

**It's Still
FREE**

BONAIRE Bonaire Reporter- Oct. 12-26, 2015, Year 22, Issue 18
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



Grupo Wayaka Plays at Regatta

Photo by G.D.



KR
Photo

A report that may influence the planned Referendum on the constitutional structure of Bonaire will be released this week. On Monday, October 12th, the evaluation committee Caribbean Netherlands presents its conclusions regarding the constitutional structure set on 10-10-10. The committee looked at the operation of the legislation, the operation of the new administrative structure and the consequences for the population. Since 10-10-10 Bonaire, Saba and St. Eustatius have had "direct ties" with the Netherlands.

It was agreed to examine the new political structure five years after its implementation.

The committee will present its report in the afternoon on October 12. The presentation can be followed live on the website of [Nieuwspoort](http://www.nieuwspoort.nl/live/). <http://www.nieuwspoort.nl/live/>. The presentation will be in Dutch with a live translation (audio) in English and Papiamentu.

The report (including related research) will be published at the same time on the website of the Assessment Commission: www.evaluatiecaribischnederland.nl.

► **Bonaire plans to have a new constitutional referendum on December 18**, Commissioner Clark Abraham told the Island Council. In a first referendum people will only be asked if they agree with the way content was given to the winning choice of the last referendum for direct ties with the Netherlands. If the majority answer "no" the Island Council can decide on a new vote with various options taking into account Resolution 1541 of the United Nations (UN). In addition to Dutch citizens 18 years and older living in Bonaire, also foreign adults legally residing on the island for five years or more can participate.

► **The Bonaire island government (OLB) has failed in communicating with its citizens** because it still has not responded to five complaints presented to them by the National Ombudsman, according to Ombudsman Van Zutphen. The issues included granting leased land to a person other than the owner, land exchange with OLB and the provision of a diving license. The Ombudsman reported he has sent repeated reminders.

The National Ombudsman assesses the actions of the government with regard to proper governance. Within the context that the government operates, it can be difficult to meet these requirements.

The full press release and the report can be viewed at: [https://](https://www.nationaleombudsman.nl/nieuws/2015/ombudsman-openbaar-lichaam-bonaire-reageert-te-traag)

www.nationaleombudsman.nl/nieuws/2015/ombudsman-openbaar-lichaam-bonaire-reageert-te-traag

► As part of the commemoration of its fifth anniversary the **Korps Politie Caribisch Nederland (BES Island Police Corps) outlined its future plans** with a central theme "to work on the three islands, Bonaire, Saba and St. Eustatius as one police force with a common vision and identity to enhance the safety and quality of life." No specific mention was made on how to deal with the recent spike in armed robberies on Bonaire.



Chief Buitink

Also announced was that the current BES Island Police Chief, **Hildegard Buitink**, has decided not to take on a second term as Chief for essentially personal reasons. A new chief will be named by March, 2016, in consultation with the present Chief, judicial officials and the island governors.

The Regional Police Corps Administrator expressed his appreciation for the great efforts of Mrs. Buitink over the past years.

► **Clark Abraham**, Commissioner of Tourism and **Gabriele Tixi**, cruise-ship manager for the Tourism Bureau, **visited several cruise lines during a visit to Miami**, Florida, from August 23 to 27 to talk about future plans for cruise tourism in Bonaire. During the meetings Commissioner Abraham discussed how the product quality and services of Bonaire might be improved and expansion of the facilities of the pier, the island's ability to increase the number of visits for the cruise season of 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 and the general port policy.

► **AMSTELVEEN—Dutch airline KLM is poised to cut a quarter of its managerial jobs** and support functions, national broadcaster NOS said, after acquiring a copy of the reorganization plan. The document states that KLM is too complex, too slow and too expensive. The company is too hierarchical, has too many managers and "has lost sight of its customers."

According to KLM, this means 25% of managers would lose their jobs and those who remain would have bigger departments

to deal with. The job cuts should lead to savings of 40 million euros a year, NOS said.

► The Dutch Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment (I &M) has provided a subsidy of over **\$4 million for the drinking water transport and wastewater treatment operating costs this year**, according to a recent government press release.

The cost for a reliable and sustainable supply of drinking water on Bonaire and the operating costs of the sewage water treatment on the island are so high that it cannot reasonably be paid by Bonaireans. Therefore, the Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment will help Bonaire.

For the transportation of drinking water alone, over \$1.5 million is available. Nearly \$2.5 million for the operating costs of wastewater treatment plants was also offered. In the future, the operating costs of wastewater treatment, however, will partly be paid by the island itself. The condition for this grant is to set up a **sewage tax plan in phases beginning in 2017**. Wastewater treatment is important for the quality of the environment, health, the coral reefs and therefore for tourism and the island's economy.

► According to the Dutch Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) the largest airport of the BES Islands, **Bonaire, showed an increase of 20% to 3000 flights in the second quarter of 2015**. The number of passengers for Bonaire also increased considerably, by 6%. At St. Eustatius airport the number of flight movements fell by over 7%, at the smallest airport, Saba, flight numbers were unchanged. Passenger arrivals is usually considered a measure of tourist visits, but the CBS did not draw any conclusions on the intentions of the passengers in its report. Details can be found on statline.csb.nl

► **Work to renovate the track of Kralendijk stadium will begin shortly**, announced Sports Commissioner Gerald Silberie. During the renovation, the stadium will be closed to the public. Other parts of the stadium, like the broken walls, the chairs and the piece of land that separates the stands from the track will also be renewed. The track will meet the interna-

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Flotsam & Jetsam (Cont. from page 2)
tional Olympic standards when complete, according to the commissioner.

► **There is a plan to remember and celebrate deceased tour guide Jerry Ligon's life from December 12 -19.** It will be a time when his friends can reflect and share stories about Jerry. At least two events have been planned so far. On Monday, December 14th there will be a pot luck BBQ on the Sand Dollar property and on Wednesday or Thursday a bird watching tour. This week also appears to have the best rates for air on Delta and United.



Jerry Ligon

For those coming to honor Jerry a special deal is being offered during the week of December 12-19, 2015, at Sand Dollar and Den Laman. Den Laman: 20% discount on the room and 1 night free for 7 nights stay. Sand Dollar: 20% discount on the room and 1 night free for 7 nights stay.

Make your reservation by sending an e-mail to info@denlaman.com and mention Jerry Ligon Celebration of Life. Make your reservation by sending an e-mail to gm@sanddollarbonaire.com and mention Jerry Ligon Celebration of Life.

Breakfast packages (at Breeze 'n Bites) family and friends will get 10% discount and 1 day free, per person, \$91.80 per week.

To get the special rate, reservations can only be made through the e-mail ad-

resses mentioned above, not through the website or through a tour operator.

