

**It's Still
FREE**

BONAIRE Jan. 16-30, 2017, Year 24, Issue 2
The REPORTER
BES Island News Too

P. O. Box 407, Bonaire, Dutch Caribbean, Phone 786-6518, 777-6125, www.bonairereporter.com email: reporter@bonairenews.com Since 1994



*Standing: Patrick Holian, Ismael Soliano, and Johnny Craane
Sitting: Balentine Frans and Lucio Soliano at the Maritime Film Festival*



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Washington Park National Park is closed for traffic from January 13th to the 18th due to heavy rainfall. The roads in the Park are very wet with deep gullies streaming across the roads making these roads impassable.

After January 18th the condition of the roads will be evaluated again and the decision will be made whether to open the roads for traffic. For more information contact the Washington Slagbaai National Park at +599 788-9015 or go to the page www.facebook.com/Bonaire.STINAPA.

The Park Museum, Kasikunda trail and the Lagadishi trail are open for the public and the entrance is free.

INSELAIR UPDATES

► **InselAir has adjusted its flight schedule and downsized operations.** It says it expects to save two million guilders by the end of February. The new schedule includes reducing flight frequency and in some cases temporarily eliminating routes like Quito, Ecuador; Miami-Port au Prince, Haiti; Curaçao-Valencia; and Curaçao-Havana. Passengers who have tickets for these flights will be contacted by InselAir Customer Relations Team. Be sure to check with InselAir before your flight.

► The airline has gotten the first installment of the promised financial support from the Curaçao government. A total of Naf 50 (\$28) million in cash and subsidies was requested. The company received about Naf 3 million (\$1.6 million) at the end of December and five government board members took control. The Curacao government

now owns 51% of the airline's shares. Observers ask, "Is this the beginning of another Curaçao government airline?"

► One of the most popular news websites in Manaus, Brazil, **lashed out against InselAir because the Curaçao-Manaus flight was cancelled** and passengers were left looking for information. They learned just as other passengers do at most InselAir destinations.

► Reportedly, Canadian **Gilles Filiatreault**, the current director of Air Madagascar, who had a reputation for fixing "broken" airlines, has been appointed to manage Curaçao-based InselAir International and InselAir Aruba starting January 15. He has Caribbean experience as manager of Cayman Airlines.



► As is traditional, Island **Governor Edison Rijna** received Bonaire's first diving permit of the year from Marine Park Manager **Wijnand de Wolf** (photo above). Once considered controversial for fear the charge would discourage diving, the current \$25 annual fee is accepted by divers who appreciate the quality of Bonaire's protected reefs.

► **Mick Schmit** is considering using the **Stichting Project** methods he developed on Bonaire to **help troubled youngsters on Statia deal with their problems.** For the last three years Mick has successfully worked with difficult Bonaire youngsters from ages eight to 16 in two care-stay homes where these children can live while still learning at school. How is it done? Mick says. "We have rules, routines and an experience learning centre for wind surfing, group dynamic games and even carpentry. It is all about changing the perceptions of life by changing

the way of living. Fun, and not the gun, makes for a lasting and meaningful change."

► **Tourism accounts for 7% of world-wide exports**, one in 11 jobs and 10% of the world's gross domestic product. The tourism sector, if well managed, can foster sustainable development that benefits everyone. The figures are even higher for us in the BES Islands.

► **The budget of the Police Force Caribbean Netherlands (KPCN) has increased 30% or more** (€ 4.6 million since 2010 to a current budget of €15 million in 2016). Crime, while reportedly down by 35%, continues to be troublesome on the BES Islands. The daily "police blotter" lists a theft from cars parked at dive sites just about every day. The police force, including 10 full-time members of the Dutch Royal Marechaussee, has grown 13%, from 129 in 2011 to 146 in 2016, and the training of police officers upgraded. The Central Bureau of Statistics reported that the population of Bonaire grew by over 20% to 19,400 residents between January 2011 and January 2016. **The expectation is that the population topped 20,000 in 2016.**

► On January 1, after 31 years of service in the area, **Alvin Obersi 's Obersi Electronics radio network on Bonaire was taken over by C3 (Critical Communications Caribbean)**, formerly known as Zenitel Caribbean.

C3, led by **Bert Schreuder**, a former Bonaire Digicel manager, will continue to offer the same services from the office of Obersi Electronics at Kaya Grandi Bonaire. C3 is the regional leader in providing mission-critical solutions and is an authorized Motorola dealer. There are 30 people working at offices in Curacao, Aruba, St. Maarten, Bonaire and Colombia.

► **Saturday, January 28, is the date of the annual Lora (parrot) count.** All past volunteers are welcome to rejoin.

If you'd like to volunteer please contact the Echo Foundation: info@echobonaire.org or telephone 701-1188.

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Flotsam and Jetsam (Continued from page 2)

The more volunteers we have, the more sites we can survey and the more people we can have at each site. Prior to the day of the count Echo will host a training meeting, Wednesday, January 25th at 7pm. Location is still not set. A new feature this year will be a raffle after the count for all participants to have a chance to win great prizes! Recent Lora counts show the birds' population is rising.

►It seems that the European Union acknowledged that there are two types of Dutch citizenship: European Dutch and "others." Recently the distinction became public when a Bonaire resident applied to study in Slovenia. Normally, Dutch students are admitted under EU rules as an alternative to getting advanced education in The Netherlands. However, her application was rejected because she was not "European Dutch." There is no problem if she studies in the European Netherlands. This decision may be far reaching since an EU agency has formally acknowledged the distinction that a Dutch citizen's rights depend on where they live in The Netherlands. The Dutch government already does this by lowering or eliminating normal social benefits, retirement, and educational opportunities to BES Island Dutch persons.

►Survivors or victims of violence in the Caribbean Netherlands will be eligible for compensation from the *Schadefonds Geweldsmisdrijven*



(Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund). Minister of Security and Justice Ard Van der Steur made the announcement during his working visit to Bonaire. Van der Steur will propose amending the law in order to make this possible by next year.

"Schadefonds Geweldsmisdrijven" was established to provide financial compensation to victims and survivors of violent crimes who have suffered serious physical or psychological injuries. The perpetrator remains primarily responsible for the compensation of the damage. However, if the victim fails to obtain compensation for the damages caused by the offender, a victim or survivor can turn to the Fund. This arrangement has so far only been implemented in the Netherlands. Every state in the US has a similar program.



►Bonaire DOET, the largest volunteer initiative conducted on Bonaire, will happen again on March 10-11. Oranje Fonds started the volunteer event in the Netherlands and now includes all the Dutch Caribbean islands except Saba. Oranje Fonds spends about €30 million annually in direct financial contributions to 9,000 social projects in the Netherlands and in the Caribbean part of the Kingdom.

Local volunteers are the beating hearts of many social initiatives. Oranje Fonds wants to show with the DOET campaign how important active citizens are for the community. Look for more information on joining Bonaire and Statia DOET in upcoming editions of *The Reporter* and join in.



►José Rosales was installed as Chief of the Police Force Caribbean Netherlands (KPCN) on Thursday, January 12, at the Rincon police station. To make the new Police Chief better known to the public a video has been made about Rosales as a person and as a professional Police Officer. In the nine-minute video Rosales speaks about his family life, but also about the shortage of staff for Basic Police Care and the killing of Police Officer Ferry Bakx in Bonaire. The Papiamentu-language video with Dutch subtitles can be watched online on Youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zMjg7Cn6anI>.

►New and existing entrepreneurs can apply for a micro-credit up to \$50,000 at Qredits. With this increase Qredits is able to finance even more (starting) entrepreneurs



and further stimulate entrepreneurship in Bonaire.

Qredits started in late 2015 with a branch in Bonaire at Kaya Amsterdam 23, Kralendijk. There are now more than 65 submitted credit applications to Qredits. Today there are over 20 companies financed by this microcredit system.

Besides microcredit Qredits provides support to entrepreneurs in writing a business plan and provides coaching to entrepreneurs through its own coaching pool.

►On Jan 26-28 the Bonaire International Fishing Tournament will be held at Club Nautico.

It is open to world class sports fishermen as well as a special event for local (food) fishermen. Top cash prize is \$6,000 and a Toyota pickup truck.

Beginning on the opening night, everyone will be wine and dine throughout the tournament. At the event grounds in the parking area next to It Rain's Fishes, across the street from the Bonaire Club Nautico pier, there will be a full bar serving cold drinks each evening and into the night. Spectacular Creole and/or Barbecue Buffets will be prepared and served by the staff of It Rain's Fishes. This is included for the fisherman, but is also available to the public for a small fee.

►We hope you enjoy this edition of *The Bonaire Reporter*. It includes stories by Bonaire's best writers. ■ G.D.



