

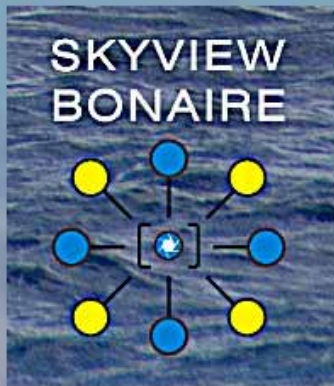
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BONAIRE Oct. 24- Nov. 7, 2016, Year 23, Issue 20
The REPORTER

BES Island News Too

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Regatta 2016

Racing by Day

Page 9



Party by Night



The Bonaire National Park Foundation Stinapa surveyed the state of local coral reefs following the recent relatively close passage of Hurricane Matthew. The damage was less than that created by Hurricane Lenny in 1999 and Omar in 2008. Corals up to 10 meters deep were affected in 11 of the 18 spots checked, but those at a greater depth seemed largely unharmed. The full report can now be viewed and downloaded via the following link:

http://stinapabonaire.org/stinapa_news/matthew-report/

The coral restoration operations appeared unaffected according to the volunteers conducting the project.

A surprise strong wind reversal last week, unrelated to the hurricane, may have done additional harm to shallower areas, and resulted in damage to local fishing boats and a yacht grounding.

► **More tourists visited Bonaire in 2015 than previous years.** The number of cruise ship passengers calling at the port of Bonaire increased by **47% in 2015.** There was also a **6%** rise in the number of tourists and business travelers arriving by airplane according to Statistics Netherlands (CBS).

In 2015 **230,000** cruise passengers visited Bonaire. The year before **156,000** came by cruise ship. In **2017, 288,000** cruise visitors are expected, according to the TCB.

Flamingo Airport welcomed **137,000** tourists and business travelers, nearly **8,000 more than in 2014.** One in 10 visited Bonaire for one day only. Over a third stayed longer than a week. Nearly **3,000** tourists called at the ports of the island in yachts and pleasure craft, the same number as in 2014.

► **The study to use micro-algae as a feedstock for renewable fuels such as bio-diesel has been revived.** Years ago a plan to utilize unused salt evaporators as ponds for growing algae was proposed. It died because of a lack of funding and concern that algae cultivation might prove a threat to the reef.



Now TUI Benelux, Wageningen University and Research Centre (WUR), the Bonaire government, the Dutch Ministry of Economic Affairs and the European Union's Overseas Countries and Territories group (OCTA) appear to have joined forces to propose AlgaePARC BONAIRE, a project for the cultivation of microalgae.

The principals of the partnership said they believe that Bonaire is not only an ideal destination for holiday makers due to its favorable climatic conditions, but it is also an ideal place for the cultivation of microalgae.

Wageningen University will research the possibilities to use these algae as the source for bio fuel and have AlgaePARC Bonaire operational in 2017, TUI Netherlands (an aviation tour operator) stated in a press release.

► **The rate of inflation increased marginally on Bonaire and Saba** in the third quarter of 2016, but decreased on St. Eustatius. The rates on Bonaire and Saba rose to 0.6% and 0.2% respectively. And fell on St. Eustatius -1.0%, according to Central Bureau of Statistics. The Bonaire rise of 0.6% up on a year-on-year was an uptick compared to 0.4% in the second quarter. **Price increases for food products and soft drinks were the main contributors to the inflation increase.**



► **The annual flu vaccination campaign has been launched worldwide.** On Bonaire at-risk persons get the flu shots free from their GP. The flu shot is especially recommended for people with reduced resistance, respiratory problems such as asthma and bronchitis, heart problems, diabetes and disease; and those over 60 years old. It takes about two weeks until the flu shot is effective.

The value of the annual flu shots is not without controversy. Sometimes the flu virus predicted for the year and compounded into the vaccination does not protect against actual flu strain causing illness.

It can also have negative side effects. The campaign is organized by the Department of Public Health of the Public Body Bonaire.

► **During the October and November of this year Statistics Netherlands (Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek-CBS) will conduct a Labor force survey (Arbeidskrachtenonderzoek AKO- 2016).** Interviewers of CBS will go to the randomly selected households to administer the questionnaire. The results of the AKO will be published in the second quarter of 2017

The survey measures, among other things, the unemployment rate, how large the employed labor force is, and the education level of the population. For this survey 850 addresses on Bonaire have been chosen. All households are asked to cooperate. Results are confidential.

► **With all the hype about Regatta it is worth mentioning our Freestyle windsurfers who had great results in the overall PWA Freestyle World-ranking. Amado Vrieswijk NB-20 2nd, Taty Frans NB-9 9th, Maxime van Gent NB-22 in 5th place Tonky Frans NB-7 13th, Youp Schmit NB-12, 13th, Kiri Thode 17th, Stephen Gustowski NB-33, 53rd but Youth World Champion.** A great season for the Bonaire Windsurfers

► **Remember that video we posted a while ago about that plastic recycling machine? Well, three machines have arrived on Bonaire. Selibon N.V. employees are learning how to craft plastic products using different techniques.**



Carnegie hall

► **The Bonaire Classical Music Board on Wednesday evening, November 2, will present two outstanding classical musi-**

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How to contact us

Find Bonaire Reporter on Facebook. Press "Like"

The Publisher: George DeSalvo
George@bonairenews.com
Phone 777-6125

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

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Flotsam and Jetsam (Continued from page 2)
cians direct from Carnegie Hall in New York

Chae Won Hong is a prize winning cellist from South Korea, and **Julian Gargiulo** is an internationally noted pianist from the US. They will perform well-known compositions of Bach, Scarlatti, Beethoven, Chopin, Debussy and the Antillean composer J. Palm as well as a brand new sonata for the Caribbean Isles recently composed by Julian who presents the program in an attractive, witty, entertaining style. In most countries you'd pay more, but on Bonaire you pay only \$35 (children with school- ID pay \$10) and you enjoy the performance close up, not from the back of some concert hall. See poster on page 12.

► **Mark the Date! The Stormvogel Restoration foundation has just scheduled the Bonaire Maritime Film Festival** for Saturday January 14, 2017, from 5 to 7:30pm. Special thanks to Plaza Beach Resort Bonaire for donating their 150-seat meeting room for the event. There will be a film and a specific *Stormvogel* program. More on that later. Tickets can be reserved at projectstormvogel@gmail.com. The film festival will feature the 90-minute award-winning documentary, *Vanishing Sail*, <http://www.vanishingsail.com/>

► This coming week be sure to **watch the TV story** of two lifelong diving fanatics who, after getting married, visited Bonaire and immediately started to look

for a home. Their dream was to have a beachfront home with direct access to beautiful diving reefs, but that dream is quickly scuttled when the couple discovers that mortgage restrictions in Bonaire limits their purchase to a cash-only deal. The couple knows that spending too much of their life savings means they will have to remain in California part time and continue to work, but the temptation of a savings-devouring beachfront home may prove to be too much. In the end, the battle between budget and location will determine whether Kate and Ian can sink or swim in Bonaire. See below and "Happenings" on page 12 for channels and time.



► **In a few days the fruit boats should be returning to the waterfront.** Barred by the Venezuelan government from exporting food, the boats were forbidden to sail to the ABC islands as they've done for the last 100 years. However, at the end of last week the Falcon state government rescinded that order. Whether the boats sailing from Carabobo state will

(Continued on page 5)

► **InselAir, the Curacao-based airline serving Bonaire, is under strong criticism because of its inability to maintain flight schedules and poor communication with its passengers when there are delays and cancellations.**

One of the latest reactions comes from the Fundashon pa Konsumidó (Curacao's Consumer's Foundation) who wants the government to draw up guidelines for the compensation of passengers in case of delays by InselAir based on the international standards. Most of InselAir's fleet of Fokker and McDonnell Douglas planes are old, averaging more than 25 years, and break down far more frequently than new models. This, combined with the lack of certified airplane mechanics at many InselAir destinations, keep the planes on the ground.

Insel's Chief Executive Officer Albert Kluyver says the Curaçao carrier is in negotiations with an unspecified third party investor over a possible strategic partnership that would assist it in its fleet renewal and upgrade plans. He's been criticized for focusing on expansion when current routes cannot be served properly. At the same time the airline says it is in financial trouble because of inability to repatriate fares paid in Venezuela.

Bonaire and Curacao are not alone in the criticism of InselAir. In St. Martin Haitian businessman Moise Agenor condemned InselAir for not keeping passengers informed over delays or technical issues particularly to the cancellation of an InselAir flight to Haiti from St. Maarten on Saturday, October 8, and requiring police to calm an angry crowd of passengers. Agenor claims, "Insel has no respect for

Klachtenlijn Insel Air graphic



the Haitian community and we are very good clients for them. No vouchers were offered and passengers had to pay their own taxis to go home again."

Bonaire based passengers have also complained over the lack of respect. InselAir says it conforms to international standards for vouchers, etc. but in practice this does not happen.

