

**It's Still  
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**BONAIRE** Aug.31-Sept. 14, 2015, Year 22, Issue 15  
**The REPORTER**  
**BES Island News Too**

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**Nesting season 2015 so far:  
23 sea turtle nests on Klein  
Bonaire and 8 on Bonaire.**

**Turtle Nesting Season**  
**Page 10**

Casper Douma photo



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# Flotsam and Jetsam

## BOINAIRE The REPORTER



**O**n the 19th of September 2015 Selibon N.V. will organize an event called "World Clean Up Day" for the 3rd time this year, where we will focus on collecting as much litter as possible all over Bonaire in one day.

The mission with this event is to increase awareness of the population living on Bonaire regarding the problem of litter and rubbish over the Island and that is not only Selibon's responsibility to keep our Island clean but it is also the responsibility of each person as well. The cleanliness of Bonaire is often a top reason visitors say they prefer Bonaire over other Caribbean vacation destinations.



► **Cruise season started early for Bonaire because of tropical storms in the northeast Caribbean.** On August 25 the Royal Caribbean Lines *Adventure of the Seas* paid a unscheduled visit to Bonaire. Approximately 3100 passengers were aboard. As usual, sections of the waterfront were closed to allow access to the island's taxis and tour operators. Wilhelmina Park had many stands set up to sell handicrafts and more. According to first hand reports, it was a very good visit for , the visitors, , local people and businesses.

This year the cruise ship season begins officially on Tuesday, September 22 with the arrival of the *Monarch*., Pullmantur Line's 2,700 passenger ship will visit every Tuesday for the duration of the usual cruise ship season and beyond. Environmentalists took note that the *Monarch* burns bunker oil for fuel but is not equipped with the "scrubbers" to remove pollutants from the exhaust smoke.

Objection to cruise ship visits has moderated with the recognition that cruise ship visitors contribute significantly to the island's economy in ways different from stay-over visitors. However, many Bonaire residents feel that the day-tourist from the ships are not paying their fair share for the services they use on the island as compared to the stay-over visitor.

The cruise schedule for 2015/2016 will be published bi-weekly in *The Reporter* and is also available at: [www.tourismbonaire.com](http://www.tourismbonaire.com)

It can be downloaded on: [http://www.tourismbonaire.com/includes/Cruise\\_Calendar.pdf](http://www.tourismbonaire.com/includes/Cruise_Calendar.pdf). It is also available at the tourism office located at Kaya Grandi #2. For more information call: 717-8322.

► **Bonaire International Airport (BIA-Flamingo Field) and the Executive Council are promoting the introduction of "one-stop security."** The one-stop security concept means that a passenger is screened only at the first airport of departure. On arrival at a connecting airport, no second security check is needed. A prime example is the Bonaire-Curacao connection for overseas or interisland flights where currently a time-consuming check of passengers deplaning from Bonaire transferring to another flight is conducted.



► Following an extended period without a permanent head, STINAPA announced that on 1 August 2015, Paulo Bertuol (above) took over as manager of Washington Slagbaai National Park. Mr. Bertuol has been working for STINAPA for the last three years as a scientist / researcher of the department N & HRU-Natural & Historic Resources Unit and has decided to take on a new challenge as manager of the Washington Slagbaai National Park.

Mr. Bertuol is a biologist and has a Master Degree in Environmental Science and Technology from the University of do Vale do Itajaí in Brazil. He was born in Brazil and is married to Elise Galitzki.



► **Bonaire's prison system received high marks from European Union Inspectors of the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT)** in contrast to some of the other Dutch Caribbean islands. Material conditions were poor in many of the police stations and prisons in Aruba and Curacao. The CPT stresses that, in Aruba and Curacao, **the current practice of keeping detained persons deemed to be at risk of suicide naked in their cells should be ended.** In St Maarten, urgent measures should be taken to improve conditions at Philipsburg Police Station, and steps taken to ensure that persons are not **detained in excess of three days.** In Curacao, two persons had been held in police stations for some **eight months in conditions akin to solitary confinement.** Every effort should be made to find alternative solutions to long-term detention at police stations.

The CPT's delegation found that Bonaire's prison, the **Dutch Caribbean Correctional Institution (JICN)**, was well-managed and provided a safe environment. With the exception of JICN Bonaire, high levels of staff absenteeism were noted in prisons, which affected staffing ratios.

**The situation for young persons at JICN was largely positive.** By contrast, in Aruba, the conditions of detention and activities in place for juveniles were not conducive to developing a supportive environment to assist their educational development and the enhancement of their social skills. The situation of juveniles held on remand at Philipsburg Police Station in **St Maarten was totally inappropriate.**

► **Between 14 September and 31 October 2015, the Royal Netherlands Institute of Southeast Asian and Caribbean Studies (KITLV) will carry out a compre-**

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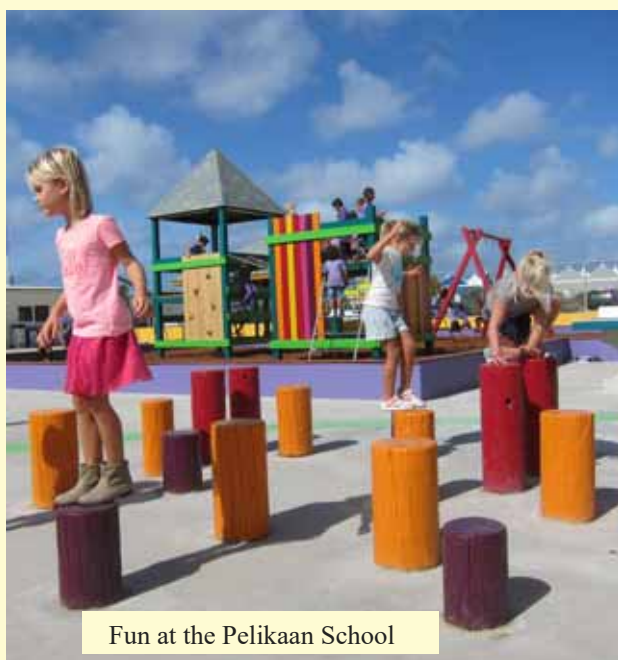
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# A Real Playground For the Pelikaan School

On Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> of August, the first school-day began for pupils of the Pelikaan School on Kaya Amsterdam. And there was a surprise for them: the school-yard had been transformed into an attractive playground during the summer holiday. Before they could play they had to be a little patient so the director of the school, Andre Sijtsma, could give a speech and then two children took care of cutting the ribbon.

Then they could enter and start their play. They climbed the towers and discovered how to get from one tower to the other. Other children would swing on the swing as high as possible and jump off.

