



Flotsamaru Jesam



aire

Openbaar Lichaam Bonaire

Changed. Following the departure of Jeanoushka "Nunu" Raphaela from the ruling coalition the government "fell." (see last edition of *The Reporter*). Attempts to recreate the "Watermelon" coalition (PDB (red) & UPB (green) parties on November 8 stalled. Finally on November 15, the old coalition was restored when Raphaela agreed to "tolerate" the current three commissioners on the Executive Council and said she would remain part of the government. The situation is a first for Bon-



Sanikolas (Santa Claus) and his helpers, Swarte Pieten- The Black Petes- are coming to town by boat on Saturday,
November 26, around 2 pm. He will be at waterfront Wilhelmina Park and downtown Kralendijk until 5pm. In addition to Santa there will be lots of other activities for children set up in the park. If you greet him, be prepared for a nice crowd of performing "Piets." It's a great event. Sanikolas T-shirts for children and adults are available at Addo's Bookstore for \$5.

▶ Momentum is building for the Wild Conscience Group's petition to modify the legislation for building permit requests to allow the island's original vegetation removed during two centuries in a non-

sustainable manner to recover. It would mean that in the future all projects must be fenced in to keep out grazing goats, sheep, pigs and donkeys. Invasive plants have to be removed from the land and a fixed 1:1 division is to be maintained between structures and garden space

▶Bonaire's biggest and best organized volunteer event, Bon Doet, will be on Friday and Saturday March 10 & 11, 2017. The deadline for notifying jobs is January 20, 2017.

The new website is online with all the information in Dutch and Papiamentu at www.bondoet.com. Let it inspire you. To join sign up early and register.



Last week it was revealed that Curaçao's privately-owned airline InselAir currently pays no social premiums or taxes. Management says it has an agreement with the Ministry of Finance due to the aviation company's poor financial situation. Sources claim the airline is on the border of bankruptcy. The Curacao government has appointed a committee to find a permanent solution. It is to report in three weeks. According to Curacao's Minister of Economic Development, Eugene Rhuggenaath, the company is too big to allow it to go under.

►KLM suspended its code share agreement with InselAir, according to the Up in the Sky website. KLM is doing this because of operational problems at InselAir.

▶ Besides tax forgiveness InselAir has approached the Government with a request for a loan because it says it is unable to collect more than US \$100 million for tickets sold in Venezuela (a claim denied by Venezuela). The persistent nature of the problem is detrimental to the daily operations of the carrier InselAir says..



▶On October 26, the first stone for a Chinese recreational center along the road to Sorobon near sports Jossy Boekhoudt was laid. Bonaire's Governor, Curacao-based Deputy Consul General of China, Mr. Zhang Huixun, and representatives of Bonaire's Chinese community participated in the event. The center will serve the Chinese community, as well as other organizations, as a place where various social, recreational and educational activities can take place. It aims to be open the center within seven months.

**Friends of the Museum just set up a "Friends of the Museum" program. For \$100 per year you can become a friend and enjoy unlimited access to the museum and all its events, receive their quarterly newsletter filled with interesting stories and fun facts. In addition, your name will be mentioned in its annual report, and you will receive the official "Friends Card." If you would like to become a friend, please contact Rianne van Rijswijk at info@terramarmuseum.com or +599 717-0423 who will send you the necessary in-

formation.

The 29th edition of the Bonaire International and Local Fishing Tournament will be held next year on January 26th, 27th and 28th. As in the past, the international tournament is a catch and re
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Flotsam & Jetsam (Continued from page 2) lease tournament that is aimed at catching and releasing billfish. The local tournament is open to all boats and will focus on food fish. There will be cash prizes and trophies will be distributed to the winners of all categories.

▶On November 6, five swimmers of the Barracudas Bonaire **Aquatics** Club participated in the 15th Aruba **Dolphins**



Invitational. This very well organized swimming competition was held in the 50 --meter pool Pisina Olimpico Roly Bisslik in Aruba. There were 12 swim clubs in this competition section with a total of 231 swimmers. They came from Aruba, Curacao, St. Maarten, Dominican Republic, Colombia, Trinidad, Argentina, and of course, Bonaire.

After three days of swimming the improved Bonaire Barracudas tallied 40 personal bests and several performance ribbons.

Bonaire's talented swimmer Chenice Bergman (above) also has the highest point trophy for girls aged 9-10 years—a fantastic achievement. If you are interested in the sport of swimming (competitive swimming and water polo), please contact via email: barracudasbonaire@gmail.com.



▶The wraps are off the plans to develop Sunset/Coco Beach. The mega tour group TUI plans to construct a \$30 million resort with 197 rooms on the site of the original Bonaire Beach Hotel. It will be named the Chogogo Hotel under the Time to Smile brand, similar to the TUI Chogogo resort on Curacao. Construction is to begin in the second half of next year with completion 2 ½ years later. About 80 jobs will be created as a result. The developers promise to build a "green" resort and allow full public access to the beach.



► Kamala Shadduck, group leader and founder of SingleDivers.com, has been bringing groups of divers every year to Divi Flamingo and Bonaire since 2008. They always remember the island's people. This year again, Kamala (at right in the photo) and her group brought candy and a donation for the FKPD (handicapped) who visited Divi Flamingo with Group Leader Merida Statia.

▶James Finies NKBB foundation got a boost when it was endorsed by one of Bonaire's largest labor unions, the USIBO, last week. It adds to the support

already given and positions NKBB well for its December 1 symposium. (See bottom of page 4).

►The Reporter's newest writer, Roderik Six, was the first place **Prose Winner of** the Province of West Flanders, a prize given once every three years,



for his contemporary, macabre novel <u>Fall</u> (*Val*). Reviewers say that the literary mystery story about an isolated village in Canada where a new doctor is coming to live "gets under your skin and keeps gnawing ..." His novel, in Dutch, is a sophisticated but relentless descent into existential blackness of man. Val

 $(\star\star\star\star)$ is published in Dutch by Prometheus. See page 9. for Roderik's newest story.

► Are you training? **Budget Marine** Sail and Triathlon is coming on Dec 11th. There will be a Triathlon with a short course and a long course (sprint distance) and you can participate as an individual or as a team in either one. Sailing for Micro boats, Wind Surfers, Optimist, Sunfish and yachts, everyone welcome! Just want to Party, there will be a BBQ and Boat party featuring the live music of RPM and Johnny Kleinmoedig & Conhunto. There will be loads of fun

activities and games as well! www.bonairewaterfronevents.com

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The Beauty of Bonaire Celebrated

he beauty of Bonaire was wonderfully celebrated on Saturday, November 17, when Bonairean born artist Sasha Van Duyn's 2017 calendars were unveiled.

The party event was about the people and the unspoiled nature of Bonaire. Bonaire Youth Outreach talked about their plans for a "Brilliant Christmas" (Pasku Brillante) program and several of the island's environmental protection NGOs, like Wild Conscience and STCB, presented their projects. There was music by DJ Annemiek and percussionist Paradis. Delicious free snacks were provided by Karel's Beach Bar. Throughout the evening there were video and photography projections about Bonaire. Most of the attendees wore white as requested.

