

**It's Still
FREE**

Bonaire Reporter- July 11-25, 2016 Year 23, Issue 14
The BONAIRE 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

Airport Fire Station Open House



On Friday, July 8, the new Bonaire Fire Station at Flamingo Airport was opened with great fanfare. Built to European standards with cavernous garage space, offices, sleeping quarters for duty officers, disaster management facilities and more. Adjacent to the new (yet to be commissioned) control tower it is designed to serve Bonaire now and in the future.



A few officers and an aspirant at the opening festivities



Red fire trucks serve the community, yellow trucks serve the airport

The final exam results for the SGB high school are in and they are significantly better than last year. Overall, 73% of examinees successfully passed the Central Examination. This percentage is 17% higher than the last school year. In 2015 of the 227 exam takers only 126 (56%) were successful. This year, 160 students from a total of 219 students passed.

However, in the European Netherlands the passing rate is often higher. For example, in Brabant, there is a 95% pass rate.

► **WEB's financial system was not able to credit customers the retroactive 2 cent rate reduction promised in June.** Now they hope to reflect the reduction on August bills. Rates dropped in April, but the rate reduction only began to be applied in May.

► **Faction leader Elvis Tjin Asjoe of Bonaire party Movemtu Pueblo Boneriano (MPB) wants a penalty applied for airline delays similar to the European model.** His proposal was motivated by Insel Air's tens of hours-long delays at the end of last month. In the local press Insel Air Director Edward Heerenveen called Tjin Asjoe "not in his right mind," in response to this proposal. Reportedly five Insel Air planes were down concurrently.

► **Insel Air has a loyalty program called Star Miles. But if you fly on a ticket deemed by the airline to be "promotional" you get no mileage credit.** Beware, because this is not mentioned in their advertisements.



► **THE HAGUE--Eleven of the 12 parties represented in the First Chamber of the Dutch Parliament voted in favor of a motion to set a social minimum financial level for Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba.** The amount would be what a person needs to live a "decent life." The resolution was supported by all parties except for the Party for Freedom, PVV when it came to voting.

► **A recent amendment to the Dutch "Nationality Law" extended the term for naturalization in The Netherlands from the current five to seven years.** The Dutch Caribbean countries already have a system

in place whereby a person must live on the island for 10 years to qualify for an indefinite residency permit, at which time the person can also apply for the procedure to acquire the Dutch nationality. The amendment sought to eliminate the "double language test" for citizenship, introduced in January 2011, to return to the old situation where the test was allowed in either the Dutch, Papiamentu or English language, but that part did not pass. This means that the double-language test, where the test must be in Dutch, which the Dutch Caribbean countries deem unfair, disproportionate and unnecessary, will remain in effect

► **Labor inspectors uncovered a significant number of foreigners working illegally on a large construction project in Kralendijk.** In late October 2015 the KPCN and the Labor Department began investigations following several complaints about unfair dismissals and illegal employment.

They discovered that **23 of the 37 employed foreigners did not have a work permit** or did not have the proper work permit. This means that 62% of the foreigners were working illegally. However, the check on work safety was satisfactory.

► **Maurice Adriens, Bonaire's head of the Tourism Corporation (TCB), announced he will remain in his Bonaire job.** He rejected an offer to take a similar position in Curaçao. Family considerations were thought to be the reason.



► **The road entrance to Cai (Lac) got washed out by high winds and seas and will be renewed** according to Commissioner **Rolanda Hellburg-Makaai.** Fishermen could not use the road leading to Cai because it was littered with stones and sand which blocked access. Hellburg-Makaai traveled with **Lionell Emerenciana,** head of the Directorate for Planning and Development, and **Pedro de Jong,** Inspector Infrastructure, to assess the situation. The commissioner has ordered the situation be remedied at the entrance and along with Stinapa, come up with a sustainable solution.

► **The first sea turtle nest of 2016**

hatched on Klein Bonaire last week. This is the first hatching included in the STCB Adopt-A-Nest program. The adopter was Blue Jay Holding Bonaire B.V. →



► **One of Bonaire's most active supporters for locally grown produce, Onnie Emerenciana, has taken over the management of Bonaire's weekly "Marshe di Playa" in Kralendijk,** located in the Best Brands parking area across from the Warehouse Supermarket. It features home-grown and locally made products including arts and crafts. See page 12 for other Saturday markets. Locals and visitors are encouraged to pass by the markets every Saturday.



► **THE HAGUE--Dutch Minister of Home Affairs and Kingdom Relations Ronald Plasterk (59) underwent heart surgery last week.** He stopped working on June 29 following a visit to Bonaire and Curaçao. The Minister was operated on for a cardiac valve problem. Minister of Housing and the Nation Government Sector, Stef Blok will replace Plasterk for the remainder of the summer.



► **If you have had dengue fever and contract Zika, you may get even more severely ill.** A pair of London researcher studies published last week focused on Zika's complex relationship with dengue, which is closely related and spread by the same *Aedes aegypti* mosquito as Zika. In a paper published in *Nature Immunology* researchers found that most dengue antibodies helped Zika viruses proliferate and invade cells.

► **Work is nearing completion on the new prison on the Lagoen road.** Reports are that special paint is being used

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► **James Finies, the head of *Nos Ke Boneiru Bek (We Want Bonaire Back)*, and delegates of Aruba and St. Eustatius spent a week at the United Nations in New York City** to raise awareness of the constitutional status of the Dutch Caribbean islands at the UN. Currently Bonaire is a "Public Entity" of The Netherlands, the choice of 60% of the voters in a UN-monitored referendum in 2004 who chose to abandon the Netherlands Antilles to acquire undefined "Direct Ties with The Netherlands."

Finies said the visit **"yielded success beyond expectation."** Supporters of NHBB hoped that, as a result of the meetings, the Dutch Caribbean islands can be placed "back on the list of non-self-governing territories." The delegation visited various missions at the UN and said the "different nations" were surprised about the way in which the Netherlands is handling the "decolonization process." They primarily visited the sections of the UN that deal with decolonization. Finies explained that the sections were "very much in shock" about what was happening.

In 1954 the Netherlands Antilles received autonomy and was removed from the UN's list of non-self-governing territories. Finies said that at that time 31 nations abstained from voting because (conceivably) they were not in agreement with the Netherlands' desires.

► **Many on Bonaire are uncomfortable with the approach being taken by NKBB** just as the Dutch government is moving to respond to the "Spies Report" that was critical of past Dutch actions for the BES islands.

Critics say that the NKBB bases its position on the result of the unofficial, unmonitored, 2015 referendum, which was deemed questionable because of local government tampering (according to the referendum committee). The results of that vote, where 66% of the voters said NO to the question, "Do you agree with the current status, which is a direct link to the Netherlands?" appear to be the basis of the NKBB petition to the UN.

The "NO" vote was said to have been fueled by the application of European Dutch laws on the islands including the imposition of secularism by Dutch authorities, the legalization of same-sex marriage, voluntary euthanasia and the claim that there was a lack of respect for Bonairean culture.



James Finies at the UN

NKBB photo

Flotsam and Jetsam (Continued from page 2) and that local painters were given special instructions on its application. Many of the workers are impressed by the design, high quality of the fittings, the airy views through the barred windows and the TVs.

► **ORCO Bank** has announced that **John Soliano, former BHM Director, will take over as the head of the Bonaire ORCO Bank branch.** Soliano led the recent super successful "Ride For The Roses" fundraiser for the Bonaire Heart Association (photo).