A deposit of \$100 will be asked to confirm the reservation. Balance needs to be paid on or before November 15, 2015.



► **Bonaire's own renowned underwater photographer and naturalist, Ellen Muller, has again produced a calendar for the coming year.** The 2016 version contains 12 new and unusual underwater photos, all taken right here on Bonaire. Calendars are available, while supplies last, at Bruce Bowker's Carib Inn (cash only) and at VIP Diving. Alternatively, they will be available in the US and Canada by mail, with shipping in mid-to-late November. Please send an e-mail to Mark Director at EllensBonaireCalendars@yahoo.com for information and pricing.

► **Bonaire's popular classical music concert series will resume at the end of this month** with the Amstel Saxophone Quartet appearing at Cacique Hall, Plaza Hotel, on October 30. See page 11 for more details. ■ *G./L.D.*



The Saint James School of Medicine says they will quit operation on Bonaire next year. The Bonaire campus is moving to the island of St. Vincent at the end of December 2015 and being merged with the already established school there. Three of the five class levels will transfer at that time. The classes remaining will complete and then phase out.

According to a school press release there were several reasons for this tough decision:

- Increasingly difficult immigration requirements for students
- Tough immigration requirements for faculty
- High cost of living
- Lack of space to build a campus
- Extremely limited connectivity with flights to the island
- Lack of cooperation from the government authorities in helping to resolve these issues.
- These issues are almost entirely non-existent in St. Vincent.

However, the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science (OCW) and Immigration (IND) say these reasons are overstated. They point out that:

- Entry Requirements for American citi-

zens are equal to those for Dutch citizens

• Admission requirements have even been simplified for the majority of the medical students.

• The application for a declaration of admittance was free until October 1st. After October 1st the cost for a declaration of admittance is \$145.

• The rules for admission are also simplified for the American family members who want to visit the American students.

• US citizens as well as Dutch citizens are allowed to stay for a maximum period of six consecutive months, within a period of one year in the Caribbean Netherlands, without authorization.

• They are exempt from applying for a work permit.

• **The school has no accreditation-** In 2010 the American Educational Commission for Foreign Educational Graduates (ECFMG) gave the medical school three years' time to meet the quality requirements of The Netherlands for recognition. The medical school did not get an accreditation declaration of the *Nederlands Vlaamse Accreditatie Organisatie* (NVAO). This means that the education is not recognized by The Netherlands, **but that doesn't mean that the school isn't allowed to stay on Bonaire.**

The Dutch government is aware of the economic importance of the medical schools for the Dutch Caribbean Islands. The fact that the medical school is leaving the island is the choice of the school, they say. ■ *Press releases*

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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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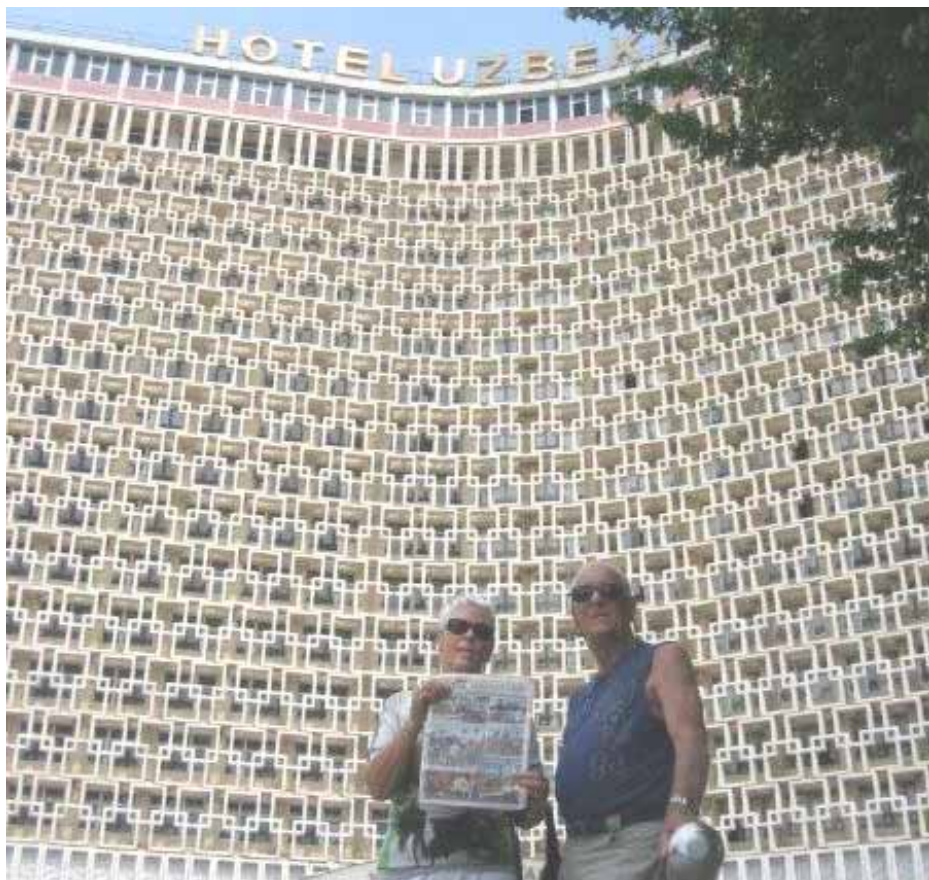
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Picture Yourself With The Reporter in Tashkent, Uzbekistan



Hans and Gea van der Veen write: "Last April we went to Uzbekistan, Tashkent, traveled through Moscow. Our daughter and son live and work in Tashkent and Gea, celebrated her 70th birthday there.

Our grandson, Braelyn, and granddaughter, Ameya, go to the international school there where their parents work. We stayed with them. We were in the mountains and in Samarqand, Silk Road. It is a beautiful country. We saw a lot and enjoyed it immensely." ■



DONKEY DOWN

Nature can be dispassionate when it comes to survival.

Living on a *kunuku* with *mondi* all around we see nature intimately. This continuing drought has affected all of us. Most of our non-hardy non-native plants have died.

Some of the beautiful tall *Yatu* and *Kadushi* cactus have just fallen over. But the saddest sight of all was last week when we discovered a mother donkey, comatose, on her side with her baby next to her. We and our neighbors had seen the baby but never the mother and began to have bad feelings about the missing mother.

We hoped they could be saved and called the island vet who immediately drove out. The mother was very weak but still breathing; so we rounded up a couple of passing bike riders and all of us together got her into the back of a pickup, not an easy job through the cactus and brush.

In the meantime the baby ran away. From the amount of donkey manure on the ground by the mother the vet felt she had been down several days, but the whole time, even in her dying state, she nursed her baby. "That's what mothers do," the vet said. "They give to their child as long as they can and when they see the child is ready, they die."

