

**It's Still
FREE**

BONAIRE August 5-September 2, 2013; Year 20, Issue 16
The REPORTER
BES Island News Too

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More Jazz

Trijntje Oosterhuis on stage - See page 10

Jan Brouwer photo

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GOVERNMENT CRISIS LOOMS

Glenn Thodé, the previous Governor of Bonaire, quit that job on September 21, 2011. The dramatic action made a strong statement condemning the political bickering that had virtually paralyzed the leadership of the Bonaire island council and government for six months. Not much has changed in the past two years.

Politically things in Bonaire have been in turmoil for an extended period. The most recent development has been a commissioner's failure to resign after a judge detected fraud in the granting of a taxi permit. The tipping point for the resignation of the previous governor was said to be the naming of an individual who has been the focus of serious financial crimes for the last two years to head the Economics and Tourism departments.

The present Governor, **Lydia Emerencia**, is under pressure to resign from a majority on the Island Council, because she is accused of obstructing govern-



Glenn Thodé,



Lydia Emerencia

ment business. She has been investigating corruption at the highest levels of local government.

The head of the "Union Patriotiko Boneriano" (UPB) said his party wants Island Governor Lydia Emerencia out of Government. This is in contrast to a front page photo in the Papiamentu newspaper, *Extra*, showing a reconciliation in the Catholic Church.

"In the very next Island Council meeting we will make a final decision. We can't allow Bonaire to be disadvantaged any longer. It will be The Netherlands' move then," wrote chairman of the coalition party Reginald "**Jonchi**" **Dortalina** in a press statement. The UPB and coalition partner **Santana** have enough votes in the Council to make this happen.

Only The Hague has the power to remove the governor. If it does it will be an unprecedented decision with historical consequences. So far Holland has not interfered in the dispute. Prime Minister Rutte avoided public statements on the subject during his recent visit.

Supporters of the Governor believe the UPB/Santana coalition is concerned about the Governor's aggressive approach to official corruption which has already led to judicial sanction against one commissioner. Other UPB leaders are under investigation by the Prosecutor's office. When censure of the Governor was suggested as an agenda item for past Council sessions hundreds of citizens surrounded the meeting site and shouted their support for the governor. This happened despite smear tactics and warnings from some officials who broadcasted on the radio about showing up to demonstrate.

"Our request for the Island Governor to step down voluntarily is still on the table. If she wants a no-confidence motion at all costs, that's her choice," he added. ■

► **WILLEMSTAD--InselAir is interested in taking over the activities and personnel of its troubled local competitor, Dutch Antilles Express (DAE),** according to a letter written to the Curaçao government dated July 18. In the coming two years the airline plans to grow by over 60%, it wrote. "InselAir expects an increase in passengers from approximately 900,000 to 1.5 million per year. InselAir is negotiating the purchase of seven new Fokker 70 jet aircraft to meet the need." DAE meanwhile has said they will retire their two ATR-72s which were used to fly to Venezuela.

► **The 2013-2014 cruise ship season will start early** on Monday, October 14 with a visit from the 382 passenger ship *Silver Explorer*. It will also end later than usual, on July 30, 2014, when the 1,950 passenger *Dawn Princess* calls.

► **The Bonaire Public Employees Union, ABVO, has accused the RCN (Kingdom Caribbean Services) of taking advantage of temporary employees by hiring them for multiple years without benefit of an employment contract.** Moreover, the union stated they feel that the RCN dismisses local Caribbean Dutch employees in favor of European Dutch citizens. Union Secre-

tary **Hubert Martis** thinks the RCN is practicing modern slavery. RCN has admitted it made errors and plans corrections but says it did not discriminate against Caribbean Dutch.

► **Next month, a group of Wounded Warriors and their families will call Bonaire and Captain Don's Habitat "home" for a week.** The group will be scuba diving for rehabilitation and recreation from August 17-24. Plans are underway to create an exciting itinerary and to show them the very best of Bonaire. This will be the 8th year that the island government, dive shops and merchants hosting this week-long program.

► **On July 24th Ms. Malinda Hassell joined the TCB as Marketing Supervisor.** Ms. Hassell has a degree in Tourism Marketing and experience in Incentive Travel Operations, Cruise and Airline Marketing.

Contact Malinda for any Marketing related subjects at email: malindahassell@tourismonaire.com
Phone: +599 717 8322



► Samsam is part of the Cycle Foundation

dedicated to growing food on Bonaire. Being a successful grower is not easy for several reasons. One or more of Samsam's five people, can help you grow food.



These people are there to help, give them a call: Nolly Oleana (511 6005), Arie Marsera (786 0881); Roald Boom (514 5151); Win Emerenciana (701 9002) and Sarah de Groot at Cycle the Foundation for Sustainable Water Management (780-4888).



► **A selection of Henk Roozendaal's art is now on exhibition at the tax office *Belastingdienst Caribisch Nederland*.** His large works with their intense colors are beautifully presented in

(Continued on page 3)

This Week's Stories

Jazz Festival Cover	1
Government Crisis Looms	2
Walk-2 -Talk	3
Taste of Bonaire	3
Useful Gadgets-Trilobite	5
Helmets On Wheels-A Head, A Hat, and A Helmet (New Zealand)	5
New Birthday Calendar Arrives	5
Real Bonaire Treasure	6
Madalief Happy Birthday	6
Letters to the Editor: Dangerous Dogs, Focus on Donkeys, Traffic Accidents	7
UPAH Retiree Arawak Party	8
The Microboat Kid -Donation	8
Tourism History #13-Cruise Tourism	9
2013 jazz Festival	10
Searching For Museum Bonaire	11
Mountain Bike Fun Race Results	15
Reforestation Successes	15
What Do You Tell The Man Every-one Wants To Talk To? (Rutte)	16
100 Birthdays	18
Back To School Extremes	18

Departments

Flotsam & Jetsam	2
Born On Bonaire (Theresa Chirino)	4
Picture Yourself- Bangkok, Thailand	12
Sudoku, Sudoku Answer	13
Classifieds	13
Tide Table, Sunrise & Sunset	
Times, Moon Phase	13
Shopping & Dining Guides	14
Did You Know? Thresher Shark Hunt	
With tails	16
What's Happening, Masthead,	17
Pet of the Week (Tara)	18
Shelter News (Attention Artists)	18
Bonaire Sky Park (Summer Triangle and Meteors)	19
The Stars Have It (Astrology)	19

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Lovely Property For Sale – 2 Blocks from the Sea

House, Apartment & Office building for sale two blocks from the seaside promenade
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See the Bonaire Real Estate Guide for more photos

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DIBO photo

► The fund-raising Walk-2-Talk event at Bon Bida Spa went on despite a major rainstorm in months in the pre-dawn hours of Saturday, July 27. Organizer **Elmond Obispo** gave participation certificates and his heartfelt thanks to all participants who braved the weather as well as to sponsors, especially Bon Bida Spa and Gym, Boto

Blanco Marine, Magero Self Service and Caribe Rent-A-Car. Also helpers, Bonaire Gift shop, Hites Bonaire, Notaris Maartsen, TCB, Telbo, Cargill, Bonaire Motor-Cycle Shop, Fundashon Wega Number Bonaire, Lisa Convenience Store, Caribbean Laundry, Marie-Loiuse Rojer and Elkse Lucia.

(Flotsam and Jetsam Continued from page 2) the spacious hall. Check it out.

Roosendaal has been living on Bonaire since 1999. He paints based on photographs, preferably taken by himself. Most paintings are made on commission. These artworks are for sale. Contact info is available at the show.

► You want to be pampered? At Bon Bida Spa you can choose from an array of relaxing massages by one of the island's

top massage therapists and her special massage table. The Spa also offers skin care treatments, including, if necessary, a medical pedicure. Make your appointment to try it out. Bon Bida Gym members even get a special discount! See pages 12 and 15 for more info.

► The Central Bureau for Statistics (CBS) is in the middle of carrying out the 2013 Budget Survey on Bonaire, Saba and St. Eustatius. The survey is used by CBS



► The last Taste of Bonaire held at Wilhelmina Park in downtown Kralendijk was a total success. It was officially opened by TCB Director Edsel Pieterma. Ambience was provided by local music band Rincon Krioyo and entertainment by Dance Group 'Dance Sensation' Dansschool. Dancers included: Kenya, Sean, Dara, Keyuoma, choreographer Maya Stewart, and from New York, Mieke de Louw.

The event's main purpose is for visitors and locals to enjoy an evening sampling a bit of what Bonaire has to offer. It's a combination of Food, Art and Music. The Culinary Team of Bonaire offered a variety of drinks and refreshments. And local restaurateurs served a selection of local and International dishes

For more information regarding Taste of Bonaire especially the upcoming "Taste" on Saturday, August 31st, contact **Angelo Domacasse** at 717-8322.

Tourism Corporation Bonaire says that the upcoming Taste of Bonaire will be filled with surprises. The support the event has been receiving and the feedback are helping in making it even bigger and better.

It was pleasant, busy evening with a mix of food, drink, art, shopping and friendship and more. ■ Story & photo by Wilna Groenenboon / Press Release

for the production of inflation figures and other data for businesses and government.

► The Reporter is taking a one-issue break. The next edition will be available on September 2. ■ G./L.D.



