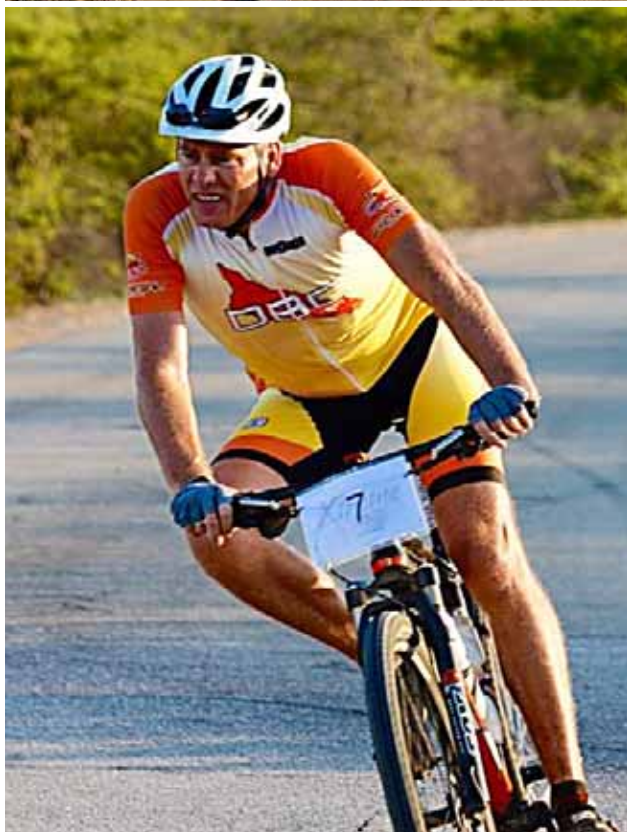


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BONAIRE Bonaire Reporter- Oct. 26-Nov. 9, 2015, Year 22, Issue 19
The REPORTER
BES Island News Too

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Duo Xtreme 2015: 76 km elite course, 51 km pro course, 8 nationalities, 74 participants 5.5 hours of mountain biking

YOUNIQ EXPERIENCES

Flotsam and Jetsam

BOINAIRE The REPORTER



► On Monday, October 19, the Dutch Caribbean Police Force (KPCN) started a **recruitment campaign for aspiring police officers**. The Force is looking for candidates for the police officer two-year training which starts soon. With the theme, "Do you have the guts? We have the job!" candidates were called upon to apply on Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba. On all three islands information sessions will be held.

On Tuesday, October 27, there will be an information session at Jong Bonaire from 6:30pm to 8:30pm. Interested persons have until October 31 to apply. Applicants will receive notice within two weeks whether or not they have passed the first selection round, the letter selection.

► **Bonaire has been nominated as one of the Best Caribbean Destinations for Adventure** by the most read daily newspaper in America, *USA Today*. The nominated island that receives the most votes will be awarded the #1 Caribbean island for Adventure. You can vote once a day from now through November 9, noon ET.

Bonaire is currently ranked #10 of the 20 islands that were nominated. **We would like to make Bonaire #1, so please join us in voting for our "Divers' Paradise"** here: <http://www.10best.com/awards/travel/best-caribbean-destination-for-adventure/?csp=Newsletter-Readers-Choice&csp=>.

We encourage you to share this link with your friends, colleagues, social media followers, etc.

► **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.**

The Foundation urgently needs funding in order to keep ticket prices low and maintain the high caliber of artists. They are asking audience members to see if they can bring along more people to the concerts as well as recommending the concerts themselves to friends and acquaintances.

Please also consider becoming a friend of the Classical Music Board and make an annual donation. Details of how to do so can be found on the CMBB website (see ad poster on page 11). **Go to the next concert, Colorful Saxophones, on the 30th October** where you can enjoy the performance of great artists in a very personal setting. In Europe or in the US you would have to pay much more to attend such a performance as well as having to enjoy it in a much larger and impersonal setting.

► The Government of Bonaire, through its Community and Care Section, Education and Wellbeing Directorate, is taking action these days to **check on pupils coming to school late**. Under the compulsory education law parents have a responsibility to make sure their children are at school on time every school day.



► **The Balentien family (above) received a new home recently after their house on Kaya Karpitan in Antriol was destroyed by a fire in May.** The new house on Kaya Bamba was made available by the government after being renovated by participants in the island's

Construction Job Program. Commissioner in charge of Social Affairs Benito Dirksz handed the keys over to Valerio Balentien, who will also be joining the Job Program (see below) in Agriculture to secure work in the farming sector so he can better support his wife and children.

► Deputy Benito Dirksz visited young people participating in a training session of the **Construction Job Program** recently. After six weeks of practice in the construction industry, several young people received work from several contractors as part of the Construction Job Program.

On Thursday, October 29, the youngsters take an aptitude/practical test. In the coming weeks another class begins which will focus on working as electricians and welders. It's for persons over the age of 18. Get information by calling 717-1719.

► **WILLEMSTAD--Cooking gas supplier Curgas, which is a subsidiary of Curaçao fuel distributor Curoil which provides fuels to Bonaire, is going to buy 1,700 new 100 lb. gas cylinders** because of the poor state of many of the tanks now in circulation. Many of these metal tanks are completely rusted from below, which according to the government owned company is because people do not put them on a concrete surface. The tanks should be available in December.

► Flight navigation in the southern Caribbean is monitored from Curacao and for years has been using radar and manual methods. Now the Dutch Caribbean Air Navigation Service Provider (DC-ANSP), the air traffic services provider for the Region (FIR) will get **100% air traffic surveillance using a space-based global air traffic surveillance system in 2018.** The Curaçao FIR covers 300,000 square kilometers adjacent to Venezuela, Puerto Rico, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Jamaica and Colombia.

► The Bonaire Executive Council has appointed seven persons as members of a committee headed by lawyer **Douwe Boersema to plan for the upcoming December 18 referendum** to determine

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Flotsam & Jetsam (Cont. from page 2)
 if Bonaire's people are satisfied with the government structure established on 10 October 2010. The committee will submit an action plan and proposed budget for approval to the Council.

Last week the Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) said that **inflation, based on the consumer price index (CPI) on the three islands of the Caribbean Netherlands – Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba - was negative in the third quarter of 2015.** Bonaire and St. Eustatius had already been negative for first two quarters of this year. This is good news for prices had been rising for several years. Bonaire's inflation rate was -0.9%. Food prices were lower (due to the "Bondigro effect?") in the third quarter than a year ago, pushing down the inflation rate.

► National Ombudsman of the Netherlands, Reinier van Zutphen, is upset. He says the island government (OLB) of Bonaire has failed to communicate adequately with its citizens. In his report entitled *En toen bleef het stil* (And Then it Went Quiet) for five different complaints filed on the island the local government was very slow to respond, or that action was only taken when the Ombudsman got involved. "During all that time, the citizens concerned remained in the dark about what they could expect from the OLB," he wrote.

The ombudsman selected five cases for investigation. They regarded matters such as land leasing deals and the

granting of a diving license. Because his intervention produced no response, the ombudsman sent several reminders to the Executive Council. However, he too received no response.