Funds raised by sales and a raffle, with big prizes donated by Digicel, Bonaire Air Services and others were donated to participating non-profit

The 2017 Beauty of Bonaire Calendar was unveiled. It shows numerous beautiful locations of Bonaire and the images feature the diverse cultures living on the island. The calendar was made possible by funding from EuroParcs Resort Bonaire. You can get calendars, starting at \$25, at Addo's Book Store, Between Two Buns, Penny Lane and on the beautyofbonaire.com website and Facebook page.



Three of the calendar models



Calendar are available in different sizes and shapes.

The calendar's creator, Sasha Van Duyn, is a Bonairean who lived abroad most of her life but came back to the island a few years ago to enjoy being with her family on Bonaire. She embraces the diversity of the island and wanted to be part of making a difference. ■ Press release/ G.D.

Culture's Alive

RINCON -

uring the last Cultural Market at Cultural Park Mangazina di Rei, Mrs. Ludwina "Dinah" Veeris gave an educational talk about our local herbs. She explained how healthy these herbs were for different organs. She expressed her gratitude by thanking God for the richness of our Nature and for all the knowledge she received from the old wise men on the island. At the end of the presentation Dinah informed the audience that all the herbs would be obtainable at her

Also as part of the program Mrs. Heleen Christiaan explained about the Mangazina as usual, the local traditional plates were di Rei project, "Kunuku Lifestyle Challenge." A group from Curação, Maestronan Penshonado (retired teachers), sang different songs to entertain the public. There was also the presentation of the scarf tying as part of our culture which has become a great hit. To close off Mrs. Lucia "Vera" Mercera gave a demonstration of how to make the local cactus soup. This time there were live presentations from the local bands "F.M.K." (see cover) and Ekspreshon Ritmiko.

As usual during the market you could have a traditional breakfast consisting of fresh bread from the oven or a pumpkin pancake, and this time there was even the traditional Johny Cake. During lunchtime



"Dinah" Veeris lecturing

served: goat stew, salted fish and other popular plates. All are served with the local side dishes funchi (polenta) and tutu (a solid mixture made out of beans).

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

(Continued on page 14)

Fundashon Nos Kier Boneiru Bek Conference - The political future of the Dutch-administered Caribbean

We are pleased to invite you to participate in the conference "The political future of the Dutch-administered Caribbean" with United Nations Expert Dr. Carlyle Corbin and major international specialists, leaders and speakers.

AGENDA

- The political evolution of the "Dutch-administered Caribbean" since 10-10-10
- The implications of 10-10-10: The evolution of the "public entity status" (Bonaire, Saba, Sint Eustatius) and the evolution of the autonomous country status (Curacao, Sint Maarten, Aruba).
- Other dependency arrangements
- Other autonomous arrangements
- From public entity to full self-government
- Revelancy of international self-determination process: applicability to public entities and applicability to autonomous countries
- Various other topics

The Conference will be followed by a fundraising Gala Dinner with keynote speaker Dr. Corbin.

Conference

Gala Dinner

Date: Dec 1st, 2016 Time: 2:00 - 5:00 pm

Place: Plaza Resort Bonaire

Date: Dec 1st, 2016 Time: 7:30 pm

Place: Eddy's Restaurant

For more information please contact Davika Bissessar, WDTC Foundation davikabissessarshaw@gmail.com (+599) 786-4576 or (+599) 782-5664

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Price: \$100,-

Word on the Street

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

If you're planning on making a fabulous Thanksgiving meal at home, best to be aware of the maintenance work power outages that WEB has announced for Wednesday November 23 through Friday November 25 between the hours of 8am and 12 noon in three different areas of the island. Respective areas affected on each day are posted on their Facebook page "WEB Bonaire."

- Curacao's North Sea Jazz Festival, always a great weekend of music, will not take place this year. Organizers report that no "headliners" are available during the scheduled dates for the event due to tours and recording commitments of the artists. Rather than have a "second rate" festival, they have opted to cancel this year's event.
 Lots of publicity about the new Chogogo Resort (see pg. 2) to be at the former Sunset Beach Hotel tion. But not much "talk" about the new 84-apartment Delfins Beach sort (photo above) located next to
- Whispered rumors on the street that a certain establishment **featuring fine** "spirits" will soon be closing.
- Patagonia Restaurant's renovation of their new location (at the former site of La Luna) is nearing completion. Word is they should be open by month's end.
- The previously rumored "gourmet Asian restaurant" coming to the island will be part of the Jasmine Garden Restaurant and Hotel. The large edifice at the corner of J. A. Abraham Boulevard and Kaya Industria (opposite Divi Flamingo) reportedly will feature a

gourmet restaurant on the ground floor and hotel rooms above.



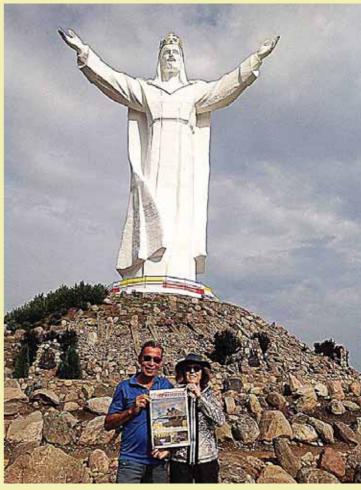
- Lots of publicity about the new Chogogo Resort (see pg. 2) to be built at the former Sunset Beach Hotel location. But not much "talk" about the new 84-apartment Delfins Beach Resort (photo above) located next to Lighthouse Beach Resort) that their website claims will be open in the 4th quarter of 2017 and have the largest swimming pool on the island. www.delfinsbeachresort.com.
- If you're tired of listening to all the "talking heads" rattle on about the recent US election, you might want to look at "alternative" analyses. Check out the buzz on the internet regarding the predictions of Nostradamus and Baba Vanga in relation to the recent election.

■ Bula Bonchi

Picture Yourself With The Reporter in Swiebodzin, Poland

G eerlof and Anita van der Wal Write: "When we visited my brother in Poland we took this picture with the Bonaire Reporter in Swiebodzin.

Rio de Janario in Brazil has a big a big Jesus Christ statue but this one is bigger 33 m. tall."



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embrandt has finally come to Bonaire. Youngsters from Bonaire and Oostende (Belgium) worked together for two weeks to create various artworks inspired by the work of the Dutch artist. "Light in the Darkness" was the theme of the culture-bridging art project.

Rembrandt is known for his dramatic division between floods of light and sinister darkness in his paintings. But the theme also refers to the light an intercultural exchange can shine upon life. "Life has gotten complicated for youth anywhere in the world lately," one of the Belgian participants explains. "It is not easy for us to find a job, we don't know what the future brings, and the world around us seems to get more tough all the time."With this project the youngsters reflect upon their lives, exchange ideas, laugh together, and create artworks. "It is also important for them to realize they can create art themselves," one of the Belgian organizers explains. "It is not something only artists can do, they have all the fantasy and creativity within them."

