

**It's Still
FREE**

BONAIRE October 10-24, 2016, Year 23, Issue 19
The REPORTER

BES Island News Too

New Phone Number 777-6125

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Jong Bonaire Swim To Klein Bonaire

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Prikichi nibbling on fruit.

New Supermarket
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STINAPA, the Parks Authority, reported that the **wave action caused by Hurricane Matthew significantly damaged some structures on our coast such as wooden piers.**

The wave action also deposited sand on top of corals and sponges and it may have damaged some, specifically in the shallower zone. The Marine Park is aware that it is important to scientifically quantify these effects in order to inform Bonaire's international visitors accurately about the specific effects of Matthew on Bonaire's reef. Surveys are underway as we go to press.

What visiting divers can do meanwhile to help is to gently wave the sand off corals and sponges that are covered with sand. Do not touch any corals themselves as STINAPA will have teams over the next few days to specifically reposition toppled corals.

► **The Bonaire Department of Public Health confirmed that there are multiple patients on Bonaire with flu-like symptoms.** Initial laboratory results confirm that it is an influenza virus.

The symptoms of flu are cough, fever and chills, headache, muscle aches, sore throat and fatigue, which can last several days to a week. It may take several weeks before feeling completely fit. The person becomes sick for one to five days. Beginning before the day you first feel sick you are infectious to others.

The virus lodges in the throat, nose and airways, and by coughing, sneezing and talking, small droplets of the virus are put into the air. Another person can inhale these droplets and become infected. The virus can also collect on the hands and on objects and the infection spreads. Not everyone gets sick after infection, however, flu is highly infectious. To prevent flu, it is important to properly cough and sneeze by using a tissue and keep the mouth and nose tightly close. Do not have a tissue at hand? Put your elbow over your mouth. Throw the tissue away after single use. Teach children also how to cough and sneeze. Wash hands frequently with soap and water, especially after a strong cough and sneeze. Keep doorknobs and faucets clean. Clean toys often and regularly. Ventilate closed spaces for 30 minutes at least 2 times a day by opening windows and doors.

Influenza vaccination: Older people, those with heart problems, lung disease, kidney disease or diabetes have a greater risk of pneumonia from the flu virus. High-risk and older persons can be vaccinated free of charge at their doctor. The flu vaccine is now available at your house doctor.

► **A new solar panel system providing 130 kilowatts has been installed at the US consulate in Willemstad.** It is able to provide all the consulate's electrical requirements. It makes the consulate the first environmental impact net-zero diplomatic post among American missions worldwide.

► **On October 4, Bonaire authorities searched the tanker Carabobo,** flying the Singapore flag, waiting at sea to load crude at BOPEC. The search continued through the night and into the next morning. All police and justice entities were involved in the search which was drug related. Word on the street is that the tip to search came from US sources.

► **The Xtreme Sports Bonaire Foundation will organize the 7th Duo Xtreme mountain bike race on October 23.** It plans a tough course which includes extreme challenges on dirt roads and pavement at Seru Largu and steep trails in Washington Park and elsewhere. Volunteers and police will assist in the conduct of the race. The minimum age of riders is 15 years and there are several categories in which one can ride. Those who deviate from the rules can be disqualified.

All participants will receive a souvenir medallion. Winners in some classes will get cash prizes. **First is \$ 400, \$ 200 for Second; Third and Fourth get \$100. Participants are expected from Aruba, St. Maarten, Curacao, The Netherlands, Colombia and Bonaire.** All participants will be transported free of charge to and from the airport by the organization.

The main sponsors are De Freewieler, Alcon wines / Freixenet, Sunbelt Realty, Divi Flamingo Resort and the TCB. For more info call: Mocky Arends +599 786-5614 or Frank Bohm +599 786-8545.

► **Bonaire will be featured on TV! Kate Butler and Ian Kaplan bought a home from RE/MAX Paradise Homes on Bonaire and were filmed for the TV show, "House Hunters International." The episode will show on TV on October 26th, 10:30pm and the next day at 1:30am on Channel 105 on MiTV from Telbo.** It will illustrate how beautiful Bonaire is, both above and below the water. We thought you readers should know.

► **Due to frequent electrical power outages** Bonaire's power company, WEB, was motivated to conduct an investigation and concluded that some parts of the WEB power grid need to be changed. **WEB will start with a rigorous action to replace all the needed parts in the high voltage system before end of 2016.** These changes hopefully will guarantee stability in the electricity supply.



► **WEB recently made several announcements that benefit consumers. The charge for electricity was cut \$0.02 per Kwh.** In addition applications are being accepted for solar system owners to connect to WEB's power distribution network. The law governing the process specifies requirements and compensation for power sold back to WEB.

► **As of October 1, 2016 new fuel prices are:**
No-lead gas 95 USDct 99.10 per liter.
Kerosene USDct 47.10 per liter.
Diesel USDct 56.00 per liter.
LPG 100lbs 28.85 USDct per cylinder.
LPG 20lbs 7:50 USDct per cylinder.

► **Ever wonder about the winglets we see installed on the big jets.** They cost at least \$1 million per pair and deliver fuel savings of 4 to 5%. IATA (Air Traffic Association) reports jet fuel price at US\$1.42 per gallon (0.64 per liter) down 1.0% from year earlier



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Flotsam and Jetsam (Continued from page 2)

► **Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire**, in cooperation with the Bonaire local government and Wild Conscience BV, continued its efforts to **protect nesting sea turtles at Te Amo Beach by placing boulders and informative signs and attaching palm leaves to the new fence**, which was installed in the beginning of August.

Last week the signs were vandalized.



► **On October 10, 2016, the "Most Beautiful Nature of the Netherlands" contest will be launched. Twenty Dutch nature areas/national parks have signed up for the contest. Bonaire is also participating.**

The biodiversity of Bonaire, with its corals and more than 500 fish species (even hammerhead sharks), sea turtles, flamingos, parrots and cactus is difficult to compare to the European Netherlands environment.

When you compare Bonaire with

other world class national parks, for example, in the US, there is still room for improvement. There is work to be done in terms of providing information to visitors and residents. However, when you consider the quality and accessibility of the coral reefs, the many environmental education programs offered, and STINAPA's Junior Ranger program, Bonaire sets an excellent example for other national parks.

For more info contact **Anouschka van der Ven**, Communications Coordinator STINAPA Bonaire. Email: communications@stinapa.org Phone: +599-717-8444.

► **The swimmers of the Bonaire Aquatics Barracudas Club will participate at the 11th International Annual EU Swim that will take place from 14-16 October, 2016, at the 25-meter, 8-lane Asiento pool in Willemstad, Curacao.**

The competition is open to swimmers of all ages and levels from all over the world. Our 20 athletes, ages from 6 years to 46 years, are very excited about participating and are honored to represent Bonaire and are going to achieve the best results possible.

For more info about this event visit the website: www.euswim.org and like us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/BonaireBarracudas/?fref=ts>

► **At the end of every month there are different cultural presentations during the Cultural Market of Mangazina di Rei.** During the last one some of the

► **The landmark environmental protection group Fundashon Salba Nos Lora (Save Our Lora Parrot) has been disbanded.** The objective it was established for has been achieved. The population of Bonaire parrots is **no longer shrinking, but growing.** The foundation pioneered the preservation of the native parrot on Bonaire. Now the Echo foundation is following up the work, but www.salbanoslorainfo remains online.