► **Don't miss the exceptional Great White Shark movie playing weekends at the Empire Cinema behind Bon Bida.** All people should to go and see it to realize that these creatures are amazing, not terrifying. The film is in 3D and the use of the special glasses are included in the admission.

Great White Shark 3D will be playing **Friday 15, Saturday 16, and Friday 22, Saturday 23 of July.**

► **Join STINAPA on another bird-watching trip on Saturday, July 16th from 5-6:30pm.** Learn about the birds we have on our island. You will be astonished by the diversity of birds we have on Bonaire.

Meet at the office next to the wastewater recycling tanks at the LVV 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 islands have also been spotted in this area, like the Blackbellied Whistling Duck, Southern Lapwing and the Glossy Ibis.



You may see a spotted sandpiper

Bring binoculars, drinking water and good walking shoes. **Please call 717-8444 to make your reservation.** There are no costs involved, but donations are always welcome. We will meet at the office building next to the wastewater tanks.

► A committee has been formed to **promote and sustain Bonaire as a wellness vacation destination.** Travel for the purpose of promoting health and well-being through physical, psychological, or spiritual activities is a growing activity. There already are several competent wellness-related professionals practicing on island, but primarily for residents.

The committee's goal is to attract visitors interested in learning and participating in healthy activities and helping them to meet their physical and spiritual goals while enjoying a fun Bonaire vacation.

If you have competence in a field appropriate to this project contact Ann Phelan at ann@bonairecaribbean.com to learn more about how you might participate. ■ G./L.D.

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On the Island Since... 1985 and 2016 - Ria and Anthony Evers-Dokter

“We came to Bonaire in 1985 from Curacao,” says Ria. “I was working for the Totolika Foundation, a parents’ association of the mentally disabled. Anthony worked at Isla Refinery. Originally I am from a small West Frisian island off the north coast of the Netherlands called Ameland. Anthony was and is from Curacao. We met in Curacao and fell in love, and in 1982 we got married. When I was asked to apply for the position of director of FKPB (Foundation Care for People with a Disability) on Bonaire it felt right. Somehow it was time for a change. I was hired and we came to live here in 1985, in Rincon, at the very edge of the village in a sweet old Bonairean house. It was freedom, and what I loved most was the feeling when you came from Playa into Rincon – you immediately knew you were home!”

For 13 years I’d been the director of FKPD. The care for the disabled was on the rise and people were asking for different methods and activities and I’ve tried to encourage that. There was also a children’s daycare and a daycare for the elderly mentally disabled. And as Bonaire didn’t have any options for people with a physical handicap, they were also welcome. In fact it was a diverse group, which made it fun and challenging to find something suitable to do for everyone.

Together with Guno Geerling I established the ‘candle factory’ which was officially opened by Prince Willem-Alexander. In those days the staff members were not trained for their job and not one of them had something like a diploma in that particular field, so it was a bit difficult. However, we did organize some fun internships on Curacao and in Holland so they would get a different perspective on working in this particular sector of health-care.

I didn’t have any education in this field either. I was a graduate teacher, but I had been working with the mentally challenged in Germany for 10 years before I came to Curacao. That was the experience I had. However, when I want something, I will make it happen and I am willing to help and stimulate others too. I’ve always been extremely driven. Throughout the years I worked at FKPD Anthony worked at the rice mill and later on as a night auditor at Flamingo Beach Hotel. Then he worked for a while for Toine Hezemans, a Dutch prototype racing car driver, then at Kooijman’s.

My ‘baby’ was Special Olympics. My first experience with it



Ria welcoming me at the gate

was on Curacao and immediately I thought, ‘We can do that too!’ Then I met Mike Gaynor and that’s how it took off! We founded a board and immediately after the world games were held in Connecticut, USA, I went with four swimmers- Lucille Pikerie, Cheryl Cecilia, Boise and Gwendell Gumbs. We returned to Bonaire loaded with medals!

There are no words to describe the Special Olympics event. It’s an unbelievable sensation! Goose bumps I swear! Still, up to this day people of Bonaire are participating in the Special Olympics. And it is tremendously important because the athletes learn that they are capable of so much more than they were ever told they could do. They just need the chance to show it!

“There are no words to describe the event of Special Olympics. It’s an unbelievable sensation! Goose bumps I swear!”

When at a certain moment the job market in Holland became very favorable we decided to leave and go and work there to build up some sort of a pension. So we left to go to my Dutch island, Ameland, where my mom was living. On day two Anthony was offered a job at a hotel- Ameland lives off tourism – which he accepted. Six months later I found a job on the mainland as a group leader, caring for the mentally challenged.

In the beginning Anthony wasn’t very enthusiastic. Ameland is small and limited and you are dependent on the ferry, so we registered at a housing cooperation to be able to get a house on the mainland.

But then, shortly after, we were attacked in my mother’s house by some crazed drug users. They destroyed everything inside the house and beat me up, and although I am not a small woman, they grabbed me by the arm and flung me across the room. My

mother fled in shock to the neighbors, but Anthony was grabbed in the kitchen where boiling water was on the stove. Besides the beating he got, he suffered from second and third degree burns. It was awful, like watching a horror movie and playing a part in it. Thank God I’d just gotten permanent employment so I could go on sick leave so we had a little income, because I couldn’t work anymore. My arm wasn’t functioning due to post traumatic muscular dystrophy. Then Anthony got rheumatism in his shoulder and was operated on. It seemed like we had ended up in a downward spiral.

My mom, whose condition had deteriorated, passed away, and the evening of the funeral – we



Anthony and Ria in front of their house

island and everything that has to do with food, and it was sold out! When I was doing a live interview with the Frisian broadcasting station they asked me who the man was sitting next to my publisher. I told them it was my husband. When they asked where he was from I told them he came from Curacao. Next question was if he wasn’t longing for his island and I answered ‘Yes, but he hasn’t won the lottery yet!’ Then the lady who’d done the illustrations in the booksaid, ‘I am going to make postcards of those illustrations and that will be the start of the fundraising through which we will get Ria and Anthony from A(meland) to B(onaire)!’ The church made a bank account available where people could deposit money, an art and kitsch



The little photo was published in the Ameland newspaper, with the flags of Ameland and Bonaire

How special is that! In the end we found this house and it was adjusted to our needs. We’re 65 and it has been a tremendous flow. We made it!

We came in with Tui and flying over Slagbaai, seeing Rincon to the left, I instantly got the old familiar feeling... we’re home!

It’s sweet; we’ve got our own place and in the street we’re hugged spontaneously and people tell us ‘welcome home’ and every day there is so much joy! On top of it I was offered a nice little job being coordinator at W.F.T.B. (Working Group Physical Accessibility Bonaire) and I started on the 1st of July. I’m also planning on making candles again - on a very small scale - and for that I need left-over candles. So if people have something please mail me kaarsenatelierkandelita@gmail.com or give us a call at 786-8065. In the meantime we are establishing a routine as a solid base to build on and once that’s stable, we’ll move on with this adventure on our beloved island!” ■

Story & photos by Greta Kooistra



Picture Yourself With The Reporter at The Grand Canyon



Regular Bonaire visitors, Joan and Alan Zale, 40 visits and counting, proudly display *The Bonaire Reporter* issue naming them the 2015 Picture Yourself with *The Bonaire Reporter* contest winners at the Grand Canyon in Arizona, USA. The Zales, regular (we've lost track how many times) contributors to *The Reporter*, were named the winners because of their dedication to the column, with photos that are "high quality both technically and in their subject matter" along with motivating at least four friends to submit photos. They chose the Grand Canyon to display this issue because the size and grandness of the location conveyed how much the award meant to them. The Grand Canyon is noted as one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World. It was formed two billion years ago as the Colorado River and its tributaries cut their channels through layers of rock exposing the geological history of our planet. It is 277 miles long, 18 miles wide and more than a mile deep. The Zales, who own a condo at Sand Dollar, have been coming to Bonaire for more than 20 years and live in Hartsdale, NY. ■

WIN A PRIZE: Send your photo to reporter @bonairenews.com to be entered in our annual contest for the best picture.