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Born On Bonaire... May 7th, 1984 – Theresa Chirino



Theresa and Remsley



From back to front - Theresa and Remsley, Yandra and Terrence Trevor and Alicia

“From the time I was born I lived at the seafront, at Playa Lechi #14, a house with a lovely view. I grew up with all the other children from Playa Pabou. It was hard to get us out of the water; we were always playing, snorkeling and fishing. And in the evening when it was dark we would still go swimming and my parents would call me frantic, but to us it was exciting! When I was 13, every day between 6 and 7 pm this old WEB truck would pass by in front of our house with a man and his son in it. The boy seemed to be a bit older than I was and one day I told my cousin, ‘I like that boy! He is going to be my boyfriend!’ and she laughed and said ‘Oh! Are you kidding me!’

Then, when I was 15 and at SGB high school, I was talking to this girl at the schoolyard and I told her ‘I like that boy, but I don’t know him,’ and when I pointed at him she started laughing. ‘That’s my brother!’ She called him over and he was blushing and got away as soon as possible! His name was Remsley Anthony.”

“I was born in Curacao,” Remsley says, “on November 28th, 1982. When I was 10 we moved to Bonaire because my dad got a job here and we went to live with my grandmother in Antriol. I loved playing sports - first baseball and then windsurfing. I belonged to that first group of boys of which Tonky and Tati were also part. Elvis Martinus was our teacher and it was Tonky who motivated me to keep going with the sport. I windsurfed until I was 20, but I’ve always stayed involved. Nowadays I am a freestyle judge and sometimes a race director.

Well,” he smiles, “I met Theresa at the schoolyard when I was 17 and we became real good friends, to the point that she even tried to hook me up with one of her girlfriends!”

Theresa laughs. “Yes, that’s true! But when I was almost 17 and he was 19 we fell in love, and soon after, our first son Terrence was born on April 1st 2002. I stayed with my parents and Remsley went into military service on Curacao for one year. I started taking Mavo evening classes and when Remsley came back to Bonaire we went to evening school together while he worked for SSS Security in the daytime and I worked shifts at E Teras.

On April 12th, 2004, our daughter Yandra was born, and then I became a stay-at-home mom. My mother owns an apartment building and she gave one of those apartments to

me and we’re still there because it’s very hard to find a house with an affordable rent on Bonaire. When Remsley finished Mavo, he found a job with Flamingo TV as a cable installer and he’s still working there. This year it’s going to be eight years.

On September 6th, 2008, our second daughter Alicia was born and on August 28th, 2010, on Bonaire Day, our youngest son Trevor arrived. I am 29 years old now and Remsley is 31 and we’ve been together for 13 years. It has been a mix of good and bad times. After Alicia was born we started taking a ‘Partner’ course at Jona’s (Chirino) who is an aunt of Remsley. That course has been of crucial importance to us, because... if you think that love and babies are a solid foundation to keep a family together, then you’re going to be very disappointed... because communication is the most important thing. That’s what we’ve learned.”

“... if you think that love and babies are a solid foundation to keep a family together then you’re going to be very disappointed... because communication is the most important thing...”

“We’re all people and we all make mistakes,” Remsley says, “but we’ve learned from ours and we didn’t stay there. We moved on and started anew. Life is not easy; it’s about how you deal with it and you have to make the right choices. It’s all up to you”

“We talk a lot with our children,” Theresa says, “but when it comes to a certain point I believe in tough love and discipline, just like my mom and my grandma and Remsley. We have the same ideas about the upbringing, but when there are differences of opinion we meet in the middle. Everything is always discussable.

When we go to the supermarket each child gets his or her own basket and they can buy two items. It gives us the chance to shop quietly and the children learn by showing us the items and asking if they can buy it, whether things are either good or bad for your health or too expensive. At home we are also very conscious about what we eat. Instead of candy the kids can have yo-

ghurt or fruit as a treat.” “Also,” Remsley says, “people on Bonaire should realize that they can grow their own vegetables and fruits on the island. I would love to have a kunuku, but until then we grow everything at home in pots. We have a giant egg plant tree, we have red peppers, tomatoes, yambo, lettuce, celery and pumpkin. Once we had a pumpkin so big that all four of our children could sit on it together! Everything is so expensive that we don’t spend money easily. We buy what we really need. I also have to thank our families because they have always supported us when we needed it.

Next to my regular job,” Remsley says, “I started my one-man-business in 2008. I clean gardens and I maintain them. I’m also selling plants and I make charcoal and I do transport, like for instance if you don’t

have a car and you need cement I bring it to your house - whatever needs to go from one place to another - I’ll do it! It’s my hobby and also my business. If people want more information they can call me at 00599-951-13657 or mail me at greenthumbandservices@yahoo.com

“I used to work for Truckland Bonaire, a heavy equipment company,” Theresa says. “I was the office manager, and,” she laughs, “I also worked with the high reach machine and through Johan Haverdings I learned how to drive a crane! Nowadays I am working at the Kloaka project - the sewage project - with a great team. It was my ex boss who got me this job and that was real sweet!

When I was just starting my new job I had a terrible accident and it’s a miracle that I’m alive to tell. It happened on Terrence’s birthday, on April 1st, this year. Remsley had to go to Aruba to be the judge in a free style windsurf competition, but before he was going he had to deliver some charcoal. Trevor, who is two, was sleeping in the

cabin of the pick-up truck. The key of the car was put in the ashtray. I felt sorry for Remsley that he had to carry everything alone and that he had to put all the bags with charcoal in the truck all by himself, so I decided to give him a hand. I stood in the back of the truck and when we were about to put the last three bags in, I jumped out of the truck to make space. I was leaning against the back of the truck, standing between the car and a garage door, when our two-year old son Trevor apparently found the key and started the car which was parked in reverse and then Trevor revved the engine and he pinned me between the back of the truck and the garage door. Luckily the garage door crumpled up but my middle was badly bruised and the car drove over my leg.”

“I was at the shed getting the last charcoal” Remsley says, “and when I came back I immediately stopped the car, got Trevor and then I took Theresa to the hospital where she stayed for eight days.” “Fysio di Bario has helped me a lot,” Theresa smiles, “but I’m still in pain. The left side of my body feels alternately electrified and numb. I am just like a Rice Crispy,” she jokes, “snap, crackle and pop!” But I’m back at work and Remsley made me go to therapy again.

I’m happy to be alive! I’m looking forward to the future and I hope that in a couple of years life on Bonaire will get better for all of us. I would like to study some more when the kids are a bit older and I’m looking forward to the day that I’m going to happy hour with my kids and when people ask me “Are they your friends?” Then I will answer, ‘No, these are my children!’

And on September 7th we’re going to get married, but we’re keeping it simple, because that’s how

we were when we met. However, if we’re still together after one year, then we’re going to celebrate... big time!” ■ Story & photos by Greta Kooistra



Correction: The photo of Lida and her Bokibags in the last edition of “On the Island Since” were by Felicia Schuette

HELMETS ON WHEELS

THIS IS THE 21ST OF A SERIES OF BONAIRE REPORTER SHORT ARTICLES BY J@N BROUWER, ABOUT HELMETS AND HELMET AWARENESS.

A Head, a Hat and a Helmet

Bonaire/Kralendijk
So last week I strolled around in the local hardware store to check the inventory for interesting and useful things. Not that I needed anything but this is just one of the nice relaxing activities you can practice on a tropical island like Bonaire: searching for interesting things you do not have to buy. Apparently a gentleman did the same, spending his time on trifles.

I was not really attracted by the hat he was wearing on his head but by the blue Headway helmet he was wearing on top of his hat! Two layers of protection: one to protect against the negative influences of the sun and another to protect the gentleman against hardware falling from the shelves. It looks at least a little weird but by wearing the helmet on top of the head the gentleman keeps his hands free

His name is **Gordon Nicholl** and he is from New Zealand. He is the owner of sailing vessel *Coko* and this is the fourth time he is visiting Bonaire. He is hiding



for the hurricane season. His way of transport is an Apollo Altitude, an all-aluminum mountain bike with disk brakes. Gordon is more than happy to pose for the camera in front of the hardware shop. He shows some dents in his helmet, a real life saver.

A couple of day later I meet Gordon again. Now in front of the Warehouse. And again with two layers of protection. Same guy, same bike. Now a two-wheeled trailer is connected to the bike to carry the groceries. Smart guy from New Zealand; wearing a helmet on his kiwi!

■ Story & photo by Jan Brouwer

Useful Gadgets

THIS IS THE 6TH COLUMN ABOUT USEFUL GADGETS FOR SALE ON BONAIRE IN A SERIES OF 100.

THE TRILOBITE, AN EFFICIENT CUTTING TOOL

Bonaire/Kralendijk –
Just recently I found a very efficient cutting device in the dive shop of the Dive Inn, one of the locations of Dive Friends Bonaire. The so called Trilobite is a cutting tool produced in the US by Eezycut. The handy little tool can be used by divers, mariners, mountaineers, extreme sports adventurers and so on.

The Trilobite is made of highly rust resistant 440a stainless steel. The knife cuts all kinds of lines, including fishing lines, up to 8 millimeters diameter. Fishing lines are a danger for our turtles as they can get trapped in the lines and finally die because of a lack of oxygen. The knife is razor blade sharp and I found out you can also cut a car's safety belt with it. The Trilobite comes with two spare blades. Blade change is easy. It just takes a cross head screw driver to remove the two stainless steel screws to separate the two halves of the Trilobite. The cutting device comes in black and yellow. This useful gadget is completely symmetrical so it does not matter whether you are left or right handed. The advice is to use some silicone or a little bit of petroleum jelly to protect the steel against the influ-



ences of the salty water of the Caribbean Sea. Although it looks like a beer bottle opener I found out it is not really made for it. Better to use the bottom of a lighter for the job. (Or a bottle opener.)

