

**It's Still
FREE**

BONAIRE *Bonaire Reporter- Mar. 21-Apr. 4, 2016-Year 23, Issue 6*
The REPORTER
BES Island News Too

P. O. Box 407, Bonaire, Dutch Caribbean, Phone 786-6518, 786-6125, www.bonairereporter.com email: reporter@bonairenews.com Since 1994

Kitemanera 2016
Kite Surfers' Paradise
More On Page 11



Elisabeth van Winsen-Sanders



Page 12



Page 10



Page 15

Flotsam and Jetsam

BOINAIRE The REPORTER



The First Chamber of the Dutch Parliament is expected to approve the new Electricity and Drinking Water Law for the BES Islands which will regulate the production and distribution of electricity and drinking water on the three islands as well as the tariffs. Furthermore, the law contains a subsidy arrangement to maintain affordable water and electricity prices for consumers. The new law is expected to improve the quality, dependability and affordability of the production and distribution of electricity and drinking water.

It gives residents and businesses the OK to install solar panels on their roof or have a wind turbine for their own use. Solar panels or wind turbines are not allowed in the current system. The surplus of energy generated by these solar panels and wind turbines that is re-distributed back into the electricity net will be financially compensated.

Dutch Finance Minister Jeroen Dijsselbloem said he expects refugees to cost the Dutch state €1.5bn this year, according to public broadcaster NOS. This is roughly the same as last year. This assumes a total of 58,000 refugees. The BES Islands, with around 20,000 Dutch citizens, only receives a fraction (around 10%) of that amount from the Dutch Government.

Airline passengers transiting through Curacao to/from Aruba, Bonaire and Sint Maarten will no longer have to undergo another security screening. The airport partners in the various islands agreed that such screening is not necessary because passengers have already been checked on departure. A special gate agent will guide arrival transfer passengers to their next flight. Source: *Press office Curacao*

THE HAGUE--Caribbean Netherlands air passengers will be better protected in the near future when the inter-

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 (US\$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 baggage now **requires** local 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 with local school children during field trips to the Conservation Centre at Dos Pos.

The 10 species included in the nursery are Taki, Shimaruku, 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 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- 6:30 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 is-

lands have also been spotted in this area. Bring binoculars (if you don't have any we can provide you a pair), drinking water and good walking shoes. Please call 717-8444 to make your reservation. There is space for a maximum of 15 people. There are no costs involved, but donations for events are always welcome. Meet at the LVV office building next to the wastewater tanks.



Last week the Caribbean Netherlands Police Corps gave a press conference to present the 2015 crime figures, in summary:

Robberies (atracos) declined by 39%, probably because several suspects were detained last September and October, while firearms have also been removed from the streets with the help of local residents.

The number of **house break-ins** dropped from 247 in 2014 to 217.

Businesses were targeted more often by burglars, namely 104 in 2015 compared to 73 the year before.

The number of **traffic accidents** with material damage increased from 739 to 762, but minor injuries were down from 144 to 128. There was one road fatality, compared to four in 2014.

On March 1, 2016, The Tax Service (Belastingdienst Caribisch Nederland, B/CN) launched a pilot program for filing

(Continued on page 3)

This Week's Stories

Ride, Swim, Walk for the Roses	3
Wonders of Nature?— Mondt Art	6
Jong Bonaire Fun Walk	7
Introducing Access Bars	7
Fishing Line Cleanup	8
Cornet's "Nukov" painting for sale	8
Bonaire Ramble-Sorobon Beach & back	9
Bon Doet Mission Accomplished	10
Kitemania (Kite Surfers' Paradise)	11
Scarf Workshop-Mangazina	12
Support Our Swimmers	12
Reflections Bon Bida: TRX, Spin	13

Departments

Flotsam & Jetsam	2
On The Island Since... 2015 – Jennifer Martis	4
Picture Yourself– Nashville, Tennessee	5
Letters to the Editor: Sick Donkeys, Yachtsman's Lament	5
Word on the Street	6
Bonaire On Wheels—Mustang	7
Did You Know -Pied Water Tyrant	8
Classifieds, Masthead	14
Tide Table, Sunrise & Sunset	14
Times, Moon Phase	14
A Garden ...Just Do It (Aloe)	15
What's Happening + Cruise Ship Schedule	16
Shopping and Dining Guide	17
Pet of the Week (Nikolas)	18
Animal Shelter News –Education	18
Bonaire Sky Park–13th Constellation	19
The Stars Have It (Astrology)	19

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Flotsam and Jetsam (Contin. from pg. 2) regulations that gave a **substantial reduction to fees that mobile (cellular) operators have to pay retroactive to January 1, 2015.** Hopefully this economic boost given to the (mobile) telecommunications 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 automatically force the mobile operators to reduce their rates or to improve their services.