During the school-holiday the transformation from the original concrete floored surface changed into a colorful bark covered playground. The board, teachers and pupil-committee made a list of their playground wishes and Bodifee Design took the challenge to make their wishes come true. Architect Bo Bodifee came up with the design for the playground. "I had a lot to take into consideration in making the design. I wanted to challenge children, because they always try to push their boundaries. The playing objects should create challenges, encourage inventiveness and let children discover new possibilities to use the objects." Bo had something else also in mind: she wanted to be able to develop and construct the objects on the island. This saves not only money for transportation, but is also good for local workers. It also helps to recycle and reuse. Damage repair is also easier if the objects are made at the spot. For example, the uses power-poles from WEB that were already on-island. This means that we have created a more sustainable place to play,"



Fun at the Pelikaan School



Bo says with pride.

There are different areas in the play-ground connected

by paintings on the floor. The cutoff power-poles give the opportunity to balance, cross and play together. The climbing towers challenge children to clamber, but it could also be a place to meet and sit together. The climbing frames invite you to tumble and jump. A swing makes it possible for small children to discover how they can make themselves move through the air. For safety-reasons she included a soft crash zone around the objects. The walls that surround it can be used as a place to sit, to balance or to play hide and seek. But there is even more: a ping-pong table, hopscotch, marble pots, a biking area and a basketball-field. Shade-spots have been created to be used by children, their teachers and parents. The colors are bright and fresh and match with the building and logo of the school.

Playing outside is not only fun, but also very important for the development of children. Research has proved that a child can develop social, physical, intellectual, creative and emotional skills at the playground. Motor skills are also involved while playing and children have more space and opportunity outside to practice endlessly certain moves. The playground at the Pelikaan is also designed to stimulate fantasy and creativity. Objects can be used in different functions: the ping-pong table for example can be used to play ping-pong but can also be used as a shadow-place or a place to hide.

If you are curious to look for yourself, go and see what has happened at the Pelikaan. ■ Story by Justine Verschoor, photos by Bo Bodifee



**Flotsam and Jetsam** (Continued from page 2) **hensive opinion survey** on all six Dutch Caribbean islands. This is an independent, academic survey, is sponsored financially by the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NOW). Randomly selected residents will complete a paper questionnaire, which will address the following topics: 1) the relationship between the islands and Holland, 2) local politics on the island, and 3) media consumption. The answers given to the questions are treated confidentially, and completing an interview will take about 20 minutes. Interviews can be conducted in Dutch, English, Papiamentu or Spanish.

The first results of this opinion survey will be published around the end of the year.

More information about this research can be found on <http://www.kitlv.nl/research-projects-confronting-caribbean-challenges/>. Questions about the survey can be sent to Dr. Wouter Veenendaal, via [veenendaal@kitlv.nl](mailto:veenendaal@kitlv.nl).

► **The Dutch organization, Kinderzwerfboek (Children's wandering book), has collected 5,100 books for the children on Bonaire. On Tuesday, August 18, WEB brought the books to the the primary schools on the island.**

Children's wandering books are books that have been read. The books get a special sticker and go wandering. Children who finish reading a book pass it on to other children. This way a flow of books is set in motion so all the children on Bonaire may read.

► **Inflation, according to the Consumer Price Index (CPI), on all three islands of the Caribbean Netherlands fell further in the second quarter of 2015.** On Bonaire and St. Eustatius inflation was flat for the second consecutive quarter negative. Bonaire inflation fell for the third consecutive quarter, to -0.9 percent in the second quarter of 2015. In the first quarter, prices for consumers were 0.6 percent lower than a year earlier. Especially lower food prices reduced inflation on Bonaire (Some refer to it as the BonDiGro effect -ed.). However overall foods were still 0.4 percent higher than a year earlier. Clothing became more expensive on Bonaire and had an upward effect on inflation.

► **Twelve members of the Caribbean Netherlands Fire Brigade of Bonaire recently followed a training course called "Rescuing Trapped Elevator Passengers."** One of the tasks of



The Regatta Team

► **There's a refreshing breeze already blowing for the upcoming Bonaire Regatta. All the Regatta events, including sailing and the festival will move back to one of the most popular spots on the Bonaire coast- Sunset Beach, now renamed Coco Beach. A new building is already under construction there. The Regatta will run from October 7 through the 10th.**

It's the 48th edition of one of the Caribbean's oldest sailing events. The regatta is under the direction of **Hype Marketing and Events** a local company. After 17 years of service heading the Regatta organization, **Byron Tromp** has stepped down.

the fire fighters is the rescuing of people, including those trapped in an elevator. These kinds of cases are not common in the Caribbean Netherlands, but given the fact that more and more buildings have elevators it has become a matter of concern. According to one of the

main suppliers, there are now more than 15 elevators on Bonaire. It is expected that this number will continue to grow.

The course consisted of a theoretical and a practical part. The participants practiced at the Kralendijk police station and Playa Lechi residences. ■ G.D.

# On The Island Since... 2004 – Shaëdra Baromeo

“I was raised by my grandparents from father’s side. There were a lot of cousins and aunts and we all lived in the same house; a very big house on a large terrain. We had many animals; dogs, land turtles, Prikichi’s and Lora’s and goats. Our land was the playground; we ran and played and climbed the trees and all the neighbor kids would join us – it



Shaëdra and her best friend and colleague Ingrid Sealy

went to live with my mother, but it wasn’t ideal as we’d never lived together and I was already used to living on my own. During the weekends I would come with a girlfriend of mine to Bonaire. Tickets were cheap at the time and my girlfriend had family here. To me it was the strangest thing that everyone would say hello to me, while they didn’t even know me! I was going to school so I didn’t have a job, but I was good at drawing and during the weekends on Bonaire I was a tattoo artist. I had my own toolkit and the whole weekend I would be really busy with a lot of clients. I still see people walking around with my tattoos, something of which I am very proud because there aren’t that many girls in the business. I also did permanent make-up and I still can do that!

In my family I am the fearless one – I still am! When I was eighteen I went to Holland all by myself – I was alone for the first time. I felt lonely and it wasn’t fun but nevertheless I tried to see it positively. I went to fashion school because I love to draw and make designs and I’m good at it. At the time I had the idea to become a fashion designer. I was the only Antillean girl there, but people were really nice. I am someone who makes friends easily; I love to have people around me.

I did well at school; we organized our own fashions shows with clothing we showed, designed and made ourselves and I remember making a thick jeans coat of which I lined the hood with wool. That year – 2000/2001 – New Rock was the fashion for shoes; big shoes which looked like safety shoes and I combined them with the jeans coat. It was a project I did together with a Surinamese girl and we definitely were the coolest girls of the school! I attended fashion school for two years and then in 2002, when I was on vacation on Curacao during Christmas, my grandmother passed away on January 24th. I was there because I was staying with them. Nobody had expected it; she just had to go to the hospital for some tests. Before she left she told me ‘Shaëdra, do your best at school and be good!’ And those were her last words to me.