Word on the Street

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

Word on the street is that the waterfront restaurant **At Sea** has been sold. Bula reported many moons ago that the site was on the market. The former owners will now concentrate on **La Cantina**, their other restaurant, and rumor has it a new concept for that location is in the works.

- Could it be that the previously mentioned waterfront location will be the new site for Bonaire's real steakhouse, **Patagonia**?

- **A horse is a horse of course of course...** Tensions are "mounting" in the Sabadeco Terrace neighborhood. Numerous homeowners are upset about the recent construction of a horse stall on the side of a home, complete with a real horse! The construction and presence of the horse are hobbled by deed restrictions. When confronted with that fact, the owner reportedly responded: "Doesn't matter...I like horses." Can I get a "neigh, neigh" on that?

- **Top Supermarket (nee Cultimara)**, the big market in the middle of Playa, was taken over by new owners July 1st. Reports are that the new owners are also Chinese.



Sabadeco "Stable"



- It's rumored that **Garage Cordia**, the Toyota dealerships in Aruba and Curacao, will soon be operating Bonaire's Toyota dealership under their own name. Some of the other car brands, including the newly added Ford brand now being sold at Akkermans Toyota, may be offered from another, separate, showroom. ■

Bula Bonchi



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Wonders of Nature

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.



THE WATERBED



Lately my walking-track is very well equipped. A few weeks ago I had a pleasant seat (although ...I had muscle pains for weeks after) at the side of the road. Now I see a soft, round and fluffy looking mattress that invites me to relax. I want to lay my head down on the sky-blue cover, but fortunately just in time I see the stain. This is probably the reason why this mattress has come into the mundi. I look at the spot suspiciously: what is the source of the moisture? I want to take a sniff, but I am afraid of the warm smell of an urinal that has escaped the cleaning crew. If I have such thoughts, I'm gagging with every scent that comes into my nose, so I'd just better go away.

The first thing I think of when I see this big spot is a bed wetter. In this case, seeing the size, I would go for a giant bed wetter, one who has a lot of practice and before going to bed drinks a few liters of water to really make a party out of it. Yet, this is unlikely. Such a notorious bed wetter would of course have a plastic protective cover. You cannot purchase a new mattress after every let-go session. The stain looks too professional for an inexperienced pee-er. I think I'm not on the right track with this nocturnal enuresis theory (search on Google). What kind of story lies behind this finding? I see it suddenly very sharply before me ...

"Will you finally get out of bed, Sven," Anita shouts to her 16-year-old son. "I'm not gonna bite the dust again facing the school attendance officer." Sven is used to the bleating of his mother and turns on his other side on the comfortable mattress formed by the curves of his body. That's what happens when you lie in bed 16 hours a day. Soon, as usual, she'll come with a wet washcloth and then he will very slowly open his eyes and ask her why she is washing him. Anita is now determined to get him out of bed and thinks about what she can use. A washcloth has only helped the first time, so that is of no use any more.

More drastic measures are needed because if Sven does not get back to school she must appear in court. She will never let this happen to her, she will show that she can handle her child and get him back on track. First she will ensure that he gets up. She sees a bucket in the kitchen and thinks she can threaten him with it. She fills it with cold water and runs to the musty smelling room. "If you do not get up now, you get a bucket of water over you," she yells. Sven pretends he does not hear her. He moans and turns one more time. Beside herself with rage and impotence she turns the bucket over him and 10 liters of water are splashed on him and the mattress. At

once Sven stands next to his bed cursing. He never expected this. Is this the mother he could always wind around his finger and who believed and supported any excuse for him not to go to school? If he gives in now there is no end to it, then he must go that stuffy school. He decides to return to the bed and pretend that puddle of water in the mattress does not bother him. His mother runs away, which is a good sign. But then she comes in with wild, bulging eyes and a hose in her hands. She turns on the garden hose and sprays the water-jet at full force down on him. Sven is pressed against the wall and although he tries to escape the bed with all his might, every attempt is blocked by the water jet. "Stop this, don't do this, I surrender," he shouts over the thundering waterfall.

Suddenly there is a knock on the door and Anita comes back to her senses. The neighbors come to report that they suffer from leaking water. Sobered up she goes in search of insurance papers and sees that Sven dries and dresses himself and goes out wearing his school uniform with his schoolbag. Mission accomplished, although she can barely remember what happened. She walks into the bedroom and sees the havoc. She mops the floor and puts the mattress outside in the sun. What inspired her, she has never let herself go like that. When she brings the mattress back inside at night it is still soaked. Sven has to sleep on the couch, which is much too small for his height.

Broken, he gets up early and goes to school. What else can you do when you cannot stay lounging? Anita tries everything to get rid of the moisture with moisture absorbers and paper towels. Nothing delivers the desired result, the bed remains soaked. Sven bivouacs on the couch and actually this is exactly what he needed, because he goes to school on time day after day. Anita therefore decides to throw the mattress away and to never replace it. In the mundi it lays already for weeks and still is not dry. If anyone is looking for a waterbed, I know where to find one!

Moral of this story: as a parent you have to behave like a madman to be taken seriously by an adolescent. ■ Story & photo by Justine Verschoor

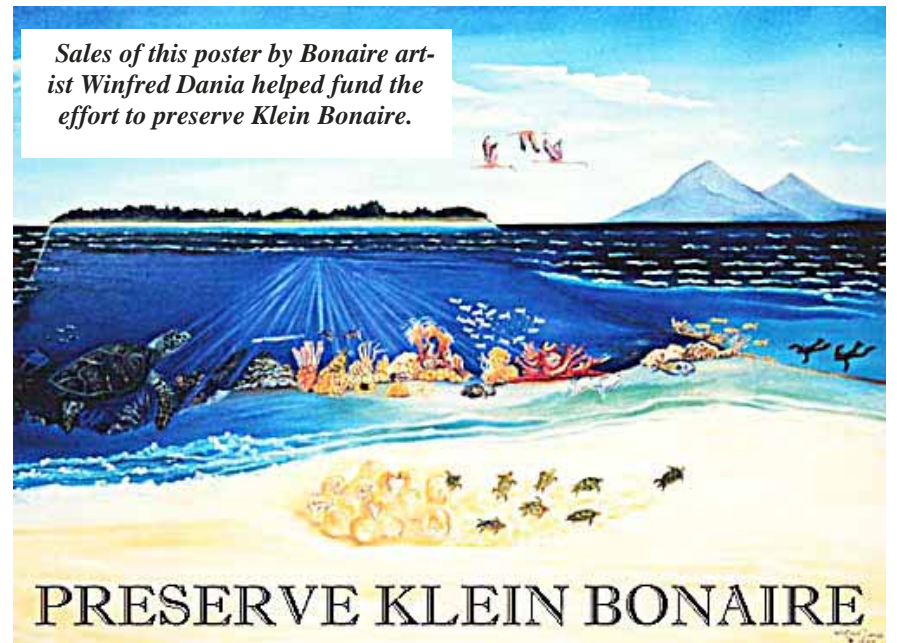


20 Years Ago In These Pages

BONAIRE IN 1996 – 20 YEARS AGO

Looking back at some of the stories from the pages of Port Call

Sales of this poster by Bonaire artist Winfred Dania helped fund the effort to preserve Klein Bonaire.