► There was a small party at the building site of the new **Kolegio Strea Briante (formerly the Watapana School) location**, celebrating reaching the highest point of the new building, a local and Dutch tradition. Director Jubella Balentin and Ronald Haafkes from the contractor BonNed spilled champagne over the top of the aerial work platform. (Photo XpEdition Paradise)

The new Strea Briante complex includes two school buildings with in total 12 classrooms and one building with auxiliary and an ICT and office space. According to plan, the **Kolegio Strea Briante** will be ready by mid-December 2015. The Watapana School has long received significant praise for its special education efforts.

(Continued on page 6)

► **Observers found no surprises in the bipartisan report of the Caribbean Netherlands Evaluation Committee** on the effect of the change to the BES Islands political status to "closer ties" with the European Netherlands (the 10-10-10 constitutional structure). It formally documented the discontent of the people of Bonaire, Statia and Saba regarding the new arrangement. Medical services, schools and some social services received praise. But overall the islanders were not as well off as anticipated and certainly not as prosperous as European Dutch citizens. The report noted that islanders lost purchasing power and more people dropped below the poverty line. The hope for a better life resulting from direct ties with the Netherlands did not happen.

The report observed that the Fundamental social and economic structure of the islands was not sufficiently taken into account: "The three islands are really each an independent country, with their own ports, airports, water supply, electricity and Internet. But they are too small to offer all types of education, medical care or police tasks."

It was implemented poorly: "There was no uniform approach or vision. It is difficult to identify precisely who was responsible for which change. There may also be events over which policy has no influence, such as issues relating to health or public safety."

It was relatively expensive: "In 2014 (the Dutch) central government spent over €248 million on this. The islands' executive councils also spent money. This brings total government spending for the Caribbean Netherlands to €316 million - €13,020 per inhabitant." It implied that much of this money went to fund advisors



and experts from the Netherlands send to assist the transition.

Living conditions deteriorated for many people: "Between 2010 and 2013 wages on Bonaire rose by 6%, but prices by 10%. On Sint Eustatius, wages rose by 2% but prices by 16%. And on Saba wages rose by 6% but prices by 12%. In other words, purchasing power decreased substantially. That was not just caused by 10-10-10, but also by the rise in world prices and the limited competition on the islands."

Partly this was greed: "... shopkeepers did raise many prices after the introduction of the dollar in 2011, which was not what was required."

What does the Committee think should be done with this huge professional report? "The committee would like the results of the evaluation to form the basis for an initiative to bring the original objectives (simply put, a better life for BES islanders... ed.) of the constitutional change within reach in the coming years. This requires the administrators that commissioned the evaluation, jointly and in cooperation with the inhabitants of Bonaire, Sint Eustatius and Saba, to continue to work on trust-inspiring measures." ■ G.D.

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Letters to the Editor



PRAISE FOR SAN FRANCISCO HOSPITAL

Dear Editor:

As frequent visitors to Bonaire for 30+ years, we have always enjoyed everything the island has to offer – the diving, the people, etc. Most of our visits are quite pleasurable. But, on occasion, we have had to use the emergency room services at the Fundashon Mariadal Hospital. We want to thank the entire emergency room staff for their attentive and competent care on each of those visits. And special thanks to Dr. Lunt (for Rosemary - 2010) and Dr. Van Der Vaart (for Jim – 2015) who provided expert analysis and diagnosis on two of those occasions.

-Rosemary Kurtti and Jim Leffard

WARNING

Dear Editor:

There are two very good sayings that a lot of people should think about.

“Tourism is like fire. It can cook your food or burn your house down.”

“They destroyed the very thing they came to see.” -Bruce Bowker



Picture Yourself With The Reporter Paracas, Peru

“Here is a photo from Paracas in Peru, where our boys Bryan and Nils participated in the Worlds Sunfish Sailing Competition. See pg 9,

Even there we didn't forget you! They had a real good time and did very well.”

WIN A PRIZE

Take a photo of yourself with a copy of *The Bonaire Reporter*. Email it to 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!



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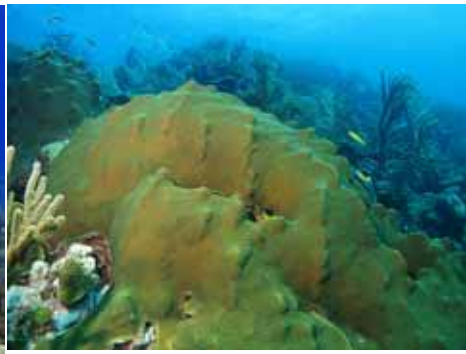
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Diver Impacts On the Reef and What We Can Do



A diver enjoys the dive site Karpata.
Photo: Patrick Lyons



The boulder star coral, a type of massive coral, creates the structural foundation on which the entire coral reef depends. Photo: Patrick Lyons



Dr. Enrique Arboleda takes a video that will be used to examine the abundance of different sessile benthic organisms. Photo: Stephanie Villalobos



Branching corals such as this staghorn coral create complex structure in which many creatures eat, sleep, and hide. Photo: Patrick Lyons

DIVER'S PARADISE

Often described as the rainforests of the sea, coral reefs are home to more plants and animals than any other marine ecosystem on the planet. Consequently, coral reefs are sought out by the growing number of recreational SCUBA divers. Bonaire and its coral reefs greatly benefit from these divers. The economy of Bonaire is undeniably reliant on diving tourism, and divers themselves can be a good force for reef health by removing debris and invasive species such as lionfish. More broadly, a sense of coral reef stewardship can be instilled in a person simply by taking them diving. Environmentalist Baba Dioum once famously stated, *In the end we will conserve only what we love*, and who could dive on one of Bonaire's reefs and not begin to fall in love? Sadly, while divers can be beneficial to the reef, they can also cause harm by physically damaging coral.

CIEE BONAIRE'S INVESTIGATION OF DIVER IMPACTS

A team of professors, interns, and students from CIEE Research Station recently published a scientific study on the effects of recreational SCUBA divers on Bonaire's reefs. We visited nine popular dive sites throughout Bonaire and compared the sessile benthic organisms (those attached to the bottom, such as corals, seaweeds, and sponges) at the dive entrances (yellow dive buoy and/or yellow rock) to an area 200 meters away from the buoy/rock, a distance that few recreational SCUBA divers typically swim. These benthic organisms come in a variety of shapes and sizes and are important to coral reefs for many reasons (see photos). We estimated the abundance of different stony and soft corals, sponges, and other sessile benthic animals using videos and photographs and also measured structural complexity or how complicated the surface of the reef is. A completely flat reef has less structural complexity than one with

many upright structures.

Our results show that SCUBA divers have a clear impact on Bonaire's reefs. In areas heavily trafficked by divers, there was roughly 10% lower structural complexity. This is important because a reduction in structural complexity means that mobile animals, such as fishes, have fewer places to hide. There was also a shift in the entire sessile benthic reef community from one dominated by stony corals to one dominated by soft corals, sponges, sand, and dead coral rubble. Stony corals were 27% less abundant in heavy versus light diving traffic areas, which is alarming given that these corals form the foundation of the entire reef. We think this large decrease is due to a link between divers and disease. Similar to how scrapes or cuts make humans more prone to infection, when corals are touched by divers, they lose their outer mucous layer that is their first line of defense against pathogens. In Bonaire, very high disease prevalence has been noted in the past, with over 90% of some coral species having diseases.