At the hospital they decided to operate on her immediately and things went wrong and she passed away. I was 21. I did go back to Holland with the intention to finish school, but I got terribly homesick; I felt miserable and missed my grandmother tremendously because we had a very strong bond. I decided to return to Curacao where I studied secondary education, social pedagogical work. I

went to live with my mother, but it wasn’t ideal as we’d never lived together and I was already used to living on my own.

During the weekends I would come with a girlfriend of mine to Bonaire. Tickets were cheap at the time and my girlfriend had family here. To me it was the strangest thing that everyone would say hello to me, while they didn’t even know me! I was going to school so I didn’t have a job, but I was good at drawing and during the weekends on Bonaire I was a tattoo artist. I had my own toolkit and the whole weekend I would be really busy with a lot of clients. I still see people walking around with my tattoos, something of which I am very proud because there aren’t that many girls in the business. I also did permanent make-up and I still can do that!

**“Sometimes it is hard to be a single mom, but I have enough people around me to support us and that’s important.”**

In 2004 when I graduated school, I decided to come to Bonaire. I got a job with Sebiki (Center for Youth and Family) and became the assistant-coordinator of a program for children in the ages of four to six. During my years with Sebiki I have been greatly supported by Riet Sealy and it was here, on Bonaire, that I found out what life really is about and also that I am a multi-talented person!

For instance, for Sebiki I organized the arrival of Sinterklaas, then I did murals for private people and businesses, I decorated children’s rooms, entertained at children’s parties, on Curacao I became an officially certified Clinic Clown – the only one on Bonaire - and I loved to sing and I sang tambu as well – it’s a typical music form from Curacao; anything you want to say you express by writing the text and the music and most of the time, hahaha, it is about when you have a beef with someone and you want to get it out of your system! I also organized family days for people who approached me and I



Shaëdra and Guillaume

was and still am DJ Music Queen! Some of these things I still do – when I have the time.

In 2006 I – a woman alone – bought my own house and I am still super proud of it! I was 25 and I understood that from that moment on I had to be really stingy. The only thing I did in those lean years was going to Curacao. Nowadays things are much better; you see I am a thrifty woman, I am good with money, I never touch my savings. So we go on vacation twice a year, to eat deliciously and to shop and I am totally hooked on buying shoes and watches; that is a must!

it’s a huge problem on Bonaire, not only for the children but also for the parents. At *Sentro pa Hubentut i Famia* Guillaume has held a presentation about bullying as well. He is a brave kid and he’s sweet. We have a wonderful life together; we can be very active but we can be quiet too.

Sometimes it is hard to be a single mom, but I have enough people around me to support us and that’s important. On the other hand, it’s nice to be the only one who can make decisions about your child; it may sound a bit selfish, but it feels good yeah! Most of the time I take the right decisions and in case of a doubt I always check with my best friend, Ingrid Sealy.

I started working at the Youth Care Center in 2014. I am involved in ambulatory care and youth probation. My job is challenging; it’s about the upbringing of children and how parents deal with it. Nobody is perfect though and everybody makes mistakes. However, one of the most difficult things is to break with bad habits and behavior and to learn to get something positive out of it. At the same time you have to teach people to be positive about themselves as well, because often it’s a vicious circle.

Personally I think one can achieve a lot on Bonaire if you want to. I myself am the living example hahaha! You have to do it yourself! Plan how you would like to live and enjoy everything that happens along the way. I also learned that people often talk just to make conversation and that it’s better to ignore certain things. However, what you have to take into account is that you cannot trust everyone.

I am so lucky to have my son, because he stimulates me to go for the beauty in life. I am 34 years old now and I have big plans for the future. A lot needs to be done for youngsters here and I want to help and also I want to support children, who have a different point of view, in their being, because everybody has the right to be oneself.”

■ Story & photos by Greta Kooistra



## Picture Yourself With The Reporter Barcelona, Spain

Jellastone's Jella van Berkum in Spain is in front of the Sagrada Familia in Barcelona.

The *Basilica i Temple Expiatori de la Sagrada Família* (Basilica and Expiatory Church of the Holy Family) is a large Roman Catholic church in Barcelona, Catalonia (Spain), designed by Catalan architect Antoni Gaudí (1852–1926).

Although incomplete, the incredible church is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.



Please continue to keep sending "Picture Yourself" photos. We continue to have a small backlog of submitted photos and will get more up-to-date by printing more than one per editions.

## Picture Yourself With The Reporter On The Amazon River



Iraidha Coffie and her husband Roy Burseson shot these photos of themselves with *The Bonaire Reporter* in Brazil, cruising on the Amazon near Manaus, Brazil. Looks like they are having a super time.

### WIN A PRIZE

Take a photo of yourself with a copy of *The Bonaire Reporter*. Email it to [reporter@bonairenews.com](mailto:reporter@bonairenews.com) to be entered in our annual contest for the best picture. Be sure to include something about the place where it was taken and yourself.

Each year there is a new prize. Last year it was a fabulous dinner for two on the beach at posh Harbour Village's La Balandra restaurant. Take that photo today!

## Shark Week!

Bonaire had its Very Own environmentally oriented. Shark Week, STINAPA is launching the week filled with information, presentations, games for kids and a movie all centered

on shark awareness and conservation.

This project is an initiative of the Dutch Caribbean Nature Alliance, funded by the *Nationale Postcode Loterij* on all the islands of the Dutch Caribbean and the Netherlands as a three-year Save our Sharks Project.

Sharks are in trouble around the world. Because of this, all six Dutch Caribbean islands and the Netherlands will be launching awareness and conservation

campaigns focusing on the importance of sharks in Dutch waters and worldwide.

Bonaire's shark week began with:

- The kickoff at Regatta House and the Shark Survey,
- Educational programs about sharks at Jong Bonaire from 3:30 pm to 5 pm.
- Several presentations about sharks and STINAPA's Save our Sharks Project.
- The movie called Shark Water at Cap-

tain Don's Habitat conference room.

-The shark week extravaganza at Wilhelmina Park during the Taste of Bonaire. ■

Anouschka van de Ven, STINAPA Communications Coordinator



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# Word on the Street

Items not necessarily confirmed but are being talked about "on the street"

**W**ord of new sailing yachts for charter are on the street. **Look for a new customized sailing charters on Bonaire's waters** First there's Richard and Sue Willis' *Amoray*, a 44' French-built beauty then there's the *Maruva*, a 50 ft. Gulfstar that has a significant Caribbean history from Bonaire Boat Rental. Both offer innovative and interesting sailing experiences

- **Don't get caught in the bureaucratic cracks.** For those readers renewing or applying for residency permits. Immigration department has advised they are adhering to strict rules on documentation, requirements, etc. Petitions for a declaration of good conduct should be made a minimum of six weeks PRIOR to your renewal appointment with immigration.