Earlier in the month passengers bound for the Dominican Republic from Curacao disrupted Hato airport operation when their flight was cancelled after long delays. Again, police had to be called.

Last weekend InselAir announced they would cut the number of flights between Aruba and Curacao and with a loan from Curacao would repair the Fokker 70 jets currently stored in a hanger at the airport.

The disgust with InselAir service is so widespread that it has become a parody for social media being renamed "Cancel Air" or "InsultAir." ■ G./L.D.

House Hunters International

Episode "Sink or Swim in Bonaire"

Don't miss it!!!



This episode, which features Bonaire and real estate buyers from RE/MAX Paradise Homes, will be airing in the US on Wednesday October 26, 2016 at 10:30pm EDT and will air again 3 hours later at 1:30am EDT.

**Bonaire HGTV is on channel 105 MiTV from TELBO.
 You can find more details on this link:**

www.hgtv.com/shows/house-hunters-international/episodes/sink-or-swim-in-bonaire



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 Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/REMAXBonaire>

On the Island Since... 2010/ Peter and Patrice Kerssemakers-Verschoor 2011 aka FKK Animal Rescue



Peter and Patrice Kerssemakers



Peter and Patrice and some of their 47 dogs

I was sent by the Dutch National Police Corps to work on the reorganization of the automation of the police corps here. Patrice stayed in Holland with the children as the intention was that I would only be here for a year. Six weeks after my arrival Patrice came for vacation with the children and they loved it. In May 2011, Patrice and the children came again, then she told me 'You go look for a job and a house on Bonaire and I will arrange everything in Holland.' My year was over and I had to go back, but instead I quit my job in Holland and started working here with the fire department, assisting them with the reorganization."

"I came in September that year," Patrice says. "Our youngest daughter, Thirza, celebrated her 15th birthday on Bonaire and Yael, our eldest daughter was 17 at the time. First we found a house in Hanchi Amboina, then we moved to Kaya Utrecht, from there to Washikemba, then to Rancho Contour and finally, a year and a half ago, we ended up here, at a kunuku at Flor di Cuba, a dirt road extending from Kaya Nikiboko Nort.

We used to visit the animal shelter frequently. Not only did we adopt two dogs and a cat but we helped them whenever we could. It all started when we moved to Washikemba," Peter laughs. "Then Marlies and Hanny of the Animal Shelter became aware of the fact that we had plenty of space. Soon after we received a request for us to take a dog they couldn't keep. And when Maryke Barendregt and Elly Albers of Foundation Animal Welfare Bonaire found out about it, we almost immediately got three dogs that were confiscated. And there is more, as the kunuku we'd rented came with four dogs and so... that's how it all began.

Not only dogs were brought to us but also flamingos, ducks, goats and pigs that were found or needed special attention. From then on, the Animal Welfare Foundation increasingly called on us and we started thinking. Everybody needs to be fed, they all need their shots and to go to the doctor once in a while. What if we establish a foundation? Maybe we could qualify for subsidy, but also we could do fundraising and accept donations in an official and legal way. And so, May 20th, 2014, we founded FKK Animal Rescue, aka Fundashon

Kunuku Kakelvers" (Farm Fresh).

"We have not received any subsidy yet," Patrice says, "but it's something we have to work on next year. However, we did get some donations which is always a good thing. Peter and I are both working full-time jobs. He works in security and I am a registered nurse for the mentally disabled at FKPD. Peter works mostly at night and I'm doing the later afternoon shift, so there is always someone at home and that's how we want it. Also, we're backed up by a good support team. There's Esther, a vet and an animal behavioral specialist living in Germany, whom we can contact 24 hours a day. On the island there's Jan Laarakker,

"We always wanted to do something for the island and then this came on our path and we feel very lucky to be able to do it."

who always helps us, but also Elly Albers and Maryke Barendregt and Shirley van de Haar of the Animal Welfare Foundation, as well as Norbert of Dog Partners and Tineke Looman of the Animal Help Foundation Bonaire. Our support from Holland comes from Stichting Dierenlot. Any day now we're expecting a (almost) brand new pick-up truck donated by them so we will be able to respond to any call, day or night, to pick up an animal in need. We don't care whether it's the weekend or after midnight, but our present truck is not very reliable anymore and it hurts when you're unable to respond immediately."

"Most of the dogs we're getting in are damaged mentally and/or physically and they need constant care," Peter says. "At the moment we have 47 dogs of which 19 came in through the Animal Welfare Foundation. They were either confiscated or 'voluntarily surrendered under pressure.' Those dogs were mistreated and abused, but in 95% of the cases we do manage to get them back on their feet again. When there is an emergency we never say 'No.' Never. Our specialty is the neglected and abused animals in distress, and we don't care what kind of animal it is. And if it's going to cost

time and money and lots of patience, we will go on – we won't give up. We are a no-kill facility.

Both our salaries go to the animals and... the gas station! When we take a dog to the vet and it's one of the dogs we got off the streets ourselves, Jan Laarakker is always very accommodating. But when the dog comes through the Animal Welfare Foundation, then they pay the bill. The same with medications and flea and tick treatments. However, food is always provided and paid for by us. We roughly use 600-700 kilos of dog food each month. We've build a number of new kennels on the terrain, each 3.5 x 3.5 meters (11.5 feet x 11.5 feet) and they are all connected to an outside run where

the dogs can play together. When a dog is wounded or sick it can stay at the sick bay at our house. Take for instance our Hope. When he came in, he was less than nothing, but as weak and sick as he was, the moment you spoke to him in a friendly way, his rotten stump of a tail started wagging. He didn't give up and neither did we. He's been operated on seven times and a number of x-rays were made. We had a little piggy bank at Van der Tweel supermarket for him, and with the donations we got we saved \$300. When we finally asked Jan for the bill, he said 'How much did you save?' And we told him: \$300. Then Jan said 'Well, what a coincidence! That's exactly the amount you have to pay!'

When we go out in the streets to pick up animals, most often the message has come through Facebook - Fundashon Kunuku Kakelvers - or people call us 780-8020, but in general the Animal Welfare Foundation always knows about it. Our dogs are also up for adoption, we do ask \$65, - but then the dog is vaccinated and neutered/sterilized. However, we always go with our gut feeling and we keep in touch with the new owners. Some dogs have to stay with us; they are too damaged, but it's

possible for people to adopt them financially. We're working on the new website, but we're not yet on-line. It will be announced through Facebook."

"When we settled here," Patrice says, "the plan was for both of us to work both 32 hours per week and enjoy each other, our life and the island together with the children. Well, that didn't work out. Hahaha! But other, beautiful things happened instead! Our daughter Thirza just got married here and she's not planning on leaving Bonaire ever, and Yael is doing well in Holland, studying event management. We always wanted to do something for the island and then this came on our path and we feel very lucky to be able to do it. It's not always easy and we do get tired now and then, but one pulls the other through and we feel very fortunate to have our volunteers!

Next addition is our cat kennel which we have been working on together with Plaza Resort and the Animal Welfare Foundation. At the moment there are about 60-80 stray cats at the resort and we're going to catch them, sterilize them and adopt them out. The real wild ones are going back to Plaza Resort. The problem they have now is that many of them have become too friendly and want to dine at the table with the guests! So the real shy ones can go back and we will keep the poor ones that are not fit to be adopted or placed back.

On the 4th of November the opening of the cat kennel will take place! And of course there are several other projects we would like to accomplish, like the construction of a long-stay kennel and a separate lavatory. We would like to have two portable toilets so in the future we could give tours to local people and tourists and also educate adults and children. And then there is still the plan to start planting and living of the land, offering other people meaningful daily activities as well. But all that is in the future..."

"We have a terrific life," Peter says. "We enjoy our animals and they give us back a lot of love, pleasure and satisfaction, and now and then the two of us even go out for dinner! It's a sweet life and we wouldn't want to change a thing about it." ■ Story & photos by Greta Kooistra



(Continued from page 3)

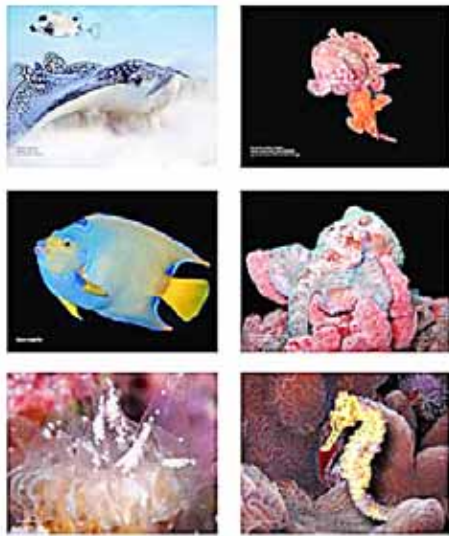
follow suit is unknown. We will see soon since most of the Bonaire boats come from that state.

