national Montreal Convention becomes effective for travel out of Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba, and on flights between the three islands. The Second Chamber of the Dutch Parliament on Thursday approved a change to the Civil Code and the Air Transport Law which strengthens the position of passengers towards airlines. Improvements include compensation for the victims of air disasters. Under the new rules air carriers are strictly liable for proven damages up to €130,000 ($173,360) per passenger in case of physical injury or death. The amount under the Montreal Convention is considerably higher than before. Victims or their families can sue foreign carriers where they maintain their principal residence and requires all air carriers to carry liability insurance.

The maximum liability of airlines for lost luggage now requires airlines to fully compensate travelers the cost of replacement items purchased. The law proposal still has to pass through the Dutch First Chamber.

On Monday, February 29th the Echo Conservation Foundation opened a new Discovery Nursery, which features 10 species of easy-to-identify trees from Bonaire. The Discovery Nursery will be used during Echo’s weekly public tours as well as by school children on field trips to the Conservation Centre at Dos Pox. The 10 species included in the nursery are Taki, Shimaruka, Hoba, Kenepa, Kalbas, Wayaka, Stoki, Oliba, Kibrahacha, and Divi Divi—all local, drought-resistant trees. Contact: Info@echobonaire.org

The Pelikaan School parking lot was improved during Bon Doet by parents and teachers to make it safer. A "kiss & ride" strip was defined, parking spaces were painted and a "zebra" pedestrian crossing was added.

Would you like to join STINAPA on a bird watching trip? Learn about the birds we have on our island. You will be surprised by the wonderful diversity of the birds we have on Bonaire. On March 26th from 5:30 pm there is an opportunity for bird watching with STINAPA at the LVV (Agricultural department) facility on Kaminda Lagoen. This area has a constant supply of fresh water which attracts an abundance of bird species. Very rare species of birds for the ABC isl-
the inkomstenbelasting (IB) (income tax return) online. Tax-
payers on Saba, St. Eustatius and
Bonaire recently received their
invitation to file their IB tax at
their home address. For the first
time they have the option to either
file their tax return on paper or
online for the 2015 tax year. This
way B/CN wants to make it easier
for residents to file their IB tax
return in the way which suits them
best.

Bonaire has again
achieved a balanced budget
according to the semi-annual
report of the BES Island
Board of Financial Supervi-
sion (Cft).
The 2014 annual
accounts showed a small sur-
plus. The reports themselves
show an improvement in the
quality. The Cft advised that
Bonaire should nevertheless
remain fully focused on further
improving its financial man-
agement.

The visa requirement for
Peruvians who travel to Bonaire,
Saba or St. Eustatius as tourists
was dropped on March 14, 2016.
This means that Peruvian tourists
can travel to Bonaire, Saba and St.
Eustatius for a period up to a maxi-
mum of three months without a
visa.

The Minister for Economic
Affairs changed two ministerial
regulations that gave a substan-
tial reduction to fees that mo-
bile (cellular) operators have to
pay retroactive to January 1,
2015. Hopefully this economic
boost given to the (mobile) tele-
communications market in the
Caribbean Netherlands will result
in lower phone and Internet rates
for consumers. However, the
change of the two ministerial
regulations does not automati-
cally force the mobile operators
to reduce their rates or to im-
prove their services.

On Saturday, April 2,
from 10am to 5pm, the Kru-
sada Rehabilitation Founda-
tion will have an open house
at its center on the Lagoen
Road. During the tours you
will be informed about all the
activities offered at Krusada
including its wonderful screen
house gardens.

Easter Weekend (Goede
Vrijdag, 1e and 2e Paasdag) is
coming up next weekend
(March 25-28) and this year
coincides with the clocks going
forward in The Netherlands.
Easter Monday is a public hol-
day but Friday is a normal work-
day, apart from government
workers.

We wish our readers a
Happy Easter (Bon Pasku di
Resureckshon).

G./L.D.

The Foundation Ride for the
Roses (RftR), established this year,
has as its main objective raising
awareness of as many people as pos-
sible—potential sponsors and donors
—as to raise money for the Princess
Wilhelmina Fund on Bonaire.
The first event will be the RftR
Bonaire Triathlon on April 17.
The event is not about winning cash
prizes but to get people to exercise
and socialize. It is a cycling, walking and swimming event
where each participant is presented with a red rose at the fin-
ish. The rose symbolizes a tomorrow for everyone. For more
information, online registration, questions and donations:
our website or Facebook page or call +599 777-7707.
For tickets in pre-sale please contact: Frank Bohm
(+5997868545), Tom Peeters (+599 701-1020), Mocky
Arends (+599 786-5614), Jursi Marshall (+5997777707)
Whatsapp, de Freewieler (Kaya Grandi 61), Bon Bida
Spa & Gym (Bulevar Gobernador N. Debrot 74)

Bonaire Commissioner Clark Abraham (left in both photos) was in The Netherlands last week speaking with the leaders of several political parties. He met with Alexander Pechtold (right), the D66 party leader, on the question of “how to proceed” in response to the Spies Report "Five Years Linked" as well as other important matters. The report evaluated the effects of integration with the Netherlands since 10-10-10. According to Abraham the conversation with Pechtold was very open and very constructive. Deputy Abraham also met with the Dutch anti-immigrant leader of the PVV party, Gert Wilders (left), and reported that the conversation was useful, especially to hear contrary opinions.
On The Island Since... April 28th, 2015 - Jennifer Martis

"I was born on Curacao and when I was one I moved with my mom and dad to Holland where we lived for six years, then we came back to Curacao. I’m half Bonairean. The Martis family on my father’s side is originally from Antwerp but later they moved to Nijikobo. My mom comes from a small fishing village on Curacao. When I was 19 I moved to Utrecht, Holland, to study law. I’d seen lots of movies where lawyers were theatrical people where everything always worked out the way they wanted; I thought that would fit me too. But when I began to study it turned out it was just plain boring. European law history… it didn’t do it for me!

From the time I was a small kid I wanted to become an actress. I would record my performances on tape and always spoke to become an actress. I would record my pean law history… it didn’t do it for me! It turned out it was just plain boring. Eurofit me too. But when I began to study it where everything always worked out the way they wanted; I thought that would fit me too. But when I began to study it turned out it was just plain boring. European law history… it didn’t do it for me!

When I was 19 I moved to Utrecht, and I decided to study drama therapy. Not only could I help people, but I did something fun for myself as well. I graduated when I was 25, then it was time to go home. On Curacao I started working as a drama therapist in addiction care, but it was so intense I felt I wasn’t ready for it. It was too young and I simply didn’t have enough experience in life.

To me, drama therapy is a form of therapy where I use dramatic interventions like performance and fantasy, so people can get in touch with their inner selves. During this process I can work on the problems people are dealing with. It’s for every age, not only young people. In fact, it especially works very well for adults as people are often emotionally blocked by life because of everything they went through.

So then I went to work as a youth worker at the library on Curacao with the goal of getting more kids to the library and also getting them to read more books. Personally, I think one can gather knowledge anywhere and everywhere. You don’t need books necessarily. I think a library nowadays should be more of a cultural center where writers are invited to speak, to discuss and mostly to inspire. Inspiration is a very important word – that I am inspired and that people are inspired by me. It applies to everything. When one is inspired he brings meaning to his work and it gives him pleasure. When one is inspired one goes significantly deeper for someone and is really there for them.