- Rumblings on the street and in local social media about a **Chinese supermarket currently under construction in Belnem.** Most long time Belnem residents are looking forward to the convenience it will provide, while "newer" arrivals are complaining that it is not appropriate in a "residential" neighborhood. Although all permits are in order, construction was put on hold due to the grumblings.

- A recent press conference by a group from **Burnout Speed Foundation** indicates that discussions are taking place with the government and local authorities to hold drag races and other types of racing activities. The proposed plan is to temporarily close a portion of the Rincon road (Tras' i Montana/Kaminda di Rincon) at the Sabana Piedra Krus area on the last Sunday of every month for a few

hours in the afternoon. There will be spectator stands and it will be an "event". The first race is tentatively scheduled for October 25. Details of the plan appeared to be quite organized and allowed for a "detour road" for travelers needing to come and go from Rincon. Word is that in one week more than 40 vehicles signed up to race in the "Real Street Legal" event. Something definitely needs to be created for the young people who have so few "legal" opportunities for entertainment.

- Speaking of which....there is a large community of young (and quite talented) skateboarders on the island. You'll see them congregate in any and every parking lot that has a decent paved surface. **Why not a skate park on Bonaire in addition to the one at Jong Bonaire that is closed after hours?**

- And what about organizing a parkour club for our youth...and even adults? For you "old folks": **"Parkour is an activity that can be practiced alone or with others, and is usually - but not exclusively - carried out in urban spaces. Parkour involves seeing one's environment in a new way, and imagining the potentialities for navigating it by movement around, across, through, over and under its features."** Wikipedia. Google it! It is a healthy, physical activity that gets people moving and keeps them fit. If we want kids involved in constructive social activities they have to be provided with the opportunity for them. ■

Bula Bonchi



## CRUISE SHIP CONCERNS



Dear Editor :

Yesterday I received a request saying, "Bonaire Marine Park Needs Your Help!" I fully support the Park's need for donations to help meet the costs of the legal campaign to stop commercial development that would harm the coral reef ecosystem of Bonaire.

Today an unscheduled cruise ship arrived here to avoid the tropical storms going through its scheduled destination further north. Passengers from that cruise ship are enjoying the Marine Park . . . but, they are not required to buy a Park tag for either snorkeling or diving. Why don't cruise ship passengers pay their fair share by buying a Marine Park tag like every other visitor and resident?

The legal campaign is ongoing and more and more cruise ship passengers are coming to Bonaire every year. It seems only fair that cruise ship passengers be required to buy Marine Park tags to help save the coral reef ecosystem of Bonaire.

Bill Mulvey

Dear Editor:

This morning we all saw the large cruise ship in port...hmmmm. Our wonderful Tourism Bureau had graciously accepted a re-routed cruise ship due to the passing hurricanes in the Caribbean.

Why didn't the ship choose Curacao or Aruba? Could it be we only collect a few dollars per passenger and are the cheapest island in the Caribbean! A no brainer.

Now at the same time, STINAPA is asking for donations to help with the cost of trying to save the Marine Park from commercial development - which seems to be an ongoing fight. Did you know that all those cruise ship passengers DO NOT pay the Marine Park fee for diving or snorkeling? We bus them by the hundreds to Lac Bay, send them kayaking in the mangroves, snorkeling and diving, with their gobs of sun tan oil, bottled water, plastic bags, and no education about our fragile eco system.

If the government won't negotiate more money from the cruise ships, why can't STINAPA collect the fee for everyone getting in the water? Snorkel trips and dive trips should collect the regular rate - IT IS PART OF WHAT OUR ISLAND DOES! All the rest who go swimming should pay \$5.00 or stay on the ship. Make a special souvenir tag for their \$5.00! WHY CAN'T WE DO THAT They pay \$5.00 for their lounge chair, just like I do, but I must pay to go in the water and so should they. STINAPA should NOT be dictated or controlled by the cruise ship companies, politics or TCB!

I would like to know how we can start a movement on Bonaire to correct this. It is discrimination. I also heard on the street that outside of "cruise ship season" we will have one cruise ship a week! This is spinning out of control at the expense of the reef and the tourists who pay thousands of dollars to come here, want to be here, and contribute to the economy for more than eight hours - it's worse than the lionfish invasion.

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Henna Paste

HAVING A TATTOO MIGHT BE COOL BUT IT WILL BE AWESOME TO BE ABLE TO CHANGE IT FROM TIME TO TIME. IMPOSSIBLE?

At the HENNA Studio in Bonaire it's not impossible.

Henna tattoos are a fun and safe way to explore body art without pain or commitment. The Henna designs are applied to the skin with a thick paste made from the ground leaves of the Henna plant (Lawsonia inermis). Henna powder itself is green in color, but the stain it leaves behind is usually an orange to a rusty red color, which lasts around 8 to 10 days. Thus it's a natural substance that has been used for more than 5000 years to create beautiful, temporary designs on the body - an art form, which is gaining so much appreciation worldwide lately and also in Bonaire.

HENNA Studio, the first authentic henna art studio on the island, is getting more popular among the Bonaire locals and the international tourists. The designs and the art from the HENNA Studio are very professional and authentic, resulting in high-class artwork, which is accredited to the owner; a native from India with more than 30 years of experience in henna tattoo services.

The henna plant is not only used to beautify the appearance of your skin. It also has a number of nutrients and other benefits in it, which can help to alter the qualities of your skin in other ways too. Read on for a brief overview of several ways that henna can help to improve your skin:

## How Henna Can Help

### 1. Improved Defense Against Infections

Henna can help to defend your body against infections. It does this by working to eliminate or reduce the occurrence of harmful bacteria on your skin.

### 2. Cooling Agent

Henna is a great cooling agent. When applied to scrapes and burns it gives relief

### 3. Pain Reliever

Henna can help to naturally reduce inflammation that results in pain. Rub some henna into the affected part of your skin to use it as a mild pain reliever.

### 4. Hair & Scalp Benefits

In addition to its many benefits for your skin, henna can also help to improve the quality and appearance of your hair as well.

### 5. Henna as a Hair Dye

The goodness of henna is that it is an excellent natural hair dye as it not only covers the undesirable grays but at the same time improves your hair health as well. Its effects are not permanent. It does not stick permanently to the roots of the hair like other artificial hair colors. Henna starts to fade after three to six weeks. It then disappears completely.

After all these above mentioned benefits, the best effect it brings along is through its lovely Henna aroma which is a feeling of complete relaxation and a vibe of positive energy along with.

### 6. Bridal Henna

Bridal henna is one of the oldest and most widespread henna traditions in India.