The blockbuster announcement in 1996 was that Klein Bonaire was to be developed into a massive island-spanning resort. Bonaireans thought the island belonged to the island government, but that was not the case.

Feb. 23, 1996

-Klein Bonaire in Peril- Klein Bonaire Development Company, a consortium of unnamed investors, has requested a permit for construction of a resort on the east end of the island.

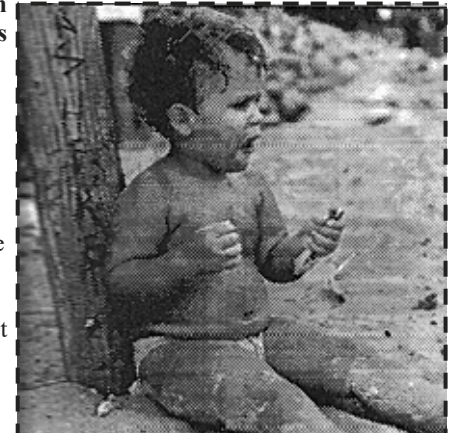
Mar. 1

-Fight the development of Klein Bonaire – a grass roots movement to preserve Klein Bonaire can be effective.

Mar. 8 -Get Klein Back! On September 1, 1868, the Dutch government sold it to Angel Jeserun, and ever since it's been in private hands, one of which is Maurice Neme. It is the moral obligation of the present Dutch government to correct the mistake of the past

Mar. 15 -Saving Klein Bonaire – Support grows. Marine Park manager reports inquiries from Nature Conservancy, World Wildlife, private individuals sympathetic to preservation. Minister of Tourism Jopie Abraham opposed to any development on Klein. *Extra* newspaper believes the Dutch government must buy it back and return it to the people of the Antilles. The "man in the street," says local newspaper, *Vigilancia*, doesn't want Klein developed.

April 5--"Help is on the Way" says



From 1996– Baby Christopher Romijn with caption "Get Klein Bonaire back for Christopher"

Tom van 'T Hof, the Dutch environmentalist who helped establish the Bonaire Marine Park. He is making sure the government of the Netherlands is aware of how important the preservation of Klein Bonaire is to our marine life.

May 24 - Government leaders state they will not issue building permits for Klein but owners have permits issued years ago to operate a seaside resort. There is no approved zoning plan for Bonaire, as Curacao has, so no legal protection exists from that route. How much is it worth? Reportedly, in 1987, the island was assessed at NAf 2.8 million (about \$1.6 million). ■ G./L.D.

Next edition: New taxes and more



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A Bonaire Ramble

2. Exploring Bara di Karta in Washikemba (3 miles)

"There are two things that are more difficult than making an after-dinner speech: climbing a [tiny but steep] hill which is leaning toward you and kissing a girl who is leaning away from you." (Winston Churchill).

Bob and I, self-acclaimed nature aficionados, are feeling frisky today, in more ways than one. We decide to go for a brief ramble among spiky shrubs and grazing goats and mount the 57 meters of Bara di Karta. A year ago, we attempted tackling Bara di Karta just sporting good ole sneakers. Not so hopi bon. Hub had to complete the ascent and subsequent descent with vigilance while his unglued soles were held together by my pigtailed elastic bands. I, on the other hand, was a cool cucumber with cactus spines poking through mine. At least my soles were stuck to my feet, forever. Another downside at the time was the fact we couldn't locate our vehicle. No fun trudging around like two imbeciles in agony.

Today we arrive well-equipped wearing genuine Idahoan hiking boots, loads of Bonairean water and a map. We park our *voiture* in an easy-to-spot spot, almost in front of the hill.

In order to find Bara di Karta, we chose Kaminda Lagun to Washikemba Park. In the park we followed the golf and car signs to our

destination. We hobbled past Kunuku di Mamai Rosa where they grow sorghum, a staple of the Bonairean diet. Be prepared to do some rocking and shaking. I almost got ejected through the passenger's window seat. Next time I'll be wearing my Idaho-made helmet. In Idaho, when you purchase two pairs of hiking boots, a helmet is included: three for the price of one. A hell of a deal for a Dutchie.

We passed Traditional Kunuku on the left, as well as a water mill on the right. We continued following the yellow car signs. A perilous looking cactus fence, made of Yatu cacti, on the right side caught our eye. A great deterrent against criminals. Pos Bara di Karta appeared in view, a communal well which provides fresh groundwater. Finally, we detected the pink stone indicating Bara di Karta walking trail. Glancing at the hill, I realize the darn drive is much longer than the hike will be. It's probably a good thing since I left my helmet at home.

The trail of Bara di Karta consists of a pretty steep and prickly climb to the top. As mentioned, it's a short trek. Hubby grabs a stick to ward off potential aggressive beasts and bushes. While I tail Bob who in turn is trailing the pink hiking rocks, prickly pear cacti attempt to attach themselves to our sturdy soles. No such luck. Outdoor Idaho stuff kicks butt even though I thoroughly disliked living there. Another tale for another day.

On top the panorama is over the top. We can see the east and west coasts, as well as the salt flats, and even Lac is visible. I ask if Bob fancies

(Continued on page 11)



Reaching the top ↑

View from the top ↓







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A Garden? Just Do It

IT'S MANGO TIME



takes three to six months to ripen. Mangoes vary in size and color - yellow, orange, red or green –and carry a single pit that can be fibrous or hairy on the surface.

Mangoes are widely used in cuisine. Sour, unripe mangoes are used in chutneys, pickles, side dishes, or may be eaten raw with salt chili, or soy sauce. A summer drink called "aam panna" comes from mangoes. Mango pulp made into jelly or cooked with *red gram dahl* and green chilies may be served with cooked rice. (It's delicious, I make this

On Bonaire right now mango trees are in blossom or have fruit. However, mango trees are relatively rare on Bonaire. We should have more trees since they give such a healthy and delicious fruit.

The mango only grows in the tropics and because Bonaire is in the tropics a mango tree fits perfectly on this island. But because of the drought for the past four years some people think that it will be hard for them to grow mangoes. I cannot deny that. But there are still ways to make the tree grow easily. So let us try this way.

Put the pit of a nice tasting mango seed in a big pot with soft "pot grond" dirt. Water it often and after a while you will see a stem coming out. Let it stay there awhile, even for a year.

Look for a nice place in your yard, not too close to your house because the roots spread. Dig a big hole that is at least three times the diameter of the mango's pot. Fill the hole with moist dirt - a mix of black dirt with red Bonairean top soil dirt and dry rotten leaves - and plant the young mango tree. Don't fill the whole hole with the dirt mix. At the top add some old rotten leaves, fine old wood pieces, sawdust or used teabags. This top layer protects the soil against the heat of the sun and helps to keep the under soil moist so the young plant can survive the extreme dry weather. Also make a kind of low wall from small stones and dirt around the plant so when you water the plant, the water won't run away but stay around the plant like it is in a basin.