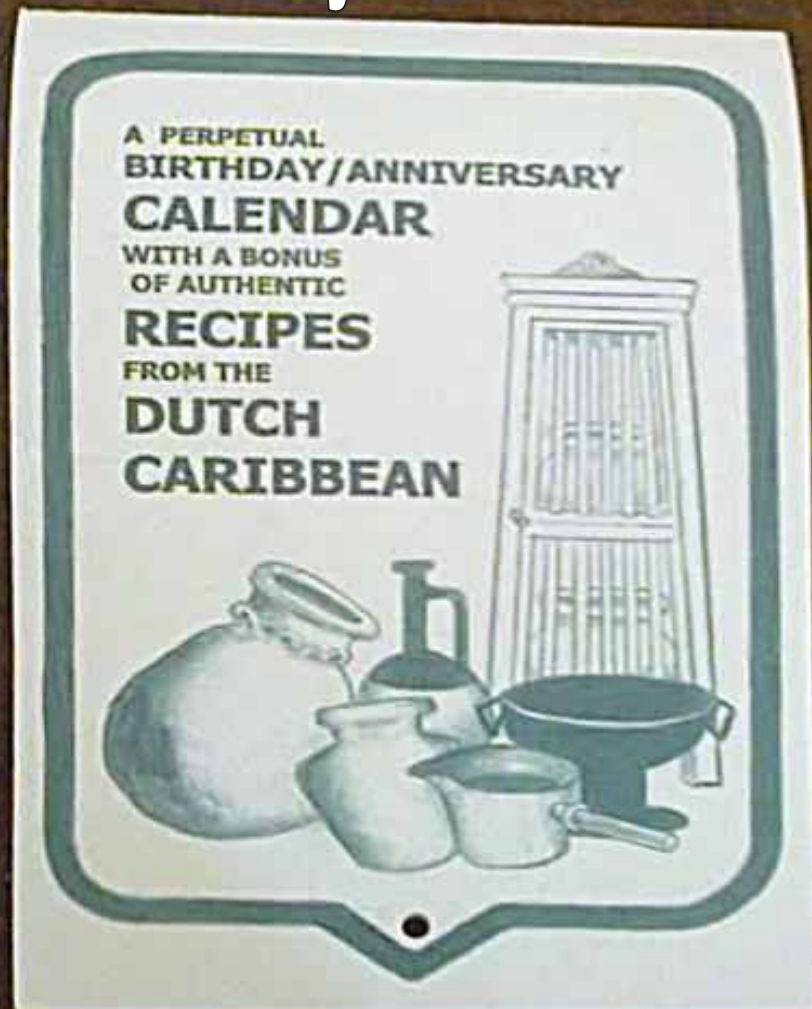
The gadget is priced at \$32.50. Not really that cheap but protecting our turtles by cutting fishing line is priceless. A useful tool. Nice to have. A pleasure to work with. Handy, cute, useful. Do have a look at the web site:

www.eezycut.com. ■

Story & photo by Jan Brouwer



New Birthday Calendar Arrives



In this useful perpetual date calendar, local artist Elena has gathered several of her favorite island recipes and gives us a bit of 17th century cookery history. Charmingly illustrated, and reasonably priced at \$15, it's the perfect Bonaire memento or gift for the person who has everything. Presently available at: Bonaire Af-fair, Bona Dea, Bon Pika, Deli Delicious, Flamingo Book Store and Interiours. ■

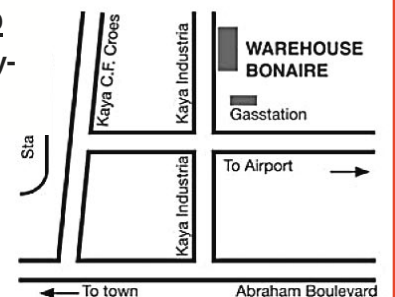
Press release

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Real Bonaire Treasure

Abi Smigel Mullens.photo



Divers will be able to hunt for treasure around Bonaire beginning this fall. Our island has been selected by DEMA to be the first Caribbean island to have DiveCaching,

DiveCaching, the newest real-life, environmentally friendly, in-water game for snorkelers and SCUBA divers, was introduced to the Bonaire press by TCB NY's **Stephanie Worth** (photo above) last week. It's an underwater version of "Geocaching," a decade-old game that uses a GPS and simple search skills to locate land-based caches.

DiveCaching was pilot tested on Bonaire two years ago and as a result it became the first Caribbean island to participate in the sport. This year it will be actively promoted.

The promotion has been coined the "Diving For Bonaire Treasure" Challenge, with the objective to have multiple DiveCaches placed at 10 dive sites around Bonaire for divers to find. Divers who find five of the 10 DiveCaches will be



eligible to win a variety of valuable prizes. Three DiveCaches have already been placed at the Hilma Hooker, Oil Slick Leap (photo above) and Buddy's Reef.

The "Diving for Bonaire Treasure" Challenge will be launched at this year's DEMA Show, November 6-9, in Orlando, Florida. The contest will run from November 6, 2013 – April 30, 2014. The

winner will be announced the first week of May 2014.

Sponsoring this event are Belmar Oceanfront Apartments, Bruce Bowker's Carib Inn, Buddy Dive Resort, Captain Don's Habitat, Caribbean Club Bonaire, Dive Friends Bonaire, Divi Flamingo Beach Resort & Casino, Hotel Roomer, Rec Tek Scuba Bonaire, Tropical Divers Bonaire and VIP Diving. ■

G.D./Press release

**Happy Birthday
lieve Madelief!**



On Tuesday, August 6th **Madelief Aaliyah Thodé** will be celebrating her seventh birthday!

We wish you a wonderful day and a life filled with love and blessings.

We miss you and we love you SO MUCH little darling

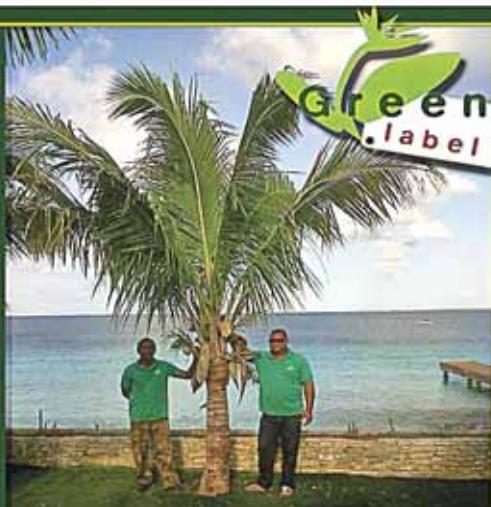
Love, hugs and kisses from all your friends and family on Bonaire, especially your omas.

Hieperdepiep Hoera!

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FOCUS ON DONKEYS

Dear Editor:
 The Dutch media recently focused on solving the problems with the stray donkeys and goats on Bonaire.
 The problem was made very apparent to me last week. While driving in the night from Playa to Rincon I came across a bloated, dead donkey which had been hit by a car. She had a broken leg and little to no blood but probably was killed instantly. Some people may quickly ask how it could have happened, but I don't think there should be discussion about 'how could it happen?', but rather 'how can we prevent it?' - and do it as soon as possible. We must avoid this unnecessary animal suffering and property damage. But also to make the road, especially at night, safer for traffic between Playa and Rincon.



DANGEROUS DOGS

Dear Editor:
 July 26.
 It is 7.05 in the morning. Halfway Kaya Piedra Precioso. Young woman alone. Walking on the street, already cautious of dogs because of earlier encounters with dogs on her bike. Dogs are barking behind fences. Suddenly she is attacked by a group of dogs jumping through the fence. Fear! Barking! Sudden pain! Screaming! Blood! People passing on their way to their so important work, TOTALLY ignoring her cry for help!
 Alerted police could help eventually and she was able to identify the dogs, who are probably killed because of their irresponsible and ignorant owners.
 Do we have to wait until dogs kill a child before something will really happen about this ongoing problem.

Hans Voerman

PS : To those people driving down this street (who ignored this woman), I hope you find yourself once in this kind of situation.

Isn't anyone bothered by a dead and/or injured donkey, a damaged car and maybe, even worse, injured or dead drivers and passengers?

Put all donkeys behind a fence? I guess that is impossible and not advisable, but currently there are too many donkeys that walk daily and especially at night, grazing on the side of the road and crossing indiscriminately.

I hope that all parties come to an animal-friendly solution, as soon as possible for both parties!

Wilna Groenenboom

DUTCH DONKEY PRESS CLIPPINGS:
 From: *Natuurbericht.nl* (release issued on Saturday 27 July 2013)
 "Goats and donkeys Devastating for

Bonaire nature
 They graze everything away. High time to once and for all find a solution for the free-roaming and grazing goats and donkeys on Bonaire. Donkey Sanctuary Bonaire and the government are working on an agreement: all donkeys behind the fence. That is the intention of the agreement that the public sector body Bonaire (OLB) and Donkey Sanctuary Bonaire.
 The plan to capture all the donkeys will cost \$80,000 (about €62,000). Estimates of the number of donkeys range from 200 to 1,000 animals."