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On the Island Since... 2012 and 2014 - Paulo Bertuol and Elise Galitzki



Paulo Bertuol with a Park truck



Elise and Paulo with tern decoys

“I came for the first time in 2008 to consult for Stinapa’s Marine Park about the divers’ behavior and the impact of diving on the reef. From then on I came here once a year to bring groups because I had a dive center in Brazil. In 2010 I helped (then Marine Park Manager) Ramon de Leon with the lionfish control and again in 2011. At the end of 2011 Stinapa created the position of wild life biologist and I was hired. When all the paperwork was ready in 2012 I moved to Bonaire.

I was born in the most southern state of Brazil, Rio Grande do Sul. When I was five my family moved up one state higher, to Santa Catarina, to a city called Florianópolis. Eventually all my other family members, including my uncles, my grandmother and my cousins, followed. I consider myself from there.

When I was 13 I started diving; it didn’t just change my life, it also took me in different directions. And when you think about it, diving is one of the reasons I’m on Bonaire now!

However, long before I started diving I wanted to become a biologist. The diving just nailed it! So I went to university to study biology, and about the same time I started my first dive center. It wasn’t because I had to pay for my studies because in Brazil if you are a good student, you study for free at the public university. I did my Master’s in a private university where I paid for it, which is very expensive, but my graduation I did in federal university. During all those years I kept my dive center and every time the conditions were good I would go out diving. At one of the dive courses I met Elise Galitzki.”

Elise explains, “I was part of a group of students who organized workshops and lectures by different professors about different projects. When I met Paulo I made the link for him to give some lectures about reef conservation as he was also involved in conservation sub-

jects. And so, Paulo and I became friends.”

“After I graduated,” Paulo says, “I worked full-time as a dive operator. Also, I helped in conservation issues because where I operated it’s a marine reserve with a lot of problems.” Elise adds, “In Brazil the government is responsible to take care of all the conservation areas. We have a problem there as the nature fee goes first to the general account of the government, which means that the money doesn’t return to the area it was supposed to go. Where Paulo was operating with his dive center it was supposed to be a non-fishing zone, but they didn’t have the people or the money to check on those rules.”

what was going to happen. It took seven months before he finally left – which was good for us. Then we said goodbye and I cried. It wasn’t easy. From then on we tried to see each other as often as possible, flying back and forth from Brazil to Bonaire and vice versa, making the airlines really happy! After I’d finished my Master’s I had to make a decision – to move or break up. I decided to move. But, I had a job and in Brazil when you work for a federal institution you can ask for a license to take an unpaid break for personal reasons - no longer than three years - and that’s what I did. I kept the job

and OLB. Cargill has a problem with terns that nest in the dirt roads inside the salt company at the same time the salt needs to be harvest, which is a problem as the terns are a protected species. So, the solution we found was to build artificial islands where the birds could nest. We used artificial decoys (see above photo at right) to attract the birds where they could nest, and it works! It was an amazing project and a really nice experience, because we changed a problem into a solution, with the participation of

the existing ones more prominent. We’ve involved other organizations, like Cargill for instance and the Dutch army who have been helping us a lot by repairing roads and building new structures which will be open to the public soon! I really would like to involve more parties in making the park more attractive and accessible to the public, and also I’d like to involve organizations and businesses in conservation. Together we can find solutions. The second point and my main concern is to improve nature management of the park, like we need to control the grazers inside the park because the vegetation inside the park has been suffering for years while the grazers are slowly killing the park. We are losing the biodiversity because old trees are dying and new ones are eaten. Erosion is also a problem, not only for the park, but it also affects the reef.

What I like best is when my job makes a difference in reaching goals for nature and the people of Bonaire. This, is the same in my opinion as nobody can live without nature and especially here it’s priority number one as we depend on it for tourism.

We came from a big city and Bonaire still has a blessing. People know each other, it feels safe and it’s *poco poco* – more time with people, more freedom to be who you are, not spending time in traffic and not caring about appearance and status; the way you dress, the car you drive or the house you live in – people value you for who you are and this is nice – this is real life.” ■

Story & photos by Greta Kooistra



“We are losing the biodiversity because old trees are dying and new ones are eaten.”

“The dive industry needs a good environment to survive,” Paulo says, “so I saw the environment going down and the organization which had to take care of it didn’t have money or good management and I got frustrated, not only as a dive operator but also as a person who loves nature. Ever since I’ve known Bonaire I always liked the way they handled the issue because the money they get – the nature fee – goes directly to the parks and that is nature management!”

When I was here for the lionfish survey in 2010, Elise and I started chatting, and when I returned to Brazil we began dating. Then, on Elise’s birthday, I got the call from Stinapa that I was hired to work on Bonaire, so I had to tell her on her birthday that I was moving...It was kind of dramatic.”

Elise says, “I had my life, my job at the botanical department and was still working on my Master’s in ecology, so we avoided thinking of the consequences of his moving. We were sort of waiting to see

‘just in case.’ This year in October it’s going to expire.

Since I moved to Bonaire I volunteered in many different projects of Stinapa, like the bats, phenology – periodic plant life cycle events and I worked a little bit with the Junior Rangers and Caribbean Water Bird census and the tern nesting projects. We keep ourselves busy with nature here. I wasn’t too much into birds in Brazil, but now I’m planning to start a little bird-watching company. I took some courses and I’m sure it will take my whole lifetime to reach Jerry’s (the late Jerry Ligon) level, but I will learn. For now I am practicing, so anyone who wants to come with me is welcome and can contact me through Facebook.”

Paulo continues: “In 2012 I started to work as a biologist and I participated in all the different projects Elise mentioned, but one of the projects that really stood out and was making a difference to me was the tern nesting project which involved Cargill, Stinapa, Imares

all parties involved. However, the second issue we have there are the predators, mainly feral cats, but also healthy looking domestic cats from (we think) the area of Belnem. One cat can damage a colony of 40 nests in only one night. The artificial islands do help, but people shouldn’t dump animals in the outback and owners should try to keep their animals inside and have them neutered. We have a huge amount of damage because of those cats, not only in the area of the salt company but also in Washington Park and everywhere else on the island. We really need a program to control the cat population and educate the people.

On July 1st, 2015, I became the manager of Washington Park. I love the park, I don’t even like to leave it when work is done. My job is a mixture of management of people, conflicts and nature management. We’re trying to make the park more attractive and friendly to the visitors by creating more points of interest and by adding new information signs and making

**HEALTHY NEW YEARS
RESOLUTIONS:
NO DIETING NECESSARY**

Every year, millions of people throw in the towel well before they reach their goal. If you've ever tried to lose weight in the New Year only to quickly gain it all back again, you're not alone. Often it's because people are trying to make too many changes all at once. They put themselves on a new, strict eating schedule, buy all new foods and toss out the old ones, devote an hour a day to food prep, go from never exercising to six planned workouts per week and avoid all their favorite foods. It's no wonder most of these resolutions are doomed to fail. This dramatic 180-degree turn is completely unsustainable.

I think a much better approach to adopting healthy habits is to view it as a skill-building exercise. It's best to start slowly and tackle one new challenge at a time. Rather than focusing on the end goal (for most people losing excess pounds), concentrate on learning the skills that are going to help you get there. As you master one goal, move on to the next. By

gradually making changes, you'll create a healthier lifestyle that meshes with your everyday routine. What's more, the process won't be nearly as overwhelming and stressful.

To help you get moving in the right direction, I'm suggesting a few starter goals that can dramatically improve your diet and overall wellness. Pick one that speaks to you and make it your mission for January. When you feel confident that you've mastered this challenge, move on to another.

1. It may sound boring, but Small Changes Really Make a Big Difference

Whether it's skipping that extra cookie or cutting out the sugar in your coffee, seemingly small changes on a daily basis can add up to a big change in your weight. Since a 500-calorie deficit each day leads to about a 1 pound loss each week, even a few changes can have a slimming effect. You'll find 500 calories in items such as 2 doughnuts, a bagel with creamcheese, 2.5 ounces of potato chips or a chocolate bar. Quite simple right?

2. Prep Healthy Lunches and Dinners at Home Sunday

through Thursday

When you cook at home (or brown bag your lunch), it's easier to eat better because you have full control over what's served and how it's made. I like this particular goal because it leaves you some flexibility to eat out on the weekends, or grab lunch with your colleagues on a Friday (of course, you can modify the days of the week to match your personal schedule). Make sure you're including a lean protein and plenty of vegetables at each meal.

3. Replace Your Snacks With Whole Foods

The word snack tends to be synonymous with packaged foods, which are typically higher in sugar, salt, and unhealthy fat than unprocessed or minimally processed foods. Rather than nibbling on cookies, crackers, pretzels, and bars (even the healthier brands), reach for whole food alternatives like a piece of fruit, a handful of nuts, yogurt, edamame, or cut veggies with or without a healthy dip. These snacks are more nutritious and more filling than most packaged snacks.