Juliandro, a participant from Bonaire, especially liked to work on the street art on Wilhelmina Square. He created it together with some local and some new Belgium friends. "Also it was a lot of fun to create portraits of ourselves, inspired by Rembrandt's work. The Belgians were 'chill' and easygoing. We are not so different from each other, Juliandro concludes."

Wilhelmina Park served as the exposition site to complete the project in a festive way and to show the results to all people interested. Besides street art and portraits, there were paintings made with homemade paint. The young artists created the paint out of egg yolk, water and colorants, just like it was used back in Rembrandt's days. Besides the Dutch famous artist, there must have been some other inspiration in the air, as a remarkable number of tropical fish and palm trees can be detected in the various artworks. "Yes, we enjoyed Bonaire a lot," one of the Belgian participants



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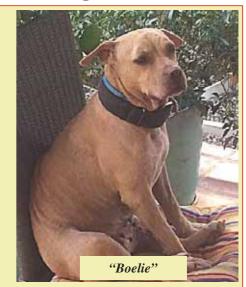
Belgian and Bonairean Youngsters Inspired By Rembrandt The World According To Boelie

et me introduce myself. My name is Boelie. I am a red-nose pit-bull and live with Justine, the author of all those stories about the wonders of nature. As you have read in the last Reporter, those wonders were about to disappear and she didn't know what she should write about. I proposed to temporarily take it over, because I lead an adventurous life compared to hers. Every day I meet different animals and humans, and there is always something going on. That is, I think, also because of my character. I'm quite expressive and responsive. I'm known as an ADHD -dog, but I have calmed down these last years. I'm older and wiser.

Where do I start? I cannot remember much of my early years. What I do know is that I ended up in the Animal Shelter on Bonaire at some point. There I was in a large kennel with a lot of other dogs. I was quite busy there, because I have it in me to be the boss and you must do your best to be one in a group. I was busy all day to encourage the other dogs to do what I wanted, and eventually I succeeded. They did exactly what I wanted: they ran after me and did not dare to contradict me or to go after things I did

How do I do that? I bark loudly in their face and I run hard, I take a firm stand, accepting no opposition. If I wanted to eat first, they should not get in the way. If I wanted to greet people arriving at the kennel, I was the first to get caresses

I think people are much more fun than dogs. I think dogs smell bad, and when it comes to food you cannot trust them. People give you food, smell good, at least compared with dogs, and they pet you, which I find very comforting.



Dogs try to lick you if they want to be friends and then you smell their stinky breath. So that means I have few canine friends. Most of them I find to be stupid, brutal stinkers and they should stay away. If they don't, then they get to know my teeth. You have to surprise those dogs by being the first to attack, otherwise they think you're a wimp. Dogs that behave normally and do not challenge me I ignore.

A nice man who volunteered at the Shelter took me from my kennel for a walk. This made the other dogs incredibly jealous. They started to bark very loudly as I walked out. I liked that attention. After a while it was decided I could go home with that man and his wife

(Justine), along with another dog whom I thought was ok. And so I ended up with human bosses ■ Story & photo by Justine Verschoor



explains. "Besides the group tasks we went out snorkeling of course." The exposition was cheered on by a spontaneous music performance by some of the local participants, and completed by a visit from Governor Edison Rijna.

The project is a cooperation between Jong Bonaire, Art Education Organization Mu-zee-um (Oostende) and Bonaire Break. Organizers Harm Jan van Dijk (Bonaire Break) and Ewout Van-Hoecke (Mu-zee-um) walked around,

satisfied. They were amazed at how well the youngsters complement each other and how spontaneously they cooperate. "From the moment they met, energy was in the air." In the future a

group from Jong Bonaire might visit the Belgian group, or even join them on cultural and artistic exchanges elsewhere in Europe. ■ *Ger*janne Voortman





foodandvitality

BREAKFAST

B reakfast literally means "breaking the fast" as you have had no food or "fasted" since the day before.

Breakfast helps top up the energy stores you have used up each night whilst your body repairs and renews itself. It also gives you energy for your morning activities, whether at work, school, home or out and

However, it is estimated that up to one third of us still regularly miss breakfast. Many of us put this down to time pressures in the morning, but with a little planning, you can find a breakfast choice to suit your lifestyle.

Is breakfast really important?

Yes. Apart from providing energy (calories) to kick-start your day, a healthy breakfast provides essential nutrients that the body needs, such as fiber, vitamins and key minerals such as calcium and iron. Research has shown that people who eat breakfast have more balanced diets than those who skip it, are less likely to be overweight, lose weight more successfully if overweight, and have reduced risk of certain diseases such as cardiovascular disease and diabetes. Missing breakfast may increase feelings of hunger later on in the day, resulting in snacking on less healthy foods without necessarily catching up on essential nutrients. Eating breakfast may also help to improve mental performance, concentration and mood – three more good reasons to eat something in the morning.

What makes a healthy breakfast?

Breakfast should provide about 20-25% of your daily nutritional requirements, and it's not just about having any breakfast – it's about having a healthy breakfast.

Wholegrain foods such as bread, cereals, oatmeal etc. provide energy, B vitamins, some iron and fiber. Cereals are a good choice: they are quick and easy to prepare, and are often fortified with vitamins, iron and calcium to contribute to your daily nutritional requirements. However, be careful to check the labels, as some of these products have added sugar and salt. Evidence suggests that oatmeal for breakfast may have a positive effect on total cholesterol concentration when compared to skipping breakfast.

If you're pushed for time, try an oat-based packed breakfast. The night before, place some porridge oats in a pot and cover with



the oats, add some fresh or dried fruit on top, sprinkle with a bit of cinnamon for added flavor and store in the fridge. Then, in the morning just grab from the fridge before you leave the house – a perfect breakfast on the go.

Fruit and vegetables are good sources of vitamins and fiber. On your cereal, try chopped fresh fruit like a banana or some dried fruit, or add half a grapefruit or fruit salad to your usual breakfast.

For something different, try a fresh fruit smoothie. Just blend some fruit of your choice with low fat yogurt or milk. Frozen berries or other fruits are also ideal for making smoothies.

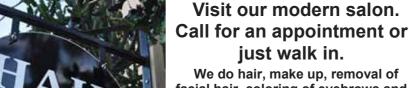
Dairy foods give you protein, calcium and B vitamins. Natural yoghurt is delicious topped with fruit and a sprinkle of muesli. If you use milk and other products not made from cow's milk such as soya, oat, coconut, almond or rice, make sure they are unsweetened and fortified with calcium.

Remember to include a drink. Water, milk, pure fruit juice, tea and coffee all supply vital fluids. Being well hydrated also helps you to concentrate better.

If you can't face eating first thing, try to eat within two hours of getting up. Keep some healthy wholegrain cereal at work. Or, if you are breakfasting on the go, choose a restaurant or café that has healthy choices like wholegrain bread or cereal, oatmeal, low fat yoghurts, fresh fruit salads and smoothies. Keep pastries and croissants as an occasional treat as they are high in fat, sugar and calories. 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.





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A Garden?

