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FREE

BONAIRE
The

Bonaire Reporter- Nov. 23- Dec. 7, 2015, Year 22, Issue 21

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

Swarte Piet Lives On
More on Pg. 11



Laura DeSalvo photo

Bonaire welcomed the holy man "Sinterklaas" (Saint Nicolas) last Saturday upon his arrival at the Town Pier by tugboat. Tradition says that if children were well-behaved during the year, they will receive gifts and candies. If not, then it's in the sack for an uncomfortable trip to Spain.

After being greeted by Commissioner Benito Dirksz, Sinterklaas and his helpers, the Swarte Pieten, cavorted through Wilhelmina Park greeting the crowd, tossing sweets to the children. Despite the controversy in Holland over Swarte Piet, he lives on in Bonaire. Event was made possible by MCB and *Sentro pa Hubentut i Famia*.





Photo Sipke Stapert

Lots of passers-by and taxi drivers reported they had seen someone "fishing" in Goto Meer (it looked like a fishing line, but at the end is no hook, just something to measure the depth). It turned out to be Daniel van de Craats, a student at Wageningen University, who is currently studying the evaporation, the salinity of the bay, the relation of the water and the salt balance and the availability of the brine fly and brine shrimp, important food sources for the flamingoes. He is measuring salinity, the depth of the bay, and counting the brine flies and shrimp which flamingoes feed on.

After the fire at the BOPEC oil depot in 2010 a lot of toxic materials got into the saline lake which caused a lot of animal life to die as well as the flamingoes to feed elsewhere. In 2013 an extensive toxicological study was done there by Diana Slijkerman who reported significant contamination. However, two years later the flamingoes were back.

► At the end of September 2015 the finance department sent a letter to all persons and entities who currently own one or more motor vehicles with a request to verify the information as correct and complete. **License holders who did not receive a notice should contact the Finance Department by phone + 599717-5330 extension 624 or 612 or email tax-olb@bonairegov.com.**

If the vehicle was sold, the change must be reported at the finance department. In case the vehicle was not used for a period longer than six months of the fiscal year, it is advisable to report this to the finance department who can suspend the payment obligation.

Remember: **It is not allowed to use license plates that are not officially issued by the government.** If your li-

cense is lost or stolen report it to the Police and visit the finance department at JA Abraham Boulevard 27 to get a new license plate.

► Even the Dutch Caribbean has to join the world to deal with very complex issues as they relate to the impact of global Jihadism and religious warfare. In the news this week:

-BRUSSELS, Belgium -- Belgian police have arrested an Aruban-born woman on suspicion of recruiting for the terrorist group known as ISIS

► From The New York Times- November 14, 1938:

JEWES ON KNEES BEG NETHERLANDS ENTRY Implore Admission at Border, but Guards Are Doubled

Wireless to THE NEW YORK TIMES. AMSTERDAM. The Netherlands, Nov. 13.—Pathetic scenes were reported today from the German frontier where groups of Jews, attempting to leave the Reich, literally went to their knees in imploring Netherland officials to allow them to pass. Netherland frontier guards have been doubled and strict orders have been given to prevent any refugee invasion.

The situation today for Middle East refugees is not very different. Europe and America cannot repeat past humanitarian mistakes. The US turned away a ship carrying Jewish refugees from docking in Florida in 1939. Bonaire officials have said they WILL accept refugees.

(Islamic State in Iraq and al-Sham), the country's largest newspaper *Het Laatste Nieuws* reported. Aruban Rosliana Adeline Geerman (21) converted to Islam only a few years ago. But she already tried to send at least two girls to Syria, investigators say.

— The Belgian security services are also looking for an **Antillean bomb maker, named Mohamed K.**, who is specialized in explosives and detonators.

-In St Maarten three Syrian men

were arrested on November 14 at Princess Juliana airport carrying fake Greek passports. The men were on an InselAir flight from Haiti and claimed they were on their way to Europe. The suspects were taken into custody pending further investigation.

► **More and more schools on St. Eustatius, Saba and Bonaire are achieving the European Dutch standard of basic quality education.**

There are another five elementary schools, one school for secondary education, two expertise centers education care and one institution for social opportunity pathways for the young (SKJ) in the Caribbean Netherlands which have achieved basic quality levels as established by the inspectors of the Education Ministry.

On Bonaire basic quality was newly achieved by **Kolegio Rayo di Solo and Kolegio Kristu Bon Wardador. The Pelikaan, Kolegio San Bernardo and Kolegio San Luis Bertran** schools already were certified.

► Last month during an inspection at the Post Office of mail packages leaving Bonaire, **members of Customs intercepted 649 grams of cocaine.** The cocaine was concealed in canned food. These were seized and the case referred to the police. Then a week later airport Customs officers intercepted 280.80 grams of cocaine at Flamingo Airport. The cocaine was found on a female passenger on a scheduled flight arriving from Curaçao. On inspection it turned out that the woman had pushed the cocaine inside her body. The passenger was arrested and handed over to Kmar (Royal Constabulary) for further investigation.

► **The Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs has issued a new warning about travelling to Venezuela. On December 6, parliamentary elections will be held in our neighboring country.** This will cause social stress that may lead to political unrest, according to The Hague. Experience shows that political developments in Venezuela and the increasing scarcity of goods in shops may result in demonstrations, often with violence. For that reason, the ministry recommends avoiding demonstrations, especially in the

(Continued on page 6)

This Week's Stories

Referendum 2015-Yes or No	5
Study & Career Event 2015	5
Abominable Snowman Author Interview	6
Michael Gaynor Obituary	7
Errol Caprino Obituary	7
Drum (Bari) Season Begins	8
In Memoriam-Ronald Verhoeven	9
Sanikolas Comes To Bonaire	11
Budget Marine New Store Opens	15
Stormvogel Rising	15

Departments

Flotsam & Jetsam	2
Picture Yourself- Eastern North America	4
Word On the Street	8
A Garden Just Do It- Ixora	10
On The Island Since... June 2015 - Nathan and Lauren Schmaltz	12
Classifieds, Masthead	14
Tide Table, Sunrise & Sunset Times, Moon Phase	14
Letters to the Editor- dinghy tie	15
What's Happening, Cruise Ship Schedule	16
Shopping and Dining Guide	17
Christmas Fair	18
Pet of the Week (Orchid), Shelter Tips- Senior Dogs	18
Bonaire Sky Park	
(Finding A Planet	19
The Stars Have It (Astrology)	19

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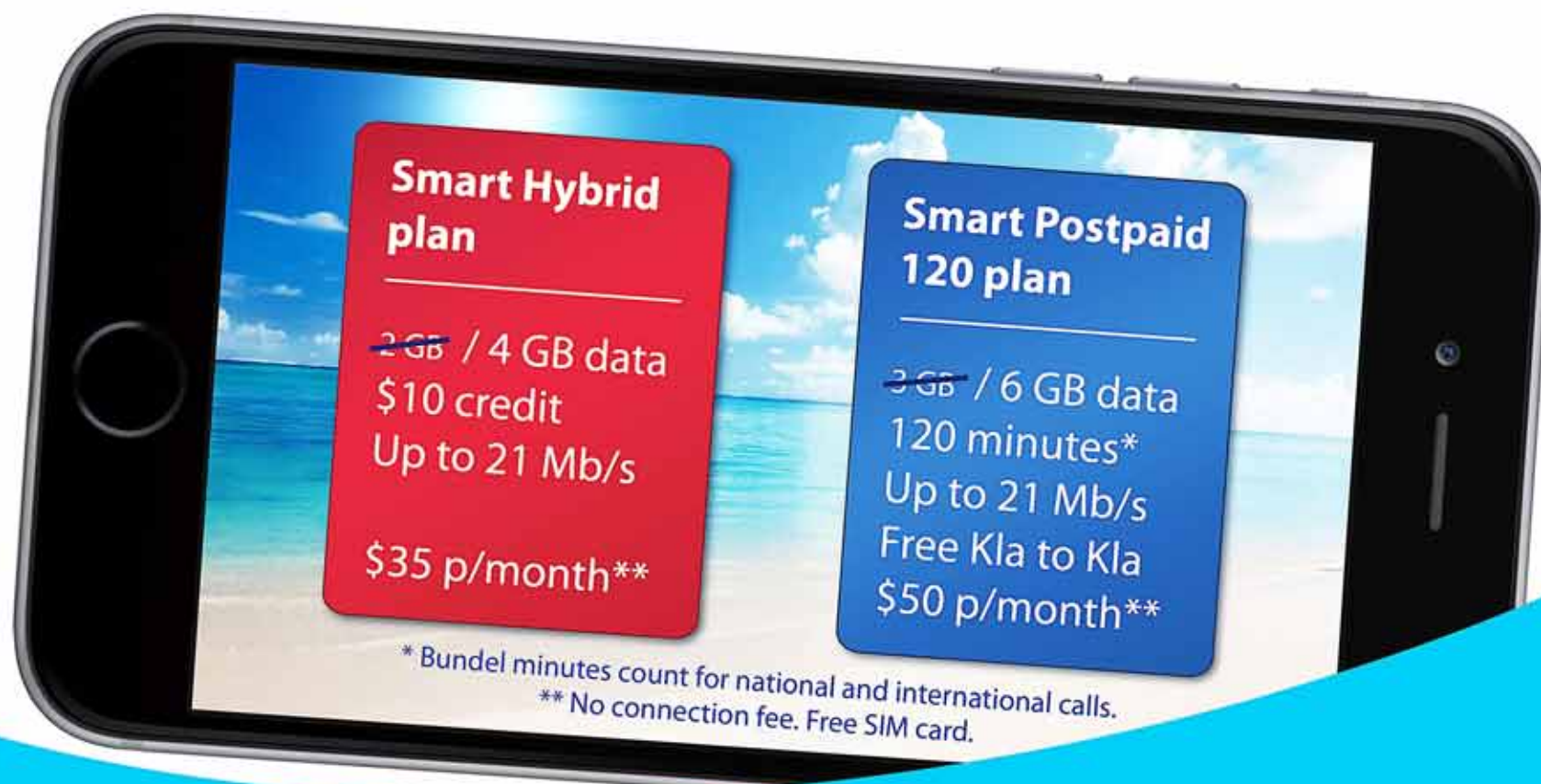
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Picture Yourself With The Reporter Around North America



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New York City, with Alan Gross and Jane Townsend



Bar Harbor, ME, USA



Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada

The Reporter sure got around last month. Yaser, and Marion Ghazzouli (also known as the “DeKapper” Hair Duo) travelled throughout the northeast part of America with their daughter, Vera. Above are a few of the shots they sent us.

