

**It's Still
FREE**

BONAIRE *Bonaire Reporter- July 25-August 8, 2016 Year 23, Issue 15*
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

Summer Vacation Time



There's a great new waterfront activity available for all ages that just opened. Ride the colorful tri-waterbikes or the peppy little paddle boats and tour the downtown Bonaire shoreline yourself. When we passed by this past weekend kids from FORSA were riding free and having a ball.

The slipway will also be open on cruise ship days providing yet another environmentally friendly Bonaire activity.

Look for them on the waterfront near Regatta House at the Slipway Machi Dodo, Kaya J.E. Craane 44,

Call 777-2899, email- acquaticadventures@gmail.com, Facebook: AquaticAdventures Bonaire.

Open Sat & Sun, 10:00-18:00, weekdays by appointment.

The cost is 1/2 hour \$20, 1 hour \$40

Between January 1, 2015, and January 1, 2016, the Bonaire population increased by about 500 people, **up to 19,408, a 25% increase since 2010.** The BES Islands had 24,548 inhabitants at the end of 2015, slightly fewer than one year ago when 24,593 people were living on the islands. The population diminished primarily because invalid entries were removed from the Civil Registry of St. Eustatius. The populations of Bonaire and Saba increased, according to Central Bureau for Statistics (CBS).

► A couple of weeks ago an unofficial government source published a list of the population of Bonaire listing their origin. It showed the **European Dutch population as almost double the native-born population** of Bonaire. It was met with skepticism and surprise.

Last Thursday the Central Bureau of Statistics CBS published its latest official population figure which contradicted the earlier report. **The Official CBS release said: "Nearly 60% of the people on Bonaire were born in the former Netherlands Antilles and Aruba; 14% of these were born in the European Netherlands; 80% of the people on Bonaire have Dutch nationality."**

► **The "Next Step" in James Finies' NKBB movement to gain more autonomy for Bonaire is to get on the UN's list of non-self-governing territories.**

He said, "It is easier than we think to get on this UN Watch-Dog List, something the Nederland's Government and the Special Interest/Elite Group from Curacao, Aruba and Bonaire kept a secret for decades."

To accomplish its goals NKBB will continue its fundraising campaign: "Get On the UN List" (of Non- Self- Governmental-Territories) so that they can employ a specialist to help them do that. NKBB believes that is the only way they can get Holland to respect the 18th December, 2015, referendum and stop all human rights violations from the Nederland's including populating Bonaire with European Dutch with an open immigration policy to have more Europeans than Bonaireans, which is the beginning of the eradication of the Bonairean people," they say.

If you wish to support his movement contributions can be made to: RBC Bank- Bonaire. Account name: Serrio James Finies A/C # 840000900001711 Ref: SOS UN-NKBB.

► In the first week of July the tax office (Belastingdienst Caribisch Nederland -B/CN) sent the new **vastgoedbelasting (VGB*) pre-assessments** (value decrees) for Bonaire. The VGBs will be sent by B/CN in phases. First the owners of second homes will get the assessments, followed by the owners of undeveloped land. Later this year owners of business premises will receive theirs.

*VGB is a tax which is levied on second homes, business premises and undeveloped land. When an owner occupies a house himself, no VGB is due. Once every five years, the value of land, second homes and business premises are reassessed as new values are determined by the B/CN. The effective date is January 1st, 2016. The decree is not a formal tax assessment, so it does not have to be paid until January 2017 when the tax assessment bills will be sent.

More information about *vastgoedbelasting* can be found on: <http://www.belastingdienst-cn.nl/bcn/nl/privel/ vanaf-belastingjaar-2011/vastgoedbelasting>

► **The inflation rate on Bonaire fell to an annualized 0.4%.** In the preceding quarter, consumer prices for goods and services had on average been 0.5% up on a year-on-year basis. Prices of clothes, women's shoes and electricity pushed inflation down. Electricity prices dropped substantially in the second quarter and were 5.7% below the level of one year previously. Higher prices for food products had an upward effect on inflation.

► **Liset Marwijk**, Sea Turtle Conservation's Communication and Fund Raising Coordinator who implemented among other things STCB bimonthly newsletter, the new website, Adopt-A-Nest program and its first crowd-funding campaign, is returning to Europe. We shall miss her!



Kaj Schut has been named STCB's new Communication and Fund Raising Officer. Kaj Schut is Dutch and has been living on Bonaire since August 2015. She holds a Master's degree in Science of Environment and Development Studies.



► **Bonaire's Sea Turtle Conservation group (STCB) wants to discourage the practice of feeding our sea turtles.** They fear that feeding sea turtles will encourage them to become too comfortable around



humans. Turtles will eventually begin to associate humans with food and will approach all the divers and snorkelers they come in contact with. And though you would like to score that amazing photo or that unique selfie, sea turtles will also start approaching fishermen and boats, **resulting in boat strike injuries or the swallowing of fishing bait.** This basically means that your selfie is very selfish as you are not contributing to the protection of critically endangered sea turtles; you are actually supporting their decline.

Another important note is that **sea turtles normally do not eat Doritos**, bread or other human food. The food you feed may not be biologically appropriate and could actually pose a serious health risk to the sea turtle. Feeding sea turtles encourages them to become dependent on humans for food. It therefore weakens the natural hunting and scavenging drive of the animal, making them less inclined to search for food themselves. This will also make them more susceptible to predators, as it dulls their natural survival instinct.

This is true for all animals, but given that we can't place "do not feed sea turtles" signs in the ocean, we kindly ask you to respect Bonaire's endangered sea turtles and other marine life by not feeding them.

If you do encounter anyone feeding marine life we strongly encourage you to **report this disrespectful behavior to STINAPA (717- 8444) or the STCB Hotline (780- 0433).**

► **The director of the SGB, Bonaire's High School, Frans van Efferink, says he is satisfied with the 73% final exam pass rate of his students, which is significantly higher than last year.** However, he emphasizes that "pass rates are not everything."

"In the Netherlands a pass rate between 90% to 100% is not unusual." He considers that the pass-rate measurement is not as

(Continued on page 3)

This Week's Stories

Summer Vacation Time	1
20 Years Ago (Stories)	6
Bonaire Teams-Karate, Golf, Cuisine, Windsurfing	7
Elders Perform	9
High School Improves	9
Images of Maritime Past	10
Gratis Drinkwater (Blue Bottle)	11
Spread the Love	11
US Consulate Announcement	11
Parrot Nest Monitoring	12
Bonaire Ramble -Washikemba	13
Mangazina di Rei Cultural Market	13
Culture? Nature?	15
100+ Clean the Reef	15

Departments

Flotsam & Jetsam	2
On the Island Since...Desiree	
Bouwmeester and Peter van Voorn	4
Picture Yourself- Galápagos Islands Ecuador	5
Wonders of Nature -The Sofa	6
A Garden-Just Do It -Groundcovers	8
Word On the Street	8
Did You Know - Parrotfish	12
Classifieds, Masthead	14
Tide Table, Sunrise & Sunset Times, Moon Phase	14
What's Happening + Cruise Ship	16
Shopping & Dining Guide	17
Pets of the Week (Cato and Goofy)	18
Animal Shelter News- new Donor	18
Bonaire Sky Park- Sky Shapes	19
The Stars Have It (Astrology)	19

How to contact us

Find Bonaire Reporter on Facebook. Press "Like"

The Publisher: George DeSalvo
George@bonairenews.com
Phone 786-6125

The Editor: Laura DeSalvo
Laura@bonairenews.com
Phone 786-6518
Box 407, Bonaire,
Dutch Caribbean

Story tip, question or idea:

info@bonairenews.com

Phone 786-6125

Available on-line at:

www.bonairereporter.com

Printed Every Fortnight,

On-line every day, 24/7

Next edition printing on

Sunday, August 7, 2016

Story and Ad deadline:

Friday, August 5, 2016



Visit our modern salon. Call for an appointment or just walk in.

We do hair, make up, removal of facial hair, coloring of eyebrows and eyelashes plus eyelash extensions.

See you at HAIR AFFAIR

Now open Tuesday and Friday between 12 and 14 (2 pm)

Kaya Grandi 67 In the Old Dutch Building, Across from Scooters

Open : Tues-Fri: 9-6
Sat: 9-2 - Lots of Free Parking

Going on Holiday? Garden Survival Checklist:

- Install Timer & change battery.
- Check the septic pump & drippers.
- Give your plants fertiliser.
- Pay your gardener!

Green Label Kaya Industria 28
Tel: 7178310, info@greenlabelbonaire.nl
www.greenlabelbonaire.nl

Open Monday to Friday
07:30-12:00 & 14:00-17:30
Saturday 08:00-13:00

Flotsam and Jetsam (Continued from page 2) meaningful for our island. He agrees with his predecessor, Lydia Emerencia, that there is too much emphasis on that exam.

He would like to see a change in thinking about local education. "It seems here more value is attached to a HAVO or VWO (academic) diploma than a VMBO (vocational) diploma. That means that sometimes there is a lot of pressure to get a child to achieve as "high" as possible level of education. But that is not correct. The point is: what kind of education is best for a student?" See story on pg.9.

► **People on Curaçao, St. Maarten, Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba are having problems using their credit cards online** from certain countries including the US. The reason for this is that they don't comprehend the constitutional changes that made some Netherlands Antilles islands countries and others public entities of Holland after October 10, 2010.

The Dutch Ministry for Housing and the Central Government, in a letter to the Dutch Parliament, explained that many international e-commerce companies have not updated their list of countries. The ministry said that they will work to correct that.

► **InselAir has been suffering severe flight delays but is working on solving the problems**, said the Curaçao carrier's spokesman **Edward Heerenveen**. The reasons range from planes with technical issues to a lack of pilots due to new regulations of the Civil Aviation Authority.

► **Be advised that Insel Air's published policy for refunds are only applicable to US residents or US cardhold-**

ers. For tickets purchased from and to the US, InselAir will make refunds, but you **must request the refund within seven days.** The policy also says that in case of a delay, InselAir will inform its passengers within 30 minutes of becoming aware of a change in the status of a flight, and provide informational updates every 30 minutes. When there is a delay of more than 2 hours after scheduled departure time, InselAir will provide its passengers with food and beverage compensation of the amount that is in accordance to the (current) station's regulations. In case of a flight cancellation, InselAir will provide its passengers safe accommodation overnight and will try to seat the passengers on the next available flight. **What are your experiences with Insel Air?**



Fire Chief Jan Janga spoke

► The new Bonaire fire station, featured on the cover of the last edition of *The Bonaire Reporter* had a public open house that was preceded by a religious blessing and a "baptism" by fire-trucks on Friday, July 8. On hand were dignitaries, BES Island firemen, family, friends and the press. **The BES emergency services corps currently has some 65 members; 45 are in Bonaire.** This new

"Brandweer" station is a prime example of the upgrade of personnel skills and municipal facilities made possible by integration with The Netherlands in 2010.