EDUCATION IS KEY

The latter part of Baba Dioum's statement referenced above goes, *we will love only what we understand, and we will understand only what we are taught*. We are convinced that with better education, the effect of divers in Bonaire can be lessened. Multiple studies have indicated that environmentally focused dive briefings that stress the fragility of coral ecosystems and good diving practices can reduce contacts with the reef by as much as 70%. The framework for this education is already in place during the checkout dive and on-land orientation that are mandated by the Bonaire National Marine Park. During this orientation it should be stressed that corals are living organisms that are incredibly fragile despite their robust appearance and that touching

corals and other organisms is completely unacceptable. Several studies have indicated that intervention by guides during dives reduces contacts by as much as 80%, particularly with divers struggling with buoyancy issues. The checkout dive is a useful tool to ensure proper weighting and buoyancy control.

Unfortunately, there are also the divers who have good buoyancy, but just don't care about the damage they cause because to them, the freedom to dive how they want outweighs the damage caused. How we combat this is with a collective effort. When one dive shop doesn't allow bad behavior by a customer, other dive shops should stand behind the first dive shop rather than stealing the customer and allowing them to continue diving like a kid in a candy store. Every dive business is reliant on healthy reefs for tourists to enjoy, and by allowing poor diving practices, we are undermining Bonaire's livelihood.

A CALL TO ACTION

Coral reefs face major global challenges in

the upcoming years as bleaching events and increasingly acidic waters take their toll on reef health. Unfortunately, there is very little that Bonaire can do directly about those problems. However, what we do to control small-scale local stressors such as overfishing, nutrient pollution, and diver impacts can help corals increase their resilience, or their ability to recover from large-scale disturbances like bleaching events. Essentially, by managing local stressors like diver effects, we can give our reefs a better chance of surviving global problems. With better diver education we believe this is possible and we look forward to a bright future for Bonaire's reefs. This project wouldn't have been possible without the help of staff and students. Special thanks to Dr. Rita Peachey and Marc Tsagaris for their ideas and support. If you would like to read the scientific paper, please email Dr. Patrick Lyons (plyons@cieebonaire.org) for a pdf. ■
Story by Dr. Patrick Lyons, Casey Benkwitt, and Astrid Verstappen-de Jager, CIEE Research Station Bonaire

Flotsam and Jetsam (Continued from page 3)

► Check out Green Label in the next few days. They have just received a shipment of healthy herbs for the garden: all kinds of basil, rosemary, mint, oregano, sweet potato and more, for just \$3 each. They also have a lovely selection of gorgeous orchid plants at affordable prices.

► In the last issue of *The Reporter*, there was an editorial, "Donkey Down," concerning a dying mother donkey and her baby. Evidence showed the mother had been down for several days but continued to nurse the foal. The island vet was called but the mother died the following day. Starvation and dehydration had taken their toll.

Because I wrote that, "I for one, feel the Animal Shelter Bonaire has it right: sterilization," one reader asked that I

make it clear that the Animal Shelter has nothing to do with donkeys. The Animal Shelter is busy with cats and dogs, sometimes birds. But donkeys...no.

We and others tried unsuccessfully to catch the foal. The Donkey Sanctuary was called and a team of volunteers came out five different times but the baby escaped under the cactus and low growing brush.

"Currently two groups on Bonaire are concerned with the welfare of our donkeys. They approach the preservation of the animals differently.... 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." Especially when it's possible to prevent it. ■
G./L.D.

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On The Island Since... 2002 – Nicole de Hoogh

“I saw an ad on the internet where they were looking for a receptionist at Sorobon Beach Resort. I responded to it, not knowing it was on Bonaire because I didn’t read the ad that well! I went for an interview twice in Haarlem, Holland, then I was hired. My sister Peggy who also lives on an island – a Dutch one called Terschelling – was the only one who knew about my plans. Because you see, in 1997 I was going to work for Princess Cruises but then my dad passed away. My mom couldn’t stay alone so I stayed at home with her. In fact, I’d wanted to leave Holland since 1995 – just for the adventure. I’m not a backpacker, but to live and work somewhere else in the world was very appealing to me.



Nicole

I came here without any expectations; I was just looking forward to a new challenge. Everybody in Holland was very positive – including my mom, even though it was tough for her – but all friends and family told me to grab the opportunity. And look! Thirteen years later I’m still here.

The first five months I worked at Sorobon Beach Resort – which was still the naturist resort at the time – and it was a great job. However, I was also living on the grounds and except for a scooter I didn’t have any means of transport. After partying in town during my days off, I had to drive my scooter to Sorobon through the country roads during the darkest hours of the night and to be honest... it didn’t always feel good! Hahaha!

Then I was asked by Plaza Resort to work at the Banana Tree restaurant, where I became the manager after two months. I stayed with them for two and a half years, then I took a break. One night, at a dance class of Marjorie and Roy, I realized I was fed up with doing nothing and I cried out, ‘Does anybody have a job for me?’ and Lydia and Richard Duyn hired me on the spot to do their administration part-time. At night I worked as a waitress at Casa Blanca Restaurant.

I had and still have a great group of friends. I was single and we were most of the time at Bongos (what’s now Spice) at the beach and at night at the bar. However, we also went to camp at Slagbaai or we would go to Curacao to spend the weekend. By the end of 2006 I had a boyfriend and we moved in together. But I still was doing my own thing and so was he. That’s why I was able to go to Venezuela with a girlfriend of mine. She was a very adventurous type – which I am not – so we had a lot of fun and we even made a jungle tour which was a total culture shock for me. Hahaha!

Being in a relationship did change a few things though. I didn’t go out that much anymore because my boyfriend had a small kunuku in the Mexico area and we would go there on weekends. The first time I went there they caught

an iguana and made a stew for me which I ate with relish. I found it very special and exotic. Not even a month later they caught a goat and killed it and hung it on the washing line to drain. When I saw that I started crying and I jumped into my car and drove home. I couldn’t take it! However, I did get used to it. It’s part of the local kunuku-lifestyle.

I was never bored. I worked very hard and late hours, and sometimes I worked two jobs – not only for the money – I just love working in hospitality. I like to be around people and I love to give them a good time so they leave with an even bigger smile than the one they came with. It has always been my challenge and it still is.

After working for Duyn I had several other jobs and in the end I became the

“Friendships and life in general have become very intense because now I know that you can’t take anything for granted.”

manager of Hamlet Oasis Resort. It was a challenging, busy job with long days. Life was good. I loved my job, we did fun things and time flew by.

In 2012 my partner and I got twin girls of one and a half years old to take care of and it changed my life completely. All of a sudden I was doing totally different things on the island. The weekends we would go to the beach, late nights out were not done anymore, and life was all about the children. In the beginning it was difficult but because they had been through a lot it was easy to give them love and attention. Through Youth Care I participated in different training classes to better understand how to take care of these children. But you know, it was great!

And then... I got sick. In September 2014, I was diagnosed with breast cancer. Then I lost the children. They were placed with another foster parent. Now I do understand that they couldn’t have



Nicole and her sister Peggy in Aruba

stayed with me, but emotionally it was a bigger blow than the whole process of the breast cancer.

When they told me I had cancer I was advised to go to Aruba for a treatment plan. I went and I got my first session of chemotherapy immediately and one week later I was back on Bonaire. I went with my partner – at the time we were still together. I had to go to Aruba for chemo treatment every three weeks which I did seven times. What kept me going was the contact with the children – we didn’t have them anymore, but I was allowed to see them. That was what happened the first six months. It felt like

of daily radiation treatment.