Sadly, the mother didn't survive. She had no wounds. Starvation and dehydration



took their toll the following day.

The next day we saw the baby in the company of two adults, standing in the middle of the road, trying unsuccessfully to eat crushed tuna cactus.

There currently are two groups on Bonaire totally concerned with the welfare of our donkeys. They approach the preservation of the animals differently. In any case right now there are too many donkeys and not enough food and water to support their population in the wild.

How could this heartbreaking event have been avoided? I, for one, feel that the Animal Shelter Bonaire has it right: sterilization. Not all of them, but try to make a difference in the numbers. This donkey mother maybe could have endured the bad times were she not pregnant. There has been a lot of rhetoric —on different sides— about how to protect Bonaire's donkeys, but to see one dying in front of you because there's not enough food and water just makes you sick. ■ *Laura.DeSalvo.*

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Unchain Your Dog

'It's For Free!'

The Bonaire Animal Welfare Organization is launching a new and truly wonderful project, offering help to people by looking for a solution to unchain their dog. "The goal is," according to Maryke Barendregt of the Animal Welfare Organization, "to accomplish real improvements in the situation of many dogs who are tied on a very short chain, often without any shelter from the sun or rain, for their entire life.

We perfectly understand that not everyone is in the position to put a fence around their house and even if they do so it can be hard to keep the dogs inside the yard because many of them jump or 'climb' over the fence and others dig their way to freedom.

We came up with the idea to clamp a coated steel wire between two points – for example a pole and a tree or two poles. Then a pulley will be put on the wire to which a thinner chain is attached which can be hooked to the dog's collar. The effect will be that the dog has much more space to move around, not only in length but also in width.

By having more space the dog will be healthier and livelier and it will feel more connected to its yard and the people who live there. The result will be that the dog is definitely going to be a much better watch dog than a dog that's stuck on one square meter for its entire life and who is

either sick and wasting away or totally frustrated and completely indifferent or vicious and dangerous to any living creature, including children.

Next to the installation of the poles, the steel cable, the pulley and the chain (which project is starting as we speak), the Animal Welfare Organization has been promised help by the Army which will come to Bonaire by the end of the year, and in January the soldiers will start fabricating doghouses which will be for free as well and placed in gardens where dogs lack shelter from the sun and the rain.

The Unchain Your Dog initiative is a broad project," Maryke says. "It's not only about trying to improve the amount of living space the dog has, we also want to improve the living conditions of the dog; if necessary we will treat the animal against mange (*sarna*) worms (*bichi*), ticks (*karpata*) and fleas (*piew*). We got a donation from the Dutch foundation, *Stichting Dierenlot*, so we will be able to do that for free as well!

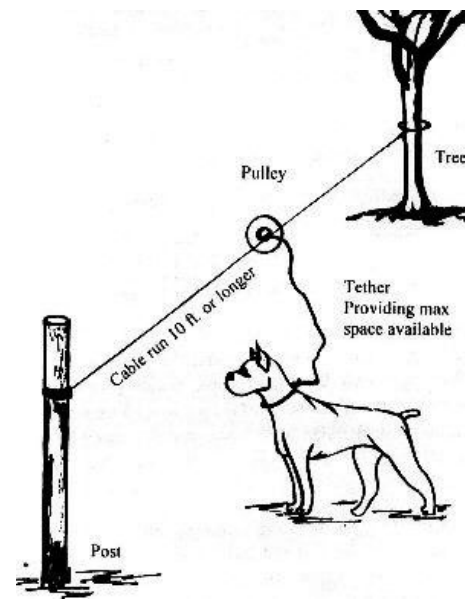
Another issue is that we can have the animal sterilized and if people are open to it, we will discuss options to prevent pest outbreaks and how to take good care of your animal in general. Eventually we are hoping to reach everybody who wants advice and help so that in the end it will have an effect on the whole neighborhood – and ideally – one day – on the whole island. That is our goal and prevention and education are a very important part of it.

Alas, there will be always cases that the

owner of an animal is mistreating, abusing or neglecting the animal (s) deliberately, and if that person is not amenable to reason we will make sure that these animal(s) will be removed from the owner by law, with the help of the police and the prosecutor.

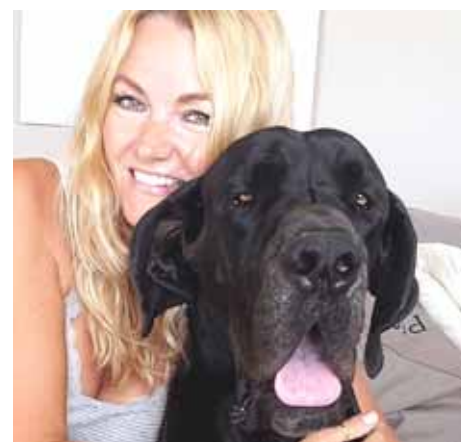
So – in short – what we're focusing on right now in the Unchain Your Dog project is that we are trying as much as possible to leave the dogs with their owners but to improve the situation considerably and to make clear that there is no reason to get rid of your dog when it is sick or infested. – because there is a solution. And everyone who is willing to give the dog more space can call us at 796-7000 or email dierenbeschermingbonaire@hotmail.com and we'll come and install this simple construction in your garden!

Of course we need money for all these operations and therefore we have organized a fundraising in the form of a **Bingo/Big Bazaar together with the Food bank on Saturday October 17th at Hotel Roomer in Belnem. From 4-8 pm there will be the Big Bazaar. From 5-6pm- Kid's Bingo. From 8-10:30 pm Big Bingo. People can buy tickets at Addo's Bookstore or at Hotel Roomer.** We have great prizes like a scooter valued at \$1795. - and a solar system including installation, worth \$2000. - and many,



many more!

The proceeds of this evening will be divided: 50% will go to the Food bank and 50% to the Bonairean Animal Welfare Organization." ■ Greta Kooistra



Maryke Barendregt of Animal Welfare



Kaya Grandi 32B, down a bit in the alley in between Best Pearls and Gio's Ice Parlor

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On The Island Since... August 7th, 2014 - Sanny Ensing & Guillaume Chidaine

“I’ve been coming here since I was four years old. We lived in Curacao and we would spend vacations here. My dad was the head of the lab in Curacao where he did research in cocaine and aloe. In fact, his fascination for aloe started there.

My dad is the owner of Onima Aloe Vera, the only aloe plantation on Bonaire. I was an only child and my childhood was pretty idyllic. We moved to St. Martin when I was 10 and to me it is home. It’s the place where I feel grounded.

I was 15 when Hurricane Luis hit St. Martin on September 5th, 1995. It completely ruined the island. Our school was destroyed and the parents were asked whether they could send their children under 16 to relatives or friends on other islands. They didn’t want us to be around with the curfews, the looting and the general mayhem. So, I went to Curacao and the funny thing was that I ended up in exact the same class with exact the same children I had left years before!