MUSHROOM MADNESS

e are in the midst of a mushroom growth explosion which hasn't been seen in years. This is thanks to a soaking October and November. You never know what or where a mushroom might pop up in your garden. Don't think mushrooms are hurting your plants. They may kill YOU if you eat them, but they

are doing your plants a lot of good. And because we only see a fraction of the whole organism, kicking it over isn't going to do anything. The organism puts an enormous amount of energy into forming mushrooms. It seems unfair to destroy it casually. About 5,000 species of fungi grow on the roots of approximately 2,000 species of coniferous and flowering trees. Another 130 fungal species tap into roots, threading their strands between cell walls.

On Bonaire I've noticed many different types of mushrooms. My garden is full of some types that grow everywhere on the island. You see the photo of one growing in my yard on specific rotten leaves, another of some along a path. But I've also noticed those white ones that look like a small white closed umbrella. They are not popping up on rotten leaves, but I've seem them just on the red and grey hard soil along roads. And then you have those which are growing on the underside of trees on the thick old live or dead roots. In Papiamentu mushroom is called Parasol di Zumbi. That means: umbrella for bad spirits.

In the past it was said that mushrooms had to do with bad spirits and voodoo. People in this area would walk with a big bow around them when they'd see them in their yard. They were scared of them. A local told me that when a certain type of mushroom on Bonaire was blowing its spore around with a certain sound, "phoeff," and a kind of a grey powder came out the of the cap of the mushroom, everyone would run away. They thought that it was not good, in a spiritual way, to come in contact with this grey powder. In fact it might not be good because it can be poisonous, but the locals were thinking of spiritual bad energy and not of real poison. And, besides, eating them was not even considered. However, in time mushrooms became more common in our daily food on Bonaire.

So now that you know more about these beautiful creations popping up in your wet yard, do enjoy them by your eyes and let them grow peacefully



Roadside Mushrooms



Mushrooms growing in my garden

among your other plants.

And if you are crazy about mushrooms in your food, get them from a market for your own safety and enjoy this very healthy food in different creative recipes.

Locals add them to their soups like goat and vegetable and fish soups, in their fresh salads and in the popular batata or babana stoba. I have eaten mushrooms in a delicious goat stoba with bontji and cooked batata dushi (sweet potatoes) and in local pizza and vegetable pies. For vegetarians mushrooms are a tasty and great protein support as a substitute for meat protein. Mushrooms can be added to any kind and type of food.

"Come dushi ku parasol di zumbi ." ■

Story & Photo by *Angliet*, *Nature Lover*



A Healthy Bonaire

Recently, as part of "Heart Week," the Stichting Hart Voor Bonaire held free clinics for the public to check blood pressure, blood sugar and cholesterol at the Sport Hall, the hospital, Cocari and supermarkets Warehouse and Van der Tweel.

The organization, manned totally by volunteers and led by Dr. Robert Van Dongen, promotes education on nutrition and exercise, sponsors vegetable gardens in Pelikaan and San Bernardo elementary schools and places AED (automated external defibrillator) equipment all over the island (entrance to Washington Park, the airport, in a police patrol car, at Bon Bida gym, etc.) and trains people to operate them.

The idea for these free clinics is to make it easier for those people who try to avoid going to the doctor but who maybe should. The clinics could serve from 40 to 60 persons per day, some of whom needed medical follow up.

Story & photos by Laura DeSalvo



Some of the volunteers during the Stichting Hart voor Bonaire drive for Heart Week at the hospital.



Sally Pourier gives Stinapa Head, Herman Sieben, the AED machine that will be placed at the Washington Park entrance. Looking on are Dr. Robert Van Dongen and Dr. Maryann Voesten.



Little Devil

e live with a murderer.

Every morning I dispose of the corpses and wipe up the blood from the kitchen floor.

Sometimes his victims are still alive, albeit barely; they are still breathing franticly, still grasping on to the little life that is left in their leathery bodies.

I bend over them, say a last goodbye, take a shovel and take them into the garden. Then I let the blade snap. I try to do it fast. Smooth. Just below the neck. I really try. But sometimes their limbs are still moving. Sometimes their lungs are still expanding. They hold on. Desperately. I can understand. I really can. Death is not something that you accept easily. But it's the only way; it's the path we all have to take.

So, once again, I try to be fast and painless. It's a hard job, but someone has to do it.

Because he won't. He will keep them alive, just for his pleasure, just to show us: this is life, one desperate breath after another, and every breath takes you closer to death.

"This is my lesson to you: enjoy, because it can be over in a strike of lightning."

In a way, he is our depraved God.

It's our fault. We took him into our home. We plucked him from the nest. After years of debate, we finally decided. We want one.

We contemplated different breeds, colors, build, skin. We were careful. We were aware of the consequences. This would change our lives; we, two free persons with the world at our feet, without a care whatsoever - we would expand our family. We wanted him. We invited him. We gave

him a name: Beezle, short for Beezlebüb, which means, in Jewish scripture, Lord of Demons. In other words: we invited the devil into our home.

And, as the Romans say: *Nomen est Omen*. He is what he is named after: a little demon.

But we loved him immediately.

We still do.

He craves dawn. Like he is an inverted

Do you want to please him? Unleash him into the morning, into the birth of day. He will show you fear in a handful of sunshine.

He dwelled well, in Amsterdam. That city that resembles Sodom and Gommorah, that city where freedom is mandatory. He felt at ease, walking the canals - he didn't even mind his leash. He was petted by Japanese tourists, he was cuddled by young females, and elder ladies approached us offering us their inheritance. He was a heathen god. Publicity agencies called us for pictures. He was offered vast amounts of money, just for a photo-shoot. He licked his paw and repeated what Gisele Bündchen once said: 'I don't get dressed for less then 10 grand.'

He was a king in Holland, and he is a king here.

Once again: it's our fault.



You can compare us to the servants of Dracula. He spares you, just because you do horrible things to please him. There is no room for guilt. We live under the terror - the terror of love. We can't help ourselves.

We imported him to Bonaire. In a black casket. He spent 12 hours on a plane. He didn't moan once. He didn't like it, but he didn't moan once. I fed him from time to time. That helps. Feeding him helps.

But he could have caused a ruckus. He could have caused a rampage. He could have caused disaster. But he didn't. Why? Because the stewardesses love him. You just have to open the casket, give him daylight, show them to those stressed-out, dressed in royal blue ladies. And they melt. Like Swiss chocolate in tropical heat. Instantly they forget about drunk tourists, crying babies, low wages and and ass-grabbing men in business class. They see him. And he endears them. He extinguishes all sorrow.

At first he didn't like the sun.

He's nocturnal. He confrates with bats and wolves. But he adapted. Shed fur. Renewed himself. Then he became the coldblooded killer, the murderer we currently shelter.

Don't get me wrong, he can be cute. In the evening he joins us, peacefully in bed.

Mainly because he adores the airco. That may be his only deity, the god-machine he worships. He stares at that weird box blowing cold air, and he settles himself.

Maybe he will sleep on the floor, maybe he will jump on the bed and glorify you with his presence. If you are lucky, he will purr. He will share his satanic heat with you - and you will be graced, whether you like it or not. "Please make some room. I am royalty."