Every bride adorns herself with beautiful bridal henna before her wedding. Highly exotic, intricate patterns decorating the bride's hands and feet with henna is called *Mehandi*. It is believed that the deeper the color the stronger will be the love between the couple

### 7. Henna During Pregnancy

Henna is traditionally

adorned on the pregnant belly during the 8<sup>th</sup> month of pregnancy with the belief that it keeps the baby protected from the evil eye and ensures an easy birth process. Many women are now looking for ways beyond the common baby shower to celebrate their pregnancy. Amongst these trends, adorning the belly with henna is a beautiful practice recently gaining in popularity.

### 8. Henna as a Pre-Tattoo

Today, henna is being done in many forms including more contemporary designs. Some contemplating a permanent tattoo, might apply henna first to see if they like the look before making a permanent decision. Some just enjoy having a temporary design they know will wash off in a few weeks. Whatever your reasons might be for being interested in henna, you are delv-

ing into a beautiful form of Art, rich in culture.

There are ample designs to choose from and you could enjoy a

simple Henna tattoo for just as little as \$10. The prices may vary depending on the complexity of the design. Larger and more intrinsic designs may cost a little more.



Bonaire ladies love henna art

A simple design may take around 20 minutes to half an hour whereas a larger one would take a little longer variably. To see more pictures of this lovely art and our work check out the Facebook page: HENNA Studio. ■

Story and photos by Kanchan Kundnani



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# Wounded Warriors Enjoy Bonaire

This year Bonaire celebrated the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary welcoming the Wounded Warriors with their families. The visit was one of the most memorable for those of us on Bonaire as well as the Warriors and their families.

The week-long activities included diving, visits to scenic spots, a moving commemoration at Tanki Maraka, the site of a WW-II US base, shopping and more. The Warriors were also honored at a reception with entertainment by Tuti Fruti (cover) in the courtyard of the Executive Council building (BC). They were even escorted to the BC, as well as other locations, by members of the Iron Order Bikers and were welcomed there by Lieutenant Governor Edison Rijna. ■ G.D.



Three scenes from the Governor's reception at the BC. Are we having fun yet?



At Tanki Maraka— Commemorating American soldiers based on Bonaire to detect German raiders.



Above: At 1000 steps. We did it!  
Below: Shopping at Jewel of Bonaire



And, of course, lots of SCUBA diving



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From Bonaire Nautico Marina in front of It Rains Fishes Restaurant

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# New Health Care Insurance Office Opens



*Ribbon cutting*

Health, **Andre Klein Meuleman** and **Ethsel Pieterella**, representing Commissioner **Benito Dirksz**, who was ill. The ribbon-cutting was at the main entry door which was cleverly papered to look like a physician's white coat.

Looking on were Kingdom Representative, **Gilbert Isabella**, the Deputy Secretary General of the Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport (VWS), **Andre Klein Meuleman**, RCN officials, members of the Bonaire Island government, health care providers, invited guests and the media.

After the speeches the audience was invited to tour the building. The interior is very modern. The ground level has



*Ton Wassenaar gives Maurits Cicilia, a fruit basket as the new ZVK's first client*

facilities for public business as well as offices. The walls are in muted colors and adorned with the art of Winfred Dania, perhaps Bonaire's most famous modern artist. The plan is to change the art every six-months to feature different Bonaire artists. There is an elevator to access the upper floor as well as several stairwells.

The upper floor has spacious office areas and a separate employee entrance. Besides to offices there is an outside smoking area overlooking the seaside and lunchroom. An emergency electrical generator is concealed in the structure. Construction was by local builders.

There is formidable security including guards, pass-card activated doors. There's and adequate privacy for business, and good access for disabled persons. There is parking for a few visitors



*Angelique, an operator at the facility, at her desk. A Dania painting is on the wall.*

in front of the building, and employees underneath the two-story structure.

Following the tour there were drinks and snacks catered by **Norca** and live music.

A visit to the ZVK can sometimes be intimidating. It appears that efforts have been made to make it a more friendly place. And to emphasize that, the ZVK's first customer in the new building, **Maurits Cicilia**, was given a gift basket of fruit by manager **Ton Wassenaar**. ■

G.D








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# The Turtles Are Coming!



Sea Turtle hatchling

*She has travelled for thousands of miles to return to the beach where she hatched and is ready to lay her own eggs for the first time. The moon is lighting up Klein Bonaire as she lumbers up the sand, leaving the water for the first time in her life.*

*Her paddle-like flippers leave a visible trace in the sand, crawling until she finds a perfect place. She digs a deep hole and deposits her 100 to 180 eggs.*

Did you know that it takes 15 to 40 years - depending on the species - before sea turtles lay eggs, and that just one out of 1000 eggs result in an adult? An adult female will lay 2 to 6 nests a year, with an interval of 9 to 12 days. That cycle is repeated every 2 to 3 years. Can you imagine the adventures and dangers a tiny hatchling will encounter as you watch her courageously crawl towards the sea? If the hatchling survives to adulthood, she will return decades later to the same beach she hatched from to lay her own eggs. This is an amazing thought, but also a big responsibility for us humans living

side by side with these intriguing creatures. We want to enjoy our beaches as residents and tourists while also living a harmonious co-existence with sea turtles.

## What Can We Do?

Every year between April and December green, hawksbill and loggerhead turtles lay their eggs on the beaches of Bonaire. The main nesting site is on Klein Bonaire, which is an area protected from development. However, Te Amo Beach, Kite beach and others are popular sites for both sea turtle nesting as well as residents and tourists. We desire to disrupt the nesting as little as possible. How? By being aware of our own behaviour. There are at least a few things we can do:

- Heavy weight can compact the sand which makes it more difficult for females to nest. It can also crush incubating eggs so hatchlings will have trouble or can't emerge at all. So please **do not drive your car too close to the beach** as nests can be everywhere and can even be far from the shoreline. They are not always obvious.

- Everybody likes to barbecue on the beach, enjoying a drink and the sunset. It is not a problem **if you use a grill well off the ground and if you take all your litter with you**. However, don't light a fire on the beach or tip hot charcoal on the sand. The heat can destroy an incubating nest. Dogs can destroy a nest by digging. So maybe you can go to other nice walking areas with your dog.



A sea turtle nest is marked off-limits at the Kite Beach

- Litter is always a problem in recreational areas. Maybe you have noticed it yourself while enjoying a day on the beach. A lot of litter reaches the sea, particularly plastic cups and bags. Turtles can mistake plastic bags for jellyfish and eat them. The plastic can block the turtle's bowels and it will get sick, entangled or even die! **So be aware of what you take with you and don't leave anything behind.**

## A Natural Approach

On Bonaire we have Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire (STCB) a non-profit and a

non-governmental organization. Its mission is to secure Bonaire's sea turtles for the future and connect people in ways that inspire caring for nature.