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! ■

<p>Kaya Industria 12, PO Box 20, Kralendijk, Bonaire, C.N. Phones (599) 717 8922 / (599) 717 8033 WEB- www.Rocargo.com Email: info@rocargo.com Office Hours: 07:30-12:00 13:30-17:00</p>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="1073 1802 1530 2615"> <p>From the USA</p> <p>AMCAR FREIGHT, INC.</p> <p>Amcar Freight, Inc.</p> <p>The ONLY company offering direct weekly consolidation services from Miami, USA to Bonaire</p> <p>www.amcarfreight.com</p> <p>Amcar Freight 12600 NW 25 Street Suite 107 Miami, FL 33182</p> </td> <td data-bbox="1530 1802 1955 2615"> <p>From Europe</p> <p>International Freight (Car) BV</p> <p>The ONLY company offering direct weekly consolidation services from Europe/Holland to Bonaire</p> <p>www.ifc-consolidators.nl</p> <p>Jupiterweg 1A (Ecopark) 4761 RW Moerdijk, Holland Tel 31-(0) 168-40-94 94</p> </td> </tr> </table>	<p>From the USA</p> <p>AMCAR FREIGHT, INC.</p> <p>Amcar Freight, Inc.</p> <p>The ONLY company offering direct weekly consolidation services from Miami, USA to Bonaire</p> <p>www.amcarfreight.com</p> <p>Amcar Freight 12600 NW 25 Street Suite 107 Miami, FL 33182</p>	<p>From Europe</p> <p>International Freight (Car) BV</p> <p>The ONLY company offering direct weekly consolidation services from Europe/Holland to Bonaire</p> <p>www.ifc-consolidators.nl</p> <p>Jupiterweg 1A (Ecopark) 4761 RW Moerdijk, Holland Tel 31-(0) 168-40-94 94</p>
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Study & Career Event: Feel, See and Experience



Opening of the event with Governor Rijna



↑ And the winner is... MCB! Their stand was voted by the visitors as the 'best stand' of the Information Fair. Shown is Raschka Willem of MCB's Human Resource Department with Celia-Fernandes-Petra founder of the event.

Bonaire's 2015 Study & Career Event not only got high school students in contact with the schools, universities and employers in their future, but gave them lots of hands-on experience as well. "The Sky Is The Limit" was the theme at the event at the SGB Community High School from November 12-14.

On Thursday and Friday there were skills competitions for (v)mbo students. These are championships for vocational skills, linked to the World Skills program including welding, graphic design and electrical engineering. The competition is a first selection for the international contest.

The event was not limited to the SGB area. The Coast Guard's 41-meter-long cutter *Panter* was moored at the customs pier and offered tours to the students. On Friday the crew of the cutter demonstrated

Search & Rescue actions and drug interceptions.

On Saturday the auditorium and the hall of SGB was filled with exhibitions from schools, universities and employers. This information fair segment started at noon with a short performance by DJ Marvv.

Besides the exhibitions there were presentations and workshops in classrooms including one by the hospital's emergency services team and one by WEB.

More photos and information are posted on at <https://www.banboneirubek.com/content/study-career-event-bonaire-2015>. Organizations that contributed to make the event a big success included financial support from RCN-OCW. The SGB provided the venue; Telbo provided a free internet connection and Green Label Garden Center the green décor.

■ Press release. Photos Ban Boneiru Bek

Action in the Information Fair



Referendum 2015

There is a multimedia campaign underway to encourage Bonaire residents to vote in the upcoming December 18 YES/NO Referendum to assess their opinion of the effect of the 10-10-10 government structural change that took Bonaire out of the Netherlands Antilles and made it a "Public Entity" of The Netherlands.

Although the campaign has just started, debate is raging, especially in Bonaire media, on how to understand the question posed to the voters (only in Dutch and Papiamentu- which can be translated as "Do you agree with the interpretation given to the direct ties with the Netherlands?"). Then Bonaire residents may vote on December 18 with 'yes' or 'no' answers.

According to the comments it can be considered in several ways, particularly, "Do you agree with the political situation as a Public Entity of The Netherlands?" Or: "Are you satisfied with how it has gone since 10-10-10?" Critics argue then since most people don't agree with everything that has happened, the vote most often must be NO, saying everyone has something to complain about, and the result is 'no'.

"Of course, that question is ambiguous," says Douwe Boersema, the head of the Referendum Commission. "That's the idea. Both of these elements play a role in the choice of yes or no."

According to Commission lawyer Maritza Valdink, "The people determine the outcome." Nevertheless, Boersema adds, "political parties can express a preference." ■ By Janita Monna



We've observed that the propaganda for the "Si" votes is slicker and uses social media. The "No" vote supporters give their message a more rustic look.

EDITORIAL COMMENT

An Important Consideration

Next month Bonaire voters will be asked if they found the "closer ties" with Holland set on October 10, 2010 "10-10-10" satisfactory. Yes or No are the only allowable answers. No matter what the result, the real issue is whether The Netherlands and the island can come to terms on a governing structure acceptable and workable to both.

The thinking of a **Dutch specialist in international relations, Peter Knoope**, might prove useful. He says the Dutch "must realize that (they) cannot impose their modernity on their former colonies," adding, "We must summon the humility to realize that the Dutch brand of modernity is not attractive enough to islanders."

If the Dutch can do that then Caribbean culture can be allowed to find its own solution for justice and good governance.

Looking at what constitutes tradition and how it can be enriched with new elements is one approach. "Looking backwards is incredibly important," he says. "People should shape their own history and traditions and the organization of their contemporary society." The Dutch may think - after the liberation from colonialism several decades past- that the bad feelings have completely disappeared, left behind, but many Bonairean people still feel the sting of past oppression. In their collective consciousness and history it is an important part of their identity and must be factored into any revised structure.

It's not too difficult for a Bonairean to think of Dutch bureaucrats as the enemy. The bureaucracy appears self-serving and suspect. Islanders are concerned that the European Dutch want to marginalize Caribbean Dutch natives and work to humiliate, belittle and give

them inferior citizenship, inadequate benefits and an unequal voice in their government. They just have to observe the repeated attempts in the Dutch Parliament to write laws allowing deportation of bad-behaving Caribbean Dutch citizens back to their home islands.

Peter Knoope offers a lesson from history: "Generational solidarity plays a much more important role than realized. The anger of today's people about what their parents endured is often many times greater than the anger their parents themselves felt about what had happened to them. That anger travels across generations. What you are, to a large extent, is motivated by solidarity with your parents."

Can The Netherlands still think that it must impress Dutch concepts on their geographically and culturally separate "countrymen" and that Dutch progressivism has relevance on islands where the majority of people suspect their motives?

Will the Dutch continue to think that Bonaire must accept all Dutch social values and that Dutch secularism resonates with the more fundamental religious island population? Do the myriad rules and laws of The European Netherlands, suitable for a densely populated industrial country, have relevance in an easier going environment where island-born people come from an agrarian background? ■ G.D.



Abominable Snowman

Author Interview

An interview with the writer of The Abominable Snowman/ De Verschrikkelijke Sneeuwman/ E Hòmber di sneu fastioso

Interviewer: Ingel van Almenkerk, 11 years old, has lived on Bonaire since he was three years old.

Writer of the book: Ellen Smal. Her children's book *De Verschrikkelijke Sneeuwman/E Hòmber di sneu fastioso* is written in Dutch and Papiamentu.

Ingel: Have you been on Bonaire often?

E.S.: Yes, because my daughter and son-in-law and grandson, that would be you, live on Bonaire. That is why we try to come over as much as possible.

Ingel: Why did you write a book about snow and ice for the children on Bonaire?

E.S.: You gave me the idea! You once told me that you would like to see and feel snow and ice; to feel what it is like to be really cold. Mostly you visit us in the Netherlands in summer. In Holland it is not very hot in summer, but you will not find snow in July. Besides I thought it might be nice not to write about flamingoes or iguanas since you know all there is to know about that.

Ingel: In the book a boy, Edsel, travels to Switzerland together with his grandfather 'Opa Bon'. Grandfather has won a prize in the lottery. And Edsel hopes to find the

Abominable Snowman. But he is a little afraid too, isn't he?

E.S.: Yes, it is also about being afraid, and at the same time being excited about something that might happen. And Edsel is brave when things get dangerous.

Ingel: For instance when they are inside the cave?

E.S.: Yes. And it is also about being homesick. For Edsel it was the first time he travelled such a long way without his parents. He is really glad to see them again when he returns to the island!

Ingel: I recognized some spots in Bonaire we both visited. And of course the ice-cream parlor!

E.S.: Did you think grandmother was scary? The drawing the illustrator made is really creepy.