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

► **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 maximum of three months without a visa.

► **The Minister for Economic Affairs changed two ministerial**

regulations that gave a **substantial reduction to fees that mobile (cellular) operators have to pay retroactive to January 1, 2015.** Hopefully this economic boost given to the (mobile) telecommunications 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 automatically force the mobile operators to reduce their rates or to improve their services.

► **On Saturday, April 2, from 10am to 5pm, the Krusada Rehabilitation Foundation 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 holiday but Friday is a normal working day, apart from government workers.

► **We wish our readers a Happy Easter (Bon Pasku di Resureckshon).** ■ G./L.D.



► **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.

► **The Foundation Ride for the Roses (RfR), established this year, has as its main objective raising awareness of as many people as possible—potential sponsors and donors ---to raise money for the Princess Wilhelmina Fund on Bonaire.**

The first event will be the RfR 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 finish. 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)



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Currently in use as a barber shop



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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 Antriol but later they moved to Nikiboko. 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 myself in the mirror. But people kept reminding me that I also had to make money, so I began studying to become a drama therapist. 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. I 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 for 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 someone 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 word 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 Febru-



Jennifer Martis

a whole lot of support during those years. People have a tendency to take good care of small things like babies and puppies. They are cute and adorable, but when the little creature starts developing its own will and becomes more critical, then people say



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

“...but here I notice that people simply expect children to obey; it’s a ‘must.’..”

ary I came 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 went for 32 hours and I got it done! Now I have a permanent contract with Youth Care for 20 hours and next to it I have my own little company ‘*Be Wasabi*’ (Be Strong, Be Yourself). I rent my abilities to institutions: I work as a drama teacher at Forma and as a psycho-diagnostic employee at EOZ, but also I do things like coaching and teambuilding.

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

you’re fresh! Around the world all youngsters go through the same thing, but here I notice that people simply expect children to obey; it’s a must. What grown-up people really say is, ‘I am an adult and therefore I know better. End of the discussion.’ An adult doesn’t show his or her vulnerability, which is really very important for both parties to understand each other better.

I never say, ‘I am a social worker’ because I am Jennifer and I work as a social worker, giving it a theatrical twist and that’s where I get my energy from. I make people’s potential shine. To me it’s not important what you do; it’s important who you are.

My style is bold, deliciously crazy and surprising. I want my company to grow so that I can do everything from there. I want

to get on stage with my own monologue and I want to keep on writing my bi-weekly blog on the website www.takimitabebe.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.” ■

Story & photos by Greta Kooistra



Picture Yourself With The Reporter in Nashville, Tennessee

The people holding *The Bonaire Reporter* are Howard and Kim Harrison, owners at Sand Dollar and longtime Bonaire guests.

This picture was taken at the famous Ryman Auditorium in Nashville, Tennessee. The Ryman is famous and the home of the world famous Grand Ole Opry and the home of country and bluegrass music.

They recently left the island after nine weeks and are attending the South Eastern Basketball Tournament in hopes of seeing the Kentucky Wildcats win. ■

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.



SICK DONKEYS

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.

He did not care. He said it is nature. It is not nature, it is cruelty. This is a national park. You should show compassion. We paid a lot of money to get into that park and some of that money should go to keeping the wildlife healthy. We called the donkey sanctuary and were told they are not allowed to rescue the donkeys in the park. What kind of monster makes a proclamation so cruel? The donkey should be relocated and his life saved. It is animal cruelty, plain and simple. The goats also look to be in distress but at least they are not dying. That young donkey near the exit to Boca Slagbaai is dying. Please call the donkey sanctuary and let them rescue it.

Gary Galkin

Yachtman's Lament

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.

Harbour Village marina actually shows a dinghy dock area, but it turns out that the whole area at the wall is leased to long term boat operators, mostly in the tourist trade, who have attached No Parking signs every six feet.

Other dock owners don't want us to tie up either. When we briefly tied up at the fishermen's pier, we found that children were using dinghies as trampolines to enjoy themselves while swimming.

We hear daily that the tour boat operators proudly show off the lovely & unique moorings and harbour to visiting tourists. We love to come here and spend a substantial amount of money for drinks, food, groceries, parts, shopping and even at the hospital as patients. 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



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Wonders of Nature

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.



Mondi Art : Before

A COMPOSITION OF PILLOWS WITH DRIED SEAWEED ON A BED OF STONE.

