pm, 29th-3pm. At the Dance Sensation Studio. Sign up at 717-8868. The intention is to give a dance presentation on Monday, July 1, at Wilhelmina Park.

Sunday, June 30—Historical African Route, sponsored by SKAL, 9am-noon, 3-6 pm. Sign up at 717-8868 or skal@bonaigov.com

REGULAR EVENTS

• **Bonaire Ayurvedic Vegetarian Kitchen**, open Tuesday through Friday, 12 noon to 1:30 pm, Go Green at Bonaire Basics, Kaya Korona #47. Call for reservations 700-5488

• **Rooi Lamoenchi Kunuku Park Tours** \$21 (includes tax). Discounts for residents and local people. Tel. 717-8489, 540-9800.

• **We Dare to Care Park children's playground** - closed due to lack of financing.

Saturdays

• **Open House at Semper Kontentu milk goat farm. Second Saturday of the month**, 8 am to 12 noon. 786-6950

• **Marshe di Kunukeru (Farmers' Market) 1st Saturday of the month**, at Kriabon, Kaminda Jatu Baco #55, next to Aquamarin School, 8 am to 1 pm.

• **Bonaire Animal Shelter's "Garage Sale" Pakus di Pruga—every Saturday**, 8am-5pm. At Kaminda Liberador Simon Bolivar, across from Brandaris Café. Tel. 717-4989. Drop off cast offs on Saturdays or at the Shelter on the Lagoen Road weekdays. 717-4989

• **Wine Tasting at Antillean Wine Company's warehouse on Kaya Industria, Second Saturday of the month**, 7-9 pm. (Always call to make sure it's on: Tel. 560-7539.) Snacks and tasting of six wines for \$10 per person.

• **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 Koeke for more information—796-7870.

• **Petanque- Jeu de Boules**, Saturdays 2:30 pm Tera Cora ranch. Info: 786-0150

Sundays

• **Kunuku Arawak** - Music, drinks, local food, dancing, 10 am—6 pm. Live music starts at 4 pm. Tel.786-7210

Mondays

• **Soldachi Tours of Rincon, the heart of Bonaire, 9 am-noon. \$20-Call Maria, 717-6435-best island tour value**

• **Meet the Captain Night at Captain Don's Habitat Bar**— Get up close and personal with Bonaire's dive pioneer. The Captain will autograph your copy of his newest book Reef Windows.

Wednesdays

• **Divemaster's Night at Bistro de Paris Restaurant** at Harbour Village Marina. Free house rum when you buy a coke.

• **30-minute Meditation at Yoga Bonaire**, 12 noon, Bonaire Basics. 786-6416 or info@bonaireyoga.com

Fridays

• **Happy Hour party at Bistro Di Paris**. Ricky Thomas performs Reggae, Soul, Latin and more 6- 9pm.

FREE SLIDE/VIDEO SHOWS

• **Monday - Touch the Sea** -- Dee Scarr, honored as a member of the Women Divers Hall of Fame, conducts Bonaire's Touch the Sea programs of

personalized dive guiding. She presents a unique perspective on critters and corals, plus an updated Bonaire lionfish report, **every Monday when she's on-island** at 8:30 pm in the Aquarius Conference Center at Captain Don's Habitat, Call 717-8290.

• **Wednesday - Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire (STCB)** presents an informative slide show: *Sea Turtles of Bonaire*, at 8pm, every **2nd and 4th Wednesday** in the conference room at Captain Don's Habitat (717-8290)

• **Saturday**—Last Saturday of the month – donate foods and household items to Food Bank (*Stichting voedsel-bank Bonaire*) from 10 am-4 pm, in front of Van den Tweel Supermarket

BONAIRE'S TRADITIONS

• **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

• **Museo Sentro Chichi'Tan**, historical home, behind Rose Inn, Rincon, open 10am-4pm daily. Tel. 786-6420

• **Washington-Slagbaai National Park Museum and Visitors' Center.** Open daily 8 am-5 pm. Closed on December 25th and January 1st. **Call 788 - 9015 or 796 - 5681**

CLUBS and MEETINGS

• **AA meetings** - every **Wednesday** at 7pm. Phone: 786-4931

• **Al-Anon meetings** - every Thursday evening at 7.30pm. Call 700-7751 or 701-8728

• **Bridge Club** - Every Wednesday, Bridge Club on Bonaire. 19:15, contact Jeroen Seegers for information tel. 717-4200 or 788-2819 or jeroen@telbonet.an

• **Darts Club** plays every other **Sunday** at City Café. Registration at 4, games at 5. Tel. 717-2950, 560-7539.