In 2002, the government ordered that all captive pet Loras on Bonaire be ringed and recorded. Any Loras found without the leg ring afterwards can be assumed to have been poached. Through this action, it was possible to monitor poaching and greatly increase the number of the wild Lora, *Amazona barbadensis*

The no poaching message was reinforced with posters, newspaper advertisements and radio spots. The foundation, in cooperation with the government and also STINAPA, holds an annual Lora count every January. The census has recorded the number of Lora in the wild is increasing steadily. Salba Nos Lora has also taken the lead in planting native fruit bearing trees. This allows the birds to more easily find food. In addition, the Foundation has published a practical leaflet about taking care of Lora as pets. Thanks to all involved..



Amazona barbadensis

Bonaire elders gave a demonstration on how aloe was cut in the past. Also, **George Kultura** told about the nature environment of the island, and there was a demonstration on how to make traditional kitchen tools, *palu di lele* and *palu di funchi*. During the Cultural Market you can buy plants, listen to live music from the Rincon barrel organ and creole music from the local band Grupo Watapana. It was fun **Be sure to attend the next one on Saturday, October 29, from 8am to 2pm. Entrance is free. Located at the east entrance to Rincon.**

► **It could be the most deeply discounted clothing sale to ever hit Bonaire.**

Penny Lane, the fashion consignment shop upstairs across the street from Gio's ice-cream on Kaya Grandi, is having a huge 75% off sale next **Saturday, 15 October.** See their ad on page 10.

► **A container full of goodies for gardeners has just arrived at Green Label Garden Center.** More containers are due any day now so pass by and see what they've got. See their ad on page 2.

► *The Reporter publisher's* phone number) has changed. The prefix is all sevens- (+599) **777-6125.** Editor Laura De-Salvo's number is the same as before:



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On the Island Since... 2009 – Laura Stefani



Photo by Greta Kooistra

Laura Stefani

“I am from Milan, Italy, where I studied literature as I always wanted to write. Writing was my passion. As I consider this my ‘second life,’ I worked in my ‘previous life’ as a journalist for different magazines, mostly women’s magazines, writing about art, lifestyles, people and many other different subjects. I did it for 12 years. In my free time I also wrote short stories, and some of them were published as well. Then it came to a point that I decided to quit my job and take a sabbatical year to travel around South America. And one year became three years; three years of travelling through South America. For me it was so much freedom, so much space to explore. Every day you choose if you want to stay or pack your backpack and leave. It was total freedom. And after 12 years of sitting a lot behind the computer, writing, it was heaven.

I received all the gifts: I learned Spanish, I got to know new people and many different cultures. It was a wonderful experience. Along the way I worked now and then and I kept on writing as a freelancer. There are so many interesting stories that are never written about countries forgotten by the western world. I was touched by how the people in South America are still connected to mother earth. You see, if you’re living in – for instance – Milan, you’re not so much connected to nature. But when you live in the Andes it’s a totally different story because you depend on nature. And of course it changed me – after three years of travelling you change – but the real change started here in Bonaire, with yoga.

I’d done some yoga before – on and off – but it was not really important to me. When I – just by chance – ended up on Bonaire, the first thing I said was ‘I want to do yoga,’ and I started with Desiree Seaver. When I arrived here she wasn’t teaching, but she was the only one, so I waited and when she started teaching at Bonaire Basics, I became her student. Probably after two classes I fell in love with yoga completely, and one of the main reasons was that she was – and still is – a great teacher. I mean yoga is yoga, but the connection you have with the teacher is also very important and Desiree shared with me and gave me this gift. As a student in her classes I met wonderful people and now that I’m a teacher myself I’m meeting really special people as well and some of them have become good friends.

With yoga, I realized, I started a real journey – inside myself – and way more power-

ful than the geographical one. The real journey took place here, without moving, without leaving the island. The combination of yoga and Bonaire was very intense, because yoga is a process of knowing yourself, accepting yourself with your lights and shadows and eventually transforming yourself into a better version of you – but without effort, just through the breathing and the trust in the practice, in the poses. And – in a way – Bonaire does the same: you don’t have a lot of distractions, you face yourself in a mirror, like you face yourself when you’re on a yoga mat. So, the two together...wow! That’s super powerful! And if you survive this and can breathe into it, you learn to love yourself.

For me, this is the power of yoga every day, because yoga is a daily practice. It’s a

“...Bonaire does the same; you don’t have a lot of distractions, you face yourself in a mirror, like you face yourself when you’re on a yoga mat.”

preparation for the life off the mat. The key of the practice and the key of life is the breath. And through yoga you can really learn how magical and mighty the breath is. I remember one of the first classes I was with Des, when I was in the final relaxation. It was then that I felt it: I was breathing for the first time. And you know what? I probably was breathing for the first time! It was an eye-opener!

Yoga is not a religion. It’s an internal journey where you connect with your body, your mind, your breath. Yoga is for everybody, for all ages and also for people who have a physical issue or injuries, because if you can breathe, you can practice yoga. It doesn’t matter if you are agile or not, it doesn’t matter what shape your body is – because yoga is about feeling and connecting to your inner self. In our daily lives we are too often disconnected and congested by thoughts, and through yoga practice you slow down, and then you have more space in your mind and in your body and it’s there that you feel the connection. You are back to yourself, like in other cultures people say, ‘You are back home.’

It’s not that yoga always makes you feel instantly better because lots of emotions like

sadness, fear and anger, can come up. But being vulnerable is in our favor. It’s okay to feel different; it’s part of the process to get to know yourself. It means the energy is moving; it’s not blocked anymore. You learn to accept the way you feel and you allow yourself to be real in that moment and then you know that all the feelings we have, all the emotions and all the thoughts – they are just temporary. They will pass and this is a bigger gift of freedom. I am not talking theoretically, because every single word I told you, I experienced myself. And of course – it is also good for your body.

Luckily on Bonaire, there is a whole range

the energy was good immediately.” *She laughs*: “This is my only place that I clean with love (which is very rare for me), so it’s a sign I really care about it!

I offer different classes for different levels. Starting in November I will add more classes. But in all of them there is a lot of awareness on the breathing, because breathing is the core of the practice. It’s what makes yoga, yoga.

I don’t like to speak in public, so the idea of teaching a class and being in front of like 10 people really scared me. But now it comes naturally and I don’t even think about it. So for me it was a huge shift and also a demonstration that yoga deeply works, and I hope I can give back some of what I am receiving.

Just the fact of giving yourself one and a half hours could mean a lot, especially when you have a busy life with a family and work and lots of things to do. And it’s fun as well; it makes you feel really good. In yoga it’s about letting go of the idea of perfection and to accept yourself as you are. Yoga means union, and through the breathing and the awareness of the breath you connect body, mind and spirit. It’s very challenging and that’s why it’s a daily practice – a life long journey - and,” *she laughs* “you start every day from the beginning. It’s true; you never get bored.

Nowadays I am studying with another very special teacher. His name is Kreg Weiss. He’s from Canada and he’s pure yoga. Also, I will be present at the Taste of Bonaire Wellness, November 19th at Wilhelmina Park where I will share a space with my wonderful colleague, yoga teacher Loly-mar Sanchez.

Bonaire has very special people and the island itself was the big teacher and it still is, every day.”

For more info go to Facebook: Smiling Buddha Yoga Studio or to www.smilingbuddhayoga.org .”■



Photo Laura Stefani

Laura in a yoga pose

Story & photos by Greta Kooistra



From Boston to Bonaire: A 40-Year Journey

Part Two of an insider's perspective of Bonaire's diving history by prominent environmentalist George Buckley beginning and continuing with Captain Don Stewart.