Digi-grads

► The world's number one IT user qualification company is ECDL which sets the benchmark for digital literacy in educational systems around the globe. **It's certified numerous students in grades seven and eight of the schools Rayo di Solo, Strea Briante, San Bernardo, Kristu Bon Wardador, San Luis Beltran, and Bredeschool Papa Cornes.** Two years ago they started the ECDL Digikids program. All eight groups successfully completed this program and recently received their internationally recognized certificate.

► **Another Bonaire elementary school is being rebuilt under an agreement with the Dutch Education Ministry.** Work on *Kolegio Rayo di Solo* is now underway. The school complex consists of eight buildings which need to be very thoroughly overhauled: the roofs will be renewed, as well as the ceilings and floors. There will be new windows and doors, sanitary facilities and the electrical system will be upgraded. And there will be a new

air conditioning system with fresh air and CO₂ monitors.

During the renovation, students and teaching staff are being housed in the old school buildings of the *Kolegio Papa Cornes* school.

The renovation design is from local architects **Streefkerk Architects & Consultants** and the implementation is in the hands of contractor **Constructora Tecnica Silvoua.**

► **Fuel prices** will edge up on August 1. New prices will be:
Gasoline 102.50 USDct per liter.
Kerosene 48.70 USDct per liter.
Diesel 53.30 USDct per liter.
LPG 100LBS \$30.26 per cylinder.
LPG 20LBS \$7.68 per cylinder

► **The Tourism Corporation Bonaire has announced that the third 2016 Taste of Bonaire will be at Coco Beach on Saturday, July 30, from 6 to 10:30 pm with the theme Summer Edition.** The program consists of music, shows and of course selling food, arts and crafts. Music Group ESO and the Steel Silver Bullet Band will entertain the crowd and there will be fitness and Zumba presentations. For more details contact TCB at 717-8322.

► **Ferry service between Aruba, Bonaire and Curaçao (ABC islands) is a step closer**, according to the Aruban Member of Parliament Andin Bikker. He said the feasibility study is now ready. **A single trip by boat from island to island will cost around \$10, according to Bik-**

(Continued on page 5)

FOR SALE Bona Bista A16 Modern Villa with Island and Ocean Views



- Lot size : 1857 m2 / 19989 sq. ft. owned land
- Total living area : 172 m2 / 1851 sq. ft.
- 3 bedrooms / 2 bathrooms

- Open floor plan, furnished, ready to move in
- Swimming pool with large sundeck
- Great rental possibilities (short and long term)

Listed for \$ 449.000 US Dollars



Kaya Grandi 24-A Bonaire, Dutch Caribbean Tel. +599-717-7362
info@bonairehomes.com www.bonairehomes.com
http://www.facebook.com/REMAXBonaire

On the Island Since... August 29th, 2007 - Desiree Bouwmeester and Peter van Voorn



Peter and Desiree and their daughters Djuga and Noa.



The staff of Caribe Plumbing; Djuga and Peter

“**A**round 1997 I already had the urge to leave the Netherlands, but somehow it didn’t happen then. When I met Desiree in January 2005 I told her on our first date that I liked her a lot and that I definitely wanted to spend more time with her, but one thing was more important to me than anything else: I wanted to get out of the Netherlands! Luckily she was of the same opinion!

The best thing that could have happened was for us to have ended up in Papua, New Guinea, because my father is from there. Once I went on vacation with my parents to see his parental home; we travelled through the jungle and I was overwhelmed by its nature. When I saw the effect of the illegal deforestation that was taking place, I was very upset and decided I would come back and make myself useful in protecting the environment. Later – together with Desiree – we looked to see if we could go there together, but it turned out that the Indonesian government doesn’t accept immigrants who are replaceable by local people.”

“In November 2005,” *Desiree says*, “we came for a dive vacation to Bonaire. We weren’t seriously looking for a place, but we did like it so much – also because of the language – that we came the next year for three weeks to see if we really wanted to live here. The outcome was ‘Yes,’ but we wanted to save a little money before taking the step... that was the plan. At the time we were already pregnant with our eldest daughter **Noa**. In March 2007 we went to the emigration fair and Peter was offered a job on Bonaire. He went in May to do several interviews and one of the people told him he could start the following week, which was a little too fast! When he came back we started the process of selling the house and a garage we had and also we informed the family about our plans as they weren’t aware of anything yet!

On August 28th we got on the plane and in the early morning of the 29th we arrived with our dog and daughter Noa. Three days later Peter started working as a welder. Our first house was in Nort di Saliña. Noa was 10 months old at the time and she stayed with me while I was running around to get the paperwork done. After I’d arranged daycare for Noa, I started working during the tourist season

for the *Kantika di Amor* and the *Mushi Mushi* boats. When the season ended I found a job with Golden Reef Inn where I worked for 18 months. Then we got pregnant with our second daughter Djuga. We found a bigger house, a bit further on, on Kaya Caribe. It was a great house in a wonderful neighborhood and we had the best neighbors. We were very happy, it was home.”

“We came here because we wanted to live outdoors and not be caught up in so many rules and regulations.”

Peter continues: “After some time I gave up my job as a welder and began to work for a construction company which offered me the opportunity to set up my own plumbing company within their company – I am a certified plumber – but I saw some complications on the horizon and didn’t do it. Then I started working for a handyman business which offered me the same chance and again I decided not to. However, I stayed for four years with them, then I moved to Plaza, doing the maintenance. They hired me knowing that I was thinking of setting up my own company and they also gave me the possibility to do so. I started working four days with them while I worked one day for myself, but my own business was so successful that I ended up working half days for Plaza and half days for myself. Finally, in June, 2015, I began working full-time for my own company ‘Caribe Plumbing.’ I can’t complain; it’s doing great and the best thing is that besides putting the company in **Sylvia de Leon’s** ‘Bonaire Best,’ I got all my clients by word of mouth. I’m busy! Really busy! I try not to do too much on weekends, and Sundays the phone is off, but there is always the possibility of an emergency. Then you cannot let your clients down. But I love to do things with the kids and I’ve always said that when I’m done with work and I come home, that’s when my vacation starts and I really want to keep that feeling.”

“After our second daughter, **Djuga**, was born,” *Desiree says*, “I went to work for

FKPD. In Holland I’d already worked with mentally disabled people and I found out that there are many differences between the two places. Holland has way more facilities and here we don’t have them, because it’s too small a scale, but on the other hand – what struck me as very beautiful – and where Holland can learn a lot from Bonaire – is that these people are so much more part of society than they are

in Holland.

At FKPD I learned Papiamentu, at least the basics. And after about three years I was ready for a new challenge. I have a Bachelor’s Degree in Social Work and in Holland I’d also been working at an after school program (NSO) and with problem youth. Then I got a temporary job as an ambulatory care worker at Youth Care, filling in for someone who was on maternity leave. I did that for five months, then I worked for a few months as coordinator/supervisor for TCB during the cruise ship season. Then I started working at Kas Karko, a home for children who cannot/or temporarily cannot stay at home.

Due to too much stress and an overfull schedule I had a burn-out. It was partly my own fault because I was working nightshifts at Kas Karko and doing administration for half days at probation services. The car had broken down and I had to take the kids back and forth to school and after school care four times a day by bicycle during rush hour in Kaya Korona! It was just too much! I stayed home for six months, then I returned to Kas Karko to find out that it wasn’t the right job for me, so I quit. I had several job interviews but wasn’t hired because in my field an Antillean person with the same qualifications will be given priority which is totally understandable. So I came up with a new idea to start my own little company, giving homework assistance. That was a month ago and now I’m in the process of application.

When the owner we’d been renting from came back to live in the house in Nort di Saliña, we moved to Nikiboko. It’s been great but we need more space and since we’ve gotten an offer to live on someone’s kunuku – for a symbolic fee – we’ve accepted the new challenge and are very much looking forward to moving there. It will be off the grid and we’re ready for it! We will have much more space and pay way less rent. We will start growing our own vegetables with hydroponics. We’ll live in three containers; two we already have and we’re looking for a third one. A lot has to be done, but we’ll manage. My husband is very handy and I’m not afraid to start something new and work hard.

We came here to stay and we didn’t come here for the money, because if I want to make money I can do better in Holland. We came here because we wanted to live outdoors and not be caught up in so many rules and regulations. In the meantime Bonaire has changed too. We have to see where it’s going, but so far when it comes to education and I compare Noa being in third grade at Papa Cornes elementary school and now Djuga – it’s a great improvement! Also you can buy way more stuff on the island, not necessarily better or cheaper, but there is much more choice, also in prices now with Bondigro. Then, more second hand (clothing) stores popped up which is so much more affordable! But... we could use better telecommunication services and another utility and gas supplier. However, you never know, maybe some day!

There is always something to wish for. It’s not perfect anywhere. I stopped following the news; when you look at the world it’s all very depressing and I don’t want to pollute my life with it. I’m just doing my best to respect others as each and every person is unique and no one is better or worse. And if you’re doing the right thing for yourself and others – if everybody would do so - this world would be much better off.” ■

Story & photos by Greta Kooistra



Picture Yourself With The Reporter at The Galápagos Islands



Karen Gregorski and Judi Lebzelter have been coming to Bonaire for over 20 years and this is the first time they have sent us a picture. This was taken last month in the Galápagos Islands at the Charles Darwin Research Center on Santa Cruz Island. They have a timeshare at the Divi Flamingo and stay there for weeks three and four in January. They say, "We love getting away from the cold and snow in New York City. We look forward to the wonderful diving and snorkeling in Bonaire every year. And we love *The Bonaire Reporter!*" ■

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

We need more photos for "Picture Yourself." Send in today!

Flotsam and Jetsam (Continued from page 3)
ker. Adding a car should cost about \$25.

►Charles M. Baltayan Jewelers, located at the former Marlis Canvas house on Kaya Gob. Debrot, was held up last week and the owner injured. On Wednesday, July 20th, around 16:30 at Flamingo Airport, a 21 year old man with the initials S.J.M. was arrested as a suspect in the crime. Following the arrest, a search warrant was executed for the residence of the suspect. During the search of the home in Playa Abou several drugs were found that were apparently prepared for distribution. Also in the home were two women aged 30 and 19 years, with the initials T.A.R and A.A.S.H. and a man 27 years-old with the initials S.K.R. Because of the drugs they were arrested. Later in the day another man, 30 years-old with the initials A.B.D., was detained in connection with the drugs found.