• **Lions Club** meets every **2nd and 4th Thursday** of the month at 8 pm at Kaya Sabana #1. All Lions welcome. For more information call 510-0710.

• **Rotary lunch meetings Wednesdays**, 12:15-2 pm - Divi Flamingo Beach Resort in Peter Hughes meeting room upstairs above the dive shop. All Rotarians welcome. Call Gregory Obersi 785-9446.

• **Toastmasters Club** meets every **two weeks**. For more information call Cruxita de Palm at 786-3827 or Lucia Mar-

tinez Beck, at 786-2953.

CHURCH SERVICES

• **Protestant Congregation of Bonaire:**

(VPGB), Kralendijk, Plaza Wilhelmina; Sunday service-10 am in Dutch. Rincon, Kaya C.D. Crestian; Sunday service-8:30 am in Papiamentu/Dutch.

• **Children's club**-every Saturday from 4:30-6 pm in Kralendijk, (annex of the church.) Contact; Marytjin@gmail.com or Daisycofie@hotmail.com

• **International Bible Church**, Kaya Papago 104, Hato, behind Bon Fysio/ Bon Bida Spa & Gym on Kaya Gob. N. Debrot. Sunday 9am-Worship service in English; 10:45am-Sunday school for all ages. Tuesday 7:30 pm-Adult Bible study class. 717-8377 for more info or ride bonaireibc@yahoo.com

• **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. Wed. 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.

• **Prayer and Intercession Church, in English. A full Gospel Church** located temporarily at Kaya Alexandrit # 20, Santa Barbara, Republiek. Services are held Sunday mornings 10am-11:30am. Bible studies in English on Monday nights from 7-8 pm. Contact: 717-3322

• **The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints:** Kaya Sabana #26, Sundays: 9 am Sacrament Services (Translation to English and Papiamentu upon request) 10:20am- Sunday School, 11:15 RS/YM/YW/PH Primary held from 10:20-12 noon Visitors welcome: Information: Call 701-9522 .

• **Foundation Fountain of Living Waters, Centro Fuente**, Service Sunday at Kaya Aruaco 4 at 6 pm, in Papiamentu and Spanish. For Marriage Counseling, contact 717-2161.

Who's Who on The Bonaire Reporter

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Pet of the Week

Shelter News

PUPPIEEES!

When they were only five weeks old, these darling, roly-poly puppies and their mom were found under a container in Hato. A good Samaritan brought them into the Shelter where they were checked out by the vet, given good food and water and even given names. Mama is Popie and the pups are called Peer, Percy, Priscilla and Petra. Now the pups are about six weeks old and will stay with their mom another week or so before they can be put up for adoption. It is thought that their mother is a "Pit bull-Chihuahua" mix. She smiles a lot and likes jokes and having fun, they say – a very sweet dog.



Monique Degenars with the "P" family.

vacation you can find her working away at the Shelter she loves so much. "I guess it's just an addiction to be here," she says.

You may see these pups and the other pets up for adoption at the Bonaire Animal Shelter on the Lagoen Road, open Monday through Saturday, 9 am to 1 pm and 3 to 5 pm. Tel. 717-4989. WWW.BonaireAnimalShelter.com. See them on Facebook too. ■ Laura DeSalvo

This family got lucky because here they are being taken care of by Monique Degenars. Monique was one of the Shelter managers but she returned to Holland in the summer of 2011. Now, while on her

Here is a "Special Needs" pup. She is a lovely medium sized poodle, about five years old, who has an allergy that causes her to lose all the fur around her eyes. But this all can be cured with medicine given daily. She was back to normal and looking beautiful when someone adopted her. However, that owner stopped giving her her medicine, the allergy came back and the owner returned her to the Shelter. As Shelter Manager Marlies says, "This poodle may look ugly now, but after we've given her the medicine for a few days she'll be a beauty once again!" So her "special need" is to have someone to give her her medicine every day along with some TLC!