(Continued on page 11)

Word on the Street

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

Quietly slipping out of Bonaire's "stream of commerce" in the past few weeks are restaurant **Sofia Home** and dive shop **Bonaire Dive and Adventure**. Both businesses are now closed leaving behind a beautiful overgrown wildflower garden and an empty pier and shop. The operation at Bonaire Dive and Adventure will be taken over by **Dive Friends**.

◆ **Patagonia Restaurant** is up and running at their new remodeled seaside location (the former La Luna), rumor has it that a "beer garden" will soon be added to the restaurant operation. And the new owners of the former **Plazita Limena** location on **Kaya Grandi** have opened the **Tasty Bar and Steakhouse Restaurant** with the same South American cuisine and more.



◆ If one of your new year resolutions is to go out for some late night dancing....Bonaire answers the call! A new disco, **Garden Disco**, has recently opened at the corner of **Kaya Gen. C.M. Piar** and **Kaya Lib. Simon Bolivar**. The late night weekend club features some of Bonaire's best DJ's, with special events like ladies' nights and '80's nights. Entry appears to be free. Boogie on down, doors open at 10 p.m.

◆ **Coco Beach** has become one of the most popular hot spots on the island, not just for a great beach and good food but for night time concerts and events. A recent press release states that due to the two new resort developments on that site, **Coco Beach** will have to "integrate into the resorts or cease to exist". Sound familiar?

◆ Word on the street is that the recent tragic shooting at the **Ft. Lauderdale airport** had a connection to Bonaire. Some of the victims were due to arrive on Bonaire via cruise ship the following week and were booked for a motorcycle tour of our island. Condolences and healing wishes to all the families and survivors affected by the tragedy. ■

Bula Bonchi





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Poverty Summit—Received With Skepticism

“We are *not* moving in circles,” **Ruard Ganzevoort**, part of the Dutch delegation visiting Bonaire, starts his comments on the poverty summit preempting the expected criticism.

POVERTY SUMMIT

Monday the 9th of January, a summit was held concerning poverty on Bonaire, Statia and Saba with members of the ‘Permanent Parliamentary Committee of Kingdom Relations’ from both the Dutch Senate (*Eerste Kamer*) and the Dutch House of Representatives (*Tweede Kamer*). Governor **Edison Rijna**, Representative **Nina den Heyer**, Secretary of the public body of Saba **Tim Muller**, member of the Dutch House of Representatives and head of the delegation **Jeroen Recourt** (PvdA) and member of the Dutch Senate **Ruard Ganzevoort** (GroenLinks) spoke of their observations in a press conference at the end of the summit.

Besides a reunion with the Board of Governors (*Bestuurscollege*), the island council (*eilandraad*), and representatives from Saba, the delegation visited families in several neighborhoods of Bonaire to get more insight into the situation on the island.

Recourt expressed his thanks to the local government for organizing the summit, and to the families for their hospitality. “This visit is the way for us to hear what is going on on the islands, and to get more insight into current obstacles. It is the duty of the parliament to question and control the government, so therefore we need information.”

EXISTING RESEARCH

Poverty in the Caribbean Dutch islands is not an unusual theme the last couple of years. Various reports have mentioned the financial situation of inhabitants of the islands.

An (incomplete) overview:

1-A poverty survey was conducted in 2012 by the ministry of Social and Labor Affairs (SZW). It estimates that around half of the population of the BES-islands have to live from a very low income (around minimum wage). It also states that people who earn the minimum wage don’t earn enough to pay for basic living expenses and often rely on family or on extra side jobs to make ends meet. Also elderly people, occupationally disabled people, and single mothers on the islands are very susceptible to poverty according to this survey. (*Armoede in Caribisch Nederland, een Verkenning, 2012*)

2-In 2012 the Ministry of the Interior affairs and Kingdom Relations and the Ministry of Finance requested research concerning purchasing power in the Carib-



Island and Dutch officials meet the press



James Finies (right) of NKBB confronts the Dutch officials

bean Netherlands. The research indicates that inhabitants experience their purchasing power declining over the last year. The research further states that especially people who depend on national assistance (*Onderstand*) or the General Retirement Insurance (AOV) are strongly affected by price rises on the islands. (*Koopkracht Onderzoek Caribisch Nederland, 2012*)

3-In 2014 the Dutch National Institute for Budget Information (Nibud) researched the cost of living on Bonaire as instructed by the Public Body of Bonaire (OLB). The research confirms the view that many people on Bonaire live in poverty. Nibud determines the needed subsistence level of a single person on the island is just below \$1,500 per month. (An adult earning minimum wage would have to work 320 hours to make \$1,500.) (*Minimumvoorbeeldebegrotingen voor Bonaire, 2014*)

4-Then in 2015 the published evaluation of the situation of the Caribbean Netherlands, known as ‘Rapport Spies,’ points out that many inhabitants of the Dutch Caribbean islands live in poverty. Especially for (single) elderly and occupationally disabled it is hard to make ends meet according to the research. But also for working people it can be hard to get by due to high living costs and low wages. (*Vijf jaar verbonden: Bonaire, Sint Eustatius, Saba en Europees Nederland, 2015*) The Multiannual Program 2015-2018 as drafted by the Dutch and local governments, acknowledges the size of poverty issues on the islands. Poverty reduction is one of the three focus areas of the program (besides economic development and children’s rights). (*Meerjarenprogramma Caribisch Nederland 2015-2018, 2015*)

CIRCLES OR A SPIRAL?

With these facts present, it might surprise you that 10 Dutch politicians make the ‘effort’ to pay a visit to the Caribbean part of the country to gain information about the local situation concerning poverty. It might even make you think whether it wouldn’t be better to spend time, energy and money on solving issues that are already demonstrated, than to spend it on gaining *more* insight.

On the other hand, we don’t want elected

officials to rule from ivory towers nor from The Hague office buildings, and a (short) direct interaction might stick more in the mind than a 50-page report. Delegation leader Recourt explained that he was highly impressed by the people he met during the visits, trying to make the best out of their difficult situation. A children’s daycare they visited that is threatened with closure - as they can’t cover their expenses - made the biggest impression on the parliamentarian.

A little skepticism toward the visit - as expressed for example in online reactions on social media and news sites - is, however, understandable. People long for *support*, not visits. They long for *deeds*, not words. Probably Ganzevoort understood this himself, mentioning the circles they were *not* caught up in. We should consider the developments as *spiral*, he continued. “Every year we move a little bit upwards.”

SHOW KURASHI

When the spiral reaches the point where a benchmark for a social minimum is established remains unclear. The constitution of a social minimum was discussed during the reunion and the attendants agree on “the necessity of a minimum that is based on what is needed to make ends meet,” Ganzevoort stated. That’s not less vague than any former communications about the topic. Another theme of interest has been the housing problem on Bonaire. The delegation visited houses in “terrible condition.” Recourt mentioned that we shouldn’t expect all problems to be solved by next year (in case you did), but he hopes that during the next visit to the Caribbean we can all look back to some great steps made ahead. Representative Nina den Heyer is probably right saying that we need now is *kurashi* (courage) from all parties involved.

Both the local and the national government have their responsibilities concerning poverty alleviation and economic development. Cooperation, a proactive attitude and the taking-up of responsibilities is needed to truly create that upward spiral. ■

Story & photos by Gerjanne Voortman



SIDEBAR BACKGROUND

NKBB AWAITED DUTCH DELEGATION AT GATE OF MARRIOTT

James Finies (The organizer of Nos Ke Boneiru Bèk) awaited the politicians at the entrance of Courtyard Marriott with a couple of protesters from the NKBB movement. Apparently they were denied entrance to the hotel property where the poverty summit took place. Recourt and Ganzevoort took time to speak with Finies, surrounded by press. The president of NKBB argued that while poverty alleviation is important, dignity, culture and right to self-determination are more essential. He handed over a letter directed to all members of the visiting

STATIA ABSENT AT POVERTY SUMMIT

Statia was unable to attend the poverty summit due to financial restrictions that have been imposed on their local government. Apparently the recently intensified restrictions made it impossible to buy tickets to Bonaire for the Statian delegation. Dutch delegation leader Jeroen Recourt expressed that he thinks it is a pity St. Eustatius decided to make this statement, as it would have been valuable to have the representatives from the island present. Statia did send in a presentation with text and pictures to portray the situation concerning poverty on the island.

SABA WANTS MENTALITY CHANGE

Saba was represented at the summit by secretary of the local government Tim Muller. Muller expressed the need for more structural solutions for current problems and more responsibility for the island government to solve local issues. He also urged for a “Can Do mentality” in which local people experience direct development in their surroundings.