►Marcel Brekelmans was recently named the new General Manager of the Van der Valk-owned Plaza Beach Resort Bonaire, taking over from David Rietveld. The two will work together in the coming months to ensure a smooth transfer. Significant changes are coming to the resort. In addition to moving the reception from the front to the beach side, the resort will add a new restaurant and bar. Brekelmans is no stranger to the hospitality industry. He has years of hotel experience that include



Africa and the Plaza Hotel Curacao.

►Divi Resorts announced that Melissa Hilgers has been selected as the new General Manager of Divi Flamingo Beach Resort & Casino on Bonaire.

A graduate of the University of Tennessee, Melissa has worked in Hotel Management for the past 15 years, in New York, Los Angeles, Santa Barbara and finally Bonaire. Previously the General Manager of a hotel in Santa Barbara, California, Melissa has worked with Divi since 2011 and is looking forward to this new challenge.

►Happy 25th Anniversary, Tourism



Corporation Bonaire. We are all looking forward to the 25th Anniversary Celebration to be held in September 2016. On Sunday July 17th, the TCB commemorated its founding 25 years ago at a dinner at Breeze n Bites Restaurant at Den Laman Condominiums. Its current direc-

(Continued on page 12)

ROCARGO
Logistics Services, B.V.

Kaya Industria #12, PO Box 20, Kralendijk, Bonaire, C.N.
Phones (599) 717 8922 / (599) 717 8033
WEB- www.Rocargo.com Email: info@rocargo.com
Office Hours: 07:30-12:00 13:30-17:00



Offering solid, reliable and efficient service in Aruba, Curacao and Bonaire since 1982.
-Shipping Agents, Cruise and Yacht Agents.
- Cargo Handling: incoming and outgoing moving by air or by sea.
- International Freight Forwarders: regular service from U.S.A., Europe, Puerto Rico, Venezuela and Curacao.- All types of Cargo and Projects. Movements handled.- Customs Clearance.- Stevedoring.- Inland Transportation- Air Courier Services-- Bonded Warehouse.
- Storage Warehouse Rental.

From the USA



Amcar Freight, Inc.

The ONLY company offering direct weekly consolidation services from Miami, USA to Bonaire

www.amcarfreight.com

Amcar Freight
12600 NW 25 Street
Suite 107
Miami, FL 33182

From Europe



International Freight (Car) BV

The ONLY company offering direct weekly consolidation services from Europe/Holland to Bonaire

www.ifc-consolidators.nl

Jupiterweg 1A (Ecopark)
4761 RW Moerdijk, Holland
Tel 31-(0) 168-40-94 94

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 SOFA

As I walk along, I hear my dog Boelie chat with a donkey, sitting very cozily together on a loveseat at the side of the road. "How are you doing?" my dog asks the donkey. "Did any handsome new males come in lately?" "Well, nice men are rare...., a few loud stallions have just been removed. They did not fit into our group. We like to keep things up over here and those macho types were just too tacky." "If you need help to keep them away you can always call on me. I know how to handle them, those brats," says Boelie. "Fine, if it's necessary I know where to find you. I always have a good laugh when you are running after us barking. I know you don't mean it seriously. The youngsters are scared and run back and forth, afraid you'll bite them in the legs." "Yeah, I like that, then I let them have a nice trot. They get some exercise. I hate it, though, when they start trying to bite and kick me. Recently a hind leg just barely missed my skull. A year ago in another place I lost my front teeth by such an aggressive stallion. I still feel the fear. Could you persuade the donkeys in your group not to use any violence against me? For me it is only a funny game chasing you donkeys." The donkey replies, saying, "At the next meeting I will bring it up. It will probably work out." Then the pair watches me getting closer. They quickly get up and go their separate ways, as if they do not know each other.

As I look at the inviting settee, suitable for humans as well as animals I wonder if anyone has put this sofa in this place as a special chill-out for donkeys and dogs. Or is there another story behind it?

The story of the waterbed of Anita and Sven suddenly comes back to me. Anita, mother of Sven, wanted to get him out of bed, and thereby used so much water that the mattress ended up unusable. It seemed like a happy ending: Sven slept on the small couch and without the inviting mattress he was not tempted to play truant from school. Now that I see this sofa I doubt this favorable outcome. I see that the right arm of the sofa is pushed out. Would it be caused by Sven's feet? I'm sure! After two weeks on the cramped sofa with only a few hours of sleep and bored to death at school, Sven thought it was enough. One evening he decides to try to see whether he can stretch the armrest of the couch so he can stretch out. With the necessary strength he succeeds and he can finally lie down again. It works so well that he picks up his old life and the next day does not come off his sofa-bed. Meanwhile Anita knows that half measures do not help Sven. A day later, she violently attacks the sofa. Sven stands in his underpants next to it. Anita forces him to help her lift the sofa onto the pickup. Afraid of the eruption of madness from his mother, he lets her drive away without comment and realizes that his lazy days are over again. Anita goes to the place where she left the waterbed and puts the sofa on the side of the road. Now there is no more furniture in her house on which you can stretch out except for her own bed. She will keep her bedroom locked. How and where will Sven sleep during the nights to come? Maybe in a doghouse or on a rug? Wait and see, maybe we'll discover something next week along the side of the road.

The moral of this story: stay consistent in your approach to adolescents, even if it costs you your home furnishings. ■ 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*, *The Bonaire Reporter's* earlier name:

March-New taxes coming: 50% increase in room tax will hit next month. Being considered by Island Council are an increase in the airport departure and new taxes on tourists arriving by boats. 6% sales tax hits everyone.

-International Fishing Tournament will mark **Bonaire's first Tag and Release tournament** – only required for billfish under 200 lbs.

-Bonaire Shipping's **Steve Gustowski's** aim of two cruise ships in Bonaire a week was exceeded.

- **The Bonaire Windsurfing Place set to open next month** – a partnership of **Patun Sarogosa, Elvis "Piskichi" Martinus** and Roger's Windsurfing of Aruba.

-**Tourism on Bonaire: five years ago – 20,000 tourists; Last year (1995) there were about 60,000**

-SELIBON hires a **second environmental policeman.**

April

-**Late season cold front causes swells, mild wind reversals and heavy rain, causing beach erosion, smashed private piers** in Belnem area and damaged corals on the west side of Bonaire and Klein Bonaire.



John Hilgers, the owner of the classic fishing boat, *Eagle*, **donated the boat for restoration to the Bonaire Maritime Museum.** However, the Foundation never could get traction and the boat deteriorated on the waterfront until carted away.

-Second Annual **Flamingo TV Wave Challenge Windsurfing Contest** with entrants from ABC islands.

-Bonaire's **new and only movie theatre opens** and will show first run movies.

-**Internet on Bonaire very expensive because voice line toll charges apply: \$24 per hour!** *Port Call* spearheads an effort to reduce toll charges to \$1/hr or less. They need an estimate of use to convince Telbo.

July

-Hawksbill turtle lays eggs on **Harbour Village Resort beach!**

-**MCB bank introduces free touch-tone baking** and bill paying by phone (Telebanking).

-**For the first time relatively major surgery can be performed on Bonaire.**-New doctors, resident surgeon **Dr. Bender** and visiting surgeon from Curacao, **Dr. van der Veen**, and **Dr. Trieste**, resident anesthetist, begin operations at San Francisco Hospital.

August

-**Tropical Storm Cesar brushes Bonaire** but tight teamwork among the waterfront community prevented any serious damage.

September

-**Economist Theo Tijssen, one of the original directors of BOPEC and an executive with Bonaire Trading, will begin working for the Island Government as a consultant.**



Theo Tijssen

Mr. Tijssen favors **economic separation of Bonaire from Curacao and operating Bonaire on a US dollar standard.** (He passed away in Maine in 2013)

-**Buddy Dive opens the island's first drive-through dive tank fill station.**

-**Telephone "callback" services becoming popular** in the ABC islands. ■ *G./L.D.*

Next edition: The Parker Project Scandal

tandprothetische praktijk
BONAIRE
tandprothetische praktijk

DIRECT TO PUBLIC:	OPENING HOURS:
Full or Partial Dentures	Monday - Thursday:
In Acrylic or chrome	9 am - 12 pm
Fast Denture Repairs	2 pm - 4 pm
or While You Wait	Friday:
Relines & Soft Liners	9 am - 12 pm
Same Day Service	Saturday & Sunday closed

E.M. Rijswijk, Denturist

Call For An Appointment: 717-2248 or cellular 796-3714
Kaya Dr. J.G. Hernandez z/n (Near Botica Korona)

SPECIAL SECURITY SERVICES

Member: American Society for Industrial Security

WANT TO FEEL SAFER? SIGN UP WITH US

- Transport of Money and Valuables
- Private Investigations

- Vehicle patrols
- Burglar Alarms

In Business Over 30 Years

Kaya Nikiboko Nord 37A, PO Box 225 Tel: (599) 717- 8125
 Fax (599) 717- 6125 E-mail sss@bonairelive.com

Bonaire Teams Compete Internationally



The young men serving as role models for Bonairean youngsters returned after a fine performance at the Aruba Hi-Winds Windsurfing Competition. Sports Commissioner **Rolanda Hellburg Makaai** welcomed home the brothers **Raynold and Arnold Wilsoe** following their winning performance.

Bonaire also did well in the main competition. **Gian Martis** was named Prince of the Huts –first place in freestyle and second in the Superkids slalom. **Jeankarl Mayer** took third in Superkids slalom, and Bonaire Olympian **Constantino “Patun” Saragosa** became the Grandmaster Slalom IFCA PanAmerican Champion.



As part of their traditional end-of-year campout (at Rooi Lamoenchi this year) 20 children from Bonaire’s private Aquamarin elementary school, walked over to the Piedra So golf course accompanied by school staff to learn about the game from **Theo van der Veen**, the president of Piedra So and golf enthusiast **Robur de Vries**. The kids learned the basic skills needed to play golf, hit a few drives and sank a few putts. (information supplied by *Justine Verschoor*)



Recently a team of five members of Bonaire’s Karate School under the guidance of Sensei Peter Silberie travelled to Trinidad & Tobago to compete in the 2nd Caribbean Karate Championship. Nine countries participated, including the Dominican Republic, Haiti, Surinam, Curacao, St Lucia, Granada, Trinidad & Tobago, St. Lucia, Haiti and Barbados. The high level event attracted 120 participants. For Bonaire, in their classes: **Jamal Silberie** took second place, **Tirsa Silberie**, **Ashanty Martina** took second place, **Thuersten Winklaar** third and **Everon Vrutaal** also a second place in their respective categories. Sports Commissioner **Rolanda Hellburg Makaai** expressed her pride in the group and Sensei Silberie said he was very pleased with the outcome.



