

It's Still FREE

BONAIRE March 9-23, 2015 Year 22, Issue 6
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



Special Olympics WALKATHON
See Page 11



More Stories including : Walls of Art, Onima Aloe Sails Off, Bon Doet, Divers Down, arracudas, Local Shops, Spinning, Gardening and more...

According to a reliable source, the government benefits in the BES Islands are significantly lower than in the European Netherlands. It has been calculated that to equalize the “social benefits” in the BES Islands with those of the European Netherlands would amount to LESS than 1/1000 of the Dutch government’s budget. This would include retirement, disability, housing benefit, child assistance, and welfare payments.

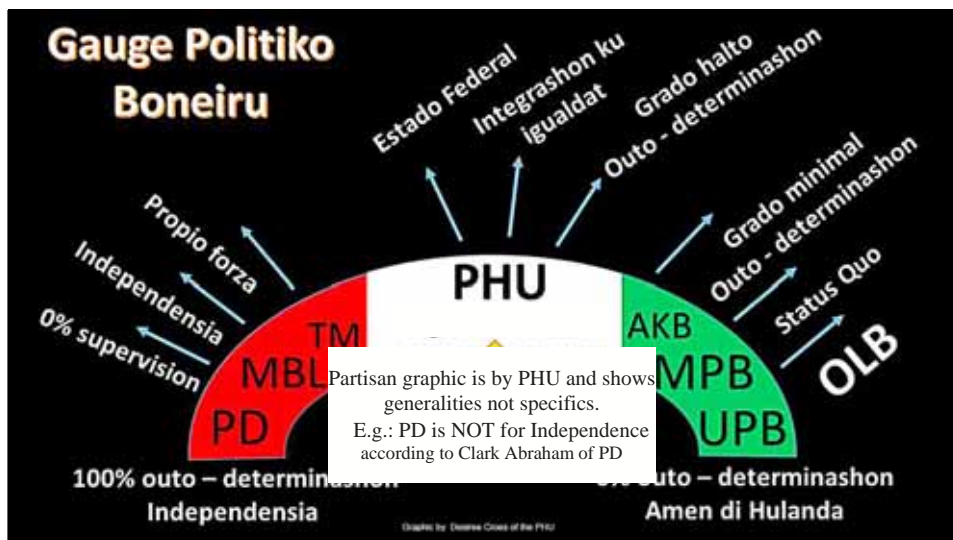


While the Bonaire Island Government (OLB) likes the plans of developer Coco Beach Management (CBM) to develop the waterfront property at Sunset Beach (above) as a public beach, it has put a hold on development until environmental issues are sorted out. Until measures are taken to protect the underwater environment, perhaps by a retaining wall for the beach sand, the OLB has ordered the work temporarily stopped. The necessary permits have already been submitted in consultation with Stinapa, the Commission Nature Management Bonaire, BOG and CBM. The government has pledged to cooperate to deal with these permits as soon as possible so that CBM may soon proceed with the construction of the beach. The work ban remains in effect until the necessary permits have been granted.

According to a press release on March 3, personnel from several police agencies, the Tax Service and labor inspectors from the Island Government took a joint action against labor exploitation and human trafficking on our island. Labor exploitation and trafficking are considered to be serious crimes often with serious consequences for victims. Combating it is a top priority of the government, hence the crackdown. In the action, particular attention was focused on illegal workers, exploitation of workers, immigration control, (identity) documents, residence permits, work permits and taxes.

Two local businesses were scrutinized:

(Continued on page 3)



Elections 2015

The Government Service for the Caribbean Netherlands (RCN) is responsible for the information campaign on behalf of the Minister of Home Affairs and Kingdom Relations for the Island Council election on Wednesday, March 18.

The theme for the campaign is based on nature, which plays an important role on the islands and is something each resident, individually and together, share a responsibility for. Each voter can make a contribution to this process. The concept compares to sowing seeds that will grow and flourish in the future under the slogan: “Plant your vote, let it grow!”

The Island Government, on the other hand, is responsible for the organization of the elections, including the distribution of voting cards. All eligible voters should have received their cards. If not, contact the *Bevolking* office (Public Registry). Non-Dutch citizens can vote if they have been residents for five years and meet other conditions.

The political gauge above, drawn by Desiree Croes of the PHU party, provides a fairly accurate measure of where the different Bonaire political parties vying for seats on the island Council stand.

The elections are set for March 18. In the running:

1. **UPB** - James Kroon - Green - Union Patriótiko Boneriano (UPB)
2. **PDB** - Clark Abraham - Red - Partido Demokrátiko Boneriano (PDB)
3. **PHU** - Michiel Bijkerk - White Partido Pro Hustisia i Union (PHU)
4. **AKB** - Ramiro Richards - Yellow - Aliansa Kristian Boneiru (AKB)
5. **MPB** - Elvis Tjin Asjoe - Light Blue - Movementu di Pueblo Boneriano (MPB)
6. **TM** - Aljano Emerenciana - Pink - Un Tim Magno
7. **MLB** - Eric Soleana - Red / Yellow / Blue - Officially recognized as “Blank list #7.”

The underlying issue in the election is the status of Bonaire as a part of The Netherlands. Positions range from independence to close integration. Each party also takes a stand on local matters.

Eligible voters who did not receive their voting cards still get them. You can pick up your card at Registro Sivil (Bevolking), Kaya Neerlandia 40, between the hours of 8am and 3pm until March 17. You must present proof of legal residency for at least five years.

When and where to vote:

You can cast your vote on Wednesday, March 18, between the hours of 7:30am and 9pm. No matter where you live on the island, you can cast your vote at any voting station →

1. Jong Bonaire Kaya Libertador Simon Bolivar
2. Sentro di Bario Tera Cora Kaya Monseigneur Niewindt
3. Klaslokaal Cristo Bon Wardador Kaya Avelino J.Cecilia
4. Sentro di Bario Nikiboko Kaya Pos di Amor
5. Sentro di Bario Amboina Amboina
6. Sentro di Bario Antriol Kaya Gato
7. Komplejo Deportivo Jorge Nicolaas Kaya Amsterdam
8. Sentro di Bario Nord Salinja Kaya Cacique 9
9. Sentro di Bario Rincon Kaya Rincon 62
10. Tia Sani Kaya Encarnacion B. Sint Jago

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Do It With BON DOET



Lydia Wellvart and her team cleaned up San Bernardo Catholic Cemetery last year. Will you join them or another group this year?

White T-shirts will be the dress code on Friday and Saturday, March 20 and 21, as a big piece of Bonaire's population will turn out to help people and organizations perform needed chores they cannot afford to do on their own.

The Bon Doet organization guided by CVDH Consultancy and the NGO Platform will provide the structure, tools, supplies and coordination to the willing workers. The volunteers will be children, teens, adults, seniors, employees of local businesses like Rocargo and SSS, service clubs, groups of family members, colleagues and friends. Several departments from the Island Government as well as youngsters from the high school SGB and the continuing education program FORMA also will pitch in.

For example: Tene Boneiru Limpi (TBL) is organizing a cleanup event on March 21st during BON DOET. TBL will focus on the area of Washikemba. This beautiful area will be further developed as a tourist area with a scenic route. The development of the area will be coordinated by rural development plan POP. They are striving towards an area where kunukeros (farmers) can offer recreation to tourists. This could provide an extra source of income for kunukeros.

Tene Boneiru Limpi wants to support POP and is lending a helping hand by coordinating this clean up. In turn, TBL is hoping for the support of volunteers to be able to clean the 15 km section completely.

On the 21st TBL will be ready and waiting for volunteers from 7.30am on the dirt road (right hand side) that leads from the Kaminda Lagoen to the Washikemba area. The clean up is planned from 8-11am. TBL will mark polluted areas. Would you like to enhance the natural beauty of Washikemba and contribute to the development of this area? Please register through c.cranston@selibon.com ■ G.D./Press release/Photo Laura DeSalvo

Flotsam and Jetsam (Continued from page 2)
the Family Store and La Parada. Checked were tax issues, payroll lists and labor practices as well as other activities being conducted by the businesses.

During the inspection police confiscated three passports. One woman was also put on a plane back to her home. Investigation continues.

It was observed that during the action *sneks* (snacks) near the locations being checked abruptly closed. The future will see more of this kind of joint action against labor exploitation and human trafficking say the authorities.

► **Want lots of info about the Caribbean Netherlands?** An updated Island Guide for the Caribbean Netherlands can be found on: <http://www.rijksdienstcn.com/eilandgids>

► **AMSTERDAM--The Dutch inflation rate fell to its lowest level in 27 years in January:** 0.0%, central statistics agency CBS said on February 12. The inflation rate has been falling steadily since the summer of

2013. **In Bonaire the inflation rate is still rising.** In The Netherlands a liter of gasoline now costs on average €1.47 (\$1.68), nearly 13% less than a year earlier. In Bonaire it costs \$0.98.