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.



Mondi Art : After

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 subtle curves of the fabric give the drawing a three-dimensional appearance, nature is captured in substance. The seaweed-like surface confirms the natural appearance and forms a whole in terms of softness of material. Both the dogs and I get into a state of contemplation and loss of time and reality. Boelie breaks this sacred moment by sitting on her haunches on one of the pillows to urinate. The yellow liquid moisture forms a contrast with the natural brown color

Then abruptly I get pulled out of the spell. Damn, that pillow is gonna stink

like hell. The muse and Maecenas that I wanted to be, or at least hoped to become, drop dead on the stones which now look very ordinary. I wished I could recall that exalted mood, those magical moments when you withdraw from the flatness of earthly existence. I walk further and muse through this experience of grandeur and how easily it can be disrupted. Meanwhile Boelie is scratching her itch away and Tsjaou is chewing on a black rotted iguana.

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 real 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



Word on the Street

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

Readers report that the shelves carrying non-medicinal products at the local botikas (pharmacies) seem to be emptying and are not being re-stocked. Reason could be, according to a small item in local media, that ZVK (the health care insurer of the island) has decided to phase out all non-medicinal products from all the botikas under their auspices by year's end. Only Botika Sabana does not fall under their jurisdiction, but also does not stock a large quantity of "drugstore products." Which means the Da store could be the only game in town next year unless someone steps into the void....hopefully at more reasonable prices!



- A recent BonDiGro post on Facebook indicates the island is having some **importing problems with Venezuelan products....most notably Zulia and Polarcita beer.** If those are your beverages of choice, better stock up! Word on the street is that they will soon be unavailable. Stay tuned for more details.

- **The Bonaire Food Group main market now only allows business owners to shop in that store.** Produce your KvK (Chamber of Commerce) paperwork to get a permit. Does this provide another opportunity for a Bondigro-style entrepreneur to open a "bulk-shopping" market minus the red tape?
- **Dinner in a Box Bonaire**, the food

delivery service started by two young, local entrepreneurs, continues to grow. Their service now offers 16 restaurants to choose from with up to two restaurants included per delivery. You can now pay with cash, debit or credit card and can order for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Congratulations to these two young men for investing in their island and its population. Bula loves their mission statement: "Our mission is bring the hard working people of Bonaire their food after a hard day of work so they can keep enjoying the important things in life."

www.dinnerinboxbonaire.com

- **More restaurant musical chairs.** A recent post in 4-Sale Bonaire offers a "[w]onderful, well established restaurant in the heart of Kralendijk for sale...Reason for sale is unforeseen health conditions of the owner." While there is solid speculation as to which restaurant this is, Bula will report when it is confirmed. ■ *Bula Bonchi*

Happy Birthday Yuchi

Happy Belated Birthday (March 7) to a very special person, Yuchi Molina. Always with a smile and a kind word, Yuchi is a pleasure to meet. It is Yuchi who delivers *The Bonaire Reporter* to the markets and restaurants in Rincon and we thank her for all her many years of keeping Rincon "in the know" with *The Reporter*. XXXOOO



FISHINAR—FREE SEMINARS - REEF FISH ID and BEHAVIOR



Monday evenings March 21st and 28th at C.I.E.E. 6:30-7 pm

REEF (Reef Environmental Education Foundation), basic fish id techniques, tools and terminology

Lectures from 7- 8:30 pm

March 21 Third 50 fish (novice level 3, part 2)

March 28 Special Bonaire fish

That's a lot of fish (FREE)! Sessions are led by visiting REEF expert fish id'er Kim White, and are for anyone who wants to understand more about what they are seeing when diving and snorkeling, or anyone who just wants to look at some

nice underwater pictures and video clips.

Attend any or all sessions to learn what's really going on underwater; it will enrich your diving experience. Everyone is welcome.



This is the 141st of a series of *Bonaire Reporter* articles by J@n (always wear a helmet) Brouwer, featuring some of Bonaire's interesting vehicles and persons that are "on wheels." Up to at least 200 articles!



Patrick Diepgrond and his fully restored 1966 Ford Mustang

Bonaire/Kralendijk/Nikiboko South – His name is Patrick Diepgrond and at present he is the successful director and owner of Caribe Car Rental, located at the roundabout in the direction of Flamingo Airport, with a fleet of some 40 Toyota, Nissan and Kia double cabs and saloons. Apart from that Patrick is the very happy and proud owner of a white V8-powered Ford Mustang convertible, built in the US in 1966.