During nesting season STCB staff and volunteers patrol the beaches, recording signs of nesting and hatching, monitoring the safety status of nests and also cleaning up the beaches during their patrol. STCB has a natural approach to nesting and they only act when nests are in danger. For instance, if the nest risks being flooded then the nest will be relocated to a safer

(Continued on page 13)

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Day	High	Low	High	Low	High	Sunrise	Sunset
Mon 31	01:33 0.69 ft	08:55 -0.02 ft	14:40 0.65 ft	21:33 0.10 ft		6:25	18:46
Tue 01	02:44 0.60 ft	09:42 -0.02 ft	15:38 0.78 ft	22:55 0.03 ft		6:25	18:46
Wed 02	03:56 0.54 ft	10:30 -0.01 ft	16:32 0.89 ft			6:25	18:45
Thu 03		00:06 -0.05 ft	05:04 0.49 ft	11:18 -0.01 ft	17:23 0.98 ft	6:25	18:44
Fri 04		01:08 -0.11 ft	06:07 0.45 ft	12:06 0.01 ft	18:14 1.03 ft	6:25	18:44
Sat 05		02:05 -0.14 ft	07:04 0.43 ft	12:54 0.02 ft	19:03 1.05 ft	6:25	18:43
Sun 06		02:59 -0.15 ft	07:59 0.41 ft	13:40 0.04 ft	19:51 1.04 ft	6:25	18:42
Mon 07		03:50 -0.13 ft	08:51 0.39 ft	14:26 0.07 ft	20:39 0.99 ft	6:25	18:42
Tue 08		04:41 -0.09 ft	09:42 0.38 ft	15:13 0.11 ft	21:26 0.92 ft	6:25	18:41
Wed 09		05:30 -0.04 ft	10:34 0.38 ft	16:01 0.16 ft	22:14 0.84 ft	6:25	18:40
Thu 10		06:18 0.02 ft	11:28 0.38 ft	16:54 0.20 ft	23:02 0.74 ft	6:25	18:40
Fri 11		07:04 0.08 ft	12:23 0.40 ft	17:57 0.24 ft	23:54 0.65 ft	6:25	18:39
Sat 12		07:48 0.13 ft	13:17 0.44 ft	19:13 0.26 ft		6:25	18:38
Sun 13	00:52 0.57 ft	08:27 0.17 ft	14:06 0.48 ft	20:40 0.26 ft	<b>New Moon</b>	6:25	18:38
Mon 14	01:58 0.50 ft	09:01 0.21 ft	14:47 0.53 ft	22:00 0.23 ft		6:25	18:37

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**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.



**Breeze n' Bites at the Den Laman Apartments.** Provides a memorable seaside dining experience with fine food. Specializing in Fresh Seafood and Select Meats. Happy Hour 4-6 pm.

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## 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 fashion consignment store. Buy fashionable, top brand clothing, high quality toys and more for a fraction of their original price.



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## WATER TAXI

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# WHAT'S HAPPENING

## REGULAR EVENTS

**Tanki Maraka Heritage Park and Open Air Museum.** Site of an American soldiers' camp during WWII. Self guided tour with excellent signage. After leaving Kralendijk on the Rincon Road watch for sign to the park on the right. Driveway to entrance just a short distance. Free entry.

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

**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, 717-6435.

**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.

• **Tera Kora Ranch Market**—2nd & last Saturdays- local produce, clothes, food, games for kids, 2nd hand items

• **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. Free entrance

• **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.

## 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 Hab-**

**tat 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.

## Wednesdays

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

• **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. Contact +599 701 1188 or [info@echobonaire.org](mailto:info@echobonaire.org) for private tours at least 48 hours in advance due to the remote location Minimum of 2 people at \$25 each. Meet at the Dos Pos windmill and bring good shoes as it is 'off road'.

• **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 [peejeesee@gmail.com](mailto:peejeesee@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 Crisita 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](mailto:Marytjin@gmail.com) or [Daisycoffie@hotmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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 .

**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](mailto:iglesiadicristobonaire@gmail.com) ■

## Sea Turtles (Continued from page 10)

place. The nests at Te Amo beach are watched closely because of the light pollution from the nearby airport. If there is too much light, hatchlings can crawl inland instead of to the sea. They can become disorientated and become crushed on the road so intervention is necessary and STCB will place a barrier around the nest and volunteers will watch the nest closely to make sure the hatchlings go the right way. They try to let nature take their course with as little human intervention possible. This is just a small part of all the work that STCB does. If you are interested to learn more or even to help by volunteering, have a look at their website for more information: [www.bonaireturtles.org](http://www.bonaireturtles.org). ■ *Story by Cora Knopper, photos by Casper Douma*

## CLOSE-IN EVENTS

**Sunday, September 6 --Bonaire Flag Day** – Legal holiday. Opening ceremonies at Plaza Wilhelmina. Fun activities in Antriol.

**Saturday, September 19— Selibon N.V. is organizing an event called "World Clean Up Day"** Will focus on collecting as much litter as possible all over Bonaire in one day.

**Tuesday, September 22nd-- Labor Inspectorate briefing** on safety and health in construction work, at Kooyman on Kaya Korona at 4.00 PM

**Sunday, October 4 Open Water Swim to Klein Bonaire** from Spice Beach Club. Registration 7 - 8am. Swim starts at 9 am. Start from Spice Beach Club to Klein Bonaire and back, Distance: 1.6 K / 1 Mile. Donation \$25 (proceeds go to the Foundation 'Jong Bonaire.' More information: [bonairebarracudas@gmail.com](mailto:bonairebarracudas@gmail.com)

The basic swim is NOT a race and open to all. But if you are a competitive swimmer, 14 years or older, you might want to join the racers.

**October 7- 10 the Annual Bonaire Regatta 2015, One of the oldest continuously operating sailing events in the Caribbean.** More information in upcoming editions.

## Interesting Facts:

Did you know that temperature has an important role in the sex determination in sea turtles? Eggs in warmer parts of the nest develop into females and cooler parts of the nest produce males.

STCB is using temperature dataloggers to monitor the temperatures in the nests. So it will give insights not only into the numbers of males and females produced on Bonaire but also into the long-term effects of climate change.





# THE STARS HAVE IT

## September 2015

**ARIES** (Mar. 21- April 20) Things aren't as they appear. Try to take care of the needs of those you love. Put your thoughts into action. Don't be critical or overly opinionated with dislikes; it could cause disapproval and unwanted opposition. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Wednesday.

**TAURUS** (Apr. 21- May 21) Get involved in jobs that require creative input. You can win points with both peers and superiors. After all, they may have valuable information to pass on. For now just do the best you can. Your partner's a little jumpy. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Thursday.