► On Monday, March 9th a **meeting for fishermen and fishing boat owners** was held at the Amboina community center which may help revitalize the local fishery cooperative KOPI-BON. The purpose of the meeting was to inform the fishing community of the recent fishing developments. A presentation was given by fish / fishery biologist Martin Earl of the Institute for Marine Resources & Ecosystem Studies in the Netherlands (IMARES).

► **In 2011, the average disposable household income in Bonaire was over \$19,000**, in Saba nearly \$21,000 and in St. Eustatius \$24,000. These are the latest figures available from Caribbean Netherlands Statistics. Incomes in Bonaire and Saba ranged from \$6,000 in the lowest income bracket to around \$53,000 in the highest income bracket. The gap

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Hasi bon, pasa bon!



was wider in Statia, where incomes varied between \$6,000 and over \$68,000.

► In a perhaps unrelated development the Board of Financial Supervision for Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba expressed its concern that the **2014 fiscal year for Statia will likely end with a deficit.**



► **A delegation from Bonaire, from both the private and public sector, traveled to Panamá City for meetings with COPA Airlines** in early February to propose a weekly flight to Bonaire from Panama. The delegation, led by Deputy Edsel Winklaar, also consisted Martien van der Valk for BCR; Charles Fox for BONHATA; Yasmin Perez, the TCB representative in South America; Candice Kimmel, the TCB representative in North America; and the Dutch Ambassador to Panama, Mr.

Wiebe J. de Boer. They presented a proposal for a weekly weekend COPA airlines flight, either Friday, Saturday or Sunday, for the winter season 2015/2016.

► **According to Insel Air, airlines and passengers are currently taxed and charged disproportionately by governments,** causing ticket prices to rise and consequently resulting in a decrease in air travel. Many countries, not ours, make a distinction between regional and international flights regarding taxes and charges. In some cases up to 70% less in fees is charged for regional flights, which leads to lower ticket prices for customers.

"For example," said Insel's Chief of International Affairs Edward Heerenveen, "passengers travelling from Aruba to Amsterdam pay \$34.25 in taxes for a nine-hour international flight and local passengers pay the same amount for a 25-minute regional flight from Aruba to Curaçao."

Another example affecting Bonaire travelers is that while it costs 183 guilders for a BON-CUR round trip ticket, a round trip by taxi between Hato Airport and Santa Barbara Beach Resort costs about 235 guilders (2 x \$65).

► **Arkefly will start flying another of its Boeing 787 Dreamliners on a route between Eindhoven and Curacao and Aruba in November.** Ticket sales for the flights will begin in March. It is the first time a Dutch regional airport will serve as an origin or destination on an intercontinental route.

► Effective March 2, 2015, the Venezuelan government announced that **all U.S. citizens planning to travel to Venezuela must possess a visa issued by Venezuelan authority.** InselAir also announced that U.S. citizens without the proper documentation are not accepted on InselAir's flights to Venezuela. There is a Venezuelan consulate on Bonaire.

► **WEB seems to be showing greater transparency in its reports of outages.** Their press office detailed the times, cause and details of the last three power failures.

► **On Wednesday, March 11, there will be an Island Council Candidates Forum -in Captain Don's Habitat** Conference Room 19.30 - 21.30 All languages -sponsored by UNKOBON consumers Union ■ L./G.D.

On The Island Since... June 1999 – Herma, Henk and Boy Roozendaal



Herma, Boy and Henk Roozendaal

“The first time we came here was early 1992 when I was pregnant with Boy,” Herma says. “Henk had been diving here in 1980. He’s the one who always wanted to live on a tropical island and he travelled the greater part of the world to see them and dive the oceans around them.” “When Herma got pregnant,” Henk says, “I searched for an island where we could raise a child. She loved Bonaire instantly and during that first week that we were here on vacation, we bought two pieces of land, then we went back to Holland.

I was the creative director of an advertising agency and Herma was the senior copywriter. By then we had been going steady for four years and we were living together as well. We couldn’t make a move before I sold the business, but we came here almost every year and at a certain moment we started building. We designed the house ourselves and all the communication about the construction was done by fax. In 1999 we took the definite step and moved to Bonaire.”

“In the beginning it was very hard for me,” Herma says. “Boy was seven years old and went to Papa Cornes elementary school where he was bullied to no end, and as a parent you feel awful, totally impotent.” “I loved everything about Bonaire,” Boy says. “We went to explore the kunkus, the caves and of course the sea. It was so beautiful! I loved the donkeys, the iguanas, the underwater world, the snorkeling and the windsurfing. But... what happened at school was out of everybody’s control. Nobody could do anything about it. In the morning the first thought that entered my mind would be,

‘Back to hell!’ and at the end of the morning when the buzzer went I felt: ‘Get out of here! Go!’ But during the last school year at Papa Cornes things went better and they stopped bullying me.

Then I went to high school and did VWO (pre-university secondary education). I had become a rebel. I was longing to be free. I had a hard time accepting rules, and I thought ‘I can do it myself, if only they’d let me be!’ After I graduated I wanted to take a year off and go to Holland and see

“...it’s not so much about depth, it’s the feeling of intense peace where you are one with the sea and yourself.”

what it was I might want to do. I had a strong romanticized idea about Dutch society. We’d go there once a year and I also had friends and girlfriends there so I was absolutely motivated. I wanted to go back, badly!

I was 18 when I left and I made a lot of bad choices in Holland. I just wasn’t ready for it. I realized there was so much I didn’t know about and at the same time I felt terribly homesick for Bonaire, the beautiful island I’d left behind... And so, at the end of the year I decided to come back.

I started at Wannadive as a dive master in training, then I worked for one year with them as a dive instructor. Good times! Then I had some health issues and decided to quit the job and on my last working day I met Carlos Coste in the parking lot. I’d taken

a free-dive clinic with him. Carlos, who is from Caracas, Venezuela, is a world class free-diver and record-holder. In October of 2003 he became the first human to achieve a Free Immersion of more than 100 meters (down and up on one single breath of air), certified by Guinness World Records. He really is an icon!

When I ran into Carlos he told me that he was looking for people because he wanted to start a school, so I began to work for him and he trained me. It took me

about a year. In the meantime I was assisting during the courses, I did snorkel trips with Carlos where we introduced people to free-diving and I did yoga. I learned to control my body, my breathing, my heart rate and my mindset. Free-diving is an inner journey; you are very conscious of your own thoughts and completely dependent on yourself, on that one, single breath of air. My record is 53.7 meters and for the moment I am satisfied. However, the reason I’m doing it are the fishes and the underwater world – to be a part of that in the most natural way – like a sort of fish – that’s my kick, my motivation. But I want to keep on challenging myself, not to let it become too easy. Recreationally I also like to expand my time under water – it’s not so much about depth, it’s the feeling of intense peace

where you are one with the sea and yourself.

When I’m lying still I can hold my breath for four minutes. Before I did the clinic, I had a black-out once- a bunch of tough kids trying to prove something to each other, ha! I’m not doing that anymore but I still like coming out of the blue and tap a diver on his shoulder!

I am 22 now and I have three jobs: I work with Caribe Watersports as a captain and a snorkel guide, I am a host at Wannadive and with Carlos I work as a free-dive instructor. I am one of the best snorkel guides on the island. I’m an experienced scuba dive instructor, I have an extensive knowledge of the underwater world, a click with people and there’s my connection with free-diving and my passion for the sea.

I’ve left the bad times behind me and I’m living in the present. To me, the island is one of the most beautiful places on earth and it is home.”

Herma adds, “We had a very rough start and I’ve done everything in my power to support him to pull through and he has done so well. To have a son who is a free-diver... there are no words to describe how proud I am of him! At first it’s a bit of a scary thought, but then one day we were snorkeling and he dove into this bait ball and all the little fishes went to the side and then the ball closed above Boy. It was so natural, he was part of it all and it was so controlled and serene and it showed me what he’s capable of. Boy is doing what he likes best and nothing makes me happier!

Bonaire can be so delightful! During the years we’ve lived here I’ve done a lot of gardening. We have almost three acres and every rock and plant you see I’ve put there myself. My life is about keeping Boy and Henk happy and taking care of the house, the garden, the cats and the birds. You know that Jerry Ligon stops here on his tour because we have such a variety. I just love nature. A couple of years ago I founded ‘Tuinieren op Bonre’ (Gardening on Bonaire) on Facebook and now we have almost 700 members. And following in our footsteps, Curacao started a similar page. A lot of people love gardening, but I would like to see more variety and specialization in plants, herbs and vegetables for sale. Nowadays I’m not doing much because we’re in a period of severe drought. It’s a pity and I am quite



Boy with his free-diving equipment

jealous of my Surinamese garden friends.

When we came here Henk had stopped working and he wanted to write. He’d written and published two books in Holland – The Hands of Cile Almarel – a visionary written warning to Muslim extremism (written in 1979) and Katoi, about an unusual love. The writing here in Bonaire somehow didn’t work out, but Henk has always been very ambitious and he’s multi-talented, so he started painting.” “I began in 2000,” Henk says, “and the satisfaction you get from painting is that you see the result immediately. Together with Guus Gerritsen we published a book called Portraits of Bonaire in 2002 and 2006 and somewhere in between I painted the mural on what used to be Cultimara - now Top Supermarket. It took me two years and it became a fad! Many people gave me the assignment to paint themselves and their family. At the moment I’m busy with two assignments and it takes me a long time, but thankfully there’s no pressure. That’s the reason why I came here; I didn’t want to wait until I was retired. I wanted to live in the tropics, where I could paint in my sarong in the garden. I found that freedom and I built up a career and I’m not going anywhere from here!”