**Cover
Story**

BONAIRE MARITIME FILM FESTIVAL

BONAIRE'S FIRST MARITIME FESTIVAL SOLD OUT

Ring of the ship's bell signaled the start of the first-ever Bonaire Maritime Film Festival Saturday night held at the Plaza Beach Resort. Soon after, six senior citizens were honored for their service aboard *Stormvogel*, the last of the sailing cargo boats of the ABC Islands. **Ismael Soliano**, captain; **Luis Coffi**, cook; and deckhands **Lucio Soliano** and **Balentine Frans** were presented awards as were two men who helped build *Stormvogel*. **Jan Felida** helped harvest *kui* (mesquite) trees that were shaped into ribs for the cargo boat and also worked on the build. **Buchi Felida** also served as a boat builder and captained the new ship on its first test sail that went from Kralendijk to the south tip of Bonaire and back.

"These men are the last sailors of our grand age of sail when Bonaire was exclusively dependent on ships like *Stormvogel* for its livelihood," explains **Johnny Craane**, head of

restoration for the Bonaire Maritime Heritage Foundation. "In a way, they are unsung heroes. We thought it would be a nice gesture to present them with these lifetime achievement awards and make the public aware of their contributions to the island." Most of these seamen were filmed during the last two years by the foundation for a new youth education program to be released in 2017 called *Zeilen Op School* (Sails in the Schools). The men told stories of trade and smuggling, storms and shipwrecks. As sturdy as Bonaire-built boats were back in the day, the sailors faced the challenges of the sea in wooden vessels with no life boats or communication devices. Their tales about being at sea were revealing.

A sold out crowd of 150 people also got to see the festival's two films. The first, "*Stormvogel Rising*," tells about the rebirth of the 45-foot cutter, *Stormvogel*, from being rescued from a Curacao backwater to its present day restoration by the Bonaire Maritime Heritage Foundation. All proceeds from the film festival will go to the boat's



Buchi Felida, builder and captain, arrived after the photo session

historical restoration. The second film, "*Vanishing Sail*," is a gripping story of how boat builders from the eastern Caribbean island of Carriacou overcome all odds to complete a traditional wooden sloop just in time for the Antigua Classic Yacht Regatta.

The foundation wants to thank those local businesses who generously donated funds to make the film festival a success. They include ABC Marine, Boto Blanku, Budget Marine, Don Andres NV, Harbour Village Marina and Wanna Dive. Special thanks to the Plaza Beach Resort Bonaire for donating its 150-seat conference room for the festival and to The Sign Studio for graphics and design support. And

4261.86 Miles At 73



In 2015 John Floyd's goal was to ride his outdoor bike 4,000 miles. He achieved that goal and set a new one for 2016. This time he wanted to ride enough miles that would cover a bicycle ride from Houston, Texas, to Bonaire, Caribbean Netherlands, and back to Houston. That would require 4,252 miles. He has accomplished that goal with 4,261 miles plus I am so proud of him especially since he turned 73 on December 6th. His goal for 2017 in business, life and biking is "Be the best that you can be." ■ *Story & photo by Cher*

masha danki to the festival's enthusiastic volunteer staff of Michiel van Bokhorst (sound and projection), Bob Craane, Hettie Holian and François van der Hoeven.

Johnny Craane wrapped up the evening by saying, "Tonight was all about honoring our island's old sailors. And it's not just the *Stormvogel* crew. There are more

seamen who served on other boats who are still living. Without them, life would have been very difficult on Bonaire throughout the years. My hat's off to them." ■

Patrick Holian



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Saving Lives, Seven Miles Up

A few weeks ago, my wife went missing. It was a normal day on Bonaire; sunny with an occasional shower and the usual mosquitos that attack you at breakfast like tiny flying vampires. After coffee and a cigarette, I kissed my wife goodbye, wished her a pleasant day at work and went about my business of cleaning out the cat litter, doing the dishes and trying to write a bestseller. Hours went by in a silence only interrupted by the slapping sound of my hand - yet another tiger mosquito trying to suck my blood. The cat came, ate, and went. Usually my wife sends me texts during the day, but that day there was radio silence. I wasn't worried. But when it became dark and long after her shift ended, I got a message from an unidentified phone number: "I am in Colombia. I have to stay here."

Was she kidnapped by a Colombian drug lord? Is she a covert agent for the CIA, flying around the world fighting evil? Did aliens abduct her? Do aliens actually have an earth base in the mountains of Bogota? Some kind of holiday resort where they watch the stars they call home?

No, I knew exactly where she was. She is a flight nurse and was sent off to Aruba to accompany a patient. After that, there were more emergencies that took her back to Bonaire, back to Colombia, back to Bonaire and finally Bogota where she had to stay the night because the pilots are obliged to take a mandatory rest from flying. Still, she was gone for 38 hours, and cell reception is very weak seven miles high. So, I was stuck with the cat, who isn't the best conversationalist - usually he restricts his commentary to 'miauw' and the occasional paw that taps his food bowl. Yes, poor me.

Although she came back in one piece - except for severe exhaustion, and to be honest, some notable body odor - I still wanted to know who sent my wife on this long foreign mission and left me in agonizing solitude. So I put on my deerstalker and tracked the culprit down. Does it surprise you he is German and he speaks with an accent usually reserved for Bond villains?

THE CAPO

His name is **Jan Frässdorf** and he works at a comfortable air-conditioned desk in Fundashon Mariadal where he, amongst other things, coordinates the flight program for the hospital. He is doing a terrific job. The



Mandy, Michelle, Tine. All three are certified flight nurses.

only thing you have to cope with is his humor, which is dryer than the Atacama Desert. You have to be borderline sarcastic to laugh at his jokes. It made me like him even more. An example? "I'm not obese, I am just small for my weight."

Beside his desk there is a picture of **Helmut Schmidt**, the notorious prime minister of Germany who had to deal with the surge of the Rote Armee Fraktion. The Bundeskanzler refused to negotiate with the terrorists of the Baader-Meinhof Gruppe - Schmitt had to endure a lot of criticism but stood his ground. "It takes special people to do extraordinary things," Jan explains. "Nowadays we see too many politicians who bend over to the mainstream, who become shallow. And it does take courage to be different, but it's the only way to do extraordinary things, to make a change."

Maybe this characterizes Jan, a pioneer who took the flight program to a higher standard, in such a way that it serves as an example for neighboring countries. "When we started out, the flight conditions were not ideal; we had one small plane - two chairs were stripped out and a wooden board served as a stretcher. Not really comfortable. Over the years we - and I really mean 'we' because this is a team-effort - improved the conditions for the patients and the crew dramatically."

COINCIDENCE MATTERS

But how does a German anesthesiologist end up in Bonaire? "To make a long, boring story short: coincidence. After I finished my studies I

followed my mentor, **Dr. Wolfgang Schlack**, to the AMC in Amsterdam where, after a while, I was asked to join the staff in Bonaire. To be honest, I had to look up the island on Google Earth. I was convinced, given the colonial history of The Netherlands, it was located in Indonesia. By then we had two small children and my wife Judith said: 'If we are going to do this, we have to do it now, while the kids are young.' So I ended up here, and because anesthesiologists work deep in the core of the medical care of this hospital, I soon got involved in the flight program. As said, there were already great efforts done, considering the limited resources, but over the years we were able to improve a lot. Due to the fact that Bonaire is part of the Netherlands, the transportation of ill people is considered a basic right, guaranteed by the Dutch government. According to Dutch law, it doesn't make a difference if you are taking an ambulance from The Hague to Amsterdam or flying a patient from Bonaire to Colombia. That made things easier, also because the government of Bonaire is very cooperative and because we get a lot of support from the airport, Curoil, customs, the Marrechaussee and people at the hospital. Beside the medical problems of flying patients out, there is also a lot of paperwork to take into consideration. Not everyone on Bonaire has an international passport, so sometimes we have to call up a photographer and a civil servant in the middle of the night to get this fixed. And yes, nighttime or not, the deputy governor has to sign the passport. In cases of



Jan Frässdorf took medical evacuation to a new level

emergencies, this can be done very quickly. There is a lot that European bureaucracies can learn from the flexible way Bonaire deals with these contingencies. The local government - in cooperation with ZKV, the medical insurance company - even launched an awareness campaign to get Bonaire residents to sign up to get an international passport - in some case even for free, because if you look at the local minimum wage, that document is really expensive."

FOLLOW THE MONEY

And there it is. Money - the thing some people say makes the world go round. Isn't flying patients out on a leased Lear-jet very expensive? "Of course it is," Jan admits, "but you have to analyze the bulk costs of things. What if we had a MRI on Bonaire? Would that make it cheaper than flying people to Aruba? Maybe. Beside the cost of the MRI and the technical challenges that accompany that kind of a machine - it has to be cooled all the time so you need a reliable power source on which it can run, not self-evident on Bonaire and there is the tricky part of importing liquid helium - you also need a fulltime specialist who is able to interpret the images. Well, you actually need at least two, because, believe it or not, even doctors and nurses and specialists need a day off from time to time. Add that up and you might find that a flight is cheaper. The same with a cardio-specialized unit or a neurosurgeon. Even if you would install these units, at tremendous costs, you still need repetition to improve the practice. On this small island, there are not enough cases on a regular basis that allows us to guarantee the experience of let's say a cardio-surgeon. Let's make a comparison: if you want someone to fix your roof, you want someone who, beside his

technical background, has done this a lot, someone with experience, who knows the specifics and the special cases. And that is just a roof. Here we are trying to rescue lives. You don't have to take my word for it. We have done extensive research and compared the results on an economic but mostly medical level. The welfare of our patients is our main and only concern."