► Wild Conscience, Bonaire's organization working to preserve Bonaire's natural environment, is inviting concerned people to support a petition to add environmental protection considerations to building permits. The small changes proposed do not hamper the goals of developing projects but will make a great contribution to restoring the island's natural habitats in an easy and economical way. Elements of the proposal include: forbidding planting non-native invasive plants, sturdy fencing that will exclude goats, donkeys, pigs, etc., cleanup of building lots prior to construction and several more environmentally positive ideas.

Here's the link to the petition and to the complete document in English and several other local languages.

https://www.change.org/p/openbaar-lichaam-bonaire-restore-native-habitats-by-changing-legislation-on-building-permits-on-bonaire-c-n?re-cruiter=612707558&utm_source=share_petition&utm_medium=copylink

► Once again Bonaire's own renowned underwater photographer Ellen Muller has produced a calendar for the coming year. Facebook users who follow her regularly see some of the wonderful photos she has taken so they know what to



expect in the calendar. Ellen's 2017 version contains 12 new and unusual underwater photos, all taken right here on Bonaire, all printed on heavy card stock. Calendars are available at VIP Diving and at Bruce Bowker's Carib Inn (cash only please) while supplies last. They will also be available elsewhere by mail. Orders are being taken now and shipping will start in mid-to-late November. Please send an e-mail to Mark Director at Ellens-BonaireCalendars@yahoo.com for information and pricing. A few of the 12 calendar images are above



Did you know *The Bonaire Reporter* is an Internet and FaceBook superpower for advertisers? See page 7. ■

G./L.D.

Picture Yourself With The Reporter at Buenos Aires, Argentina

Alex and Javier Setau have been Bonaire as regular visitors since their first visit in 2011, always for the whole month of February. But a few days ago they finally became Bonaire residents. On August 15, 2016, they celebrated their 13th wedding anniversary and they wanted to share their happiness with *The Bonaire Reporter* readers. They write, "We chose the 71.5 meters (235ft) tall and 80-year-old "Obelisco" to show an icon of our city. The *Obelisco de Buenos Aires* (Obelisk of Buenos Aires) is a national historic monument and icon of Buenos Aires. Located in the Plaza de la República, at the intersection of Avenues Corrientes and 9 de Julio, it was erected in 1936 to commemorate the fourth centenary of the first foundation of the city. Thank you to the team of *The Bonaire Reporter* and keep up the good work!" ■

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Traditions Demonstrated At Mangazina di Rei

CUTTING ALOE

RINCON –

During the last Cultural Market at Cultural Park Mangazina di Rei, September 24, **Mr. Pedro “Pegin” Trinidad** gave a demonstration of how aloe was cut in the past. A lot of visitors attended the demonstration to see the process. As part of the presentation “Pegin” placed the aloe leaves in the aloe trough. He squeezed them to release as much sap as possible. The sap ran down to the end of the trough, where it emptied into a tin.



Aloe production demonstration

During the Cultural Market there were also other very interesting presentations based on different topics such as: the balance of nature, the scarf as part of our culture, the demonstration of two ancient kitchen tools called *Palu di Lele* and *Palu di Funchi*, and much more. This time there was a live presentation of the local barrel-organ, “*Ka,i Òrgel Rincon,*” and the local band, “*Grupo Watapana.*”

As usual during the market you could have a traditional breakfast of fresh bread from the oven or a pumpkin pancake. This time there was even the traditional Johny Cake. At midday you could get the local traditional plates, like goat stew, salted fish and other local famous dishes. These plates were served with the local traditional side dishes funchi (polenta) and tutu (a solid mixture made out of corn meal and beans).



Meeting everyone at Mangazina di Rei

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 of making the area of Rincon more attractive for tourism and leisure on the island.

The next Cultural Market will be on Saturday 29th of October from 8 o'clock in the morning till 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

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

Story & photo by Izain Mercera



Damaging Wind Reversal

Kristel de Jongh-Rusch photo



Captain Don's Habitat dive boat Ocean Freedom hauls a grounded sailing yacht to safety, maintaining the Habitat tradition of always being there to help.

Just when we thought it was safe to relax about storms after hurricane Matthew drifted north, away from the area, a strong wind reversal and northwesterly swell caught maritime interests unaware.

Most of the yachts on moorings were able to take shelter in the Harbour Village Marina, but some fishermen were unable to secure their boats in time. One yacht grounded when she swung close to shore but was towed off with little damage by Habitat's dive boat, *Ocean Freedom*.

There was some damage to piers but luckily some still had planking stored as preparation for Hurricane Matthew. ■ *G.D.*



Local fishing boat swamped near the town pier

Bonaire Reporter Writers Meet



Patrick, Nathalie, Jan, Lucinda, Justine, Angliet, Gerjanne, Laura, Roderick, Greta, George, and Karen. Not pictured, Bula Bonchi

Bonaire Reporter's staff of writers got together last week for an informal dinner at Breeze 'N Bites Restaurant at Den Laman. It was a chance for all to meet and exchange ideas and have a nice meal. *The Reporter* took the opportunity to express its appreciation for the dedication and creativity of the people who make this newspaper what it is. A big thank you to all! Couldn't do it without you! ■ *G./L.D.*

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.

THE CHILD'S SEAT IN THE CACTUS

What's that in the distance? A cactus seems to have a massive growth in a non-cactus like form. Coming closer I see that the cactus has a very normal look. The strange shape comes from a child's seat which is hung on the cactus. Well, what to think of this? There's a whole story behind it, of course. I let my intuition, empathy and imagination run at full speed again and, yes, the images appear.

Rowena has just moved to Bonaire because she has found a great job here. Monday is her first day at the office and she gets up early in the morning, filled with anticipation. Her daughter Marit, two years of age, will go to the nursery for the first time, so she wants to leave early to be sure to be on time. When she is in the car, she turns on her navigation system to find the way to the nursery. But whatever she does to get it started, she gets no directions and the system is running mad. It seems that this does not work on Bonaire. Meanwhile, it is half an hour later and if she wants to be in time on her first working day (and that's what she really wants) she should be driving. That's what she does, and on her way she asks everyone she encounters if they know the kaya where the nursery should be. Nobody can help her and she gets really desperate. She decides to ask people for directions to her office and everyone knows how she can get there.

But what to do with Marit? She cannot take her to the office, she will not be taken seriously at work. As a manager, she has always proclaimed that taking care of children is the responsibility of the parents and that you cannot pass that responsibility on to your work. She has been very strict about it. She always fired on the spot parents who reported sick because their child was sick or parents who brought their children to work. She has to get rid of Marit somewhere and as soon as possible. Leaving her in the car would be irresponsible, given the heat. From the car she sees a hidden spot with shady trees and cacti. On a whim, she takes the seat with Marit, walks to the shady spot and hangs her child with the seat in the cactus. It's safe: Marit cannot get out of the seat because then she



will prick herself and there is plenty of shade. She gives her a soft drink and a donut and drives quickly to work.

"Harry, dear, you must look after your sister today, because Mom and Dad have to work." Harry, who just turned 10, looks up from his computer game. "What? Do I have to play with this stupid child all day. I really do not like it. I am also entitled to a vacation." "Dushi, there is no other way. The nursery is closed and mom and dad do not have any spare days left." Pouting and inwardly cursing, Harry is waving, as his parents leave home. "If there's anything wrong you can call us," his mother yells out of the car window. "That's just my luck. I am stuck with such a nagging baby while I want to play football with my friends," Harry thinks. Sure enough, his friends are coming along with a ball and invites him to come with them. What to do now? If he leaves and something happens to his sister, he's in trouble. He thinks that he'd better put his sister in her seat and then take her to the football field. No sooner said than done. He drags the seat containing his sister to the soccer field. It's very dusty and she starts to sneeze and cry. Harry has to find a place to put her away from the dust, otherwise she will continue whining. He sees a number of cacti along the football field. Together with his friends he can lift the seat up and hang it on the cactus. Ok, let's play football now!

Gosh, what stories! Apparently, it was too much trouble for Rowena and Harry to take the seat down afterwards, so they just let it hang in the cactus. Or, would they have left it there in order to use it again? If so, it is my duty to report it to the officials, because this is really a piece of child abuse. I make my way to the police office and hope they will take me seriously.

■ Story & photo by Justine Verschoor



A Garden? Just Do It

BONAIRE FRUIT- ALL AROUND US NOW

Maybe not all of us are satisfied with the amount of rain we've gotten in the last few months. Some of us had expected more. But I noticed that with this rain Bonaire has gotten green again. A lot of trees are bearing fruit. I tell you what, there is a lot of fruit all over the place.

Let me give you an update about fruits that I notice while riding around on my bike.

Some popular fruits on Bonaire are mango, kenepa, mispel, papaya, granate apple, bacoba, cherries, watermelon, carambola, coconut, guyaba, tamarin, baby-druif (sea grapes), yellow melon.

Lesser known, some of which I've written about, are: hoba (mope-mombin), druyfi Surinam (djamu), golden apple (pomisiter), birambi, ap-peldam, kasju, sugarcane and so on.

Who says Bonaire has no fruit?