The medal-winning Bonaire Culinary Team presented a thank you dinner featuring the menu they presented at the Taste of the Caribbean competition in Miami earlier this year. The It Rains Fishes restaurant. Provided the venue to thank about 40 sponsors and supporters of the team.

The team manager, Floris van Loo, announced that, with the exception of the silver medalist Junior Chef, Max Martenese who is going to The Netherlands to continue his studies, the same team members will compete and they will start preparation this fall.



Bulevar Gob. N. Debrot 74 (Across from Sand Dollar) Phone 717-7224
bonbida.com



Bonaire's #1 Tour

GUIDED TOUR

Meet Our Goats - See The Milking - Enjoy Our Nature
 Delicious Homemade Tastery Included

Mo|Wed|Fr Start 9.00 | End 10.00 am
 Adults US\$ 15,-
 Children <12yrs. US\$ 7,-

Call for Reservation
 00599 786-6950

OPEN

Discover Our Farm On Your Own - Enjoy Yourself

Mo|Wed|Fr Start 10.00 | End 12.00 am
 Adults US\$ 10,-
 Children <12yrs. US\$ 5,-

DIRECTION

Take Kaya Korona north towards Rincon.
 Follow until you see our sign at left.
 Follow white stones to farm.

Have a Goat Experience!

A Garden? Just Do It

BONAIRE GROUND COVERS

For a while already I've had some ground cover plants in my yard. They grow beautifully and I don't need to give much attention to them. So while walking around in my yard some weeks ago I noticed how nice these plants are decorating the soil, even when tortured by the heat. So I came to the idea to share my experience about these plants with you so you can try something new in your yard (if you haven't already) and find out how nice it can look.

Ground covers are plants with a big network of roots and leaves, creeping over the topsoil and covering the surface. Nothing fills a vacant space and minimizes garden maintenance like herbaceous ground covers.

These plants can transform a dull space into a rich tapestry of leaf shapes, textures and colors. They can spruce up challenging areas under trees, accent transitional locations along paths and foundations and add visual interest to expansive sites. Plus, unlike turf, ground covers can provide a seasonal show of flowers, fruits and colors.

But where do you begin when transforming a blank slate into a lush planting? Well, to start, take time to assess the conditions of your site and prepare the soil before planting. Look at your soil to determine its texture - sandy and dry or red hard clay (*tera cora*) in certain places on Bonaire- or the "klip" limestone rock or the black top soil mixed with the goat droppings and donkey poo.

Second, factor in the growth habits and growth rates of the plants you are considering. This is especially important if you plan to use more than one kind of plant in your garden or if your ground-cover area is adjacent to mixed soil borders, which is easy to do with so many types of rocks and soils on Bonaire.

The aim is a peaceful coexistence among the plants in your garden community. A good ground cover requires minimal maintenance to look its best. There are carpeters (or creepers) and clumpers - type of ground covers - which can go together. Carpeters generally cover an area fairly quickly while clumpers tend to be more polite and slow.

Prepare your site by ridding the area of as many weeds as possible. Then work in a layer of compost, manure, leaf mold or other organic matter. Wait to see if new weeds come up and remove them again. Now you can start planting. How far apart you space your plants will depend on how quickly you want to cover your ground, the type of growth habit each plant has and the plants' size. The closer the plants are placed, the faster they will cover the ground and eliminate follow-up weeding.

After planting, mulch the bed to keep



Fat plant creeping in a rock garden in my yard.



Two different types of ground covers in my garden

down weeds and hold in moisture.

Gardens are living entities that are constantly changing, so don't hesitate to remove or shift plants around until you have achieved an assemblage that is satisfying.

On Bonaire there are a lot of plants which are perfect ground covers. I have some beautiful ones in my yard (see photos). There are different colors, so a plant carpet can have many colors and types. (Look around at friends' gardens too.)

They all grow easily, don't need much water, can stand the drought. With some imagination and rocks and some easily growing plants like sensiviera, aloe, bolcactus, one can create a nice green-colored carpet in the garden. Make some parts of the green carpet higher and lower, make a small alley through the carpet with natural colored stones or white beach stones. Also create a pond in the middle, and look upon your creation with a sense of peace. ■

Story & photos by Angliet-Nature lover



Word on the Street

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

Big news for beer lovers! A recent press release indicates that the **Polar brewery in Venezuela is back in production**. The brewery was able to get a \$35 million loan from Spain and Curacao to purchase the necessary raw materials to restart production. Bonaire should soon have its beloved Polarcita bottles again!

- And more booze and beer tales! Local media reports that **Best Brands, the beverage distributorship opposite Warehouse, was sold** three months ago to a local Chinese entrepreneur. The media sources indicate that the new management will stay with the same products and gradually increase the variety of brands available, particularly in the selection of beers.
- **Dinner In a Box**, the food delivery service started up by two enterprising young local men, continues to grow. Their offerings now include 21 different restaurants with the recent additions of It Rains Fishes, Hillside and Great China. In addition to their scooter delivery fleet, they have added a delivery van and are working on a smart phone app for their services.
- As mentioned in the last *Reporter*, the super successful **At Sea Restaurant** has been sold. A Dutch couple, **Co and Carla Lorist**, plan to continue the successful At Sea concept. Look for the new owners to take over, with the same staff, around September 1. For over a decade the Lourists owned the **Mauritshoeve Restaurant** located in a verdant area, between Bilthoven and Maartensdijk, northeast of Utrecht in The Netherlands. The former At Sea owners will continue to run La Cantina on Kaya Grandi.
- **The Patagonia** restaurant obviously will not take over that site, as rumored in the last *Reporter*, but will soon be moving to a nearby location, the **seaside site** formerly occupied by La Luna Restaurant. In addition, **J&H Clothes** (also owned by the proprietors of Patagonia) will move to the house that sits on that same property.
- **Mezze, the "middle eastern cuisine" restaurant** reported by Bula many moons ago, looks about ready to open their doors. Their location...the former Four Seasons Restaurant...adjacent to the rumored new location of Patagonia.

- Strange but true! Controversial Dutch politician **Geert Wilders spoke at a pro**

Donald Trump rally held in Cleveland during the Republican National Convention. Wilders, known for his anti-Islam policies, endorsed Trump for president. During an interview, the PVV leader said "He will be a real American leader...I wish we had political leaders like this in the Netherlands who defend their own country.... and forget the rest."



- The builders at the **Courtyard Marriott near the airport** are working two shifts to complete the hotel so it can open for the winter season. The hotel's manager is already on island. It's predicted that the addition of a US flagship hotel chain will change the complexion of tourism on the island; for the better of the island's people or for the worse

- **Other building is going on and more scheduled on the cross street near the Marriott**. The area is set to add another "focal point" of tourism to the island. To the existing northern and southern hotel rows we add the airport center.

- **The huge new Bondigro building on Kaya Industria is moving fast**. Word is that in addition to food it will offer large and small appliances and electronics. ■ *Bula Bonchi*





Kaya Grandi 32B, down a bit in the alley in between Best Pearls and Gio's Ice Parlor
Phone: 717-9181

Buena Vista Optics

Experienced Staff

Eye Exams on site

Advanced Equipment

Lens Fabrication

Top Brands:
Ray Ban, Oakley, Lacoste, Chanel and more

Elders Perform

Recently the final presentation was held of the project from *Plataforma Kultural* focusing on keeping traditional dances alive (see *The Reporter* May 16-30 2016). Many visitors found their way to Pasadia Villa Antonia where the dancers showed their moves wearing colorful traditional clothing, guided by teacher Frenk. There was also live music from the day-care's own little orchestra. Nurse Josefine expressed pride in the participants and was thankful for the opportunity. *Plataforma Kultural* will continue with traditional dance classes



from September in Hòfi Kultural in Antriol. For more information: info@plataformakultural.com or (+599) 700-5304. ■ Gerjanne Voortman



The audience



The orchestra

Bobbejan's



BBQ



Certificate of Excellence
2013 WINNER

"Great food, great value!!!"
Neptune, New Jersey USA - Sept. 2013

"Hopi dushi mes."
Kralendijk, Bonaire - Nov. 2012

"Heel erg lekker"
Amsterdam, The Netherlands - July 2013

WEEKENDS ONLY...

Friday	6-10 PM
Saturday	6-10 PM
Sunday	12-2 & 6-10 PM



DE FREEWIELER

Sales and Repair for Road, Mountain and Dutch bikes

Featuring Giant, Bikkel and Golden Lion bikes



Parts and accessories for all brands of bikes and scooters
Beautiful Bike Clothes, shoes

All type of house and car keys duplicated

Kaya Grandi #61
"The blue building"
Call 717-8545

Open: 8:30-12:30, 2:00-5:30
Owner Operated

Web: www.bonairefreewieler.com
Email: freewieler@bonairefreewieler.com

The Bike Professionals

High School Improves



New SGB Director Frans van Efferink addresses the graduates

Education improvement was perhaps the benefit most anticipated from the direct connection with The Netherlands that took place in 2010. After disappointing results in school years 2011-2014, the 2015-2016 semesters showed improvement in the schools but there is still a long way to go before Bonaire schools can reach the European Dutch levels.

Seventeen percent more SGB High School students passed their exams this school year than last. On average, 73% of all tested students successfully passed the Dutch Central Examinations. This meant 160 students out of 219 tested students passed the tests on their first try. While this is a vast improvement, it is still well below the European Dutch norm of 90+%.

Not all high school grads take these central exams. The pupils of the practical training (PRO) and secondary special education (VSO), which also are part of the SGB, and secondary education (VO) and basic learning (LWT) do not participate in the process but, as in the European Netherlands, must meet other standards suited to their training and acquire their own certificate.

The VWO track, pre-university, had the highest improvement with a passing increase of 24%. The HAVO (academic) track showed a 14% increase. The SGB final percentages will be available after August 10 exams for summer school have been held.

Top 2016 graduating students were:

Education Track	Name
VMBO-Basic	Jeremy Margarita, Eric Fischer, Nathania Christiaan
VMBO-Cadre	Luna van Veen, Bastiaan de Koningh
MAVO	Nicole Villanueva, Crincy Balentina, Zuraisca Emerenciana, Jiehua Zou, Sil Romeijn, Maria Picon, Servaas Verhagen, Fabio Hierck, Fritszgerald (Jerry) Lomp
HAVO	Anne van den Broek, Davailly Frans, Noah Oleana
VWO	Yannick Frans, Zaira Groenendal
VSO	Ruhainy Martis, Shellymar Metthew
PrO	Jadienne Anthony, Xarensley Soliano, Rachid Martis, Michellin Domacassé, Emmanuel Goeloe
LWT	Braedley Saragoza, Rgwen Goeloe, Jeffrey Linkers



SGB 2nd students and families at the graduation

GRATIS DRINKWATER!