Already some 20 years ago, Patrick came to the island of Bonaire as a fully certified and experienced carpenter. His idea was to stay for a year and fulfill a job as a dive instructor as he loves the open water. And he did. Patrick worked in the dive industry here on Bonaire for at least 10 years. In the meantime he also got involved in parasailing and all kinds of other water sports and water activities. After five years he participated in a car rental company. Finally he took it over and became the owner. Those days he was really addicted to work and the result is a flourishing rental company with some 40 new to almost-new vehicles.

But then Patrick loves the old too! In 1988 a Dutch friend of his bought a 1966 Ford Mustang in Florida. His friend exported it to Holland and restored it. In 1995 the guy moved to the island of Bonaire where he drove the Mustang for several years. Then, in 1996, Patrick moved to Bonaire to become a dive instructor. Since that time he's been taking care of the Ford Mustang, maintaining it, keeping it in good running condition. Now Patrick and his friend kind of share the Mustang. Patrick literally takes care of everything and his friend can take the Mustang for a ride whenever he wants.

Patrick says, "I just finished a full body restoration in 2015. I stripped the Mustang completely and started building it up again from the bare metal. I took out the engine and the gearbox and I renewed a lot of more or less external parts like the water pump, the carburetor and so on. The heart of the 289cu. in. V8-engine was still solid and sound. I used only fully original Ford parts from the States: wheel mountings, shocks, brakes, you name it. A new original steering wheel, new upholstery for the interior, a new soft top. The guys from Polo

Garage did most of the work- the mechanical part as well the paint job- and they did their job very well. Seats, the whole interior and the soft top were installed by a very experienced upholster on Bonaire. All in all the result is excellent and I am very happy and proud of this 1966 Ford Mustang. The car is parked under a car port next to my traditional Bonairean house. (The also restored Bonairean house is over 100 years old. /jb)

Although I am very busy with my two kids and the company, I take the Mustang out for a ride on a regular basis, especially on the weekend. My two sons, Matt and Wesley, really love the rides in the car, especially with the vinyl roof down of course. That makes me happy too. Happy kids and a happy father. A happy family. It cannot be better!"

Way back in the 60s you were able to buy a kind of sporty American made car like the Ford Falcon, the Mercury Comet, the Chevrolet Corvair and the Chrysler Valiant. The factories tried to make these models a little sportier by adding all kinds of fast accessories, but the cars were not that fast and they became even heavier. In those days the British-made sports cars like the Austin Healys, the MGAs and Bs and the Jaguar XKs and E-types were lighter, faster and relatively cheap. In 1961 Ford decided to develop an all-American sporty car with good looks for an affordable price. In 1964, on April 17th, they presented the new Ford Mustang. The car was available as a coupé, a convertible and a fastback. Immediately the car was a success. Especially the youngsters liked the good looking and affordable vehicle. During the introduction weekend some 22,000 new Ford Mustangs were sold. Within four months 100,000 were sold and from the first generation type of Mustang (1964-1966) 1,288,577 examples had been sold! The oil crisis in the 70s ended the popularity of the muscle cars. The Mustangs were remodeled, redesigned and reshaped. The result was the Ford Mustang II: smaller engine, less power, more wiring and hoses and a lot of emission control...

The Ford Mustang is still in production. The 2015 models belong to the so called sixth generation. ■

Story & photo by J@n Brouwer

Introducing Access Bars

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 formatted by the people around us, the school system and the culture and all these points of view we buy into as if they 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 meant 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 gentle 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 I start.

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 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.”

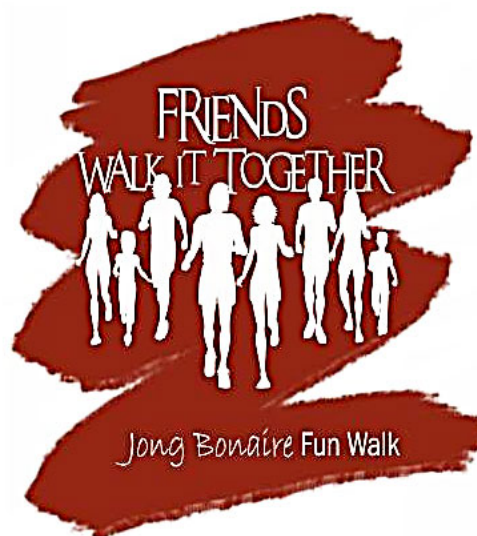
For more info:

www.sophiebelliveau.com ■

Story & photo by Greta Kooistra

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.