“We are complete again,” Herma says. “We’ve got our own little family and we are extremely happy. When Boy came back from Holland – for his own reasons - it gave me the confirmation that we did the right thing by moving here and thus the circle is closed.” ■

Story & photos by Greta Kooistra



Word on the Street

Items not necessarily confirmed but are being discussed "on the street"

Word on the street is that **WEB** will temporarily move their offices to the new IBO building on Kaya Grecia (next to the RCN/former APNA building) during remodeling of their current headquarters. Plans are to renovate and update their offices. Several months ago, it was reported in local media that noxious odors permeated the building and employees were sent home. No word on whether the new digs will decrease the waiting lines to pay your bills.



- Inquiring minds want to know what's going on at the former Capriccio location on Kaya Isla Riba. The site, most recently occupied by **Krioyo Kitchen**, is completely boarded up and sounds of remodeling echo within.
- Rumor has it that there is a new owner of **Les Galleries shopping mall** in Playa (home to Sunbelt Realty, Subway and others). Word on the street is that the new owner is the same person who purchased the Golden Reef Inn and the strip mall in Hato (home to Between 2 Buns and Tasty Treat) a few years ago. Will there be other changes to Les Galleries?
- More closings. **Casa Portugues Restaurant** has closed. Bula had reported its opening in December of 2013. **Caribbean Fasteners** also looks to be history. The building is for sale with a local realtor and "clearance sale" signs dominate the windows. And **Goddard Catering**, the business that supplied food to the KLM planes landing on Bonaire enroute to Quito and Lima also shut down on March 1.. Not much business since those flights were cancelled.
- More openings. Local media reports that **Tiara Air will soon be flying again**, bringing back the flights between Aruba, Curacao and Bonaire. The company will soon announce when the flights will commence.
- **Zen's Bar and Cafe, owned by Michi Zhen, is now open.** Michi is serving breakfast and lunch six days a week and in the evenings you can enjoy delicious cocktails and snacks. Good to note that Zen's is open on Sundays when many of the other island eateries are closed, and they plan on serving special "Sunday soup" each week. Zen's is located at the Bonaire Shopping District at the Hato traffic circle. Closed on Wednesdays.
- Local social media comments are complaining that once again **the new Dutch regulations are ignoring Bonairean tradition.** Traditionally, local island council elections were always held on Friday so that winners could celebrate their victory late into the evening/early morning hours. This year, the election is on a Wednesday, restricting the duration of celebrations due to work obligations the next day. Can we expect a "sick day" epidemic on Thursday?! ■ *Bula Bonchi*



Picture Yourself With The Reporter Flying High

Bonaire Reporter regulars Joan and Alan Zale, who live in Hartsdale, NY and own a condo at Sand Dollar, were disappointed last year when they dropped to third place in the highest elevation *The Bonaire Reporter* has been taken to. Knowing that they had no plans to climb Mt. Everest, 29,029' (8,848 m), the highest place the paper has been taken to, they came up with another idea. In route to Bonaire for their 39th visit, when the Captain of United flight 1422 announced the plane was at its cruising altitude of 35,000 feet Joan and Alan pulled out a copy of *The Bonaire Reporter*, which they always carry when they travel.



They asked Sami Chase, a college student who was on her way to study marine biology at CIEE and sitting in front of them to take this photo. Joan, Alan and Sami have since become good friends and they credit *The Bonaire Reporter* for their new friendship. So it seems besides providing great local news and information on where to shop *The Bonaire Reporter* can also help you make new friends. ■

Divers Down

Lotte Hass, the pioneering woman diver known for beauty and bravery, died last week at 86. Often called the first lady of diving, Ms. Hass helped shatter the glass floor that had long kept women from the ocean's depths. She was a member of the Woman's Diving Hall of Fame. She and her husband, Hans Hass, were perhaps the first to dive and take underwater photos off Bonaire and Klein Bonaire before WW-II. Hans Hass passed away in 2013.



Lotte and Hans Haas circa 1940s

Eugenie Clark, known as The Shark Lady because of a best-selling book she wrote, whose childhood rapture with fish in a New York City aquarium led to a global reputation as a marine biologist and expert on sharks, died in late February at her home in Sarasota, Fla. She was 92. The cause was lung cancer. Dr. Clark rode a 40-foot whale shark off Baja California, ran into killer great white sharks while scuba diving in Hawaii, studied "sleeping" sharks in undersea caves off the Yucatán. She was a legend among Scuba divers.



Eugenie Clark

Dr. Clark was an ichthyologist and oceanographer whose academic credentials, teaching and research posts, scientific activities and honors filled a 20-page curriculum vitae. She continued to oppose commercial exploitation of endangered species and to counteract misconceptions, especially about sharks. ■ From *The New York Times*



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JUMP IN FEES

Dear Editor
A friend of mine recently had a nasty shock when he went to change his 'purpose of stay' here on Bonaire after successfully founding his own B.V. Last

year, to apply for residency on the basis of being a local business director, it would have cost him \$372. This year the fee has more than tripled, to \$1159! Looking at the online price list it seems my own residency renewal, which last year cost me \$247, will this year set me back \$882.

Of course we are all willing to pay a lot to live on this beautiful island, but a 250% increase overnight seems usurious.

Residents be aware!

- an Amboina resident.

A Dutch Worker Looks Back on Three Years on Bonaire

Interview with Leo Tigges, Liaison for the Ministry of Safety and Justice within the Dutch Caribbean. Leo has had his farewell party and will go back to Holland soon. This gives him opportunity to look back on the three years he has spent in Bonaire. He arrived May 2012 and leaves March 2015.

First impression of the island

He arrived alone with his cat; his wife would come later. For the cat it turned out to be a one-way ticket: she died here, as she was already very old. Leo says, "The first things I noticed were the heat, the wind and the high prices in the supermarkets. You get accustomed to it, you have to accept it, but the high prices are very sad for the population of Bonaire." He really got to love Bonaire's nature and this love inspired a new hobby: photography. Another hobby got less attention here: cooking. "It is often hard to find all the ingredients and it is very hot to cook here."

Work

He started at the RCN in the APNA building. Holland and the ministry felt far away. He realized for civil servants in Holland it was very hard to imagine how policy works here in the Dutch Caribbean. He was very busy explaining the situation and can look back on some results. "There is more attention given to the Dutch Caribbean," he says, "and fortunately the ministries are more focused on cooperation. Cooperation is very much needed, as in a small society like Bonaire you see immedi-

ately the implications if you don't: you waste money and you don't really help society. Working together has become a method to organize work and cooperation between ministries and Bonairean organizations. That really is a positive thing!"

His job is hard to describe. You might see it as a position of translator. If there is a development in Holland that could have

"...it is a shame that there are too few social possibilities for people coming out of prison. In Holland this is a municipal responsibility."

repercussions for the Dutch Caribbean you have to see if it is applicable here and/or if some adjustments have to be made. Especially the way to make it work in practice is very important. The subjects Leo paid special attention to are domestic violence, a fund for victims of violence, and he made sure that on Saba and Sint Eustatius there is a notary every other week. Leo explains, "It was very hard for people to arrange their notary business as there was no notary on those islands. Now someone comes from Sint Maarten, so people don't have to travel themselves. It seems like a very small success, but in fact it was hard work getting there."

That counts for almost anything: it costs a lot of time to consult people and convince them. The work was often very prac-

tical: for example how to control the license for weapons, what to do with and where to put goods that are confiscated (as there was no secured place). There is a place now and there is a procedure. In that way the work is very different from the work at a ministry in Holland. You are almost responsible yourself for practical solutions.

He got the opportunity to be a "proefboef," a fake criminal when the new prison cells had to be tested. He could share his cell with a friend and thought they were fine. Also the personnel turned out to be very professional. "In comparison to the rest of the Caribbean," he states, "the prison on Bonaire is very decent and you are treated in a correct way."

He feels it is a shame that there are too few social possibilities for people coming out of prison. In Holland this is a municipal responsibility, but the government here has to deal with a lot of issues and has not been able to give it full attention. It is a pity, as a lot of people come back to prison because of insufficient possibilities to get a home, work and to settle themselves.

Positive experiences

Leo got a close personal encounter with health care on the island. He got heart problems during a swim. He went to the hospital and they decided to bring him to Colombia by air ambulance. He was operated on and sent back after four days. He is under observation by the cardiologist and had physiotherapy afterwards. He is doing well now and is very satisfied. "I am espe-



Leo Tigges

cially grateful that they made the right decision to send me to Colombia immediately."

"It is a pity, he says, "that the physiotherapy nowadays is no longer part of the insurance for habitants of Bonaire."