The fruit trees like the druyfi (Surinam grapes) are bearing a lot these days, and it's a pity to see all that fruit lying under the trees. They are so healthy, pure sun ripened, unsprayed fruit which tastes delicious in syrups, smoothies and milkshakes or just eaten like that with some honey and/ or cinnamon with lemon juice.

Hoba (mope or mombin) is full of vitamins and just stewed with some brown sugar and cinnamon will make you lick your fingers.

And thinking of the "dushi tamarin," which is such a popular cultural fruit, eaten in the past with the "funchi pap." What has happened that we are losing all these delicious recipes and letting all that good stuff just get rotten under the trees, while our body is screaming for good stuff so we can take the pressures of life? We have become strangers to pure nature, which we need so desperately.

Speaking about herbs like yerba hole, bislips, lemon grass, oregano, basilicum, aloe vera... They grow like crazy. Only a little rainwater made my herb garden look green and fresh.

I make my own green tea with fresh herbs around my house. Every morning I pick a bunch of these herbs, put them together in a teapot and pour hot water over. With some honey and sometimes cinnamon and ginger or some lemon drops, I get the most delicious mixed herb tea, which is different everyday, so pure and healthy.

And don't forget easily grown veggies like peppers, paprika, tomato, tajarblad, corn, Bonairean cucumber, kouseband, spinach, beans, jambo, eggplant, the wild bembe. They're all full of vitamins and minerals and straight from the land. What could be more healthy? Just two or three of these plants are already enough for a family. Sometimes I mix bembe with spinach and tajarblad, which gives a great taste and makes it different. And so one can wok a mix of



Home-grown bananas (bakoba)



Sea grapes (baby-druif)



Coconut (coco)

all types of veggies enough for a family.

These days, the animals and birds find enough food in the "mondi" again, so there are not that many or so often in town anymore. That means that you can enjoy all that fruit we have nowadays in our yards.

And also, with all that rain and all the information I've given you and fewer problems with animals and birds, it should stimulate you again to plant fruit trees and veggies in your garden.

Just do it today, make use of the perfect situation we have now and enjoy tomorrow. ■

Story & photos by Angliet-Nature lover



Regatta 2016

What began as a sailboat race between two fishing boats 49 years ago has evolved into a more-than-week-long event. In addition to four days of sailing with boats ranging from sleek racing yachts to bathtub sized Optimists, micro boats, windsurfing, kiteboarding as well as solar-powered boat races. There were sports competitions, a swim to Klein Bonaire, a road walk, evening concerts and dancing, food and drink stands and even an amusement park. Schools were closed and many businesses had shortened opening hours.

There were two stages for performances by local and imported bands like DJ Ash, DJ Chrisbeat, DJ Veloce, TSUNAMI, Grupo Karinjo Rincon, Irsais, Tropical House Band, FORSA DOS and many others. A few glitches occurred when some groups missed their stage-time because of InselAir delays and cancellations.

Large and small businesses provided sponsorship and there was some local government support. But the main objective was met— continuing a Bonaire tradition and providing fun for all ages. We can't wait for the 50th Regatta next year. ■

G.D. / photos by Skyview Bonaire



The waterfront near Coco Beach hosted many of the small boat races as well as the parties



New this year were amusement park kiddie rides from a Curacao operator



For the Sunfish Class the Bonaire Regatta this year held 10 relatively short races. Following the start the races were easy to follow for all spectators.

The off-square starting line was unintentional but made for good practice for our sailing team which is going to the World Championships to be held in Colombia next month.

The winners of the Sunfish A were: 1st Sipke Stapert Sunfish Sailing Team Bonaire, 2nd Ton Nuijten (Opa) Sunfish Sailing Team Bonaire, 3rd Ethan Senterfitt Massachusetts, USA ■ Press release

Paint It Pink!



The ladies show the result of their work

KOOYMAN HOSTS SPECIAL WORKSHOP DURING BREAST CANCER MONTH

Saturday October 15th

A hundred pink birdhouses have enriched our island. The Kooyman super-home store hosted a workshop, "Paint it Pink," to raise awareness of breast cancer. Just women participated in the build-your-own-birdhouse workshop.

25 hammers were hitting nails simultaneously, making it impossible for unsuspecting visitors to miss the Pink festivity at the store. Four rounds with 25 ladies each were filled up long before the day of the workshop. Carpenters Dennis Lensink, Silvan Henneman (Woodworkers) and Jimmy Meijer were running around to pull out a crooked nail, to give a little advice, or to provide the needed motivation.

Apart from offering these workshops, Kooyman donated \$500 to Stichting Prinses Wilhelmina Fonds Bonaire (SPWFB), which is putting great effort into increasing awareness of breast cancer on Bonaire, especially during this month. October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, which is an international annual campaign to increase awareness of the disease.

Secretary of SPWFB, Mrs. Sainara Koeiman, explains that it is still necessary to maintain awareness about breast cancer. Early detection improves the chances of successful treatment and can save many lives. The foundation keeps the population of Bonaire informed about the various methods of early detection and lifestyle changes that can reduce the chance of getting this horrible disease.

Kooyman approached SPWFB with the idea of organizing this workshop during this special month. The ladies from the Princess Wilhelmina Fund got involved themselves with enthusiasm and enjoyed the creative spirit.

For most of the participating ladies this was not the first time they handled a hammer and a paint brush. Many of them expressed a desire to be regular hobbyist craftswoman. For some it was quite a challenge, but all birdhouses were completed by the end of the workshop. Up until the Reporter's visit no bruised thumbs or broken nails were mentioned.

For more information about informative



Sainara Koeiman and Danique Winklaar (SPWFB) receive the \$500 check from Mario van Esch (Kooyman)



Working together gets results

activities about breast cancer check the 'Prinses Wilhelmina Fonds Bonaire's Facebook page. ■

Story & photos by Gerjanne Voortman



Swim To Klein Bonaire?

The origin of every good idea on Bonaire is a bucket of Bright beer. It's also the origin of every bad idea, but given enough buckets, only the strong survive; the rest die in oblivion. If Darwin lived in our era, his boat, the *HMS Beagle*, would have been sponsored by Amstel.

We are standing on Spice Beach, gathered around these cups filled with smoking cold gold, enjoying happy hour, when our friend Ryanne launches her idea: "Let's swim to Klein Bonaire Sunday."

I am reluctant.

"Isn't that, like, a mile away?"

"No, only a kilometer. Some say 800 meters, depending on where you embark."

I am trying to do the math, trying to remember if I ever swam so far, and my mind goes back to the little swimming pool of my youth, a small basin tucked away in a grim building. Swimming in the Low Countries takes resilience. Not the swimming itself, but going swimming: you have to bike through the rain, enter an industrial complex with terrible acoustics, worm yourself into a damp cubicle, stuff all your clothes in a locker, make sure you don't break your hip while shuffling on a slippery floor before you get to the actual pool which smells like a chlorine bomb exploded just beneath the surface of the water.

Then you swim from wall to wall like a demented gold fish for an hour before you make your way back, shivering, with red eyes like you have been maced with tear gas and a craving for a hot waffle which you have to deny yourself, because what's the point of exercising if you gorge on sweetness afterwards?

No, swimming in the Low Countries, not a lot of fun.

"Come on, even small children make it to the other side." Ryanne is playing the pride-card. And it's working despite the fact that I'm not in great shape. Writing doesn't combine well with sports. The heaviest thing I lift is a fountain pen and writing requires a lot of sitting down, a lot of coffee and a whole lot of cigarettes. Not what you would call a sports diet.

"You can use flippers if you want." She is taunting us and we agree: Sunday morning, 9 am we will join her in the annual swim to Klein Bonaire.

A few days later I am standing on Spice Beach, again, this time with my feet in the water and a number jotted on my non-existing bicep. 407 it reads, and that's probably where I will end up in the charts: down at the bottom.

Ryanne is already sweating - she took part in the warmup - and my wife bailed: she had a night shift at the hospital and nearly fell asleep

the motorcycle on her way back home.

In the distance I can see a blue ship that hoisted a gigantic blue flag. That's the target. It doesn't seem all that far. Beside me, children, people in olympic swimsuits and someone even brought an inflatable flamingo. This is going to be a piece of cake.

And then we're off. We all plunge into the water. In the beginning it's a bit chaotic - I get hit by a flipper and I jab someone in the chest, sorry about that - but after a while everybody finds his place and rhythm. This is really happening: I am swimming to Klein Bonaire. I feel pride, but when I look up after a while, I realize that pride comes before drowning: the flag isn't coming any closer. Are they sailing the boat away from us?

I try some backstrokes, to catch my breath and I am thinking about some Pixies-lyrics: *I was swimming in the Caribbean, animals were hiding behind a rock, except the little fish bump into me.* The song is called Where is my mind?

Where indeed was my mind when I decided on this hubris? Right: at the bottom of a bucket of Bright.

Time passes. I keep swimming. I keep looking at this blue cloth in the distance. The weirdest thoughts



Ryanne Vermeij photo

pop into my mind: what would the fish below us think of these mammals splashing away at the surface? It took them billions of years to evolve into land animals and now they voluntarily jump back into the sea? You don't see us coming out of the water to compete with Usian Bolt.