When it was safe to go back, I returned to St. Martin and three years later I graduated VWO 6. I’d participated in a contest in St. Martin’s *Daily Herald* newspaper, in which they asked for a writer for the ‘Out ‘n About’ – the entertainment guide of the island - and I got in! I was 18 and I worked for them for two years. Then I moved to Seville, Spain, where I lived for a year and a half, working in a TexMex restaurant, studying Spanish and just having a lot of fun!

In 2000 my dad moved to Bonaire permanently. For a long time he’d already had the aloe plantation but then he bought a house here and I came back on a regular basis to help him with the aloe: harvesting and planting. When I decided I wanted to study I went to the University of Amsterdam where I studied cultural studies and anthropology. My Master’s was on Heritage and Identity Formation in the Caribbean.

After my graduation I went straight back to St. Martin where a new job at the *Daily Herald* was waiting for me and where my mom still lived. Guillaume and I had met previously when I was writing my thesis on St. Martin in 2007. Then we met at my mom’s place at the beach, where she had a tiny little shack, a true Caribbean home. I was staying there and Guillaume, who was a friend of hers, was visiting.”

Guillaume: “I knew her mom before I knew her. Of course it was a set up! And it worked out well because it took us a week to fall in love. Mom knows best! Ha ha! When Sanny went to see her dad on Bonaire on Valentine’s Day 2007, after we’d been together for one and a half weeks, I decided to follow her two days later. Bonaire was so laid-back! I fell in love with the island and with Sanny. It was like a pre-honeymoon. Three weeks after we met we moved in together. And from then



Sanny and Gui

on we came to Bonaire at least once a year, always in February, always for our anniversary.

I was born in the center of France, in Clermont-Ferrand, known for its Michelin tires and its volcanoes. I spent 20 years of my life there. However, for all the holidays we would go to Brittany where we had a family house and where some of our family’s roots are. In Brittany I learned how to sail when I was seven or eight, and I got hooked on boating. So, after finishing high school I tried university but it wasn’t my thing. Then I moved permanently to Brittany when I was 23. I started repairing boats and building them as well. I’d finally found my vocation, my trade, my skill. My parents were extremely happy because I had been wandering around for

“We see a future on Bonaire, but we’re always open for new adventures”

years, trying things like a business school in Paris and going to university to study English while their hair was growing grey!”

In 2004 I moved to St. Martin. I loved it and I stayed there for almost 10 years. It’s still a big part of my life, relatively, because the friends I made there are still very close to me. On St. Martin I was a cabinet maker, I repaired boats and the last two years I worked for Island Water World, a shop similar to Budget Marine. And, you know, since I arrived here I’ve already met cruisers on Bonaire who were clients of the shop on St. Martin!

When I was still doing boat repairs our son Kieran was born in 2009. Sanny and I were actually planning on leaving St. Martin when we got the news that we were pregnant. Kieran was a very good surprise; we were over the moon! We postponed our plan to go to Spain because we both had a job and a child was on his way.”



Sanny and Guillaume and their children Sierra-Nova and Kieran

“When Kieran was born,” Sanny says, “we continued life as it was but then, when he was 18 months old, we were planning on going to Spain again because I love Spain! To me it was the perfect combination between the Caribbean and Europe. You’re in Europe and you have a whole continent. You’re not stuck on a rock! At night it’s alive and sociable; everybody is out in the streets including the kids, and people are walking, talking and dining – generally having a good time! To me it’s just ideal!” “I was ready for a change,” Guillaume adds. “Although I could have stayed on St. Martin.

However, again we got pregnant but as we’d made the decision to leave the island we went to France to live with family.”

“I was six months pregnant and since

of the Botica in Playa, had said that he really needed help at Onima,” Sanny says, “and since I’ve always helped him from when I was very young, I’ve learned what a unique product our aloe is in the world. So it was a good call! It’s a big challenge because I’m a journalist and all of a sudden I am in marketing. But it’s going well; we are growing steadily and a lot of new stuff is happening. We have a new website www.onima-aloe.com and we have new dispensers and new labels coming. The plantation is growing and we’re doing tours, we’re also on the new route of *Bara di Karta* and slowly but surely we’re putting Onima back on the map and it’s fun!

I haven’t forgotten my real passion though. I’m still freelancing for Caribbean magazines and *The Bonaire Reporter*. I also do translations from Dutch, French and Spanish into English and I recently started my own one-woman company called ‘Words & More.’ I do stories, texts, proofreading, editing, translations, tours and travels. I feel that on Bonaire there are a lot of companies and media that use incorrect English and I would like to help people with that.

When I worked for Isona, the cultural department of St. Martin, I did – during a six-month leave from *The Daily Herald* – a project with Jay Havisser. At the end I wrote a book called *Caught in Time*, about St. Martin’s intangible cultural heritage, which was published with the help of the Prince Bernard Culture Funds. So you see, I’ve got years of experience!

We see a future on Bonaire, but we’re always open for new adventures.” She laughs and looks at Guillaume who says, “For now we’ve found a base for us and the kids. At the moment it’s good to have some stability at school, especially for Kieran, and we both have interesting work that we love. We’ve met some great people and this island is and will be always very special to us – it’s our little haven.” ■

Story by Greta Kooistra, & photos by Casper Douma



Master Shipwright Visits Stormvogel



Shipwright Bruce Halabisky

Bonaire had a special visitor arrive in September by the name of Bruce Halabisky. Bruce has been a wooden boat shipwright and marine carpenter for the past 25 years. He received an invitation from *Fundashon Patrimonio Marítimo Boneiru* (Bonaire Maritime Heritage Foundation) to visit *Stormvogel*, the last of the wooden sailing cargo boats from the ABC Islands. Halabisky then applied to the nonprofit Center for Wooden Boats in Seattle, Washington USA, and received a grant to cover travel costs to the island.

"I have visited other countries with rich maritime histories where the wisdom to record that history arrived a generation too late, and most of the information was lost forever. But I also have worked on similar projects like this before so I thought I might be able to help in some way to preserve this important bit of Bonaire history. I think we are just in time to save *Stormvogel* and possibly rekindle the pride of one of the strongest boatbuilding traditions in the Caribbean."

Part of that boatbuilding tradition is Johnny Craane, head of restoration for Project *Stormvogel*. He was glad to have Halabisky visit the old boat. "Bruce was here for six days and we got a lot accomplished. He surveyed the whole ship and agreed on how we are now re-building the framing. He also helped us plan a materials list of the nails, planks and rigging we will need for the next steps."