Jan sighs. "I know the hospital sometimes has to endure criticism. But we are working hard to improve everything. That takes time. I would like to cooperate better with Saba and St. Eustatius, I would like to have a second plane on constant standby. Due to the expertise we built up over the years we are often called upon by Aruba or Curaçao and we try to help them out, but the Bonarian residents are our first priority."

It must be one of the miracles of the last century: mankind conquering the air, succeeding where Icarus failed. Nowadays taking a plane is as easy as taking a bus. But if you fly out sick people, there is a lot to take into consideration, Jan explains. "It's not really the flying part that causes difficulties. That's basic science: the cabin pressure is lower than at ground level, so gasses expand. You can notice this when you are given a dessert on a commercial flight: the plastic foil which was flat when they sealed it, will be curved like a balloon. Sometimes passengers have trouble with their bowels: the gasses expand and look for a natural way out - that's why cabins can be smelly. In our case, we often have to administer extra oxygen: the cabin air holds the same percentage of oxygen but you inhale less with each breath. Also we need to take a lot of equipment onboard. Huge loads actually because seven miles high there is no storage room where you can pop by to pick up some

(Continued on page 9)



The Lear jet ready to go

Saving Lives (Continued from page 8)

medicine. So we drag a lot of stuff along. Most of it we rarely use, but it's better to be safe than sorry. Our staff also needs special training to learn to cope with the specifics of performing medical duties in the air. And over the years we learned that the family of the patient too needs some instructions. We don't just drop off the patient and their family member in Colombia and say goodbye and good luck. No, we inform them thoroughly and they get a brochure with answers to frequently asked questions. We deem this important: illness causes a lot of stress in families and there are a lot of emotions that need to be addressed. In these stressful times it's harder to absorb information so we make sure that we explain everything in a clear way."

Jan boots up a computer and scrolls through the statistics. He explains the diagrams and I am amazed at the amount of information. Everything is tracked and logged. The number of patients, types of airplanes, troubles encountered during the flights, the effects on patients and staff members - the list seems endless.

Finally I ask Jan how Bonaire is different on a medical level. I expected him to mention Zika, or some tropical disease but Jan mentions obesity, more cases of high blood pressure and diabetes. "Obesity is problem that can be solved but it would take a lot of

effort, and effects would only become notable over the course of years. In contrast to Europe, vegetables are extremely expensive on Bonaire. Only a few things are homegrown, most of it is imported. So the poorer you are, the healthier you eat, the faster you get sick. A government program subsidizing vegetables and promoting exercise could work, but it would take a lot of money. On the other hand, it would save Bonaire a lot of medical expenses in the future. The fact that we see more patients here with high blood pressure could be a result of genetics. One theory proclaims that the ancestors of the current local population were slaves who were shipped to Bonaire in very harsh conditions and that people with higher salt levels in their blood are more likely to survive such a horrendous trip, a genetic treat that they pass on to their offspring."

During our conversation Jan's phone bleeps every few minutes - saving lives is a fulltime job - so I decide to let him get on with his work. When I get home, my phone bleeps. "I'm off to Aruba. See you soon." I look at the cat, he looks back at me and says "miauw." "She's off saving lives. It's just you and me tonight. How about pizza and an extra portion of DeliCat?" ■

Story & Photos by Roderik Six



RELATED FACTS

◆ **A Lear Jet flies at an altitude of 11 kilometers.** This is higher than the average commercial airline. Due to the fact that there is less air resistance at that altitude, it allows a plane to go faster while using less fuel. No worries: the cabin pressure stays the same as if you were flying with KLM or TUI. One family member is allowed to join the patient on a flight. Please take into consideration that your luggage cannot exceed 11 kilos. A Lear Jet is small and nurses are not Sherpas.

◆ **The Lear Jet is registered in the United States and regularly checked for safety.** With the last checkup at Fort Lauderdale, the entire plane was stripped, checked and refurbished. One of the (smaller) problems: stripes of ballpoints on the interior. Nurses have to fill out forms but due to the turbulence they accidentally make marks on the hull. Captain Amir complained about this graffiti and threatened to ban all ballpoints from his plane.

◆ **In an average year, 200 patients are being flown out, mostly to Colombia.** There is a notable peak in October and November when a lot of pregnant women board the Lear Jet. This is not so surprising if you take into consideration that nine months prior Carnaval is being celebrated on Bonaire

◆ **Helmut Schmidt was a chain-smoker of menthol-cigarettes.** At a certain point the European Union tried to ban them because menthol gives smokers the false idea that they are smoking healthier cigarettes. Schmidt - who was in support of the law - bought 38,000 cigarettes of his favorite brand so he wouldn't run out after the ban. (This has nothing to do with the Flight Program, but it's too nice an anecdote to leave out.) → Roderik Six.



Can this affect suspects? Yes. Given the choice of being shot on my doorstep, stabbed in my business or killed by a stray bullet, I'll take the month-long search. I have nothing to hide.
An innocent victim who does not want to be a victim



CRUISE SHIP ECONOMIC DEPENDENCY PROVEN RISKY

Dear Editor:

There is a huge difference between a cruise ship that visits an island and a hotel which is on that island. It seems Philipsburg has discovered this.

It makes no difference if a cruise ship has a contract or not, if they decide not to come any more, then that is it. Unlike a hotel, which is physically tied to an island and has its vested interests in that island, cruise ships can come and go as they please. Unfortunately cruise ships demand a lot of an island and can leave it high and dry whenever it pleases.

Now Phillipsburg has seen a drop in revenue and finally realized it cannot count on these ships. They are not static like a hotel. Many researchers have found that over the years, as cruise ship arrivals increase, hotel and restaurant revenues also go down. An island must not treat these businesses as second cousins to unreliable cruise ships. It is dangerous and Phillipsburg now knows it.

Bruce Bowker

PET PROJECT THANK YOU

Dear Editors,

This is to thank you for helping inform residents about Rescue Remedy for stress of holiday fireworks.

In December, The Pet Project provided so many dogs and cats with this calming solution. I believe more people shared their drops with others, so it eased the stress of more animals. I reminded people to start adding to pet water and food prior to New Years Eve. It works for thunder or travel stress, too.

Special thanks to Gitta Nijman at Just 4 Pet, for educating interested pet owners.

All proceeds are donated to our Animal Shelter for their good work. Happy 2017,

Florence Diltow



SEARCHING WITHOUT A WARRANT

Dear Editor:

The Prosecutors Office withdrew the blanket order for a month of preventative searches.

Can this affect innocent people. Yes?

Maskarada At Schools



The *Grupo Basiko* (basic group) from Forma performed Tuesday the 10th of January the Maskarada at various schools on Bonaire. Maskarada is a Bonairean traditional festivity to bring over best wishes for the New Year.

The *Grupo Basiko* started in September preparing the performance and creating the costumes and masks they wore. It was an initiative from *Fundashon Plataforma Kultural* and *Fundashon Nawati* to teach the meaning and execution of the Maskarada festival to youngsters on the island.

The group from Forma was not enthusiastic at the start. "They initially thought of it as something for elderly people," coordinator Tanja explains. "But teachers Roos and Marijenia motivated them

throughout the whole process."

Experienced members of *Fundashon Nawati* helped the new generation to prepare for the performance. *Fundashon Nawati* traditionally performs the Maskarada on the first of January. Their musicians guided the performances at the schools with live music. The musicians were visibly very amused by the enthusiastic performance of the youth.

The audiences at SGB (MBO), Kolegio San Bernardo and Forma were very animated by the show as well. The kids at San Bernardo were by far the most delighted audience. The kids shouted "Maskarada" and all wanted to pet the *buriko* (donkey). The *buriko* in turn brayed even louder. ■ Story & photo by Gerjanne Voortman

A Garden? Just Do It



ABUNDANCE

Here we are in January, full of rain, and as a result of that a garden full of grass, all kinds of strange plants and bugs we have never seen before. So there is a kind of spider (above), big as my thumb with long red legs and when it's older or maybe there is a difference between the male and female. It's grey with a thick body. It pops up everywhere in my garden with big webs. I leave them there. They live from catching other small bugs like mosquitoes, so they have an important role in the ecosystem.

Did you notice that there are hardly any iguanas, donkeys Loras and prikichis around? You can't complain these days about them. Now there is enough food for them in the "mondi" so they all withdraw to where they belong in fact. And we can now enjoy the fruit in our yards.