With Captain Don and Frank Fennel we created an underwater memorial, "To those underwater pioneers and explorers that have gone before us." Getting the plaque, its large cement base, dive flag and pole in place underwater was, shall we say, an adventure! We lived and dove by the "Armstrong Opinion".. that as a diver and traveler you were and had to be responsible for yourself. After Don donated the land for Bonaire's first Aquaculture facility I worked with Roberto Henson on several projects and on a pioneering effort to breed Tilapia. (No one had heard of them and we couldn't give them away 35 years ago!) Long before the days of TSA we brought a lab's worth of scientific gear and textbooks to Bonaire.

Along the way Captain Don realized that we were killing the things that we loved to see and photograph so he banned spear fishing as he had one of the few tank fill operations on the island! To save the reefs from daily anchoring we filled 50 gallon barrels with cement and rebar and perilously rolled them off the flattops and used air bags for the first time to place the first dive site moorings in the Caribbean. He then

helped to ban gloves on dives, and one of my groups was the first to comply. They survived. For those and other efforts the **Boston Sea Rovers** gave Don the first of his International awards as their Diver of the Year in 1984. This award energized us to do more: conjuring up and engaging us in a series of expansive environmental quests. We saw and actively promoted the "Bonaire is to Diving as Greenwich is to Time" equation, the "We Are Pioneers of Earth's Last Frontier" campaign and the "Blue is the New Green" initiative.

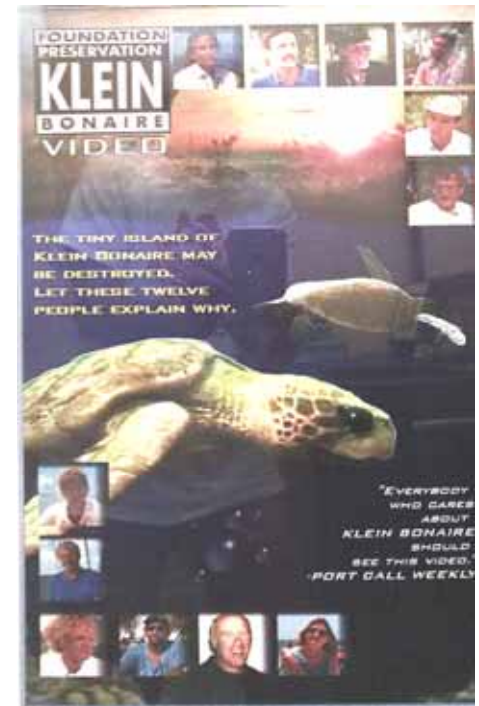
We welcomed **Genie Clark, Sylvia Earle, Stan Waterman, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and Harbor Branch Oceanographic Foundation** to do research and film. We created a special highway to the sea for the first group of handicapped divers to venture to Bonaire. The "Morey Wheels" ended up being featured in one of Stan's films. We helped with the filming of the award winning Fundashon Preservation Klein Bonaire video by **Matt Sellars** that helped to save Klein from development and another that won the Palme d'Or award in Marseilles, but it has been **Henrik Wuyts of Bonaire Vision Films** who has captured the best of Bonaire above and below the water and given me many hours of dynamic footage to show at collegiate, diving and ocean conferences. From their days leading sails aboard the *Oscarina* to *The Bonaire*

Reporter, George and Laura DeSalvo have been environmental stewards "Par Excellence." **Albert Romijjn** encouraged me to "take my show on the road"...and I followed his always sage advice, making presentations about Bonaire and my endeavors there to hundreds of ocean conferences, collegiate and professional gatherings.

My Bonairean journey has had great musical accompaniment with the sounds of **Moogie -aka Ralph Stewart-** two nights a week at Habitat. Rum Runners restaurant and bar and its wonderful staff have kept legions well fed and well watered. Under the steady hands and strong guidance of **Claire Sealy** and **Henry van der Quast**, Habitat is well positioned for the future.

The Captain and his beloved lady, **Janet Thibault**, founded the Accolade Award Foundation which I now chair to recognize people for their environmental work and to date have made dozens of awards. Janet and I arrived at about the same time on Bonaire and have had a book or two or three of adventures together with the Captain (who never took kindly to my attempts to edit his slides or writing!). Nonetheless, he gave me credit for the identification of a potentially harmful species of a newly found invasive algae.

After we lost Don and **Jack Chalk** I was joined by many of their friends in creating a bronze plaque in their honor at Habitat. The words represent the best of both of them to each other and the Bonaire and diving communities: "In honor of Captain Don and Jack Chalk:



friends, colleagues, patriots and environmental leaders."

Bonaire has been good to me, presenting me with several awards, When asked what makes Bonaire so special, I note the unique features of Slagbaai Washington National Park, the wonders of Klein Bonaire, Lac Bay and the salt flats, the phenomenal shore diving and spectacular night life on the reef but always say what is most special is its people: the wonderful, caring, resilient, personable and dynamic people of Bonaire. ■ George "Clam" Buckley




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Wonders of Nature

Fiction



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.

CLOTHING MARKET

In the distance I see a colorful heap lying on the dirt road where I walk with my dogs. What is it this time? When I come closer I see that the heap consists of clothing. Cheerful colors, washed neatly and invitingly displayed. The only thing missing is a screaming market vendor commending his goods. Anyway, even if that market merchant were here he would be talking to deaf ears. On this road where I walk every day I never see anyone. What a pity to display those beautiful clothes in such a desperate place! How did these clothes get here anyway?

Mary looks in her wardrobe and sighs deeply. What a collection of bad buys she sees there hanging together. In the store it all seems so nice, but once you get home the true face of clothing pops up and she usually sees an ugly snout. She has no idea how to dress correctly, there's always something wrong with the color, model, style or combination. She also has little regard for what is appropriate to the occasion. She often sees women burst out laughing when they notice her at a reception, funeral or wedding. She does not dare to ask them what exactly is wrong, but she is sure it is her clothing. At school it was already like that. If she appeared at a school party in a strapless evening dress the rest of the class came dressed in jeans. Dressed in hot pants she was not allowed in church, and in her father's overalls she was denied entrance at the casino. If no one stood at the door to save her from the humiliation of being completely out of tune, she found out herself because of the sneering of people behind her back.

Mary has no confidence in her clothing choices and the more she thinks about what to wear the weirder it looks. At her father's funeral in the Netherlands last winter she wore a sleeveless pastel flowered summer dress, because he had once said that he liked that so much. Given the

freezing cold she combined the dress with a studded fleece and black tights and knee-high rough purple boots to go through wind and weather. She had big yellow sunflowers braided in her hair, under a grey woolen hat. In her opinion this was a perfect combination with the flowered dress and her piercings and black leather motor bag. However, all eyes she saw warned her that this time again she had failed to dress properly for the occasion.

To Mary, Christmas is the holiday of the big clothing mistakes. She goes berserk with glitter, transparent blouses and shoes with lights that go on and off. During the night mass, she is asked to sit in the back. During this celebration of peace and brotherhood she sits completely alone. No one comes to sit beside her. She would love go through life unobtrusively, but she is not able to.

On the spot, standing in front of the wardrobe, she decides to get everything out of her closet that stands out. Actually, that is a complicated task for her. In Mary's eye everything and nothing stands out. She just can't tell. Then just pull everything out of the closet! Away with it, before she thinks any further. She puts her whole wardrobe in her car and drops the contents into the mondi, an impulsive action that doesn't get her far. She needs clothes anyway, unless she decides to become a nudist, but then Bonaire would have little to offer to her.