In the meantime I learned that now I have to think of myself and treat myself well. Also I’ve experienced that my friends have been there for me 100%. Friendships and life in general have become very intense because now I know that you can’t take anything for granted. I’m trying to do a lot of fun things and to enjoy life to the fullest.

And I’ve started working again at Hamlet Oasis Resort. I had to because here on Bonaire there is a chance that you lose your job when you’re on sick-leave for more than a year. I’m working half days and it’s quite hard, yet, I need the job. Four times a week I have physiotherapy and I get psychological support and presently I live from three months to three months because the first two years I have my check-up four times a year.

My relationship didn’t survive the turmoil, but I feel it’s better for me. I eat well and I take naps in the AC after work. I’ve joined the Pop Choir which is great fun and I try to go out once a week – alone or with friends. Also, there are a number of fellow breast cancer patients on the island with whom I can talk if I need to. My social life is really busy which is very important to me to be happy because I’m a people person.

I feel like my life has begun again but... I don’t have plans. I know I will stay here because just like my sister, I’ve become an island person. Bonaire is the place where I can be myself, where I feel accepted for who I am. It’s not so bad, you know, if you compare it to the rest of the world. I loved the old Bonaire with all my heart but there are moments and places that I still find it and so, in spite of all the negativity on social media which I try to ignore, I still feel lucky to live here.” ■

Story & photo by Greta Kooistra



Word on the Street

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



Plenty of construction going on these days, even though it seems that a lot of it remains empty on completion...or quite often the lack of completion. Despite that, **ANOTHER new housing project has been unveiled.** Sur Salinja is a new "semi-gated" community set to begin construction in 2016. Accessible from Kaya Antonio Neuman the project will feature 62 homes, 7 apartments and 14 commercial units built by construction techniques "new to Bonaire." You can check their website at www.greenfieldsbonaire.com.

Speaking of unfinished construction...Bonaire has its share of **development projects" that become eyesores** after years of being abandoned. A Word on the Street reader has a wonderful idea. Why not require developers to post a bond amount that will be returned if the project is completed within a certain time frame? Amount should be enough to cover the cost of demolishing the "eyesore" if the project is not finished and is left abandoned.

Ink-a-dinka-doo...last issue Bula reported new hours for the **Bushi Tattoo** shop. Well, seems they've changed again, offering you more convenient hours to get your ink. Now open Monday through

Thursday 11 am to 7 pm. and Friday from 11 am to 3 pm.

On Tuesday, October 27, the population of Bonaire will increase by one third! Well, at least temporarily. **Two cruise ships are in town that day (Monarch and Royal Princess)** with a combined carrying capacity of 6,354 passengers. Residents may want to avoid the downtown area that day!

Ruby of Lek Lek Thai Food has relocated her Thai cuisine. She is now serving her menu on **Mondays at the Zazu Bar at Bistro di Paris.** Kitchen opens at 5 pm for eat in or take away. Initial reviews were stellar. Reservations are recommended by e-mail or phone info@leklekthai.com, +599-787- 0370.

Local media reports that the much discussed **drag racing event** scheduled for October 25 on the road to Rincon has been postponed. Apparently the postponement is not due to various complaints made, but due to the extensive planning and permitting needed to safely and professionally mount the event. Tentative date for the first race is now November 29.

Rincon residents voiced their concerns to the police about the **high speed of vehicles** coming down the hill from Karpata, entering their village between 4 and 5pm so the police set up a speed trap. No one got fined because the drivers seemed to understand the message and reduced their speed when they saw the check point.

■ Bula Bonchi



Weekly Farmers' Market



Samantha, Germiné, Onnie and Lizaima with local produce

Beginning Saturday, October 31st *Boneiru Duradero* will help boost the emphasis on producing more food on our island and stimulate small business initiatives by supporting a **weekly Farmers' Market in collaboration with the established monthly Kriabon Co-op market.**

The newly named *Marshé di Playa* is a pilot project in the center of Kralendijk at Jong Bonaire, held every Saturday morning from 8am to noon. You can track its activities via its Facebook portal at <https://www.facebook.com/boneiruduradero>

Research shows that small businesses are the backbone of the economy for many countries in the Caribbean. *Boneiru Duradero* is offering locals the opportunity to earn additional income by selling products or services at *Marshé di Playa*, an authentic local market, with a variety of products from local delicacies to arts

and craftwork, sustainable products, locally produced beauty products and fresh produce. The diversity of *Marshé di Playa* should appeal to both locals and foreign visitors.

In September 2015 *Boneiru Duradero* provided relevant workshops so that potential vendors could upgrade themselves and better participate. *Marshé di Playa* strives to be as sustainable as possible. Vendors will not be allowed to hand out plastic bags and are requested to use reusable packaging materials and cutlery. On the opening day *Marshé di Playa* will hand out free re-usable bags to encourage visitors to bring their own bag, whenever they go shopping. All investments in materials, promotion and coordination are financed by *Boneiru Duradero*, which receives its support from the World Wildlife Fund. The pilot will end in June 2016, but *Marshé di Playa* hopes to prolong operation beyond. ■ Press release



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Peru Sunfish Worlds



Before going to Peru the team sailed around Bonaire. Here are Nils and Brayan

In the recently completed Sunfish Worlds Championships in Peru Bonaire did exceptionally well. In winds varying from light zephyrs to 30-knot force 7s, the team's "Opa (Grandpa)," Ton Nuijten, became the World Champion "Grand Master." Sipke Stapert won a very good 10th place in the overall standings and a trophy. In the huge event, Brayan was 32nd, Kabes 34th and Yellowman, who was having back trouble, 46th. Bonaire's Sunfish World team representatives were "Yellowman," George Soliano, Sipke Stapert, Brayan Thode and "Opa" Ton Nuijten

Bonaire's Youth team was also successful. Brayan Thode took 10th place and Nils van Eldik 14th in the field of 38 sailors.

Bonaire can be proud. All this was made

possible through the sponsorship of FWNB, TCB, Rocargo, Multi Post, Akker-mans Auto Supplies, Green Label, Rotary, JibeCity & Hangout Bar, GIO's Crooij & Flipse, FXDC communications, Buena Vista Sun Optics, Budget Marine, Bonaire Automation, Sunbelt Realty, E-zone, Punto Mio, and main sponsor Digicel. ■ Press releases



Grand Master Trophy



The starting line was most challenging

Peru Racing



Sipke takes him to windward

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Five months later, Landy can be found walking with her son around the park.

To meet this donkey or any of the others who make their home at Donkey Sanctuary Bonaire, please visit us, open every day from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Landy when found



Landy today

To donate (used only to support food and veterinary costs): Go to our Donkey Sanctuary Bonaire Facebook page or go to our website page (www.donkeysanctuary.org) or Direct Deposit : Go to MCB Bank Bonaire (account #10878904, Stichting Donkeys Help)

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The Bike Professionals

A Garden? Who Doesn't Know The Onion? Just Do It

On Bonaire we can plant onions in a small bucket and enjoy their benefits all year round. They grow very easily and you can make your goat *stoba*, fish soup or onion salad pickle taste even better with your own home grown onions. People eat it almost every day and it's one of the most famous plants in the world. But what do we know about it? Let me give you some facts about the onion and I'm sure from now on you will eat it with more respect.

Never mind the tears that onions bring. They are your defense against disease. As a prized member of the lily family onions lavish you with health benefits while adding oodles of taste to your food.