POW NED! C.N. Brunt / 27 jul 2013 / 12:19

"Donkeys Destroy Bonaire"

Several hundred free-roaming, grazing donkeys make Bonaire very awful. Because: grazing donkeys = no plants that retain water retention = mudslides to the Sea = affected = less tourism.

The solution seems simple: all donkeys behind fences."

Telegraaf, Binnenland

"Donkeys Graze Bonaire Bare"

RIJSWIJK-Bonaire is facing (the problem of) several hundred free-roaming donkeys, which graze everywhere. Authorities on the island are working together now for a plan of action. ■



Accident July 25/26-2013

Wilna Groenenboom photos



Cleanup July 26-2013

Note: Bonaire Police representative **Caroline Pie** reports that in the first six months of 2013 there were **432 road accidents** without injuries and **81 with injuries**, no deaths, making a **total of 513**. Last year, 2012, for the first six months there were 409 accidents without injury, 60 with injuries, 3 deaths, making a total of 469. Unfortunately there were no figures on numbers of accidents related to donkeys.

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Retiree Fun At Kunuku Arawak



Dancing: Glenda Bernabela and Ubaldo Anthony

Ludo Nicolaas, Gilbert Englehardt, Liselda Albertus, Papi Cicilia - school friends from 40 years ago when they were in their teens. Gilbert left Bonaire and worked for KLM in Holland for 35 years.

A group of about 120 older people of Bonaire had a lively party on Thursday, July 25, the International Day of Retired Persons, at Kunuku Arawak. Enjoying the entertainment, music and lunch were members of the Bonaire UPAH (*Union di Penshonado pa Adelanto i Hustisia*—The Association of Retired Government Workers also from WEB, BIA, TELBO and SELIBON). It was a time for old friends to get together, share some stories, eat, drink and dance.

UPAH is a non-governmental union that seeks improvement in the rights of their senior citizen members in Bonaire and Curaçao. They have a Social Fund (SOFO) to help those elders who are having a hard time getting through our expensive times. ■ Story & photos by L.D.

The Microboat Kid



(rear) Michelle, Farid, Agnes, Ralph Kiracote, Serge, Helen Thode, Jack Daniels (front) Sandy Daniels, Terrence and friend, Judy Kiracote

Terrence Clappers (10), a student at Kristu BonWarador school received \$200 from Divi Flamingo guests so he could finish his microboat and participate in this year's Regatta in October. He has raced for the last four years using Farid Ayubi's boats.

This year he designed and is building the boat himself with the help of Farid. At the request of the donors the boat will have an American flag design and be called "The (Divi) Ambassador."

Now at the Divi during Friday happy hours there will be a showing of micro boats. Farid Ayubi reports that in the future a microboat with a GPS device and antenna attached (like the ones on the migrating turtles) will be launched at the northern part of the island, most likely from Washington Park. On the boat will be a metal plate asking that the person who finds the boat to please get in touch with the micro boat organization in Bonaire and report the finding.

That should be very interesting. ■ L.D.

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Tourism History

TOURISM HISTORY PART 13- Cruise Tourism



Bergensfjord

Part 1: Welcoming the Bergensfjord and Sinterklaas

Bonaire's Cruise Tourism History started in the mid-60s when Niki Tromp, representing the Bonaire Tourist Office, and Hugo Gerharts as tourism entrepreneur, travelled to the States to get cruise lines interested in including the island in their schedule. Gerharts often went to the Sea Trade Cruise Shipping Convention in Miami, but they also approached the cruise lines directly. It took a long time before they could get any results. In June of 1966, Toon Abraham, who was head of the 'Office of Prosperity and Tourism' received a cable message from the Norwegian America Line. It said that they wanted to have their cruise ship call on Bonaire in their schedule. Initially the *Sagafjord* would come but then it turned out to be the *Bergensfjord* that would be the first cruise ship to visit Bonaire in November of 1967.

In the second half of the 60s, cruise lines that were operating in the Caribbean like the Holland America Line were desperately seeking new destinations. More and more veteran cruise ship passengers were what was called 'repeat business'. The figures showed that 40 to 50% were re-

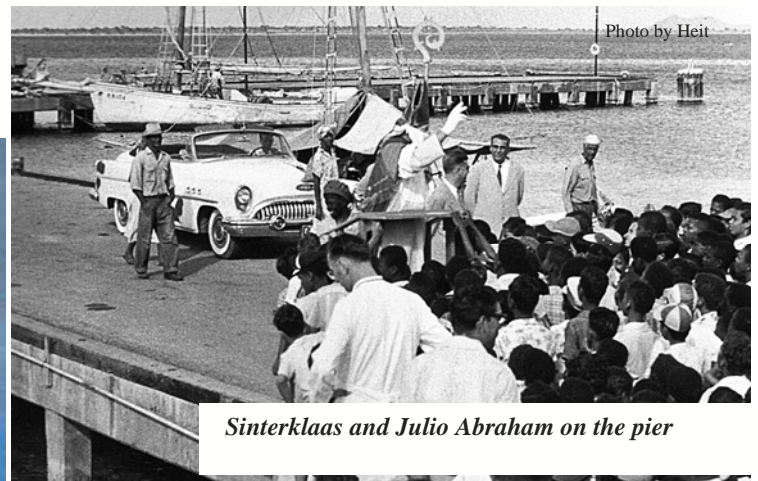
peat guests who were wondering if there were no other islands to see besides 'the same old stops'. So new destinations were needed to keep them as their clients.

While Aruba and Curaçao were already receiving cruise ships, Bonaire was the new kid on the block of cruise travel. A US newspaper from those days described it as: "A small, Shmoo-shaped island, Dutch West-Indian in character and American wild-west in appearance," while Klein Bonaire was characterized as a "miniature green 'picnic' island"

In New York, Bonaire was represented by the Howard Chase Associates. They ran the "Bonaire Information Center" and they too were trying to get cruise lines interested in including Bonaire in their schedule. Meanwhile, the Bonaire Government, aware that a good harbor was needed to accommodate cruise ships, was constantly negotiating with the Central Government to be able to finance the construction of a new pier.

There was a lot of enthusiasm about the visit of the first cruise ship to Bonaire which was to take place on the 24th of November, 1967. The island government installed a welcome committee, presided over by the commissioner of economic affairs, Ray-

mundo Saleh, with the assistance of Rudy Ellis, Hugo Gerharts and Don Stewart. An intensive program was put together. Before disembarking every passenger would receive a brochure with promotional material and a program of activities during the short day on the island. All facilities on the island would be free of charge that morning. Preparations got underway and everybody became involved: schools started rehearsing songs, with lyrics written specially for this historic moment, like the popular tune of "Falderie, faldera". Local entrepreneur Lodewijk D. Gerharts, who was representative of the Norwegian America Line, arranged the arrival by ship of Saint Nicolas, a role he famously played himself year after year. With his two assistants, "Black Petes," he embarked at sea, brought over to the ship by the pilot boat where he almost missed his step and was close to falling into the water with his triple long bishop's dress. He would make a magical appearance half an hour later at the Kralendijk old pier. School kids were out to welcome the Holy Man. After the disembarkation of the passengers, Saint Nicolas and his Black Petes would set foot on Bonairean soil. An unforgettable moment for children and grown-ups alike.



Sinterklaas and Julio Abraham on the pier



Part of the welcoming committee

At eight o'clock on that historic Friday morning, boat pilot Antonio Neumann guided the cruise ship into the Kralendijk harbor where it was tied up at the old pier in front of Wilhelmina square. Aboard were 425 passengers and 385 crewmen. The ship was welcomed by a fleet of local boats, carrying all kinds of flags. A musical group was playing on the pier. The welcome committee was headed by Ltd. Governor Elias Morkos. The cruise ship passengers were welcomed by pretty young ladies who served as hostesses. Folkloric "simadan" groups performed and there was a painting contest. The guests were transported all over the island in school buses, free of charge. At this very special occasion, the Hotel Bonaire Casino was open in the morning hours to accommodate the gambling cravings of the cruise guests. Others could enjoy the beach, play tennis, bicycle or browse in the duty free shops of the island. In the mean-

time a reception was held on board the ship where the *Bergensfjord* captain received a turtle shell with gold inlay as a present from the people of Bonaire.

The reactions of the passengers were very favorable. The ship left at about 1 o'clock in the afternoon. Before their departure, passengers could leave their comments and suggestions in a guest book.

The first visit of a cruise ship to the island was a great success. It had without a doubt made a lasting impression on passengers, cruise line people and inhabitants of Bonaire. ■ Evert Bongers (source: LD Gerharts' memoirs and research by Bòl Antoin)

Coming: Cruise Ships- Part 2; LD & Hugo Gerharts



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Jazz Festival 2013

It's opening night of the 9th Bonaire Jazz Festival outdoors at historic Fort Oranje, the sky still colored by the sunset, local favorite Andrina Marcano Gonzales and her jazz ensemble take the artistically lit stage. Andrina is a petite vocal powerhouse with vivid body language, the perfect keynote for the eclectic festival's start. Things got moving fast. She was followed by the Nina Strnad Trio from Slovenia. The modern harmonious jazz by Nina, backed by an obsessed piano/keyboard player, was a perfect segue to Levi Silvanie, born on Curaçao, living in the Netherlands, with his pop jazz band. He performed original songs in Papiamentu and in English from his first album; three varieties of jazz all of a high level. In between the three performances a young and enthusiastic Bonairean lady, Sharys Anthony, presented oral literature in Papiamentu. It was a perfect start of the festival. Some 500 persons enjoyed this evening.