"Obviously, materials are a challenge to obtain on a small island far from the mainland," says Halabisky. "But *Stormvogel* herself is a testament that this obstacle has been dealt with before. The biggest challenge is the staggering amount of work necessary to finish the job. From what I saw of the project's volunteers, there is not only a dogged enthusiasm, but also a deep pool of talent from which to draw in putting *Stormvogel* back together."

Halabisky, working with board member Patrick Holian, took detailed measurements of the 45-foot long sloop during his visit. From this data he will make line drawings—a scaled, dimensional representation that will accurately reflect the exact shape of *Stormvogel*. This will be the first permanent record of any of the boats ever built on Bonaire. The old shipwrights usually built by eye, intuition and perhaps a small model. Halabisky also plans to make a 3-D model from the line drawings and donate it to the project.



Johnny Craane and Bruce Halabisky carefully take measurements of *Stormvogel*'s hull

Having these visual records is great insurance. If the boat's hull should collapse during restoration due to an unforeseen event, the crew would be able to reconstruct *Stormvogel*'s distinctive shape from the drawings and model.

The experienced shipwright also joined the crew in harvesting kui (mesquite wood) from the *mondi*. This timber will be used to replace rotted ribs in the boat's frame. Joining him were a number of young people from Project *Stormvogel*'s Junior Shipwright program. This educational outreach initiative, funded in part by the Prins Bernhard Cultuurfonds for the Caribbean, teaches local youth about Bonaire's rich maritime heritage while they work with experienced boat builders. It is an integral part of Project *Stormvogel*. Halabisky also took time to speak at *Scholengemeenschap-Bonaire* (SGB High School) to about 30 students on careers in boat building. Bruce just completed a 10-year circumnavigation on his own wooden sloop, *Vixen*. He financed much of the voyage by working on wooden boat restorations around the world. Between those funds and those from his wife, Tiffany, who worked as a yoga instructor, the adventurous couple not only funded their sailing travel, but also supported two daughters who were born during the voyage.

Luckily for Project *Stormvogel*, Halabisky generously donated his knowledge and time even during these busy days when his family is trying to re-establish a land-based lifestyle on a Puget Sound island near the Canadian border. Part of the reason for his visit may be due to the urgency to save our island's nautical culture. "As I started learning more about the rich maritime history—the relatively recent history—of Bonaire, I was amazed that the boatbuilding skills and the boats themselves have been allowed to vanish without a trace. Here in Bonaire you have what was once considered to be the fastest and most seaworthy sailboats of the whole Caribbean. And yet today there is not a single vessel like *Stormvogel* still sailing. Not only that, but there is really no record of their hull shapes or even any models

existing. Already the younger generation is asking what were the boats like that their grandfathers built and aside from *Stormvogel* there is nothing to show them. For me, this is an extremely worthwhile endeavor." ■ Story & photos by Patrick Holian



Bruce and Jim Madden collecting kui wood from the *mondi* to make ribs for *Stormvogel*


Just in from the Peru World Sunfish Sailing Championship Regatta:

After one day of racing Bonaire Sunfish team members Brayan Thode and Nils van Eldik are at a respectable 9th and 16th place against some of the world's best sailors.



Bobbejan's



"Great food, great value!!"
Neptune, New Jersey USA - Sept. 2013

"Hopi dushi mes."
Kralendijk, Bonaire - Nov. 2012

"Heel erg lekker"
Amsterdam, The Netherlands - July 2013

WEEKENDS ONLY...

Friday	6-10 PM
Saturday	6-10 PM
Sunday	12-2 & 6-10 PM

Bonaire Regatta 2015

Without exception every single person we talked to said this year's Regatta was the best yet. Relocated to Sunset Beach, renamed Coco Beach, it is the site of the original Hotel Bonaire which hosted some of the best Bonaire Regattas of the last century. It lasted for four intense days and nights (7- 10 October) this year with sailing races and family activities in the day and a "county fair" atmosphere on the beach complete with a midway and big-name acts in the evening.

As is traditional, the Regatta this year was dedicated to those who influenced the event: Hubert "Ibo" Domacassé and Captain Don Stewart, the participants of the first Regatta 48 years ago; Jan 'Skip' Ackermans, supporter and Curacao yacht competitor; and micro-boat pioneer, Roy Winklaar, all of whom passed away recently.

Most of the sailing was between the beach and Klein Bonaire. The evolution from sailing/fishing boats and yachts to small boats and board sailing continued with lots of serious competition. The finish line was just off the beach offering a great view. Final race results were not available at press time— see the Regatta website, www.bonaireregatta.org

Power boats got to enjoy the raft-up boat party a relatively recent addition to the festivities.

Considering the huge turnout, the new venue and the expanded event schedule there were few glitches, the primary ones being road traffic and parking. ■ G.D.



Cover Story

Hype Productions photo

Huge crowds came to watch the evening entertainment and stroll the midway



Ubaldo Anthony photo

Tiny optimists and ocean-going racing yachts shared the water.



Casper Douma photo

Strong winds made for great sailing.



Ubaldo Anthony photo

The Budget Marine Boat Party was a blast

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Annual Klein Bonaire Swim

The Bonaire Barracudas Swim and Water Polo Club partnered with Jong Bonaire for first official Open Water Swim Race to Klein Bonaire in combination with the 15th anniversary of the annual free public swim fundraiser. All proceeds from the race and fun swim went to the Jong Bonaire Foundation.

In the public swim 512 people, aged from 5 to 74, participated, a new record for the event. In the racing 27 competitive swimmers, aged 14 and older, took part in the first official international swimming race to Klein Bonaire. The contest followed official FINA (*Federation Internationale de Natation*) regulations, conducted by FINA referee Gladwin the Lanoi from Curacao.

Swimmers left from the beach of Spice Beach Club at Eden Beach Resort to swim to Klein Bonaire and back, a total distance of approximately 1.6 km.

In the racing **Kaelan Betrian** from Curacao was the first swimmer to finish in a time of 0:25.49. **Evy Witlox** from Bonaire was the first lady who finished with a time of 0:26.03.

Other women's results: 14-19 years: **Tirzah Richards (1), Chaz Sweers (2), Ruby van den Berge (3)**. 20-39 years: **Evy Witlox (1) Floortje van Asperen (2), Patricia Wells (3)**. > 40 years: **Anita Smits (1), Simone Sweers (2) Annouck Loos (3)**.

Other men's results: 14-19 years: **Kaelan Betrian (1), Nicolai Pedersen (2), Vince Treurniet (3)**. 20-39 years: **Carlos Coste (1), Hugo Hempel (2), Diederik Wijffels**



(3) > 40 years: **Pieter Zweers (1), Charly Baltayen (2), Paul Morawski (3)**.

There were 50 youngsters under 14 in the fun swim.