It can happen that ants or bugs are going to live and make nests in the sawdust or tea bags. To avoid ants, put some *funchi* (polenta) around the plant (instead of all kind of poisonous sprays). When ants eat this and take it to their nest they'll die because the *funchi* swells them up. On the other hand some bugs around and in the soil are not that bad because these bugs are necessary to make the soil "alive."

Mango trees can grow up to 35-40 m (115-132 ft.) tall. They are long-lived; some specimens still fruit after 300 years. The taproot can descend to a depth of 6 m (20 ft) with profuse, wide-spreading feeder roots. Over 400 varieties of mangoes are known. The fruit



Parrots love fruit too

often-a very nice vegetarian dish.) *Mango lassi* is popular throughout South Asia, prepared by mixing ripe mangoes or mango pulp with buttermilk and sugar. Ripe mangoes are also used to make curries.

You might think, "how can I talk about these nice recipes when hungry lora parrots are all over the place pecking every fruit from each fruit tree. Yes, that is a real problem. I myself am fighting every time with these loras and try to find ways to save the fruit on my fruit trees. One way to save mangos while they still hang on the tree is to enclose them in paper bags, like sugar bags (those are strong paper bags) or the brown paper bags from Kooyman. It takes some time to put each one in such a sack and close it with a piece of fishing line around the top. I get a stiff neck while working from a ladder. But yes, you have to do something. Some people use plastic bags too, but I notice that after a while these bags get damaged by the wind and the heat and the loras are right there as soon as they see the mangos.

I have tried a bird net too, which are available in Holland or the US. It works best on fruit trees which are low or on lower parts of the tree.

And last but not least, sometimes, long before the fruit is ripe, I pick them and let them ripen in my kitchen. I've done this already with mangos and they taste great. Also when the loras make them fall, I gather them and let them ripen in a fruit basket. They are as sweet as if they had fallen ripe from the tree. ■

Story & Photo by Angliet-Nature lover



HOW CAN I IMPROVE MY CHOLESTEROL?

What's so bad about high blood cholesterol?

Low-density lipoprotein (LDL) cholesterol is often called "the bad kind." When you have too much LDL cholesterol in your blood, it can join with fats and other substances to build up in the inner walls of your arteries. The arteries can become clogged and narrow, and blood flow is reduced. If this buildup of plaque ruptures, a blood clot may form at this location or a piece may break off and travel in the bloodstream. If a blood clot blocks the blood flow to your heart, it causes a heart attack. If a blood clot blocks an artery leading to or in the brain, a stroke results.

High-density lipoprotein (HDL) cholesterol is called the "good kind." It carries harmful cholesterol away from the arteries and helps protect you from heart attack and stroke. It's better to have a lot of HDL cholesterol in your blood.

What about fats? There are different kinds of fats in the foods we eat.

- **Saturated fat** raises blood cholesterol, so too much is not good for you. Animal fats like lard and meat fat, and some tropical oils like coconut oil, palm oil and palm kernel oil contain saturated fats. According to latest research not all saturated fats are bad. For example butter may not raise cholesterol, but more research is needed.

- **Trans fat** comes from adding hydrogen to vegetable oils and tends to raise blood cholesterol. It's used in commercial baked goods and for cooking in many restaurants and fast-food chains.

- **Polyunsaturated fats** are found in vegetable oils and fish oils. These can improve blood cholesterol when eaten as part of a healthy diet and used to replace saturated or trans fats.

- **Monounsaturated fats** are found in olive, canola, peanut, sunflower and safflower oils and avocados. As part of a healthy diet, they may help improve blood cholesterol.

What should I eat?

Focus on eating foods low in saturated and trans fats such as:

- A variety of **fruits and vegetables** everyday.
- A variety of **whole grain foods** like whole grain bread, cereal, pasta and brown rice.
- **Fat-free**, 1 percent and low-fat milk products.
- **Poultry** without skin and lean meats. When you choose to eat red meat and pork, select options labeled "lean" and "round." These cuts usually have the least amount of fat.
- **Fatty fish** such as salmon, trout, albacore tuna and sardines. (Enjoy at least one to two servings baked or grilled each week.)
- Unsalted nuts, seeds, and legumes.



- Non tropical vegetable oils like canola, olive, or safflower oils.

Also eat **oatmeal** regularly. It contains soluble fiber which is known to lower LDL cholesterol.

What about eggs?

Chicken eggs are high in cholesterol but the effect of egg consumption on blood cholesterol is minimal when compared with the effect of trans fats and saturated fats. So it's not a problem to eat them regularly.

What should I limit?

Foods with a lot of sodium (salt)

- Sweets and sugar-sweetened beverages
- Meats that have been processed with a lot of sodium
- Full-fat dairy products such as whole milk, cream, ice cream, butter and cheese
- Baked goods made with saturated and trans fats like donuts, cakes, cookies
- Foods that list the words "hydrogenated oils" in the ingredients panel
- Saturated oils like coconut oil, palm oil and palm kernel oil
- Solid fats like shortening, stick margarine and lard
- Fried foods

■ Lucinda van der Wardt

Lucinda van der Wardt has been a registered dietitian and sports instructor for more than 18 years. After working for more than 10 years in a university hospital in Amsterdam and later in her private practice she is currently owner of Food and Vitality Dietitian practice located at the Bon Bida health center in Kralendijk.



More info: www.foodandvitality.info
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'Head Versus Heart'



EINDRAPPORT

Aruba, Bonaire, Curaçao, Saba & Sint Eustatius
CCC-Opinieonderzoek



Researcher Wouter Veenendaal

racao or Aruba. Arubans even say they feel more "Dutch" than the people of the other former Antilles.

Residents of the BES-islands don't feel connected to each other. Unsurprisingly, Bonaire feels strongest ties with neighboring Curacao.

Three-quarter of the population of Bonaire say that there are too many European Dutch living on the island. This high level of immigration raises questions about identity and belonging. Other nationalities than the Dutch are even less beloved, 80% say there are too many inhabitants of other nationalities than Dutch residing on Bonaire. This anti-immigrant attitude is stronger on Bonaire than on the other islands being studied.

The results of the research are ambivalent and show a "head versus heart dilemma," according to Veenendaal. While there is a wish for support from Holland, islanders feel they are not respected by and not connected to the Netherlands.

The constitutional reforms of 2010 may have deepened the ambivalence of local citizens and politicians towards The Netherlands. People think they need the Dutch support, while they feel resistance towards Dutch domination.

Veenendaal and his co-researchers are presenting their results to local and Dutch government, "but we cannot take over the role of those governors," Veenendaal indicates. It is up to local and national government to use the results to change or create policy.

The complete report about the results of the opinion survey (in Dutch) and related publications can be found on www.kitlv.nl

Gerjanne Voortman

Gerjanne Voortman is a graduate anthropologist living on Bonaire



Bonaire residents want Dutch support but feel resistance towards Dutch dominance

After the evaluation research of the Spies commission on the BES-islands, the KITVL (Royal Netherlands Institute of Southeast Asian and Caribbean Studies) published results of their opinion survey on all six former Dutch Antilles islands. The survey is part of the research project "Confronting Caribbean Challenges." "This research does not only look into the facts, but also includes attitudes and feelings," said researcher Wouter Veenendaal.

The last opinion survey carried out on all six islands was in 1998. Since the situation on the islands has changed drastically since then, it was time to ask the population again about their point of view concerning governance and identity.