Bottled drinking water is a blessing and a curse at the same time. While it offers convenience and reasonable assurance of purity, it can be over 100-1,000 times more expensive than tap water, creates litter, disposable problems and takes energy to produce.



But there's a better way. Use your own permanent water bottle.

Fortunately, Bonaire offers the Caribbean's best tasting and purest quality drinking water right from the tap. WEB [Water and Energy Bonaire] produces it

from the surrounding seawater. It's tested weekly for 59 values to ensure its safety, standards that are twice that of commercial bottled water.

There's a campaign beginning to encourage people to use tap water by using a water bottle, the **Bluebottle**, refillable for free at fill stations around the island. Five percent of the proceeds of the sale of the Bluebottle goes to the Bonaire Animal Shelter (see page 18). The lightweight stainless steel bottle keeps the water cool because of its double-walled, vacuum-coated construction.

Soon you will see lots of signs around Bonaire for the bottles and free fills. Buy a bottle, help yourself and the environment. And it makes a great Bonaire souvenir. Go to <https://www.facebook.com/The-Blue-Bottle-134751723597543/> for more details. ■ *G.D./ Press release*

Spread the Love

Wouldn't it be heartwarming if people who do a good job get special recognition? Well, it happens on Bonaire.

The DIBO Foundation (**Diversity Bonaire**) run by **Elmond "Lloyd" Obispo** does just that. Lloyd, founder of Bonaire's gender diversity movement, has taken the lead to have us better appreciate each other. He aims to raise awareness, self esteem, and togetherness of all Bonaireans.

Over the past several months he's recognized numerous people who love their work and it's reflected in the way they do their jobs and affect the people around them.

Most recently he honored **Rolando Marin** of the TCB, and **Shahidra Beoremeo and Mimi Dongen** of Youth and Family for the way they bring love into their work with the "Honor of Human Gratitude" certificate in behalf of the community. We think you deserve a certificate too Lloyd for the positivity and love you bring to you own work. ■



Lloyd with Shahidra Beoremeo



Lloyd with Rolando Marin



Lloyd with Mimi Dongen

CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The Consular Officer of the United States Consulate General Curacao will be in **Bonaire** for American Citizen Services.

Date: September 16, 2016

Time: 9:00 am to 1:00 pm.

Location: Trans World Radio at Kaya Gobernador Debrot #64.

Appointments: Services are by appointment only. To schedule an appointment, email acsuracao@state.gov or call 5999-461-3066 Ext. 2225.

Available Services:

- * U.S. passport applications
- * Consular Report of Birth Abroad (CRBA) applications
- * Notarizing documents
- * Social Security Applications

Necessary Documents: Applicants must bring all necessary documents for the service requested. The list of documents needed for each service is published on our website: Curacao.USConsulate.gov. To avoid delays, please read the instructions carefully.

Fees and Forms:

ACS Services	Form	New fees
Minor passport (under 16 yrs)	DS-11	\$105
Age 16 and 17	DS-11	\$135
Adult passport	DS-11	\$135
Adult passport	DS-82	\$110
Report of birth abroad	DS- 2029	\$100
Passport card adult	DS-82	\$30
Passport card minor	DS-11	\$15
Notary services		\$50
Each additional notary signature		\$50

Payment: Payment must be made by cashier's check. The cashier's check must be in U.S. dollars, negotiable in the U.S., and made out to "U.S. Disbursing Officer." **CASH AND PERSONAL CHECKS CANNOT BE ACCEPTED.**

- * For regular passport renewals, applicants will use the form DS-82.
- * Applicants using passport form DS-11 must appear in person.
- * Passport applicants under 16 years of age must use the DS-11 passport form and must appear in person with both parents.
- * Bring both originals and copies of the parents' passports and the child's birth certificate.
- * If one parent cannot appear in person, a notarized statement of consent of renewal of the minor's passport (DS-3053) from the non-appearing parent is required.

Parrot Nest Monitoring Continues



A hungry Yellow Shouldered Amazon Parrot (YSAP)

The Echo Foundation is continuing with nest monitoring and is surveying nests which are vulnerable to poaching to maintain protection of the YSAPs (Yellow Shouldered Amazon Parrots called the Lora) on the island

Nest monitoring has been an integral part of Echo's operations before it was even a registered organization. It was what Sam Williams and Rowan Martin were doing from dawn until dusk during their PhD studies over 10 years ago. And it is something that Echo will continue to do every year, though our reasons for doing it have changed with time. As we have learned more about the parrots on Bonaire, we have shifted from conducting research to monitoring and protection. Our focus in recent years has been on checking nests that are vulnerable to poaching in order to remove any man-made access to them and to monitor them using remote sensing cameras to detect if any poaching attempts are made.

Echo is pleased to inform you of an upcoming training opportunity that is being coordinated by Echo especially for tour operators and guides in Bonaire. The five-day training is called the Caribbean Birding Trail Guide Training Program: Bird Identification and Environmental Interpretation. This will be the fourth session of the Caribbean Birding Trail (CBT) guide program the first time on Bonaire.

The training sessions will be held the week of September 26 in Kralendijk. We invite your participation in the Guide Training Program so go to the address below to request or download an application.

Globally, the tourism market for wildlife watching and wildlife photography is growing, and bird "tourism" is a significant part of this market. Another growing segment is that of the independent traveler, individuals who prefer to go "off the beaten path" and seek out authentic experiences. The Caribbean Birding Trail seeks to attract these visitors to Bonaire and the Caribbean as a whole. Integral to this is having well trained guides who can help connect these travelers with the cultural and natural resources of the island.

The Caribbean Birding Trail program on Bonaire will be hosted by the Dutch Caribbean Nature Alliance (DCNA) and co-

ordinated by Echo.

Echo is a nonprofit foundation established on Bonaire in July 2010 which is dedicated to safeguarding the future of the Yellow Shouldered Amazon parrot (YSAP). Did you know that the YSAP is only found on Bonaire and in small northern regions and islands of Venezuela? It is locally extinct on the island of Aruba and is not found naturally on Curacao. You can learn more about the YSAP and all the other birds of Bonaire by signing up for this unique and high quality bird guide training program.

The training is valued at \$1,000 per person, but thanks to grant support, we are able to offer it for the low cost of \$200.

Included are:

- A five-day professional training in bird guiding and environmental interpretation, which will include ample time in the field practicing skills.
- Training workbook and materials (e.g. bird identification cards, recorded bird calls, etc.).
- A pair of 8 x 42 waterproof binoculars.
- A field guide to the Birds of Aruba, Bonaire and Curacao.
- Daily lunch and refreshments.
- Field trip transportation.

You will discover:

- What is the Caribbean Birding Trail (CBT) and what can it do for Bonaire tourism?
- How does the CBT relate to both economic development and bird conservation?
- What is environmental interpretation and how does it relate to being a guide?
- How to develop and lead an interpretive tour.
- Effective storytelling; what and how to share with your group participants.
- Bird tourism market.
- Bird identification.
- Bird diversity of Bonaire (species, habitat, life cycle needs).

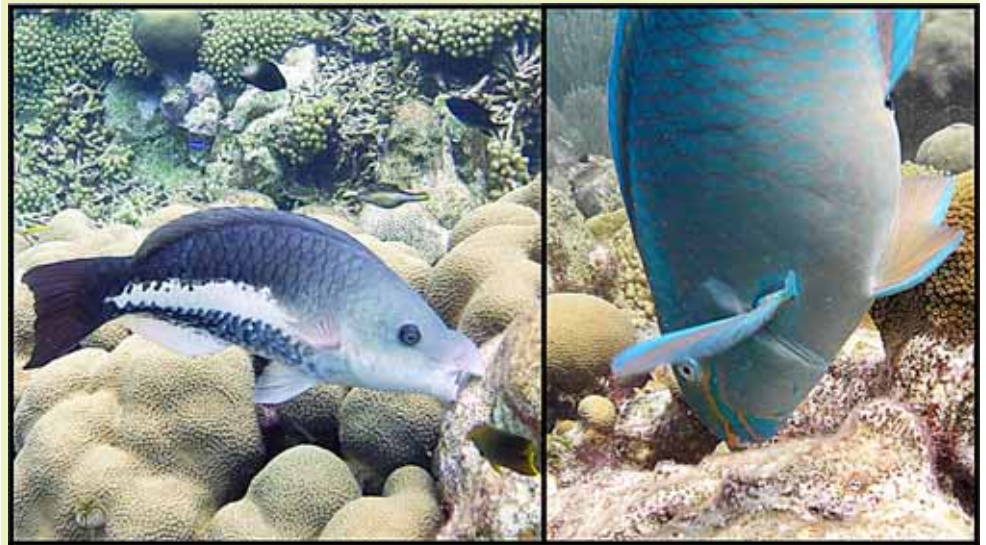
Go to : www.caribbeanbirdingtrail.org or email info@caribbeanbirdingtrail.org ■

Story & photo by Lauren Schmalz

The "swine stories" will be back in the next edition.



DID YOU KNOW?



Female stage

Male stage

Queen Parrotfishes eating reef algae

That there are 99 known parrotfish species worldwide? You may also hear them called *gutu* (papiamentu), *papegaavis* (nederlands) or *pez loro* (español). Parrotfish are named for their beak-like front teeth, which they use to scrape algae off the reef for food. Coral and algae compete for space and light on the reef. In recent decades the amount of reef algae has increased considerably, which harms corals by cutting off their access to light and oxygen, as well as harming helpful bacteria. Parrotfish are key to keeping our reefs healthy because they keep algae levels in check, helping maintain healthy coral populations.

Fishing is one of the main threats to parrotfish, which is why in 2010 the Bonairean government enacted an island-wide ban on intentional harvest of parrotfish. Unfortunately, parrotfish often get caught unintentionally in gill nets and fish traps. Parrotfish populations may be especially vulnerable to fishing effects because of the way they develop. Almost all parrotfish species begin life as females and develop into males later in life. This gender change is triggered when they reach a certain size and is based on the number of male versus

female parrotfish on the reef. Talk about crazy biology. Imagine if humans could do this! Fishing targets large fish, and because the large parrotfish are males, fishing can have a greater impact on parrotfish populations by limiting the amount of male fish that can reproduce and replenish the population.

Learn more at the "Parrotfish Protect Our Reefs" talk by Hannah Rempel on Tuesday, July 26th 7-8 pm at CIEE Research Station Bonaire, Kaya Gob. N. Debrot 26. This talk is part of STINAPA's Connecting People with Nature series.

■ Story & photo by Hannah Rempel

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



Flotsam and Jetsam (Continued from page 5) tor, Maurice Adriaens, the supervisory board directors Herbert Domacasse, Michele Knuf and the employees toasted its success.