During the time I worked at the library – I am someone who always does multiple things at the same time – I participated in theatre performances of the Paradox Foundation, now called Teatro KadaKen. It was awesome! We went to all the high schools and to the prison. After the show we would discuss, evaluate and reflect. It was very well organized and paid for like a regular job. Also, it was a different form of theatre. We would use very little décor – it was minimalistic and abstract—and it makes you have to think. In a way it was daring as different forms of theatre were used in one play. The text was beautiful and poetic—which I love—and written by Albert Schoobaar, an Antillean writer, director and actor and co-founder of Teatro KadaKen. His strength lies in using fewer words to say more. We wanted youngsters to experience a different kind of theatre. Afterwards we would discuss social issues with the kids. I did that for about three years, then I went to Holland for love. I stayed in Amsterdam for six years. At first I also participated in educational performances, just like on Curacao. Part of me wants to be free and go for it – I’m somewhat of a hippy—but at the same time there is a sensible side which tells me to look for a real job with financial security. And so I ended up in Youth Care. After a while I got the itch to do something different. I didn’t throw away my security – I stayed with Youth Care – but I worked two jobs. I worked on a communal group with children with behavioral problems or children whose home situation wasn’t safe. And I was a cultural mediator, introducing the youngsters I was working with to different cultural organizations involving dance, theatre, fine arts and music in Amsterdam. That was up until last year when I realized I’d been living more years in Holland than on Curacao and I wanted to go back.

All my life I’ve been a little homesick. When I was on Curacao I was longing for Amsterdam, and when I was there I was missing my life in the Caribbean. To me Curacao means the warmth and support of my family, my mom who’s getting older and the fact that I want to be there for her. And Amsterdam stands for anonymity and everything that has to do with culture: walking alone for hours through the Rijksmuseum, going for a picnic at the Vondelpark and all the travelling - which I love - and which is so cheap and easy to do from Amsterdam. I don’t know if there is a name or a name for people who were brought up in two different cultures and feel at home in both.

Well, now I’m here on dushi Bonaire and it’s neither of them! Last year February I went on vacation to Curacao and went job hunting but it took too long before I got an answer. They wanted me but there were no vacancies. After carnival I came to Bonaire to chill a bit and three months later, on May 15th, I started working at Youth Care. While the rule in the Caribbean is 40 hours per week, I work 32 hours and I got it done! Now I have a goal of getting more kids to the library and want to keep on writing my biography. It tells me to look for a real job with financial security. And so I ended up in Youth Care. After a while I got the itch to do something different. I didn’t throw away my security – I stayed with Youth Care – but I worked two jobs. I worked on a communal group with children with behavioral problems or children whose home situation wasn’t safe. And I was a cultural mediator, introducing the youngsters I was working with to different cultural organizations involving dance, theatre, fine arts and music in Amsterdam. That was up until last year when I realized I’d been living more years in Holland than on Curacao and I wanted to go back.

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I have an affinity with youngsters because I know that puberty is a very important phase in your life where you start thinking about who you are and you need to get on stage with my own monologue and I want to keep on writing my bi-weekly blog on the website www.inikimitebaba.com.

That’s my vision for the future and for Bonaire I wish we will retain the connection we have with nature and the fact that people take care of one another. And what we have to discard, what I find destructive, is that people are afraid that other people who come to the island are taking away their authenticity. Negativity and fear become the reason to put the blame for everything—what ever it is—on the foreign influence. I notice that many people have the tendency to look at a situation from a point of view that comes from the past and the history we share. I don’t do that. I look at things from a present point of view: who you are and who I am and how can we make it work.

You know, what nobody understands but I do because I know myself, is that Bonaire has really touched me: the nature, the tranquility, the simplicity of life, the sound of silence and the starry, starry nights. It means a lot. It brought me closer to myself. I am happy here. I am happy here.

Story & photo by Greta Kooistra

Jennifer Martis

Painting of Jennifer made by Francis Sling, an Antillean painter who lives in Holland.
Wildcats win.

seeing the Kentucky Tournament in hopes of South Eastern Basketball and are attending the island after nine weeks.
bluegrass music.
home of country and the Grand Ole Opry and the world famous Ryman Auditorium in Nashville, the home of the famous and the home of the world famous Grand Ole Opry and the Ryman Auditorium in Nashville, the home of the famous and the home of the world famous Grand Ole Opry and the Ryman Auditorium in Nashville, the home of the famous and the home of the world famous Grand Ole Opry and the Ryman Auditorium in Nashville, the home of the famous and the home of the world famous Grand Ole Opry and the Ryman Auditorium in Nashville, the home of the famous and the home of the world famous Grand Ole Opry and the Ryman Auditorium in Nashville, the home of the famous and the home of the world famous Grand Ole Opry and the Ryman Auditorium in Nashville, the home of the famous and the home of the world famous Grand Ole Opry and the Ryman Auditorium in Nashville, the home of the famous and the home of the world famous Grand Ole Opry and the Ryman Auditorium in Nashville, the home of the famous and the home of the world famous Grand Ole Opry and the Ryman Auditorium in Nashville, the home of the famous and the home of the world famous Grand Ole Opry and the Ryman Auditorium in Nashville, the home of the famous and the home of the world famous Grand Ole Opry and the Ryman Auditorium in Nashville, the home of the famous and the home of the world famous Grand Ole Opry and the Ryman Auditorium in Nashville, the home of the famous and the home of the world famous Grand Ole Opry and the Ryman Auditorium in Nashville, the home of the famous and the home of the world famous Grand Ole Opry and the Ryman Auditorium in Nashville, the home of the famous and the home of the world famous Grand Ole Opry and the Ryman Auditorium in Nashville, the home of the famous and the home of the world famous Grand Ole Opry and the Ryman Auditorium in Nashville, the home of the famous and the home of the world famous Grand Ole Opry and the Ryman Auditorium in Nashville, the home of the famous and the home of the world famous Grand Ole Opry and the Ryman Auditorium in Nashville, the home of the famous and the home of the world famous

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.

Open Letter:

I arrived in Bonaire on Feb 5, on my boat as I always do for the last eight years to spend two months on this beautiful island. We dinghied to Karel’s Bar and tied up at one of their cleats as we have done many times in the past. Immediately, we were approached by a waitress and the manager of the restaurant who told us in an unfriendly fashion: no more dinghies parking at their pier, we had to leave immediately. We could leave our dinghy in a dirty corner between the shore and the pier to go to Customs. There were no cleats to tie up, no ladder, a broken wooden staircase floated in the corner and loose electric wires were hanging from the wall. Dinghies get pushed under the concrete pier and get damaged by the wave action. Since I first came to Bonaire, the top of my outboard got crushed under piers three times. I guess that concludes our patronage of Karel’s Restaurant for a while.

Dear Editor:

We visited your beautiful (Washington-Slagbaai) park yesterday. The gorgeous scenery was ruined by a very sick baby donkey. He was suffering, starving, I spoke to the man at the booth and said he should be rescued by the donkey sanctuary.