On Bonaire 407 randomly selected people were interviewed and answered questions about their feelings concerning

- the political status of the island,
- the relationship with the Netherlands, the mutual relationship between the islands,
- their trust in local politics and identity and belonging.

Of the interviews, 81% were held in Papiamentu, 12% in Dutch, 4% in Spanish and 3% in English, corresponding largely with the ratio of languages spoken on the island.

Results show that about:

- 40% of the people interviewed are satisfied with the current constitutional situation of the island being a public body of the Netherlands.
- 60% are not satisfied but are not unanimous about a particular alternative.
- 25% long for a return to the Dutch Antilles,
- 21% wish Bonaire to become autonomous within the kingdom of the Netherlands, and around
- 3% want the island to become fully independent.

So while there is no majority in favor of the current situation, it is the most chosen option amongst the possible given answers in this research.

When it comes to the wish for financial supervision and support, the population is more unanimous. Over 80% of the inhabitants of the island point out that they consider Dutch financial support

very important. Respondents also consider it desirable that the Dutch government supervise the local government and local jurisdiction and feel they need Dutch military support.

Also the Dutch language is considered essential by a large part of the population. 90% of the people questioned agree that it is important for children to learn Dutch in school.

While there is a wish for supervision and support from The Hague, Bonairean residents feel that the attitude of the Dutch central government towards the island should change drastically. A majority do not feel respected by the Dutch government.

It is also thought that Dutch bureaucrats have very little knowledge about Antillean culture and lifestyle. On Bonaire this sentiment is strongest with over 80% of the people indicating that Dutch government lacks knowledge about the island.

A majority of islanders do not feel like Dutchmen at all. Comparing those results with the other islands, it's remarkable to see that Bonaire, Saba and Statia have stronger constitutional ties with the mother country but don't feel more connected with the Netherlands than do the people of Cu-



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Acupressure course for full body July 20th and 20th from 9am to 3pm - \$420 pp

Learn the principles of **Ayurvedic** and Herbs on July 16 from 4pm to 6 pm - \$45.00 p.p

Mindfulness - July 20-21st from 7pm to 9pm - \$65 p.p

Mr Vivek will be available on a daily basis for individualized consultation which may include individualized dietary guidelines and or exercises tailored to your constitutional type.

For more information please contact tina.woodlev@yahoo.com

Bonaire-Sun Rise/Set, Moon Phase and Tides

Day	High	Low	High	Low	High	Sunrise	Sunset
Mon 11	First Quarter	01:55 0.21 ft	06:06 0.46 ft	13:23 -0.14 ft	19:49 0.71 ft	6:17	19:05
Tue 12		02:59 0.16 ft	06:53 0.37 ft	13:45 -0.10 ft	20:19 0.77 ft	6:17	19:05
Wed 13		04:00 0.12 ft	07:40 0.28 ft	14:05 -0.06 ft	20:50 0.81 ft	6:18	19:05
Thu 14		04:57 0.07 ft	08:29 0.21 ft	14:23 -0.03 ft	21:20 0.86 ft	6:18	19:04
Fri 15		05:54 0.02 ft	09:23 0.14 ft	14:38 -0.00 ft	21:53 0.89 ft	6:18	19:04
Sat 16		06:50 -0.02 ft	10:26 0.09 ft	14:49 0.02 ft	22:27 0.91 ft	6:19	19:04
Sun 17		07:44 -0.06 ft	11:47 0.05 ft	14:53 0.03 ft	23:03 0.92 ft	6:19	19:04
Mon 18		08:33 -0.10 ft	23:42 0.92 ft			6:19	19:04
Tue 19		09:15 -0.13 ft			Full Moon	6:19	19:04
Wed 20		00:24 0.90 ft	09:50 -0.14 ft			6:20	19:04
Thu 21		01:10 0.86 ft	10:19 -0.15 ft			6:20	19:04
Fri 22		01:59 0.81 ft	10:45 -0.16 ft	16:52 0.33 ft	20:51 0.27 ft	6:20	19:03
Sat 23		02:52 0.73 ft	11:11 -0.16 ft	17:16 0.45 ft	22:39 0.25 ft	6:20	19:03
Sun 24		03:47 0.65 ft	11:38 -0.17 ft	17:47 0.60 ft		6:20	19:03
Mon 25		00:08 0.20 ft	04:45 0.55 ft	12:08 -0.17 ft	18:23 0.75 ft	6:21	19:03

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Do you have a morning or afternoon free and want to benefit Bonaire's nature? Please consider a daytime volunteer opportunity with Echo at its Dos Pos Conservation Centre. We have a range of ongoing and special projects which need your help! The only requirement is that you enjoy being outdoors and getting your hands dirty. For more information on how you can help, please email info@echobonaire.org.

Do you need a babysitter?

I'm 14 years old and have experience with small children. I speak Dutch and English and have been trained in CPR and first aid.

I am responsible and love being with children. Please call 770-2017.

Who's Who on The Bonaire Reporter
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How Swine Smart Are You?

This story is a part of an ongoing series contributed by Echo, an organization which has been mandated by the Island Government to conduct a pig control program on Bonaire.



There's a Reason the Pigs are the Leaders in Animal Farm

Feral pigs, as you may have already guessed, are considered an "invasive species," which means that when they are introduced to a new place they can easily establish themselves, compete with or out-compete native fauna, and will quickly spread in range and numbers. So far on Bonaire we are fortunate to not have too many pigs. But, in fact, no scientific study has yet been able to tell us roughly how many pigs we have. Why is it difficult to determine how many pigs there are here, you might ask? Well, pigs are known to be highly "intelligent, secretive and adaptable" (*eXtension*, 2012). Furthermore, they have a great sense of smell (they can sense some odors 5-7 miles away and may be able to detect odors as much as 25 feet underground!) and are very wary creatures, which can make it difficult to spot them, track them, and certainly catch them.!

Also, as you have read before, feral pigs cover a wide range of habitats to forage for food and other resources. As we have learned before, pigs do not in fact sweat very much, and so, to keep cool they will seek shade or wallow in the mud or water. They also tend to be more active at night when it is cooler. All of which makes them more difficult to locate.

Pigs are social animals, which can typically be found in groups of two or more, particularly females. A basic social unit is made up of a sow (female pig) and her litter; this group of animals is known as a "sounder." "Sounders are organized around two or three reproductively mature highly-related females and their litters, and can contain up to three generations of related animals, including sub adults from previous litters" (*eXtension*, 2012). Young males will organize into "bachelor" groups while mature males will tend to be solitary.

Once pigs are found, they can be dif-



ficult to catch. This is because "wild pigs can run up to 30 mph. They can jump over fences less than 3 feet high and have "climbed" out of pig traps with walls 5 to 6 feet high (TAMU, 2013)." They will learn to avoid danger very quickly which means that if catching attempts are not 100% successful, additional efforts to control them will be more difficult to carry out. This is very similar to the situation with lionfish, when several people have made attempts to spear one without success, we notice that their behavior changes and the moment a diver approaches, they will hide under coral or in other places where it is difficult to reach or see them.