Incredible Health Benefits

-The phytochemicals in onions improve the workings of vitamin C in the body, giving you improved immunity.

- Onions contain chromium which assists in regulating blood sugar.

-Onions can help increase bone density and may be of special benefit during menopause.

-For centuries onions have been used to reduce inflammation and heal infections.

-Raw onions encourage the production of good cholesterol (HDL) thus keeping your heart healthy.

-Quercetin in onions is known to play a significant role in preventing cancer.

-Got stung by a honeybee? Apply onion juice on the area for immediate relief from



Nice onions grown in just a small bucket in Bonaire.

the burning sensation.

-Onions scavenge free radicals, thereby reducing your risk of developing gastric ulcers.

-Those bright green tops of green onions are rich in vitamin C, so use them often.

The Power of Raw Onion

The reason that the onion is so much more active in its raw state than when cooked is that it contains a variety of organic sulfur compounds contained in a volatile oil that provide health benefits. For people with a sensitive stomach, this is a far better way to enjoy the healthy benefits of onions. Baked in their skin, all the goodness stays inside, but the resulting flavor is milder and more aromatic than raw.

More than just a tasty culinary plant, the onion contains natural sugar, vitamin A, B6, C and E, minerals such as sodium, potassium, iron and dietary fiber. Onions are a good source of folic acid. A 100-gram serving contains 44 calories and 1.4 grams fiber. Onions have been used widely as folk medicine for the relief of coughs, colds and catarrh, especially asthma. But recently some of their curative properties have been attributed to balancing blood sugar levels.

Types of Onions

Onions differ in size, color and taste. Spring onions are grown in warmer climates and have a milder, sweeter taste. Smaller onions come in many types such as chives, leeks and shallots.

Storage onions are grown in colder climates and generally have a more pungent flavor and are usually named as to their color: white, yellow or red.

Select and Store

Globe onions should be stored clean, hard and dry. Avoid onions where the stem has developed or that show signs of decay. Store them at room temperature in a well ventilated area, away from bright light and far away from potatoes, as the potatoes will absorb their moisture and ethylene gas, causing the potatoes to spoil more easily.

An allyl sulfate compound produced when onions' ruptured cells are exposed to air is responsible for producing tears. To avoid this, chill the onions for a half hour before cutting.

Some History

Onions belong to the plant *Genus Allium* and the ones that we eat are *Allium Cepa*, believed to have originated in Asia, though

it is likely that onions may have been growing wild on every continent. Traces of onion remains have been found in Bronze Age settlements dating back to 5000 BC. They began growing as food around 3500 BC in Egypt, in other ancient civilizations in China, India, Greece and Rome. Columbus introduced onions to America on his 1492 expedition to Hispaniola. However, wild onions grew throughout North America where Indians were already using them in a variety of ways. Today, world onion consumption is estimated at 13,67 pounds per capita per year and it ranks sixth among the world's leading vegetable crops.

How to Grow- Bulbs vs. Seeds

You can grow onions and shallots from seed or from onion sets (small bulbs). Seeds are much cheaper and have the potential to produce larger bulbs, but many people prefer bulbs which can be planted directly into the soil. Onions prefer a sunny spot and well drained soil. Position the bulbs so that the tip of bulb just protrudes through the soil surface. Plant them in a row and leave a space of 10 cm between them. After lifting the bulbs dry them a day or two in the sun, then remove the top foliage and store in a well ventilated dry cool place. They can last for months this way.

So now you know almost everything about the onion. Look for some nice recipes to make all kind of salads, pizza, soups, *stobas*, wok veggies or home treatments against colds (put a cut up onion in your bedroom when you have a heavy cold). ■
Nature lover, Angliet



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Duo Xtreme Cover Story

Bonaire's annual international mountain bike race, the Duo Xtreme, is getting better and better according to the competitors. On Sunday, October 18th the 74 racers took off from the starting line at the Divi Flamingo hotel on two different courses (51km. and 74 km.) around the island.

After a 2-km. warm-up escorted up until Hato by a police car, the race really began. Most of the race is on dirt roads and especially single tracks (the famous goat paths). Ten riders on the long course soon took off from the peloton then turned onto the Pink Trail after leaving Washington Park. Two riders took the lead at that point and eventually became the winners. The rest of this leading group remained together a long time, through Bolivia towards Lagoen, still with 20 km. to go, and they finished well. The winning margin was 3:20 minutes and 6:20 minutes between numbers two and three. The Senior class was only decided on the Boulevard, 800 meters before the finish.

It was hot. The average temperature was 33.6°C (92°F). The maximum temperature was 40°C (104°F) in some places. Forty volunteers were stationed on the course to keep this competition running.

In the 51 km. class there were two father and son teams, where the sons respectively were 15 and 16 years old. The finish was also at the Divi Flamingo Hotel. The main sponsor was the bicycle shop, De Freewieler, with sub-sponsors Telbo/KLA and TCB as well as many small sponsors. There were 74 participants from eight different countries, five water stations and first aid available. ■

Press release . Photos & cover courtesy Duo Xtreme



Waiting for the start

Xtreme 76km

| Duo numbers | name | name | category | country | Time | Rank |
|-------------|------------------|-----------------------|----------|-----------|---------|----------|
| 1 2 | Domingos de Lima | Frank Bohm | Senior | Bonaire | 3.06.32 | 2 senior |
| 3 4 | Nick Ruhe | Virgilio Batista | Men | Bonaire | c | 7 men |
| 5 6 | Marlies Kort | Bas Zwaan | Mix | Curacao | 3.47.38 | 1 mix |
| 7 8 | Jan van Haren | Bert Schreuders | Men | Aruba | 4.28.11 | 10 men |
| 9 10 | Peter v Haute | Martin van Loo | Men | Curacao | 4.4.57 | 8 men |
| 11 12 | Faisel Camella | Michael Shipley | Men | Cur/USA | 3.30.41 | 1 men |
| 13 14 | Hans Bensik | Connie Bos | Mix | Curacao | DNF | |
| 15 16 | Wlok Herben | Annelies Starrenveld | Mix | Cur/sxm | 3.56.04 | 2 mix |
| 17 18 | Thomas Elshout | Gert Begeman | Men | Curacao | 4.01.59 | 6 men |
| 19 20 | Ruben vd Ploeg | Gion Marco de Kind | Men | Bonaire | 5.31.28 | 12 men |
| 21 22 | Roland Gielingh | Barry Bakker | Men | Curacao | 3.34.00 | 2 men |
| 23 24 | Donald Sosef | Emile Bos | Men | Curacao | 3.39.43 | 4 men |
| 25 26 | Rudy Slager | Peter Paul Wortelboer | Men | Nederland | DNF | |
| 27 28 | Danny Felix | Maurice Linssen | Men | Aruba | 4.20.52 | 10 men |
| 29 30 | Caspar Rademaker | Peter Winkel | Senior | Curacao | 4.05.47 | 1 senior |
| 31 32 | Cees Visser | Paul Vandormael | Senior | Aruba | 4.32.50 | 3 senior |
| 33 34 | Andre Maciel | Bart Breukelman | Men | Bonaire | 3.37.09 | 3 men |
| 35 36 | Maarten Piek | Casper Camps | Men | Curacao | 3.47.27 | 5 men |
| 37 38 | Horace Hinds | Richard Servage | Men | Curacao | 5.23.09 | 11 men |
| 39 40 | Remy Oehlers | Ivar Oehlers | Men | Curacao | DNF | |
| 41 42 | Guido Zwanikken | Sander van Beest | Men | Curacao | 4.16.20 | 9 men |