Ingel: Yes! But in the end she was not all that scary. Who do you think would like to read the story?

E.S.: I wrote it for you...and also for every child who lives on a Caribbean island and would like to know more about snow and ice. And about the Abominable Snowman of course. I hope that schools would like to use the book to teach Papiamentu and Dutch. And it might be useful for grown-ups who like to learn the language.

Ingel: Where did you find a translator and an illustrator?

E.S.: Well, Iveth Anthony taught your parents Papiamentu, and Diana Rueda Mendoza had an exhibition of her work in Kas di Arte in Bonaire. But Diana only speaks



Ellen Smal and Ingel van Almenkerk



Ingel holds the book

Spanish and English, so she could not read the story herself. We had to tell her what it was all about. I pictured Grandmother with glasses, but Diana did not know and she made the illustration of Grandmother without the glasses. So I had to skip Granny's glasses in my text...

Ingel: Where might one buy the book?

E.S.: It's for sale at Addo's bookstore on Bonaire, and in Curacao at Mensing's Caminada. There are people in Holland who like to read it. I have some copies at home too.

Ingel: Thanks for the interview. I made a book review about the book at school, and I got an A for it!

E.S.: Good for you. And who knows, maybe one of these days we will take you on a trip to Switzerland, or Austria! ■

Story & photos by Ellen Smal

Flotsam and Jetsam (Continued from page 2) big cities.

► Since 2010, the Public Prosecutor's Office Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba (BES) have been charged with law enforcement on all three islands.

In recent years, the number of criminal investigations on the three islands has increased sharply and the severity of criminal actions has escalated, said a press release from the Prosecutor's Office. The BES Public Prosecutor's Office has evaluated how criminal matters can be handled competently and as quickly as possible, but also that they be as open and accessible to citizens on the islands. This way people with questions, complaints about a criminal case can get answers as simply and as clearly as possible. Therefore they have reorganized to operate as efficiently as possible

Most of the 12 employees of the Public Prosecutor's Office BES are working on Bonaire dealing with criminal cases. The centralization of the tasks required makes it more possible to handle a sudden extra workload due to major investigations like homicide or other complicated matters.

To make the Public Prosecutor more accessible off Bonaire a permanently-staffed "front office" will be opened on Saba and Statia. A state-of-the-art video link will be installed that can also be used when the front office is not manned.

► **Water and electricity rates in Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba**

dominated the debate in the Second Chamber of the Dutch Parliament last week. A proposed law was under debate to regulate the production and distribution of electricity and drinking water on the islands to make it dependable, sustainable and affordable.

Member of the Second Chamber, Roelof van Laar of the Labor Party-PvdA, said he found it unacceptable that residents of Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba paid much more for their electricity and water than people in the Netherlands. **The law would provide an annual subsidy up to \$6 million for electric power on the three islands.** About \$2 million of this would be applied the total drinking water bill.

► **The Curaçao Open Foundation, which first released a Papiamentu spell-check module** in 2011, has used funding from the UNESCO Participation Program to update it and make a promotional video. A spell checker that works on the Internet for emails and discussions on Facebook helps promote communication in proper Papiamentu. The spell checker works in the 'Firefox' browser, which is also free and open source. Install it for yourself.

For more information: info@opencuracao.com and <http://tinyurl.com/install-spellcheck>

► **On Monday, December 14th at 6:30pm there will be a get-together to share stories about recently deceased naturalist Jerry Ligon at the Sand**

Dollar Condominiums on Kaya Gobernador N. Debrot 79.

Bring your favorite side dish or dessert and spend time together and with his children remembering him. Please let us know how many will be joining you and which of the above you'll be bringing to share -- Contact Glory Moore on Facebook page [Jerry's Ligon's Celebration of Life Potluck BBQ](#) for reservations and details.

► **Bonaire's favorite garden center, Green Label, has a new Facebook page (Greenlabel Bonaire) and an updated website in Dutch and English.** It even includes a long-awaited plant catalog. They aim to keep everybody updated on new products, shipments coming in, taking a look in their nursery and simply share all the beautiful things they have every day. See their ad on page 2.



► **The Heart Fund (Stichting Hart voor Bonaire) Triathlon** held on November 15, was a great success. The top three men in the individual events were **David-Lee Winklaar**, first; **Nick Ruhe**, second and **Dennis Lensink**, third. **Astrid Naber**

was the top woman finisher, 10th overall. **Tom Lensink**, 14, son of the third place winner, came in 15th, just 19 minutes after his father. The youngest finisher was **Annebelle Roefs**, 12.

Twenty-five teams signed up for the event. The team winners were Team ITC, Team Lighthouse and the Palmemmers uit Rotjeknor team.

► **This Friday, November 27, was named Black Friday** in the US several years ago. It's touted as the best bargain shopping day of the year. Bonaire has picked up the tradition and several shops are offering real bargains that day. Check out the *Reporter* advertisers and tell the *The Reporter* sent you. ■ G.L.D.

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MIKE GAYNOR REMEMBERED

Well loved American-Bonaire resident Michael Gaynor passed away on Sunday afternoon, November 8, from injuries sustained in a traffic accident earlier in the day. On Friday, November 13, he was remembered at a brief ceremony at Te Amo beach.



Michael loved this photo of himself with Elizabeth, Meredith and Lynn Winner

Michael was a master at providing information on how things REALLY worked on Bonaire, which made him a valuable friend to new arrivals and long-time residents. His "gadfly" personality helped launch and sustain positive Bonaire initiatives like "Tene Boneiru Limpi (Keep Bonaire Clean)," luggage carts at the airport, handicapped access, cooking gas supplies and many more. On that Friday, November 13 at Te Amo beach (near the airport) one of the largest crowds to attend the memorial service of a non-native born individual attended a brief service to remember him, followed by time to talk and exchange memories.



Memorial altar at Te Amo Beach

A letter sent to *The Reporter* expresses very well the feelings of many:

"Mike Gaynor was a very good friend and a cohort on environmental management and sustainability issues in Bonaire. He constantly pushed me to step outside of my comfort zone to be even more engaged on many fronts.

He was an ombudsman par excellence for the island; connecting people and events. If he had been given a nickel for each piece of advice, guidance or information that he freely gave from his stoop at 'Chat n' Browse' he would have been a millionaire! Kind, very well read, generous to a fault and a technological wizard. If someone needed something it was Mike to whom they went and if he couldn't solve the question or problem he knew whom to send them to. He was the 'go to' person to get information on all things Bonaire and the real read on social and political matters. It was Mike who got Captain Don and me to church - in Bonaire.

Mike befriended all of my hundreds of students, colleagues and friends who came with me to Bonaire over the past four decades; he was interested in who they were and what they were doing, engaging them in often deep discussions about all matters environmental and political. He made them feel welcome in a foreign land.

I have worried about Mike and his scooter for some time as the island's streets are so narrow and so many people drive so fast. My prayers are with Mike and my sympathy and condolences are with his legion of friends on Bonaire.

George Buckley, Director, The ACCOLADE Foundation

The Tourist Corporation Bonaire (TCB), which periodically worked with Michael, added:

"His passing is a considerable loss and in particular for those who knew Michael and worked with him for his work was not over; he had many projects yet to be completed that were fueled by his passion and his love for Bonaire and its people.

During the course of his 30 years on Bonaire, Michael worked for TCB in various consultant capacities. For many years he was a highly valuable and respected member of our TCB team and his contributions will not be forgotten. For those of us who had the privilege of knowing Michael, we were humbled by his kindness and compassion to everyone around him. He will be greatly missed." ■ G.D.

A Showman Steps Off Stage

Dramatist Errol Caprino, one of Bonaire's most charismatic theatrical people, passed away following an extended illness on November 8. He was famous as innovator of Surinamese theater at the end of the 60s. With a particular energy he presented extraordinary, provocative, and sometimes controversial, theatrical productions.



Errol Caprino with his wife Simone Arentz

In his early years he was usually called Hans Caprino. Born in Curacao on August 19, 1941, from Surinamese parents, as a young man he gained experience in theater in Belgium (Brussels) and then on to Suriname. There he directed the Thalia theater company in 1968 doing Albert Husson's *Angels Without Wings* and distinguished himself by departing from stiffly realistic drama and experimented with lighting, projections and sound. This was just one of the several one-act plays he and his group presented.

The 'Cultural Night Work' which Caprino made in 1970, could have led to a riot. The program featured a performance analogous to the ritual ceremony known as Kromanti Play. This is a ceremony used to invoke ancestral spirits, involving dances, songs and special styles of drumming, in which the language is used to address ancestors. It was a version of the creation story in which the genesis of the Surinamese people was portrayed.

The evening was presented to a parliamentary delegation from Suriname to the Netherlands and the Netherlands Antilles. The guests seemed delighted with the program, but colonial and racist politicians complained that there was no Hindustani element in the program and made it an issue in those troubled times.

The next year Errol left for Curaçao where he directed *Lais*, *Garden of Earthly Delights*, *Arrabal*, and *Oh Dad, Poor Dad*. He only directed again in Suriname in 1982. In the 90s he played Vader Wijntak in the TV series *Zeg 'ns Aaa*, one of the longest running and popular Dutch sitcoms

He later established himself as an entrepreneur in Curaçao running the Fort Nassau restaurant, then moved to Bonaire in 2011 where he worked with Bonaire Media Consultants and Caribbean TV & Impact Media and was featured in the local production of *Mamma Mia*.