He also sees and hears positive stories about the educational system. There is an improvement going on.

Leo is 66 and can retire if he wants to. But he is too active to be attracted to a life without work. He would really like to continue working, within Europe or in the Caribbean. He and his wife feel really sorry to leave and they have plans to come back to Bonaire at least twice a year. ■

Story & photo by Justine Verschoor






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Barracudas Sprint Championships



The 3rd "Bonaire Barracudas Club Sprint Championships" was a great success.

On 7 February the Bonaire Barracudas Aquatics Club held its third sprint championships. About 20 swimmers showed their talents in the various age groups and swimming disciplines. There were many prizes awarded in the, 8 years and under, 9-10 years, 11-12 years and 13 years and older age groups.

The event was again held at "Parke Rekreasjon Arthur" Tului "Domacasse," next to the old Kas di Art on the waterfront promenade. There's no pool there. Instead the swimming lanes are actually in the sea and used for the 25 and 50 meter sprints on backstroke, butterfly, breaststroke and front crawl. As a bonus, there was a relay of 50 meters front crawl.

New this time was that the club had a raft in the water which is a great staging spot for the swimming races. After the games and races everyone had a wonderful time socializing. ■ Press Release

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All About Spinning



Michelle Craig photo

A spin class at Bon Bida

Yes, you love hopping on your bicycle when it's nice outside, pedaling from one place to another and getting in some good exercise. Heat, potholes and traffic can be a problem, But the thought of sitting on a stationary bike and sweating for 55 minutes baffles you. What enjoyment could you possibly get out of that? Don't be so quick to turn your nose up at a Spinning/ indoor cycling class.

"Spin is a place to come and get motivated and get the endorphins flowing," says George DeSalvo, instructor at Bon Bida Spa and Gym. Plus, you can burn anywhere from 500 to 800-plus calories depending on your intensity and how long you're in the saddle. Still not convinced? Here are three reasons you should learn to love spin.

1. **You'll get the energy you need to give 100% the whole workout because of the music and the energy of your "spinnmates."** The music is motivating and good spin classes never seem to have a dull moment. "I came tired, and left alive," said one student. "Your instructor is giving 120% and that's contagious."
2. **You'll push yourself to the max, but no further.** Spin classes are for everyone from beginner to advanced levels of fitness. "We focus on metabolic intervals, light resistance to heavy resistance, so your legs burn and are challenged, but never feel too fatigued," says George. And interval training gets the heart rate up so you can burn more calories in less time.
3. **You'll leave feeling euphoric.** Choosing to ride doesn't mean giving up all other exercise and trading in the barbell for spin shoes. **But if you're healthy and injury-free, adding cycling into your workout regimen a few times a week can only advance your fitness.** And if you've decided that spin is the way you're going to get fit, then don't be scared to fully commit. No matter which method you choose, Spinning in any capacity is amazing for you. Interested? Call Bon Bida . It's at Bulevar Gob. N. Debrot 74 (across from Sand Dollar) Phone 717-7224 www.bonbida.com. A class costs \$10.

If class spinning isn't for you then spin at home. Top notch reconditioned spin bikes are for sale right on Bonaire. See the small ad on page 7. ■ G.D.

Super Sunglass Shop



BUENA VISTA OPTICS OPENS A SECOND SHOP

Just recently Buena Vista Optics, located at Kaya Grandi 32B, down the little alley in between Best Pearls and Gio's Ice Cream-Parlor, opened a second shop. This shop, Buena Vista Sun Optics, is located in the new South Pier Mall, along the Kaya C.E.B. Hellmund. This sun glass shop is run by **Lloyd Obispo** and **Giovanna Peluso**, both born on and proud of the island of Bonaire. This second shop specializes in only sun glasses.

Lloyd says, "I am proud of 'my' new shop. We sell Serengeti, Persol, Ray Ban, Maui Jim and Dolce & Gabbana. We do sunglasses and we are firmly connected with Buena Vista Optics down town Kralendijk." Then Giovanna takes over: "Do not forget the Donna Karan New York (DKNY), the Versace, Bulgari, Prada, Gior-

gio Armani, Arnette Burberry and Ralph Lauren brands. I am sure we have the largest collection in our whole island!"

Lloyd continues, "Tourists love this new shopping mall and they like our huge collection of sun glasses. It took the Bonaireans some time to find out. Some thought Buena Vista Optics moved from downtown Kralendijk to this mall. Others thought this mall and the shops are only for tourists, like a kind of free zone. Now they are getting to know better. This shop is for all people and Giovanna and I really like the shop and the job. All our customers are happy and friendly, they are surprised by the huge collection and the nice and spacey interior of the shop. Giovanna and I do our utmost best as we love people and like to serve our clients as best as possible. This is not just a job, it is also a hobby. And above all we get a salary for it!" ■ *Story & photo by Jan Brouwer*

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Bonaire's Onima Aloe Sails To Holland Aboard Tres Hombres

The brigantine *Tres Hombres* was back in town. She came in just during the carnaval and left on Monday, February 25, to continue her voyage to the Dominican Republic, then onward to Europe.

By now visitors and residents of Bonaire are familiar with the sight of this beautiful wooden sailing vessel lying in the clear blue waters just outside of Kralendijk. She recalls the days of pirates' past and represents a sustainable, visionary future ideal: from A to B, emission free.

This time she is transporting French wine and rum from the Canary Islands in her hold as well as cocoa beans from Grenada and the famous Grenada Chocolate Company chocolate bars. In Bonaire she loaded 100% pure organic Onima Aloe Vera gel and products in her specially-designed cold room, a room that stays between 16° and 20°C to guarantee product quality.

The ship sails to The Netherlands where she will be greeted with a festival in her honor, with carrier bikes, hybrid cars and even horse and carriage awaiting the products in her hold. These means of transport – true to the emission-free fair transport principle – have cycled, driven and clip-clopped the Grenadian cocoa beans to the Chocolate Makers' factory in Amsterdam Noord where they are burned, roasted and molded into scrumptious organic chocolate bars.

Her wine and rum will continue the journey back to their places of origin. As Lammert Ossinga, the return journey captain (Arjen van der Veen sailed her to Bonaire) explained: "At one point *Tres Hombres* was transporting two barrels of bio-dynamic French wine to New York. The ship was not allowed to unload at the docks so had to return home with the wine still in her hold. Amazingly enough, the wine in those two barrels was superior to the barrels left at home – the journey made the difference. The wine from



True to their motto, we are picked up to have a look aboard the *Tres Hombres* in emission-free style.



The container full with organic Aloe Vera gel loaded in the pick-up with the help of the ship's crew

these barrels sold at €150 a bottle! Today we regularly carry some barrels of this specific French bio-dynamic wine in our hold, just for the journey from great wine to outstanding wine. We will never take on too many barrels though, otherwise we can't load up on all the other wonderful Caribbean produce like rum, cocoa, coffee and now, Aloe Vera."

Captain Arjen van der Veen is no stranger to Bonaire as his father has lived on the island for many years and he has numerous friends on the island. A trip to Bonaire is much like coming home to him. This time he will stay on Bonaire a little longer with his girlfriend Lucy to enjoy the beauty and tranquility of the island. Then they'll fly back to London where she will give birth to their first child. "I am becoming a dad, finally," said a smiling Arjen, and added proudly: "a new

journey begins."

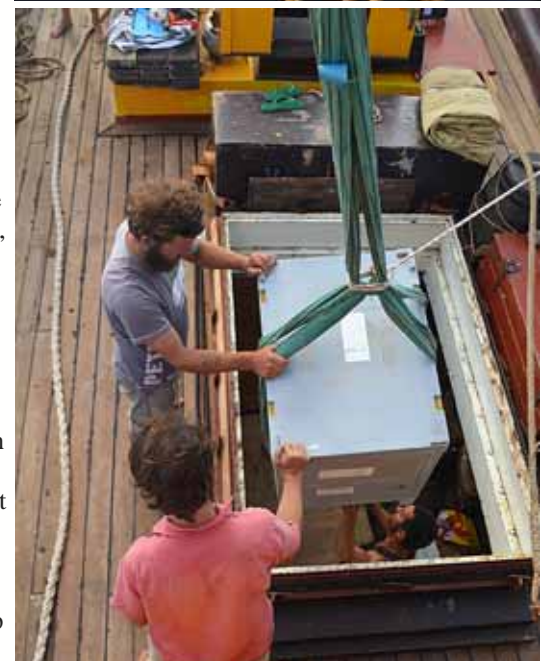
A visit to the boat saw many of the crewmembers and trainees busy on deck clearing out and cleaning gear, making space in the hold, cooking and picking up crewmembers and visitors with their now, engine-less dinghy. "The engine broke down, explained French first mate Rémi Lavergne, "so we have to use oars," and he laughed. "Fits the emission-free theme to a T."