To help Mary I hereby call on anyone who goes through life as gray mouse and wants to change that. Empty your wardrobe and drop it in the mondi (you can make a request for the exact spot). Take home Mary's clothes. Mary, you can pick up the gray mouse's wardrobe right at the place where you threw your own clothes. Everybody happy!

The moral of this story: by the feathers one knows the bird, unless the bird does not know his feathers. ■ Story & photo by Justine Verschoor



A Garden? Just Do It

Let's learn about manure. I have written all about soil in recent *Reporters*, and you may think, well that's it, let start gardening. And with some rain nowadays you must be in a mood to do something in your garden. So I thought, what is there that's very important for you to know so you can make and enjoy a successful garden?

And yes, there was a missing link - the aspect of fertilizer. And thanks to our wild goats and donkeys there is plenty of free manure to use as fertilizer.

Manure is a prime source of nitrogen, potassium, and phosphorus. It's also rich in bacteria. For us home gardeners, applying fresh manure to an edible garden is not the wisest choice. The high probability that it will burn and dehydrate your plants becomes second fiddle to a bigger concern - nasty illnesses caused by pathogens like E.Coli and salmonella.

As well, pesticides and herbicides sprayed on grass and plants linger inside an animal's body and eventually turn up in its manure. Chemicals in manure can kill beneficial microbes. Also antibiotics and medications can be present in animal manure. So, to ensure that manure works best for you, take notice of this information.

Let manure sit around and act lazy for a while—like the goat manure under the trees on the road to Rincon. Often this manure lies there awhile, gets old and rotted and is mixed with fallen leaves and grass. Fresh manure has a high level of acidity that can burn plants. Aging it properly not only reduces the inevitable shock factor to your plants, but should kill the bad stuff that can make you sick.

Aged manure is powdery stuff that has been dried for several months. The moisture content has been significantly reduced if it has been exposed to air and the elements for at least six months, better if a year or more. The manure will remain nutrient-rich and won't smell too bad. Combine it with carbon-rich materials like straw, shredded paper or leaves. The sun's heat and the manure's high nitrogen content will "toast" the poop well.

Once you have the manure ready, mix it with a good quality compost. Don't put aged or composted manure near the roots of tender plants or at the beginning of the planting season. Better to mix your garden soil with the compost-manure and let it stay (rest) for awhile before putting your plants in this particular part of your garden. And to be safe - keep fruit and veggies up off the ground in soil that has been mixed with aged or composted manure. Always wash veggies and fruit before serving and clean your hands well after working in your garden.

Once it's composted or aged, manures lose some of their nitrogen content. Before they are composted, they are considered "hot." This means they contain loads of urea nitrogen that can burn plant roots. Some manures are hotter than others. Here is a list of manures.

Fresh chicken manure packs a powerful nitrogen punch. Once aged and/or composted, it should be used sparingly because otherwise you'll be left wondering



Look for donkey droppings in the mondi

why you didn't get any blooms or fruit.

The coldest of the cold manures is **Cow manure**. It has the least amount of nitrogen but is the preferred manure because it's the least likely to burn plants and stunt flower or fruit development.

Rabbit manure is higher in nitrogen than cow manure. Its phosphorus content is wonderful and this type of manure suits flowering and fruiting plants.

Horse and Donkey manures are rich in nitrogen but lack phosphorus and potassium, so it's not the best choice. **Sheep and Goat manures** are probably better manures compared to donkey manure because they contain potassium. It smells less than cow manure but takes longer to dry out. I heard from local gardeners that they put the goat manure (that they gathered from under trees where the goats rest) in buckets and then make holes in the bottom of the buckets. Then they fill the buckets with water so the urea from the goats drains out of the manure. This manure (as well as from the other animals) is full of grass seeds and other plant seeds. To avoid the growing of all kind of seeds and wild plants in your garden, cover the soil mixed with manure for a while with plastic. The young plants coming out of the seeds will die, so you are released from having to deal with unwanted plants in your garden.

Pig manure contains awful strains of bacteria, so don't take the risk. Some locals are using **iguana poop** too as a manure. I don't know how that works. I only know that it stinks a lot.

At all times, don't play Russian roulette with your health. Do wash your veggies well, and after being busy in your garden do clean your hands and under your nails well.

Have fun with all this gardening.

■ Story & photos by Angliet

Nature lover



Bondigro Grows Up



Progress in the construction of the new Bondigro building on Kaya Industria

Bonaire/Kralendijk – The construction of the brand new building of Bondigro’s supermarket is in steady progress. According to Roland Schalker, the main spirit and initiator of the project, the new location will **open its doors for the public by the end of November or at the very beginning of December 2016**. The new building is located on Kaya Industria, just opposite to the building of Don Andres. Driving from the center of Kralendijk, Bondigro is the first huge supermarket on your left hand side along Kaya Industria.

Roland Schalker, entrepreneur pur sang, says, “It all started a few years ago. I made a little study of all prices of products sold on Bonaire and I made my calculations on the back of an empty cigar box. In my opinion I could import all kinds of products from Europe, the US and Latin America better, more efficiently and sell them to the people of Bonaire for a lower price because of less overhead costs. Bondigro has a mission and a philosophy: selling quality products to the people for prices as low as possible. So on Monday, December 9th 2013, we opened our doors to the public. In those days the supermarket was located in a relatively small building. We started with little funds and we rented the building. Soon the people from Bonaire discovered Bondigro. Even at NAPA, a shop in downtown Kralendijk where you can buy parts for your car, the news was spread: At Bondigro you could fill your trolley with purchases for about half the price as compared to the other existing shops and supermarkets!

Then we moved to another building, closer to the main supermarkets of the island. We developed from a little idealistic mouse into a roaring, price-fighting

lion. We are still fighting and we are still winning. Our prices are still low and will remain very low. We do not need a luxurious shop with air conditioning and a lot of bureaucracy and inefficiency. We just want to sell honest and proper products to the people from Bonaire for a fair price!”

And indeed, Roland Schalker tells the truth and nothing but the truth. The products from Europe, the US, Latin America and Bonaire are good quality products. Prices are definitely lower compared to prices in other supermarkets. Products are sold from the shelf or from the pallet. No luxury. Just efficiency.

The range of products is ever expanding. Apart from food Bondigro also sells smart phones, televisions, washing machines, refrigerators, blenders and an ever changing variety of basic clothing and tools. It is worthwhile to check out the supermarket on a regular basis as there is always something completely new for sale.

Roland Schalker continues, “Only some three years ago we started with two persons in a relatively small location. Now our crew is up to 15 persons! Our brand new supermarket will be twice as big as our present supermarket. There will be four cash registers for the food department and one special cash register for the department with hardware, electric and electronic products.

We started as a tiny but clever mouse, then we entered the lion’s den. Now we have become the new lion as the price fighter of Bonaire!” ■

Story & photo by Jan Brouwer



Picture Yourself With The Reporter at Schiphol Airport in Holland



Here are two photos of Rob Hulsbergen, who owns a house on Bonaire, in front of the Dutch DC-3 Dakota “Prinses Amalia” at Schiphol Airport in Holland. The photos were taken by the captain of this plane just before Rob left on a scenic flight on July 30th.