During the years that he was no longer actively involved with the theatre he kept a lively correspondence via social media with people from all over the world. He leaves behind his wife Simone, children and grandchildren. May he rest in peace. ■

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Nov. 27

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Drum Season Begins



Photo: Mangazina di Rei

Boy Janga offers instruction on the Bari

The Department of Culture (SKAL) of the Public Body Bonaire in cooperation with Fundashon Mangazina Di Rei opened the Bari (Drum) Season 2015. A group of pupils from Kolegio Strea Briante had the honor this year to be part of the "first start" with the *Ruta Edukativo di Bari* at Mangazina Di Rei.

Messrs Izain Mercera and Boy Janga gave a presentation with information and explanations about "di Bari." The purpose of this presentation was to show the students not only what materials you need to create a Bari but also how to make it and how to play it.

In addition, the students were shown the DVD made of the project "di Bari in 2014" and worked on assignments in a workbook on *di Bari*.

In the culture policy of the Public Body Bonaire emphasis is placed on traditional crafts of the past, information on customs and habits on our island. That is why every year the Department of Culture SKAL in cooperation with Fundashon Mangazina di Rei pays special attention on how to craft and play a Bari so that knowledge is transmitted from generation to generation among the community of Bonaire. ■ *Press release*

Word on the Street

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

- ◆ A new fish shop called **Siamila Fish** has opened at the previous Vicky Bissessar building at the roundabout in front of the church across from UTS. **Pitiula Loth** is the owner of the shop and she's selling delicious and fresh new herring (*nieuwe haring*), deep fried white fish (*kibbeling*), local fish with rice and/or fries, salmon-, crab- and tuna salad sandwiches and various wraps as well. Opening hours daily from 11am to 7pm non stop and Saturdays till 5pm. Phone to order or to ask: 700-9109
- ◆ Rumor has it the **large pre-fabricated building under construction** across the street from Kooyman will serve as a doctor's office. Word on the street is that Dr. Lont will be located there.
- ◆ Speaking of **Kooyman**, they are **working hard on the new addition**. Although it looks like an expansion of the current new "megastore," the addition will serve as a "drive thru" center for construction materials, lumber, etc.
- ◆ **Late night party people might want to check out the new "Lucas" nightclub recently opened next to Spanhoek snack on Kaya L.D. Gerharts.** Word is it is the late night place to be.
- ◆ **Remodeling work continues at the former location of Lost Penguin/ Bistro di Amis** restaurant which has seen several reincarnations since those establishments closed. Rumbblings on the street indicate it may be another new restaurant but nothing is confirmed.



- ◆ **The new Terramar complex (above) is almost completely finished.** A few new shops of the 13 planned have already opened their doors on the seaside street level. It will also have 13 apartments; reportedly six have already been sold.
- ◆ After years of sitting unfinished and looking highly unattractive, bright Caribbean colors now adorn the townhouse style complex near Flamingo Airport. Word on the street is that the interiors are also very attractive and that the **complex will open as a Courtyard Marriott hotel** in the very near future. ■

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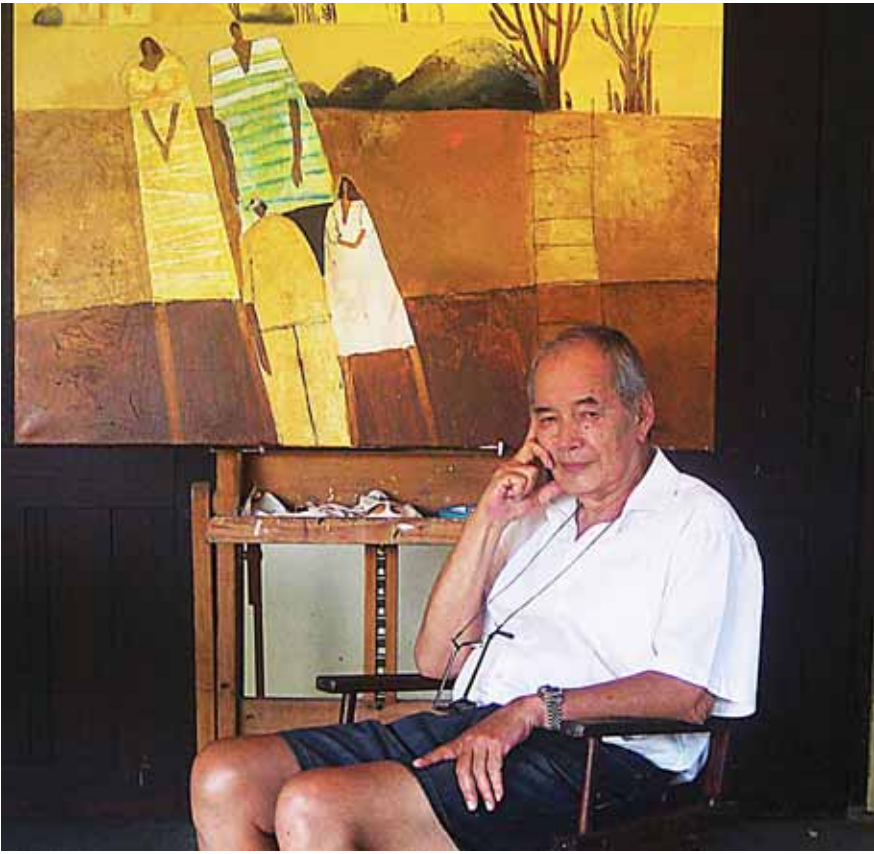
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Bonaire, Dutch Caribbean

In Memorium - Ronald Verhoeven



One of Bonaire's most prominent resident artists passed away on November 15 after being ill for some time. Ronald Johann André Verhoeven was born on 22 September 1937 in Malang, Java, Netherlands East Indies.

Verhoeven moved to Holland with his parents at the age of 14. He graduated from the Academy of Visual Arts in Rotterdam in 1959. Until 1995 he was in advertising and an art director, having established his own advertising agency. In 1980 he began painting, then in 1995 he retired and handed over his agency to his sons so that he could dedicate himself completely to visual arts. He had ateliers in Belgium and Bonaire. He's had exhibitions in The Netherlands, France, Belgium and at least six in Bonaire. One of the artist's biggest pleasures was to invite youngsters into his exhibit to view and to chat. He settled part-time on Bonaire in 1988. In the year 2000 he, his wife and a number of art lovers including Hubert Vis, Alfred Ronde, Amy Bais, Lilian de Geus and Clisia Nicholas-Frans, established the Artebon Foundation. Later the name was changed to Kas di Art.

Ronald was key in building the Kas di Arte, which featured mostly local artists. He said, "Kas di Arte is the perfect spot... because of its location, but also because it holds a history for Bonaire and its people." (*Bonaire Reporter*-Jan. 20-Feb. 3, 2012).

He is survived by his wife Hendrika 'Henny' Verhoeven-Kooij, three children and four grandchildren.

We will miss this generous, talented, kind and loving man. But we know his memory will live on through his art which is displayed in many countries especially in Holland and Bonaire. Condolence messages can be sent to: Rumah Kuning, Kaya Peridoto 16, Kralendijk CN | hennyverhoeven@live.com ■ G.D

10 years Kas di Arte

Exhibition Ronald Verhoeven

Join us nov. 7 2010 5-8 pm for the official opening

performance **Grupo Tutti Frutti**

Kas di arte open nov 7- dec 5
tuesday- friday 10-12 am and 2-7 pm sat. 10-12 am
KAYA J.N.E. CRAANE 34 (Boulevard)

Exhibition

Ronald Verhoeven

Join us March 1 5-8 pm for the official opening

kas di arte

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Kas di Arte open
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Nov. 26 Thanksgiving Dinner



All You Can Eat Buffet
\$27.50
-----The Menu-----

Soups

Butternut squash soup
Seafood chowder

Breads

Homemade corn bread
Homemade assorted bread

Appetizer/Salads

Marinated sweet potato, corn, apple and walnut salad
Mixed salad
Crudités mix

The Main Courses

Whole roasted turkey served with three kinds of stuffing.

-Classic American
-Classic Ground beef
-Rum Runners style

Oven roasted ham with a maple, garlic & bourbon glaze.

On the side

Sauteed Broccoflower, Broccoli and Carrot
Green veggie casserole with bacon bits and red onions

Spicy Cranberry & Apple Relish
Cranberry sauce
House style gravy

Mashed potatoes with fresh garlic and parsley

Bourbon Candied Yams

Desserts

Pumpkin pie
Sweet potato cakes
Pecan pie
Fresh fruit salad

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Kaya N. Debrot 103 North Hotel Row

Reservations (Highly Recommended) 717-8290, ext. 100

Email : info@rumrunnersbonaire.com

Two seatings available: 17:30 (5:30 pm) and 20:00 (8 pm)

At Rum Runners we do our utmost best to work with fresh ingredients only. However, being on a small island means that these are not always available. If this is the case our chef will adjust the dish accordingly. For this we ask your understanding.

A Garden? Just Do It

You know, while I had to work harder and harder to keep my plants alive during the last half year, one of the plants that was going strong, which stayed green and was flowering every day was the *Ixora coccinea*, well known on Bonaire as the *Faja Lobi*. This name means “Strong Love” in the Surinamese language. I always thought this plant came from South America. How surprised I was when I found out that it is originally an Asian plant. Now it’s a beloved plant on Bonaire, in different colors decorating yards in different ways.

In one of the photos you see it in the lovely pink color as a hedge. The yellow colored one is from my neighbor’s yard. I have the red one.

A nice idea is small bouquets of deep red *faja lobi* in glasses on a dining table as a Christmas decoration. They are the color of Christmas.

Read on to find out more about this plant which give your yard a nice decor.

Distribution and Habitat: *Ixora coccinea* is a common flowering shrub native to Southern India and Sri Lanka and widely cultivated in Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos and Thailand. It has become one of the most popular flowering shrubs in South Florida – USA gardens and landscapes.