On board crew-member Gerrit Dijkstra and Captain Ossinga dove into the hold which is filled with wine, rum and cocoa beans to make space for Onima's Aloe Vera container. The opening of the cold room needed to be adjusted for the container of gel to fit and they were busy measuring the space to ensure proper accommodation for the Aloe Vera. Her hold will be loaded full with rum and coffee beans by the time they

leave the Dominican Republic to sail back to Europe.

In The Netherlands the *Tres Hombres* and their Fair Transport Company have gained an admirable reputation over the years for a sustainable future with sailing freighters. Visionaries Arjen van der Veen, **Jorne Langelaan** and **Andreas Lackner** were dubbed slightly 'crazy' when they dreamed up their freighters under sail but today their 'idea' has taken flight with investors believing in their vision of emissions-free trade.

The birth of their shipping company Fair Transport sees *Tres Hombres* sailing the trans-Atlantic route to the Caribbean and back, whilst the 1873 British fishing trawler *Nordlys* is used to transport goods in European waters. These two ships are sailed with traditional rigging, but their focus is not on the past alone. Fair Transport is busy with their future too, drawing up plans of building the very first hybrid ship, the Eco liner, a Dynarig concept with a 19-meter long steel hull weighing three tons and using high-tech sails. The concept is daring but so was the birth of *Tres Hombres* and Fair Transport. Going on past performance, these captains sail into a bright future. ■



Here we go! ONIMA Aloe Vera is carefully loaded and *Tres Hombres*' journey begins

Story & photos by Sanny Ensing



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WALLS of ART

Many looked and saw only a falling down eyesore. Emily and Colin looked and saw a blank weary canvas that could evolve into a living work of art. They grabbed paint cans and brushes and started transforming the walls of the Esmeralda (an abandoned hotel project on the sea, south of town) into beautiful paintings.

Creativity and design are not new to Emily and Colin. Emily is a textile designer and Colin is a digital colorist in New York who has been coming to Bonaire since 1978. They visit the island each year and have fallen in love with its beauty and diverse culture and life. They started the "Walls of Art" to honor an island dog who is also depicted on a wall of the Esmeralda. They spend their time on the island snorkeling, swimming and soaking up the island sun....and of course, creating beauty on the walls of Esmeralda.

Emily and Colin hope that their work will inspire others to add even more artful beauty until the "Tired Old Esmeralda" emerges as a brilliant collection of "walls of art." With every stroke they were careful not to paint over existing artwork, graffiti, tags, etc. They respectfully ask that others who choose to add their own unique form of art to her crumbling walls also take care to preserve the existing art.

There is no end to the inspiration Emily and Colin find on Bonaire or the inanimate objects they find to transform into art. Their latest creative and artistic talents can be seen on a little Rav 4 auto that scoots around town and waits patiently at dive sites. The little auto is prettily adorned with ocean creatures as well as wildly colorful flowers. If you see this artsy auto driving around and you like it's colorful body then you will love the "Walls of Art" at Esmeralda.

So take some time, head on down south and turn in at the Esmeralda. You will surely have a smile on your face as you drive around to the sea side and get your first glimpse of the walls. The best time for viewing is just before sunset. Grab a beer or a glass of wine. Roam around her old walls and enjoy! ■ Story by Sandy; photos by the artists



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Awesome Walk-a-Thon

The 13th Annual Special Olympics Walk-A-Thon held on Sunday, March 8, was a winner. Nearly 800 tickets were sold to participants of all ages who walked, jogged or biked. Some started at the Slave Huts at 5am, others started at the Stadium or Bon Bida. Ten stands along the way were manned by volunteers who offered fruit, pan dushi, drinks and lots of encouragement. They all ended up at the Pasa Dia in Rincon where they received a certificate and a tasty breakfast. Everyone was given the gift of the most beautiful day, cool breezes, and cloudless skies.

The annual event is one of the major fund raisers for the Bonaire Special Olympics team which will participate in the Special Olympics in Los Angeles in July. It commemorates the weekly trek of the salt slaves who walked the 30 km. between the salt pans and their families who lived in Rincon.

Special Olympics Bonaire is affiliated with the international Special Olympics organization dedicated to empowering individuals with intellectual disabilities to become physically fit, productive and respected members of society through sports training and competition. ■

Story & photos by Laura DeSalvo



First to finish, Nazario Alberto



Walk-A Thon founder Elizabeth Wigney (left) walked with friends for the event



Special Olympics Bonaire volunteers and athletes—(right to left): Sylvio Semeleer (Head Coach); Pamela Beukenboom (PR); Earon Rosaria (Coach Athletics); William Piar (Coach Swimming); Dayanara Martis (Treasurer/Chamberlain); Arvienna Vis (Coach Track and Field); Lucille Pikerie (Bocce Athlete); Arlene Marselia-Engelhart (SOB National Director); Dennis Reina (Bocce Athlete); Elmar Marselia (board Member)



At the end of the trek participants get their certificates at Pasa Dia in Rincon.

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My Little Shop

On Bonaire there are still some tiny little shops, tokos, to be found in the neighborhoods. They struggle to survive. In order to get the story behind those shops our reporter visits them. If you don't want those shops to disappear, support them by visiting them and buy something. Every dollar counts for them.

Let's keep them going. They represent Bonairean history

BONAIRE MOBILE CARWASH

At Kaya Rebecca #9 you see two yellow minibuses on the property with the sign: "If it's dirty we can wash it." You only see them in the evening, because during the day they are to be found all over the island cleaning anything dirty. To get there you go from Kaya Korona in the direction of Lagoon. Passing by a yoga center on the left hand side you turn left. The green house you see on the left side is the place where the owner and his family, including his grandmother, live.

WHO OWNS THIS PLACE?

Egbert (Wimpy) Saragoza is the owner of Bonaire Mobile Carwash. As a boy he was already cleaning cars and in 2006 he started to do this as a business. As he had experienced the time-consuming process of people having to drop off their car and later coming back to get it, he thought

of a very creative concept: the owner of the car did not have to go through the trouble of dropping off and collecting the car. He designed a minivan that would be able to bring all the materials to wash a car on site. He was convinced that this would be a success and started out to get the necessary license from the government.

Unfortunately the government was not very enthusiastic about his plan. He did not get the license he wanted because they thought that his washing would endanger the environment: the soap would pollute the ground. Wimpy was very disappointed, but also persistent in trying to realize his idea. He continued his business at his own spot at Kaya Rebecca but kept talking and networking with people in order to make his dream come true. He even went on the radio to tell how the government made it impossible for him to do his business.

Some years later he met a man named Tobi who imported environmentally-friendly soap. He helped Wimpy to convince the government that their soap was safe for the environment and even got test results from Holland. In 2010, four years after his first attempt, Wimpy got the license to operate his mobile carwash. The next problem to be solved was to finance a minibus. The bank would not lend him any money. Fortunately his grandmother helped

him. She was the one who raised him and believed in him. He installed the minibus with all the equipment needed to clean anything dirty and started to be mobile. This was a great success. Now he has two busses and he offers work to a lot of youngsters who work together, especially on Saturdays, the busiest day of the week. In this way he wants to contribute to the society, to make young people work instead of hanging around or turning to criminal activities.

WHAT SERVICES ARE GIVEN?

Wimpy cleans anything on the spot. He cleans not only cars but also big objects like boats. He even cleaned the clubhouse of the golf course. When I came to his spot he was busy cleaning a car that was used during Karneval that was very dirty on the outside as well as the inside. He and his colleague made sure it looked like new.

WHERE DO THE CUSTOMERS COME FROM?

Customers come from all over Bonaire. His company cleans private cars and objects but also has contracts with big companies like Selibon and rental car companies. Tourists and locals come to him to get things cleaned and he has a good name. He does anything to get the job done as it should be and

Bonaire Mobile Carwash



Wimpy his workers and his mobile business truck

within a reasonable amount of time. People who are at their working place call him so he can clean their car during working hours and they can take a clean car home. He also got involved in a cleaning job for a big company where oil had leaked and an inspection was due. He worked on this job with 15 people, day and night, and managed to get it done a week before the inspection. They had a lot of fun, as they did a job no one else on Bonaire dared to take.

HOW TO SURVIVE?

Wimpy has a lot of work and is very glad he can help to give work and possibilities to others who need it. He is one of the few successful Bonairean businessmen and wonders why it is made so difficult by the government to

accept good ideas from Bonairean citizens. It looks like there is no stimulation for their own population to create businesses and all the opportunities are given or sold to foreign people. To him it feels like there is no support, even a lack of interest to help people who want to start and make their own money. At this moment he can get another contract from a rental car company, but he can only accept the contract if he has some space to bring the cars for a wash. To get this space near the airport is essential for him to be able to expand.

THE FUTURE, HOPES AND WISHES

Wimpy cleans a lot of rental cars and wants to have a piece of land to do this near the airport. He al-

(Continued on page 13)

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A Garden? Just Do It!

ROOT VEGETABLES

Not so long ago I was really surprised to see so many different root vegetables (“ground food”) in the supermarkets -all good stuff to bring variety in our meals. But I tell you what, I had most of them already in my yard. All these root vegetables are tropical plants which can grow easily on Bonaire. I’ve tried some of them already and got a lot of nice stuff. In the old days it was quite normal to have some of these roots somewhere in your yard. Nowadays it seems as though only the supermarkets know where to find them. But be smart and find them in your own backyard, not just in the supermarkets.