The Bonaire Barracudas is a swimming and water polo club with a physiotherapist, dietitian, professional trainers and coaches who accompany members. Besides swimming and water polo, training is also given for 'dry land' and strength training.

The Bonaire Barracudas invites you to join and come along to train and take part in the next event. For more information about training or about sponsorship opportunities, please send a message via e-mail or Facebook.

Contact information: barracudasbonaire@gmail.com, <https://www.facebook.com/BonaireBarracudas?fref=ts>. Or call Annouck Loos at 777-9872. ■ Press release

Word on the Street

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

The recent announcement of the departure of the **St. James School of Medicine** as of the end of this year had both sides (the school and the local/kingdom government) pointing fingers at each other as to the reasons why they decided to leave. Regardless of where the blame lies, rumor on the street is that a "deal" may have been struck and perhaps the school will not be leaving. Time will tell, let's see if the doors re-open in January. More on page 3



◆ Bula often gets phone calls or e-mails asking if she knows why there is no power or water from WEB. Bula usually has the answer and it isn't because she's clairvoyant. **WEB has a Facebook page (WEB Bonaire)** and a website www.webbonaire.com in three languages that keeps residents informed of when and where power or water interruptions may occur due to maintenance or repairs. "Like" their Facebook page to get regular announcements to your FB page or log on to their website which posts all scheduled interruptions. Of course, unexpected events like lightning strikes, accidents, etc. that affect power outages cannot be foretold, but they do eventually provide the explanation for those types of outages once it is known.

◆ **Zen's Cafe**, at the Hato traffic circle, is back to serving lunch again. Lunch specials feature savory local dishes (fish, chicken, goat, beef) to eat in or take away. Prices are a good value ranging from \$6 to \$14.50.

◆ **Immigration and Naturalization** have

changed their hours. They are now open Monday through Thursday non-stop from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. The office is closed to the public on Friday, except for those who have specific appointments.

◆ **In the mood for some body ink?** Now you have more time to take advantage if the mood strikes. Word on the street is that Bushi Tattoo is now open from 9am-noon and 5-8pm, located around the corner from Gio's ice cream next to the Sports and Fishing store.

◆ **Rumor has it that the recently cleared property opposite the airport will be part of a new development of high end homes** with private docks. The same rumors claim that some of the apartments of Plaza Resort located on the "island" across the inlet from that property are included in the plan and will be razed to build additional homes and bridges on that inlet removed to allow for private boat passage. The rumor mill is turning fast about this project, including a rumor that a lawsuit has been filed to stop the development. ■ *Bula Bonaire*



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A Garden? Just Do It!

I'd like to share the wonderful Bonairean eco-tour we - a group of 20 people- did in the morning of October 8 with a great guide, journalist-historian, Bòl Antoin.

It started when some friends and I asked Bòl if he could guide us to a cave. He agreed so that morning at 7:30 we headed to Arawak along the road to Rincon. The tour started with about an hour-long walk through a very tough area to the "Cave of the Virgin." Everywhere there was dry or barely alive **Yatu cactus**, **Frou-Frou**, **Bol cactus** and other types of cactus in between, as well as rocks, a lot of dead trees and dry bush and some live plants with thorns. Bòl gave us a lot of information about these rare plants, many of which are used for medical purposes.

There was the **Red Feira**, very good for a lot of health problems like worms in the body. A tea made from this plant will help children with worms.

Then there was the **wild Wayaca** (ironwood) tree (different from the Wayaca we see in town). In the past people used to brush their teeth with the thin stems. It has also a kind of a mint taste so your mouth feels fresh and clean. (We tried it).



Twigs from this tree are used to brush the teeth

While we walked through the landscape Bòl pointed out more plants, some of which had died. There was the wild **Yerba Hole** which has a very nice smell when you put a leaf under your nose. All the many kinds of Yerba Hole are good to make a nice tea which calms the stomach, bringing down stomach upset and pain. There were also a lot of goat and iguana bones.

Sometimes there was a path, sometimes we had to go through the bush. One person got Yatu cactus needles in the hand, a child slipped and hurt her hand. But Bòl showed us how to put the aloe which was growing there on the wound.

At one point at a higher elevation there was an awesome view over the land to the sea—so wide, wild and such a space.



The popular Feira plant. It is used for different home-medical treatments.

Finally we reached the cave, an enormous one with a large entrance. But because the interior was so small we could only enter in small groups. Bòl was waiting for us inside. It was not far to go in but it was not easy. While sitting and listening to him the lights were turned out at a certain moment and it was really dark! Very scary!

The cave is beautiful like something from a fairy tale with the stalagmites and stalactites. It made me think of the movie, "Lord of the Rings."

After a while we started back, which



The author with the dried old "bark" of Yatu cactus. Children on Bonaire use this for the frame of their kites.

was harder because the sun was stronger and there was less shade. Everybody needed their water bottles. Bòl let us walk by ourselves, then asked who knows the way back? It looked so easy but we were guessing the wrong way nearly every time. And with all the thorny bushes, the sharp rocks, broken bottles and animal bones it was a kind of watch out and walk carefully.

Along the way Bòl pointed out plants and trees like the wild cherry (**Shimaruku**) and talked about other small grapes and berries that grow in that area but are not well known.

Around noon we headed for town, everybody tired but impressed by this tour, a masterpiece of Bonaire's nature. ■

Angliet-Nature lover.

Gezocht Medewerker "Dog Control" programma/Dierenasiel

De Stichting Dierenasiel Bonaire gaat haar activiteiten uitbreiden en zal zich ook bezig gaan houden met het beheer van de honden populatie op Bonaire.

Ten behoeve hiervan zoeken wij een nieuwe medewerk(st)er, voor ± 20 uur per week.

De medewerker zal zowel ingezet worden voor dagelijkse werkzaamheden op het asiel, als voor het "Dog Control" programma.

Ten aanzien van het "Dog Control" programma zal hij/zij meldingen omtrent loslopende honden aannemen en administreren, zal op probleemsituaties met loslopende honden afgaan en daar, zoveel mogelijk in overleg met de betrokkenen, tot een zo goed mogelijke oplossing komen.