But once the sun rises, even if it's just the slightest splinter of light, you will awake. Then he jabs you with his paw. Repeatedly. He will not use his claws - he could easily scratch your eyes out -, he is merciful, but you will arise. Because there are things to be hunted, intruders that need to be expelled, food that needs to be eaten. You will comply. I will jab you with my royal paw you until you go insane.

So you emerge from your dreams and from your sleep, and you stumble towards the backdoor and grant him freedom. Freedom to kill.

In the time that you can prepare coffee, he will come back with his first victim. Mostly, it's a female *blauwblauw* (edemic Bonaire lizard, *ed.*) that he will deposit on the kitchen floor, just to show off. And most of the time, the *blauwblauw* is still alive. And she will run for the closest hideout, behind a rug sack, or into a cupboard. Remember: you are naked. And some reptile is prancing around your house.

(Continued on page 10)



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WHAT TO DO FOR CHRISTMAS GIFTS? ANSWER: ANIMAL SHELTER AUCTION

hildren, parents, relatives, friends – what to give for Christmas? An annual dilemma. Not to worry, help is on the way. Consider doing something different this year that would be really special for a family group. Picture Christmas morning (or any morning) sailing out on the Aquaspace for a holiday breakfast cruise. What a fabulous surprise! Or for the youngster or oldster in your life give the gift of a dive certification course courtesy of Dive Friends... the gift they've always wanted! And that special lady in your life would enjoy receiving a beauty bas**ket** from our silent auction filled with gift certificates for massages, manicures, pedicures, hair cuts and coloring, and a number of personal beauty products just for her. What's not to love about that? One of the best things about this event is that there will be a price range for everyone. The sky can be the competitive bid limit for some items, yet for each inexpensive raffle ticket you buy you can choose whichever of the elegant items you want to win by putting your ticket in the box in front of your chosen item and hope for the luck of the draw. And don't forget the silent auction - great deals there too. Each item is presented with a bid sheet and you can put down whatever amount you want bid low and hope you get it! So many really cool things you just won't believe

For our ticket holder guests there will be an open bar with wine, beer, sodas, and vodka and rum mixed drinks. Creating the mixed drinks as well as showing off their famous liquors will be the folks from Bonaire's own Cadushy distillery. Your ticket allows you to sample ALL their fabulous products along with the other choices mentioned above. Gourmet tapas provided by Kite City Food Truck, Indonesian tapas by Bous, mini quiches, satays, and many, many other delicious snacks created by some of the island's best cooks will be served until 7pm. and you can enjoy Moogie's

Little Devil (Continued from page 9)

Beezle doesn't really care that they hide. They will have to show up sometime. He, being a mythological beast, has all the time in the world. He can wait for days, weeks. Patience is his middle name.

We, on the other hand, are worried about this lizard hiding beneath our cupboards, beneath our food supplies - worried that, in the middle of the night, our devil will awake, suspect an escaping prey and will hunt it through our living room, causing such a pandemonium that we will have to get up at three in the morning, just to pet him and say "Job well done."

Because if you don't congratulate him on his kill, he will bring the kill to you. He will throw this cold, wriggling lizard in your face. While you are sleeping.

The only way to sooth him, is to feed him. He is - after all - male.

The only problem is: he is picky. Very picky.

wonderful music while you have an early look at all the auction goodies. Open bar for wine, beer, and soft drinks will be available all evening for ticket holders. Those wishing to attend the auction only can enter without a ticket at 6:45 pm. and buy drinks at a cash

This is going to be the island event of the year and you won't want to miss it! Make it your PET project by bidding on items that will help to finance the Bonaire Animal Shelter while at the same time offering amazing gift items just in time for Christmas. Round up your best friends and together bid on a sunset cocktail cruise on the Mushi Mushi (photo above). Or think home improvement with installed solar panels. Jewelry, art, torchlight dinners on the beach at Harbour Village - so much to choose from and just one place to do it: #26 Sabadeco Shores on Sunday, November 27th starting at 5pm with the auction beginning at 7:15pm. Cash, debit, and credit cards

accepted for auction items. Contact Dabney at 717-3949 for tickets or email dabney38@yahoo.com. She will deliver your tickets to you. Dabney Lassiter



Extremely picky.

Louis Quatorze was less picky.

He only likes this one brand of food, called DeliCat. They might as well call it CatHeroin. He gorges on it. He refuses anything else.

Problem is: we didn't find it on Bonaire. You will have better luck finding Atlantis, or the Holy Grail.

Not that we didn't try. We went to every supermarket, buying every brand. We didn't care about the price - you can't bargain with the devil. We came home with bags and bags of cat food. But he just glimpsed at it, and went into a hunger strike, like an IRA-

We had to give him tuna, just to keep his weight up. In the meanwhile, we ate crackers with Nutella. Living with a dark king demands sacrifices.

But one day we got lucky. After visiting every possible supermarket, we found his brand. We bought the entire lot. You should BONAIRE ANIMAL SHELTER COCKTAIL PARTY AND AUCTION DATE: NOVEMBER 27 TIME: 5:00 PM ANIMAL SHELTER BONAIRE **VENUE: SABADECO SHORES 26** FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TICKET SALE CONTACT THE ANIMAL SHELTER BONAIRE. CALL (=599) -7014989 OR E-MAIL TO NIMALSHELTERBONAIRE@GMAIL.C



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have seen us, driving a scooter, holding jars of DeliCat like our life depended on it.

It did. You don't want a hungry predator stalking your house. You don't want him eating blauwblauws, because they are poisonous. Their blood causes paralysis. There's a reason why they look so glimmering blue - it's a warning: don't eat

So the devil was pleased.

And we were left with this shipload of rejected cat food. It seemed like a waste to throw it out. So we went to the Bonaire Animal Shelter, which is a tremendous place. We donated the food, and were allowed into the cat palace they have over there. We have never seen that before: cats. living peacefully together, without quarrel, without hissing, without violence. Cats, just enjoying life. No satanic activity here. No masses. No ritual sacrifices. No blood on the kitchen floor.

They are well taken care of. One small cat even looked like an innocent version of Beezle: he just fell asleep on my back. Because that's what cats will do to you: in the blink of an eye, they will turn you into servants. But, as Dylan would put it, you have to serve somebody. It might as well be the devil, disguised as the sweetest cat on earth, called Beezle.