Gary Galkin

Yachtsman’s Lament

We love to come here and spend a substantial amount of money for drinks, food, groceries, parts, shopping and even moorings and harbour to visiting tourists. However, I think Bonaire has not given much consideration to boats from 43 moorings to come ashore and spend money. There are not many alternatives short of swimming ashore. Many of us are over 65 and less and less able to perform acrobatic feats, while docking.

Martin P. Hederich M.A. (Ed.), Captain
Sailing Yacht DR. FLUE

From the USA

Amar Freight, Inc.
The ONLY company offering direct weekly consolidation services from Miami, USA to Bonaire.

www.amcarfreight.com

Amar Freight
12600 NW 25 Street
Suite 107
Miami, Fl 33182

From Europe

International Freight (Car) BV
The ONLY company offering direct weekly consolidation services from Europe/Holland to Bonaire.

www.ifc-consolidators.nl

Jupiterweg 1A (Ecopark)
4761 RW Moerdijk, Holland
Tel 31-(0) 168-40-94 94
Every day I walk my dogs in the mundi. And every day nature looks different. I never get bored. Unfortunately there is more to see than pure nature in the mundi: A lot of people think they should brighten up nature with their own waste materials. So, every day I see new trash and that makes me wonder. I will share my wondering about this waste and nature with you and hope that this might contribute to putting waste where it belongs: in the landfill.

True works of art you often find where you least expect it. Walking with the dogs I see something that attracts my artistic eye. I see an installation consisting of a brown substance, probably a natural material, different stylish cushions positioned with an eye for detail and color, and this exquisite unity is entirely surrounded by carefully chosen stones. An inviting entity waiting for an art expert to discover. And here I am, ready to share my view of art with the world.

The soft material used by the artist evokes feelings of melancholy. It looks like a quest in the memory of times passed by, the naivety of youth, sleeping in a haystack. Purple pillows scream for attention and catch the eye of the beholder. However, the variant in pastel tones with hand-painted flowers is not inferior to that purple usurpation. The beholder. However, the variant in pastel tones with hand-painted flowers is not inferior to that purple usurpation. The beholder.

The seaweed-like surface confirms the nature is captured in substance. The drawing a three-dimensional appearing line is entirely surprising. Purple pillows scream like a quest in the memory of times passed by, the naivety of youth, sleeping in a haystack. Purple pillows scream for attention and catch the eye of the beholder. However, the variant in pastel tones with hand-painted flowers is not inferior to that purple usurpation. The beholder. However, the variant in pastel tones with hand-painted flowers is not inferior to that purple usurpation. The beholder.

A few days later I take the route along the work of art in the hope of re-tasting a heavenly pleasure, but I can hardly recognize it. All cushions are removed and what remains is an undefined pile of brown gunk. At last we are having an open art in an open air museum and then immediately we are affected by cultural barbarians. I hope that the cushions have a good home and that they are valued for what they are: works of art.

Story & photos by Justine Verschoor
Introducing Access Bars® to Bonaire

**Releasing the Things That Keep You Stuck**

As we grow up, from the time we are very small, we are surrounded by the people around us, the school system and the culture and all these points of view make us think that we are true and real for us. And so we end up creating our life based on these rules and we try to fit into the box. But what if we were to live outside of that box?

Speaking is transformational coach and Access Consciousness® body process facilitator Sophie Belliveau from Canada. “I facilitate workshops and do one-on-one sessions with clients, and I like to introduce these tools wherever I travel. I’ve been on Bonaire for six weeks and I’m staying until the end of April. I found Nancy Hart here and spoke to her about what I did, and we decided to work together and create something. In other words, she is going to host my workshop on the 28th of March and later on she’s going to integrate this into her own practice. The workshop is called Access Bars®. It’s an energetic body process which is done by gently touching points on the head. It’s a non-invasive process which is wonderful to receive and very easy to do and learn.

The purpose is that it allows you to release all the things that keep you stuck, all of the constraints and limitations that you live with and which keep you from living a life of ease and joy. Access Bars® allows you to access more of you and what is true for you. It gives you a sense of the space that is available to create the life you desire. What I usually ask people before talking about this is, “If you could change anything, what would it be?” because a question always opens up to the possibilities that are available. That’s how it starts.

So, if people are interested in participating in the workshop on March 28th from 9.30-5.30, they can contact Nancy at 701-2010 or mail me to info@sophiebelliveau.com. I’m going to stay here till April 27th and I also will be available for one-hour private sessions throughout the month.”

For more info: www.sophiebelliveau.com

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**Jong Bonaire Fun Walk & Bike**

Jong Bonaire invites everybody to join in on this fun walk. It’s a good opportunity to connect with old friends and meet new ones, while walking on our beautiful island of Bonaire.

If you participated last year you know about it, if you didn’t you heard about it.

**Date:** 3rd of April 2016

**Distance:** 20 Km & 37 Km

**Starting time:** 6:00 AM

**Start:** Jong Bonaire

**Finish:** Jong Bonaire

**Price:** $12

**6-12 years under 12 years**

**Includes:** T-shirt, Water bottle, drinks, lunch & first tickets available at: Jong Bonaire

**Route:** Start: Jong Bonaire, Kaya Simon Bolív- yer, Aldeplan boulévair, Kaya International (to Bonaire), Kaya Rondell/Studio Van Eps, Koini- da Sorobon, Kaya Niboko Zand, Kaya Betero Cours, Kaya Simon Bolívar, Finish: Jong Bonaire

**Bikes follow the long southern route and join at Sorobon.**

Total: 37 Km.
Caring for orphaned or injured foals is a frequent time-consuming commitment for Donkey Sanctuary Bonaire. But in the case of Maroesja, hit by a car when she was only two weeks old and rescued by tourists, the volunteers and workers went "beyond the call of duty" by nursing her through severe muscle and nerve damage. They even found a horse vet to make special splints for her legs so she can have somewhat of a normal life with her best friend Foo (in the background).

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)

Many Donkey Thanks
Friends of Donkey Sanctuary Bonaire (Caring for Bonaire’s donkeys since 1993)

Paid advertisement by an anonymous supporter of Donkey Sanctuary Bonaire

For Sale: The original large, impressive oil painting (4.5 by 6 feet), “Nukov,” by artist Heleen Cornet of Saba, was commissioned to be an illustration for the book, New Guide to the Bonaire Marine Park,” by Tom van’t Hof, published in 1997. It appears on a double page spread on pages 82 and 83. The painting depicts Nukov in the 1990s. Nukov is northwest of Washington-Slagbaai. It had some of the most pristine coral found on Bonaire and is home to many of the larger fish species.

Internationally known artist Heleen Cornet is renowned for her paintings of underwater scenes, rainforests and architecture. She has illustrated several children’s books and marine park guides. Her work is in private collections and has been exhibited at art shows in Santo Domingo, Sao Paulo, Bonaire, Curacao, Saba, Washington and Caracas. The painting is custom framed. Price: $2,500 firm.