Faja Lobi. (Ixora) Hedge

It grows in tropical areas with medium annual rainfall in well drained soils.

Description: *Ixora coccinea* is a low growing tropical shrub notable for its bright colored flowers which are composed of many small blooms massed together into dense, flattopped flower heads. *Ixora coccinea* is one of the few *Ixora* species that make good indoor plants along with several kinds developed from it.

It takes up to five years for *Ixora coccinea* to grow to its maximum height of about 1.2m (4 feet). It is a much-



Flowering Ixora



Pastel Shades

branching shrub, with leathery, shiny, pointed oblong leaves up to 10cm (4 inch) long and 5cm (2 inch) wide arranged in pairs or whorls of three or more in 1-2cm (0.40.8 inch) long stalks. Leaf color is dark green, often bronzish when the leaves are new. Tubular flowers, which are up to 5cm (2 inch) long and fiery red, open at the month into four petals arranged in the form of a cross about a centimetre (0.4 inch) wide. The entire flower head has a diameter of 8-12cm (3-5 inch). Normal flowering period is summer, but occasional flowers also appear in the autumn.

Various kind of *Ixora* which have *Ixora coccinea* as a parent produce differently coloured blooms, chiefly in shade of

orange, yellow and pink, as well as red.

Houseplant care: These plants cannot tolerate much variations from ideal growing conditions and so they are generally grown in glasshouses. However, *Ixora coccinea* that thrives will repay careful treatment.

Light: *Ixora coccinea* must have at least four hours a day of direct sunlight.

Temperature: Warmth is essential. These plants cannot tolerate temperatures below 15°C (59°F). For extra humidity, stand the pots on trays of moist pebbles

(Continued on page 15)

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Sanikolas Arrives In Bonaire

Cover Story



Photos by Laura DeSalvo



Commissioner Benito Dirksz welcomed Sanikolas and his helpers



Swarte Pieten (Black Petes) come in all sizes



Rollicking, frolicking Piets, doing what they do best! Lots of female "Piets" in evidence this year too



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On The Island Since... June 2015 - Nathan and Lauren Schmaltz

"I came here for the first time in 2009," Lauren says, "when I saw an ad on a Listserve that I was on for a tropical marine ecology intern with CIEE on Bonaire. I just had finished my Master's in Environmental studies and I applied, got the position and moved to Bonaire. I liked it so much, so when the semester finished I reapplied and I stayed into 2010. During that time I met Sam Williams through Laura and George DeSalvo and that was when I became involved with the parrots (Loras). I went with Sam on the January roost count and from then on we kept in touch. When my time had run out on the island and I wasn't successful in finding a job, I had to leave, but not before I got my dive instructor certification!

I am originally from Pennsylvania and back in the States I went to attend the wedding of my best friend from college. The day before the wedding I met her brother Nathan. I knew about him and throughout the years I always had a little crush on him and so... that was it!" "I am a lucky guy," Nathan laughs. "She used to be my little sister's friend, but when I saw her, things changed and we got along really well, so much that we've been together ever since!"

"Nathan was living in Charleston, South Carolina, and I had accepted a job in the Galapagos Island. So, Nathan took time from work and he came to visit me, then for Christmas we flew back together to be with my mom. Then I had to go back to the Galapagos and we had a long-distance relationship for four months.

I went back to the States in April 2011



Nathan and Lauren Schmaltz

and I took the whole summer off and stayed in Charleston with Nathan who was a librarian at a law school. I'd quit my job in the Galapagos and I was doing remote volunteering for Echo; helping with grant proposals, volunteer recruitment and other activities. Then I started with the College

quite convinced," Nathan says. "It was fun but... I wanted to see something underwater!"

"At one point," Lauren says, "Nathan said to me 'wouldn't it be great if Sam asked you to work with him on Bonaire.' Actually that day came, because Sam

Use of this kunuku is made possible thanks to the Balentien Sint Jago family of Rincon

of Charleston and in 2013 Sam asked me to join his board of trustees. I'd always missed Bonaire and talked to Nathan about the island. While we were living in South Carolina I taught Nathan how to dive and I certified him." "We dove in a shallow, murky lake and I wasn't

called to tell me he was thinking about an opportunity he was offered and I kind of just said to him, 'Sam! I'd love to come to Bonaire and run Echo for you!' I didn't even give him the chance to ask me. I told him he should definitely go and I would come! But... we had to make sure that Nathan would like it, so we made a visit to Bonaire before we came to live here."

"I guess it was different from what I expected a Caribbean island to be," says Nathan. "But I knew right away that it was a fantastic opportunity and I could see us living here." "And so," Lauren says, "Sam, who is presently in Costa Rica working with two species of Macaws, is still the director of Echo, but Nathan and I are here to make sure Sam's vision becomes reality.

The mission of Echo is to safeguard the future of the Bonairean Lora - the Yellow-shouldered Amazon Parrot - and we are trying to do that through reforestation projects. Currently we're expanding our fenced-in area, we're managing the team of volunteers and of course we're taking care of the Loras and Prikichis that have been brought in to Echo. We are waiting for the rain to start planting. Our nursery now has 1600 native plants, all grown from seed. And then we will start fixing the forest, especially in the northern part of the island, so that the Loras can return to their native habitat instead of relying on people's gardens and farms for food. Right now the forest is dominated by only two species of trees: the mesquite (*Palu di Kui*) and the acacia (*Wabi*). Our nursery consists of 30

(Continued on page 13)

"We came with the idea to work somewhere where we felt we could really make a difference ... we see this as a wonderful and special place to be able to live..."

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"Grandma" Gives Birth

Donkey Anita was rescued on November 27, 2014, along with her daughter, who was still nursing, even though Anita was nothing but bones from starvation. Estimated to be around 30 years old, "Grandma" Anita needed extensive rehabilitation and lots of extra food to get back to normal. Recently she was moved to the new Senior Meadow to enjoy her retirement while her daughter is in the big yard, yet they still can visit one another.

Just the other day, sanctuary workers realized Grandma Anita's teats were getting engorged with milk so she had been impregnated just before she was rescued. Can you imagine enduring pregnancy and giving birth in the wild when you are that old and starving?

PS: Grandma Anita delivered a healthy male foal the other day! Fortunately there were no complications!

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 am to 5 pm.

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

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Paid advertisement by an anonymous supporter of Donkey Sanctuary Bonaire

Anita when found

Anita and foal now

On the Island Since (Continued from page 12)

different species and we want to plant them out in a fenced environment so they can grow – beyond the reach of donkeys and goats - and provide food, shade and shelter for the Loras and the people because we will have walking trails throughout the forest. In the past Bonaire used to have really big trees and if we could help trees establish themselves and get big again, that would really help the environment. Because if you have more trees, you have more leaf litter which improves the soil and the roots reduce erosion and then big trees provide shades which creates micro climates where it's cooler and also they produce oxygen. Our interest is driven by the Lora but... it's good for everybody!" she laughs.

"The Bonairean Lora is found only on Bonaire and in some regions in northern Venezuela plus on Isla Margarita and Isla La Blanquilla, two Venezuelan islands. Worldwide there are only between 2,500 and 10,000 Yellow-shouldered Amazon Parrots, and here on Bonaire we think we have about 1,000, and it could be more if there is suitable habitat. The Lora only produces about 1-3 eggs per nest and of all the eggs produced in a year maybe one-third will actually reach an age that they leave the nest – which doesn't say they will ever reach the stage of producing their own children.

Lots of times they are hit by cars or caught by dogs or cats. Also they are taken from the nest, which tells us that poaching is still an issue on the island. However, this parrot is protected by law and they shouldn't be caught from the wild. There is a very heavy fine if you are caught with a parrot – so it is a crime!

Education is very important and we are trained to work with school and community groups. We also organize tours at the Dos Pos Conservation Center. Every Wednesday afternoon at 4:30 we have a tour. There's no need to make reservations; people should just show up at the gate of Dos Pos/Echo in Rincon, located at the end of Kaya Pa-

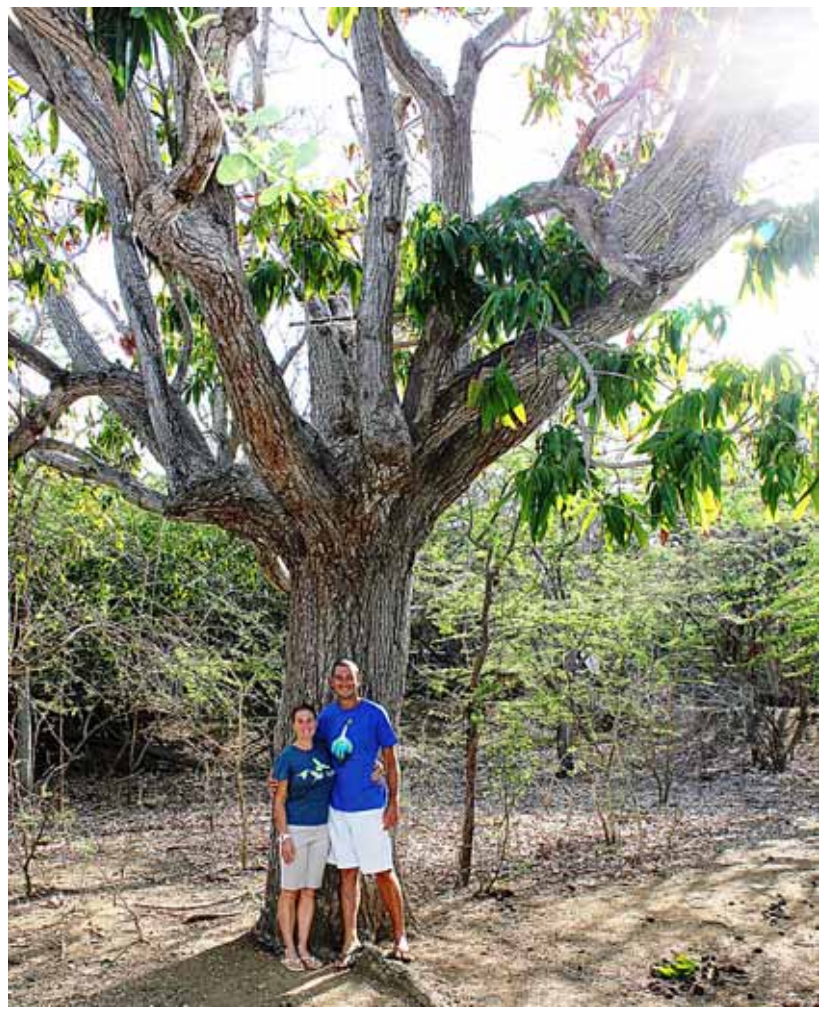
ramira. In case people want to make a private tour, which can be arranged too, call 701-1188 or send a mail to info@echobonaire.org. Costs for a private tour are \$25 per person with a minimum of two people. Where we can, we partner with the Junior Rangers to do some fieldwork and I also went to Forma to give a presentation to the English class. Then the students came to visit to Dos Pos and it was really nice. Next year Forma is starting with a new subject, 'Green and the Environment,' and we're hoping that the students will come and work with Echo.