Story & photos by Roderik Six (Read about Mr. Six's latest literary prize on page 3)



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Bonaire-Sun Rise/Set, Moon Phase and Tides

Day	High	Low	High	Low	High	Sunrise	Sunse
	L Quar-		07:48	13:39	18:39		
Mon 21	ter	−0.24 ft	0.68 ft	0.30 ft	0.82 ft	6:36	18:07
		02:23	08:31	14:50	19:30		
Tue 22		−0.17 ft	0.75 ft	0.29 ft	0.69 ft	6:36	18:07
		02:56	09:11	16:03	20:22		
Wed 23		-0.09 ft	0.80 ft	0.26 ft	0.55 ft	6:37	18:07
		03:25	09:49	17:17	21:18		
Thu 24		−0.01 ft	0.84 ft	0.22 ft	0.43 ft	6:37	18:07
		03:48	10:26	18:33	22:25		
Fri 25		0.07 ft	0.88 ft	0.17 ft	0.32 ft	6:38	18:07
		04:04	11:01	19:47	23:57		
Sat 26		0.14 ft	0.90 ft	0.11 ft	0.24 ft	6:38	18:07
		04:05	11:35	20:51			
Sun 27		0.19 ft	0.91 ft	0.04 ft		6:39	18:08
	12:09	21:44					
Mon 28	0.92 ft	−0.02 ft		•		6:39	18:08
	12:43	22:27			New		
Tue 29	0.93 ft	−0.06 ft			moon	6:40	18:08
	13:19	23:03				0.40	40.00
Wed 30	0.93 ft	−0.10 ft				6:40	18:08
Dec.	13:56	23:33				0.44	40.00
Thu 01	0.93 ft	−0.12 ft				6:41	18:08
F-: 00	14:35					0.44	40.00
Fri 02	0.93 ft	00.00	45.45			6:41	18:09
C-4 02		00:00	15:15			6.40	10.00
Sat 03		-0.14 ft	0.91 ft			6:42	18:09
Sun 04		00:22 -0.14 ft	15:56			6.42	10.00
Sull 04		-0.14 ft 00:43	0.87 ft	11.00	16.20	6:42	18:09
Mon 05		-0.14 ft	07:15 0.47 ft	11:02 0.42 ft	16:39 0.82 ft	6:43	18:09
INIOII 03		U. 14 II	0.47 IL	U.4∠ Il	0.02 It	0.43	10.09

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 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

- •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.

Mondays

Page 12

• Bonaire Goat Farm Tour—9 am. Meet the goats, see milking, and more. \$10 includes tea. Kids \$5. 786-6950-Also on Wednesdays & Fridays.

	#	Day	Date	Ship Name	Port Time	# Pax	Shipping Line
r	72	Tuesday	22-11-16	Jewel of the Seas	0800-1700	2490	Royal Caribbean
ü	73	Thursday	24-11-16	Caribbean Princess	0700-1700	3200	Princess
1	74	Thursday	24-11-16	Thomson Discovery	0700-1400	2076	Thomson
150	75	Monday	28-11-16	Serenade of the Seas	1300-2000	2490	Royal Caribbean
	76	Tuesday	29-11-16	Mein Schiff 5	0730-1900	2500	TUI
S	77	Wednesday	30-11-16	Aida Diva	0800-1800	2194	AIDA
h	78	Wednesday	30-11-16	Carnival Conquest	1400-2200	2974	Carnival
h	79	Thursday	1-12-16	Star Breeze	0700-2400	215	Windstar
p	80	Thursday	1-12-16	Norwegian Pearl	0800-1900	2394	Norwegian
S	81	Saturday	3-12-16	Star Breeze	0700-2200	215	Windstar

•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 mini-
- •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 to play starting at 6 pm at 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 Crusita de Palm at 786-3827 or Lucia Martinez Beck, at 786-2953.

CHURCH SERVICES

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints -- Kaya Sabena 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 Cochrane-Herrera at

ellenherreracochrane@yahoo.ca or phone 717-8489 or 005999-540-9800 English/Papiamentu/Dutch/Spanish

CLOSE-IN EVENTS

Thursday, Nov. 24—American Thanksgiving. See Rum Runners ad on page 7 for the "real thing!"

Saturday, Nov. 26

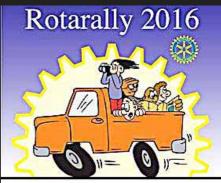
—Arrival of Sint Nicholaas and Swarte Pieten 2-5pm, Wilhelmina Park. More on page 2

—Mangazina di Rei Cultural Market, 8am-2pm. Music, food, cultural fun. See page 4.

Sunday, Nov. 27—Bonaire Animal Shelter Auction - See page 10

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: 782-5664 See page 4

Thursday, Dec. 1,—Official opening of the Papa Cornés School annex, 10-11:30am, Kaya Leyden 30.



Date : December 4th, 2016 Start : Kompleho Deportivo Bonaire Time : 9:00 am Finish : Te Amo Beach Price: Rally card inct. 2 pax bacch and 2 BBQ tickets US\$ 50. Separate BBQ tickets US\$ 15 Winners: Will be appropried at \$00 pm

Get your Entry Card & BBQ Tickets at:

Sunday, Dec. 4—RotoRally Rotary Club fundraiser. Starts at Sport Hall at 9 am. Tickets (\$50 per car) at Sunbelt, Akkermans and It Rains Fishes and Rotary members

Sunday, Dec. 11—Budget Marine Triathalon & Sailing Event.
See page 3 and schedule on page



THE STARS HANE IT

November 2016

<u>ARIES</u> (Mar. 21- April 20) Concentrate on work and on making money. Your questions will help you ferret out secret information. Direct your energy into physical exertion. Residential moves will be favorable. You will be looking for creative ways to make a little extra cash. Your lucky day this month will be Saturday.

<u>TAURUS</u> (Apr. 21- May 21) Your family needs to spend some time with you, too. You will have to do a lot of running around, so be prepared to fall short of your expectations. Secret information will be eye opening. Confusion is apparent and you'll need some sound advice if you want to do the right thing. Your lucky day will be Thursday.

<u>GEMINI</u> (May 22-June 21) Don't start a dispute unless you're prepared to accept irreversible results. Seminars will provide you with knowledge and amusement. Do not hesitate to help elders with legal documents that are too confusing for them. Make sure that you take time to remember those you love. Your lucky day this month will be Tuesday.

<u>CANCER</u> (June 22-July 22) You will get drawn into groups that are not favorable to you. Social events will be plentiful. You're on to something tangible and need to act fast Deception regarding joint finances or investments will cause upsets between family members. Your lucky day this month will be Tuesday.

<u>LEO</u> (July 23-Aug 22) Opportunities to make financial gains through investments look promising. Changes in your residence may be financially favorable. Make changes in your domestic scene. You will be able to work with fine detail this month. Your lucky day this month will be Saturday.

<u>VIRGO</u> (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) You're intuitive this month; however, this attribute could get you in trouble if you tactlessly say what you think. Do your chores and get on with the things you enjoy doing. Your interests could lead you down avenues you never realized existed. Focus on your domestic scene. Get together with friends or relatives.

Your lucky day will be Wednesday.

<u>LIBRA</u> (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) Don't let your emotions take over. Quarrels will erupt if you get into philosophical debates with friends. You may feel a need to make changes to your legal documents. You should not get involved in joint ventures. Your lucky day will be Friday.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) You can help them with difficult projects. You would be wise to consider attending lectures that will broaden your awareness concerning your professional direction. Confusion regarding other people's money and joint ventures will come to a head. Your ability to work with detail could help you achieve your goals. Your lucky day this month will be Sunday.

<u>SAGITTARIUS</u> (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) Travel or short trips will probably be your best outlet. You will have the discipline and fortitude to accomplish what you want this month. Outdoor sports events should entice you. Get involved in the activities of children. Your lucky day this month will be Friday.