Contact: laura@bonairenews.com or call +599-786-6518

Bonaire Reporter- Mar. 21-Apr. 4, 2016
Bonaire Ramble

To the dull mind nature is leaden. To the illuminated mind the whole world burns and sparkles with light (Ralph Waldo Emerson).

(A TO SOROBON AND BACK -- 9 MILES)

A nm with hairspray -- glued all over my exposed body parts, including my nose, and sun screen — aerosol-ed all over my hair (due to my utter confusion about which yellow can is which), I’m all prepared to tackle a nine-mile trek down the south windward shore of Bonaire.

My friends and I leave “Sjors,” an ole faithful companion (otherwise known as a Suzuki Jimny), right at the second inlet on Bonaire’s southwind, windward coast. And when these occurred, lookouts would alert Bonaire’s separate villages, whose inhabi-

ants would flock to the shore, erecting their distinctively colored village flags, thereby staking a claim to the booty gathered by each. They would then comb the shoreline for washed up treasures from the ships of the ill-fated mariners.

We cross the deserted road to follow the zig-zagging path loping south along the dikes. An adult reddish egret is unlimbing around in the saline pond, hoping to snag fish or crustaceans. Pretty soon, just before spotting and spearing its victim, it will spread its wings and use the shade to reduce glare on the water. We move on before the egret has a chance to entertain us with its uncoordinated but utterly fascinating birdie hop.

Further along the trail we catch a semipalated plover (at left) dashing through the sandy tidal flats when the bird suddenly halts to pose for Elisabeth. What a good birdie! On second thought, the plover was most likely scanning the area for prey, and just happened to run into us.

Approaching Sorobon on Lac Baai, the red mangroves take our breath away. Mangroves provide a nursing, breeding and feeding habitat for fish and birds. Also, they protect our shorelines from heavy storms and erosion. What’s cool about the red mangroves is that they grow air roots for oxygen to compensate for their waterlogged, below-ground roots in the salt-saturated marsh. Unfortunately, mangroves are endangered throughout the whole world because of human development of coastal areas and mangrove clearance for shrimp farms. On Bonaire, they’re luckily left unharmed. So far.

After our required 10 o’clock Dutch koffie met koekje (cup of coffee with cookie) at the beach bar, we then turn around and take the road back to the car. We thoroughly enjoy the glamorous flamingoes, which are, more likely than not, all feeding in one line. Part of their feeding regimen is a kind of Congo line: stomping around with their legs and feet while standing next to each other in an effort to stir up hapless bay shrimp, which the birds will then sieve up with their unique bills.

As we near the car, the pinkish hue of the water strikes us. When some of the salt ponds reach a higher salinity level than that of seawater, the temperature rises while the green algae release more beta-carotene which causes the pink/orange color. These ponds have a permanent layer of salty crust on the bottom.

Positioned back in our faithful “Sjors,” I scope out the damage done to my body parts and hairdo. My curly locks have been sun bleached anyway and my arms, legs, and nose are red and stiff. Goodie!

Story by Karen Bastiaensen-Gilmour; photos by Elisabeth van Winsen-Sanders

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The hole in the ground roots in the salt-saturated marsh. Mangroves provide a nursing, breeding and feeding habitat for fish and birds. Also, they protect our shorelines from heavy storms and erosion. What’s cool about the red mangroves is that they grow air roots for oxygen to compensate for their waterlogged, below-ground roots in the salt-saturated marsh. Unfortunately, mangroves are endangered throughout the whole world because of human development of coastal areas and mangrove clearance for shrimp farms. On Bonaire, they’re luckily left unharmed. So far.

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The hole in the ground roots in the salt-saturated marsh. Mangroves provide a nursing, breeding and feeding habitat for fish and birds. Also, they protect our shorelines from heavy storms and erosion. What’s cool about the red mangroves is that they grow air roots for oxygen to compensate for their waterlogged, below-ground roots in the salt-saturated marsh. Unfortunately, mangroves are endangered throughout the whole world because of human development of coastal areas and mangrove clearance for shrimp farms. On Bonaire, they’re luckily left unharmed. So far.

After our required 10 o’clock Dutch koffie met koekje (cup of coffee with cookie) at the beach bar, we then turn around and take the road back to the car. We thoroughly enjoy the glamorous flamingoes, which are, more likely than not, all feeding in one line. Part of their feeding regimen is a kind of Congo line: stomping around with their legs and feet while standing next to each other in an effort to stir up hapless bay shrimp, which the birds will then sieve up with their unique bills.

As we near the car, the pinkish hue of the water strikes us. When some of the salt ponds reach a higher salinity level than that of seawater, the temperature rises while the green algae release more beta-carotene which causes the pink/orange color. These ponds have a permanent layer of salty crust on the bottom.

Positioned back in our faithful “Sjors,” I scope out the damage done to my body parts and hairdo. My curly locks have been sun bleached anyway and my arms, legs, and nose are red and stiff. Goodie!

Story by Karen Bastiaensen-Gilmour; photos by Elisabeth van Winsen-Sanders
Generosity was in the air as hundreds and hundreds of Bonaire’s people participated in the island’s biggest volunteer event: BON DOET. On Friday and Saturday, March 11 and 12, more than 1,000 volunteers successfully completed 58 different projects. Numerous companies and groups organized their employees and members to pitch in too.

Bon Doet is part of the largest volunteer initiative in the Dutch Kingdom and Bonaire. Its goal is to ensure that local organizations and individuals successfully can have work done that they cannot do on their own—which benefits themselves and the community.

The participating organizations demonstrated the various ways people can give back to society. Jobs completed included: coral restoration, sailing club repairs, senior citizen entertainment, cemetery cleanup, church repairs, road repair, school safety improvement, nature conservation efforts, construction, painting, sea grass protection and more. These photos show only a small part of what was accomplished.

A few of the people who made Bon Doet a big success
KITE SURFERS PARADISE

“KITEMANERA: A COMBINATION OF BURNING MAN, CARIBBEAN CARNIVAL AND A FUNKY SUMMER FESTIVAL. THE HOLY GRAIL? ATLANTIS (KITE) BEACH BONAIRE.” (PIET BOON BONAIRE)

This year’s KITEMANERA – a gala, kite boarding demonstration and pro competition – was staged on Atlantis Beach (a.k.a. Kite Beach) on Saturday, March 19. The event was launched by an opening ceremony promptly at 10 am. At 10:30 am all kite boarders, no matter what age, sex or religion, from Bonaire, Aruba, Venezuela, the US and other locales, joined in a costume race – a faux doctor, a beauty queen in drag, skeleton girl, bar maid, Viking, a butterfly and many more. This is KITEMANERA’S signature event! All (at least 120) participants dressed up with original and colorful costumes to compete for awesome prizes in a long distance race.

KITEMANERA is a non-profit, for-fun, event sponsored by many local businesses. The well-organized kite event was made possible by “The Venezuelan Kite Mafia,” which consists of four, board-kiting amigos from Venezuela. They are assisted by the local Bonaire kite community and friends.

The name KITEMANERA derives from ‘caimanera,’ which is Spanish for playing any kind of sports and games with friends – just to have fun – no rules. This colorful and wildly entertaining (to watch and to do) international kite surfing event was initiated on Bonaire in 2014, by a small group of kite fanatics. The idea was to assemble kiters of all ages and abilities and have them compete while having fun and, hopefully, lots of wind.