When the boat becomes a little more visible, I literally bump into a new humiliation: some people are already swimming back to shore! Fast as sharks they plow through the water.

Finally, after what seems like hours, I reach the boat. Ryanne bobs around in the water: "This is great, isn't it? We made it! Now, let's swim back." Another great idea. But somehow it seems less trouble than climbing aboard and waiting to sail back. Pride is a dragon that burns away all reason.

So I make the turn and swim back. Stroke after stroke, sometimes on my back like a pale-bellied frog, sometimes furiously

doing breaststrokes - the faster I swim the faster I can go home and have a heart-attack.

A new enemy crosses my path: the current is making me swim in a large curve, adding distance to my suffering. But I am not worried: all around me are boats and kayaks, ready to pick me out of the water if I would get into trouble.

Jong Bonaire did a great job on organizing this swim, and to be fair: I am starting to like this weird thing called swimming, especially now that the shore is coming closer. I can hear the music and people applauding when swimmers crawl upon the steps towards everlasting fame. Soon I will be one of them.

Soon I will be the proud owner of a T-shirt. Soon. Just a few more strokes. Anytime now. ■ Roderik Six





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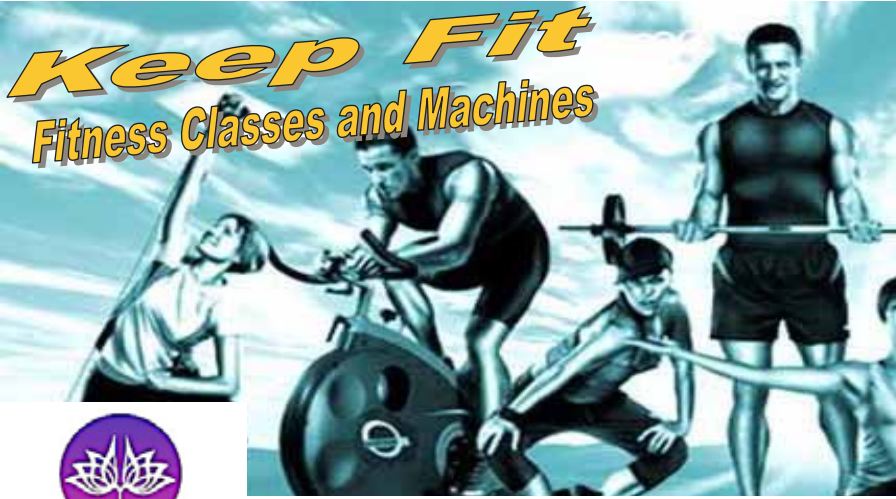
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Reflections on Dushi Bon

Reflections on Dushi Bonaire

A TRANSCONTINENTAL/OCEANIC RE-LOCATION: STARTING ANEW ON BONAIRE

"If you don't like where you are, move. You are not a tree." -- Power of Positivity

"The cost of not following your heart, is spending the rest of your life wishing you had." -- J. Paulsen

Swerving on the rocky, pot-holed road through Hato, barely avoiding collision with a barreling truck, I had been contemplating my past life's events. Already bouncing up and down on a marginally stable scooter while holding on for dear life, I quickly abandon any lingering reflections. My life is at stake here. And I love my life on Bonaire, even though I had to abolish my hopes for career advancement in higher education in America. In my former life I used to teach at the college and high school level.

For 16 years, five months and two and a half weeks I lived in the state of Idaho, where lengthy, frigid and gloomy winters overshadowed the sun-drenched and cheery summers. During the long-lasting winter months I suffered from the blues, while in the glorious but abbreviated summer I turned into an energizer bunny.



Idaho



Bonaire

Idaho is heaven for some, hell for others. Dazzling moon-like landscapes abound, almost similar to my beloved Bonaire, mostly sans sunny skies, however. It was on Bonaire that I found, even in the midst of winter, "there was in me an invincible summer" (Albert Camus). On Bonaire my "blues," previously a curse, now returned as azure skies and aquamarine waters.

Bonaire, where I discovered the two loves of my life. Bonaire *ipsum* and Bob.

In Idaho, I played the roles of wife, of mum of two step kids, maidservant to two Samoyeds and two fluffy felines, and of



Idaho Samoyeds

part-time language/literature teacher. Being a German, French and English language instructor in Idaho, with a masters degree in English and American literature obtained in the Netherlands, posed "somewhat" of a challenge in the state of the "famous potatoes." "Why would this gal from Holland speaking funny foreign languages -- and dressed in a short skirt -- be teaching our kids, when one of our own Idahoan schoolmarm will do just fine. She ain't no 'merican and she speaks with a weird foreign accent. Where's Holland located anyway? Somewhere in Africa, right? And that accent? Norwegian? Californian, no way!" Regarding homework, students often came to class unprepared. Why? "My parents don't allow no funky dialects in our house, only American."

Consequently, my college diploma was triple checked, first by the state, then by the university where I ended up instructing English literature and writing, and later by the school district where I taught several languages the last few years, before I moved to Bonaire at the beginning of 2014. College students used to scribble indignant notes to the English Department, demanding a genuine American and not a fake one with a droll accent to boot. Luckily it "only" took me several weeks to convince my students I ain't no dummy even though I had a bit of an accent. My winning personality did the rest:).

On Bonaire zero oversight of my diploma has occurred. I never had to show

it, not once, wherever I applied. Every Christmas, from 2002 until 2014, I would visit my parents on *dushi* Bonaire while still holding primary residence in icy Idaho. At first, my impression of Bonaire was that of an arid and hot, far-flung little island with nada to do. Still, I'd have chosen Bonaire over Idaho any day of the week. I came to appreciate the island's nuanced beauty over time. The sun and sea captured me from day one though.

While frequenting the island each winter, I'd search for teaching and residing opportunities. When it was time to return to the States my parents had to force me onto the plane, like fitting an unwilling, oversized foot in an ugly, snugly boot. My dad always told me, "the path to paradise begins in hell, big girl" (from Danté, except the last two words). "Work hard in Idaho and earn your one-way ticket to Bonaire."

Back in Idaho, I switched teaching venues. At the high school level I found out I enjoyed instructing teenagers and filling out paperwork. My colleagues, hailing mostly from Idaho and surrounding states, left me flabbergasted. Except for teaching, they liked praying in circles and tattling on their colleagues. After having used, "Oh My God!" one time too many, a praying mantis, I mean religious coworker, overheard me and notified the principal. El Jefe utilized the overhead "squawk box" system to demand a meeting with me. Pronto. Foolishly thinking I'd be praised for my dedication and hard work, I was in for a surprise. I almost got fired instead. For using His name in vain. I joined the praying circle afterwards which was readily available for us sufferers. Now I still use "oh my gosh" as a substitute. But only when I'm really, really mad.

Back to Bonaire, my last Christmas before I would permanently take up residence here (Ayo to Idaho!). My heart filled with love for Bob and the island, I realize I can speak any language I want, with or without accent; it's all cool.

i carry your heart with me (i carry it in my heart) -- e.e. Cummings ■

Story & photos by Karen B. Gilmour



Floating A New Idea

Budget Marine Bonaire has been in business here for 15 years. To honor its partnership with the Bonaire community, they plan to create an event that gives back to the entire island. They plan to do it by reversing the roles of fundraiser and event planning. Normally a non-profit foundation or club creates an event then searches out the sponsors and struggles to put something together and promote it.

But Budget Marine itself is creating, promoting and sponsoring the event and offering it to several clubs and foundations to run with it and make the event great to raise funds for themselves! It not only will benefit the organizations, but helps everyone.

In the spirit of Christmas, Budget Marine will host many great events at the waterside near Kant'i Awa Snack and Kas di Regatta on Sunday, December 18th.

In the morning there will be a Sprint Triathlon. organized and overseen by the Bonaire Barracuda Swim Club, the Bicycling club and the *Atletiek Federatie*, (Track and Field Federation) and the *Stiching Hart voor Bonaire Heart Fund*. For kids there will be a mini fun Triathlon which will cover half of the distances and allow those more inclined to join a walk than a triathlon to participate.

Either event can be done as an individual or as a team.

Later in the morning, Budget Marine will sponsor the End-of-the-Year Regatta, organized by the Bonaire Sailing Association, BSSA, and enlarge it to include optimist, sunfish, windsurfers and yachts.

To be sure that we do not leave out anyone in the boating community, there will be a boat party for the best view of the finish line. All boats and floats, large and small are welcome. Just as with Budget Marine, you don't have to have a boat to find something useful, you also do not have to have a boat or float to attend the party, simply jump in and have fun!