Another thing I want to mention is that I want to express our great gratitude to the Balentien/Sint Jago family of Rincon who are generously renting Dos Pos to Echo so that we can do our reforestation and conservation work.

We came with the idea to work somewhere where we felt we could really make a difference and we have absolutely no plans to leave, because we see this as a wonderful and special place to be able to live. I guess many of the people who came here have similar stories – they came once and they ended up staying."

"Where we are," Nathan says, "it's peaceful and people are really friendly, always willing to help and talk. The stars are beautiful at night and it is so quiet. And once a week we go diving and that's a whole other beautiful world! We really enjoy being outdoors so much. We both like to live more sustainably and more environmentally friendly. It's not always easy as we have very basic accommodation, but we have solar power and a composting toilet! The truck from WEB delivers the water but we're also trying to set up a rain catchment. However, we're not that far yet. We have limited cell phone connection – two bars on one of the corners of the terrain – but it's a challenge and we like it most definitely! I guess you've come to realize all the things you can live without and that's really important."

"On November 2d, we had our one year wed-



Nathan and Lauren with one of the huge and most precious mango trees on the land at Dos Pos

ding anniversary," Lauren says, "and we feel this is the best chance in our lives to take a risk – to work for a small non-profit organization and live off the grit. We felt if we didn't do this we would regret it and we're really glad we moved to Bonaire." ■ Story & photos by Greta Kooistra



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MISCELLANEOUS

Opening: "Looking for an energetic person to work in our Dive Retail Shop at the Hato round-about. Must have Advanced Open Water Certification and a willingness to learn. Sales experience as asset. Drop off your CV at Dive Friends Retail 8am to 4:30pm. Tel 717-4087.

VACATURE: Wij zijn op zoek naar een energieke, spontane en klantgerichte collega voor onze Dive Winkel op Hato (retonde). Bent u bereid om verder te leren en beschikt u van een Advanced Open Water Certificering dan zijn wij op zoek naar jou. Sales ervaring is een Pre Graag ontvangen wij uw cv bij de Dive Friends Retail op Hato.vanaf 8:00 tot 04:30 Voor informatie kunt u bellen naar telf.717.4087.

My husband and I will visit Bonaire January, February, March and April this coming year. We are an older couple and love animals . **Looking for a place to stay, preferably housesitting,** for this period or PART of this period. Rob and Christien. somi@telfort.nl

REAL ESTATE/RENTALS/ ETC...

Guesthouse for rent in Belnem beginning mid-December 2015. Spacious bathroom, kitchenette, bedroom with high ceil-

Bonaire-Sun Rise/Set, Moon Phase and Tides

Day	High	Low	High	Low	High	Sunrise	Sunset
Mon 09		04:27	11:23	20:11			
		0.20 ft	0.82 ft	0.15 ft		6:30	18:08
	00:34	04:24	11:57	21:13			
Tue 10	0.28 ft	0.25 ft	0.85 ft	0.08 ft		6:31	18:07
		12:32	22:03		New Moon		
Wed 11	0.89 ft	0.02 ft				6:31	18:07
		13:10	22:44				
Thu 12	0.92 ft	-0.04 ft				6:31	18:07
		13:50	23:19				
Fri 13	0.94 ft	-0.08 ft				6:32	18:07
		14:31	23:49				
Sat 14	0.96 ft	-0.11 ft				6:32	18:07
		15:14					
Sun 15	0.97 ft					6:33	18:07
		00:16	07:05	09:01	15:59		
Mon 16	-0.13 ft	0.39 ft	0.38 ft	0.96 ft		6:33	18:07
		00:42	06:54	10:45	16:45		
Tue 17	-0.14 ft	0.44 ft	0.38 ft	0.93 ft		6:33	18:07
		01:08	07:10	12:07	17:32		
Wed 18	-0.15 ft	0.53 ft	0.36 ft	0.86 ft		6:34	18:07
		01:35	07:37	13:24	18:22		
Thu 19	-0.14 ft	0.64 ft	0.32 ft	0.77 ft		6:34	18:07
		02:03	08:12	14:40	19:15		
Fri 20	-0.13 ft	0.76 ft	0.27 ft	0.66 ft		6:35	18:07
		02:34	08:51	15:58	20:14		
Sat 21	-0.11 ft	0.89 ft	0.21 ft	0.54 ft		6:35	18:07
		03:07	09:35	17:15	21:21		
Sun 22	-0.08 ft	1.00 ft	0.13 ft	0.41 ft		6:36	18:07
		03:42	10:22	18:31	22:39		
Mon 23	-0.03 ft	1.09 ft	0.03 ft	0.31 ft		6:36	18:07

ings, and outside gazebo "living room." Newly painted, furnished, new refrigerator and stove, use of washing machine. Lush garden and very quiet, perfect for one person who is searching for a "tropical retreat" apartment. Wanting a responsible, mature adult who is a dog-lover. \$500 a month includes power, water, wireless internet, and garbage service. **Contact Pauline at pkaves@diversityworksinc.net or at 700-3800.**

Small studio for rent now. 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**

For rent: in Hato, Kaya Gobernador Nicolaas Debrot: furnished villa and or holiday home with three bedrooms and two bathrooms located fifty meters from the ocean and the beach. Free internet included.

December 25th – January 30th or part(s) of this period. Mail to:
digitalis1956@hotmail.com

For rent: in Hato, Kaya Gobernador Nicolaas Debrot/Kaya Groningen: two bedroom, one bathroom apartment and one bedroom, one bathroom apartment. Free internet. Short and/or long term from November 1st. Mail to:
digitalis1956@hotmail.com

House for sale: Kaya Gobernador Nicolaas Debrot 166. (The house with the helmets). Also for sale: approx. 25% of the inventory of the house. Mail for a list of items to: digitalis1956@hotmail.com

Retail or office rentals available January, Established store to draw traffic, busy road with parking 75m² and 150m². Kaya Neerlandia #21. **Call Budget Marine at 717-3710**

Who's Who on The Bonaire Reporter
Celebrating 21+ years of continuous publishing

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Budget Marine Opens New Store



From the left: Thea Winklaar, Marjolein Bruns, Elisabeth Vos and Luisa Alejandra Castro Villa.

It took several months to build their new store and it took the staff of Budget Marine weeks to pack and move the complete inventory of the old shop, on Kaya Carlos A. Nicolaas, next to Napa. Last week, on Monday, November 16th they opened the doors of their **brand new shop, located on Kaya Neerlandia**. In fact Budget Marine moved only one block but the new shop is one and a half times larger than the current store with a lot more walls and space to display the inventory.

The new shop is open from Monday to Friday from 8am until 5pm, and on Saturday from 9 am to noon. Call them for more information: **+599-717-3710**.

■ Story & Photo by J@n Brouwer



(Garden- Just Do It Continued from page 10) during the active growing period, but do not continue this treatment during the winter rest period.

Water: Water moderately during the active growth period, allowing the top centimetre (0.4 inch) or so of the potting mixture to dry out between waterings. During the rest winter period give only enough water to keep the mixture from drying out.

Fertilizing: Apply standard liquid fertiliser every two weeks during the active growth period only.

Poting and repoting: Use an equal-parts potting mixture of peat moss, leaf mould and coarse sand or perlite. Move the plants into pots one size larger each spring until maximum convenient pot size (probably 15-20cm (6-8 inch)) has been reached. Thereafter, top-dress *Ixora coccinea* each spring with fresh potting mixture.

Propagation: Propagate *Ixora coccinea* from stem cuttings 5-8cm (2-3 inch) long taken in spring. Trim each cutting immediately below a leaf, remove that leaf and dip the cut end in hormone rooting powder. Plant the cutting in a 5-8cm (2-3 inch) pot containing a moistened equal-parts mixture of peat moss and coarse sand or perlite. Enclose the whole in a plastic bag or propagating case and stand it in bright filtered light at a temperature of 21-27°C (70-81°F). When the cutting has rooted – probably in four to six weeks – uncover it gradually over a two or three week period in order to acclimatise the new plant to the less humid atmosphere of the room. When the new plant is fully uncovered, begin to water moderately (allowing a couple of centimetres (0.4-0.8

inch) or so of the potting mixture to dry out between watering again) and apply standard liquid fertiliser once every two weeks. About three months after the start of the propagation move the new plant into a slightly bigger pot of the recommended potting mixture for adult plants and treat it as mature.