The morning weather the next day caused concern. It rained, very hard at times, and a lot of island activities had to be cancelled. Luckily the clouds cleared, the ground dried up, and by dark everybody had forgotten about the rain. The main concert started at 8:30 pm on the beach at the Plaza Resort with the Nina Strnad Band leading off. Nina was followed by Trijntje Oosterhuis from the Netherlands.

An uncountable number of music lovers were standing and dancing on the beach. While sitting on the wall between the sea and the sand, sipping their drinks, some unintentionally got their heads and behinds splashed by the ocean waves.

The performance by Trijntje and her gang rocked the beach. The volume was pumped up and the speakers made clothes tremble.

Trijntje told the audience she was asked to spray deodorant/anti-perspirant on her face to check the emotional sweat, but according to her, it did not really help. Great girl, great performance. Excellent solos from her right hand side guitar player, Arnold van Dongen.

Then the third band climbed the stage: Porfi Baloa i sus Adolescentes, from Venezuela. By now the audience was completely hyped. The very air was vibrating, charged by the Latin American rhythms and a bunch of talented youngsters producing hot boiling music during their physical workout... an overcrowded dance floor, singing and yelling people all over the beach. It lasted into the small hours of the next morning.

The final day of the festival, Sunday, was for the Jam Fest. Miss Montreal and others were scheduled. Because of the printing deadline of this newspaper we are not able to provide a first-hand report.

Boudewijn (Bous) Scholts, spokesman for the Bonaire Jazz Foundation promised an even more impressive show for next year, the 10th anniversary. ■ Jan Brouwer.

The low price of the tickets and presentation of outstanding artists are a direct result of the work of the organizers, volunteers and sponsors who include: title sponsor Heineken, the Prince Bernhard Culture, Tourism Corporation Bonaire, Plaza Resort Bonaire, Insel Air, Little Havana, Benetton Bonaire Eden Beach Resort, MCB Bank, Rocargo Services, Sunbelt Realty, Telbo NV, Breathe-IT, It Rains Fishes / Spice Beach Club, KLM Royal Dutch Airlines, Divi Flamingo Beach Resort & Casino, Kontiki Beach Resort, Hotel Rochaline, Bonaire Tours, Van den Tweel Supermarket, PWC, Crooij and Flipse Insurance, Flamingo Communications, Budget Rent a Car, Bowalie Sailing charters, CATC, Don Andres, EnergiaVision and Mega Hit FM



Trijntje Oosterhuis' keyboard player



Porfi Baloa i sus Adolescentes



The Nina Strnad Band

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SEARCHING FOR MUSEUM BONAIRE

For decades Bonaire had a fun, funky museum totally dedicated to the historical past of our island. Not anymore. These days it's crammed in a non-climate controlled storage unit. The irreplaceable artifacts are decaying. During recent years it functioned as part of SKAL, the island's Department of Culture. Last year the museum building was shuttered. Now the old museum building is for sale and is falling into ruin. The cost to restore it is prohibitive and the island government no longer rents it from the Fundashon Kas Bonairiano, Bonaire's housing authority.

In this second part of her story Maggie Booi, the wife of the museum's founder, Frans Booi, brings us up to date with news of the museum.

In the 1970s when school boys Felix Nicolaas and his brothers and friends found human bones near SGB, AINNA – Archeological Institute of the Netherlands Antilles – under Dr. E. Ayubi came in to organize the research and conservation of these artifacts. The bones of this real Pre-Columbian Indian, now languishing in the storage unit, are over 400 years old and tell a wonderful story. They were sent to the University at Utrecht to be studied by Professor Tacoma to determine the age and to be treated to preserve them. These bones are those of the oldest Bonairean.



Early Museum—Turn the page to see where the Museum is located today.

In the 1980s Dr. Jay Haviser who worked for AINNA in Curacao, was hired by Frans Booi to help excavate at Wanapa in the plantation of family Clarinda. From that excavation he wrote his thesis and published *The First Bonaireans*. (Haviser is a prominent archeologist and founded the archeological institute of BONAI on Bonaire, SIMARC in St Maarten and SABARC in Saba and is on the Faculty of Archeology and Guest Lecturer at Leiden University in the Netherlands. He continued his work on Bonaire with Hubert Vis and Jackie Bernabela of BONAI.)

Frans Booi continued adding to the mu-



The abandoned Sabana Museum building is deteriorating fast. Rescuer needed.

seum collection with artifacts from his family, donations from other families in Bonaire, excavations and paintings from well known artists from Bonaire, among them Winfred Dania and Manuela Winklaar, Papa Melaan, Elizabeth Booi and Cyril Bernabella.

Bert and Hanny Loohuis had a wonderful shell collection from Bonaire that they donated and maintained. Pastor Nooyen gave his archeological artifact collection and books about the Indian tribes to the Museum Bonaire and the Department helped him to publish his book about the families of Bonaire called *Isla di Papa Cornes*.

The eclectic collection grew to preserve the history and tell the story of Bonaire's sea and land culture from Indian to European to African to present times. The endemic architecture of Bonaire was studied,

named and documented by Frans Booi. The old people told their oral history and it has been preserved on tape. (These tapes will be given to Boi Antoin's Archives for safe-keeping.) This only scratches the surface of what was and is still being done. There was much to tell about Bonaire and there still is.

The Museum remained in Sabana #16 until 1992 when the Department was no longer part of the Central Government and became an island government office called SKAL – Section Kulture, Art and Literatuur.

The Museum Bonaire, along with SKAL, moved to the building owned by Foundation Cas Bonairiano on Sabana #14. Frans Booi, with the help of fellow employees Winfred Dania, Papy Cicilia, Herbert Ce-

(Continued on page 12)

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Searching... (Continued from page 11)

Max St Jago, Lientje Domacasse and Hilda Anthony, moved and organized the museum artifacts in the new building. When Mr. Booi was satisfied with the results he took early retirement and left the Museum Bonaire. The Department, now under the island government, had become too political and he felt it would be harder to accomplish anything.

Well known Bonairean nature protector Felix (Papy) Cicilia became interim director until Hubert Vis was appointed head of SKAL.

The Museum remained - somewhat intact - as it was in 1992 - in the beautiful old building in Sabana #14 under the curettage of SKAL until last October when it was packed up and moved to a storage unit at Rocargo.

Hubert Vis retired in the spring of 2012. Consultant Lillian de Geus was contracted to run SKAL from June 2012 until June of 2013.

The government planned that SKAL and the Museum Bonaire would share the beautiful, historical old hospital - Hospital Bieu - in Playa Pabao - with Kas di Arte until a Museum building could be found. At the present SKAL has taken over both buildings and resides in the small one until the restoration of the main building has been completed. Before she finished her contract, Lillian de Geus said that the floors had to be tiled before anything else happened. The building stands partially finished and not occupied while the paintings and artifacts still are in boxes in the hot storage unit.

Museum stalwarts Gaby Mercera, Nochi Coffi, Johnny Leonetta, Rina Zaragosa and



These days the Museum is stored in #15

Rigna Angila are now on their own "holding down the fort" so to speak. They continue their work and keep things running.

It is unclear when the actual Museum Bonaire will re-immerge or when it does how it will be structured and by whom. At this writing there is no head of SKAL whose section falls under the leadership of Mrs. Aly Beukenboom of the Department of *Samenleving En Zorg*.

The artifacts are still in the hot storage unit being unattended. We, and many others have grave concerns. The story continues.....We have been unable to reach NAAM, the museum federation in Curacao, for comment.

We will continue to look for the museum and keep you up to date. ■
Maggie Booi
Kaiser



Picture Yourself With The Reporter In Bangkok, Thailand

Bonaire residents Johannetta Gordijn and Herman van Leeuwen, along with Herman's children, Almar and Niek, visited Bangkok, Thailand, and brought along a copy of *The Bonaire Reporter* on their three-week holiday.

The boys used to live on Bonaire but now live in The Netherlands with their mother, Wilna Groeneboom, who was recently on Bonaire.

The photo was taken at Wat Traimit where there is a 3 m. high, 5.5 ton solid-gold Buddha image. The photo on the front page of *The Reporter* edition they are holding was taken by their father!