This is why it is so important to the Echo Pig Control team that you help us in identifying the locations of pigs and any identifying features you can share (color patterns, sex, time of day seen, etc) but that you **do not attempt to catch the pig yourself!**

This story is a part of an ongoing series contributed by Echo, an organization which has been mandated by the Public Entity of Bonaire to conduct a pig control program on Bonaire. For information about this project, please email Julianka@echobonaire.org or call our Pig Hotline at 786-7447 (786-PIGS). ■ *Lauren Schmaltz*

Remember: We Live from our Nature! (Nos ta Biba di Naturalesa)

Information for this article was borrowed from:

<http://articles.extension.org/pages/63664/quick-facts-on-feral-hogs>

<http://feralhogs.tamu.edu/frequently-asked-questions-wild-pigs/>

<http://www.animalbehaviour.net/pigs/>



DID YOU KNOW?



Thresher shark—check that tail

That the thresher shark (*tribonablus lagnus*) is a unique hunter that uses its scythe-like tails to whip and stun its sardine prey? Its tail alone can weigh over 318 kg (700 lbs). That's the weight of an adult donkey! The thresher shark uses this massive tail to herd schools of its favorite prey- sardines. When the sardines are all in a group, the shark charges at the fish, then quickly pivots its fins to come to a sudden stop. Just like when you slam the breaks on a car, this stop causes the shark's whole body to jerk forward- including its raised tail that slams down in a whip-like motion. During this hunt the tip of its tail can reach speeds up to 80 km/h (50 mph). That's faster than the speed you can drive between Rincon and Kralendijk! The thresher shark's tail moves so fast it can split water molecules into hydrogen and oxygen-causing little bubbles to rise out of the water! Talk about an incredible creature!

In September 2015, Bonaire opened the

Yarari Sanctuary to protect sharks, rays and marine mammals (like dolphins) living in our waters. It's up to each of us to help protect these beautiful creatures, like the thresher shark.

If you find this sort of thing fascinating, don't miss Great White Shark 3D playing at Empire Cinema this weekend (www.empirebonaire.com). It will change the way you think about sharks. ■ *Hannah Rempel*

Hannah Rempel is the STINAPA Monitoring & Outreach Intern. She has a B.A. in biology from Lewis & Clark College.



Bonaire Ramble (Continued from page 7)

to clamber the white and black land survey marker so I can shoot a good pic. The answer is no. Instead he tries to embrace me while I bend over sideways to grab my water bottle. We almost get tangled up. I need two helmets next time.

The return is easy breezy even though we do have to mind the precipitous descent. Bob carries a stick; I have nada. We stroll to our nearby car while spying donkeys and goats foraging on mosses.

To me it seems nothing edible grows here, but the marauding animals disagree.

All in all it was a fun little trek. And it is entirely possible to follow more side trails around Bara di Karta. Now the long drive back. ■

Story & photos by Karen Bastiaensen-Gilmour



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 Koeks for more information: 796-7870, 717-6435.

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

Nature Organization, STINAPA, has frequent events—bird watching, sunset hikes, lectures, etc. Go to their website for more information of events for the rest of 2016: stinapabonaire.org/events

Saturdays

•**Marshe di Playa (Bonaire Duodero)**- Every Saturday, 8am-1pm, across from Warehouse 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

#	DAY	NAME	Time in Port	Cruise Line
Cruise Ship Schedule				
59	26-07-16	<i>Adventure of the Seas</i>	0800-1700	Royal Caribbean

• **Wine Tasting at Antillean Wine Company's** warehouse on Kaya Industria, **Second Saturday of the month,** 7-9 pm. (*Always call to make sure it's on: Tel. +5999-560-7539.*) Snacks and tasting of six wines for \$10 per person.

•**Petanque- Jeu de Boules,** 2:30-6 pm, Landhuis De Tuin on the road to Lac Bai. Info: 786-0150

Sundays

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

Mondays

• **Bonaire Goat 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 email 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.

•**Chess Club** meets at to play starting at 6 pm in Tera Cora Ranch.

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. Open Thursdays through Sundays. Call for reservations 717-3183 or 795-2021 Free but donations appreciated. **Kaya Melon #4, behind Rose Inn in Rincon.**

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 Crusita 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 Dai-sycoffie@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. 717-8332 for more info or ride bonaireibc@gmail.com.

Catholic: San Bernardus in Kralendijk – Services, Sunday at 8am and 7pm in Papiamentu.

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

Prayer Walk at Rooi Lamoenchi every first Sunday of the Month (or on request) for all followers of Christ. Hours: 4.30 pm till 7.30 pm. Contact

CLOSE-IN EVENTS

Saturday, July 23

—**Bird Watching with Stinapa,** details on page 3

—**Brandaris Sunset Hike with Stinapa.** \$10. Call 717-8444 to reserve

Tuesday, July 19—

Yogarriba at Earthship: Enjoy the full moon: Yoga, Tai chi, live music, African drums, veggies, wines, special guest Vivek from India. \$35. Reservations: 701-2302

Tuesday, July 26—

Lecture at CIEE, "Parrot Fish Protect our Reefs." Free. 7-8pm at CIEE, Gobernador N. Debrot 26

July 29-31—ProKids Windsurfing Championship at Sorobon

Saturday, July 30— Cultural Market at Mangazina di Rei, traditional music, dances, local produce, crafts, Creole kitchen, 8am-1pm. On the Rincon Road at the eastern entrance to Rincon.

Sunday, July 31—Taste of Bonaire, Wilhelmina Park 6:30 pm

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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

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.

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RESTAURANTS

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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.



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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.

SUMMER FAIR AT THE BONAIRE ANIMAL SHELTER



Young volunteer Basi taking adoptable Babette for her walk and swim during the summer fair

The Animal Shelter Bonaire appreciates the generosity of everyone who helped and made donations to the Shelter that made our Summer Fair a success last weekend. We received an overwhelming positive response. A special thank you to all our hardworking and positive volunteers who give selflessly to help us operate the Animal Shelter Bonaire, not only take care of all the animals but also work the events, and help with our fundraisers.

Thank you also to those who remain nameless, who donate to the Shelter. We appreciate each and every one of you. Every donation in any form is greatly appreciated and helps us help the animals at the Shelter. All the items that are donated to sell in our thrift shop and market, such as

furniture, clothing, books and much more are always welcome. Everybody is happy to shop for affordable prices, and the money spent goes back to help generate extra revenue for our animal protection programs and to provide food and medical care for the animals at the Animal Shelter Bonaire.

We are truly thankful!

We are often asked by island visitors, residents and Bonaire Animal Shelter supporters "Can I do anything to help?" Sure you can help and in any number of ways! Would you like to donate items to sell in our thrift shop or market or volunteer in any other way...

Just pass by The Animal Shelter Bonaire on Kaminda Lagun 26a for information, e-mail to animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com, or call 7174989/ 7014989. ■

Story & photo by Nathalie Peterson

Pet Of The Week

TENDER TINA

This beautiful young lady is a standout among the Shelter residents in terms of her personality and looks... However, if you want to get up close and personal with Tina, you'll have to seek her out. Visitors to the Shelter cat compound are always greeted by a "herd" of happy cats anxious for some attention and affection, but you won't find Tina among them. She prefers to remain sprawled on one of her "perches," patiently waiting for someone to notice her.



Tina

When you do notice Tina, she is extremely grateful and delights in the attention of strokes, belly rubs and ear scratches. Her facial tabby markings and dainty white mittens and "jabot" make her a standout in the "looks" department. Even more distinctive is how her tabby striped shoulders suddenly turn into beautiful round swirls of chocolate and beige on her sides and haunches.