Top two finishers in each class highlighted

| PRO | 51km | | | | | |
|-------------|--------------------|-----------------------|----------|-----------|---------|----------|
| Duo numbers | name | name | category | country | Time | Rank |
| 101 102 | John vt Hoff | Joost van Gaalen | Senior | Bonaire | 3.35.44 | 3 senior |
| 103 104 | Jan Henk vd Wier | Martijn Eichhorn | Senior | Bonaire | 2.52.44 | 1 senior |
| 105 106 | Fred Ros | Jan Welten | Senior | Bonaire | 3.32.28 | 2 senior |
| 107 108 | Bradley Swanson | Dennis Bekkenk | Men | Bonaire | DNF | |
| 109 110 | Almar van Leeuwen | Herman van Leeuwen | Men | Bonaire | 3.19.25 | 4 men |
| 111 112 | Gorden Nicholl | Ivan de Sousa | Senior | Bon/NZ | 4.9.08 | |
| 113 114 | Roshendel Albertus | Rodger Albertus | Men | Bonaire | DNF | |
| 115 116 | Jason Francisca | Jhonny Andrade | Men | Bonaire | 4.12.34 | 5 men |
| 117 118 | Aquiles Francees | Sedney Marten | Men | Bonaire | 4.23.16 | 6 men |
| 119 120 | Wotty de Palm | Shireen Coffy | Mix | Bonaire | DNF | |
| 121 122 | Carla Verheggen | Wauter de Nijs | Mix | Bonaire | 3.05.19 | 1 mix |
| 123 124 | Gemma vd Linden | Byanka vd Veen | woman/s | Bonaire | 3.24.47 | 1 woman |
| 125 126 | Tom Peeters | Lisette van Marrewijk | Mix | Bonaire | 3.31.12 | 2 mix |
| 127 128 | Maikos de Lima | Mouro Cicilia | Men | Bonaire | 2.50.15 | 2 men |
| 129 130 | Tom Lensink | Dennis Lensink | Men | Bonaire | 2.30.10 | 1 men |
| 131 132 | Jose Luis Revenga | Americo Migliori | Men | Venezuela | 3.15.51 | 3 men |

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MISCELLANEOUS

Ellen Muller's 2016 Bonaire Underwater calendars are available for purchase in the U.S. & Canada. Please e-mail EllensBonaireCalendars@yahoo.com for information/pricing and please order by November 1.

Healthy ferns and garden plants for sale at Kaya Mandolin #2 across from el Cumbre Saturday Oct. 31st from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

WANTED: Sales person with dive and dive equipment knowledge to work in our beautiful new shop. Must be able to work Saturdays and Sundays. Bring your CV to Dive Friends Retail at the Hato traffic circle. Mon-Fri 9am-4pm. Tel:717-4087

VACATURE: Dive Friends Retail is opzoek naar fulltime medewerker voor onze Hato locatie. Kennis van Scuba diving en de duik uitrusting is noodzakelijk. Graag uw CV afgeven bij Dive Friends Retail in Hato Tel:717-4087. Tussen 9am en 4pm.

For Sale: Canon EOS 5D Mark 2 camera body with original cords, disks, battery, manuals, charger etc. \$1000 Looks and works great. Under 10,000 clicks on shutter.

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Bonaire-Sun Rise/Set, Moon Phase and Tides

| Day | High | Low | High | Low | High | Sunrise | Sunset |
|--------|---------|----------|---------|----------|---------|---------|--------|
| Mon 26 | | 05:10 | 11:32 | 19:30 | | | |
| | | 0.05 ft | 0.99 ft | 0.04 ft | | 6:27 | 18:12 |
| Tue 27 | 00:11 | 05:55 | 12:27 | 20:46 | | 6:27 | 18:11 |
| | 01:43 | 06:48 | 13:24 | 21:52 | | | |
| Wed 28 | 0.36 ft | 0.16 ft | 1.11 ft | -0.13 ft | | 6:27 | 18:11 |
| | 03:11 | 07:49 | 14:20 | 22:50 | | | |
| Thu 29 | 0.36 ft | 0.22 ft | 1.13 ft | -0.20 ft | | 6:27 | 18:11 |
| | 04:25 | 08:56 | 15:16 | 23:42 | | | |
| Fri 30 | 0.40 ft | 0.26 ft | 1.12 ft | -0.24 ft | | 6:27 | 18:10 |
| | 05:27 | 10:06 | 16:10 | | | | |
| Sat 31 | 0.45 ft | 0.29 ft | 1.09 ft | | | 6:28 | 18:10 |
| Sun 01 | | 00:30 | 06:19 | 11:13 | 17:01 | | |
| | | -0.25 ft | 0.50 ft | 0.30 ft | 1.04 ft | 6:28 | 18:10 |
| Mon 02 | | 01:13 | 07:05 | 12:17 | 17:50 | | |
| | L | 01:53 | 07:48 | 13:19 | 18:37 | 6:28 | 18:09 |
| Tue 03 | Quarter | -0.18 ft | 0.60 ft | 0.31 ft | 0.87 ft | 6:28 | 18:09 |
| | | 02:30 | 08:28 | 14:21 | 19:22 | | |
| Wed 04 | | -0.13 ft | 0.65 ft | 0.31 ft | 0.76 ft | 6:29 | 18:09 |
| | | 03:03 | 09:06 | 15:25 | 20:07 | | |
| Thu 05 | | -0.06 ft | 0.69 ft | 0.31 ft | 0.65 ft | 6:29 | 18:08 |
| | | 03:31 | 09:42 | 16:32 | 20:54 | | |
| Fri 06 | | 0.01 ft | 0.72 ft | 0.29 ft | 0.54 ft | 6:29 | 18:08 |
| | | 03:56 | 10:17 | 17:43 | 21:47 | | |
| Sat 07 | | 0.08 ft | 0.76 ft | 0.26 ft | 0.44 ft | 6:30 | 18:08 |
| | | 04:15 | 10:50 | 18:58 | 22:55 | | |
| Sun 08 | | 0.15 ft | 0.79 ft | 0.21 ft | 0.34 ft | 6:30 | 18:08 |
| | | 04:27 | 11:23 | 20:11 | | | |
| Mon 09 | | 0.20 ft | 0.82 ft | 0.15 ft | | 6:30 | 18:08 |

dition with case, caps, hood, and generic brand tripod ring. Brad Swanson 717-8814

REAL ESTATE/RENTALS/ ETC...

Oceanfront 2-bedroom, 2-bath condo at Sand Dollar for rent, Feb. 1-Aug 1, 2016. \$1500/month + utilities. Pool, tennis courts, dive shops on site. Contact: lpet-rich@hotmail.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 information.