Needy Poodle –Adopt me.. Please. I'm special

The Shelter staff is totally disgusted! It's holiday time and some people are suddenly realizing that they want to go on vacation and they don't want their dogs any more. So they are calling to say they want the Shelter to pick up their dogs because they want to go on vacation and no longer want to deal with their pets! When the Shelter explains that they act as a Shelter, not a taxi service, some of the people have threatened to: "shoot it myself," "smash it to death with a stick," or "throw it into the mondi!"

How sad to think that some people can think this way, but not too much can be

done about this mind set. However, the Shelter is doing an incredible job with educating the youth about animals. They are working with Stinapa, the schools and they host numerous groups of school children at the Shelter, often with Desiree Croes. And they've started the "Underdog Program." It's very simple: the kids help to train the Shelter dogs. They've had a group from the high school who even got to watch an operation by veterinarian Fulco. Last week, trainer Shirley van de Haar gave a presentation of Shelter dogs performing commands like sit, down, roll over, come, stay – "Everything," says Shelter Manager Marlies. "And these are just Shelter dogs! But of course the dogs need attention too," she says. If you'd like more information call the Shelter at 717-4989. ■ Laura DeSalvo

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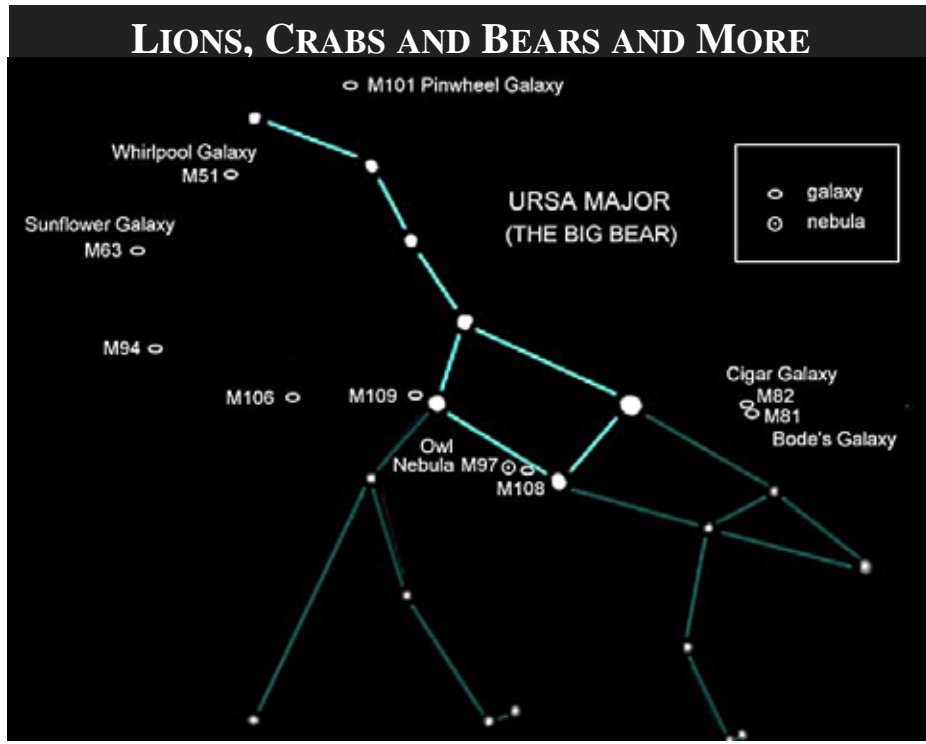
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BONAIRE SKY PARK*

*to find it... just look up



This month's Sky Park highlights: Lions and Crabs and Bears. June is a great time of year for star gazing, especially if you are an animal lover. No fewer than 11 creatures are visible in the Sky Park, though not all of them are obvious.

Looking west-northwest, toward Curacao, you'll see left of center is **Leo, the Lion**, a constellation whose outline really does look like its namesake. Leo appears to standing on his head at this time of year, look downward at **Cancer, the Crab**, and at the head of **Hydra, the Water Snake**. Hydra is notable for being the largest constellation in the sky. Sadly, **Cancer** doesn't look much like a crab -- or anything else for that matter. Beneath Cancer, just above the horizon, you may be able to glimpse **Canis Minor, the Smaller Dog**. The bright star **Procyon** is probably all you'll see and only if the sky is clear and free of light pollution.