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- Bereidheid tot werken op onregelmatige uren.
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- Kennis van Microsoft Office, o.a. Word Excel, Word en Power Point.
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Schriftelijke sollicitaties, vergezeld van een CV, kunnen ingediend worden via email aan animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com of persoonlijk worden afgegeven op het dierenasiel aan de Kaminda Lagoen 26



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MISCELLANEOUS

Dive tanks with valves. 80 cubic ft. aluminum \$65 and 63 cubic ft also available at \$65. Also ex-rental BCDs now available at only \$99. In very good condition. **At the Carib Inn**

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Bonaire-Sun Rise/Set, Moon Phase and Tides

Day	High	Low	High	Low	High	Sunrise	Sunset
Mon 12	00:46 0.42 ft	06:30 0.28 ft	12:50 0.68 ft	21:11 0.18 ft	New Moon	6:25	18:19
Tue 13	02:24 0.37 ft	06:48 0.32 ft	13:28 0.72 ft	22:13 0.12 ft		6:25	18:18
Wed 14	04:12 0.36 ft	07:01 0.35 ft	14:05 0.76 ft	23:01 0.06 ft		6:25	18:17
Thu 15	05:54 0.36 ft	07:05 0.36 ft	14:43 0.81 ft	23:41 0.01 ft		6:25	18:17
Fri 16	06:38 0.37 ft	07:49 0.37 ft	15:21 0.85 ft			6:25	18:16
Sat 17		00:15 -0.03 ft	06:39 0.37 ft	09:03 0.36 ft	16:01 0.89 ft	6:25	18:16
Sun 18		00:47 -0.06 ft	06:47 0.37 ft	10:07 0.34 ft	16:41 0.92 ft	6:25	18:15
Mon 19		01:16 -0.07 ft	07:00 0.40 ft	11:08 0.32 ft	17:23 0.94 ft	6:25	18:15
Tue 20		01:45 -0.08 ft	07:21 0.44 ft	12:09 0.29 ft	18:07 0.93 ft	6:26	18:14
Wed 21		02:14 -0.08 ft	07:49 0.51 ft	13:12 0.27 ft	18:53 0.89 ft	6:26	18:14
Thu 22		02:45 -0.07 ft	08:24 0.59 ft	14:18 0.24 ft	19:42 0.82 ft	6:26	18:13
Fri 23		03:17 -0.05 ft	09:04 0.69 ft	15:30 0.21 ft	20:35 0.72 ft	6:26	18:13
Sat 24		03:51 -0.03 ft	09:50 0.80 ft	16:48 0.18 ft	21:36 0.61 ft	6:26	18:13
Sun 25		04:28 0.01 ft	10:39 0.90 ft	18:09 0.12 ft	22:47 0.49 ft	6:26	18:12
Mon 26		05:10 0.05 ft	11:32 0.99 ft	19:30 0.04 ft		6:27	18:12

FOR SALE: Private property in Re-publiek on Kaya Turkesa # 25, 1,420 m2. Please call 795-9760 or email: dovale-laurie@gmail.com.

Small studio for rent as of end of September. With roof terrace, 2 minutes walking from Bachelors Beach. Completely furnished including water, electricity, wifi, TV price \$325 per month. 2 months deposit. Year contract. No cats, no dogs, one person only. Address Kaya Uranus 4b Belnem. Theresebonaire@gmail.com mobile phone 00 599 785-9900 home phone 00 599 717-2698

House for rent at Zuid Nikiboko (Kaya Avelino Cicilia #62)- 2 bedrooms each with airco, 1 bathroom, kitchen/living room/dining room/porch in front/washing room/back porch. Excl. water, electric, cable & Internet. 1 month deposit, Available 1 December, Call 786-1800 for more information.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING



CALLS	DAY	DATE	NAME	ARR/DEP	CAPACITY	CRUISE LINE
Cruise Ship Schedule						
5	Tuesday	13-10-15	Monarch	0800-1800	2744	Pullmantur
6	Tuesday	20-10-15	Monarch	0800-1800	2744	Pullmantur
7	Wednesday	21-10-15	Oosterdam	0800-1800	2388	HAL

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 Koecks 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**—Usually the last Saturday of the month, 8am-1pm. 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 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.

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 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. STCB presentation will be taking place upstairs at Yellow Submarine Dive Shop, Kaya Playa Lechi 24 courtesy of Dive Friends.

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 Cruxita 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; Martytjin@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 Antrio, 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

CLOSE-IN EVENTS

Saturday, October 17-Bingo/Big Bazaar at Hotel Roomers, to benefit the Bonaire Animal Welfare Organization and Food Bank. Great prizes. More on page 6 October 21-22-

Sunday, October 25—Drag Races on Rincon Road. More info not available.

Friday, October 30—Classical Music Concert: The Amstel Saxophone Quartet, at Cacique Hall, Plaza Hotel, 8 pm. Tickets: \$35, students, \$10. Tickets at Addo's, Flamingo Book Store, Valerie's Airport Shop or WWW.Classicalmusicbonaire.com. Poster on page 11

Saturday, October 31-Monthly Cultural Market at Mangazina di Rei, 8am-1pm, local crafts, produce, Creole kitchen, educational presentations.

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: iglesiadicristo-bonaire@gmail.com ■



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Animal Shelter Tips & News

The Bonaire Animal Shelter is a refuge for dogs and cats that can no longer be cared for by their owners, have been abandoned, or were born in the wild and brought in by concerned citizens and tourists. The Shelter also offers a boarding place for cats and dogs. And there is a gift shop on the premises to help raise money to sustain the Shelter.



Lions Club members and future Lions Club members at the Animal Shelter Bonaire with Pet of the Week "Noa" modeling again.

A huge thanks to the Lions Club for the great donation of dog and cat food for World Animal Day. We're glad so many of you were there to present all that wonderful food!

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AT THE ANIMAL SHELTER

The objective of this program is to create awareness about Animals, Nature and Environmental issues.

Our young volunteer program provides a unique opportunity to help young citizens grow into compassionate adults, responsible and better educated pet caregivers, and supporters of animal protection. By partnering with other organizations the youth will better understand environmental dynamics and will know what they can do to protect the animals, oceans and Bonaire's wildlife.



CIEE Bonaire welcomed the young volunteers and staff of Animal Shelter to teach about coral reef ecology.

Along with teaching and research, CIEE Bonaire is also dedicated to various outreach programs that enrich the lives of the local community. Their program focuses on a broad range of marine topics as well as human impacts and conservation as they relate to the island. It was very inter-

esting to see how the creatures on the reef of Bonaire live, feed, survive and the different roles they play. All differently shaped mouths that eat different things, and all life on the reef is influenced by each other.

Pets of the Week



Volunteers Lilian (13) and Rosa (14) with Pets of the Week "Noa" and "Flora" who are showing off the new line of Animal Shelter Bonaire collars. These collars are handmade by our young volunteers. They are one of a kind, original design in the colors of the Shelter.

MEET NOA (LEFT) & FLORA (RIGHT)

Noa is a sweet, easy going, handsome young boy who is about 5 months old. He is very happy, likes to play and is very good with other dogs. He looks after the smaller puppies very well, and hopefully a nice family will adopt him very soon!

Next to Noa is Flora. She is the sweetest thing! She likes to cuddle, is very obedient and perfect with kids. She will fit right in with a family who is looking for a nice family dog.

There must be a loving family somewhere who can take care of them. They will promise to give you a lifetime of unconditional love, loyalty and friendship.