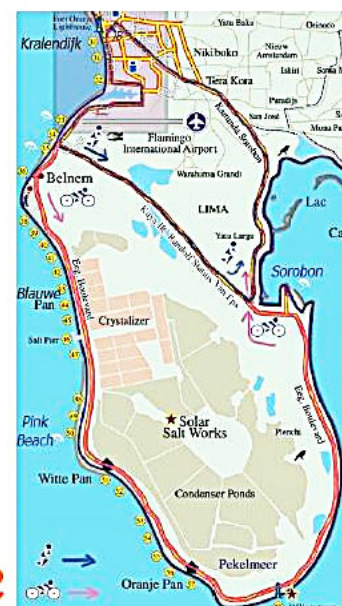


Date: 3th of April 2016
Distance: 20 Km & 37 Km
Starting time: 6:00 am
Start : Jong Bonaire
Finish: Jong Bonaire
Price: \$12,-
\$6,- Kids under 12yrs

Includes: T-shirt, Water bottle, drinks, lunch & fruit.

Tickets available at: Jong Bonaire

Route: Start: Jong Bonaire, Kaya Simon Bolivar, Abraham boulevard, Kaya International (to Belnem), Kaya Randolph Statius Van Eps, Kaminda Sorobon, Kaya Nikiboko Zuid, Kaya Betico Croes, Kaya Simon Bolivar, Finish: Jong Bonaire
Bikes follow the long southern route and join at Sorobon
Total: 37 Km



DID YOU KNOW?



Pied Water Tyrant photo by Ian Montgomery – birdway.com.au

For a fascinating bird outing in Bonaire, the sewage treatment plant is the place to go! Because it has a constant supply of fresh water (well, sort of fresh), many bird species frequent this area. Herman Sieben, director of STINAPA, has seen a rich variety of bird species there including Lesser Scaup and Southern Lapwings. Peter-Paul Schets, a birding enthusiast visiting Bonaire, was at LVV recently and spotted a

Pied Water Tyrant. Knowing this was unusual, he took a photo of this flycatcher and soon realized that this was the first confirmed sighting of this bird species in the Kingdom of the Netherlands! Perhaps people had seen it before, but if so, nobody had taken a photo and followed up on it. Normally, this bird is found in the llanos grasslands of northern South America. Pied Water Tyrants forage for insects in low vegeta-



Peter-Paul Schets photo of the tyrant

tion near water. They also suffer from nest parasitism from Cowbirds (Cowbirds lay their eggs in the Tyrant's nest). So, the next time you see something very rare – take a photo – you never know what you might discover!

Would you like to join STINAPA on a bird watching trip at LVV? We are leading a bird-watching trip on the 26th of March from 5-6:30pm at the LVV facility for a maximum of 15 people (no cost to join – donations welcome). Bring binoculars (if you have some), drinking water and good walking shoes. Please call 717-8444 to make your reservation. Conservation Bonaire, one tread at a time! ■

Story by Caren Eckrich, Biologist with STINAPA Bonaire. Connecting people with nature.



Cutting The Line

Bonaire/Kralendijk –

Last Sunday, March 13th, almost 20 volunteers got together at the Dive Inn location of Dive Friends Bonaire at 09:45 to receive extended instructions about the recovery of fishing line from the sea. Fishing line, especially new and hardly visible fishing line, is a severe threat for the turtles. This time the underwater world of the South Pier in Kralendijk was the goal. With the permission of the harbor master all divers did a one-hour, non-deco dive to recover the lines. Weather and water conditions were excellent. Almost no current. Some 15 kilograms of fishing line were collected. It is the fifth year in row that Dive Friends Bonaire supplies the location, facilities and free air for the divers.

Thank you Dive Friends Bonaire, thank you Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire, one tread at the time! ■ *Story & photo by Jan Brouwer*

SUPPORT A DONKEY RESCUED BY DONKEY SANCTUARY BONAIRE!

An Active Life For Maroesja

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

Cornet's "Nukov" For Sale



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 Ramble

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

(TO SOROBON AND BACK -- 9 MILES)

Armed 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 southeast coast, where the ocean water enters the low-lying salt flats by means of wind and ocean waves. Across the road we admire the four, yellow, wind-driven pump stations (above), moving the incoming seawater to the salt pans. Man-made dikes separate the different ponds.

On the ocean side, our eyes are attracted to the large, multi-colored obelisk, which, upon closer inspection, tells us a gripping tale of terror about a mermaid luring innocent sailors to their imminent deaths with her mournful chants, or so the legend has it. In fact, the tinkling coral fragments along the shore were the real Siren chants, which caused these ships to come to ground -- or so more legend has it.