This airplane is 82 years old and dropped parachutists at Normandy in France on “D-Day” and at Arnhem during “Market Garden” in World War II. Built in 1943 by Douglas, it is maintained in perfect flying condition by the Dutch Dakota Association. ■

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"There Is A Storm Coming" Hurricane Matthew Passes Close



Tine Delaey photos

The cashier at the van denTweel Supermarket is worried: she forgot the adapter of her phone, and she is unable to charge the battery. "You want to keep in touch with your loved ones during a hurricane," she says. My wife Tine and I look at each other. We just landed on Bonaire, dropped off our luggage in our house in Belnem and now we are shopping for some first night provisions. What does she mean by "hurricane?" In Flanders, where we used to live, there are no storms. When we say storm, it just means that there is more rain than usual and that there's a slight possibility that the old tree in the backyard will lose some branches. You don't take precautions. You stay at home, cuddle up under a blanket, drink hot coco and watch Game of Thrones. Hurricanes are far off phenomena; events you see in disaster movies or CNN-coverage from faraway islands. The problem is: now we live on a faraway island. After stints on Aruba and Curaçao, my wife will be working in the hospital for half a year. In the meantime we got used to the heat and the blistering sun and praised the absence of rain. Every morning we get up, see the blue sky and celebrate yet another perfect day. Checking weather forecasts is something from a grey, distant past. Fall and winter have become foggy memories. Just thinking about umbrellas, gloves, scarves and duffel coats makes us laugh, and sweat.

The radio keeps alerting us for "Matthew." Who decides on these names anyway? Climate experts give their opinion, a reporter informs us that the elections on Curaçao are postponed, power cuts are imminent. The DJ from Dolfijn FM plays "Hurricane" by Bob Dylan—a song about a black boxing champion who got framed for murder, not really appropriate, but hey, it just proves that Dylan fits every occasion.

While we drive through Kralendijk we see people taking down billboards. A guy at Le Garage is tying up swimming pools. Is it going to be that bad? Are we going to see flying swimming pools? What's next? The four horsemen of the apocalypse? The sky darkens.

What to do? Should we start hoarding food and water? Buy stormproof candles and torches? A generator? Barricade the windows? We have no idea. And what do you do when you are clueless? You mimic. Do whatever other people do. So we stuff the fridge, buy charcoal to heat up the barbecue (ignoring the fact that chances are slim that you can get a fire started in a tropical storm), and we stock up on beer. The latter seems to be very important for some reason. That's what we learned from Facebook, and you can always trust Facebook. We roam around the garden looking for chairs and loose equipment to safeguard. We email friends and family in the Low Countries, letting them know that we might be out of touch for a few days. We tell them not to worry. Frankly, we are not sure. Who are we trying to convince?



Cat storm shelter

And then we wait. You can feel the wind tighten, you can feel the lingering heat. But nothing really happens. So we decide to walk to Bachelor Beach to see the waves crashing against the shore. It's past sundown, but the sound of the sea is impressive. We sit there, enjoying a cold beer, and after five minutes the police pulls up. "You shouldn't be out here. There is a storm coming. Finish your drink and go home." We thank the officers for their concern and hurry home. We lure the cat inside and call it a night.

The following day we learn that Matthew passed us. He gained strength and is heading for Jamaica, Haiti and the coast of Florida. Afterwards we will learn that Matthew took at least 100 lives and that the American coastal cities are being evacuated.

We got away clean. Sure, there was some rain, gusts of wind and the sea is all messed up with goofy waves and pieces of coral on the shore, but we got lucky. Very lucky. ■

Roderik Six

Roderik Six is a literary critic and novelist. His debut novel *Vloed* was awarded with the Bronze Owl and his second novel *Val* made it onto the ECI-longlist. He is currently living on Bonaire with his wife Tine and his cat Beezle.



Swim To Klein Bonaire



Warming up for the swim

At 9am sharp on Sunday, October 9, hundreds of swimmers left from the beach of Spice Beach Club at Eden Beach Resort to swim to Klein Bonaire, an annual fundraiser for Jong Bonaire. The exact count of participants was about 500 but exact figures were not available at press time.

Swimmers were guarded by a flotilla of small boats. Weather was clear with light winds and little current. ■ G.D.



Families often swam together.



The Red Cross had a team on site to handle possible problems.

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Birding Workshop

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"If you want to capture a prikichi (Caribbean Parakeet) on camera, make sure to shoot the bright green bird in its natural habitat doing what it prefers to be doing, nibbling on fruit or seeds," nature photographer Sipke Stapert tells us, birding/hiking enthusiasts and professional guides. Stapert is one of the professional invitees to Bonaire's September 2016 Five-Day Birding Seminar.

"Our nature provides inhabitants and tourists visiting Bonaire with a unique experience. Let us stay connected, leaders and locals, with one common goal: to protect, respect and enjoy *nos naturalesa i paranan* (our nature and birds). Empower communities to benefit economically from tourism, and also from birds and birding." So said Bonaire's governor Edison Rijna to inaugurate the Caribbean Birding Trail Interpretive Guide Training Workshop, in collaboration with the Dutch Caribbean Nature Alliance (DCNA) and our local national park foundation, STINAPA.



Photo by S. Voelkel

Magnificent Frigate Bird aloft

About 30 eager participants, including Antillean, American, Dutch and Latin American birders, hikers and professional guides (and one serious reporter), signed up for an education in, among other subjects, bird diversity/ecology/habitat, bird monitoring techniques, photography skills, tour guiding techniques and, last but hardly least, developing your own tourism business for a world-class "bird-watching" workshop.

The primary missions of BirdsCaribbean, was described to us by Lisa Sorenson and Holly Robertson, who both play important roles in the organization. They are to raise general awareness of our birds and their habitats and to help protect important bird areas (IBAs) as well as to help our tourists and locals to know the Caribbean better, bird by bird. Fundamentally, the company wants to inspire people to get involved in nature and to develop a lifelong interest in bird and nature conservation. Bonaire is well-known for its scuba diving, but many, tourists and locals alike, may not realize that birding and hiking are excellent possibilities to explore our island as well.

The Caribbean, including Bonaire, is a hotspot for biodiversity. According to Beny Wilson and Rick Morales, both certified interpretive trainers participating from Panama, there are **at least 513 species of birds on this island, of which 54 kinds are globally threatened.** At least 34% of these feathered creatures are endemic to



our region although most are seasonal neotropical migrants and occasional accidental tourists. Birds of the Caribbean face many threats, including mass tourism, plastic ingestion, deforestation, pollution and invasive species, such as feral cats, donkeys and goats, to name just a few.

BirdsCaribbean has managed to protect a multitude of bird species and their habitats from overdevelopment, hunting and poaching. They have also inspired youth to care about birds and bird conservation. The organization has received several small grants to invest more money and time into research and education, and to be able to monitor birds in their environments.

As of late, BirdsCaribbean has been quite concerned with the decline of numbers in Bonaire's migratory shore birds, among them avian visitors from North America, in particular the Least Sandpiper, sporting yellow-green feet, and its look-alike, the Semipalmated Sandpiper, with black feet. Their habitats include the salt pans in the south. Main threats include sea level rise, interference from humans (among other invasive species) and the loss of wetland habitats, crucial to the feeding, breeding and migratory resting of waterfowl.



Bonaire's five wetlands are Gotomeer, Pekelmeer, Klein Bonaire, Slagbaai Lagoon and Lac Bay (mangroves). These areas are named "Ramsar sites," named for the Ramsar Convention, the international meeting in Iran which set in motion environmental protection protocols, which protects wetlands of international

importance for the protection of our waterbirds. Gotomeer houses foraging flamingos; Pekelmeer is a Flamingo Sanctuary where our beloved pinkies breed; Klein Bonaire has turtle nesting areas and great coral reef; Slagbaai offers foraging and breeding grounds for, among others, flamingos, pelicans and herons; Lac, enclosed by endangered mangroves, provides breeding and feeding options for all kinds of fowl (see Bonaire Nature Preservation website).