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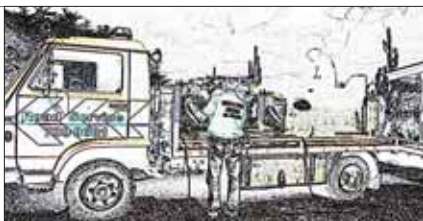


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Tue 06		09:10 -0.02 ft			New Moon	6:23	18:59
Wed 07	00:30 0.73 ft	09:42 -0.01 ft				6:23	18:59
Thu 08	01:15 0.66 ft	10:05 0.01 ft	16:20 0.33 ft	20:07 0.30 ft		6:23	18:58
Fri 09	02:05 0.58 ft	10:22 0.03 ft	16:29 0.43 ft	22:07 0.29 ft		6:23	18:58
Sat 10	03:00 0.50 ft	10:38 0.04 ft	16:48 0.54 ft	23:33 0.23 ft		6:23	18:57
Sun 11	03:56 0.43 ft	10:56 0.03 ft	17:15 0.67 ft			6:24	18:57
Mon 12		00:40 0.15 ft	04:51 0.36 ft	11:19 0.01 ft	17:47 0.80 ft	6:24	18:57
Tue 13		01:36 0.07 ft	05:43 0.31 ft	11:49 -0.01 ft	18:25 0.91 ft	6:24	18:56
Wed 14	First Quarter	02:26 0.01 ft	06:33 0.27 ft	12:24 -0.05 ft	19:06 1.01 ft	6:24	18:56
Thu 15		03:15 -0.05 ft	07:24 0.24 ft	13:05 -0.07 ft	19:50 1.08 ft	6:24	18:55
Fri 16		04:02 -0.09 ft	08:15 0.23 ft	13:52 -0.08 ft	20:36 1.11 ft	6:24	18:55
Sat 17		04:50 -0.11 ft	09:11 0.24 ft	14:43 -0.06 ft	21:25 1.10 ft	6:24	18:54
Sun 18		05:39 -0.11 ft	10:10 0.26 ft	15:40 -0.02 ft	22:17 1.04 ft	6:24	18:54
Mon 19		06:28 -0.11 ft	11:16 0.31 ft	16:47 0.03 ft	23:13 0.96 ft	6:24	18:53
Tue 20	Full Moon	07:18 -0.09 ft	12:24 0.38 ft	18:05 0.09 ft		6:24	18:53
Wed 21		08:07 -0.07 ft	13:33 0.47 ft	19:36 0.13 ft		6:24	18:52
Thu 22		08:55 -0.05 ft	14:37 0.58 ft	21:10 0.13 ft		6:24	18:51
Fri 23		09:41 -0.02 ft	15:34 0.68 ft	22:37 0.09 ft		6:25	18:51
Sat 24		10:26 0.01 ft	16:26 0.77 ft	23:52 0.04 ft		6:25	18:50
Sun 25		11:09 0.03 ft	17:14 0.84 ft			6:25	18:50
Mon 26		00:55 -0.01 ft	05:47 0.42 ft	11:49 0.05 ft	17:59 0.89 ft	6:25	18:49
Tue 27		01:50 -0.04 ft	06:41 0.38 ft	12:26 0.07 ft	18:40 0.91 ft	6:25	18:48
Wed 28	L Quar- ter moon	02:39 -0.05 ft	07:28 0.35 ft	13:01 0.08 ft	19:20 0.92 ft	6:25	18:48
Thu 29		03:25 -0.04 ft	08:11 0.32 ft	13:34 0.10 ft	19:59 0.91 ft	6:25	18:47
Fri 30		04:09 -0.03 ft	08:52 0.30 ft	14:05 0.11 ft	20:36 0.89 ft	6:25	18:47
Sat 31		04:52 -0.00 ft	09:33 0.28 ft	14:36 0.13 ft	21:13 0.86 ft	6:25	18:46

Sudoku Puzzle

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

Sudoku Solution

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

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.**

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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

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.

SAILING

Sailing Point Bonaire has several types of boat for rent. Instruction also available. Sailingpointbonaire@gmail.com or call 788-4882

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?**



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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)

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

Reforestation Successes

Since 2006 STINAPA has been planting endemic trees and plants on Klein Bonaire and in Washington Slagbaai National Park (WSNP) in an attempt to restore original vegetation to these areas. Dr Dolfi Debrot, the former Director of Carmabi Curacao, has been the coordinator of these projects. Last month he visited Bonaire to do a final monitoring of the reforestation projects which he executed for STINAPA in 2006, 2007 and 2009.

Over the course of those years the focus has been on planting trees which are scarce and in danger of disappearing from Bonaire completely, for example, the Sabal palm (*Sabal causuarium*) which is an endemic species and the endemic plant *Myrcia curassavica*. Additionally, plants that have ecological value as a source of flowers and fruits for birds and other fauna were also included in the planting projects on Klein Bonaire and WSNP, eg Watakeli (*Bourreria succulenta*), Manzaliña bobo (*Metopium brownii*), Palu di huku (*Jacquinia arborea*), and Palu di rhambèshi (*Sideroxylon obovatum*).

In the past, vegetation on Klein Bonaire was decimated due to the numerous goats that grazed there and the irresponsible way that trees were chopped for charcoal production. Since the removal of all goats from the island, plant growth has increased and trees such as palu di huku, watakeli, manzaliña bobo, lumbra blanku (*Erithalis fruticosa*) and even uña di gatu (*Pithecellobium unguis-catis*) are flowering and bearing fruit. They are now producing food for animals such as the Lora and Mourning Dove, species which disappeared from the island completely due to the



STINAPA photo

The right side was protected from grazing animals by a fence. The difference is obvious.

lack of vegetation. Mourning Doves have started visiting Klein Bonaire once again and hopefully soon the Lora will also return.

The reforestation at Washington Slagbaai National Park is also a success. Vegetation in certain areas has been enriched with several plant species which have almost disappeared from Bonaire due to overgrazing by goats. The fencing in of certain areas in WSNP has demonstrated the destructive effect that grazing has on the environment. One of

Fun Mountain Bike Race Results



The Freewieler/FLOW fun mountain bike race held Sunday, July 28 had 37 participants for the 34 and 14 km races.

Thirteen raced the 34 km distance in the tough conditions caused by the previous day's rain. Results:

34 km. Elite: 1st Andres Macier and Domingos de Lima, 1:27:30, 2nd Frank Bohm 1:28:38 and 3rd Leo Hoogenboom 1:34:20.

17 km, Fun: 1st Bart Raedts 0:51:10, 2nd Sarah de Groot 0:51:46 and 3rd Maikos de Lima 0:51:47

Parts of the track became very muddy, making the race extra heavy. The mud also caused some dropouts because the mud got stuck in the gears and the brakes could not operate for some participants. The next Fun Race is on Sunday, 22 September 2013. ■ Press release story & photo.

the fences was accidentally left open and therefore the goats gained access to the vegetation inside and damaged almost all the plants, many of which died as a result. Inside the other fenced areas plants such as *Maytenus versluisii* and *Myrcia curassavica* are already 1.5 meters tall and others including watakeli, palu di lora and palu *Guapira fragrans* are as tall as 2.5 meters.

This experiment was possible with support from the Prins Bernhard Fund and the Antillean Government through the KNAP-Fund, and it demonstrates that the endemic flora and fauna can recover quite quickly as long as the issues of

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What Do You Tell The Man Everyone Wants To Talk To?

Goings-on at Jong Bonaire and the Prime Minister pays a visit

These last few weeks have been quite exciting at Jong Bonaire, for myself and the organization. This summer camp is my first time as a leader so I've teamed up with colleague and friend William Evertsz for a fun filled schedule. And to top that off, the Prime Minister of Holland, Mark Rutte, was to be on the island and even come visit Jong Bonaire.

The first week of camp we organized a week full of history, specifically the history of Bonaire.

We even got historian Arthur Sealy to give the lessons in the morning and we took the kids to see the island in the afternoon, going to the Indian paintings, the slave huts, Karpata, Washington museum. We even got lost in the 'mundi' but that's a story for another time.

The second week we had 'kantika' where we'd make a song with the kids to promote the idea of recording music at Jong Bonaire. We want the kids to know that we have the equipment if they have an idea of what they want to do and that we're there to help and guide them. After recording the song we had enough time to make a video. The kids thought that'd be cool seeing that the 'big man' from Holland was coming to visit.

I thought it was quite pleasant that the Prime Minister took the time to come and see what we're doing at Jong Bonaire because we don't always have the time to report back to our community, so we were very fortunate to meet with him.

The moment I shook his hand as he entered the computer room, I noticed his presence by his firm (Dutch) handshake and assertiveness. While meeting the kids



Prime Minister Rutte meets students at Jong Bonaire

he was quick to understand that there was a video they would like to show him, so it was off to the studio. After the viewing he complimented everyone who partook. It was clear to see that he didn't understand the song seeing that it was in Papiamentu. When he realized that Dutch is not commonly spoken by the locals and their kids, he started thinking out loud. "Maybe we need to change the language to English or Spanish?" he suggested. Time will tell if that happens.

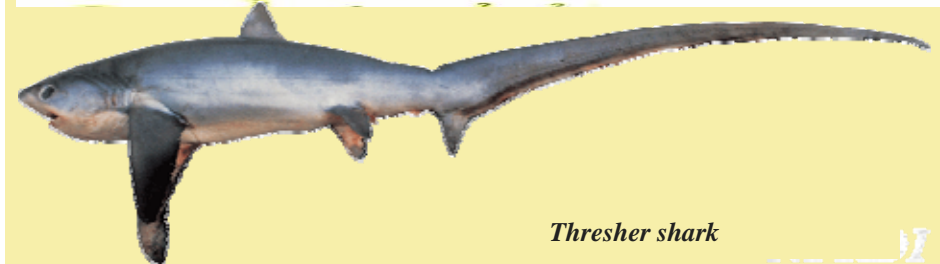
As a liberal the Prime Minister was very concerned about entrepreneurship, encouraging the kids to start their own businesses and not to work for the government. There wasn't much time for a dialogue, or to go even deeper into the matters of the isle, but we tried to express our feelings about the educational system and the relationship between Bonaire and the Netherlands.

We're all in it together and everyone must play their part. You can only capsize the boat if you're not rowing. ■

Friso Gramsma



DID YOU KNOW?