In any case, there surely were shipwrecks along Bonaire's stony, windward coast. And when these occurred, lookouts would alert Bonaire's separate villages, whose inhabitants 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 lopping south along the dikes. An adult reddish egret is ambling 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.



Flamingo conga line

Further along the trail we catch a semipalmated 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 *kopje 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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Tickets are for sale at: Addo's Books and Toys, Flamingo Bookstore, Plaza Beach Resort, Valerie's Airport Shop, and via our website: classicalmusicbonaire.com



Thanks to the Friends of the Classical Music Board Bonaire for continuing to sponsor this fantastic program!

Mission Accomplished

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.



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

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, sail 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. ■ G.D. Photos from the NGO Platform



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Bonaire, Dutch Caribbean

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 kilters of all ages and abilities and have them compete while having fun and, hopefully, lots of wind.

From noon until 4:30 on Saturday, sev-

eral 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 kilters 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



Cover Story



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Scarf Workshop

SCARF WORKSHOP AT THE CULTURAL MARKET OF MANGAZINA DI REI

“Did you know that in the late 18th century, black and multiracial women were ordered to cover their hair in public? There was in fact a “law” of sorts that demanded women of color cover their hair with a fabric cloth starting in 1789 as a part of what was called the Bando du buen Gobierno (Edict for Good Government).”

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 Musikal Krioyo*.

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



Mangazina di Rei photo

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 Spaño 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”). ■

Story & photo by Izain J. Mercera for Mangazina di Rei

Support Our Swimmers



Master swimmers in Colombia: Simone, Evy, Nathalie, Annouck and Anita. All but Annouck are planning to compete in London

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 or for information to swim with us email to barracudasbonaire@gmail.com. ■ Press release

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Reflections on Dushi Bonaire

Reflections on Dushi Bonaire

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 squats by Dalia and Malin

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 bul-



TRX crunches by Pete and Karen

bous 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. . . . Nope, I'm still a chubster.

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??



Hunk Henk

Stationary Biking-Spin

"You are the Dancing Queen, young and sweet, only 17. Dancing Queen, feel the beat from the tambourine"
"You can dance, you can jive, having the time of your life"
"See that girl; watch that scene, digging the Dancing Queen"

-- (ABBA-one of the warm up songs in George's spinning class).

Indoor cycling, as an organized activity, is a form of exercise with classes focusing on endurance, strength, intervals, high intensity and recovery, and involves using a special stationary exercise bicycle with a weighted flywheel in a classroom setting. It is commonly called **spinning**. (Wikipedia).

10 am: George, the spinning instructor, welcomes the new and not so new students to his class. He's not frightening looking; actually he seems to be a benevolent kind of guy. But I've been fooled before. Still dripping wet from TRX, I pick out a bike. This class is so popular that it's the only one available.

George begins the class by explaining how and why to twist the resistance dials on our stationary bikes. The more resistance I add, the better workout I get. That's the overall goal -- burning more calories, improving cardiovascular health, achieving toned, shapely legs, muscled abs and building improved mental health. So far so good, let's do it!

10:15 am: I am raining water but happy as a clam. The music is a powerful motivator to keep peddling. The minutes fly by, and I don't mind the clock. All my anxieties disappear while I breathe in through my nose and out through the mouth. According to George, this breathing technique comes in handy during all kinds of physical exercise.



Spin biking-fore and aft



Jose, Nadine, Mariette, Ulf, Loretta ride



Spin Doctor George

10:30 am: We add resistance and stand up on our peddles. We can all progress at our own pace and resistance level. We exercise as a group, but we're still able to work out individually as well. George urges us on by laughing and joking with us and by occasionally calling out our names. I like it; I feel energized and cherished.

10:45 am: George calls on us to race to the top. He continuously creates situations and scenarios. While we peddle -- faster and faster -- I feel that endorphin kick pulsating through my body. I'm sure I've lost 10 pounds already.

10:55 am: It's time to cool down and pick up weights to tone our arms as well. The music is soothing and relaxing, and I feel like hugging myself, which we do at the end. I also want to hug George, but he may not enjoy a bear hug from a sweaty momma.

10 am: I'm one happy camper because I burned off about 500 calories. *I'm the dancing queen, thin and sweaty.* ■

Story & photos by Karen Bastiaan Gilmore





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Valentina



Kipper

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Valentina is an 8-year old sterilized white female. She is deaf from birth but quite healthy and great fun to play with.