We, birding devotees, will visit some of these Ramsar sites, including Dos Pos/ Gotomeer and Lac Bay as part of our identification training. Two half days are spent in Lac Bay for birding practice, ethics of birdwatching and effective use of binoculars and guiding techniques, under the capable guidance of Beny and Rick.

At Lac Bay, the class, under instructors' guidance, set up to photograph one flying Caribbean Flamingo and several foraging



Photo by E. van Winsen
Pelican ready for diving

of Bonaire deserve a visually excellent tour by a knowledgeable guide.

The group, now thinned out a bit because of Matthew's threatening rain squalls, listens attentively while at the same time shooting pix whenever an opportunity arises. We watch little flycatchers, which are near stand-ins for the Chubichubis, sit on branches while they are being fed.

Lauren Schmalz of Echo elaborates on birding and hiking trails on Bonaire as a



From left to right: Lauren Schmalz (Echo) Holly Robertson (BirdsCaribbean), Lisa Sorenson (BirdsCaribbean), Edison Rijna (Governor Bonaire) and Kalli de Meyer (DCNA). Photo by K. Gilmour

ones, trampling Black Neck Stilts, plundering Thick Billed Plovers, one motionless Reddish Egret, a hurried Tricolored Heron, a lazy Least Sandpiper, diving Brown Pelicans, soaring Magnificent Frigate birds and hordes of twittering terns and swooping swallows. We learn to film characteristic behaviors of various avians in their habitats, such as grooming, swooping down to catch fish, shoveling for food and displaying all manner of aerobatics.

Birding on the Pink Trail off Dos Pos at 7 am, while Storm Matthew is side

tool for guides. All students are encouraged to present as guides a week full of birding and hiking possibilities, which they would then offer to their customers. Some presenters go all out to include all of Bonaire's Ramsar sites, crammed into one week with no breaks for the weary tourist.

Caren Eckrich of STINAPA lists all opportunities for Birding and the Caribbean Waterbird Census (CWC) on Bonaire and gives us a review of monthly and annual events.

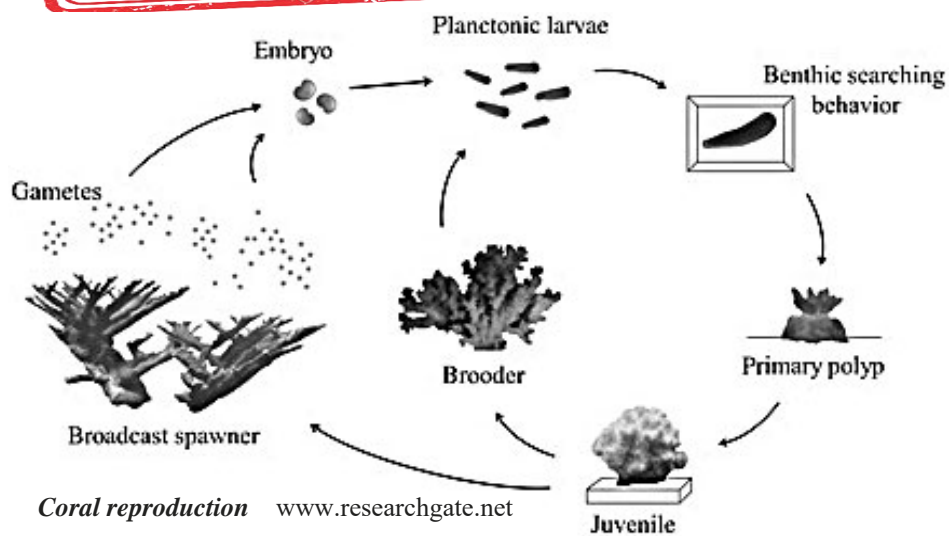
The end of this seminar is marked by student presentations in the field. Now is the time to show off what was learned -- or not. One of the final remarks by one of our classmates seemed to sum up the message of the course, "Be always informed about bird conservation, as a guide, but also as a caring human. The bird will thank you."



■ Karen B. Gilmour

Written with much gratitude to Lauren Schmalz, General Manager of Echo, for organizing the birding seminar; Kalli de Meyer, Executive Director of DCNA, for hosting the event; Lisa Sorenson and Holly Robertson, respectively Executive Director and Project Manager of BirdsCaribbean, for facilitating this workshop. Also many thanks to Elisabeth van Winsen and Shelley Voelkel for providing me with photos.

DID YOU KNOW?



Coral releasing eggs

...Some corals reproduce by releasing their eggs out into the blue (spawners) and some corals rear their young (brooders). Different corals have different strategies. For instance, most of the large reef-building corals only reproduce once a year, while some of the smaller corals reproduce every month. The corals that reproduce once a year (broadcast spawners) all spawn together in what we call coral spawning. These corals release their eggs and sperm right out into the water column where fertilization takes place. It takes weeks for the eggs to mature into larvae that then settle on a reef that may be far away from the parent colonies. At this point the coral gets their special, symbiotic algae – their zooxanthellae - from the environment. In Bonaire, spawning usually happens when the water temperature is the warmest of the year (September or October) and occurs about a week after the full moon after sunset. Although some corals spawned in September, you still have a chance to see spawning this month (Oct 18-25). See research station CARMABI's website coral spawning dates/times.

The brooding corals are often smaller and have a completely different strategy. With brooders, the eggs stay inside the mother coral polyps. Sperm must travel from one coral to another and need to enter the mother polyp in order to fertilize

the eggs. Then the larvae grow inside the mother polyps and, when they are ready, they swim out of the mother polyp, travel a short distance, and settle nearby on the reef. Larvae from brooding corals get their special algae – zooxanthellae – from the mother coral colony.

Besides spawning and brooding, corals have other ways to spread and grow, including fragmentation. This is when a piece or branch of the coral breaks off and falls close by, usually during heavy wave action. Staghorn and elkhorn corals often break apart during storms. If the broken pieces are large enough and land in a place that is ideal for growth, they will form new colonies – identical to the mother colony. Our recent brush with Hurricane Matthew resulted in heavy surge and lots of surf in the shallows. STINAPA and other concerned coral reef advocates are currently assessing the extent of the damage to Bonaire's coral reefs. We're lucky that the storm didn't come closer. ■

Caren Eckrich,
STINAPA Biologist.
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PLAZA Resort



On November 27, the Bonaire Animal Shelter will be holding its bi-annual auction fundraiser.