Thresher shark

That some sharks hunt with their tails? Thresher sharks are a cosmopolitan family of sharks frequently found in warm and temperate offshore waters around the globe and easily distinguishable by their long tails. The pelagic thresher shark (*Alopias pelagicus*), for example, can reach 365 cm in total length, approximately half of which comprises a scythe-like elongated tail fin. They use their long tails to corral and stun their prey, usually schools of sardines and other small oceanic fish, by swimming through the school of fish and executing a series of rapid body movements that drive tail-slaps. One single stroke enables them to stun several prey items at a time, after which they eat them easily (You can see the videos at www.goo.gl/qrufVV). This remarkable and unique hunting strategy among sharks is actually shared by other marine predators such as humpback and sperm whales, dolphins and orcas. Next time you have the good fortune of diving with

Today I killed a Cockroach - So Goes the World

Cockroaches are a part of the tropical environment of Bonaire. In the outdoors they perform jobs key to Bonaire's ecosystem. But when they come into the house.....



I killed a cockroach this morning and have been wracked with guilt ever since.

First I invited him in by not cleaning the kitchen enough last night, then as with any guest who has overstayed his welcome, I unceremoniously sprayed him with Baygon and tried to kill him.

Frans tells me that the cockroach was probably not a cockroach at all but the gecko that eats anything that might wander into our kitchen. He has been taking care of him - his friend.

Now I feel really, really guilty. Not only did I kill something that through no fault of its own came into my kitchen but it was the beloved kitchen gecko. This is no way to start the day.

I go in hunt of the dying animal thinking if I take him outside he can be revived. He is illusive. I find the gecko on the screen door and he (not sure why I know he is a he but he is) looks none the worse for wear. Now the mystery is what did I kill?

There he is - the cockroach - it is indeed a cockroach and he is writhing in pain. Guilt grips me again as I apologize to him for my transgression. What to do, what to do? I ask Frans to step on him. He does. We go for a walk to clear our heads.

When we come back he - the cockroach - is still lying here unmolested by the ants or birds or geckos. He just lies there looking dead. It hits me what I have done that is so heinous that even an ant will not feast on this great creature of the night.

I have used chemical weapons against the smallest of creatures without regard as to the consequences.

We pick him up with a Scott paper towel and throw him in the dumpster.

Now I have done four terrible things today.

First, I invited in a small creature into my kitchen for a feast.

Second, I killed the small creature with CHEMICALS because I was too wussy to just squash him or wait for the gecko or birds to eat him.

Third, I used a Scott paper towel to drag his dead body to the dumpster.

Fourth, I put it into the dumpster.

The Death speaks for itself. It is wrong.

The Chemicals - ah well - why is this so bad you might say? Well, first they are made somewhere else and are brought into the island by boat - they leave a carbon footprint ever so small AND they are CHEMICALS. The things that kill not only small things but do damage to just about everything they touch including those using them. AND I have deprived the animal kingdom of nourishment - No self-respecting bird or ant or gecko will feast on such a chemically desecrated body. They, unlike us, are not so foolish.

The Scott Towel - it came from Wisconsin for heavens sake. It came from a beautiful tree in the north woods of my beloved state. In order for me to pick that poor unfortunate creature up in Bonaire, a tree had to be sacrificed in Wisconsin. That tree gave life and breath to so many of the amazing north woods creatures that I grew up loving. That towel also came over 3,000 fuel ingested miles just to do such a disgusting job.

The fourth sin is the dumpster. Now SELIBON has to pick up this creature and take it to the landfill where only a goat will eat it. The landfill is already too big and will my creature be the tipping point? Also, who will eat the goat?

The entire sacrifice this morning was for nothing more than my comfort, which has since been terribly disturbed.

In retrospect I could have finished the dishes last night instead of just going to bed like a lazy lump. The cockroach probably would have gone next door in that case.

I could have just left him alone or told him to leave or die in an hour or so - as I do with the ants should they grace my counter in the morning. Of course he is not so cute.

I could have just stepped on him and thrown him in the garden for some lovely creature's breakfast.

I could have done any of these things. I did not.

Tonight I will not sleep. ■ Maggie Booie

sharks, enjoy their beauty and think about the amazing evolutionary adaptations that has allowed this group of fish to survive over millions of years. ■ Enrique Arboleda

Enrique Arboleda is a Marine Biologist and the Coral Reef Ecology Faculty for CIEE Research Station Bonaire.



WHAT'S HAPPENING

CLOSE-IN EVENTS

Sunday, August 4, September 1 – Local Art Exhibitions sponsored by the Bonaire Foundation for Art and Culture, at the Chi Chi Tan House behind Rose Inn, in Rincon, 10 am to 4 pm. Stop in while driving around the island, enjoy the art, the historical house, local snacks and drinks.

Saturday, August 17—Fundraiser Bingo for Tutti Frutti, Klup Patriotico, 8 pm, \$20. Bus from Rincon to town.

August 17-24. Wounded Warriors week. More on page 2

Saturday, August 31—Taste of Bonaire— More on page 3

September 6: Bonaire Day, a local holiday that is celebrated by Bonaireans and visitors alike. The festivities are held within a certain neighborhood and include island cuisine, music and dancing all in "street festival" style.

September 1-30: Underwater Photography Event at Belmar Oceanfront Apartments, www.belmar-bonaire.com

September 7-14- Free Diving Event with Carlos Costes at Eden Beach Resort, www.edenbeach.com

September 13-22 – 2nd Annual Ayurveda Yoga Event, classes and workshops, at Bonaire Basics and Hillside Apartments. Information: Call Tina at 700-5488, email tina@gogreenayurveda.com, www.gogreenayurveda.com

Saturday, September 7 – Farmers' Market at Kriabon 8am-1pm

Sunday September 22—Mountain bike Fun Race

Friday, September 27 – Taste of Bonaire

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

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

• **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 Lagoon 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. +5999-560-7539.*) 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 Koeks 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. Donation. 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 -- Will resume in November- 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)

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

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 Crusita de Palm at 786-3827 or Lucia Martinez 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 Daisycoffie@hotmail.com

International Bible Church, Kaya Papago 104, Hato, behind Bon Fysio/Bon Bida Spa & Gym on Kaya Gob. N. De-brot. 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.

Iglesia di Cristo (Church of Christ) Sunday: 10:30 am & 7:00 pm; Wednesday: 7:00 pm. Services in Papiamentu (English also if needed) Address: Kaya Msgr. Nieuwindt 25 (same street as Dr. Dorvil) Cell: 796-0721 email: iglesiadicristobonaire@gmail.com

Call The Reporter at 786-6518 if you have something HAPPENING

Who's Who on The Bonaire Reporter

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Pet of the Week

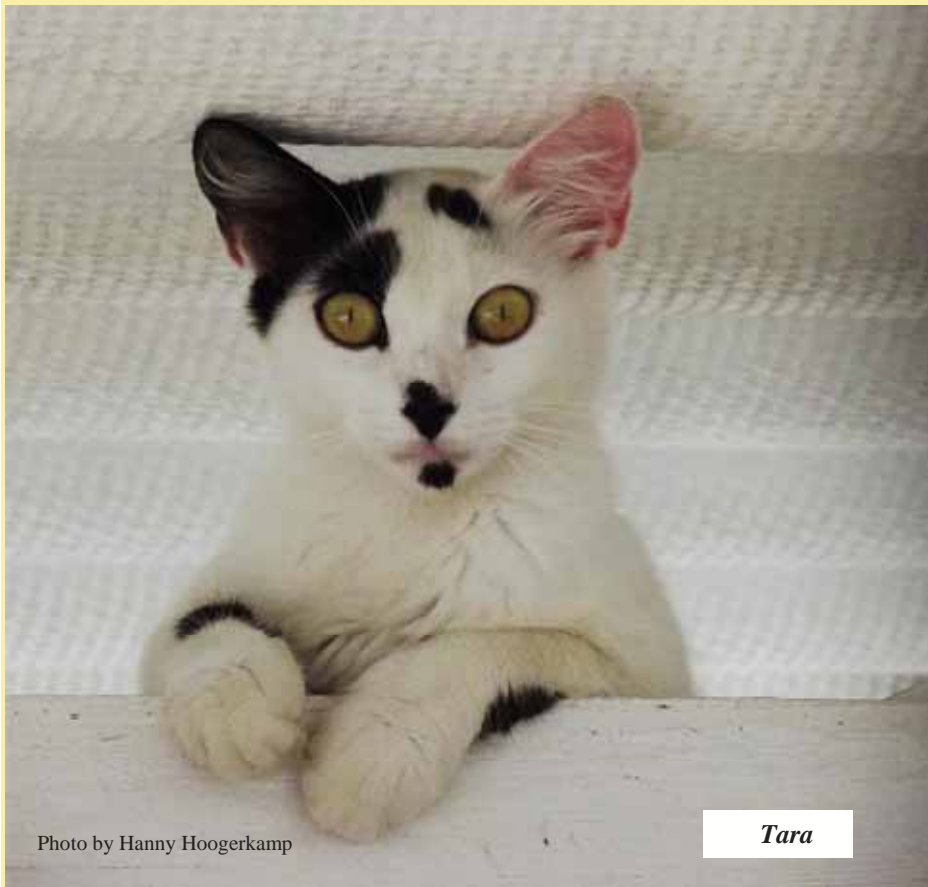


Photo by Hanny Hoogerkamp

Tara

What a face! Tara is probably one of the most "exotic" looking cats ever to grace the Bonaire Animal Shelter compound. Big round pale green eyes, bizarre black markings, and a long, black fluffy tail all combine to create a truly strange yet beautiful cat. Add a loving and gentle personality to the mix and you have a "purr"fect adoption recipe. Tara is about a year old and is longer-haired than most cats usually seen on Bonaire. She is primarily white except for those helter-skelter black markings and the bushy black tail. Normally a quiet, relaxed cat, Tara will speak back to you when spoken to and is very fond of affection if you choose to give it to her. She is

more than happy to sit next to you or in your lap and enjoy some "cuddle time"...or to just lay around and look gorgeous!