► Singer Teodoro Reyes

will visit our island for a live concert. On August 27 the Dominican singing legend will perform at Hillside.

The concert is organized by Megahit FM and Hillside apartments.

Teodora Reyes was born blind in 1954 and has been making music since childhood. He started out as a songwriter, but became famous as he started singing himself. In 1994 he reached his peak with the bachata hit, "Vuelve con tu papa." Most of his songs are about troubles and sorrows in love.

It promises to be a great night for those



seeking traditional bachata sounds and those who are love-sick.



► There's a new coffee shop in the Terramar complex on the waterfront. It serves illy coffee which features coffee roasted in Italy. There are other shops in the Terramar complex featuring crepes, ice cream, real estate, clothing and more.

► Bonaire's Capriccio Restaurant received "The Best Award of Excellence" from Wine Spectator Magazine. ■ G./L.D.

A Bonaire Ramble



The World's Longest Tree is 28m (92ft.) Long

EXPLORING BOKA WASHIKEMBA IN PLANTATION WASHIKEMBA PARK (5 MILES)

"Nature doesn't need people. People need nature. I have been here 22,500 times longer than you. I have fed species greater than you and I have starved species greater than you. Your actions will determine your fate, not mine. I am prepared to evolve. Are you?" (Mother Nature via Conservation International).

Exploring the countryside at Washikemba gives hikers, bikers and automobilists alike the chance to enjoy various kinds of nature. Several hiking (pink signs), biking (blue signs) and driving (yellow) trails are clearly indicated to experience all of Washikemba. This East Side of *dushi* Bonaire, where Washikemba is located, entails desolate plains with occasional roaming donkeys and goats, a corroded coastline caused by powerful waves, hills blooming with cacti and other prickly plants, giant boulders and *saliñas* (salt lakes).

Hub Bob and I once more take on Kaminda Lagun in the direction of Washikemba. Once arrived, one must follow the yellow vehicle signs to Boka

Washikemba. En route, hubby speeds up a bit and causes a near sand storm. He doesn't enjoy lengthy and bumpy car rides and is looking forward to ending the misery; not me, I savor clunking around while appreciating the moon-scaphish beauty. We park the car at The Longest Tree of Bonaire. Not a soul around, just us. It's a somewhat hazy morning. I'll be quite challenging to take clear photos.

The longest tree is about 28 meters long and is growing horizontally from east to west because of our almost constantly blowing East Trade winds. Think of the Divi-Divi tree which grows that direction as well. This tree is a Buttonwood mangrove, on rather salty and cracked soil. Salt is removed through red notches on the leaves.

We leave the tree behind to trudge over to the dry *saliña*. A *saliña* is a salt lake supplied with a mixture of rain and seawater. We have quite a few saline lakes, not exactly the same as a *saliña*, on Bonaire, such as The Goto Lake up north, which attracts water birds, including the Greater Caribbean Flamingo.

From the *saliña*, we roam around Punta Blanku for a while, just like the few goats and donkeys. Except we do not aspire to forage on the mosses between the rocks.



A boka et Washikemba

Mangazina di Rei Cultural Market



RINCON –

During the last Cultural Market at Cultural Park Mangazina di Rei, Mr. Hose "Djo" Mercera explained about the traditional festivities of San Juan (St. John) and San Pedro (St Peter). These traditional festivities receive a lot of attention during this time of year. This is because the residents experience the month of June as a very dry month and they celebrate these traditions to ask for rain. At the Cultural Market a few songs were played as part of these traditional festivities and the people surrounding the band were clapping to encourage the musicians. Mr Hose "Djo" Mercera would tell how the musicians would go from house to house during these celebrations. The visitors enjoyed the ambience during the workshop of the traditional festivities of San Juan and San Pedro at the Cultural Market. During this day there were also other activities on the program such as a workshop of how to built a cactus fence and a cultural talk about baptism of dolls. Also as part of the program there was the Bonaire Culinaire Team who explained about their international competition experience. They had samples of a snack, a dessert and an alcoholic beverage to taste. Visitors approved the samples and said they tasted great.

A lot of visitors came early in the morning to have a traditional breakfast with the local chocolate drink considered a favorite by many. The iguana hamburger was much loved. During the midday you could get the local traditional plates as usual.

During the Cultural Market there was a live presentation of the local band "Sonora Rinconero."



To get an impression of the ambience during the last Cultural Market you may visit the Facebook page, www.facebook.com/mangazinadirei.

A special thanks goes out to all the entrepreneurs, organizations, media and visitors who help sustain and promote the Cultural Market of Mangazina di Rei with the aim make the area of Rincon more attractive for tourism and leisure on the island.

The next Cultural Market will be on Saturday 30th of July from 8am to 2pm.

See, Feel & Taste the lovely Culture of Bonaire at the Cultural Market of Mangazina di Rei. ■

Story & photos by Izain Mercera



Instead we munch on peanut butter and jelly sandwiches. Energized we continue our hike to the boulders. Bob feels all snappy and attempts to scramble up a boulder amid the Turkish Caps (Turban Cactus). He manages to shoot a close up of a cactus before he gives up and descends with care.

Lastly, we trek north over the coastline to Boka. Parts of the coastline are destroyed due to past tsunamis and earthquakes. These nature forces created BOKAs, or

mouths. The BOKAs provide nesting grounds for sea turtles who lay their eggs on the beach. It's quite a challenge to clamber over the ancient dark coral in order to approach the thundering water. The splashing white-headed waves almost crash over me as I come nearer. Taking photos is barely possible as the wind and the waves are howling. What wonders of nature we have here on Bonaire! ■ Story & photos by Karen Bastiaensen-Gilmour

Bonaire Reporter Classifieds—Really Work!
Got something to buy or sell?

Non-Business Classified Ads (up to 4 lines/ 20± words) are still **FREE** for 2 insertions.

Commercial Ads only \$0.77 per word, for each two-week issue. Call 786-6518 or 786-6125 or email info@bonairereporter.com



LUNCH TO GO

Starting from \$5 per meal.
Call **CHINA NOBO**
717-8981.

Web site:

www.chinanobobonaire.com



OUTDOOR BONAIRE
DO SOMETHING DIFFERENT!

KAYAKING • CAVING • CLIMBING • RAPPELLING
ABSEILLEN • ISLAND TOURS • BIRDWATCHING

+(599) 785-6272

hansoutdoor@hotmail.com
www.outdoorbonaire.com

For Quality House and Office Cleaning and Maintenance .. CALL JRA



Serving Bonaire for more than 20 years

Honest, Reliable, Efficient, Thorough, Low rates, References. One time or many.

Phone 785-9041 ... and relax.

Want to Buy or Sell Something?

Do it with an ad in The Reporter Classified

Personal ads **FREE**

Business ads **CHEAP**
reporter@bonairenews.com



Smiling Buddha Yoga Studio

VINYASA FLOW, HATHA YOGA, MEDITATION, PRIVATE LESSONS

Located at Plaza Resort
info +599 700 5779

FB: SMILING BUDDHA YOGA STUDIO
smilingbuddhayogabonaire@gmail.com

REAL ESTATE/RENTALS/ ETC...

FOR RENT (August till November) New home, Sabadeco / 2 pers. Furnished / 1 bedroom, 1 study-or bedroom, 2 bath, ocean view terrace, excellent breeze, swimming pool (uses solar energy), laundry / screens / solar boiler / TV internet Price USD 1675,- Excl. WEB en TELBO, pool service incl. **tel. 785-8719, email: sar.delange@gmail.com**

For RENT available per July 01: Nice comfortable 2-bedroom apartment fully furnished. Very spacious with private garden and patio. Good location in quiet area at Punt Vierkant in Belnem. Long term \$800 per month. Including wireless internet + Cable TV. Deposit required. **Call 796-5530.**

Professional Home Caretaker

Single man, 48 years old, looking for home caretaker position for private large property or large villa with studio or small apartment in exchange for home maintenance work and supervision. Can also maintain a small B&B.



Serious, very discreet, professional with hospitality experience. Technical knowledge and experience including plumbing, wastewater treatment plant, solar energy, pumps, electricity, painting, cleaning, landscaping, garden irrigation and tropical plants, vehicle and boat maintenance, pool maintenance and care and computers.

Two years' experience caring for a large home on Bonaire in a very unique setting, reference on request. I don't smoke or drink and I don't have pets but can take care of your pets for you.

I am friendly with an eye for detail, high quality service, multicultural, very organized, enterprising, honest.

Fluent: French, English, Dutch, Spanish, Portuguese (Brazilian).

More information and reference via email: procaretaker38@gmail.com

Bonaire-Sun Rise/Set, Moon Phase and Tides

Day	High	Low	High	Low	High	Sunrise	Sunset
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
Tue 26	L Quarter	01:24 0.12 ft	05:44 0.46 ft	12:40 -0.17 ft	19:03 0.88 ft	6:21	19:03
Wed 27		02:32 0.04 ft	06:44 0.37 ft	13:15 -0.17 ft	19:46 1.00 ft	6:21	19:02
Thu 28		03:36 -0.04 ft	07:44 0.29 ft	13:52 -0.15 ft	20:31 1.07 ft	6:21	19:02
Fri 29		04:36 -0.10 ft	08:46 0.23 ft	14:32 -0.12 ft	21:18 1.11 ft	6:22	19:02
Sat 30		05:36 -0.14 ft	09:52 0.18 ft	15:14 -0.08 ft	22:06 1.11 ft	6:22	19:01
Sun 31		06:36 -0.16 ft	11:02 0.16 ft	16:00 -0.02 ft	22:56 1.08 ft	6:22	19:01
August		07:33	12:18	16:50	23:48		
Mon 01		-0.17 ft	0.17 ft	0.05 ft	1.01 ft	6:22	19:01
Tue 02		08:29 -0.17 ft	13:39 0.21 ft	17:51 0.12 ft	New Moon	6:22	19:01
Wed 03		09:20 0.93 ft	14:55 -0.15 ft	19:06 0.27 ft		6:22	19:00
Thu 04		10:06 0.83 ft	15:57 -0.13 ft	20:37 0.35 ft		6:23	19:00
Fri 05		10:46 0.73 ft	16:45 -0.11 ft	22:09 0.44 ft		6:23	18:59
Sat 06		11:20 0.64 ft	17:24 -0.08 ft	23:31 0.52 ft		6:23	18:59
Sun 07		11:51 0.55 ft	17:58 -0.05 ft			6:23	18:59
Mon 08		00:41 0.20 ft	05:12 0.47 ft	12:17 -0.02 ft	18:30 0.67 ft	6:23	18:58

TECH ENVIRONMENT CARIBBEAN

Specializing in water technology solutions for residential, commercial and industrial supply or waste water applications.