We would like to ask for donations of pieces of wooden furniture such as tables, chests, and chairs that need to be refurbished. Since we have many clever artists and craftspersons on the island we plan to ask some of them to refinish and

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Bonaire-Sun Rise/Set, Moon Phase and Tides

Day	High	Low	High	Low	High	Sunrise	Sunset
Mon 10		02:56	08:22	13:37	19:30		
		-0.02 ft	0.45 ft	0.26 ft	0.85 ft	6:25	18:19
Tue 11		03:26	08:53	14:33	20:13		
		-0.01 ft	0.50 ft	0.24 ft	0.81 ft	6:25	18:19
Wed 12		03:57	09:31	15:37	21:02		
		0.01 ft	0.57 ft	0.23 ft	0.73 ft	6:25	18:18
Thu 13		04:29	10:13	16:51	21:58		
		0.04 ft	0.65 ft	0.21 ft	0.64 ft	6:25	18:18
Fri 14		05:04	11:01	18:13	23:04		
		0.07 ft	0.75 ft	0.17 ft	0.54 ft	6:25	18:17
Sat 15		05:42	11:53	19:37			
		0.10 ft	0.85 ft	0.11 ft		6:25	18:17
Sun 16	00:24	06:26	12:48	20:55	Full Moon		
	0.45 ft	0.13 ft	0.94 ft	0.01 ft		6:25	18:16
Mon 17	01:51	07:18	13:45	22:03			
	0.40 ft	0.16 ft	1.02 ft	-0.08 ft		6:25	18:15
Tue 18	03:15	08:17	14:42	23:03			
	0.39 ft	0.19 ft	1.09 ft	-0.17 ft		6:25	18:15
Wed 19	04:28	09:21	15:37	23:57			
	0.41 ft	0.21 ft	1.13 ft	-0.23 ft		6:26	18:14
Thu 20	05:29	10:26	16:32				
	0.45 ft	0.23 ft	1.13 ft			6:26	18:14
Fri 21		00:46	06:23	11:31	17:25		
		-0.26 ft	0.50 ft	0.23 ft	1.11 ft	6:26	18:14
Sat 22	Last Quarter	01:33	07:12	12:34	18:18		
		-0.25 ft	0.55 ft	0.23 ft	1.05 ft	6:26	18:13
Sun 23		02:18	08:00	13:37	19:09		
		-0.22 ft	0.59 ft	0.24 ft	0.96 ft	6:26	18:13
Mon 24		03:00	08:45	14:41	20:00		
		-0.16 ft	0.64 ft	0.24 ft	0.85 ft	6:26	18:12



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dabney38@yahoo.com, to schedule a pickup of the item. Whichever pieces are not rehatted can be sold at the animal helter Pakus which is open every Saturday from 8:00 am until 5:00 pm and is located across from Brandais Café.

Who's Who on The Bonaire Reporter

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What's Happening



REGULAR EVENTS

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 Koeke 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. .

•**Tera Kora Ranch Market—2nd & last Saturdays**- local produce, clothes, food, games for kids, 2nd hand items

•**Monthly Cultural Market at Mangazina di Rei**—Usually the last Saturday of the month, 8am-1pm. See the real Bonaire: traditional music, crafts, local produce, Creole kitchen, educational presentations. Mangazina di Rei is on the Rincon Road, at the eastern entrance to Rincon. Free entrance

•**Bonaire Animal Shelter's Garage Sale (Pakus di Pruga)**—every Saturday, 8am-5pm. At Kaminda Liberador Simon Bolivar, across from Brandaris Café. Tel. 717-4989. Drop off cast offs on Saturdays or at the Shelter on the Lagoen Road weekdays. 717-4989

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

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

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

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.

#	DAY	NAME	Time in Port	Cruise Line
Cruise Ship Schedule				
63	12 Oct. 16	<i>Adventure of the Seas</i>	0800-1700	Royal Caribbean
64	26 Oct. 16	<i>Carnival Valor</i>	0800-1600	Carnival

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 MUSEUMS

• **Mangasina di Rei, Rincon.** See, Feel and Taste the Culture of Bonaire. Enjoy the view from "The King's Storehouse." Monday-Friday. 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**

•**Bonaire Museum**-on the waterfront at the old Kas di Arte. Monday-Friday 9am-noon, 2-4pm. Free

•**Terramar Museum** at Terramar Shopping Mall, on the waterfront. Monday-Saturday 9am-6pm. Sunday, closed. Cruise ship days 9am-6pm, \$10, \$5 for residents, children free

•**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.

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 Crisita 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 ■

CLOSE-IN EVENTS



Oct. 12—16— The 49th edition of the Bonaire International Sailing Regatta will start this week. It offers a long weekend of sailing, fun and excitement on the seaside and around the waters of the bay in Kralendijk.

From October 13th to 15th, the bay will be filled with sails from all kinds of sailing divisions. Like Sunfishes, Optimists, beach cats, Windsurfers and kites and yachts. On Friday and Saturday afternoon, there will be solar-powered boat races in front of Spice and Coco Beach. During the day and evening food and game stands will be set up in the vacant area near the Den Laman Apartment parking lot. Info at WWW.bonaireregatta.org

Saturday, Oct. 15

—**Dive Friends Quarterly Clean up Dive**, 8am-5pm. Free air & potluck. Register 717-2929. Info- Divefriends.com

- **Brandaris Hike at Washington-Slagbaai Park**—sponsored by STINAPA. See a spectacular sunset from the top of Brandaris. Max 20 people. Pre-register at STINAPA, 717-8444. Info- Stinapabonaire.org

Saturday, Oct. 22—Birdwatching – sponsored by STINAPA, 5-6:30pm at LVV facility on Kaminda Lagoen. Reservation 717-8444. Maximum 15 people. Meet at LVV office next to wastewater tanks.

Sunday, Oct. 23— 7th Duo Xtreme Bonaire Mountain Bike Race. Registration Friday, 21st and Saturday, 22nd, 5-7pm at Divi Flamingo. Registration Sunday 6 am. Race starts at 6:30 am. More info Bonairextreme.com

Wednesday, Oct. 26—Bonaire on "House Hunters International" TV show. 10:30pm. Channel 105 on MiTV from Telbo. More on page 2.

Saturday, Oct. 29—Monthly Cultural Market at Mangazina di Rei, music, drinks, food, plants, more. One of the best experiences on the island. 8am to 2pm. On the Rincon road, at the eastern entrance to Rincon. Free entrance. More on page 3.

Sunday, Nov. 6—Mas Color Walk at Sunset Beach Start 7 am Tickets \$15/\$10 at Coconut Car Wash or call 796-6270

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AIRLINES

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

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.



BARS

Woodstock - the place to be to meet and have fun with Happy Hours, Dancing, Oldies on Vinyl, Live music and more. Downtown off the waterfront promenade, behind Terramar. Wonderful; atmosphere and warm hosts. Find them on Facebook.

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.**

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ON and IN the WATER

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

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

GARDEN SUPPLIES AND SERVICES

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

OPTICIAN

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

PHOTOGRAPHER

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

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RESTAURANTS

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

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Animal Shelter News

Pet Of The Week



WONDERFUL KIDS!



At World Animal Day we got an invitation to visit School Rayo di Solo groups 1+2 and Kresh Hardin di Jesus. The teachers and kids organized a donation drive to help the cats and dogs at the Animal Shelter Bonaire. They collected food items that animals in shelters need and they learned a lot about how to take care of these animals too.

Our education team: dog Isis (former Shelter resident), Shelter puppy James and their handlers went for a visit. What a surprise! Thank you all so much for your amazing support and love for the animals!

Would you like to support too? Spread the word about this amazing donation drive. THANK YOU!

A big hug and thank you from all the animals at the Animal Shelter Bonaire for supporting World Animal Day! Your special attention for the Shelter animals on this day was highly appreciated.