<u>CAPRICORN</u> (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) Opportunities will unfold; however, you must be willing to pay the price. You can get phenomenal returns if you present your ideas to those who can back your interests. Avoid any confrontations with colleagues. Lowered vitality could affect your work. Your lucky day this month will be Wednesday.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) If you can, try to work out of your home this month. Put something away in case of an emergency. You will feel compelled to do some traveling. You can set your goals and make a beeline for your target. Your lucky day will be Monday.

<u>PISCES</u> (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) Your boss won't be too thrilled if you leave things unfinished. Chronic health problems are likely to surface if you are keeping your problems locked up inside. Try to keep to yourself; work diligently on domestic chores and responsibilities. Your lucky day this month will be Wednesday. ■

Michael Thiessen



BONAIRE SKY PARK*

*to find it... just look up

Polygon Party

e've finally reached that time of year again when we can see a multitude of **celestial polygons**, all in the sky at the same time! We have a triangle, a square, a pentagon and a hexagon. So, get ready, while we connect the dots.

Just after sunset, any night this week, face west and pivot eastward. The number of sides that each of our polygons displays increases by one as we travel eastward. So, let's start facing west and the first polygon we will see has three sides and three angles. It's none other than the **Summer Triangle**.

This pattern of bright stars is what we call an **asterism**. It's a geometric shape made by using bright stars from multiple constellations. The stars of the summer triangle are **Vega**, the brightest star in **Lyra the Harp**, **Altair**, the brightest star in **Aquila the Eagle** and **Deneb**, the brightest star in **Cygnus the Swan**.

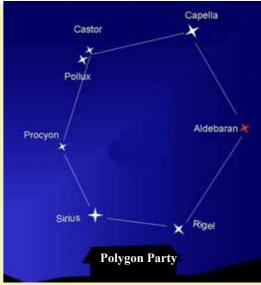
Moving upward to almost overhead is our next polygon and it has four sides and four angles. The stars that make this polygon are all in the same constellation. We call it the **Great Square of Pegasus** and it represents the body of the flying horse belonging to **Perseus the Hero**. Start at **Markab**, which marks the base of the neck of Pegasus, then move northward to **Sheat**, which marks the point where the legs attach to the body.

Imagine drawing a line from the horse's stomach eastward to the star **Alpheratz** which is a star that Pegasus shares with **Andromeda the Princess**. Then, if we move southward to finish off the square, we arrive at the star **Algenib**, which completes the rear and back of the horse.

So far you've seen a triangle... with three sides... and a square... with four sides...

Now need a five sided polygon, a pentagon!

And we have an excellent candidate for this if we aim eyes to the northeast. The brightest of the stars in this pentagon also happens to be the closest of them, at only 42 light years away. Capella marks the apex of the pentagon shaped constellation called Auriga the Charioteer. The other stars that mark this constellation, traveling in a counterclockwise direction are, Menkalinan



which is 48 times as bright as our **Sun**, is 82 light years away and marks the shoulder of the charioteer. Moving southward we have the star **Mahasim**, which marks the wrist of Auriga and is a binary star system over 166 light years away from us. Moving further southward we run into my favorite star in Auriga, **Elnath**. This star is approximately 131 light years from **Earth** and is a star that Auriga shares with **Taurus the bull**, marking the end of one of the bull's horns. Lastly, we move westward to the star **Kabdhilinan** which is roughly 500 light years away from us and is approximately 127 times the width of our Sun.

We need a six-sided figure. If you go outside just before 10pm, the last stars of the winter hexagon will be rising in the east, just before the summer triangle sets in the west.

The hexagon begins with Capella and moving downward toward the horizon you have Castor and Pollux, the heads of the Gemini twins. Closer still to the horizon you have Procyon in Canis Minor and further south you have Sirius in Canis Major. Moving upward you have Rigel, the foot of Orion and then up to Orion's left you have Aldebaran, marking the eye of Taurus. Finishing off, head back to Capella to complete the hexagon. Four separate shapes, made by 18 stars, in 10 constellations! So get outside and make some pretty polygons in the Bonaire Sky Park.

Dean Regas & James Albury





did aor knom 5



We have a moth called the Melonworm moth, Diaphania hyalinata, which has an orange, bushy tail. The tail looks very strange, especially when you see it moving back and forth! Recently, my family began growing pumpkin plants in our yard and we were very happy with their rapid growth. We were soon rewarded with several nice-sized pumpkins. To our dismay, however, the plants were infested with green caterpillars that were speedily munching through our glorious pumpkin plants! My daughter and I removed more than 50 caterpillars and raised them in an aquarium until they morphed into gorgeous moths. It was then that we noticed their strange bushy tails. The "things" on the tail are actually called "hair-pencils" and they produce pheromones (chemicals that smell) that are released into the air as the moth waves its tail

B onaire is home to bushyback and forth. Female moths do this to attract male moths. Male moths, as they approach female moths, also release pheromones from their hair-pencils that serve as both aphrodisiacs and as tranquilizers to females, and they also serve to repel (scare away) other male moths. These fascinating moths live in the Caribbean and Central and South America and love to eat cucumber, melon, pumpkin and squash plants. So now, my family is sowing more pumpkin seeds in hopes of more pumpkins. I have mixed together a natural pesticide using vegetable oil, dish soap, garlic, cayenne pepper, lemon extract and water and am spraying the plants in hopes of

> keeping those hungry Melonworm moths away. It's working so far. Caren

> > **Eckrich**





NATIONAL PARKS FOUNDATION

n important ofirst

step was taken towards the regional protection of sharks throughout the Caribbean. At the request of the Netherlands, regional governments today recommended eight species of sharks and rays for protection under the Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW) Protocol.

Delegates from 14 Caribbean countries including Caribbean Netherlands (Saba, St. Eustatius and Bonaire), met in Miami last week to discuss the protection of nature and biodiversity under the SPAW Protocol. This is the only legal instrument for cross-border protection of wildlife in the Caribbean. Through the protocol, signatory countries have made firm agreements to ensure the

protection of animals and protected areas throughout the region. To date, no sharks or rays are listed on the Protocol, even though these species are particularly threatened in the Caribbean. Overfishing as well as degradation and destruction of vital habitats such as coral reefs and mangrove forests are the main causes of the decline in shark numbers.

"We are very pleased that our proposal could count on so much support," said Paul Hoetjes, Senior Policy Advisor for the Dutch Ministry of Economic Affairs. "A year ago we were able to establish the Yarari Marine Mammal and Shark Sanctuary in the waters around Bonaire and Saba. Management throughout the Caribbean is the logical next step for the protection of sharks.'

How Swine Smart Are You?

LAST PIG STANDING

s with all things, Dear A Reader, our series on feral pig biology, behavior and what it means for Bonaire, must come to an end!