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USED TOOLS FOR SALE and **40ft CONTAINER** with OFFICE and STORAGE - Office area has electrical installation for A/C, light etc. - \$3,800. 2 NEW Cooper Discoverer Tire, STT 10PLY BW - LT235/85R16 120/116Q - \$500 Concrete Mixer, Honda Motor Mass 350kg - \$2,000. Floor Jack 2 1/4 ton - \$100 DeWalt DW723 Stand &

Bonaire-Sun Rise/Set, Moon Phase and Tides

Day	High	Low	High	Low	High	Sunrise	Sunset
Mon 21		05:52	11:36	19:16			
		0.09 ft	0.52 ft	-0.01 ft		6:38	18:46
Tue 22	00:48	07:09	12:38	19:57		6:38	18:46
	0.36 ft	0.11 ft	0.43 ft	0.04 ft			
Wed 23	01:37	08:33	13:49	20:33	Full Moon	6:37	18:46
	0.39 ft	0.10 ft	0.35 ft	0.09 ft			
Thu 24	02:21	09:52	15:05	21:06		6:36	18:46
	0.44 ft	0.06 ft	0.30 ft	0.13 ft			
Fri 25	03:00	10:56	16:15	21:35		6:36	18:46
	0.48 ft	0.01 ft	0.27 ft	0.15 ft			
Sat 26	03:35	11:46	17:13	22:02		6:35	18:46
	0.53 ft	-0.04 ft	0.25 ft	0.16 ft			
Sun 27	04:08	12:27	17:57	22:30		6:35	18:46
	0.59 ft	-0.09 ft	0.24 ft	0.16 ft			
Mon 28	04:42	13:04	18:32	23:00		6:34	18:46
	0.64 ft	-0.13 ft	0.23 ft	0.14 ft			
Tue 29	05:17	13:38	19:00	23:35		6:33	18:46
	0.69 ft	-0.15 ft	0.22 ft	0.12 ft			
Wed 30	05:53	14:11	19:27			6:33	18:46
	0.73 ft	-0.17 ft	0.22 ft				
Thu 31	L Quarter	00:14	06:30	14:44	19:54	6:32	18:47
		0.09 ft	0.76 ft	-0.18 ft	0.24 ft		
April 2016							
		00:58	07:10	15:16	20:26		
Fri 01		0.06 ft	0.76 ft	-0.18 ft	0.27 ft	06:31	18:47
		01:48	07:53	15:50	21:03		
Sat 02		0.04 ft	0.75 ft	-0.17 ft	0.32 ft	06:31	18:47
		02:46	08:39	16:24	21:46		
Sun 03		0.03 ft	0.70 ft	-0.15 ft	0.39 ft	06:30	18:47
		03:52	09:31	17:01	22:35		
Mon 04		0.03 ft	0.63 ft	-0.13 ft	0.47 ft	06:30	18:47

Makita LS1216L 12" Dual Slide Compound Miter Saw - \$600 Hit Tools 22-RC19 3/4" Rebar Cutter & 5/8" Bender, \$300 Black Beauty ACT 9800H Portable Concrete Screed Vibrator, including screed bar 8ft. & 16ft. - \$1,800 Belle Group Rammer RT-74 4HP Honda GX120 Rammer - \$1,600 **CALL: 599-777-3176**

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Dream Lot. \$48,000. 981m² (only \$49/m²) Desirable LaPalma subdivision in Belnem. Paved streets, freehold land, **Call 701-7005 From USA call 504-267-1990**

FOR RENT: Conveniently located 1-bedrm duplex in quiet and safe neighborhood for the month of May and/or June. NO PETS and NO SMOKING. Call: 00599-795-9760 / email: dovalelaurie@gmail.com

Who's Who on The Bonaire Reporter
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A Garden? Aloe On Just Do It Bonaire

THE MAGIC OF ALOE

We 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 resinous 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, 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. Its 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 kind 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! ■

Story & photos by Angliet, Nature lover

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.



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





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What's Happening



REGULAR EVENTS

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

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

Soldachi Tours—See the Real Bonaire and be transported back in time. Learn about the history, culture and nature by Bonaireans from Rincon. Call Maria Kocks 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 (Bonaire Duodero)**- 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

•**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

•**Last Saturday of the month** – donate foods and household items to Food Bank (*Stichting voedselbank Bonaire*) from 9:30am-2pm at Van den Tweel Supermarket