All the adoptable animals at the Animal Shelter Bonaire are treated against ticks and fleas, are de-wormed, vaccinated and micro chipped.

If you are interested in meeting Noa or Flora or even both of them, come and visit the Animal Shelter Bonaire at Kaminda Lagun 26a or call for information 717-4989. E-mail to animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com. They are on Facebook too. ■ Story & photos by Natalie Peterson

CIEE students also come and help out at the Animals Shelter this way we can exchange our knowledge and make a better place.

Would you like to have more information about the program or would you like to support the program come and visit the Animal Shelter Bonaire at Kaminda La-

gun 26a or call for information 717 4989/ 701 4989 E-mail to animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com

and like us on Facebook ■ Stories & photos by Natalie Peterson



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THE STARS HAVE IT

October 2015



BONAIRE SKY PARK*

*to find it... just look up

OCTOBER SKY CALENDAR

ARIES (Mar. 21- April 20) Opportunities to get ahead are evident. Do not sign your life away. Your involvement with groups will raise your self esteem. You may be uncertain about some of your coworkers and your boss. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Wednesday.

TAURUS (Apr. 21- May 21) Keep your thoughts to yourself for the time being. Your ability to help others will win you points. Don't bother retaliating, just walk away. Be sure to cover all the necessary groundwork before signing binding contracts. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Wednesday.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21) You won't be able to keep a secret. You can discuss your intentions and ideas with your colleagues or friends this month. Don't let others try to create unwarranted guilt if you can't meet their demands. It's time to reevaluate your motives. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Saturday.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) You need to get down to basics with regard to yourself. You must take care not to over exert yourself if involved in sports. Be aware that a female you work with may be trying to hold you back. Don't say things that could be damaging later on. Cut loose. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Friday.

LEO (July 23-Aug 22) Help others solve their dilemmas. You will have a blowup this month if your partner does things that you feel are not aboveboard. You won't impress anyone by being overly generous. Responsibilities with respect to older relatives may be a burden. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Tuesday.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) Avoid friends or acquaintances who drink too much. You may be frazzled this month. Compromise if you have to, to avoid verbal battles. Ask a close friend for advice. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Tuesday.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) Take time to talk things over. Travel for business or

pleasure. Your lover may feel rejected. Keep your feelings to yourself if you want to avoid embarrassment. Your ideas will be well received. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Thursday.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22- Satisfy your passionate mood. Keep calm. Someone around you is bouncing off the walls. Get back to basics and reevaluate what is important in life. You just hate waste, and when someone else costs you dearly you see red. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Sunday.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) You don't need to pay out in order to have fun. If boredom has set in, find new and unique directions that offer interesting friendships. Keep an open mind when listening to the opinions of others. This will be a good day for research and for sitting down with some good, informative reading material. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Sunday.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) Don't gossip. You may need a physical outlet that will help you relieve your tension. Your ability to come up with original ideas will bring recognition from superiors. Opportunities for love will develop while traveling or while attending religious functions. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Thursday.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) Your ability to do detailed work will dazzle those who are less creative. Your compassion will be appreciated more than you can imagine. Romance appears. You may need a good friend to lean on. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Friday.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) You may have taken on a little too much, but you will enjoy every minute of it. Things will be emotional with your mate. Your mate will appreciate your honesty. Don't over-extend yourself in the process. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Sunday. ■

Michael Thiessen

Lots to see this month:
October 12— New Moon, 8:06pm. At this stage, the **Moon** is not illuminated by direct sunlight and is completely invisible to the naked eye.

October 13 – After midnight – That multi-colored star you see in the southeastern sky after midnight (until dawn) is **Sirius**, in the constellation **Canis Major**. It's sometimes called the **Dog Star**.

October 15 – After sunset, look to the western horizon to see the tiny waxing crescent Moon and **Saturn** (and the star **Antares**)!

October 16 – Wow, look at this lineup! In the sky before dawn, look for **Venus, Jupiter, Mars and Mercury** (Mercury will be closest to the horizon).

October 17— Mars and Jupiter will be very close together before dawn for the next two days.

October 18— Look to the east about an hour before sunrise to see the line up of these four planets: Venus, Jupiter, Mars and Mercury!

October 19— The **waxing crescent Moon** and **Neptune** are very close.

October 20— **First Quarter Moon**, 4:31 pm. In this phase, the Moon looks like a half-Moon in the sky. One-half of the Moon is illuminated by direct sunlight while the illuminated part is increasing, on its way to full.

October 21-22— **The Orionid Meteor Showers**. These showers originate from debris from the most famous and well-known of all comets, **Halley's Comet**. The sky will be nice and dark because the Moon will have set already, making for good viewing. These meteors radiate from a point near the club of the constellation Orion. The bright star near the radiant point is **Betelgeuse**. Best visible looking to the south, between 2 and 4am, in any time zone.

On the evening of October 20th to the early morning of October 21st, get outside, somewhere with no light pollution, and look for the annual Orionid meteor shower.

What are the **Orionids**? They are caused from debris from the most famous of all comets, **Halley's Comet**. The comet last visited **Earth** in 1986 and will return next in 2061. Debris in the orbit of this comet – the Orionid meteor stream – is now encounter-



Orionid meteor shower radiants

ing Earth's atmosphere. It is called Orionids because the meteors seem to emerge or radiate from the constellation **Orion**.

The best time to observe any meteor shower is during the early morning hours, between midnight and 5am., regardless of your time zone. Generally, with the Orionids, observers can expect to see **20-25 meteors per hour**.

The meteors, which are vaporizing bits of comet ice and dust, will look like streaks of light in the night sky. They're often referred to as shooting stars (so feel free to make a wish!).

As you look into the predawn sky, you'll also get to see the slim **waning crescent moon** rising which, fortunately, will not interfere with the visibility of this meteor shower. Also, before dawn, be on the lookout for the sky's brightest star, **Sirius**. Jupiter will also be very bright before dawn, and will be visible in its spot high in the sky.

October 24 – The large, **waxing Moon** will be right between planets **Uranus** and **Neptune**. Because the Moon will be so big and bright, you will not be able to see the two planets without a telescope. Look to the southeast in the evening.

October 26 – Venus reaches its greatest elongation west of the **Sun** in the morning sky. Look to the east, before dawn: Venus is also very close to Jupiter and Mars, which will be the closest for all of 2015. We won't see this close of a grouping of planets until January 2021.

October 27 – **Full Hunter's Moon**, astronomically full at 8:05am. In this phase, the entire disc of the Moon is fully illuminated by direct sunlight. Though the Moon is only technically in this phase for a few seconds, it is considered "full" for the entire day of the event and appears full for three days.

north. ■ Dean Regas & James Albury

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