Even "pies pies," which is the white fly, is gone, so all our plants look nice and healthy with all that

rain.

I have a lot of fruit and veggies. I alone cannot eat it all, but it's nice to share with friends and neighbors, which is a perfect beginning of a healthy and so happy new year.

We do split nature into flora and fauna, in rain, weather and so on. But all that is in relation to each other and it has its impact on each other. We are part of that nature too, so we also are going with the flow of nature.

Like with this rain there is a lot of all kinds of mosquitoes. Some of them carry viruses which can affect us. Mosquitoes breed in clean water, so pay attention to the things that lie around in your yard. All the pots, pans, jars and bottles, tires and buckets—all those things we use for our plants contain this rainwater which is perfect for the mosquitoes to lay their eggs. After awhile you will see the small larva in this water. So turn all these things upside down or store them inside.

This rainwater is the best for the plants. It contains minerals and other elements which plants need to grow healthy. So I catch rainwater in buckets from different places on certain corners of the house, but I empty them the same day onto my plants. The plants on my porch and also some bigger trees like my coco trees get some extra.

I heard we will have rain until March so make use of it while you



Yambo (Okra) in the garden

can.

Some Hints

--You will now have too many certain plants which you don't want in your garden. Don't throw them away but share with others. —It's a perfect time to plant, so you can make your garden nice with plants you get from others. If you see a plant you like in a yard, just ask the owners if you might have some of it. There is enough now and people like to share, so don't hesitate and asking is free.

—Garden work is heavy and I get very tired of working for hours, chopping, pushing things away, raking all the leaves, climbing to cut parts of the trees. Yes, I feel it all over my body. So I don't do it all at once but a few times a week just for an hour. Early in the morning or later in the afternoon I do a certain part of the yard. I don't feel exhausted then, but even better and satisfied with the result.

-- One of the first things I do in the morning is take a walk in my yard. I see then what is necessary

or even urgent to do. Meanwhile I can pick ripe fruit and cut my veggies for the day. What is too much I give away. I don't need to store anything in the fridge. I have enough to eat every day fresh from the land. Fresh food and fruit have a great taste and there is really a difference between fresh and long stored food.

--There is a lot of fruit growing on the island which people don't eat anymore. Reason? No time to eat all those little things like appeldam, knepas, hoba, shi-maruku, druif Surinam and even the bigger fruits like mispel, coco, kasju, tamarin. They can get rotten under the trees. It's a pity because these are all fruits full of vitamins and minerals which we need so much with all the diseases these days. Also wild vegetables like bimbe, kalaloe, small cucumbers which pop up all over the place are so healthy and nice in a stoba, mashed potatoes or just fresh mixed in a salad.

Remember after the rainy season, when the drought comes back, none of this will be available anymore and you will have missed the opportunity to feed your body with the best, most healthy, high quality food there is. At no price!

Furthermore I see a lot of fruits on the island like papaya, mangos, carambola, baby grapes, grannaat apples, soursop, bacoba, round birambi, guyaba, watermelon.

Last, but not least, a nice story I heard from a neighbor. With Old Years Eve he prepared whole



Eggplant in the garden

watermelons with rum by making a hole in the melons and pouring the rum in.

The next day when some of these "drunken melons" were left, he threw them in the yard. Suddenly he saw an iguana eating the melons, and soon there were even more iguanas enjoying this New Years Day dinner. Ha! Ha!

But suddenly, my neighbor, who had been watching them, saw them start to hiccup strangely, start to move slowly and wobbly, hanging half on the fence and not able to climb. He said, it was so funny to see them, yes, all drunk.

He had to laugh so much about them. It was his funniest New Years Day ever. Starting a new year with so much laughter means a happy new year, I guess.

Story & photos by Angliet, Nature Lover



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Day	High	Low	High	Low	High	Sunrise	Sunset
Mon 16	05:39 0.48 ft	10:59 0.26 ft	16:12 0.72 ft			7:00	18:30
Tue 17		00:10 -0.22 ft	06:20 0.58 ft	12:22 0.23 ft	17:06 0.61 ft	7:00	18:31
Wed 18		00:43 -0.18 ft	06:57 0.66 ft	13:36 0.19 ft	17:58 0.50 ft	7:01	18:31
Thu 19		01:11 -0.14 ft	07:32 0.73 ft	14:42 0.15 ft	18:48 0.39 ft	7:01	18:32
Fri 20		01:37 -0.10 ft	08:05 0.79 ft	15:43 0.10 ft	19:37 0.30 ft	7:01	18:32
Sat 21		01:59 -0.06 ft	08:37 0.83 ft	16:41 0.05 ft	20:27 0.22 ft	7:01	18:33
Sun 22		02:18 -0.02 ft	09:10 0.86 ft	17:37 0.01 ft	21:20 0.16 ft	7:01	18:33
Mon 23		02:35 0.00 ft	09:42 0.88 ft	18:32 -0.03 ft	22:19 0.10 ft	7:01	18:34
Tue 24		02:46 0.03 ft	10:16 0.90 ft	19:28 -0.06 ft	23:33 0.06 ft	7:01	18:34
Wed 25		02:50 0.04 ft	10:52 0.90 ft	20:20 -0.09 ft		7:01	18:35
Thu 26	11:29 0.89 ft	21:06 -0.11 ft				7:01	18:35
Fri 27	12:10 0.86 ft	21:44 -0.13 ft			New Moon	7:01	18:35
Sat 28	12:53 0.83 ft	22:14 -0.13 ft				7:01	18:36
Sun 29	13:40 0.77 ft	22:38 -0.13 ft				7:01	18:36
Mon 30	04:56 0.27 ft	07:59 0.25 ft	14:30 0.70 ft	23:00 -0.13 ft		7:01	18:37

Who's Who on The Bonaire Reporter

Celebrating 24+ years of continuous publishing

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Reporters in this issue: James Albury, Angliet Baidjoe, Bula Bonchi, Cher, Patrick Holian, Greta Kooistra, Jane Madden-Disko, Nathalie Peterson, Dean Regas, Hannah Rempel, Roderik Six, Lucinda van der Wardt, Gerjanne Voortman Michael Thiessen, Unattributed photos are by the editor or publisher.

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(Healthy Resolutions Continued from page 5)

4. Make Vegetables a Top Priority in 2017

If you struggle with eating enough veggies, this is the ideal issue to target in the new year. A simple starter goal is to add at least 1 cup of veggies to lunch and 2 cups to dinner. At lunch, supplement your usual sandwich or soup with a cup of baby carrots or bell pepper strips or a side salad. At dinner, pile on the roasted, sautéed, or steamed veggies. Some of my weeknight favorites are sautéed spinach, roasted cauliflower or parsnips, baked sweet potatoes, and steamed broccoli or green beans.

5. Create a Healthier Default for Your Least Healthy Habit

Zero in on the one eating pattern that tends to do the most damage to your diet (and tack on the most excess calories). Is it late-night eating, alcohol, your daily coffee shop visits, huge portions at dinner, lavish restaurant meals, or a stubborn sweet tooth? Now, create a plan to solve that particular issue. If you love dessert, maybe your plan is to have fresh fruit with whipped cream six days a week, and a special treat on the seventh day. If pastries and coffee drinks are costing you hundreds of calories a day, change your daily order to a skim latte and a banana. By targeting your worst food habit, you'll have a significant impact on your overall diet, while causing minimal disruption to your routine. ■ *Lucinda van der Wardt owns the Food and Vitality Dietitian practice at Bona Bida Health Center. More info: www.foodandvitality.info tel: 599-785-0170*



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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

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

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

Sundays

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

Mondays

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

• **Happy Hour at Captain Don's Habitat Bar**. The books of Bonaire's dive pioneer, Captain Don, will be available: *Island Adrift*, *Shangri-la*, *Sea Trauma* and the newest book, *Reef*

Windows. 5:30-7pm. Tel. 717-8290.

Wednesdays

• **Bonaire Goat Farm Tour—9am**. See Monday for more information.

• **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.

• **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.

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

CRUISES

DAY	DATE	NAME	ARR/DEP	CAP	C.LINE
Mon	January 16, 2017	<i>Black Watch</i>	1030-2000	758	
Thu	January 19, 2017	<i>Caribbean Princess</i>	0700-1700	3200	Princess
Mon	January 23, 2017	<i>Royal Princess</i>	0700-1400	3600	Princess
Tue	January 24, 2017	<i>Mein Schiff 5</i>	0730-2000	2500	TUI
Tue	January 24, 2017	<i>Seven Seas Mariner</i>	0800-2300	738	
Wed	January 25, 2017	<i>Eclipse</i>	0800-1700	2850	CEL
Wed	January 25, 2017	<i>Aida Diva</i>	0700-1800	2194	Aida Cruises
Thu	January 26, 2017	<i>Navigator of the Seas</i>	0700-1700	3114	RCCL
Mon	January 30, 2017	<i>Serenade of the Seas</i>	1300-2000	2500	RCCL
Tue	January 31, 2017	<i>Adventure of the Seas</i>	0800-1700	3114	RCCL
Tue	January 31, 2017	<i>Breamar</i>	0800-1800	929	Fred Olsen
Thu	February 2, 2017	<i>Caribbean Princess</i>	0700-1700	3200	Princess Cruises
Thu	February 2, 2017	<i>Thomson Discovery</i>	0700-1400	2076	Columbia Cruises
Fri	February 3, 2017	<i>Nieuw Amsterdam</i>	0800-1800	1380	HAL
Mon	February 6, 2017	<i>Mein Schiff 5</i>	0730-2000	2500	TUI

Sabana #1. All Lions welcome. For more information call 510-0710.