From noon until 4:30 on Saturday, several hundred visitors were treated to the Freestyle Pro Competition. This category included local and international pro riders whose talents rocked our boats, well certainly this reporter’s boat.

Among the competitors were two special guests: internationally famed kite boarders Jake Kelsick and Lasse Walker. They impressed us all with spectacular tricks and thrills of kite surfing. Some of these kite boarders seemed, almost literally, to touch the clouds. That’s how high they sailed up into the blue. This year’s contest differed from previous years in that the judges evaluated freestyle skills, height of jumps, complexity of tricks, landings, style and attitude on the water and in the air.

While the kiters jumped waves and clouds, we onlookers relaxed, beer and laughter flowing freely. It seemed like all were enjoying themselves. I sure was!

At 9 pm the same evening, the joy continued at Coco Beach Bar where the observing and participating crowds of KITEMANERA were invited to unwind.

On Sunday, March 20, a Boat and Float Party, a Beach Tennis Tournament and kite awards ceremony at Coco Beach were on the menu as well.

One contestant confided in me, “I love the feeling of fresh air in my face and the wind blowing through my hair.” Wasn’t this a quote by Evel Knievel?

Story by Karen Bastiaensen-Gilmour. Photos by Delno Tromp and Little Havana.

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The road to the European Masters Swim Championships 2016 in London begins in Bonaire. Bonaire’s winning Master (25 years and older) Swimmers will compete at the European Masters Championships from May 25th until May 29th 2016 in London, the United Kingdom.

After making history for Bonaire last year at the Pan American Masters swimming Championships in Medellin, Colombia, the Bonaire Master swimmers have an amazing goal for this year. Let’s take it to a higher level and try to win medals for Bonaire at the other side of the world and history can be made again!

The participation of the Bonaire Masters Swimming Team is of utmost importance for the Bonaire Swimming Federation, Bonaire Aquatics Club “Barracudas” and themselves to showcase at a major international event.

Over 100,000 men and women worldwide, ages 25 to over 90, participate in Masters swimming. Masters swimming is an adult aquatic fitness program for individuals who have chosen aquatics as their means of exercise for a healthier lifestyle. The Master Swimmers of the Bonaire Aquatics Club “Barracudas” offer adults on Bonaire the opportunity to participate in lifelong fitness and/or a competitive swimming program, which also gives more energy in life and better performance at work! They also believe that social responsibility is very important and are therefore all involved in programs to educate youth on Bonaire in Sports and Health.

By participating in international championships, and especially this great event at the European Masters Championships, they would like to show youth and adults on Bonaire that “There is always a way to live up to your dreams and goals in life, no matter what age you are.” Sports and exercise promotes meeting people and respecting others. Last but not least it is a great, fun way to keep you disciplined and mentally and physically fit. Will you be a part of it too?

If you would like to sponsor the Bonaire Masters Swimming Team or are interested in swimming with us, please contact us at e-mail sponsoring barracudas@gmail.com.

Come and listen to the origin of the scarf during a workshop at the Cultural Market this Saturday 26th of March from 8 am to 2 pm, presented by two of our elders, Ms. Altagracia Coffie and Ms. Mamita Fox. The workshop will also illustrate different styles of how the scarf is folded.

During the Cultural Market there will also be other very interesting presentations for everyone. There will also be “LIVE” Presentation of the local youth band, Formashon Mushal Kiroyo.

Start the morning with a local breakfast. There is fresh bread from the oven, locally produced juice branded “Made in Rincon” and various other goodies to start the day created by locals! During the Cultural Market you may buy plants and seeds, local souvenirs and art.

The kitchen will be open from 10 am to sell soup. Guests can also enjoy a variety of local dishes like stewed goat, chicken, conch and salted fish. The dishes are served with rice, or local side dishes like funchi and tutu. Alternatively, you can enjoy a nice grill.

At the market you can also visit the new exhibition for a special price of only $5. In the new exhibition you will get an overview of the rich heritage of the most interesting sights of the Rincon area like Kaomati, Porta Spalto and Bototé. It sheds light on the unique indigenous flora and fauna of Bonaire.

See, Feel & Taste the Culture of Bonaire this Saturday, March 26 from 8 am to 2 pm. Entrance is free. For more information you can visit the Facebook Fan page of Mangazina di Rei (“Mangazina di Rei – Cultural Park”).

Press release

Story & photo by Izain J. Mercerena for Mangazina di Rei
**BODY BLASTED AT BON BIDA**

“Bring Sally up and bring Sally down. Lift and squat, gotta tear the ground. Bring Sally up and bring Sally down. Lift and squat, gotta tear the ground.”

— (Hulk Henk’s favorite torture song forcing us into excruciating squats)

TRX is suspension training, a form of resistance training that includes body weight exercises. A variety of multi-planar, compound exercise movements can be performed while using a suspended rope with two handles. The goal is to develop strength, balance and flexibility at the same time. (Wikipedia).

6:30 am: Rude awakening by husband. The sun, barely a glow in the sky before sunrise, is tickling my eyelids while the hub’s wake-up finger is prodding my dreams. I manage to tune both out. Don’t interrupt my happy sleep.

7 am: I wake up with a start, realizing that this morning is Workout Day at Bon Bida. To be honest, I’m not at all a gym devotee. I’d rather hike, bike and play tennis. I’m gaining weight though, despite all my frequent al fresco activities. The fact I sip three vinos most nights just might add to my extra ballast.

8 am: I call up Bon Bida to reserve spots in the TRX class at 9 am and Spinning class at 10 am. Glad to have that accomplished, I consume a latte and enjoy the prospect of blasting my bulging body. I’ve been told, though, that if you think hard enough about working out, you can actually lose weight. I’m thinking! I’m thinking! It might just work. . . .

9 am: Henk, who instructs the TRX classes, looks colossal and imposing to me. Not one to mess with, I find out later the hard way. Entering the class for the first time, I encounter several students engaged in fascinating stretch positions. I try to be that cool-looking as well, and immediately pay the price. My arms and knees make embarrassing popping sounds while my workout peers look on bemusedly. Not cool.

9:05 am: Hulk Henk begins the class with “easy” exercises, such as calf stretches and then push-ups, leaning forward on the TRX “ropes” (brightly colored webbed traces, actually). After my third push-up, I bemoan my fatigued arms. Reposing on the cold but comfy floor, I close my eyes for a second. My rest is not to be; suddenly I discern Henk’s hooves, I mean shoes, in front of my sweaty face. He commands me to get up or else. I don’t know about “else,” but I have no intention of finding out; so I suffer on.

9:30 am: I get adjusted to the TRX exercises and Henk is, besides acting Gauleiter-ish now and then, a very capable, fun, and friendly instructor. Until, that is, he turns on the song, Bring Sally Up and Bring Sally Down.

The exercise crowd goes wild as we all descend into squatting hell. Henk really seems to relish our agony. The way it works is: when Sally is up, we come up; when Sally is down, we squat. And Sally goes down. A LOT, often for a long time, or so it seems. The objective of doing these Sallys is to build a strong and muscled lower body.