There will be music and lots of fun for all at the waterside all day long. There will be BBQ, food, drinks, and more available. Besides 15 years in the community Budget Marine is also celebrating completing its first year at its new location and will be inaugurating its new dinghy dock in front of Kant'i Awa snack. Check the next edition of *The Reporter* for more information on how to sign up and like us on Budget Marine Facebook for more information. ■

G.D./ Press release

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This is the 145th of a series of Bonaire Reporter articles by J@n (always wear a helmet) Brouwer, featuring some of Bonaire's interesting vehicles and persons who are "on wheels." Up to at least 200 articles!

Two new electric powered Eموke donkeys on the island!

So last week I drove my Puma-engine-powered extended Land-Rover Defender in the direction of Hato and the coastal road leading to the Bopec and to the old village of Rincon. Suddenly I saw a cute Morris Mini Moke parked along the road, close to the shore line. I knew there were a couple of Mini Mokes on the island. In other words: I knew that there had been a couple of Mini Mokes on the island, as years ago I located a bunch of wrecks and leftovers of what once had been Mini Mokes. Their colors had been fading away for decades and now their superior color was brown. At that remote location there was also a split window Morris Minor parked. Overall color was also brown. Restoration seemed to be impossible and all vehicles were parked there forever. Ashes to ashes, ore to ore...

Then: a brand new or a well restored blue Morris Mini Moke on our beloved island of Bonaire! Immediately I stopped my vehicle and jumped out. Soon I saw the Moke was not restored but brand new. Then I looked at the details: there was an



A couple of Eموkes



electrical socket mounted on the outside of the car, on the left hand side, just under the front window. And there was an ex-

haust pipe missing. This definitely was a Moke but it appeared not to be a Morris Mini Moke but something else. Something close but something else.

The 13-inch light alloy wheels said "Moke" on the central hub cap. The center of the steering wheel said "Moke." Well. This might be a "Moke" but it definitely was not a Morris Mini Moke! The electric socket on the outside of the dashboard said "Shengtai 16A, 220V." This vehicle was missing an exhaust pipe and when I looked under the vehicle there was no manifold, no muffler and no exhaust system at all. This appeared to be an electric powered Moke, probably made in China.

Then two divers popped up from the sea and one of them appeared to be the owner of the vehicle. His name was Eijmert, developer of electronics, owner of a Tesla and owner of a house in Hato. And in front of his house another Moke was parked. Twins in Hato. A blue one and a yellow one!

Eijmert explained. "The first time we visited the island of Bonaire was in the late 90s. We revisited the island and we fell in love with Bonaire. It is not a coincidence the two electric cars are blue and yellow. Their colors represent the sea and the sun. I am a technician by profession, I am into electronics and I developed Robocars. Electric vehicles for servicing and transportation in huge glasshouses in the Netherlands, measuring 1000 meters by 1000 meters. I have been in alternative energies for decades. Now electronic cars and solar powered vehicles are hot.

Then I discovered the Eموke, produced in Hongkong, China. The Shandong JHC New Energy Vehicle Honkong Co. Limited is a Chinese manufacturer and trading

company of all kinds of electric powered vehicles. Apparently they bought the rights and drawings of the original Morris Mini Moke. They copied the chassis and mounted an electric motor in it. The power is supplied by the grid. With a 'speed' of 16 amperes 220 volts fill the car. The 220 volts are converted into 96 volts to charge the eight reliable and maintenance-free gel batteries. Four batteries are hidden in both sides of the chassis of this Eموke. The electric motor is fast and reliable. Off course there is no gearbox. Top speed is 70 kilometers per hour. It can travel about 80 kilometers before needing to be recharged This vehicle can climb hills up to 25%. The steep inclines along the Goto Lake are no problem!"

This Eموke is based on the Mini Moke, a small fun and utility vehicle designed by Sir Alec Issigonis and John Sheppard for BMC, the British Motor Corporation. "Mini" comes from the Austin/Morris Mini as "Moke" is archaic Old English for donkey. Welcome to the island! Initially the Mini Moke was produced to eat a portion of the military business cake from Land-Rover, Solihull, England. The Mini Moke could easily carry four soldiers. The small and light vehicle was parachute droppable and soldiers could easily move the Mini Moke by lifting it by grabbing the tubular front and rear bumpers. Unfortunately it was the lack of ground clearance of the Mini Moke that made the government to decide not to order huge quantities of the Moke for military use. Then the marketing department of BMC changed direction and the

(Continued on page 17)

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NOCHI COFFIE – ARTIST

Artist Nochi Coffie is a Bonairean icon in the art world, having practiced his art for more than 40 years. He's always had a traditional Bonaire style, featuring the culture and tradition of the island. The artist has shown his work in Bonaire numerous times, in Holland, in Curacao and in Cuba. However, during the last three years, due to a serious back injury and operations he had to stop work twice for six months at a time.



Nochi takes a break after a tough physio rehab session for his back at Bon Bida

Today, Nochi is back, but with a new style, based on his experiences. He calls it "Sambarku, Art and Philosophy." (Sambarku is the name for a peasant's sandal.) His work is exciting and comes from a deeper understanding of his roots. "And with a sambarku on my feet," Nochi says, "I can now make a new definition of my art, to bring a new relationship to my art. This past experience has given me a new technique, giving me a step up in my creations."

Nochi Coffie's show is at the ChiChi i Tan museum in the traditional old Bonairean house, behind Rose Inn in Rincon. The museum is open Thursday through Sunday, 10am to 4pm until the end of December. No admission fee but donations are appreciated. ■ Story & photo by Laura DeSalvo



*Painting Description: Zeemeerem Mampariakutu
Acrylic on canvas (48.5 x 61 cm / 19.5 x 24 in)*





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Meet Our Goats • See The Milking • Enjoy Our Nature
Delicious Homemade Tastyery 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!

Mega-Auction Coming

BONAIRE ANIMAL SHELTER: WHY HAVE AN AUCTION?



Shelter opens at present location



One of the Shelter's buildings at the present location today

Why have an auction? Good question; but first a little back history. In 1989 the fledgling Shelter was organized on property adjacent to that of Captain Don's in an effort to help homeless dogs. It was run with private funds and consisted of four or five kennels. It was a struggle and a lot of hard work and commitment on the part of the volunteers involved. Now, flash forward to the year 2000. A new location was found, a part-time staff was hired, and we were off and running. The next step was to find some funding. The Bonaire government gives a monthly stipend and the *Stichting Buiten Landse Asielen* in Holland gives an annual grant. However, the major part of the operational costs are met by donations, proceeds from the cruise ship booth and the Saturday Pakus thrift store, and fundraisers like the upcoming auction. All of this allows the Shelter to grow.



Original Shelter at Habitat

Over the years the Shelter has expanded its services to include boarding facilities, free spaying and neutering of cats and dogs, registering and chipping of cats and dogs, dog training, and a grooming station. In addition the Shelter has developed an educational program to underscore the importance of proper care for pets. This program includes the distribution in the schools of a children's book on pet care, a program associated with Stinapa NME which brings children to the Shelter to observe, learn and play with the dogs and cats, and a kids' volunteer program on the weekends allowing them to socialize with the pets and learn all about caretaking.

Shelter... proof that the education program is a success.

Over the years the Shelter has grown and flourished because of community support and the work of devoted volunteers. Volunteers and the Shelter part-time staff are the heart and soul of the organization but in order to grow and expand we need the financial support of the community through donations, support of activities like the auction, and – very important – becoming a volunteer at the Shelter, the Pakus, or the cruise ship market booth. To do any of these things simply call the Shelter at 717-4989.

To show your support right now you can plan to attend **The Bonaire Animal Shelter Cocktail Party and Auction which will take place Sunday, November 27 at 5pm at 26 Sabadeco Shores – a beautiful home on the water.**

Imagine a perfect sunset, cocktails, tapas, music, and the auction of some fabulous items. Stay tuned for all the details in the next edition of *The Reporter!* ■

Dabney Lassiter



Many visitors have commented that Bonaire is very different from many Caribbean islands in terms of pet care because people here have learned the importance of treating their pets with love and respect. It is rare to see a dog in need on the street and if that happens it's not unusual for someone to take it to the

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Bonaire-Sun Rise/Set, Moon Phase and Tides

Day	High	Low	High	Low	High	Sunrise	Sunset
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
Tue 25		03:39	09:30	15:48	20:52		
		-0.09 ft	0.68 ft	0.25 ft	0.72 ft	6:27	18:12
Wed 26		04:16	10:14	16:59	21:48		
		-0.00 ft	0.72 ft	0.24 ft	0.59 ft	6:27	18:11
Thu 27		04:49	10:57	18:17	22:52		
		05:18	11:38	19:37			
Fri 28		05:18	11:38	19:37			
		0.17 ft	0.77 ft	0.18 ft		6:27	18:11
Sat 29	00:13	05:39	12:17	20:52			
	0.39 ft	0.24 ft	0.80 ft	0.13 ft		6:27	18:10
Sun 30	02:02	05:49	12:54	21:54	New Moon		
	0.34 ft	0.30 ft	0.82 ft	0.07 ft		6:28	18:10
Mon 31	13:31	22:43					
	0.84 ft	0.02 ft				6:28	18:10
Tue 01	14:08	23:23					
	0.85 ft	-0.03 ft				6:28	18:09
Wed 02	14:45	23:57					
	0.87 ft	-0.06 ft				6:28	18:09
Thu 03	15:22						
	0.89 ft					6:29	18:09
Fri 04	00:26	16:00					
	-0.08 ft	0.90 ft				6:29	18:08
Sat 05	00:54	07:33	10:07	16:39			
	-0.09 ft	0.42 ft	0.41 ft	0.90 ft		6:29	18:08
Sun 06	01:19	07:32	11:20	17:19			
	-0.09 ft	0.45 ft	0.39 ft	0.88 ft		6:30	18:08
Mon 07	01:44	07:45	12:27	18:00	First Quarter		
	-0.09 ft	0.50 ft	0.37 ft	0.84 ft		6:30	18:08

Who's Who on The Bonaire Reporter

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What's Happening



Cruise Ship

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 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. .