I’m talking about yucca (also known as cassava or tapioca), white and yellow sweet potatoes, yams, Chinese tayer and pom tayer.

The sweet potato is the most well known one on Bonaire. The plant looks similar to the potato plant. It winds on the ground and the roots become potatoes. To plant it you need a potato. Put an old sweet potato in the soil. After a while the potato gets roots which become the new potatoes in the soil while the plant grows on the soil. Once the plant gets established it only needs water a few times a week. After about 10 months push away some



Chinese tayer (Bonaire name)



Sweet potato

dirt to see whether the roots are good enough to harvest. Try one if you’re not sure.

Plant the Chinese tayer and the pom tayer in the same way. Put an

old root in the soil or plant it in a big crate or half cut barrel. Protect them from rats and mice who love the roots.

Yams, Chinese tayer and pom tayer look about the same. They look like the tayerblad (photo in the Feb.16 Reporter.) They are family. But you eat the leaves from the tayerblad, you eat the roots of the others. That’s why in the Caribbean they call them “ground food.” Its healthy stuff, full of vitamins and plant protein, good food for sick babies, sick and old people, hard-working folks, those who do heavy sports. Yes, healthy for everyone and easy to cook.

The pom tayer has big leaves and big roots too. Surinam people make their delicious popular “pom” with the roots-a brew of grated roots mixed with broiled chicken, tomatoes, onion, celery, some herbs and spices in a pan in the oven.

With the other roots one can make soup, or boil or fry them like fried potatoes. Also just boiled you can eat them with a nice salad, salad dressing and a nice spiced stew piece of meat. Well known in the Caribbean is salt fish with root vegetables. Google for more information and lots of recipes.

The cassava is a very big root too and can be prepared in many different ways. It grows differently from the other plants. It grows as a stick above the soil with nice

leaves like a hand. The roots become the big cassavas. I have them in my yard and enjoy the roots often in all kinds of soups, boiled and fried with fish and meat and as a vegetarian food.

To plant the stem, not the root like the other plants. The stem is the important part.



Cassava (also called Yucca or Tapioca)

Cut the stem into 20 cm. parts. Put about half of the stem into the soil. Water them a few times a week. After a few days you notice new leaves coming up. Iguanas don’t like them but they pull the stems out of the soil and the plant dies. After about nine months push away some dirt. If you see some big roots it’s time to pull the whole plant out and cut the roots for your food. Then cut the stem into pieces and plant again. Don’t put the stem in water; it will die immediately. It won’t die if it lies a few days just like that. It’s a strong plant which doesn’t need much water and which grows easily in all kinds of dirt.

So once you have all of this in your yard you don’t need to visit the supermarket so often anymore.

These “ground foods” are all in one. They fill your belly, they taste great, they are healthy, and they are for every age. Just do it!



Story & photos by Angliet, Nature Lover

My Little Shop (Continued from page 12) ready went to the government to get a permit, but there is little co-operation from them. He was offered a piece of land that was too far away from the airport, but this would block his concept - working on the spot- and would involve moving the cars to and fro. But, as he has proven since 2006, Wimpy won’t take no for an answer and he will persist in doing anything he can to get his piece of land and be able to do his business and even expand it. He hopes to keep having a lot of “pret” (fun) with his co-workers; they have a big laugh every day and have a good and positive working atmosphere.

Story & photos by Justine Verschoor



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nity pool Cable and internet installed
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Bonaire-Sun Rise/Set, Moon Phase and Tides

Day	High	Low	High	Low	High	Sunrise	Sunset
Mon 09	04:17 0.51 ft	12:02 0.03 ft	16:55 0.27 ft	22:38 0.09 ft		6:46	18:45
Tue 10	04:48 0.59 ft	12:48 -0.03 ft	17:38 0.24 ft	23:01 0.07 ft		6:46	18:45
Wed 11	05:20 0.67 ft	13:28 -0.08 ft	18:16 0.21 ft	23:30 0.04 ft		6:45	18:46
Thu 12	05:56 0.74 ft	14:06 -0.12 ft	18:51 0.20 ft			6:45	18:46
Fri 13	L Quarter	00:06 0.01 ft	06:34 0.81 ft	14:44 -0.15 ft	19:26 0.20 ft	6:44	18:46
Sat 14		00:47 -0.02 ft	07:15 0.85 ft	15:22 -0.16 ft	20:05 0.22 ft	6:43	18:46
Sun 15		01:35 -0.05 ft	07:59 0.86 ft	16:01 -0.17 ft	20:49 0.25 ft	6:43	18:46
Mon 16		02:29 -0.05 ft	08:46 0.84 ft	16:41 -0.17 ft	21:38 0.30 ft	6:42	18:46
Tue 17		03:30 -0.04 ft	09:37 0.78 ft	17:24 -0.16 ft	22:34 0.37 ft	6:41	18:46
Wed 18		04:41 -0.03 ft	10:34 0.70 ft	18:08 -0.14 ft	23:33 0.45 ft	6:41	18:46
Thu 19		06:02 -0.02 ft	11:37 0.60 ft	18:55 -0.12 ft		6:40	18:46
Fri 20	00:35 0.54 ft	07:30 -0.04 ft	12:49 0.50 ft	19:45 -0.09 ft	New Moon	6:39	18:46
Sat 21	01:37 0.64 ft	08:58 -0.08 ft	14:08 0.41 ft	20:38 -0.07 ft		6:39	18:46
Sun 22	02:37 0.73 ft	10:17 -0.15 ft	15:26 0.36 ft	21:32 -0.04 ft		6:38	18:46
Mon 23	03:34 0.80 ft	11:25 -0.23 ft	16:37 0.34 ft	22:26 -0.03 ft		6:38	18:46
Tue 24	04:28 0.86 ft	12:25 -0.28 ft	17:41 0.33 ft	23:20 -0.01 ft		6:37	18:46
Wed 25	05:20 0.88 ft	13:19 -0.30 ft	18:37 0.33 ft			6:36	18:46
Thu 26		00:11 -0.00 ft	06:10 0.88 ft	14:08 -0.30 ft	19:28 0.33 ft	6:36	18:46
Fri 27		01:01 0.01 ft	06:57 0.84 ft	14:54 -0.27 ft	20:15 0.33 ft	6:35	18:46
Sat 28		01:49 0.03 ft	07:43 0.79 ft	15:38 -0.22 ft	21:00 0.33 ft	6:34	18:46



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Happy Birthday to Yuchi Molina who
has been the "angel" who has been delivering
The Bonaire Reporter to Rincon for years and
years.

Her birthday is March 7.

We hope you had a Happy Day and have a
Happy Year, Yuchi, and may you have many,
many more. We love you!

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Free listing in this directory for regular Reporter advertisers

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.

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. The office is the historic building at Kaya Grandi 48.

BARS

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

BEAUTY

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

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.**

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

BHM Bonaire Hydro-test & Maintenance offers repair of Scuba Equipment, dive tank hydro testing pressure tests with computerized accuracy. Pickup and delivery too.

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, Dushi Shoes on Kaya Grandi, open now.

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

VanEps Property Management B.V./Bonaire Second Home Care can handle all the needs of second home owners on Bonaire including inspection, management and cleaning.

HEALTH CARE

Best Care Logistics provides everything necessary for people who are disabled or sick, including prostheses, dietary supplements, furnishings, mobility equipment, diabetes aids, hospital beds, oxygen therapy, optical & hearing aids, contraceptives, home aids, communication, and more

Nature's Discount has a complete selection of vitamins, supplements, herbs, sports nutrition, body care and natural foods.

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Best Cellars has one of the island's widest selection of spirits including "hard-to-find" brands. In addition there is an exceptional assortment of wines, tobacco products and everything needed for a great party.

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Bonaire's creative above or underwater 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. **NEW**— Drone photography

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

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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. Its Zazu Bar is a very popular hangout for divers too.



Bobbejans— Bonaire's quintessential "rib joint" not only has some of the best ribs but tasty extras like Gado-Gado, pork chops and fries. Open Friday night and weekends only.

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.



La Balandra

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

Dushi Shoes & Dive Friends Shops – featuring Clarks, Guess, DC Shoes, Reefs – as well as Tee Shirts for men and women.

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

Penny Lane is Bonaire's first upscale consignment store. Buy fashionable, top brand clothing, high quality toys and more for a fraction of their original price.



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.



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

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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)

WHAT'S HAPPENING

REGULAR EVENTS

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

Parke di Libertat -Park-playground and canteen (formerly Dare to Care Park) Behind the hospital. Open Monday -Saturday 8am-7pm. Free entry.