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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. Drive-way 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—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

| DAY | DATE | NAME | ARR/DEP | CAPACITY | CRUISE LINE |
|-----------------------------|----------|----------------------|-----------|----------|--------------|
| Cruise Ship Schedule | | | | | |
| Tuesday | 27-10-15 | Monarch | 0800-1800 | 2744 | Pullmantur |
| Tuesday | 27-10-15 | Royal Princess | 1200-1900 | 3600 | Princess |
| Friday | 30-10-15 | Carnival Triumph | 0800-1700 | 2754 | Carnival |
| Tuesday | 3-11-15 | Monarch | 0800-1800 | 2744 | Pullmantur |
| Wednesday | 4-11-15 | Carnival Glory | 0800-1600 | 2974 | Carnival |
| Thursday | 5-11-15 | Norwegian Dawn | 0800-2200 | 2338 | NCL |
| Friday | 6-11-15 | Serenade of the Seas | 0700-1400 | 2500 | Royal Carib. |
| Saturday | 7-11-15 | Club Med 2 | 0800-1800 | 390 | Club Med |
| Monday | 9-11-15 | Silver Whisper | 1400-2200 | 296 | Silversea |

#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 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; Martyjin@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 Antriel, 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

CLOSE-IN EVENTS

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

- Opening of Boneiru Duradero, the first weekly Farmers' Market at Jong Bonaire. See page 8

Sunday, November 1st, Art Exhibition by prison (JICN) inmates at the Sport Hall on Kaya Amsterdam from 2 –5 pm.

Saturday, Nov. 8—Kriabon Farmers Market. 8 am-1 pm

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.



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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. There is a gift shop on the premises to help raise money to sustain the Shelter.



Waiting for adoption

ARE YOU READY TO ADOPT A CAT?

Adult Cats: If you work full time or are looking for a predictable personality, an adult cat is the perfect choice. We have lots of friendly adult cats (over 1 year old) looking for wonderful forever homes. These cats have well defined personalities, won't climb your curtains, and they have well established litter box habits. Expect a home introduction process of 1-2 weeks.

Kittens: Hooray! If you're considering adopting a kitten, you're in for a lot of fun and entertainment. Be prepared to thoroughly 'kitten-proof' your home and for the process of introducing a kitten to your entire home it takes 3-4 weeks (depending on the size of your home and the personality of the kittens).

Companion or 'Buddy' Cats & Kittens: If you are considering adopting a friend for your lonely cat, how wonderful! To ensure a successful relationship be prepared to be patient through a 3-4 week process.

We suggest adopting two kittens if there is no other cat in the home or the other cat is old. We do not suggest this to get kittens out the door, but to make things happiest for both the adopter and the kitties. They have grown up in a litter, often with a mom to snuggle up to as well. Imagine suddenly being moved on their own to a new home, with new smells, people and ways of life. To have a sibling (or sometimes their mom) move with them makes it so much easier. Cats want their human attention but have each other when you are out. They run off

energy while you are at work so you don't have a kitten on your face at night. You can put them in a separate room if they are still keeping you up and they then have each other. While they're young and do daft things, they can be kept in a safe room during the day or when you can't watch them, and they have each other to goof off with instead of getting into trouble all over again.

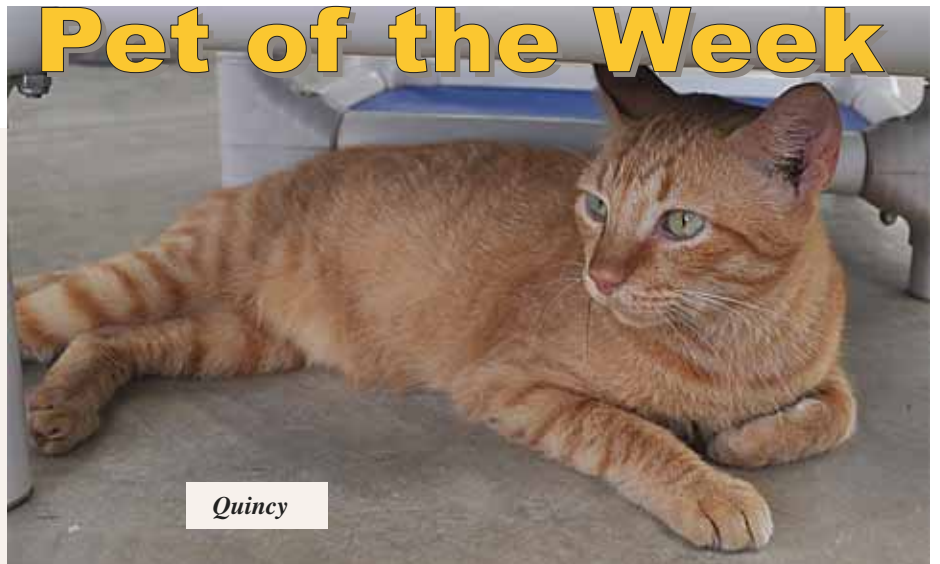
If you are thinking about adopting a cat or kitten visit the Animal Shelter Bonaire. We can tell you who likes to play, cuddle and who's a lover and make a perfect match! We like every cat to be a happy cat, and we like happy adopters too.

Come and visit the Animal Shelter Bonaire at Kaminda Lagun 26a or call for information 717 4989. E-mail to animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com and LIKE US on Facebook.



Kitten Facts
At around 7-10 days after birth, kittens open their eyes for the very first time. At this point, their vision is still blurry, since the retina in the eye is not yet fully developed. One of the more surprising kitten facts is that although after a few weeks the kittens will be able to focus well, they don't develop eyesight equivalent to an adult cat until around 10 weeks after birth. During this period, their hearing is also developing, and their legs are becoming strong enough

Pet of the Week



Quincy

Quincy is often affectionately referred to as the "invisible" cat. He is quiet, a bit shy, loves to nap and is very fond of sleeping under things. But he comes alive and very visible when he hears the water bowl being filled! Quincy is one of those rare cats who LOVES running water, he prefers to drink while the bowl is being filled ("all that bubbling!") and absolutely loves drinking from a running tap.

Quincy is a "ginger cat," also called marmalade, red or orange tabby. Ginger cats are not a specific breed of cat; rather it is a type of color pattern that can occur in all breeds. At first glance, some ginger cats may appear to be a solid color, but on closer examination, you will see the pale stripes, whorls, or spots of the typical tabby cat. The stripes appear a shade or two darker than the main orange color of the cat. Quincy has distinctive striped legs and clearly defined tabby facial markings, including the magnificent "M" on his forehead above gorgeous pale green eyes. This same "M" appears on many of the big jungle cats, such as tigers, cheetahs, and ocelots. Ginger cats, like other tabbies, are generally healthy, sturdy cats with very few veterinary issues.

This handsome guy is the perfect companion for someone looking for a big, laid back handsome cat to just "hang out" with. Quincy is between two and three years old, healthy, sterilized and a mature, calm and quiet cat. His laid back personality and his handsome features make him the perfect candidate for someone looking for a companion cat that is beyond the hyper-active kitten stage. He's happy just to eat, sleep, and find sun spots for naps. He is well deserving of a forever home where he can just "chill out." You can visit Quincy at Animal Shelter Bonaire, Monday through Saturday 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. at Kaminda Lagun 26A, 717-4989. Check out their Facebook page at Animal Shelter Bonaire or the live "catcam" at www.bonairecatcam.com. ■ Jane Madden Disko



to begin holding weight. When a kitten does take its first steps, it learns quickly, and after just a few days will be scampering and climbing all over the house!

Some of the most important kitten facts for those looking after newborns relate to the importance of mother's milk. The milk provides important nutrients, including protein, fat and various vitamins, which help the young kitten to develop and grow. But, more than that, a cat's milk contains important antibodies which help little kittens to develop and boost their immune systems, while also protecting them against infection.