9:50 am: My glutes, leg and arm muscles are SCREAMING. But at the end of this voracious workout, I’m getting the hang of it. When can I sign up again for TRX??
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**ADOPT EXCEPTIONAL CATS**
Valentina
We have sold our house and are moving to a new home that does not allow pets, so we are, very reluctantly, offering our beloved cats for adoption. **Kipper** is a sterilized tiger stripe male. Eight years old, healthy and very affectionate - a real lap cat. He even comes when called.

Valentina is an 8-year-old sterilized white female. She is deaf from birth but quite healthy and great fun to play with. They can be indoor or outdoor or both. We hope to find a good home for our friends. Contact: Alan or Jane 786-1357 or 786-7531 or email alan@sunspotsbonaire.com

**Bonaire-Sun Rise/Set, Moon Phase and Tides**

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**The Magic of Aloe**

*W*e see it everywhere on Bonaire and we know it’s a very good plant, but how much do we really know about the Aloe Vera? This is its story and even more.

The Aloe V. belongs to the family of Xanthorrhoeaceae, known for its succulent fleshy leaves. This nontoxic plant stores water in its leaves and survives in low rainfall and arid regions. The Aloe V. leaf looks unique: it does not have any stems or edges, its leaves have tiny spikes. The most popular one on Bonaire is the Aloe Vera, but there are over 500 species in the genus Aloe, plus even more unresolved species, subspecies, varieties and hybrids. Another species we have here is the Aloe Vossii.

The Aloe V. is the most widely known species or “true Aloe,” so called because although it’s probably extinct in the wild, it’s cultivated as a standard source of so-called “Aloe Vera” for different pharmaceutical purposes.

The genus is native to tropical and southern Africa, Madagascar, the Arabian Peninsula and various islands in the Indian Ocean. A few species have also become naturalized in other regions in North and South America.

**Historical and Present Uses**

Of the 500 species, only a few have been used traditionally as herbal medicines, Aloe Vera again being the most commonly used. The ancient Greeks and Romans used Aloe Vera to treat wounds. In the Middle Ages, the yellowish liquid found inside the leaves was used as a purgative.

Unprocessed Aloe that contains aloin is generally used as a laxative, whereas processed juice does not usually contain significant aloin. Some species, particularly extracts from Aloe Vera, are widely used in the cosmetic and alternative medicine industries, marketed as having rejuvenating, healing, or soothing properties.

Both the translucent inner pulp and the resinosous yellow aloin that comes from wounding the aloe plant are used externally to relieve skin discomfort. As an herbal medicine Aloe V. juice is commonly used internally to relieve digestive discomfort. However, most Aloe juices today do not contain significant aloin.

Aloe species also contain a trace of volatile oil which gives them their odor.

Aloe Vera, also known as the plant of immortality by the ancient Egyptians, was used for its healing properties since time immemorial. The useful parts of Aloe are the gel and latex. The gel is obtained from cells in the center of the leaf; the latex is from the cells just beneath the leaf skin. Aloe gel may cause changes in the skin that might help diseases like psoriasis. Aloe seems to be able to speed wound healing by improving blood circulation through the area and preventing cell death around a wound. It also appears that Aloe gel has properties that are harmful to certain types of bacteria and fungi. Aloe latex contain chemicals that work as a laxative.

Aloe Vera consists of as much as 75 nutrients, 20 minerals, 12 vitamins such as A, B1, B2, B6, B12, vitamin C and E, folic acid and niacin, 18 amino acids, 200 active enzymes. Minerals found in Aloe V. include copper, iron, sodium, calcium, zinc, potassium, chromium, magnesium and manganese.

The natural nutrients make it an herbal product that can be safely used both internally and externally. It’s also an excellent treatment for skin conditions like burns and eczema. It’s also useful for internal epithelial tissue. Aloe works on membranes and surfaces. It’s said that Aloe paste with paste of avocado may remove stretch marks in the skin from childbirth. It’s also good to boost the immune system.

This exotic plant contains other beneficial compounds like polysaccharides, mannans, anthraquinones and lectins, making it possible to use Aloe V. for a variety of therapeutic purposes. It can cure hair problems, is one of the best body cleansers. It cleanses toxic matters from the stomach, kidneys, spleen, bladder, liver and is a most effective colon cleanser.

Multiple studies have proven that Aloe V. juice exhibits healing and soothing properties for the relief of indigestion, stomach problems and even ulcers. Drinking Aloe juices will help your body relieve tissue inflammation which often causes joint pain and even arthritis. It strengthens the digestive tract, skin and has a great effect on overall health. It is recommended to drink a full glass of Aloe Vera juice at least twice a day. The juice helps get rid of any waste products, thus detoxifying your body naturally.

Nowadays there are all kinds of products made of Aloe Vera grown and sold on Bonaire. Different companies started business here with Aloe Vera which is of the best quality- the plant as well as the products. You don’t need to go off island to buy your beauty and healthy detoxing stuff. You can find it right here on Bonaire and even in your own garden. Plant it yourself. Just do it!

*Note: If you can’t grow your own aloe, very fine Aloe Vera products by Onima are available on Bonaire: facial, body, healing creams and juice, just to mention a few.*

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**A Garden? Just Do It Aloe On Bonaire**

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**Bonaire Reporter - Mar. 21-Apr. 4, 2016**

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**Different types of Aloe growing on Bonaire. The one with the flower is the Aloe Vera. Photos: Haidy Ligeon - Wijngaard**

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**Story & photos by Anglet, Nature lover**

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**Note: If you can’t grow your own aloe, very fine Aloe Vera products by Onima are available on Bonaire: facial, body, healing creams and juice, just to mention a few.**

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**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 Lamoonchi Kunuku Park Tours $21 (includes tax). Discounts for residents and local people. Tel. 717-8498, 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 Kooks for more information: 796-7870, +599-701-1982. A Foros training school.

**Mondays**

- **Bonaire Goat Farm Tour—9 am.** Meet the goats, see milking, and more. Snacks and tasting of six wines for $10 per person. Call 786-6950.
- **Happy Hour at Captain Don’s Habitat Bar.** The books of Bonaire’s dive pioneer, Captain Don, will be available to read. Island Adrift, Shangri-la, Habitat Bar.

**Tuesday**

- **Echo offers free (donation-based) Public Conservation Tours at 4:30. No reservation needed.**

- **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, Kayana Playa Lechi 24 courtesy of Dive Friends.**

- **Children’s club-every Saturday from 4:30-6 pm in Kralendijk, (annex of the church.)**

**Wednesday**

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

- **-12step meeting (AA/NA). Every Wednesday at Bonaire Basics, Kaya Korona #87. Walk in from 18:45, starts at 19:15, ends at 20:30. Fee free to mail 12stepbonaire@gmail.com or 12stepbonaire@gmail.com for more information.**

**Thursday**

- **Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire (STCB)**

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**Friday**

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

**BONAIRE’S TRADITIONS**

Mangazina 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 / 700-2018

Chichi in the town of Rincon. Step into the past—a typical old Bonairean home, furnishings and garden. Tuesday, 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 8am-5pm. Closed on December 25th and January 1st. Call 788-9015 or 796-5681

**CLUBS and MEETINGS**

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 at Divi Flegano Beach Resort in Peter Hughes meeting room upstairs above the dive shop. All Rotarians welcome. Call Gregory Obersi 785-9446.