Saturdays

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

• **Monthly Cultural Market at Mangazina di Rei—Last Saturday of the month**, 8am-2pm. See the real Bonaire: traditional music, crafts, local produce, Creole kitchen, educational presentations. Mangazina di Rei is on the Rincon Road, at the eastern entrance to Rincon

• **Last Saturday of the month** – donate foods and household items to Food Bank (*Stichting voedselbank Bonaire*) from 9:30am-2pm in front of Van den Tweel Supermarket

• **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. +5999-560-7539.*) Snacks and tasting of six wines for \$10 per person.

• **Petanque- Jeu de Boules**, 2:30-6 pm, Landhuis DE TUIN on the road to Lac Bai. Info: 786-0150

Sundays

• **Landhuis DeTuin- Real Jamaican BBQ on the terrace** of the land house in the quiet countryside. Jerk Chicken, BBQ Chicken, Seafood Curry, Veggie Dish, Child's plate, Bread Pudding. On the road to Lac Bai – Kaminda Lac #101. Follow the signs, 12 noon to 6 pm. Tel. +599-786-6816, +599-701-1982. A Forsa training school.

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

Mondays

• **Bonaire Goat Cheese Farm Tour—9 am**. Meet the goats, see milking, cheese making and more. **\$10 includes cheese tasting and tea, Kids \$5.** 786-6950- Also on Wednesdays & Fridays.

• **Happy Hour at Captain Don's Habitat Bar**. The books of Bonaire's dive pioneer, Captain Don, will be available: Island Adrift, Shangri-la, Sea Trauma and the newest book Reef Windows. 5:30-7pm. Tel. 717-8290.

• **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 **every Monday when she's on-island** at 8 pm in the Aquarius Conference Center at Captain Don's Habitat, Call Habitat at 717-8290 or Dee at 717-8529 .

Wednesdays

• **Bonaire Goat Cheese Farm Tour—9am**. See Monday for more information.

• **Divers' Night at Zazu Bar at Bistro de**

Cruise Ship Schedule

DAY	DATE	NAME	CAPACITY	CRUISE LINE
Tuesday	10-03-15	Ventura	3080	P&O Cruises
Wednesday	11-03-15	Carnival Sunshine	3360	TBA
Friday	13-03-15	Legend of the Seas	2435	RCCL
Sunday	15-03-15	Royal Princess	3600	Princess
Monday	16-03-15	Mein Schiff 1	2114	TUI CRUISE
Tuesday	17-03-15	Thompson Celebration	1150	Thompson CL
Friday	20-03-15	Seven Seas Navigator	490	
Sunday	22-03-15	Maasdam	1258	HAL
Monday	23-03-15	Carnival Pride	2124	TBA
Monday	23-03-15	Artania	1200	Phoenix Cruises
Wednesday	25-03-15	Noordam	1920	HAL

Paris Restaurant at Harbour Village Marina. Free house rum when you buy a coke.

• **Echo Parrot (Lora) Foundation** tours at the Dos Pos Conservation Centre. Get an insight into Echo's work and their efforts to protect this endangered species. Book your private tour for \$30 per person (minimum of 2) through Flow: info@flowbonaire.com Phone +599 788 4636. Or come to the weekly tour on Wednesday 4.30 pm. Meet at the Dos Pos windmill and bring good shoes as it is 'off road'. We invite you to enjoy Bonaire's nature!

• **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)

Fridays

• **Bonaire Goat Cheese Farm Tour—9am**. See Monday for more information

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

Chichi i Tan Museum. Step into the past—a typical old Bonairean home, furnishings and garden. **Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays, Sundays.** 10am-3pm. **1st Sunday of month**, live performances of local musicians, arts & crafts. Free but donations appreciated. **Kaya Melon #4, behind Rose Inn in Rincon. 786-6420/78-7842**

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. 717-4200or788-2819 or peejeese@gmail.com

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. Debrot. Sunday 9am-Worship service in English; 10:45am-Sunday school for all ages. Tuesday 7:00 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, 717-8332.

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 .

CLOSE-IN EVENTS

Monday evenings March 9th, 16th and 23rd Free Seminars On Reef Fish Identification at CIEE by visiting REEF expert fish id'er Kim White. Start: 6:30-7pm, at CIEE, Kaya Gob. Debrot 26. All welcome. It's still free.

Wednesday, March 11 - Candidates Forum -in Captain Don's Habitat Conference Room 19.30 - 21.30 All languages - sponsored by UNKOBON

Sunday March 15— Playhouse Bonaire Acting Group at Jong Bonaire

Ages 7-11 Class from 2pm – 3:30pm

Ages 12–21 Class from 3:30pm – 5pm

Children and young adult acting workshop for stage & screen. Classes are held in English with an understanding for Dutch and Papiamentu. Per Class \$15.-

Teacher Sasha Van Duyn- Actress, Dancer and Choreographer. To sign up please call 780 9195 or e-mail sashanita@hotmail.com

Tuesday, March 17—St. Patrick's Day Celebration, at Zazu Bar with Guinness, Mulligan Stew, more -5-10pm.

Wednesday, March 18—Island Council Elections– Get Out And Vote! See page 2

Friday and Saturday, March 20, 21– Bon Doet– Bonaire's annual "Give back to the community day." More on page 3

Friday, March 20—First Day of Spring- Night and day hours equal.

Sunday, March 29—37th Contest di Fli (Kite Contest). Fabulous, innovative, crazy kites, 8am-6pm Veld di Baka (sport field behind Kooijman's) Contestants from Bonaire and Curacao. Food and drinks – Sign up at the Flamingo Book Store on Kaya Grandi.

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: 10:30am & 7pm; Wednesday: 7pm. Services in Papiamentu (English also if needed) Address: Kaya Msgr. Nwndt .25 (same street as Dr. Dorvil) Cell: 796-0721. email: iglesiadicristobonaire@gmail.com■



THE STARS HAVE IT

By Astrologer Michael Thiessen

March 2015

ARIES (Mar. 21- April 20) Your moneymaking opportunities will flourish. Your talents might just be discovered. You might find that coworkers will support your endeavors. You can change your living arrangements. Your luckiest events will occur on a Thursday.

TAURUS (Apr. 21- May 21) Don't get involved in idle chatter that will hurt your position. In return, the satisfaction you get is enough for you. You can make new friends and get involved in new hobbies successfully. Uncertainties regarding relatives will make situations uncomfortable if you attend a family function. Your luckiest events will occur on a Tuesday.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21) You will have difficulties spreading yourself between your work and your home. You will communicate with ease this month. Your childlike quality may get you into big trouble this month if you neglect your responsibilities. Money problems will get worse if your partner hasn't been playing by the rules. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Saturday.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) Don't let friends or relatives rule your life. Don't be too eager to give a piece of your mind or even your opinion this month. You've been hurt before and could be again if you don't play hard to get. Residential moves will be hectic and may be unsatisfactory. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Monday.

LEO (July 23-Aug 22) You can win points if you present your ideas this month. You will need to spend extra time sorting through your work. You can make new friends by taking part in social events involving colleagues. Put your energy into your work or moneymaking ventures rather than into your emotional life this month. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Thursday.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) You can make gains if you look at long-term investments. This is not the time to lend or borrow money or possessions. Catch up on overdue phone calls and correspondence. Your efforts will be rewarded handsomely. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Tuesday.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) Make the

necessary changes that will enable you to advance financially. Disharmony in your relationship may cause minor ailments. If you are not already, think about going into business for yourself. Don't get into heated discussions. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Wednesday.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) You can make new friends who could turn into intimate connections if you join clubs or take creative courses. Changes in your home will be positive. Property investments should payoff. You will find that social activities will lead you into passionate meetings. Tie up your personal papers or push to have legal settlements completed. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Thursday.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) New romantic relationships will develop through group activity related to sports events. You may want to have a heart-to-heart talk with a close and trusted friend. You will be erratic and quite likely to make personal mistakes. Take time to find out if anyone has a better suggestion before you make arrangements for the whole family. Your luckiest events will occur on a Saturday.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) Try not to hurt your partner's feelings. Travel should open doors that lead to exciting new adventures. There's a good chance that they won't come back. Don't bother complaining, do the work yourself. Your luckiest events will occur on a Tuesday.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) Overexertion and negligence will be your worst enemies. Avoid arguments with relatives who might be conservative and outdated. Your attitude is changing rapidly and your plate is overloaded. Try not to let your emotions interfere with the completion of your work. Your luckiest events will occur on a Thursday.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) Double check your work and be sure that your boss is in a good mood before you do your presentation. Travel will be fun and entertaining. Your outgoing, aggressive nature will attract someone you've been eager to meet. Unstable relationships are likely. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Tuesday.



BONAIRE SKY PARK*

*to find it... just look up

SEEING DOUBLE THIS WINTER: TWIN STARS AND PLANETS

When you think of the Sky Park winter sky, you might think about seeing **Orion's Belt** or the scorchingly bright dog star, **Sirius**. But in this week's edition we'll take a closer look at the **Gemini Twins**, the easily recognized winter constellation with two bright stars named **Castor** and **Pollux** plus the two brightest planets will put on a display in the evening sky. Those are **Venus** and **Jupiter**.