Owners choose to have their cat neutered or spayed (usually "neutered" is used to de-

scribe the process with male cats, and "spayed" for female cats). The process involves the surgical sterilization of a kitten, and usually happens when they are around 6-7 months old. Not only does neutering prevent the birth of unwanted litters, it can also have a beneficial effect on a kitten's behavior. Male kittens, once neutered, are often less aggressive, and less likely to participate in sex-related behaviors such as spraying urine, and yowling at females. Both male and female kittens, after the process, are likely to grow up into more friendly, affectionate and gentle cats. ■

Story & photos by Natalie Peterson



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THE STARS HAVE IT

End of October 2015

ARIES (Mar. 21- April 20) You can make progress if you deal with the right individuals. Be careful not to come on too strongly. Knowledge can be acquired if you listen. Secret affairs can only lead to devastating circumstances. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Tuesday.

TAURUS (Apr. 21- May 21) Plan to do things with your faithful pet or with youngsters who have interesting hobbies. Your ability to communicate with ease will win the hearts of those you are in touch with this month. You may find yourself changing crowds. You may find yourself in a romantic situation. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Tuesday.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21) Concentrate on your career and on making money. Don't let your emotions take over. Romance could develop through social activities or short trips. You will gain valuable insight and knowledge through the experiences you have along the way. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Saturday.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) You might have a problem juggling your time. Relationships may be hard to handle. Join a choir or a drama club. You may be considering moving to larger quarters. Don't deny yourself this month. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Saturday.

LEO (July 23-Aug 22) You may not be that popular at home but you should be able to shine at social gatherings. Don't confront the situation if you don't feel you can keep your cool. Romantic encounters are evident through travel or educational pursuits. Protect your interests legally if necessary. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Sunday.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) You can have a great time if you go out with the one you love. Romantic opportunities are evident if you get involved in large groups or organizations. Be prepared to overcome frustrations and obstacles at work. Your intellectual charm will entice new love interests. Your luckiest events

this month will occur on a Monday.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) Promote your ideas now. You will inspire confidence in others. You can get a great deal accomplished if you bring work home. You may want to talk to your boss about your future goals. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Friday.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) Travel will promote new romantic connections. Do not expect others to do your work. The information that you gain can be used in every aspect of your life. You need some excitement in your life, and meeting new people in exotic destinations will certainly satisfy your desires. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Monday.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) Secret affairs will only lead to heartache. You can get ready to celebrate your new direction. Don't start any arguments unless you're prepared to accept irrevocable results. Clear up domestic chores that have remained undone for some time. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Monday.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) Don't let domestic problems interfere with your objectives. Take a short business trip if possible. You will find the excitement gratifying. Good friends will give you honest answers. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Tuesday.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) Try to ease any disappointment by making amends. Frustrations and limitations could cause anxiety this month. Arguments with employers or colleagues will be to your detriment. You could lose a good friend because of it. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Tuesday.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) Arguments with children or friends may leave you steaming. Finish up any correspondence by early afternoon. Older relatives may make unreasonable demands. Don't jump into investments too quickly. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Friday. ■ *Michael Thiessen*



BONAIRE SKY PARK*

*to find it... just look up

PLANETS AND STARS

THE PLANETS

No telescope needed. You can see five planets in the Sky Park night sky this month. In order going outward from the Sun, the five visible planets are **Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn**. These planets are easily seen with only the unaided eye and have been observed by our ancestors since time immemorial.

Let the Moon guide you to Saturn at nightfall and let the super-brilliant planets Venus and Jupiter guide you to Mars and Mercury as darkness is giving way to dawn.

Let the Moon help you find the planet Saturn and the star **Antares** in the southwest sky at nightfall.

Look for Saturn first thing in the evening because Saturn will follow the Sun beneath the horizon by early evening, especially at northerly latitudes.

Get up a couple hours before sunrise and you should have little trouble spotting Venus, Jupiter and Mars in the predawn sky. Mars and Jupiter will be showcasing their **closest conjunction** on the sky's dome until January 7, 2018! At one-half degree apart, these two worlds will easily fit within the same field of view in binoculars or even a low-powered telescope.

The star **Regulus** rises first, followed by Venus and then by two planets in conjunction (Mars and Jupiter). Mercury comes up when darkness first gives way to dawn.

Because Venus and Jupiter are so bright, you'll easily see them in the morning twilight. As darkness gives way to dawn's first light, draw an imaginary line from Venus through Jupiter to spot Mercury near the horizon around 90 to 60 minutes before sunrise. An unobstructed horizon in the direction of sunrise and binoculars could come in handy.

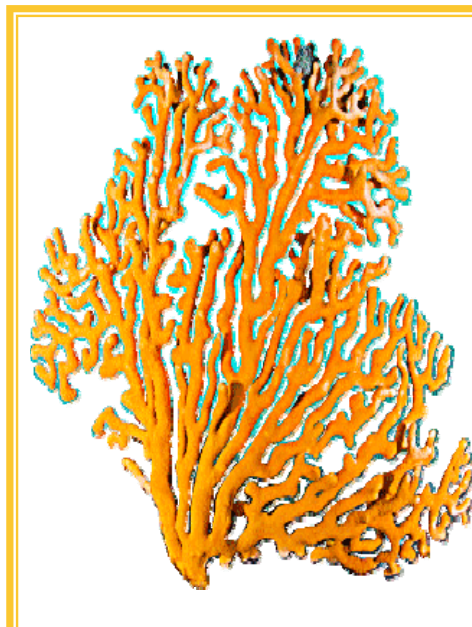


THE STARS

To the south in early evening - moving over to the west as the night progresses is the beautiful region of the **Milky Way** containing both **Cygnus and Lyra**. Below is **Aquila**. The three bright stars **Deneb (in Cygnus), Vega (in Lyra) and Altair (in Aquila) make up the "Summer Triangle"**. East of Cygnus is the great **Square of Pegasus** - adjacent to **Andromeda** in which lies **M31, the Andromeda Nebula**. To the north lies "w" shaped **Cassiopeia** with **Perseus** below.

The Square of Pegasus is in the south during the evening and forms the body of the winged horse. The square is marked by 4 stars of 2nd and 3rd magnitude, with the top left hand one actually forming part of the constellation **Andromeda**. The sides of the square are almost 15 degrees across, about the width of a clenched fist, but it contains few stars visible to the naked eye. Three stars drop down to the right of the bottom right hand corner of the square marked by **Alpha Pegasi, Markab**. A brighter star **Epsilon Pegasi** is then a little up to the right, at 2nd magnitude the brightest star in this part of the sky. A little further up and to the right is the **Globular Cluster M15**. It is just too faint to be seen with the naked eye, but binoculars show it clearly as a fuzzy patch of light just to the right of a 6th magnitude star.

After spotting the starry constellations, you can spot Saturn early in the evening, and then Mercury, Venus, Mars and Jupiter in the predawn/dawn sky. ■ *Dean Regas & James Albury*



Bonaire's coral reef is highly valued for diving, but is under threat of degradation. We invite you to participate in a research project which will investigate the link between decline on land and damage to the coral reef by recording the health of the coral reef during your dives. To find out about the project join us at DCNA (opposite City Shop) at 5pm on 19th November

This study is being conducted as part of Michaela Roberts PhD Thesis in the Department of Geography and Sustainable Development of University of St Andrews, with local NGO, Echo.

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