Although many people are immediately drawn to kittens, adopting an older cat is often the smarter option. A mature cat sleeps an average of 15 hours a day and some up to 20 hours. The rest of the time is spent grooming, eating or just doing that "staring off into space" thing for which cats are notorious. Mature cats usually don't have the endurance or interest in extended playtime, but you should try to spend 10-15 minutes a few times each day engaging your cat in some form of activity. So if you have a busy life and are out of the home a lot, an adult cat as opposed to a rambunctious kitten, that needs lots of attention, is a smarter choice.

Tara is a smart and wonderful choice for someone who would love to share their home with an affectionate and unusual looking cat. Whether you are a busy person or a homebody, Tara will happily and lovingly fit into your life. She is sterilized, vaccinated and waiting for her forever home...is it yours? You can visit Tara and all her Shelter friends Monday through Saturday from 8 am to 1 pm and 3 to 5 pm at the Bonaire Animal Shelter, Kaminda Lagun 26A. ■ Jane Madden Disko

Shelter News

Attention: Artists, craftspeople, people in the service industry—the Shelter needs you. For the annual fundraiser **Art Auction in December** they need donations of art or crafts or services like carpentry, maintenance, painting, boat trips, entertainment, gift certificates, restaurant meals, hotel accommodations—anything that people may bid on. Help keep the Shelter open for homeless cats and dogs—and have fun doing it! Please give them a call at 717-4989. ■ Laura DeSalvo

100 Birthdays



Wilna Groenenboon photo

Merzelina Augustina Winklaar celebrated her 100th birthday with her family, friends and acquaintances last Sunday. She had six children, 15 grandchildren, more than 20 great grandchildren and was separated from Rudy Jacobs.

She gives thanks to God for her long and healthy life and that the whole family is together happily. The party took place at Kunuku Bible-World, the kunuku of her son, Rudy Jacobs, whom she lives with. From 18:00 to 22:00 in the evening there was a reception and a thanksgiving ceremony in honor of the Lord Jesus Christ whom "Mai-Tintina" (her nick-name) calls her personal Savior. Her birthday was on Saturday 27 July 2013.



Back To School Extremes

At Flamingo Airport: Recent High School graduates leaving to study in the Netherlands.



Laura DeSalvo photo

These youngsters who graduated from Juffrouw Anna's "Colita i Muñecon" kresh are off to kindergarten soon. Bonaire schools open next week.

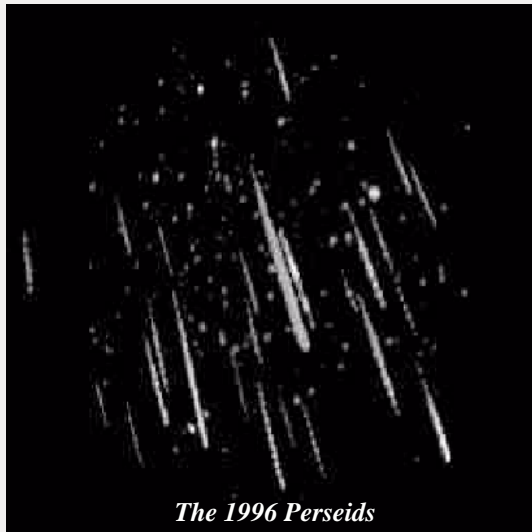


BONAIRE SKY PARK*

*to find it... just look up

SUMMER TRIANGLE AND METEORS

In astronomy, there's nothing quite like a bright meteor streaking across the glittering canopy of a moonless night sky. The unexpected flash of light adds a dash of magic to an ordinary walk under the stars. New research by NASA has just identified the most magical nights of all. And it will be this August. "We have found that one meteor shower produces more fireballs than any other," explains Bill Cooke of NASA's Meteoroid Environment Office. "It's the **Perseid meteor shower.**" The Perseids is one of the best meteor showers to observe, producing up to 60 meteors per hour at its peak. It is produced by comet **Swift-Tuttle**, which was discovered in 1862. The Perseids are famous for producing a large number of bright meteors. The shower runs annually from July 17 to August 24. It peaks this year on the **night of August 11 and the morning of August 12.** The first quarter **Moon** will set shortly after midnight leaving dark skies for what should be an excellent show. Best viewing will be from a dark location after midnight. Meteors will radiate from the **constellation Perseus**, but can appear anywhere in the sky.



The 1996 Perseids

The constellations continue to work their magic in the Sky Park. The **Summer Triangle** of the bright stars **Deneb (in Cygnus), Vega (Lyra) and Altair (Aquila)** continue to dominate the sky. **Scorpius** with the red giant **Antares** is setting in the southwest and the group of stars lower down due south make up **Sagittarius**.

Ursa Major (the Plough or Big Dipper) is in the northwest. Follow the curve of the handle of the dipper to find the bright orange star **Arcturus (in constellation Bootes)**. The two end stars of the dipper point to the pole star **Polaris (Ursa Minor)** lying due north, which holds its position while all the other stars appear to rotate around it.

Between Vega overhead and Arcturus in the west, the small constellation **Corona Borealis** forms an unmistakable arc of stars. Above lies **Hercules**, a faint constellation reminiscent in outline of Orion but somewhat smaller. Look also for the **Milky Way** running through Scorpius, Sagittarius, Aquila, Cygnus and **Cassiopeia** in the east.

The 'W' shape of Cassiopeia and square shape of **Pegasus** are rising in the east. **Perseus** and **Auriga** (with the bright yellow star **Capella**) are low on the horizon but rise to become prominent in the early morning.

What else to look for this month?

August 6 - New Moon. The Moon will be directly between the **Earth** and the **Sun** and will not be visible from Earth. This phase occurs at 21:51 UTC. This is the best time of the month to observe faint objects such as galaxies and star clusters because there is no moonlight to interfere.

August 21 - Full Moon. The Moon will be directly opposite the Earth from the Sun and will be fully illuminated as seen from Earth. This phase occurs at 01:45 UTC. This full moon was known by early Native American tribes as the **Full Sturgeon Moon** because the large sturgeon fish of the Great Lakes and other major lakes were more easily caught at this time of year. ■ *NASA report/G.D.*



THE STARS HAVE IT

By Astrologer Michael Thiessen

August 2013

ARIES (Mar. 21- April 20) You can meet potential new mates, but make sure that they aren't already committed to someone else. Put your efforts into your work or money making ventures rather than your emotional life. Your emotional life may be up in the air if your mate has been going through a change of heart. Changes in your home environment are likely. Your luckiest events will occur on a Sunday.

TAURUS (Apr. 21- May 21) This is not the best time to take a risk, to gamble or spend money you really can't afford to part with. You should get into programs that will enhance your appearance and help you to be the best that you can. Talk about your intentions and confirm that you both feel the same way. Stop telling others about your problems. Your luckiest events will occur on a Wednesday.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21) It's time to reconnect with some of the people you used to know. A passionate party for two might be just the remedy. Your family may be feeling neglected and unloved. Enjoy a quiet dinner for two and discuss some of the plans you have for the future. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Friday.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) Take matters in hand when it comes to dealing with clients or colleagues. You have to feel free to come and go as you please to achieve happiness. You could easily lose your temper at work. Don't push your opinions or ideas on others. Don't trust a deal that looks too good, or a lover who appears to have it all. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Thursday.

LEO (July 23-Aug 22) Friends may not be completely honest with you. You may have to take a short trip to visit someone who hasn't been well. Don't overspend to impress someone who interests you. You are best not to say too much to colleagues. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Sunday.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) Investments will cost more than you anticipated. Don't overspend on items for your home. Try to mix business with pleasure while traveling. Do not let them in on

your plans if you want things to run smoothly. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Thursday.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) New relationships will surface through work related events. Do not get into uncertain financial deals. Do not expect others to do your work. You can bet that you'll draw attention to yourself. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Friday.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) Get into some activities that will help you in making new friends. Problems on the home front might be a little disconcerting. Be sure to organize events that will keep the children busy. Get out and enjoy some entertainment. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Friday.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) You may find out that someone has not been completely honest with you. Things will be emotional with your mate. Socializing will be more than just entertaining. Don't let other people meddle in your private affairs. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Friday.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) Deception in your home is evident. Don't beat around the bush. You could pick up valuable knowledge through conversations with experienced individuals.

Be prepared to take advantage of your good fortune. Try to spend some time on your own. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Thursday.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) Do not let them blow situations out of proportion. If you take on too much of a financial burden you may make yourself ill. You may want to make drastic changes concerning your personal partner. You need to fulfill your needs and present your talents. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Wednesday.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) Get together with friends who like to participate in indoor sports. Try to deal with the problems of those less fortunate; however, don't allow them to make unreasonable demands. However, you should be concerned about what they want in return. Try to avoid serious discussions with loved ones. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Thursday. ■

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Asking price US\$ 245,000

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