Throughout these past few months we hope that you have enjoyed learning about feral pigs and perhaps uncovering a few startling facts about the impacts that they are having on Bonaire. To summarize, feral pigs do live on Bonaire. They are habitat generalists, which means they can live in a lot of different places. They mostly eat plant matter, but they will also eat the eggs and young of native fauna. They have high reproductive rates, they reach sexual maturity at a relatively young age and females can have up to eight piglets per litter. Feral pigs are somewhat habitual, they like to use the same paths to travel, but they also move around a lot. When they sleep at night, sometimes they will make a little nest for themselves. You can often tell that a feral pig has been in the area if you see that the ground is heavily disturbed and that the roots of plants have been exposed. With the exception of Rincon where they seem quite comfortable around people, pigs in the wild tend to be wary and cautious, which can make it difficult to track and catch them. If you try to catch a pig once and



Pigs On The Beach

miss, it will quickly learn how to avoid the trap in the future. Because of how feral pigs eat and how much they eat, they can be quite destructive of the environment. They will dig up plants, trample ground nests, and can burrow through fences to get into people's gardens and fields. In the US it is estimated that they cause over \$1.5 billion dollars in damage each year to the agricultural industry alone. And, feral pigs can, although unlikely, be harmful for people. They carry diseases and can transmit them to other livestock or pets, as well as people through consumption of contaminated meat. In short, feral pigs deservingly have a bad reputation. But, just like the lionfish, they are malicious and delicious! So why not make lemonade from lemons and work to catch them, properly butcher them and eat them! That is what Echo proposes to do.

The Echo team has already been out and about since the beginning of the year monitoring

pig activity and removing pigs from the wild, where and when possible. But we need your help! If you see pigs, please report them to our Pig Hotline +599 786 -7447 (786-PIGS) so that we know where the pigs are located and can go after them. When you report a pig sighting, try to include as much information as possible, for example: the approximate size (small, medium, large), unique coloration (e.g. black spots or orange fur); the location and time, and anything else you think might be helpful for our team to locate it. You can also sign up to receive updates about the progress of the feral pig control project and to be registered for pig meat raffles, which we hope to get started in 2017, by emailing us at julianka@echobonaire.org. ■

Lauren Schmaltz

This is a project of the *Open*baar Licham Bonaire, which is being executed by Echo. Remember: Nos ta biba di Naturalesa!

Mangazina (Continued from page 4) the island.

The next Cultural Market will be on Saturday 26th of November from 8am to 2pm. See, Feel & Taste the lovely Culture of Bonaire at

the Cultural Market of Mangazina di Rei.

Story & photos by Izaïn Mercera (Magazina di Rei)





Five of the eight protected sharks

The Dutch Ministry of Economic Affairs working closely with the Dutch Caribbean Nature Alliance and in consultation with the Dutch Elasmobranch Association (DES), came up with a shortlist of eight species: three

species of hammerhead shark, whale shark, oceanic white tip shark and small tooth sawfish as well as two species of manta ray have been nominated for inclusion on the SPAW protected species list. These are all species threatened by human activity in the Caribbean, which need protection if they are to survive into the future. This recommendation is an important first step toward permanent inclusion of these sharks and rays on the SPAW protocol. In February 2017 a final vote will ratify the protection for these species.

Tadzio Bervoets, acting chairman of the Dutch Caribbean Nature Alliance and chairman of the Save our Shark Project: 2015 we started the Save our Sharks project which aims to set up shark protection in the Dutch Caribbean. It is fantastic that we can now play a role in crossborder management and are well on our way to providing Caribbean sharks with the protection they deserve. We are confident the proposals will be endorsed at the final ballots in February." ■ Press release/STINAPA

Pet Of The Week



TIGRE

If there were a contest for cat male model of the year, Tigre would definitely be the winner! This handsome red tabby loves to have his photo taken, and always happily strikes a myriad of poses to be sure the result is picture "purrfect."

Tigre arrived at the Shelter in April of 2015 as a lone kitten about 12 weeks old. Over the last year and a half he has blossomed into a sweet, gentle cat with an endearing personality.

Tigre is known to the Shelter staff as a calm and loving cat, he never was a rowdy "troublemaker" as a kitten nor as an adult....he is affectionate and kind to humans and to his feline roommates. He doesn't bully his way into seeking attention from cat palace visitors, but will respond with head bumps and "rollovers" when a visitor chooses to give him some affection. However, when he sees a camera in the

area.....Tigre is right there practicing his model moves for the photographer!

Tigre is two years old and will be a perfect companion for anyone looking for a calm, well-adjusted and very affectionate cat...and a sure bet as a cat calendar candidate! He is healthy, vaccinated, sterilized and has been patiently waiting for a forever home. If you have room in your heart and your home for a handsome and loving feline companion, please come and have an encounter with this special young cat.

You can visit Tigre and all the other cats and dogs at Animal Shelter Bonaire,

Kaminda Lagun 26, Tuesday through Friday 9am to 12noon and 3 to 5pm, Saturdays 8 am to 3pm nonstop.■ Story & photo by Jane Madden-Disko





WORKING TOGETHER FOR ANIMALS

To The Editor:

As a long time resident of Bonaire who has seen the dramatic change in the animal care situation over the last 20 years I want to compliment Laura DeSalvo on her excellent article praising the Bonaire Animal Shelter. Sometimes we don't seem to realize the dedication and love that make up the core of the staff and volunteers at the Shelter. If they weren't dedicated to the cause of making a better world for the island dogs and cats they wouldn't be doing what they're doing. Cleaning kennels, scooping poop, all the 'dirty hands' stuff that most people wouldn't do make up a large part of their day. The budget is small which limits how many dogs and cats can be kept at one time – feeding, medicating, neutering and spaying, etc. costs money. But even with a limited budget over 400 animals this year have been spayed and neutered

And the Shelter is very proactive in the area of community education. Staff and volunteers visit the schools with educational programs and also arrange for the schools to come to the Shelter to visit and to learn. Those who are critical of the Shelter for not being a 'no kill' environment should try to understand that the Shelter is only so big, the budget is only so



large, and the staff is so small – only four part-time workers. There are so many animal welfare supporters on Bonaire it just seems logical that if everyone would work together and acknowledge that, while there are differences in opinion in some areas, working together and being able to reach some compromises in the most controversial areas is the way to reach everyone's goals.

As a cohesive group more money can be raised, more kennels can be built, more staff can be hired. Everyone involved in animal welfare is there because they care about animals; being at cross-purposes is counter productive.

Can we not come together, put aside our differences, and all go together in the one direction that will benefit the island's dogs and cats? That one direction is a long road made short by everyone involved doing the right thing.

Dabney Lassiter



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From Bonaire Nautico Marina in front of It Rains Fishes Restaurant

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Tera Cora, Kaya Mgr. Nieuwindt 37A

Highlights:

- · freestanding house
- 2 bedrooms & 2 bathrooms
- covered front and back porch
- drive-in gate
- surrounded by a stone wall
- freehold land (registered 4-G-1768 & 1780)
- total lot size: 3,141 sq.ft / 292 m²
- living area: 968 sq.ft / 90 m²

Asking price US\$ 124,900

Buyers cost







Kaya L.D. Gerharts 3 & 8, Kralendijk Bonaire, Dutch Caribbean Sunbelt



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