• **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. 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.

#2016	Day	Date	Ship Name	Port Time	# Pax	Shipping Line
58	Wednesday	26 -Oct-16	<i>Carnival Valor</i>	0800-1600	2980	Carnival
November 2016						
59	Wednesday	2-11-16	<i>Infinity</i>	0700-1800	2170	Celebrity
60	Thursday	3-11-16	<i>Norwegian Dawn</i>	0800-2200	2338	Norwegian
61	Thursday	3-11-16	<i>Regal Princess</i>	0700-1700	3600	Princess
62	Saturday	5-11-16	<i>Crystal Serenity</i>	0800-1630	1080	Crystal

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 Crutita 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

Wednesday, Oct. 26—Bonaire on "House Hunters International" TV show / RE/MAX Paradise Homes. 10:30pm. Channel 105 on MiTV from Telbo. Show name: *Sink or Swim in Bonaire*. Watch on Wednesday, Oct 26 at 10:30pm and Thursday, Oct 27 at 1:30am -More on page 3.

Oct. 28 Weekend—Fundashon Alzheimer Fundraising concert of 50 retired teachers from Curacao. They have offered to organize a concert to raise funds for our Foundation. The theme of this concert is: "BAN BANK I SKOL Beak" ("Back to the classroom"). **Friday, October 28 at 19:30 at Cocari in Rincon, and on Saturday, October 29th at 19:30 at Jong Bonaire in Kralendijk.** Admission: \$15 Tickets are available at: Flamingo Bookstore, Addo's Books, Toys, Office Supplies.

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 6.

Wednesday, Nov. 2—Classical Music Board Bonaire presents "From Carnegie Hall," with Chae Won Hong, cello, and Julian Gargiulo, pianist. At Chapel Fundashon Mariadal, 8 pm. Tickets: \$35, students, \$10. More on page 2 and 12.

Saturday, Nov. 5—Coastal Cleanup, at Morotin—Bats of Bonaire, talk and cave visit, 5-8pm, at Stinapa Headquarters, across from Caribbean Club

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

Sunday, Nov. 13—Full Moon Walk, Lagadishi Trail, Washington Park, 6-9pm. See- stinapabonaire.org

Saturday, Nov. 19—Birdwatching sponsored by Stinapa. 5-7pm, Kaminda Lagun. See stinapabonaire.org

Thursday, Dec. 1—Symposium: "The Political Future of the Dutch – Administered Caribbean" sponsored by James Finies' NKBB. Contact: davikabissessarshaw@gmail.com phone: +599 786-4576 and/or jamesfinies@gmail.com - phone: +599 782-5664

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

GARDEN SUPPLIES AND SERVICES

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

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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 thing we want: clothes, hardware, food, auto and bike supplies. If you don't see it... ask for it. They probably have it. See page 18.

Penny Lane is Bonaire's first upscale fashion consignment store. Buy fashionable, top brand clothing, high quality toys and more for a fraction of their original price.



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LOSING WEIGHT AND KEEPING IT OFF

Everybody knows that losing weight and keeping it off is really hard. Around 75-80% of people who lose weight gain it all back, and sometimes even more. Understanding why permanent weight loss is so difficult can help you increase your chances of success.

There are no quick fixes!

Magic pills that claim to speed up your metabolism or miracle diets to help you melt pounds and promise you will lose 10 pounds in a week don't work and don't exist! Quick starvation diets can slow down your metabolism, damaging your weight loss efforts for the long term. So if it seems too good to be true it usually always is. Just remember that slow and steady weight loss is the best way to lose weight.

Your body can work against you

When you lose body fat, you decrease the hormone leptin, which signals the brain that you're full, and the body increases the hormone ghrelin, which stimulates hunger. This hormone imbalance continues after successful weight loss, making it even harder to keep the pounds off. But if you cut too many calories for weight loss, the body will go into hibernation mode so that you don't starve, and your metabolism will slow down.

It's also good to know that once you reach your weight-loss goal and start eating a little more again, the pounds can come back pretty quickly, so it's smart to increase your calories gradually.

The effect of exercise

Yes, exercise helps you lose weight and keep it off, but it's nearly impossible to lose weight from exercise alone. An example: a 135 pound person biking 60 minutes at 12 mph will burn around 370 calories. You can eat all those calories back on with just a post workout bar or shake. To lose a pound of fat you have to burn 3500 calories more than you consume, so you can see how hard it is to lose weight only by exercising. Instead, you have to watch what you eat and exercise.

A pound of muscle burns more calories at rest than a pound of fat. An increased muscle mass is the key to a higher metabolism. Unfortunately many dieters skip strength training when in reality it's one of the most important components of your weight loss plan.



Schedule it in your routine 2-3 times a week combined with 30 minutes of (interval) cardio sessions.

One diet doesn't fit all

Every body is unique, so the diet that works for your friend, co worker, mother or sister might not work for you. When looking at how best to lose weight, consider your health and family history, your metabolism, your activity level, age, gender, etc.

The difference between men and women

It doesn't seem fair, but men can eat more than women and still lose weight. That's because men tend to naturally burn more calories than women, due to their larger size, muscle mass and higher levels of the hormone testosterone which promotes muscle growth.

Lifestyle change

If you want to lose weight and keep it off, you have to make permanent lifestyle changes. Like portion control, eating lots of vegetables, fruits and foods high in fiber and exercise almost every day for a minimum of 30-60 minutes. But it is also really important to allow yourself some foods that you enjoy or else you'll feel deprived and be less likely to stick with an overall healthy eating plan. ■ *Lucinda van der Wardt has been a registered dietitian and sports instructor for more than 18 years. After working for more than 10 years in a University hospital in Amsterdam and later in her private practice she is currently owner of Food and Vitality Dietitian practice located at Bon Bida health centre in Kralendijk.*

More info: Website www.foodandvitality.info
tel: 599 785-0170
email- lucinda@foodandvitality.info



SCAVENGER HUNT

LISEO BONERIANO FUNDRAISING



Sunday, November 13th, 2016

Start and finish at Liseo Boneriano
Be there @ 9:30. Starts at 10am

On Sunday, November 13th, 2016 there will be a (road rally style) Scavenger Hunt, organized as a fundraiser for the high school students who will go to the Netherlands in February 2017 for a study / orientation trip. This trip is an important step in the higher education of Bonairean students.

Participants should get together at the Liseo Boneriano (just off Kaya Amsterdam) at 09:30 am and the start will be at 10 am. The finish is also at the Liseo Boneriano at 1pm. The route is random and you drive on paved roads.

How it will work:

You form a team of at least two or more persons per car. At the start, each team will receive their assignments in the form of clues which they need to solve in order to drive to the appropriate places. There they must answer the questions, take photos or get something. They have three hours to do this.

Donation

Tickets cost \$35 per car. Registration days are on Friday, November 11th and Saturday, November 12th from 4pm to 7pm at the Liseo Boneriano school.

Advice

We do ask that everyone abide by the traffic rules. Please, no people in the back of a pickup truck. For everyone's safety, everyone in the car.

Come all and make it a fun and enjoyable day! All for a good cause for these young people. After the hunt, there is food and drink for sale. ■ *Maribelle Wolff*

(Bonaire On Wheels Continued from page 12)

Moke appeared to be very successful as a beach buggy or "Island Moke." That is why we had Mokes on Aruba, Curacao and even on Bonaire!

Mini Mokes are icons now and the pickup version is very sought after. And then there is the four-wheel-drive Mini Moke, fitted with two engines and two gear-boxes, known as the Twini!

Back to the present. Eijmert opens the hood of his blue Eموke. A charger and a converter are visible. And there is the impressive electric motor. This car is front-wheel driven. There is also a mysterious vacuum pump. Eijmert informs me, "This electrical vacuum pump is installed to assist the brakes. The Eموke has power brakes but, as there is no carburetor, the factory had to install a pump to create the vacuum for the brake booster! Those Chinese are smart. They can copy and they can create simple solutions for disturbing problems."