• **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

#	DAY	NAME	Time in Port	Cruise Line
Cruise Ship Schedule				
43	25-03-16	<i>Riviera</i>	0800-1700	Oceania
44	29-03-16	<i>Royal Prin-</i>	1200-1900	Princess
45	30-03-16	<i>Seven Seas Mariner</i>	0800-1700	Regent Seven Seas
46	31-03-16	<i>Seven Seas Explorer</i>	0800-1700	Regent Seven Seas
47	1-04-16	<i>Royal Clipper</i>	0900-1500	Star Clippers
48	1-04-16	<i>Serenade of the Seas</i>	0700-1400	Royal Caribbean

Sundays

•**Landhuis DeTuin- Real Jamaican BBQ on the terrace** of the land house in the quiet countryside. Jerk Chicken, BBQ Chicken, Seafood Curry, Veggie Dish, Child's plate, Bread Pudding. On the road to Lac Bai – Kaminda Lac #101. Follow the signs, 12 noon to 6 pm. Tel. +599-786-6816, +599-701-1982. A Forsa training school.

Mondays

• **Bonaire Goat Farm Tour—9 am.** Meet the goats, see milking, and more. **\$10 includes 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 Farm Tour—9am.** See Monday for more information.

•**12-step meeting (AA/NA).** Every Wednesday at Bonaire Basics, Kaya Korona #47. Walk in from 18:45, starts at 19:15, ends at 20:30. Feel free to mail 12stepsbonaire@gmail.com or 12stappenbonaire@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 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

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

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

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

CHURCH SERVICES

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints --Kaya Sabana 26 Sunday Services - Papiamentu/ Espanol 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-8:30am 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 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 Papiamentu. 717-8332.

Our Lady of Coromoto in Antriol-Saturday at 6pm in English. Mass in Papiamentu on Sunday at 9am and 6pm. 717-4211.

Assembly of God (Asemblea di Dios): Kaya Triton (Den Cheffi). In English, Dutch & Papiamentu on Sunday at 10 am. Wed. Prayer Meeting at 7:30 pm. 717-2194 ■

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 Basics, 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- 6:30 pm, LVV, Kaminda Lagun. 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 Lagoen Road. 10am-5pm. All welcome. Snacks and drinks. Call Kees -Jan de Kruijff (700-6658) for more info.



Sunday, April 3—38th Annual Kontest di Fli (kite contest), 8am-8pm at the ball field behind Kooyman. 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

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BEAUTY

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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

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PHOTOGRAPHER

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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 thing 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 (Mangazina 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?** 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



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

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.bonairecatcam.com. ■ Jane Madden-Disko



Bonaire's Recycling Center

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THE STARS HAVE IT

2nd half March 2016



BONAIRE SKY PARK*

*to find it... just look up

THE 13TH CONSTELLATION OF THE ZODIAC

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. Entertainment 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. 23) 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. 24 -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 like 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 inclination 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. ■

Michael Thiessen

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.

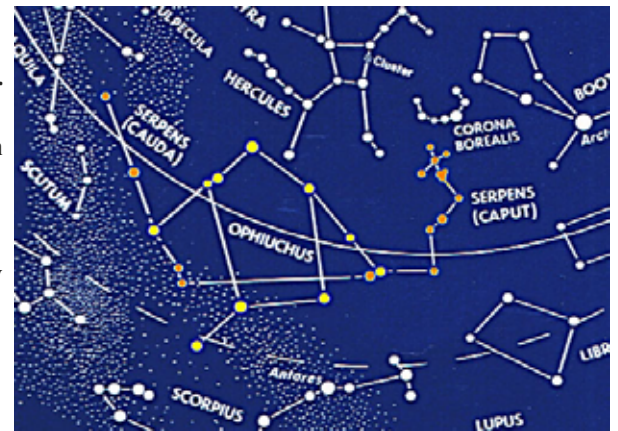
The 13th constellation we're referring to is **Ophiuchus**, and we have a really nice planet **Moon** scootchie in this constellation near the end of April!

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, Scorpius, 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 Ophiuchus and he is often represented as a man holding a snake (the nearby constellations **Cerpens cauda and Serpens caput**). His name is derived from the Greek for "serpent bearer."

And on ancient star maps, this constellation was named "**Serpentarius**." According to legend, Ophiuchus was the son of **Apollo** and was taught the art of medicine by the centaur **Chiron**. Ophiuchus was said to have killed a snake and 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, Ophiuchus 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 Ophiuchus had this ability and he complained to **Jupiter**. Jupiter sent his pet eagle **Aquila** after Ophiuchus with a lightning bolt. The lightning bolt struck Ophiuchus, killing him. Jupiter, not wanting Ophiuchus' knowledge to fade into oblivion, placed the medically gifted serpent-bearer among the stars.

Before being brought into the heavens, Ophiuchus 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.

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

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