Rotary lunch meetings Wednesdays, 12:15-2 pm - Divi Flamingo Beach Resort in Peter Hughes meeting room upstairs above the dive shop. All Rotarians welcome. Call Gregory Obersi 785-9446.

Toastmasters Club meets every two weeks. For more information call Cruscita de Palm at 786-3827 or Lucia Martinez Beck, at 786-2953.

CHURCH SERVICES

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints --Kaya Sabana 26 Sunday Services - Papiamentu/ Espanol 9:00 am to 12 noon Add'l Info (599) 701- 9522 Dutch/English 1pm to 3pm Add'l Info (599) 701-2892

Protestant Congregation of Bonaire: (VPGB), Kralendijk, Plaza Wilhelmina; Sunday service-10 am in Dutch. Rincon, Kaya C.D. Crestian; Sunday service-8:30am in Papiamentu/ Dutch.

Children's club—every Saturday from 4:30-6 pm in Kralendijk, (annex of the church.)

Contact: Marytjin@gmail.com or Daisycoffie@hotmail.com

International Bible Church, Kaya Papago 104, Hato, behind Bon Fysio/ Bon Bida Spa & Gym on Kaya Gob. N. Debrot. Sunday 9am-Worship service in English; 10:45am-Sunday school for all ages. 717-8332 for more info or ride bonaireibc@gmail.com.

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

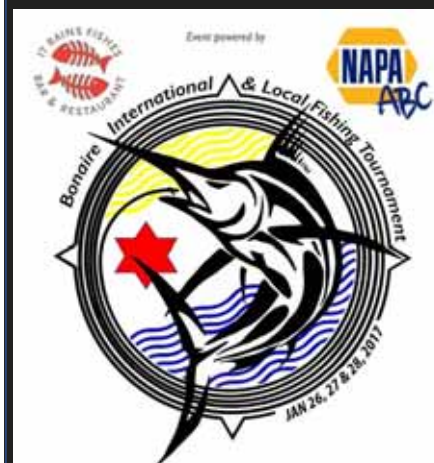
Our Lady of Coromoto in Antriol—Saturday at 6pm in English. Mass in Papiamentu on Sunday at 9am and 6pm. 717-4211.

Assembly of God (Asemblea di Dios): Kaya Triton (Den Cheffi). In English, Dutch & Papiamentu on Sunday at 10 am. Wed. Prayer Meeting at 7:30 pm. 717-2194

CLOSE-IN EVENTS

Saturday, Jan.21—Waterbird Census. Details on page 15

To January 21 — Love of the Sea -exhibit of photographic works on canvas by underwater photographer Catherine Salisbury with special guest Cousteau artist, Dominique Serafini. At Bistro de Paris



Jan 26-28 — Bonaire International Fishing Tournament at Club Nautico. See page 3

Saturday, Jan. 28—Annual Lora (parrot) count. Training meeting Wed., Jan. 25. More on page 3.

Saturdays, Sundays, Jan. 28, 29, Feb. 4, 5—Yoga Sensible Workshops with Carla Baruchello. "Through the Elements," Yoga Terrace at Eden Beach Resort, 11am. Single workshop \$70, Special 4 Workshops \$250. Info & booking Elisabetta +599-780-7362, betta@web.de



THE STARS HAVE IT

JANUARY 2017 (end)

ARIES (Mar. 21- April 20) You may find that you're being used. Short trips will prove to be more fruitful than you imagined. Do your own thing and everything will settle down. Compromise if you wish to have any fun at all. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

TAURUS (Apr. 21- May 21) Talk to superiors about problems that you feel are getting out of hand. Partners may try to argue with you; however, you must stand your ground. You'll look guilty if you don't lay your cards on the table. Do a little investigating if there is someone at work you don't trust. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21) Be careful not to push your luck or take too much for granted when dealing on either a personal or professional level. Limitation could set in if you've been spending too much. Friends may not be completely honest with you. Be very careful while in transit or while traveling in foreign countries. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) It's time to reconnect with some of the people you used to know. Career changes may not be your choice right now, but in the long run they will be to your advantage. You may be sensitive to a point of absurdity. The locks, stove, gas, or electric wires may not be secure. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

LEO (July 23-Aug 22) Get the red tape and the unwanted paperwork out of the way. You will earn recognition for the work you are doing. Try not to be too lavish with your lover. You may find yourself in a predicament with family members. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) Short trips to visit others will do the whole family a world of good. Real estate investments could be to your advantage. You will reap the benefits if you put money into upgrading your residence. Don't involve yourself in the emotional problems of those you work with. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) Make sure that you have all the pertinent facts before taking action. You need a change of pace. You can have quite the romantic adventure if you take time to get to know your mate all over again. Avoid any gossip and be careful that you aren't misinterpreted. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) Sudden changes concerning coworkers may surprise you. Your positive attitude and intellectual outlook will draw others to you. Don't jump the gun; you may find yourself getting angry at the wrong person. Don't lend or borrow. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) Controversial subjects should be avoided at all costs. Misunderstandings could cause confusion and upset. You will find your vitality is lowered. It might be best to work on your own; if possible, do your job out of your home this week. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) You have made an accurate assessment of the situation and have come up with ideas that will save money. Your partner may be somewhat irritable this week. Use your quick wit to win points and friends. Children may pose a problem if they don't like suggestions. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) You may be frazzled this week. You must be extremely careful not to let relatives or friends interfere in your personal life. You will easily capture the interest of those you talk to. Make plans to do the things you enjoy. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) Try to keep an open mind. Listen to the advice given by others. You can make money if you get involved in real estate deals. When the work is done, they may serve you for a change. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday. ■

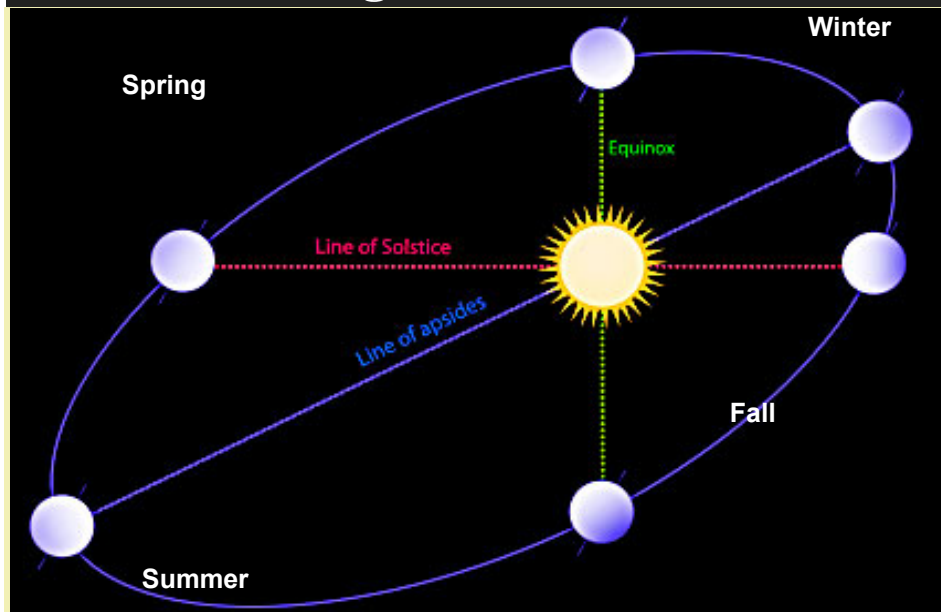
Michael Thiessen



BONAIRE SKY PARK*

*to find it... just look up

The Length Of The Seasons



I'll bet that most of you are under the impression that the four seasons are equal in length, when in fact none of them are the same number of days and nights long. So which season is the longest and which is the shortest?

Most school children would say that summer is the shortest because it seems to just fly by. But is that true or is it simply a matter of human perception? Let's find out.

Now everyone knows that our Earth makes one trip around the Sun once a year. In fact, astronomically speaking, that's exactly what a year is; the amount of time it takes for any planet to make one trip around the sun, and one Earth trip is 365 1/4 Earth days long.