If you are looking for a calm, affectionate adult cat who will fit right in to your daily routine with no fuss or feathers, then Tina is the companion for you. She is happy to spend the day napping on a "perch" or in a sunspot, letting you decide when you'd like her to be nearby. Tina is about three years old, sterilized, vaccinated and in perfect health. The only thing she is missing is a forever home to grace with her tender and loving personality.

You can visit Tina and all the other Shelter residents eager for a loving home at the Animal Shelter Bonaire, Kaminda Lagun 26. Operating hours are Tuesday through Friday, 9 am - 12noon and 3 - 5 pm, Saturdays 8am - 3 pm non-stop, 717-4989. ■ Story by Jane Madden Disko, photo by Nathalie Peterson



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THE STARS HAVE IT

July 2016

ARIES (Mar. 21- April 20) Look into family outings or projects. Job changes are in order. Go for interviews or send out resumes. Make decisions about your professional objectives. Don't trust co-workers with important or personal information. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Sunday.

TAURUS (Apr. 21- May 21) You will need to finalize important deals this month. You can make headway if you share your intentions with someone you care about. You're on the right track and you can make money if you are willing to go out on a limb. Try to get away with your mate. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Monday.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21) Don't let others try to create unwarranted guilt if you can't meet their demands. You will need to work diligently in order to accomplish even the smallest amount. You can have an enjoyable time if you socialize with friends. You are able to make changes in your home that will be favorable to all involved. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Tuesday.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) Try to avoid any drastic/ decisions concerning personal legal matters. Don't be afraid to talk to close friends or relatives about pressing personal problems. Channel your energy wisely and you can score points with the boss. Unexpected bills will be impossible for you to pay. Your luckiest events will occur on Wednesday.

LEO (July 23-Aug 22) Don't push your mate if you want to keep this union going. Look into real estate. Put some energy into getting back into shape. Listen to reason. You will have good ideas for home improvement projects. Your luckiest events will occur on a Tuesday.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) Look for something entertaining to do. You've got that competitive edge. Find a quiet spot where you can work diligently and stay out of the way. Be discreet with private information. Pleasure trips will promote romance. Your diplomacy will be of utmost importance this month. Your luckiest events will occur on a Monday.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) You will gain knowledge through your adventure. You can make new friends and get involved in new hobbies successfully. Creative endeavors will give you somewhat of an outlet. Avoid boredom by being creative in your endeavors. Your luckiest events will occur on a Wednesday.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) You're in the mood to spend time with your lover. You can meet potential new mates, but make sure that they aren't already committed to someone else. Your ideas will be well received. Do not expect too much from others. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Wednesday.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) Don't play on your partner's emotions. Don't push your mate away. Be cautious who you deal with financially. Your interests could lead you down avenues you never realized existed. Your luckiest events will occur on a Saturday.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) Social activities that involve the whole family will be enjoyable. You should be setting up interviews or sending out your resume this month. Difficulties will result if you have to deal with controversial groups this month. You need to mingle with people who can spark enthusiasm and confidence in you. Your luckiest events will occur on a Sunday.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) Your compassion will be appreciated more than you can imagine. Look into ways to make your home more comfortable. Be sure to question any detail that you feel could leave you in a precarious position at a later date. Real estate investments will pay off. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Monday.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) Get involved in groups and organizations that are of a distinguished nature. You can get ahead if you work diligently behind the scenes. You will be up and down emotionally. You can pick up additional responsibility that will lead to higher wages and a better position. Your luckiest events will occur on a Saturday. ■

Michael Thiessen



BONAIRE SKY PARK*

*to find it... just look up

It's Zubeneschamali And Zubenelgenubi Time!

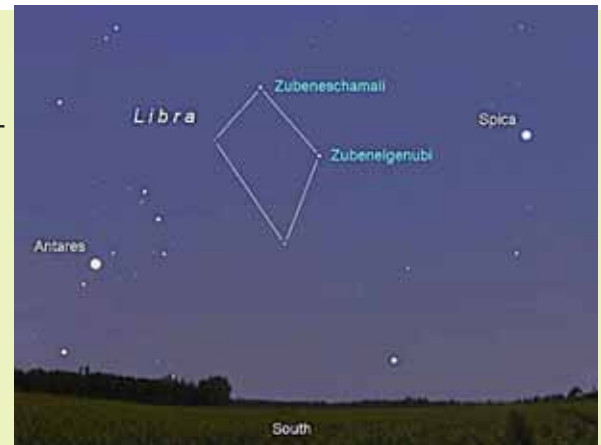
“Zubenesha-what?! Zubenelge-who?!” Once again, my friends it's **Zubeneschamali** and **Zubenelgenubi** time! So loosen up your tongue...and fasten your cosmic seat belts... because this year they're joined by two bright planets!

On any night during the next couple of weeks just after it gets dark out look south you will see the giant fish-hook shaped constellation of **Scorpius the scorpion**, followed by the **teapot shaped portion of Sagittarius**. But up and to the right of the fish-hook of Scorpius you'll see two semi-bright stars with some of the strangest sounding names in the heavens, **Zubeneschamali** and **Zubenelgenubi**.

In Arabic, **Zubeneschamali** means “the northern claw,” while **Zubenelgenubi** means “the southern claw.” And about three thousand years ago they were the claws of the scorpion. But then Julius Caesar and his cronies came along and lopped them off and renamed them “**Libra the Scales**” for the symbol of Roman justice. Which I'm sure led many an ancient star gazer to mutter, ...“there oughta be a law!”

At any rate, these two stars are wonderful and although they appear visually to be the same brightness from **Earth**, actually they are very, very different. For instance, **Zubenelgenubi** is about 65 light years away from our planet **Earth** and shines 25 times brighter than our own **Sun**, and it is approaching us at the incredible speed of six miles per second. And upon closer examination we also find that **Zubenelgenubi** is not just one, not even two, but three stars, two of them so close together that they orbit each other once every 20 days.

On the other hand, **Zubeneschamali**, the northern claw is over twice as far away as **Zubenelgenubi**, being 140 light years distant. And although it appears the same brightness as its claw companion, it isn't. For it is six times brighter than **Zubenelgenubi**, which means that it is over 150



times brighter than our **Sun**. And it is speeding toward us four times faster than **Zubenelgenubi** at a rate of 21 miles per second. Furthermore, **Zubeneschamali** is also at the center of a centuries old debate.

Over two thousand years ago it was listed as the brightest of all the stars of the scorpion, even brighter than **Antares**. A few centuries later, however, the great astronomer **Ptolemy** described **Antares** as equal to **Zubeneschamali** in brightness. But today **Antares** appears five times brighter. Has **Zubeneschamali** dimmed over the past two thousand years? Or, conversely, has **Antares** gotten much, much brighter? At any rate, it's always fun to try to pronounce these two tongue-twisters of summer.

Now let's see what the planets are doing this week. Just after sunset this week, and you're going to have a great opportunity to watch the **planet Mars** wander closer and closer to the **ringed planet Saturn** and the stars of **Scorpius the scorpion**.

And if you haven't had a chance to look at **Saturn** recently, this month is a great time to find it because it will be right next to the star **Antares**, the red-hued **Sky Park** rival of **Mars**.

We'll talk more about planetary conjunctions and all sorts of other fun things in August, but in the meantime... get outside and watch the “wanderers” do what they do best. And don't forget to do some **Zubeneschamali-ing** and **Zubenelgenubi-ing** while you're at it. ■

Dean Regas & James Albury

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Kralendijk, Kaya Gobernador N. Debrot 20

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