Our approach is focused on sustainability. That means minimizing energy consumption and maximizing reuse. We are happy to advise you on all the possibilities.

See- [facebook.com/gcscaribbean](https://www.facebook.com/gcscaribbean)

You can call us without obligation:
599 782-5614 or email:

chrisboutin37@hotmail.com

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.**



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.

Who's Who on The Bonaire Reporter

Celebrating 22+ years of continuous publishing

Take The Reporter Home—1-year subscription: By mail to US \$95; By mail to Europe \$190. By Internet, Free (asking a \$35 Internet donation.) For information about **subscriptions, stories or advertising in The Bonaire Reporter**, PO Box 407, Bonaire, Dutch Caribbean; phone (599) 786-6518, 786-6125, E-mail: info@bonairereporter.com

The Bonaire Reporter, George DeSalvo (G.D.), Publisher;
Laura DeSalvo (L.D.), Editor

Address: P. O. Box 407, Bonaire, Dutch Caribbean. Also available on-line on Facebook® and at: www.bonairereporter.com *Published every two weeks*

Reporters in this issue: James Albury, Angliet Baidjoe, Karen Bastiaensen-Gilmour, Bula Bonchi, Jan Brouwer, Patrick Holian, Greta Kooistra, Izain Mercera, Nathalie Peterson, Dean Regas, Hannah Rempel (Stinapa), Lauren Schmaltz (Echo), Michael Thiessen, Justine Verschoor, Gerjanne Voortman. Unattributed photos are by the editor or publisher.

Distribution: Marlene & Co. (Playa), Yuchi Molina (Rincon), Divi-Divi Airline, Ava Rose Wuyts (mailing)

Housekeeping: JRA. **Printed by:** DeStad Drukkerij, Curaçao

© 2016 The Bonaire Reporter

16 Flights a day between Bonaire and Curaçao
Divi Divi Air
Reservations
24 hours a day
Call **(+5999 839-1515)**
or **(5999 563-1913)**



Culture? Nature?

100+ Clean The Reef



30th of May demonstration at the Dutch Kingdom office had tensions running high



Over 100 volunteers joined Dive Friends Bonaire Clean Up Dive

PROTECTING THE NATURE AND CULTURAL HERITAGE ON BONAIRE

From April to June this year I visited the islands of Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Bonaire for my PhD research on **people who protect the natural environment and cultural heritage** on these islands. This research is part of the larger project, "Confronting Caribbean Challenges," carried out by the Royal Netherlands Institute of Southeast Asian and Caribbean Studies (KITLV) in Leiden, The Netherlands.

There are several questions I hope to answer with this research. One my main questions is why people are motivated to invest their time and effort in protecting the local environment or cultural heritage of the island. What are they doing and why is this of importance to them? What motivates them to do so?

Findings from this study will help better understand if, how and why the different residents of the BES Islands protect their island's natural or cultural heritage. Furthermore, results could help towards the development of campaigns aimed at motivating specific community groups to become involved in the protection of their cultural heritage and natural environment.

While research about people's motivation to conserve nature and culture has been conducted in other countries – such specific work is unique for Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba. The social dynamics taking place on these islands and the individuals residing here require specific research to help understand *who does what and why*.

During my time on the islands I made an inventory and interviewed many people who work to protect or conserve the natural environment or cultural heritage of the island in some way. This included individuals ranging from those working for or leading a

NGO, to volunteers who regularly donate their time and effort to these organizations or events focused on nature or cultural heritage. In addition, I video recorded interactions of individuals with the local environment the dynamic that is visible on each island for further analysis.

Below I will share some of my observations I made on Bonaire.

Since 10th of October 2010, the islands have gone through many changes. On Bonaire the tensions are currently running high with weekly protests in front of the RCN office, banners and boards scattered across the island, wanting the Dutch to leave. Many residents in Bonaire feel the Dutch are taking over the island, and not in a particularly positive way. They are concerned about losing their culture and island. At the time of my visit, on the 30th of May, there was even a moment of fear for a revolt similar to the one of Curacao on the 30th of May in 1969.

Opinions about these protests and sentiments are mixed. Just like the people concerned with



People dropping waste at the plastic recycling bin

nature and the cultural heritage of Bonaire and their motivation to conserve these.

Some people (particularly non-locals, i.e. people who do not originate from the island) are angry and feel offended. They feel that in all the years they have resided on the island that they are now being pushed out of the country they love and call home,

Bonaire/Kralendijk –

On Saturday July 9, over 100 volunteers met at the Playa Lechi location of Dive Friends Bonaire to get informed by Carolyn Caporusso, General Manager and PADI course director, about the quarterly organized clean up dive. This time's location was the underwater world of the town pier and special permission was given by the officials of the island as there is always the risk and the danger of ship propellers. Caporusso informed the volunteers about the recovery of trash and the removing of pieces of fishing line. As always the divers had to be very careful not to damage the coral and all other underwater life. It took only experienced divers for this one-hour non-deco dive. Weather conditions were excellent and current was mild. After a photo shoot, all volunteers went into the direction of the town pier. Most vehicles found a space in the parking lot next to the main square and the buildings of the government. For one hour most divers disappeared to fulfill their mission. After the successful dive 2,491 objects were counted. Among them the following treasures: 1 Blackberry smart-phone, 4 credit cards, 331 pieces of fishing line, 2 hats, 3 garden hoses, 2 pre-paid phone cards, 2 screwdrivers, 3 pieces of dive and snorkel gear, 7 sunglasses, 1 tampon applicator and 7 pieces of underwear.

After the recovery of all objects the volunteers went home for a personal clean up and an optional nap. Afterwards they met at 6pm at the Hamlet Oasis Location of Dive Friends Bonaire with their home made side dishes as Dive Friends Bonaire took care of the main course and a free drink.

On behalf of the ocean and the wildlife in nature: thank you Dive Friends Bonaire for organizing this clean up dive. Thank you for the hospitality and the supply of free air. Thank you all 121 volunteers to help making our environment cleaner and healthier. And remember: Without blue there is no green. ■ *Story & photo by Jan Brouwer*



despite all they have done to help. There are also locals who are ashamed about the protests and hope they do not escalate. On the other end of the spectrum, there are non-locals who agree with the protests and are ashamed of (certain) Dutch people who live on the island. Some of these people even

local residents are well known for their conservation efforts and some locals regularly participate in, for example, recycling campaigns or clean-up and cultural events.

Considering that there is tension between locals and non-locals residing on Bonaire, I wonder if it is possible that these affect the motivation to engage in activities to protect the environment or the cultural heritage? In other words, does being a local or non-local affect someone's actions towards protecting the environment or cultural heritage of the island? And if so, how?

To gain insights into these more nuanced dynamics and to be able to conclude whether or not someone's background affects his or her motives to protect nature or culture, I have developed and launched an online survey. This survey is intended for all residents of Bonaire, St. Eustatius or Saba who contribute to the conservation of their island's natural environment and cultural heritage. The survey takes about 20 minutes to fill out and can be completed in Papiamentu, English or Dutch. As a token of my appreciation for their time and effort, participants get a chance to win 50 US dollars.

The survey can be accessed through the following webpage: https://leidenuniv.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6icEjttkIMFAnQh

The more people fill out the survey, the better. For more information and a short video about the survey, you can visit our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/confrontingcaribbeanchallenges), website (www.kitlv.nl) or send an email to macdonald@kitlv.nl. ■

Story and photo by Stacey Mac Donald, KITLV



Author MacDonald with heritage champion, Frans Booi

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

• **Wine Tasting at Antillean Wine Company's warehouse** on Kaya In-

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

dustria, **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. See, Feel and Taste the Culture of Bonaire. Enjoy the view from "The King's Storehouse." Visit homes from the 17th century. Daily. Cultural Market last Saturday of the month. Call 786-2101

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 Cruscita 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. 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 Ellen Cochran-Herrera at

ellenherrera-cochrane@yahoo.ca or phone 717-8489 or 005999-540-9800 English//Papiamentu/Dutch/Spanish spoken. ■

CLOSE-IN EVENTS

Tuesday, July 26—
Lecture at CIEE, "Parrot Fish Protect our Reefs." Free. 7-8pm at CIEE, Gobernador N. Debrot 26. More on page 12 (Did you Know?)

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. More on page 13

— **Taste of Bonaire at Coco Beach,** 6-10:30pm. Food, music, crafts. Theme: Summer Edition.

Saturday, August 7—
Kriabon Farmers Market, 8am-1pm at Kriabon, Kamindo Yatu Baku 55, next to Aquamarin School.

Friday, August 13 -
Talk about Stormvogel— by Captain Johnny Craane 6-9:30 pm at the new Ter-ramar Museum (entrance located behind Mona Lisa Restaurant). Details on page 10

SHOPPING, SERVICE and DINING GUIDE

Free listing in this directory
for regular repeat
Reporter advertisers

AIRLINES

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

BANK

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



BEAUTY

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

BIKES

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

DENTURE REPAIR

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

ON and IN the WATER

Budget Marine has what anyone with a boat needs, and if it's not in stock they can order it quickly. You can also find special hardware for general use and components for solar and wind electric systems. Ad on page 11.

Dive Friends has four dive schools and three retail shops so you always get the best deals and can be assured of top notch training. Remodeled shop, Dushi Style on Kaya Grandi and new dive retail shop at the roundabout in Hato.

GARDEN SUPPLIES AND SERVICES

Green Label has everything you need to start or maintain your garden. They can design, install and maintain it and offer plants, irrigation supplies and garden chemicals. Off Kaya Industria, behind Lucky Supermarket. See pg. 2

OPTICIAN

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

PHOTOGRAPHER

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

REAL ESTATE /RENTAL AGENTS

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



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



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



RESTAURANTS

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.

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.



SECURITY

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

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 Logistics Services B.V. Air and sea shipments in/out of Bonaire. Customs agents. Professional and efficient. **What would we do without their superb services?** See ad on page 5



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)

Regular repeat advertisers
get listed FREE in our
Shopping, Service and Dining Guide

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.

NEW SHELTER DONOR

Did you know that the average big dog drinks approximately 1.5 liters of water per day.

The "Blue Bottle Free Drinking Water" people (see story on page 11) visited the Bonaire Animal Shelter to investigate whether a part of the money earned on the sale of Blue Bottles should be donated to the Shelter. They concluded: "If it could go anywhere, it should go to the Shelter with its enthusiastic group of hardworking volunteers. What a great team of people!"

During the first year 5% of the selling price of the Bottles will go to charity, and the Shelter is the first. They observed the Shelter takes care of unwanted and stray dogs and cats, provides free sterilization and care while running a boarding kennel and gives information and education to school children on the island. Oh... and the kittens and puppies will steal your heart!