Problems: *Ixoras* that do not bloom are not getting enough light. Treatment: Place the plant near a bright window or move it outdoors for the summer.

If the leaves get brown edges and flower buds shrivel without opening, the air is too dry.

Treatment: Put the pots of *Ixora coccinea* on trays with moist pebble or use a room humidifier to increase the air humidity.

Note: *Ixora coccinea* is a showy relative of the coffee plant. Both are in the Rubiaceae family.

Uses: It is primarily ornamental plant. Cut specimens are long lasting and are often used in floral arrangements. It is sometimes used as a hedge. In tropical Asia the flowers, bark and leaves of this plant are used in traditional medicine.

It is used for accent plants in planters and as an indoor potted plant. This species may also be shaped into bonsais.

Recommended varieties: *Ixora coccinea* 'Fraseri' has attractive salmon pink flowers.

So to all men in love: a Faja lobi in the hand says more than words can say. ■

Nature lover, Angliet



Stormvogel Rising

On November 10 the new campaign-- **Stormvogel Rising**--with hoodies and long-sleeve Ts (see attached) to help you survive the on-coming winter, was announced. But if you are down in the "low latitudes" like those in the Caribbean, they have short sleeve T-s too. Check out: <https://www.booster.com/stormvogel-rising>

All proceeds from this fund raiser go directly to the rebuild. Also read about their Adopt-A-Rib campaign on the booster site. It is a way for you to have your name permanently inscribed into *Stormvogel*. And check out the new film about the ship on this You Tube link! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jMj2PtRNdA&feature=youtu.be> . ■



Dinghy/Small Boat Sharing Dive Moorings

Dear Editor:

Perhaps some diver operators allow it, many do not. Regardless, if only out of courtesy, dinghy owners should

ask first if they can tie up to a boat already on a mooring. There is a very serious safety issue here. Should a dive boat have to leave the mooring quickly, to have to tie a dinghy or in some cases two dinghies to the mooring wastes precious time.

Do not tie your dinghy to a boat on a mooring without asking first. And don't get rude when the captain says no. ■ Bruce Bowker

Affordable Self Storage Conveniently located in Hato



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Call Henk at 560-7254 / Bob 786-5399 info@bonairenauticomarina.com /VHF 68





REGULAR EVENTS

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

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

Soldachi Tours—See the Real Bonaire and be transported back in time. Learn about the history, culture and nature by Bonaireans from Rincon. Call Maria Koeks for more information: 796-7870, 717-6435.

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

Saturdays

•**Marshe di Playa** -Every Saturday, 8am-noon, Jong Bonaire, locally made and grown products

•**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,

DAY	DAY	DATE	NAME	ARR/DEP	CAPACITY
Cruise Ship Schedule					
25	Tuesday	24-11-15	Monarch	0800-1800	2744
26	Tuesday	24-11-15	Royal Princess	1200-1900	3600
27	Wednesday	25-11-15	Britannia	TBA	3600
28	Friday	27-11-15	Star Pride	0700-2400	208
29	Friday	27-11-15	Serenade of the Seas	0700-1400	2500
30	Saturday	28-11-15	Saint Laurent	1200-0400	210
31	Sunday	29-11-15	Star Pride	0700-2200	208
32	Tuesday	1-12-15	Monarch	0800-1800	2744
33	Wednesday	2-12-15	Aida Diva	0800-1800	2194
34	Wednesday	2-12-15	Oosterdam	0800-1800	2388
35	Friday	4-12-15	Vision of the Seas	0800-1700	2500

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.

•**12-step meeting (AA/NA).** Every Wednesday at GoGreen/Bonaire Basics, Kaya Korona #47. Walk in from 18:30, starts at 19:00, ends at 20:30.

Feel free to mail ibmvaningen@gmail.com for more information.

•**Echo** offers free (donation-based) Public Conservation Tours at 4:30. No reservation needed. For optimal birding, you can also book a private tour by calling 701-1188 or emailing: info@echobonaire.org. Please give at least one day's notice. Private tours are \$25/person with 2 person minimum.

•**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 peejeesee@gmail.com

Lions Club meets every **2nd and 4th Thursday** of the month at 8 pm at Kaya Sabana #1. All Lions welcome. For more information call 510-0710.

Rotary lunch meetings Wednesdays, 12:15-2 pm - Divi Flamingo Beach Resort in Peter Hughes meeting room upstairs above the dive shop. All Rotarians welcome. Call Gregory Obersi 785-9446.

Toastmasters Club meets every **two weeks**. For more information call Cruscita de Palm at 786-3827 or Lucia Martinez Beck, at 786-2953.

CHURCH SERVICES

Protestant Congregation of Bonaire: (VPGB), Kralendijk, Plaza Wilhelmina; Sunday service-10 am in Dutch. Rincon, Kaya C.D. Crestian; Sunday service-8:30 am in Papiamentu/ Dutch.

Children's club-every Saturday from 4:30-6 pm in Kralendijk, (annex of the church.) Contact; Marytjin@gmail.com or Daisycoffie@hotmail.com

International Bible Church, Kaya Papago 104, Hato, behind Bon Fysio/ Bon Bida Spa & Gym on Kaya Gob. N. Debrot. Sunday 9am-Worship

CLOSE-IN EVENTS

Going on Now—Art exhibit "Klabu Ku Hito" by Francisco Uty Melaan, at TCB office.

Thursday, Nov. 26—**American Thanksgiving** (dinner at Capt. Don's Habitat, Rum Runners, page 9)

Saturday, Nov. 28-**Malicious & Delicious Lionfish Derby** for licensed lionfish hunters with registered ELF's. 4-7pm, Washington Slagbaai Park

Saturday, Nov. 29—**Bonaire Animal Shelter Christmas Fair**, 10-5. Clothing, food, books, housewares. More on pg. 18

Sunday, Dec. 6—**The Art of Sitting Off the Mat**, Smiling Buddha Yoga Studio, Plaza Hotel, 3-6pm. \$30. Teacher, Corien Unger. Info 700-5779.

Friday, Dec. 11—**Annual December Holiday Concert**, Classical Music Board Bonaire. Songs and instrumentals from the Caribbean, Central and South America. Tica Giel, Pepe Fernandez, Guan Tromp, Popkoor Bonaire. Plaza Hotel, Cacique Hall. Tickets \$30, \$35 at the door. Poster on page 7.

Saturday, Dec. 12—**Bari Festival** begins, Mangazina di Rei - More on page 8

Monday, Dec. 14—**Get together to honor the late biologist, Jerry Ligon.** Sand Dollar, 6:30 pm. More on page 6.

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.



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AIRLINES

Divi Divi Air- Bonaire's "on time airline" with 16 flights a day between Bonaire and Curaçao. Your first choice for inter-island travel. Reserve early to ensure a seat.

AUTOMOBILE DEALER

Check out **Auto City Bonaire** for the widest selection of new car brands on Bonaire including Chevrolet, Honda, Isuzu, Suzuki, Subaru. Used cars too. Complete service department. Hertz rentals.

BANK

ORCO Bank offers one-on-one attention, personal banking. Each client is a person, not a number. The office is the historic building at Kaya Grandi 48.



BEAUTY

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

BIKES

De Freewieler sells bikes and all kinds of bike accessories. They do professional repairs on almost anything on two wheels. **Have your keys made here too.**

DENTURE REPAIR

All Denture Lab—for the best denture care by an experienced professional. Repairs while you wait. Next to Botika Korona on Kaya J. G. Hernandez.

ON and IN the WATER

Budget Marine has what anyone with a boat needs, and if it's not in stock they can order it quickly. You can also find special hardware for general use and components for solar and wind electric systems.

Dive Friends has four dive schools and three retail shops so you always get the best deals and can be assured of top notch training. Remodeled shop, Dushi Shoes on Kaya Grandi, open now.

GARDEN SUPPLIES AND SERVICES

Green Label has everything you need to start or maintain your garden. They can design, install and maintain it and offer plants, irrigation supplies and garden chemicals. Off Kaya Industria, behind Lucky Supermarket.

HEALTH

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

HOME CARE

PPM- Prestige Property Management Can care for your property when you are off island doing: Check-Ups, House sitting, - Contractor Supervision, Gardening & Landscaping, Meet & Greet guests, and more.

LIQUORS, WINES and MORE

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



OPTICIAN

Buena Vista Optics is Bonaire's most up-to-date place to get eyeglasses or contact lenses. The combination of experienced personnel and advanced equipment and technology make it a top value

PHOTOGRAPHER

Bonaire's most creative above or underwater video and still photographer for the wedding or other important events in your life. Drone photography too. ScubaVision, recently renamed Bonaire Vision Films & Photo, has a new website at www.bonairevisionfilms.com.

REAL ESTATE /RENTAL AGENTS

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RESTAURANTS

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

La Balandra at The Harbour Village Resort offers Bonaire's most spectacular setting. Superb cuisine, top notch service. Eat on the deck or with your feet in the sand.



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

Pasa Bon Pizza—Bonaire's quality pizza—Best ingredients, best baking and best taste. Great salads and lasagna too. Eat in or take away.

RETAIL

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

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

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



SECURITY

Special Security Services will provide that extra measure of protection when you need it. Always reliable.

STORAGE

The Storehouse (Mangasina in Papiamentu) offers Secure Storage for Vehicles, Household Items, Diving and Sporting Gear, Business Files or Inventory. Across from the northern hotel row.