During this week face west when it's totally dark. You will see the first of two exceptionally bright planets. That dazzlingly bright light is actually the planet Venus. Some people call it the evening star since you can see it just after sunset. And if you're a keen observer you may see **Mars** below Venus too.

Dean: To see the other big, bright planet, and the twin stars of Castor and Pollux you'll have to turn around to face southeast and you'll see the king of the planets, giant **Jupiter**. Jupiter is hardly Venus' twin, but right now both planets are very bright. In the Sky park Jupiter is a gas giant planet 88,000 miles in diameter while Venus is a rocky planet a little less than 8,000 miles in diameter. Jupiter has 67 moons. Venus has none. Zip. Zero. Jupiter is all clouds and features the great red spot, a humongous hurricane-like storm so large you could fit a few Venus' inside it.

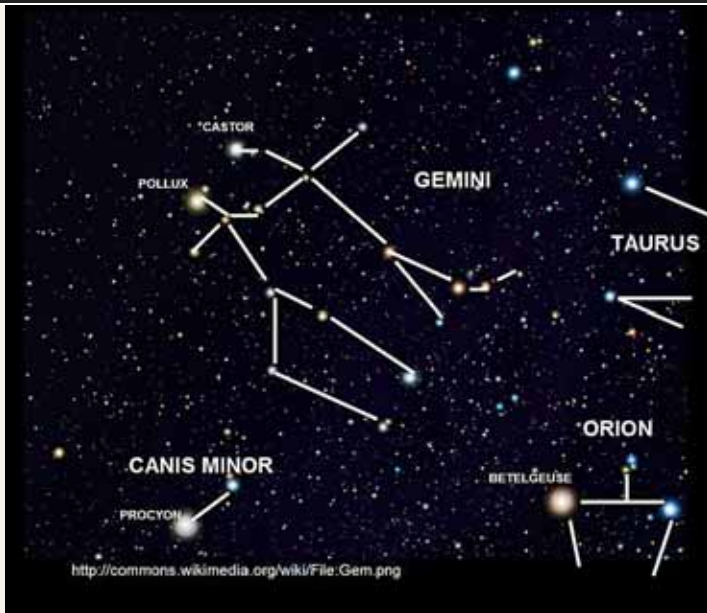
Venus is covered in clouds that trap in heat like a greenhouse. In fact, Venus has the hottest surface temperature of any planet. It's 900 degrees Fahrenheit all day, every day, on pretty much the entire planet. Venus is about 128 million miles away while Jupiter is a whopping 412 million miles away. Even though it's so

much farther, Jupiter's size makes it so bright for us on **Earth**.

Now to the real twins - at least, mythologically speaking. The two bright stars marking the heads of the Gemini twins are high in the eastern sky above Jupiter. They're named Pollux and Castor.

The constellation of Gemini is tough to picture without a strong imagination. Especially since at this time of year they're standing sideways in the sky. The two main stars, Pollux and Castor, may look to be similar but they're not. Pollux is the larger and brighter of the two stars. It's about nine times wider than our **Sun** and 43 times brighter. And back in 2006 astronomers found a planet orbiting Pollux. Castor is 2.3 times the diameter of our Sun and about 30 times brighter. It's white in color and way hotter than Pollux. If you could visit Castor, you'd be able to see that it's not just one star but a system of six stars revolving around each other.

So after dark this week, look for the two brightest planets - Venus in the western sky, and Jupiter in the eastern sky... and the twin head-stars of Gemini, Pollux and Castor high up in the east. Neither the two planets, nor the two stars are really twins. But you still may "See double" this month. ■ *Dean Regas & James Albury*





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Pets of the Week



Laura DeSalvo photo

Let us introduce you to our Pets of the Week: handsome brindle dogs Lenny (at right) and Quint (left). They're shown here with new Shelter Manager Nathalie Peterson.

Lenny: is a loving, playful and energetic eight-month young male. Lenny is a bit of a clown. He loves to sit for treats and is playful and fun. He's willing to learn, has a good attitude and is good with other dogs.

Quint: is a friendly, smart, loving young male, about a year and a half old. He is easy going and easy to train. When he arrived at the Shelter he was very

skinny and undernourished, but with the love and care he got there he's developed into a healthy, filled-out dog. And he's good with other dogs and people as well.

They are both looking for a strong, dedicated new owner who can give them lots of attention and love. If you're looking for a great companion and are interested in adopting Lenny or Quint or even both of them, please visit the Animal Shelter, on the Lagoen Road or call for more information 717-4989. The Shelter is open Monday through Saturday, 9am-1pm and 3 to 5pm. They're on Facebook too. ■ Nathalie Petersen/L.D.

Trap-Neuter-Return



Shelter photo

Animal Shelter Bonaire's newest campaign: Trap-Neuter-Return for feral cats

WHAT IS TRAP-NEUTER-RETURN?

Trap-Neuter-Return is the humane and effective approach for stray and feral cats. Trap-Neuter-Return improves the lives of feral cats, improves their relationships with the people who live near them, and decreases the size of colonies over time. If left alone, these cats keep reproducing and can become a nuisance, prompting well-meaning people to call for help to remove them. However, when those cats are removed, new cats simply move in to take over the territory. Therefore returning the neutered cats to the colony area serves an additional purpose and reduces the amount of feral cats in the area.

TNR is exactly what it sounds like: Cats are humanely trapped and taken to a veterinarian to be neutered. After recovery, the cats are returned to their home—their colony—outdoors. It stops the breeding cycle of cats and therefore improves their lives while preventing reproduction.

Therefore it's a life-saving and effective solution for these beautiful, independent cats.

If you have stray or feral cats in your surrounding area call the Animal Shelter Bonaire for an appointment to Trap-Neuter-Return these cats or just call (717-4989) for more information on this campaign. ■ Nathalie Petersen

THE *STORMVOGEL* IS COMING TO BONAIRE. WILL YOU BE THERE TO GREET HER?

HAVE YOU SEEN ME?
DO YOU KNOW MY NAME?



FREE SEMINARS ON REEF FISH IDENTIFICATION

Monday evenings March 9th, 16th and 23rd at C.I.E.E. 6:30-7:00 pm

Introduction to REEF (Reef Environmental Education Foundation), basic fish id techniques, tools and terminology 7:00- 8:30 pm

March 9 Second 50 fish (novice level 3, part 1)

March 16 Third 50 fish (novice level 3, part 2)

March 23 Special Bonaire fish

That's a lot of fish (FREE)! Sessions are led by visiting REEF expert fish id'er Kim White and are for anyone who wants to understand more about what they are seeing when diving and snorkeling, or anyone who just wants to look at some nice underwater pictures and video clips. Attend any or all sessions to learn what's really going on underwater; it will enrich your diving experience.

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For such a small island in the southern Caribbean Bonaire has played host to some of the most important and gifted musicians in the world. And it's thanks to the outreaching of the members of the Classical Music Board Bonaire. Just recently a memorable and thrilling concert was given in the venerable Chapel Mariadal by two award-winning artists. Swiss-Venezuelan violinist **Simon Gollo** has performed in prestigious concert halls in Europe and North America. **Pianist Armand Simon** has performed all over the world, performed for then Queen Beatrix. He is the artistic director of the International Aruba Piano Festival.

Together the artists brought the music from the piano and the violin to a high crescendo—Mozart, Dvorak, Grieg— and lifted our spirits and hearts up into the rafters of the petite chapel. It was breathtaking and unforgettable.

We on the island are so fortunate to have the opportunity to hear these marvelous artists, in such an intimate venue and for such a low admission price. The next concert will be on May 23, details to be announced. Check their website: WWW.ClassicalMusicBoardBonaire. ■ *Laura DeSalvo*



CMBB photo

Armand Simon and Simon Gollo

DID YOU KNOW?

That reef manta rays often venture far away from their home reefs to feed, sometimes traveling for hundreds of kilometers! These gentle marine fish, closely related to spotted eagle rays commonly seen in Bonaire, feed on plankton that can be hard to find on near-shore reefs.

Recently, researchers on the Great Barrier Reef in Australia tagged manta rays and tracked their movement using satellite systems. The resulting study showed that these manta rays travel vast distances (one individual travelled 2441 km in 118 days) to find more abundant food sources. One spot that the manta rays frequented was the Capricorn Eddy, an offshore nutrient hotspot that is home to large amounts of the plankton that manta rays eat.

Amazingly, the manta rays were able to successfully locate this far-from-home food source, and are able to consistently make the journey. Unlike many reef animals that are essentially confined to the reef, it is clear that reef manta rays have are ready and willing to travel as far as necessary to find the most plentiful food. ■

Graham Stewart Photo : Shane Johnston

Graham Stewart is a biology major from Vassar College in Connecticut. He is studying on Bonaire for the Fall semester at the CIEE Research Station.

References: Jaine FRA, Rohner CA, Weeks SJ, Couturier LIE, Bennett MB, Townsend KA, Richardson AJ (2014) Movement and habitat use of reef manta rays off eastern Australia: offshore excursions, deep diving, and eddy affinity revealed by satellite telemetry. *Mar Ecol Prog Ser* 510: 73-86



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