Thank you to all of our wonderful supporters, volunteers, foster homes, adoptive families and followers on Facebook. We couldn't do it without you. Your donations of time, supplies, food and more are what allow us to continue to help the animals. With your support we can make it a happy animal day every day! ■

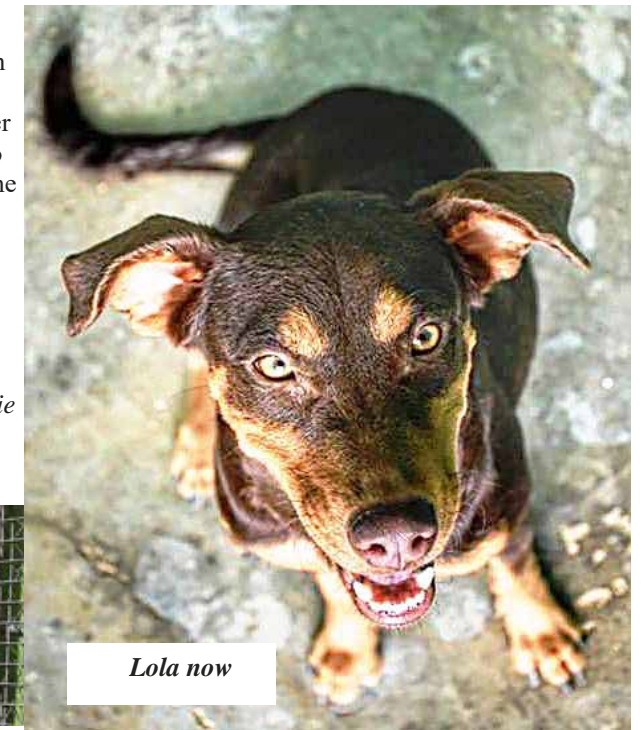
Story & photo by Nathalie Peterson

LOLA
 “Hi, my name is Lola. I was brought in to the Bonaire Animal Shelter about three months ago. I was in very bad condition. My body was riddled with parasites eating away at my skin (Demodectic mange). I felt very bad, but with lots of love and care, proper nutrition and medication I am feeling much better and even my fur grew back! I am healthy, I love to play with other dogs and kids and I am very ready for a forever home. If you would like to meet me please pass by The Animal Shelter Bonaire at Kaminda Lagun 26.”

For more information you can also call or e-mail at #7014989, animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com. ■
 Story & photos by Nathalie Peterson



Lola before



Lola now



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THE STARS HAVE IT

October 2016



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*to find it... just look up

October Planet Parade

ARIES (Mar. 21- April 20) You should consider getting into self-improvement endeavors. Don't lend or borrow money or belongings. Try to deal with the problems of those less fortunate; however, don't allow them to make unreasonable demands. Put your thoughts on paper. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Wednesday.

TAURUS (Apr. 21- May 21) Don't lament to a friend about any grievance regarding your mate, or it may be hard to rectify your relationship. You will have the stamina and the know how to raise your earning power. You will have additional discipline that will aid you in your objectives. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Friday.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21) Your temper could be short if someone criticizes your efforts. Self-deception about relationships is a problem. Be careful not to take on other people's problems. You may find yourself in a financial bind. You could be tempted to overspend on unnecessary items. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Wednesday.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) You will be tempted to shop till you drop. Stomach problems could prevail if you haven't been watching your diet. Your magnetic, outgoing personality will capture hearts. Lowered vitality could affect your work. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Friday.

LEO (July 23-Aug 22) You will have the discipline and fortitude to accomplish what you want this month. Be sure you get accurate information. You may want to clear the air where older relatives are concerned. People trying to entice you to join in will be less than trustworthy. Your luckiest events will occur on a Friday.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) Make plans to meet again in the near future. Large organizations may try to talk you out of your hard-earned cash. There will be hidden matters that you may find disturbing. Think about taking the time to complete unfinished domestic chores. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Tuesday.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) Your attitude is changing rapidly and your plate is overloaded. You will find the excitement gratifying. You are best to avoid joint ventures, and whatever you do, don't lend to friends or relatives. Try to be a bit more understanding or you may end up spending the evening alone. Your luckiest events will occur on a Thursday.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) Time is money and you must be ready to take action in order to reach your highest potential. New hair, new outfit, new you. If you can put some work into home improvements, you should. Your high energy will enable you to enlist the help of those in a position to back you. Your luckiest events will occur on a Saturday.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) Don't give your heart too readily. Upheavals may occupy your day. Pleasure trips will be favorable and bring about romance. It's a good time to make changes to your living quarters that will give you more space. Your luckiest events will occur on a Wednesday.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) Arguments with children or friends may leave you steaming. Be sure that the person you're drawn to is not already involved. Travel is evident, but be cautious while in transit. Take some time to change your house around. Your luckiest events will occur on a Wednesday.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) You will meet exciting new people through interest groups or functions that you attend with your children. Business trips might prove unproductive. Don't reveal anything about your personal life to those who may use such information against you. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Monday.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) Minor accidents could occur if you don't take precautions. Trouble could be brewing at home. Your self confidence will attract members of the opposite sex If they don't like the plan, suggest that they contribute a little. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Wednesday. ■

Michael Thiessen

We have an interesting line up of planets for your viewing pleasure in the Sky Park this month We have **Venus, Saturn and Mars** in the evening... and the reappearance of **Jupiter** in the morning sky.

Beginning next week, Monday, October 17th, just after sunset, face southwest. Near the horizon, you can easily spot the planet Venus among the stars of **Scorpius the scorpion**. Venus is a little over 118 million miles away from us right now, but even at that great distance, we can see its dazzling brilliance near the star **Dschubba**.

As the week wears on Venus will appear to cruise right past Dschubba on its way to a rendezvous with the star **Antares**.

As we continue to advance time, Venus begins moving between Antares and the ringed planet, Saturn. And mark your calendars for the evening of Thursday, October 27th when Saturn, Venus and Antares meet for a rare equidistant line up just after sunset. Saturn is what we call a **gas giant** (or **Jovian planet**). It's primarily composed of hydrogen and helium and its rotation causes it to have an M & M shape.

Saturn also has a hot interior, reaching almost 21,000 degrees Fahrenheit at its core, and it radiates two and a half times more energy into space than it receives from the **Sun**. While Saturn has 95 times the mass of the **Earth**, Jupiter Has 318 times the mass of the Earth. Together, Jupiter and Saturn make up 92% of the total planetary mass in the **Solar System**.

Let's now look a little farther south, an hour after sunset on October 16th. You'll see the red planet Mars gradually moving away from the teapot shaped grouping of stars in **Sagittarius the Centaur archer**. This week, you'll see Mars zip past the star **Nunki**, which marks the top of the teapot's handle. Nunki is approximately 225 light years away from us and is over 3300 times As luminous as our Sun. Be-



cause of its location close to the **Ecliptic**, Nunki can be occulted by the **Moon** and, very rarely, by planets. The last time Mars occulted Nunki was on September 3rd, 423 AD.

Since antiquity, Mars has been universally associated with gods of war, pestilence and death. The planets were considered divine and their peculiar movements were interpreted as messages from the gods, expressing their pleasure, or displeasure with the doings of mankind.

We're getting farther away from Mars right now, but every 26 months, when the Earth catches up to Mars, Mars brightens. The brightening of Mars reminded people of this celestial connection to war, and so they came to expect the heavenly unleashing of war, disasters and death. Even the modern symbol for Mars is still the stylized Roman sword and shield.

For you early morning planet watchers we have the reappearance of Jupiter in the morning sky! Within an hour before sunrise, look low in the east and you'll see a steady white light among the stars of **Virgo the Maiden**.

And on the morning of October 28th, the waning Crescent Moon appears very close to Jupiter in the eastern sky.

You'll be able to see **Earthshine**; that faint glow of light reflecting off the Earth and illuminating the nighttime side of the Moon. With Jupiter near by, the image of the pairing will be breathtaking.

So there you have it. A planetary parade for October.. ■Dean Regas & James Albury

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