Toasters’ Club meets every two weeks. For more information call Cucita de Palm 786-3827 or Lucia Martinez Bee, 786-2953.

**CHURCH SERVICES**

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints—Kaya Sabana 26 Sunday Services - Papiaments/ Español 9:00 am to 12 noon Add’l Info (599) 701-9522 Dutch/English 1pm to 3pm Add’l Info (599) 701-2892

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 Papiaments/Dutch.

Children’s club-every Saturday from 4:30-6 pm in Kralendijk, (annex of the church.)

Contact: Marytjin@gmail.com or Daisycoffee@hotmail.com

International Bible Church, Kaya Papago 104, Hato, behind Bon Fysisco/ Bon Bida Spa & Gym on Kaya Gob. N. Debrot. Sunday 9am-Worship service in English; 10:45am-Sunday school for all ages. Tuesday 7pm-Adult Bible study class. 717-8377 for more info or ride bonaireibc@yahoo.com

Catholic: San Bernardus in Kralendijk—Services, Sunday at 8am and 7pm in Papiaments. 717-8332.

Our Lady of Coronoto in Astrid—Saturday at 6pm in English. Mass in Papiaments on Sunday at 9am and 6pm. 717-4211.

Assembly of God (Assembleia di Dios): Kaya Triton (Din Chenff). In English, Dutch & Papiaments on Sunday at 10 am. Wed. Prayer Meeting at 7:30 pm. 717-2194

**CLOSE-IN EVENTS**

**Mondays, Mar. 21, 28—CIEE Free Fish ID Courses—More on page 6**

**Thursday, March 24—Indian food Buffet at Go Green at Bonaire Bases, Kaya Korona 47, Reservations 700-5488. More information on page 13.**

**March 25-28—Easter Weekend, Holiday**

**Saturday, March 26—**

- **-See, Feel & Taste the Culture of Bonaire at Mangazina di Rei. 8 am to 2 pm. Free entrance. See page 12**

- **STINAPA Bird Watch, 5:30-6 pm, L.V.V., Kaminda Lagum. More on page 2**

**Monday, March 28—Access Bars Workshop by Sophie Belliveau. 9:30-5:30. Call Nancy 701-2010. More on page 7**

**Saturday, April 2—Open day at Foundation Krusada on the La- goen Road. 10am-5pm. All welcome. Snacks and drinks. Call Kees & Jan de Kruiff (700-6658) for more info.**

**Sunday, April 3—38th Annual Kontrest di Fil (kite contest), 8am-5pm at the ball field behind Keooyman. Fun for all. Make a kite and enter! To enter, sign up at Flamingo Book Store on Kaya Grandi, phone 717-6586. Come to see all the incredible kites made by individuals, friend or family groups. Snacks, drinks, music.**

**Sunday, April 3—Jong Bonaire’s Annual Fun Walk & Ride. Page 7**

**Friday, April 8—CMBB concert. See poster on page 9**

**Sunday, April 17—Ride For the Roses Fundraiser. More on page 3**
Free listing in this directory for regular repeat Reporter advertisers

AIRLINES
Divi Divi Air- Bonaire’s “on time airline” with 16 flights a day between Bonaire and Curacao. 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

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. Ad on page 11.

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 Style on Kaya Grandi and new dive retail shop at the roundabout in Hato.

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. See pg. 2

LIQUORS, WINES and MORE
The Wine Barrel has one of the island’s widest selection of wines and spirits at Bonaire’s new “In Spot,” the South Pier Mall. It’s a classy bar-bistro in the evening and sells a wide selection of alcoholic beverages in the day. See ad on the back page.

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

Regular repeat advertisers get listed free in the Shopping, Service and Dining Guide

REAL ESTATE / RENTAL AGENTS
Harbourtown Real Estate; since 1989 YOUR agent for the purchase, sale, lease and management of residential and commercial properties!

RE/MAX Paradise Homes is your one-stop-shop for Selling and Buying real estate; Purchasing an existing business; Commercial or residential development; Holiday rentals and Long term rentals. See page 3.

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

RESTAURANTS
Bobbejan’s—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. See page 18.

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. See page 11

SECURITY
Special Security Services will provide that extra measure of protection when you need it. Always reliable. See page 15.

STORAGE
The Storehouse (Mangasina in Papantemu) 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? See ad on page 5

SUPERMARKETS
TOP Supermarket—Conveniently located downtown at the old Cultimara location. Featuring a complete selection including liquors, fresh meat, fruit and vegetables. See page 2.

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) See pg. 19
Animal Shelter News

The Animal Shelter Bonaire 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 grooming and boarding place for cats and dogs. There is a gift shop on the premises to help raise money to sustain the Shelter.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS FOR SCHOOLCHILDREN

The intention of these programs is to create more understanding and awareness of the needs of animals, in particular house pets. School classes come and visit our Shelter for an educational tour and we also visit the schools to teach them more about the behavior and taking care of dogs. Animal Shelter Bonaire is also grateful to be partnered with STINAPA to teach our youngest children about animals, animal care and needs and about the environment and nature of Bonaire.

We are hoping to visit the schools in the future to teach the older kids about animal care as well. If you are interested please contact us at 717-4989 or 701-4989. E-mail animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com and like us on Facebook.

Story & photo by Nathalie Peterson

Bonaire’s Recycling Center

For plastic, glass, metal, oil, paper, cardboard, electronics, batteries, oil, etc...

Open Weekdays: 0800—1600
Saturdays: 0900-1600

Info Call- Tel. 717-8159

Kaya Industria #20, next to Warehouse Supermarket

Pet of the Week

CAT-ITUDE!

That’s the only word that can accurately describe this photo of Nikolas! You can almost hear him saying “You talkin’ to me?!?”. Nikolas is an exotic, different, beautiful, gorgeous cat....and he knows it! Rarely do you see a cat on Bonaire with the coloring, patterns and head and body style that this handsome young man possesses. His white coat is artistically painted with grey, black and silver markings with a few dabs of coffee color.

In addition to his artistic coat, Nikolas bears a head style reminiscent of ancient Egyptian sculptures and paintings. His ears, large lemon shaped eyes and broad flat nose conjure up images of the “sacred” Egyptian cats. Perhaps somewhere in Nikolas’ genetic pool lies one of the Sphinx cat breeds that have these similar characteristics but lack the soft, luxurious coat of hair that he has. His long legs and lean, muscular body create a portrait of feline grace when he walks and runs.

Nikolas is about a year and a half old, healthy, vaccinated and sterilized. Like many of the Sphinx breeds he is energetic, intelligent and curious and unafraid to express his affection for people. He plays well on his own, inventing games with toys or “invisible” things to chase. He also gets along well with other cats, and loves to play with kittens. He would be a perfect single companion cat or a unique addition to a multi-cat household, or even better....adopted along with one of the nine kittens currently residing at the Shelter.