SHIPPING

Rocargo Freight Air and sea shipments in/out of Bonaire. Customs agents. Professional and efficient. **FedEx agent. What would we do without their superb services?**



SUPERMARKETS

TOP Supermarket—

Conveniently located **downtown** at the old Cultimara location. Featuring a complete selection including liquors, fresh meat, fruit and vegetables.



WATER TAXI

Get to Klein Bonaire by Ferry. Ride the *Kantika di Amor*. Hotel or downtown pickup The only water taxi to Klein Bonaire with an easy on/off built-in ramp at Bonaire Nautico (It Rains Fishes Restaurant)

Pet of the Week

Orchid

This stunning female kitten would love to share your home with you! Orchid was given her name because she is almost a dead ringer for a Lilac Point Siamese cat. She obviously has inherited some Siamese blood, and mostly the positive attributes of the breed.

Orchid is not "vocal" as many Siamese can be, much to the chagrin of many owners. She has a light cream colored coat, with silvery grey "points" (her ears and ringed tail) and just like the Lilac Point, everything about her is pale, from her eyes to her paw pads. Their eyes, like Orchid's, should be a pale, china blue. Lilac Points have Russian Blue cat lines in their genes, and when you watch Orchid in action there is something of the Russian prima ballerina about her. When she plays with her toys she moves with grace and strength, leaping and pirouetting as she throws them in the air.

Orchid seems to know she is special and beautiful. She loves to hear how pretty she is and stares right into your eyes when you talk to her. An extremely affectionate kitten, about four months old, she loves to be held and will likely be a great lap cat. While Orchid gets along famously with her Shelter kitten-mates, she also has a wonderful time alone, provided she has her toys to "dance" with. Whether you have other cats or are looking for an "only" cat companion, Orchid fits the bill.



Orchid

Please pass by the Animal Shelter Bonaire to visit with Orchid and her roommates. With 30 cats and kittens in residence surely one of them will grab your heart between their paws. Located at Kaminda Lagun 26, the Shelter is open Monday through Saturday, from 8 am to 1 pm and 3 - 5 pm. Check out their Facebook page (Animal Shelter Bonaire) or visit the "kitty cam" at www.bonairecatcam.com.

Story & photo by Jane Madden Disko



ANNUAL ANIMAL SHELTER CHRISTMAS FAIR

29 NOVEMBER 2015 FROM 10:00 AM UNTIL 5:00 PM ON KAMINDA LAGUN 26A

Come do your early Christmas shopping with us!!

- ❖ New and 2nd hand clothes, books, house wares
- ❖ Homemade crafts
- ❖ Pet products, collars, leashes, toys and more
- ❖ Bake sale
- ❖ Food and refreshments
- ❖ Entertainment with live music and a Happy hour from 4pm until 5pm



Please visit our fair at The Animal Shelter Bonaire and bring all your friends! All proceeds will benefit the animal shelter. The Animal Shelter Bonaire is a non-profit organization.

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.

Shelter Seniors



Foxy



Donald



Opa

SENIOR DOG OR CAT MAY BE THE PERFECT PET FOR YOU!

Many senior Shelter pets live years with a family, and then during a time when they most need human care and companionship, they are surrendered to the Animal Shelter for many numbers of reasons. This can be a heartbreaking end to the life of a once cherished pet.

If you're thinking of adopting, please think about adopting an older dog or cat. This might be just the pet you need, so we encourage everybody to keep an open mind.

Many adult dog and cats have spent years living with a family and being socialized to life with humans. They may have received obedience training and respond to commands. And if you like to teach them a few things in their new life with you, not to worry. You can teach older pets new tricks too!

If you have a cat and are looking for a feline-friendly dog, you can ask to see older dogs that lived with cats in their former homes.

Senior pets and senior citizens make a great team. Many elderly people find the calm presence of an older pet very comforting. They appreciate having a companion who is also getting older and is content to move through life at a slower speed.

Adopted senior pets are forever grateful. Somehow, older pets seem to know you

gave them a home when no one else would. Many new owners form a close bond very quickly with their senior dog or cat, because the pet shows them a level of attention and devotion that is unique to older adopted animals.

Many people are looking for opportunities to be charitable this time of year, and we can't think of a better way to give back than to help one less animal spend the holiday season in the Animal Shelter.



If you are not able to adopt but like to help an older pet at the Animal Shelter Bonaire, it's possible! Feel free to contact The Animal Shelter Bonaire on Kaminda Lagun 26a for information, email to animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com, or call 7174989/7014989.

Story & photos by Nathalie Peterson



TUNG FONG STORE N.V.

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Kaya Korona 52 Tel. 599 - 717 4224 FAX. 599 - 717 5224

Opening hours: 8.30 am - 12.30 pm, 2.30 pm - 6.30 pm
Open from Monday till Saturday. Sundays closed.



THE STARS HAVE IT

Early December 2015

ARIES (Mar. 21- April 20) Your intellectual charm will entice new love interests. Your communication skills will bring you popularity and increased self esteem. If you've been under stress and worrying about older members of the family, it's time to come to terms with the situation. Use your creative talent in order to accomplish your goals. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

TAURUS (Apr. 21- May 21) You won't get the reaction you want from your mate this week. Make plans to attend group discussions or get together with friends who like to talk as much as you do. Don't divulge secret information. Your home may be in an uproar and you are best to stay out of the line of fire if at all possible. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21) They will jump at the chance to do something without you if it sounds like more fun. You can meet interesting new friends if you join worthwhile groups. You will upset your partner if you have spent money on things that aren't necessary. You can get others to do things for you but be sure not to overpay them or lend them money. Your lucky day will be Thursday.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) Your determination and stamina will make your work look flawless and effortless. Beware of someone who is trying to make you look bad. Don't consume more than necessary. If you've been under stress and worrying about older members of the family, it's time to come to terms with the situation. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

LEO (July 23-Aug 22) Now is a good time to ask for favors. Courses dealing with psychology or health care will be of interest. You are best not to confide in anyone right now. You will need to spend extra time sorting through your work. Your lucky day will be Tuesday.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) Limitations at work might set you back. Use some diplomacy to get your point across delicately. Your practical approach to life may charm someone who has been observing you. Nagging

has never been something that you could tolerate, and it's once again driving you into a lonely state of affairs. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) You may find that your documents are not in order. Don't be too eager to spend money that you really don't have. Relationships may be hard to handle. Don't be too eager to buy things for those who really don't deserve it. Your lucky day will be Monday.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) Your reputation may be at stake if you partake in gossip. It's time to reevaluate your motives. This week will be hectic. Children will want to help, too. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) You have so much to offer; open up and let your thoughts be known. Don't bang your head against a wall. Try not to get backed into corners. Go after your goals. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) Your charm will be captivating. Cultural activities will prove to be quite enlightening for everyone. Socializing will be more than just entertaining. Don't allow someone to do a job that was designated specifically for you. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) You can make financial gains through your unique and creative approach to business. You should get out and enjoy social events where you are likely to meet new potential mates; however, don't over spend. Empty promises are evident. Speak of your future goals, intentions, and commitments. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) Get together with people who stimulate you mentally. Travel opportunities look positive, but be cautious while driving. Jealousy may be a contributing factor to your emotional ups and downs. Most partner problems are a result of both people not living up to their promises. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday. ■

Michael Thiessen



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*to find it... just look up

"FINDING A PLANET IN THE DAYTIME"

Have you ever seen a planet in the middle of the day? Well you do every day. It's called the **Earth**. But have you ever seen a planet other than the Earth in the middle of the day? When the **Sun**'s up. Telescope owners can see **Venus, Jupiter, and Saturn** during the daytime, but it's not easy. The sky is so bright that faint lights from the planets really blend in.

But on December 7th something will help in your mid-day search for a particular planet, and you should even be able to find it with the naked eye. Awesome?

On the morning of December 7 you'll see the bright steady light of Jupiter, the largest planet in the solar system. And you might be able to see Mars, although it's very faint and very far away from us right now. You will see a really bright light close to the horizon, and that is the planet we want to focus on. It's the brightest planet, the hottest planet, can be the closest planet to Earth, and starts with the letter "V". In case you haven't already guessed it, that is the planet Venus. Now it's really easy to find Venus before the Sun rises, but during the daytime, you can find Venus with the naked eye, and the **Moon** can help.

It may surprise you to hear that the Moon and Venus are visible during the daytime, but they are. The Sun's light doesn't magically turn off the Moon or Venus, or the stars for that matter, but the Sun puts so much more light into the daytime sky that they have a hard time competing for your attention. The key to finding Venus in the daytime is knowing when the Moon is close enough to Venus to act as a pointer. And on December 7 the Moon will appear really, really close to Venus.

Around 7am, the Sun is up and the sky is brightening, but you should still be able



This is the view of the planet Venus alongside our moon.

to see the Moon with Venus next to it as a little dot. At 8am the Sun is higher and you'll need to look carefully, but Venus will be there. And at 9am, it'll be just to the left of the Moon. Now the tricky part will come later in the day.

For this part, timing is important. Around noon Sky Park Time you may lose Venus because it'll be too close to the Moon. With a telescope we can watch something amazing happen. Around 1:30 pm the Moon will slide in front of Venus and block it out. This is called an **occultation** and is pretty rare. Imagine the two objects, separated by millions of miles lining up perfectly. That's what we'll have on December 7. Venus will then pop out the other side of the Moon around 2:45 EST.

So there you have it. On December 7th you'll have a wonderful chance to find a planet in the daytime. Just look to the left of the crescent Moon and you should be able to spot Venus even in broad daylight. And see if you can witness when the Moon blocks Venus during the occultation. ■ Dean Regas & James Albury

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