**GEMINI** (May 22-June 21) You will be able to get to the bottom of things this month. You will be in the mood to socialize. Drastic financial losses may be likely if you lend money. Compromise if you have to, to avoid verbal battles. Your luckiest events will occur on a Wednesday.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22) Feeling under the weather may be a result of overindulgence. Think twice before you pursue an unrealistic endeavor. Do something together and you'll be surprised how sweet a deal you can make. . Your luckiest events will occur on a Thursday.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug 22) Go directly to the source if you want to know exactly what's been going on. Try to mix business with pleasure while traveling. Be sure to take advantage of the opportunities that exist. You will be overly sensitive when dealing with your personal life. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Monday.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) You should be able to get a lot done. You can make money if you concentrate on producing services that will make domestic chores easier. Don't promise to deliver the goods if you aren't positive that you can meet the deadline. You'll find it difficult to control your emotions. Your luckiest events will occur on a Sunday.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) You need adventure and excitement in your life. Don't be too quick to judge others. Helping children may be rewarding and chal-

lenging. Fitness or weight loss programs will help your self esteem. Your luckiest events will occur on a Saturday.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) Confusion at an emotional level will cause you to make wrong decisions concerning your personal life. You will have the getup and go to contribute a great deal to groups of interest. Regardless of your first reaction, the outcome will be favorable. You will be able to work in fine detail. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Monday.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) Make sure that you have all the pertinent facts before taking action. You may find yourself in an uncomfortable situation if you have overloaded your plate unintentionally. You will not be able to contain your emotions this month. You will have some problems with children, but if you are patient you will win their favor. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Saturday.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) You will get along well in social situations. Look into making changes to your personal papers and don't neglect those bills that have been piling up. A trip to visit relatives should be rewarding. Mishaps due to preoccupation will be upsetting. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Sunday.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) Pamper yourself; the self esteem it brings you will be most gratifying. You are best to sit back and think it through, rather than add to the ranting and raving. If you can include them in your plans, do so. Your charisma will no doubt attract a lot of attention. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Saturday.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) Just be yourself. You must deal with an emotional problem with your loved one that you have been avoiding for some time now. You are in a high energy, get it all done, mood and you'll have little patience with those who are slacking off. Financial gains can be made through wise investments. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Wednesday. . ■

Michael Thiessen



# BONAIRE SKY PARK\*

\*to find it... just look up

## "BYE-BYE TETRAD!" LUNAR ECLIPSE AT END OF SEPTEMBER

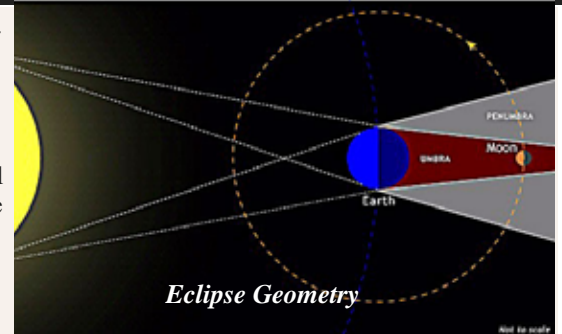
Next month we get to experience the 4<sup>th</sup> and final total lunar eclipse of the 2014-2015 tetrad. You might be asking yourself, what's a tetrad? Well, they're very rare and in this week's episode we'll tell you why. We'll also give you the low down on the September 27th, lunar eclipse.

**Here's how eclipses work.** Celestial bodies cast two shadows; a darker inner shadow called the umbra and a lighter outer shadow called the penumbra. Your location with respect to these shadows will determine the kind of eclipse you can see.

The geometry of the lunar eclipse is quite simple. First, the moon must be in the full phase, putting the Earth between the sun and moon. When the earth, moon and sun align perfectly, we get eclipses because the moon's orbit is tilted by about 5 degrees with respect to the earth's orbit around the sun, the earth, moon and sun rarely align; however when they do, the moon passes through the Earth's shadow. Since Earth is so much larger than the moon, our entire shadow can cover the moon. How high above or below the Earth's shadow the moon passes, determines the type of lunar eclipse we can see.

If the moon only passes through the earth's penumbra, we have what's called a penumbral lunar eclipse. This causes only a slight dimming of the moon and is almost unnoticeable to the average moon watcher. If only part of the moon passes through the earth's umbra (the darker inner shadow), we have what is called a partial lunar eclipse. This causes a noticeable darkening of a portion of the moon's surface.

However, if the moon passes completely into the Earth's umbra, we have a total lunar eclipse. Now if you remember, 6 months ago, we had a total lunar eclipse on April 4th. Well, it may surprise you to know that there is an almost 6 month pattern for eclipses. We call these eclipse seasons. The moon's orbit around the earth is tilted, appearing almost like a dinner plate that is tilted with respect to a dinner table. The points of intersection between the moon's orbit and the lane of the earth's orbit are called nodes. If the new moon and full moon occur when the moon is at one of



Eclipse Geometry

these nodes, we get an eclipse. as the earth orbits the sun, it carries the moon with it. These points of intersection allow the sun, moon and earth to align at almost 6 month intervals. So for example, in April 2014, the new moon and full moon were aligned with the sun and earth and we experienced a total lunar eclipse, and two weeks later there was a solar eclipse. Dean: if we advance time 6 months to October, the new moon and full moon again aligned with the sun and earth, and on October 8th we saw another total lunar eclipse, and two weeks after that on October 23rd, there was a partial solar eclipse.

Although the 6 month pattern of eclipses happens rather frequently, it's rare that you get four total lunar eclipses in a row. We call this a tetrad. A tetrad is an effect caused by the shape of earth's orbit around the sun combined with the timing of eclipse seasons, and the sequence of tetrads varies over time. For example, between 1582 to 1908 there were no tetrads, but there are 17 tetrads between 1909 and 2156. The previous tetrad occurred in 2003-2004, and the next tetrad won't occur until 2032.

On September 27th, at 9:00 pm, Sky Park time. The moon will enter the penumbra at 8:10 pm, but you won't notice anything exciting happen until just after 9:00 pm when the moon begins to enter the umbra. Totality begins at 10:10 pm. Unlike the last three eclipses, everyone in the Caribbean and continental US will be able to view this eclipse; from beginning to end.

**This is the last total lunar eclipse anyone will be able to see until January 2018.** The good news is that since the September 27th eclipse is in the early evening, there's no need to set your alarm clock! So, happy eclipse watching! ■

Dean Regas & James Albury



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# Pets of the Week

## KITTENS SEASON IS HERE

**K**itten season on Bonaire began in March and five months later it is still in full swing. Unwanted kittens are still arriving weekly, and shelter staff consistently and tirelessly continue to advise people of the importance of sterilizing their cats (see related Shelter News story on this page). If you are considering adopting a kitten, now is the time! Animal Shelter Bonaire has a delightful "inventory" of kittens ranging from six weeks to six months in all shapes, colors and sizes. Adopting a kitten is a rewarding and entertaining venture that quickly develops into a loving relationship. You will want to keep your kitten healthy and safe, so here are a few helpful safety tips to make it a "purrfect" experience for both of you.