After the lesser lights above, we now come to big, bright **Ursa Major, the Greater Bear**. The best known part of Ursa Major is the bright asterism (unofficial star pattern) we call the **Big Dipper**. But the Big Dipper is only a part of the much larger constellation. As you can see on the map, the handle of the Dipper is also the tail of the Bear. Likewise, the bowl of the Dipper is the Bear's belly, illustrating that Ursa Major

consists of much more than merely the Big Dipper.

Moving right from the Big Dipper, we pass the tail of **Draco, the Dragon** and come to **Ursa Minor, the Lesser Bear**. Its main stars form the **Little Dipper** asterism. Ursa Minor's appearance is a far cry from its much flashier cousin, but it does hold one very important star, **Polaris**, the North Star. Polaris happens to lie quite close to the **North Celestial Pole**, the point in the sky directly above the **Earth's North Pole**. By virtue of its location, Polaris appears to barely move as all other stars swing slowly around it during the course of the year. If you follow the "handle" of the Little Dipper downward, you'll come to a relatively empty region of sky occupied by **Camelopardalis, the Giraffe**. The stars of Camelopardalis are all faint, and if you are able to visualize a giraffe in that part of the sky, your imagination is better than mine! Likewise, the constellation **Lynx, the Cat**, is a zig-zag of faint stars that look nothing like any feline. Lynx was invented to fill in a part of the sky that otherwise belonged to no constellation.

And don't forget to look for the **Southern Cross**. You'll find it well above the horizon due south. It's at its peak height for the year right now. ■ *Jeff DeTray*



THE STARS HAVE IT

By Astrologer Michael Thiessen
End-June 2013

ARIES (Mar. 21- April 20) Don't make excuses. You will have problems with coworkers if you are too extreme about doing things perfectly. Spend time with youngsters this week. Lack of funds may add stress to your already uncertain situation. Your lucky day will be Thursday.

TAURUS (Apr. 21- May 21) Try not to upset others with your plans. Be careful not to take on other people's problems. You may find yourself in a financial bind. You will communicate easily and should be able to accomplish all that you set out to do. Don't make accusations unless you are completely sure that you are correct. Your lucky day will be Sunday.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21) New emotional connections can be made through business contacts. Don't go out of your way, and don't let these unexpected guests cost you money. Don't hesitate to look for alternatives that will enable you to raise the kind of donations you need to do the job right. A better diet, exercise, or a change to a relaxed atmosphere could be ways to soothe your nerves. Your lucky day will be Tuesday.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) Fitness or weight loss programs will help your self esteem. Unexpected changes in friendships could occur. You might not be as reserved on an emotional level as you'd like. You can sell your ideas to those who have the money to back them. Your lucky day will be Monday.

LEO (July 23-Aug 22) You may need the space, but you need the extra cash more. This will not be the day to have minor surgery. You will have the discipline to make changes you feel are necessary. Channel your energy into projects that will enhance your home. Your lucky day will be Tuesday.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) Someone you care about may not be too well. Residential moves will also be advantageous for all concerned. Try to do things with children that will enable you to bond closer to them. Your sensitivity toward those you love will capture their hearts. Your lucky day will be Sunday.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) Equilibrium in your romantic life is likely if you treat your partner well. You need to clear up some important personal documents before the end of the year. Try to keep a low profile. Compromise will be necessary. Your lucky day will be Sunday.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) Keep your mind on your work and stay away from situations that could ruin your reputation. Difficulties with females you live with could cause emotional stress. Travel will promote new romantic encounters and additional cultural knowledge. You may be sensitive concerning friends and their situations. Your lucky day will be Thursday.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) Spend some time with the one you love. Pleasure trips will be satisfying. You will be too quick to point your finger at your mate. Keep calm. Someone around you is bouncing off the walls. Look into ways to make your home more comfortable. Your lucky day will be Wednesday.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) Family trips or projects should be on your mind. Try not to take everything so seriously. Time spent with family, children, or good friends will be regenerating and positive. Join a club to work off that excess energy; but consider ways of doing that without spending the money. Your lucky day will be Wednesday.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) Someone may be trying to take advantage of you. Interaction with colleagues will only be upsetting. Major moves will be emotional and not necessarily to your benefit. Opportunities for romance will develop through activities with large groups. Your lucky day will be Sunday.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) Any intimate relationships with colleagues will lead to gossip that could easily affect your position. Make residential changes that will lift your spirits. You could be quite erratic regarding your personal relationship. Opportunities to meet new lovers will evolve through your interaction with groups or fundraising functions. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday. ■

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