You can visit handsome, unique Nikolas, as well as his feline and canine friends, at the Animal Shelter Bonaire from 8 am to 1 pm and 3 to 5 pm Monday through Saturday at Kaminda Lagun 26, 717-4989. You may also catch a glimpse of him on the Kenoffel Cat Cam www.bonaireselfstorage.com.

Jane Madden-Disko

TUNG FONG STORE N.V.

“The Store With Almost Everything”

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.

Bonaire Reporter- Mar. 21-Apr. 4, 2016
THE STEARS HAVE IT
2nd half March 2016

ARIES (Mar. 21- April 20) A series of misunderstandings may be at fault. Social activity should be on your agenda. You need to clear up some important personal documents before the end of the year. Take time to make physical improvements that will enhance your appearance. Your lucky day will be Saturday.

TAURUS (Apr. 21- May 21) Don’t hesitate to sign up for creative courses or physical fitness programs. You mustn’t make promises that you won’t be able to keep. Try to do your job and then leave. Don’t let others take advantage of your good nature. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21) You can expand your circle of friends if you get out and socialize. Your high energy, original ideas, and excellent memory will aid your accomplishments. Be careful while traveling. Direct your energy wisely. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) A need to express yourself may come out in creative ways. Curb any jealous fits if your partner has been flirting with someone else. You should be able to get involved in an interesting proposition this week. Take time to deal with authority figures or government agencies. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

LEO (July 23-Aug 22) Make changes that will heighten your appeal. Entertain- ment could be pleasing if it is of an energetic nature. You could expand your circle of friends if you get involved in unusual activities. You may not be happy if members of your family are not pulling their weight. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22) Be aware that you might be at fault as well. You are apt to meet someone special on your journey. Problems with skin, bones, or teeth may mess up your schedule. Don’t let your personal partner hold you back or slow you down. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) You can benefit financially if you put money or maintenance into your living quarters. Do not react too harshly when dealing with partners. Join groups of a humanitarian nature. You can gain valuable cultural knowledge through dealing with foreigners. Your lucky day will be Monday.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) Your pursuits may end up being fruitless. You’ll stay out of trouble if you pick projects that will benefit the whole family. New friendships will develop through group events. Think about your priorities. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 21) Children may pose a problem if they don’t take suggestions. You could have a change of heart if an old flame waltzes back into your life. Your home environment may be volatile if precautions aren’t taken. Secret affairs can only lead to devastating circumstances. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 20) You should get out and meet some of those clients that you only speak to on the phone. Your uncanny insight will help you make the right choices. You can accomplish a lot if you work out of your home this week. Your romantic inclinations should lead to a committed relationship. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19) Renovations to your domestic scene will pay high rewards. It’s a great day to attend social functions. You can ask for favors and get sound advice from close friends or relatives. Resistance leading to conflict will only make it twice as hard to turn the situation around. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) Financial difficulties may be worrying you. Put your energy into home renovations. You should teach children some of your unique creative talents. Not everything you hear will be legitimate. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

PASA BON PIZZA & BAR
780-1111
Not Just Great Pizzas! Call ahead to Pre Order

The 13th constellation of the Zodiac

If you added up all the eight major planets and five dwarf planets in our Solar System, you’d end up with 13. And did you know the Sun actually passes through 13 constellations?

There’s one constellation in the Zodiac that’s not officially part of the group, and I like this constellation because it has a weird name.

The 13th constellation we’re referring to is Ophiucus, and we have a really nice planet Moon scooter in this constellation near the end of April!

There are currently 88 officially recognized constellations in modern astronomy; 12 of these constellations have particular significance because during the course of a year, the Sun, Moon and planets appear to drift in an eastward direction against these background stars. The constellations along this path are referred to as the Zodiac.

Zodiac, loosely translated means “circle of animals” and the constellations of the zodiac in order are as follows: Aries, Taurus, Gemini, Cancer, Leo, Virgo, Libra, Scorpion, Sagittarius, Capricornus, Aquarius and Pisces. But actually between Scorpius and Sagittarius however, there’s a 13th constellation that the Sun passes through on its journey.

In reality, the Earth is the one doing the traveling. The Sun just appears to move through this constellation as we orbit. This constellation is Ophiucus and he is often represented as a man holding a snake (the nearby constellations Cerpen cauda and Serpens caput). His name is derived from the Greek for “serpent beare.”

And on ancient star maps, this constellation was named “Serpentarius.” According to legend, Ophiucus was the son of Apollo and was taught the art of medicine by the centaur Chiron. Ophiucus was said to have killed a snake and so no sooner had he done this, a second snake came along with a medicinal herb in its mouth. The live snake gave the dead snake the herb, restoring the dead snake to life. After seeing this, Ophiucus snatched a little of the herb from the snake and from that point was able to restore life to the dead.

Pluto, the god of the netherworld, didn’t like the fact that Ophiucus had this ability and he complained to Jupiter. Jupiter sent his pet eagle Aquila after Ophiucus with a lightning bolt. The lightning bolt struck Ophiucus, killing him. Jupiter, not wanting Ophiucus’ knowledge to fade into oblivion, placed the medically gifted serpent-bearer among the stars.

Before being brought into the heavens, Ophiucus became good friends with Orion the hunter. Years later, Orion, boasting about what a great hunter he was, decided to prove his ability by killing all the creatures of the Earth. Gaia, the goddess of the Earth, sent Scorpius the scorpion to stop him. The resulting sting from the scorpion killed Orion.

Ophiucus, seeing what happened and having the power to restore life, revived Orion and asked Jupiter to place Ophiucus on the opposite side of the sky away from the scorpion. Ophiucus promised to keep watch over the scorpion so it wouldn’t try to escape, and to this day, the star marking the foot of Ophiucus can be seen just above Scorpius. This star is along the path the Sun travels during the month of December, thus making him (although unofficially) one of the constellations of the zodiac.

Dean Regas & James Albury

THE 13TH CONSTELLATION OF THE ZODIAC

BONAIRE SKY PARK *
*to find it... just look up

BONAIRE NAUTICO MARINA — At It Rains Fishes Restaurant
Call Henk at 560-7254 / Bob 786-5399 info@bonairenauticomarina.com • VHF 48

Scheduled Water Taxi TO KLEIN BONAIRE
From Bonaire Nautico Marina in front of It Rains Fishes Restaurant

HOTEL PICKUP SERVICE
Daily trips via resorts 10 am, 12, 2
THE ONLY WALKON / WALKOFF
Catamaran KANTIKI DI AMOR
up to 27 adults or larger catamaran KANTIKI TOO
up to 50 adults
Also available for group trips

BONAIRE NAUTICO MARINA — At It Rains Fishes Restaurant

Catamaran KANTIKA DI AMOR
From Bonaire Nautico Marina in front of It Rains Fishes Restaurant

It Rains Fishes Restaurant

Also available for group trips

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Wine Tasting Thursdays!

Reservations necessary, limited seating .... 3PM till 10PM

Located at South Pier Mall® Kaya C.E.B Helmund 6

For Reservations ☏ 717-1121
email: Barrelbonaire@gmail.com

Bar Open from Monday to Saturday
5 PM till 11 PM.
Wine, Whisky and seaside outdoor terrace
Cuban cigars available