→ Before you bring home your kitten, **make sure you have a litter box, cat carrier, kitten food, food and water bowls, and toys to entertain your new pet.** Cat-proof your house before kitty arrives. Cats often interact with the world through their mouth, and as cute as your kitten looks while playing, not everything in your house is a good toy. Keep string, ribbon, yarn, rubber bands, plastic milk jug rings, paper clips, pins, dental floss, and other temptations away from your curious cat. Choose toys carefully, just as you would for a child. Avoid those with buttons, bells or other small parts that can come off and be swallowed. If left alone, small stuffed animals to attack and a ball too large to fit into her mouth will provide hours of safe kitten fun.

→ Several house and outdoor **plants can be dangerous to your kitten**, including chrysanthemum, azalea, tulip bulbs, and oleander. Lilies are particularly poisonous to cats, and even small amounts can make your kitten very sick. Not sure if a particular plant is kitty-safe? Talk to your vet.

→ **Remove poisonous plants, and roach or ant traps and make sure the toilet lid is down.** Keep kitchen and bath-

room cabinets closed so your kitten doesn't encounter bleach, detergent, and other household items when exploring.

→ Kittens can get tangled or choked by anything swinging or hanging, keep your kitten safe by **securely anchoring drape or blind cords out of reach.** To prevent chewing on electric and phone cords, bundle them with a cord manager and fasten away from kittens' reach.

→ After you've kitten-proofed, **introduce your kitten to your home one room at a time.** Place the open carrier in each room so he has a retreat if he wants it, and let him walk around while you sit quietly. Talk to him softly as he explores. He may hide under a bed or scoot behind a refrigerator, so you need to be vigilant. Bring him back to his own space, and repeat this introduction process in each room of your home until he has explored everyplace.

→ Kittens from the animal shelter are litter box trained, so your kitten will use a litter box right away. Put it in a quiet spot and show her where it is. Some cat boxes are too high for kittens to get in and out easily, so you may need to **start with a low-sided box until your kitten grows.**

→ **Never leave a dog alone with a new kitten.** Dogs can become aggressive, or a kitten may claw at a dog's face. Make sure your dog is properly leashed as you introduce it. The kitten should not be allowed to run away because the dog may think chasing it is a game. Reward both pets for calm behavior. Always supervise their interactions until the kitten is fully grown.

→ A kitten left home alone should be **secured in one room** with his bed, litter box, food and water. If you'll be gone until evening, add a nightlight. Give him enough

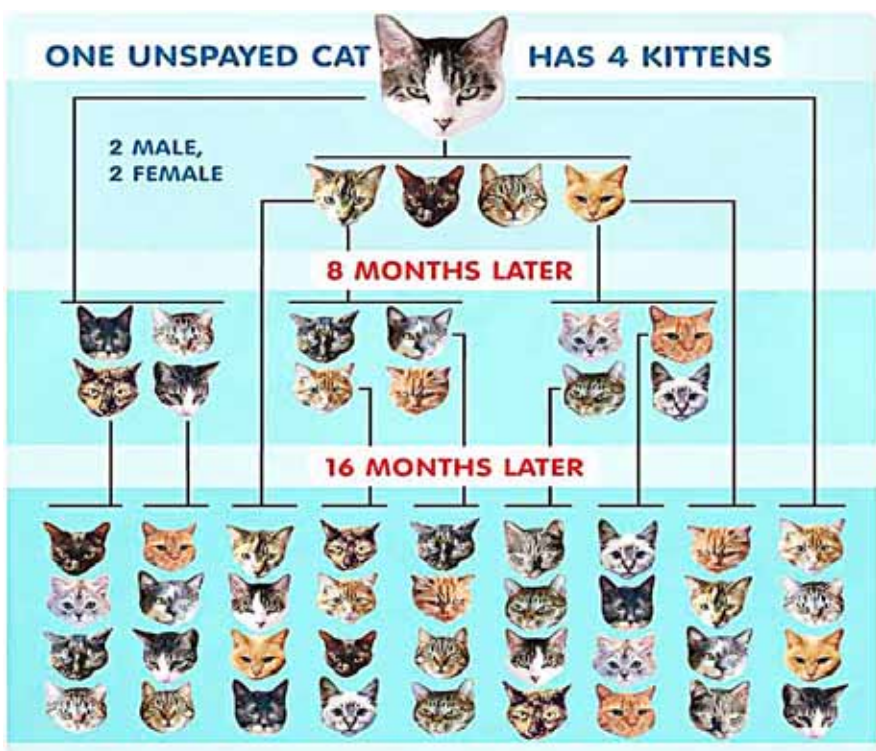
# Animal Shelter Tips & News

## The Animal Shelter Cats And Dogs Practice Safe Sex... Do Yours?

**T**he cats and dogs from the Animal Shelter Bonaire love each other very much. Because they are both sterilized they share their love safely: through affection and play instead of breeding and creating more unwanted kittens or puppies for Bonaire.



Every year unsterilized companion animals on Bonaire produce hundreds, possibly thousands, of unwanted dogs and cats. Consider the fact that **in six short years, one female dog and her offspring can give birth to 67,000 puppies. In seven years, one cat and her young can produce 420,000 kittens.** The goal of the Animal Shelter Bonaire Sterilization program is to prevent the serious problem of overpopulation and suffering of unwanted cats and dogs on the island. The Animal Shelter Bonaire wants the residents of Bonaire to become more conscious of the importance of having their animals sterilized, not only to prevent suffering amongst the animals but also for their own peace of mind. Please let us help! For more information call the Animal Shelter Bonaire (7174989) or e-mail at [animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com](mailto:animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com). ■ *Nathalie Peterson*



**Please Sterilize Your Cat Or Dog!** You will have a better pet too

safe toys to keep him busy. You can also put a radio just outside his door, turned to a classical music or country western station (most cats seem to prefer these two genres!). Other cats like listening to talk shows, perhaps soothed by the human voice. If your kitten will always be alone during the day, spend extra time petting and playing with him when you return.

If a kitten is on your mind, come and visit the Animal Shelter Bonaire and surely one will grab your heart. If an adult cat is more your style, there are plenty of loving, affectionate adults that will do likewise. You can visit all the shelter cats and kittens Monday through Saturday, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 3-5 p.m. on Kaminda Lagun. ■ *Story by Jane Madden Disko & photo by Laura DeSalvo*

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