Then Eijmert takes position behind the steering wheel and I take position at the passenger's seat. No starter engine, no gears, no sound, no nothing. Just the wind through our hair and the excitement of the silence of velocity! ■ *Story & photos by Jan Brouwer*



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Animal Shelter News

Happy Shelter Cats

The Animal Shelter Bonaire has a wonderful "Cat Palace" with a separate kitten room with 35 adoptable cats all waiting for a new home. Our dedicated group of volunteers and staff not only take care of the cats by feeding and cleaning everyday they also create many ways to keep our cats happy and healthy.



These ideas range from grooming, special toys and play time. They even make special bedding to keep the cats comfortable. Keeping our cats active and happy helps to improve their overall behavior which helps when meeting with potential adopters and keeps them healthier.

If you would like to join our volunteer team, adopt a cat or just visit the cats and dogs, pass by the Animal Shelter Bonaire at Kaminda Lagun 26. Our animals are happy to give you a big welcoming hug!

If you aren't able to visit, no worries, check out this great video about the cats and dog of the Animal Shelter Bonaire on: <http://www.animalsshelterbonaire.com/index.php/2016/08/01/animal-shelter-video/>

Or visit the Bonaire Cat cam: <http://bonairecatcam.com/>

Story & photo by Nathalie Peterson



Pets Of The Week

SISTER ACT

Sisters Fiona and Felina are definitely showstoppers! These two beautiful girls consistently get rave reviews for their unusual coloring and markings when Animal Shelter Bonaire visitors stop by to spend time in the Cat Palace. Super soft silver undercoats and dark grey stripes and spots give them a bit of a "jungle" look, but their sweet temperament and affectionate demeanor are anything but "wild." The little ladies would be a purr-fect addition to a family looking for affectionate and strikingly beautiful cats.



Fiona and Felina

Fiona and Felina arrived at the Shelter as very young kittens in January. Although already 10 months old, they are very small cats and will likely keep their kittenish looks for life. These young girls enjoy a frisky morning, playing and chasing with the other young cats. But the rest of the day is usually spent relaxing in a sun spot, a high perch, or snuggling up with the older cats who have "adopted" them as their brood. Adopting these girls would give you the best of both worlds, a constant kitten-size companion without the

need for constant supervision of kitten hyperactivity.

The sisters are healthy, vaccinated, sterilized and will be chipped on adoption. While they do have a bond with each other, they are content to be alone or with other cats so they can be adopted as a pair or alone. You can visit Felina and Fiona and all the other residents both feline and canine at the Animal Shelter Bonaire, on Kaminda Lagun 26, opening hours are Tuesday through Friday 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. and 3- 5 p.m., Saturdays 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. nonstop. ■

Story & photos by Jane Madden-Disko



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THE STARS HAVE IT

End October 2016

ARIES (Mar. 21- April 20) Red tape could be impossible to clear up this week. Avoid getting trapped in internal disputes. Pleasure trips will be favorable and bring about possible romance. Be sure to use your charm and diplomacy when dealing with potential new clients. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

TAURUS (Apr. 21- May 21) Get busy on projects that improve your own image; you'll have the discipline to succeed. Don't be too quick to judge your loved ones. Try to make amends by planning a nice dinner for two. You may have the day off but your thoughts will be on your work and your cash situation. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21) Partnerships may be strained if one of you has been erratic and hard to deal with. They will not be in the right frame of mind to put up with tactless comments. Sudden changes could result in estrangement's. Protect your interests legally if necessary. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) Emotional deception will cause friction on the home front. You might be overly emotional when dealing with your partner. Your high energy should be spent pleasing your mate. You need to refrain from being the generous one in the group. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

LEO (July 23-Aug 22) You need an energetic outlet that will help you dissipate your anxiety. Try not to be too harsh with your mate. You may be in an extremely passionate mood this week. Relatives will not agree with the way you are dealing with your personal problems. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) Set your goals and stick to your guns. Get involved in a competitive sport that will bring the challenges you thrive on. You will be in the mood for entertainment. Talk to an older, established individual about your present situation. Your lucky

day this week will be Saturday.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) Anger might lead to carelessness and minor injuries. Look after financial transactions this week. Be fair, not colorful. Uncertainties about your home may cause tension. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) You should channel your efforts into getting rid of bad habits. Look into ways that you can make extra cash. Make changes that will heighten your appeal. You can have quite the romantic adventure if you take time to get to know your mate all over again. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) Curb any jealous fits if your partner has been flirting with someone else. Secret affairs could cause upset. Get together with friends who like to participate in indoor sports. Opportunities to get together with friends will be enlightening and entertaining. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) Romance may be likely if you travel. People you live with will not be terribly happy with you regardless of what you do this week. Don't overlook that fact that someone you care about may be hiding something. Avoid getting trapped in internal disputes. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) Be innovative. Look to a close friend for advice. You must be careful not to trust just anyone. You should be making plans to spend some time with the ones you love. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) Partnerships with creative people could lead to financial gains. Try to make amends by planning a nice dinner for two. Secret activity is evident. Relationships have not been the best for you lately and it's left you somewhat gun shy. Your lucky day this week will be Monday. ■

Michael Thiessen



BONAIRE SKY PARK*

*to find it... just look up

October Planet Parade Continues

Did you see a really bright star next to the moon in the Sky Park recently? What the heck was that thing?

If the star was so bright that you noticed it, it probably wasn't a star at all.

It may have been a planet. But which one? Over the course of a month, the Moon can appear to pass near any of the five planets visible to the naked eye. It could have been **Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter, or Saturn.**

Well, it just so happens that the Moon will visit three of these planets next week, and we want to get you ready to identify them all.

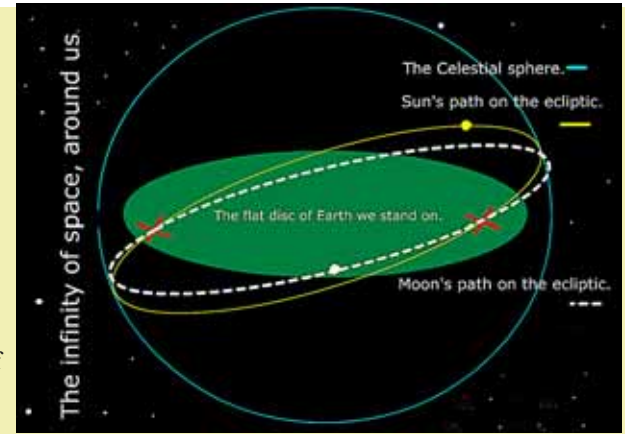
You can follow the wandering moon in Bonaire's Sky Park very easily because of our clear skies and low light pollution away from town.

Let's start with the night of **Halloween, October 31st.** Luckily we're neither superstitious, nor scared of the dark. Plus the Moon is not full this Halloween, and was actually new on the night before. But we're setting the stage for the Moon's impending appearance. Look to the southwest just after sunset, around 7:30pm. It's not completely dark outside, but you will see three planets already.

People ask us all the time how to tell planets from stars in the sky. It definitely takes a little practice, but if you keep looking up frequently, over time, you'll get to know where they are. Especially if someone can point them out to you first!

Let's start by labeling the three planets for Halloween 1, 2, and 3. We're not going to tell you what they are yet. Let's build up the excitement. The planets all circle the Sun in a flat disc, so they often line up near an imaginary line we call the **Ecliptic**. Basically that's where eclipses can occur and that also means that the Sun and Moon can always be found near this line. And the Moon, as it circles the Earth, must pass near all of the planets once a month.

Look again 24 hours later. Just above the horizon you might, just might see the slim-



est crescent Moon. It will be extremely low in the sky and will set fast, so a better chance of catching it would be on the next night, November 2nd. As the Moon wanders along the Ecliptic, it looks like it's cozying up next to our first two planets. Now we can tell you what they are. Planet #1 is dazzlingly bright! It's suspiciously bright! It is **Venus!** Venus is sometimes called the **evening star** since, at times, you can catch it just after sunset. It'll be easy to spot all this month.

Look sharp to spot the fainter planet right next to it. That harder-to-see object, planet #2, is in reality, the **planet Saturn.** Saturn is way bigger than Venus, but right now, it's way farther away. Venus is about 110 million miles from Earth while Saturn is a whopping 1 billion miles away.

That leaves planet #3 all by itself way over there in the southern sky. It won't be lonely for long because as we move forward to the night of November 3rd... November 4th... and November 5th, the Crescent Moon will appear fuller and near the **red planet, Mars!** Mars is still hanging around in the sky. It was a lot closer to us earlier in the year, but now it's even farther than Venus - at around 116 million miles from Earth. Mars is nowhere near as bright as Venus but it will be easy to spot for a few months and glow with a yellow, orange, or red tint.

So check out the sky next week and let the wandering Moon be your guide. It will pass by the planets Venus and Saturn on November 2 and the red planet Mars on November 5. ■

Dean Regas & James Albury

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Antriol, Kaya Korona 47

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- freehold land (registered 4-E-240 & 4-E-2832)
- total lot size: 9,113 sq.ft / 847 m²
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Asking price
US\$ 360,000
Buyers cost



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