Is your school, foundation or company interested in visiting the Shelter or would you like to support this educational program in any other way?



Dogs love Blue Bottle water too



The Shelter is a popular place for schoolchildren

Please contact us at animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com or call for information 701-4989. ■

Story & photos by Nathalie Peterson and G.D.

Pets Of The Week

THE LOVE STORY

Hi! We are "Cato" and "Goofy." We met each other a while ago at the Animal Shelter Bonaire where we fell in love... Although I (Cato) am a bit older I fell for his charms and funny character right away. Goofy! His names suits him perfectly. He likes to goof around, cuddle and listens very well to humans and knows how to sit and more on command! He also likes to play with all the other dogs. Sometimes it can make me a bit jealous especially when there are other girls involved. About myself: I love to hang out with humans and snuggle up with the people who take care of me at the Shelter, go for walks and be groomed and just chill. I am also very good at protecting my family who take care of me! I like it very much here at the Shelter, especially with Goofy, but I am still hoping one day we can live in a loving new home again!

Are you interested in adopting Cato or Goofy or hopefully both of them? Come and visit the Animal Shelter Bonaire at Kaminda Lagun 26a to meet them. For more information call #7174989/



Cato and Goofy

7014989 or e-mail us and like us on Facebook [animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com](https://www.facebook.com/animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com) / www.facebook.com/AnimalShelterBonaire/

All the adoptable animals at the Animal Shelter Bonaire are treated against ticks and fleas are de-wormed, vaccinated, micro chipped and spayed or neutered. ■

Story & photo by Nathalie Peterson



Affordable Self Storage Conveniently located in Hato



THE STOREHOUSE MANGASINA
STORING EVERYTHING UNDER THE SUN

Choose your size from 5'x5' to 10'x20'.
Prices from \$32 to \$153 per month.
Call 700-1753
www.bonaireselfstorage.com

TUNG FONG STORE N.V.

"The Store With Almost Everything"

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

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

Sportswear, fashion, skate and sporting goods.
Keeping Kaya Grandi cool since 2015.... That's Dushi Style!

dushi Style sportswear

dushi style
kaya grandi 6
kralendijk bonaire
599.717.5911 retail@dive-friends-bonaire.com



THE STARS HAVE IT

End of July 2016

ARIES (Mar. 21- April 20) Don't be too eager to cut those who have disappointed you from your life. A need to express yourself may come out in creative ways. Opportunities will come through behind the scenes activities. You must look into your options. Your lucky day this month will be Thursday.

TAURUS (Apr. 21- May 21) Tempers will mount if you're too pushy at work or at home. Try to enlist the help of those you trust in order to fulfill the demands being made of you. Don't give out any personal information that you don't want spread around. Don't allow your personal problems to interfere with your professionalism. Your lucky day this month will be Sunday.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21) You can't lose this month unless you get involved in gossip or overwork to the point of exhaustion. Get involved in activities that will bring you knowledge about foreign land, philosophies, or cultures. Try to enlist the help of those you trust in order to fulfill the demands being made of you. Wait and get all the information before consulting your boss. Your lucky day this month will be Sunday.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) You may be frazzled this month. Don't waste this exciting day by sitting at home. Don't spend too much in order to impress others. Don't forget to read the fine print. Your lucky day this month will be Saturday.

LEO (July 23-Aug 22) Direct your energy wisely this month. Anger will prevail if you expect help from others. You'll need to exercise control. Protect your interests legally if necessary. However, you may not attract the kind of interest you had in mind. Your lucky day this month will be Sunday.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) Don't jump into investments too quickly. Your fickle nature may cause jealousy. Keep your thoughts to yourself for the time being. You should be on the road. Your lucky day this month will be Friday.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) Business conducted in your own office will proceed smoothly. You will be in a high cycle regarding work. Business and emotional partnerships will run smoothly. Your lack of attention may have been a factor. Your lucky day this month will be Friday.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) You could expand your circle of friends if you get involved in unusual activities. You will be able to get to the bottom of things this month. Don't blame others for your own stubbornness. Be sure to look into travel opportunities that will provide you with mental stimulation. Your lucky day this month will be Saturday.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) Uncertainties about your home may cause tension. You're ready to take action and take over. Keep important information to yourself. You will be in the mood for competition, and your ability to lead a group will bring you popularity. Your lucky day this month will be Sunday.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) Your tendency to dramatize may be a little much for your partner to take constantly. Deception in your home is evident. Don't beat around the bush. Don't overload your plate. Use your innovative mind to surprise youngsters. Your lucky day this month will be Monday.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) You will have to watch out for minor health problems related to stress. Help an older member with a problem that faces them. You need to make changes that will raise your self esteem, such as a new hairstyle or a new image. Joint ventures might prove to be unfavorable. Your lucky day this month will be Tuesday.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) Your childlike quality may get you into big trouble this month if you neglect your responsibilities. You might be a tad over-indulgent this month. Your mate may not be too sure about your intentions. Make changes regarding your friendships. Your lucky day this month will be Friday. ■ *Michael Thiessen*



BONAIRE SKY PARK*

*to find it... just look up

Seeing Shapes in the Stars

Let us help you find your way around the Sky Park this summer. Have you seen the **Big Dipper** this summer?

The Big Dipper is not a constellation. The Big Dipper is only part of a larger constellation called **Ursa Major or the Big Bear**. So if it's not an official constellation, so what do we call it?

We call it an **asterism**. An asterism is basically just a shape we see in the stars to help us find our way around. Think of it as an unofficial constellation. And summertime is a great time to find many of the asterisms in the sky.

We've got the **Summer Triangle**, the **Fish Hook**, and the **Tea Pot**. On any night this week face northwest after sunset. We want you to find your first asterism of the evening up in the northwestern sky. There it is, standing on its handle – the Big Dipper. The formation of those seven bright stars is unmistakable. Four stars make the scoop of the Big Dipper and three more make up the handle.

Now where's that Big Bear that'll turn the asterism into a constellation? Ursa Major, the Big Bear, takes up a lot of space in the sky. The Big Dipper is only the rear end, and long tail of the bear, while other, fainter stars mark his head and feet. Astronomers don't just stop there. To them everything within this boundary - every star, every deep space object—is part of the constellation Ursa Major.

Now we're facing east and here you can find another huge asterism in the sky. I'll give you two hints – it's up all summer and it's in the shape of a triangle. Yep, we call it the **Summer Triangle**. Who said astronomy was tough to follow? Brightest, and bluest of the three stars in the Summer Triangle, is **Vega**. Down and to the left is **Deneb** and way over to the right is **Altair**. Each of these stars belongs to its own constellation.

Vega is part of **Lyra the Harp** whose



THE SUMMER CONSTELLATIONS

stars make a little parallelogram. Deneb is the tail of **Cygnus the Swan** (ooh, I can actually picture a swan in those stars!) And Altair is the Eagle Eye of the constellation **Aquila the Eagle**. So this asterism, the Summer Triangle, really incorporates the regions of three different constellations.

Now south and look low on the horizon for two more distinct asterisms. Here we find the stars I most associate with summer, looking like a letter "J" or a big fish hook. Add in the fainter stars around the fish hook and you'll see the constellation **Scorpius the Scorpion**. At the heart of the scorpion you'll find a red supergiant star called **Antares**. As an added special effect, Antares is often low in the southern sky and appears to flicker like a beating heart through the thicker atmosphere. The **planets Mars and Saturn** are also hanging around Scorpius this summer.

Now, to the left of the Fish Hook you can find stars in the shape of a tea pot. These stars are part of a larger constellation called **Sagittarius the Archer**. He's a centaur (half man – half horse) with his legs down below the horizon. Other than the Tea Pot, the remaining stars in Sagittarius are tough to find. But the asterism marks the centaur's body and stretched-out bow and arrow. What's he aiming at?

Antares! the heart of the scorpion of course. Watch out Scorpius! So find your favorite asterism tonight. From the Big Dipper in the northwest...to the Summer Triangle high in the east... To the Fish Hook in the south next to the Tea Pot. ■ *Dean Regas & James Albury*

NETTECH

AFFORDABLE

- ◆ Domain Registrations
- ◆ E-mail Hosting
- ◆ Anti-Spam & Anti-Virus
- ◆ Web Site Design
- ◆ Web Site Hosting
- ◆ Marketing Consulting
- ◆ Internet Consulting
- ◆ Photographic Services
- ◆ Graphic Design



NetTech N.V.
info@nettechnv.com
www.nettechnv.com
Tel: 717-6773
Fax: 717-7854

Pasa Bon Pizza & Bar

780-1111



Not Just Great Pizzas!

Call ahead to Pre Order

Open Wednesday to Sunday
5 PM to 10 PM

Scheduled Water Taxi TO KLEIN BONAIRE

From Bonaire Nautico Marina in front of It Rains Fishes Restaurant

HOTEL PICKUP SERVICE

Daily trips via resorts 10 am, 12, 2

THE ONLY WALKON / WALKOFF

Catamaran **KANTIKA DI AMOR**
up to 27 adults or larger catamaran **KANTIKA TOO**
up to 50 adults
Also available for group trips



BONAIRE NAUTICO MARINA—At It Rains Fishes Restaurant

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



Kralendijk, J.A. Abrahamblvd 32

Highlights:

- 3 bedrooms/2 bathrooms
- tropical pool
- spacious covered porch
- completely remodeled
- 100 yards from Chachacha beach
- off street parking
- long lease land land (registered 4-F-228)
- lot size: 4,885 sq.ft / 454 m2
- living area: ± 2,152 sq.ft / ±200 m2

Reduced price
US\$ 385,000
Buyers cost



Kaya L.D. Gerharts 3 & 8 Bonaire, Dutch Caribbean T +599 717 65 60



F +599 717 65 70 info@sunbeltbonaire.com www.sunbeltbonaire.com

GET OUT ON THE WATER!



**20%
OFF***

**SUP'S
KAYAKS &
WATER TOYS**

Valid until August 31st or while supplies last.



Available at:

BUDGET MARINE BONAIRE

Kaya Neerlandia #21, Kralendijk, Bonaire

Opening hours: Mon - Fri 8:00am - 5:00pm Sat 9:00am - 12:00pm

Telephone: +599-717-3710

www.budgetmarine.com

Challenge Us!



Looking for the best mortgage deal?

Take your time explore... Afterwards visit and Challenge Us!
We will offer you the best mortgage loan tailored to your needs
to realize your dream house!

For more information visit us at Kaya Grandi # 48,
or call one of our personal banking professionals
at telephone: +599 7172000.



Your Personal Banker

info@orcobank.com

www.orcobank.com