Now according to Kepler's laws of planetary motion, the closer a planet is to the Sun, the faster it will travel. The farther it is from the Sun the slower it will travel. So, because our Earth's orbit is not a perfect circle, but is a slightly stretched out circle called an ellipse, and since our Sun is not at the center of this ellipse, our Earth actually varies its distance from the Sun during the year. When it's closest to the Sun, it travels fastest, and when it's farthest, it travels slowest.

Now believe it or not, our Earth is actually closest to the Sun in January and farthest in July. So our Earth actually travels faster when it's winter in the northern hemisphere

and slower during the summer as it is actually moving farther from the Sun and slowing down and thus takes 93 days to go from the first day of spring to the first day of summer. So **spring is 93 days long**. Then the Earth continues to slow down until it's at its farthest point from the Sun the first week of July, when it reaches its slowest speed of 65,500 miles per hour.

Thereafter, because it's starting to move back closer to the Sun, it slowly starts to speed up. Even so, it takes 94 days for our Earth to travel from the first day of summer to the first day of fall, which makes **summer 94 days long**. Then, as it moves closer and closer to the Sun, it picks up more speed day by day, so that it takes only 90 days to travel from the first day of fall to the first day of winter. Thus, **fall is 90 days long**.

And our Earth continues to speed up until it reaches its closest point to the Sun the first week of January, zipping along at 67,600 miles per hour, which is 2,200 miles per hour faster than its speed in July. In fact, it only takes **89 days for our Earth to go from the first day of winter to the first day of spring**.

So even though summer feels like the shortest season to any school kid, winter is actually five days shorter and is the shortest season of the year for the northern hemisphere. And summer is the longest. ■

Dean Regas & James Albury

**"Wines & Bites" evening:
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Going 'Around the World' with The Bonaire Reporter



Bonaire resident **Lourae Knoffel** cruised 'around the world' in early 2015 aboard the cruise ship *Silver Whisper*, carrying *The Bonaire Reporter* with her. She created the above montage showing just a few of the many places visited around the world to submit to the Picture Yourself contest "I took along *The Reporter* during my four-month World Cruise aboard the *Silver Whisper*."

Lourae certainly earned her win having carried her copy of *The Reporter* for 3,952 air miles, over water for 31,432 nautical miles while visiting five continents, 30 countries, 50 ports

In 2016, readers took *The Reporter* with them and sent in photos from all over the globe. Making a decision as to the winner was extremely difficult. Not only were the photos from far off, and in some cases, unknown places, but the artistic setups were inspired as well. Thank you to all who participated. We are overwhelmed!

Tokyo, Japan; Ohio River, USA; Buenos Aires, Argentina; West Point, NY; Galapagos Islands, Ecuador; Grand Canyon, Arizona; London, England; Ranana, Fiji; Wenatchee, Washington; Nashville, Tennessee; Vancouver, B.C.; Grossglockner Mountain, Austria; Ketchikan, Alaska; Stockholm, Sweden; Swiebodzin, Poland; Schiphol Airport with a vintage Dakota airplane; Iceland; Havana, Cuba; Tanzania, Africa; Diamond Head Crater, Honolulu, Hawaii; Southern Latitudes, Ushuala, Falklands; Aruba; and Jupiter, Florida.

The winning entry appeared in the Picture Yourself, 2016, Issue 2, Jan. 18- Feb. 1, 2016

Congratulations, Lourae. Your prize is a delectable dinner for two at the luxurious La Balandra Restaurant at the Harbour Village Resort. ■ G./L. D.

Picture Yourself With The Reporter in Louisiana and Texas, USA



Bonaire artist Janice Huckaby writes, "Larry and I took a trip to Louisiana this year to follow my family roots. The trip took us traveling east from Texas to Louisiana, past great grandfather's corn fields, through dad's cotton fields and my great-great-grandfather's sugar cane fields. All roads led to the bayou and right into the famous alligator hunter, Troy Landry's, hometown in Pierre Part. We met at Duffy's Gas station and tried to talk about shark conservation, but it was a really busy day and he was off to hunt alligators in Florida, so Troy signed our *Bonaire Reporter* with his famous words "Choot Em!!!" The flood waters were coming in fast and the trip was cut short, but we made it with the water under our wheels on one side of the highway and barricade closures popping up behind us. We wish all the people in Louisiana a speedy recovery from the floods that we were witness to. Troy sends his greetings to all of you in Bonaire from the Bayou Country." ■

WIN A DINNER AT A TOP BONAIRE RESTAURANT: Send your photo to reporter@bonairenews.com to be entered in our annual contest for the best picture.

Scheduled Water Taxi TO KLEIN BONAIRE

From Bonaire Nautico Marina in front of It Rains Fishes Restaurant

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DID YOU KNOW?



Christmas Tree Worm Photo by Hannah Rempel

That even after Christmas is over and Christmas trees are gone, you can see Christmas tree worms all year round while snorkeling or diving around Bonaire!

These marine worms are named for the pair of Christmas tree shaped crowns that protrude from their bodies. These "Christmas trees" are actually mouth structures that the worms use to feed and breathe. These spiral structures are made up of hundreds of feather-like tentacles called radioles that are similar to tiny mouths. Imagine if your body was covered in hundreds of tiny mouths. Each radiole (or "mouth") is covered in small hair-like structures called cilia that give it a "furry" appearance. These cilia move together in a rhythmic motion which creates a small current that channels water towards the radiole. Microscopic plants, called phytoplankton, get caught in the current and get transported into the worm's radiole. What a bizarre way to eat. That's like if you ate your dinner by waving tiny pieces of food with your hands until they blew into your mouth. Not only do the worms use the radioles to eat, they also use them as gills in order to 'breathe.' Next time you're out snorkeling or diving in search of beautiful critters on the reef, look for the

Christmas tree worms. Even though they are only about 4cm or 1.5" tall, their bright coloration makes them very conspicuous. They come in all different colors: white, pink, orange, yellow and even bright purple. If you get too close when you're looking at them, you'll see them pop into the tube they live in and hide. Wait just a little bit, and you can see this beautiful worm slowly emerge from its tube - putting the "Christmas trees" back out for display. ■ *Hannah Rempel,*



STINAPA Assistant Biologist.

Waterbird Census

Do you support bird conservation on Bonaire? Join STINAPA on Saturday January 21st from 4:30-6 pm at LVV OR Sorobon fishing pier to take part in the Caribbean Waterbird Census (CWC). Participants will be guided in how to collect CWC data and will be asked to submit their data to eBird, an online resource. Please call 717-8444 to RSVP and indicate which site you will meet at. We provide data sheets, binoculars and bird ID cards. No fee, space limited. ■

Pets Of The Week

MIRROR IMAGE

At first glance, it appears this photo is of a beautiful, snow-white kitten admiring itself in a mirror....but IT IS NOT! It is actually a photo of **twin kittens, Beau and Bella**, playing hide and seek through the portal in their kennel. Beau, Bella and their adorable sister **Bianca** (pictured below) are recent arrivals at the Animal Shelter Bonaire and will soon be available for adoption.

White cats are rare (comprising only 5% of the general cat population) and are quite rare on Bonaire. Not all white cats are deaf as is commonly thought. Beau and Bella both have full hearing, probably because of the small grey "smudge" they each have on the top of their head. According to cat geneticists, some white kittens are born with smudges of colored fur on top of the head, this smudge usually disappears by adulthood and kittens with color smudges are most likely to have normal hearing.

Bella, Beau and Bianca are about 5-6 weeks old, very well-socialized and in excellent health. Once they receive their vaccinations and all standard kitten veterinary care, they will be ready for adoption. **How much fun would it be to have twin white kittens....and a beautiful brown and grey tabby to complete the scene!** You can visit Bella, Beau and Bianca and all the other residents at the Animal Shelter Bonaire at Kaminda Lagun 26, Tues.-Fri. 9 am -12 Noon, 3 - 5 pm, and Saturdays 8 am-3 pm, non-stop

■ *Story by Jane Madden-Disko, photos by Nathalie Peterson*



Beau and Bella



Bianca

Animal Shelter News

THANK YOU FROM ALL OF US AT THE SHELTER!

Thank you to those who give of their time week after week at the Shelter, the Pakus and the cruise market...



- Those who bring food for our cats and dogs in small and large amounts
- Those who donate money
- Those who do odd jobs around the Shelter, making it a better place for the animals
- Those who foster our unwell animals and nurse them back to health
- Those who adopt and provide loving homes for our dogs and cats
- Those who have adopted animals in Bonaire to take back to their home country
- Those who come to visit every time they're on Bonaire, bringing toys, collars, leashes and other much needed supplies
- And to all those we may not have mentioned.

We had a very successful year in 2016 with many dogs and cats who found happy homes with caring families and those we could reunite with their owners.

Thanks to all your monetary donations we were able to **spay and neuter over 550**

animals! We're hoping to make 2017 even better with help from all you wonderful people in the community on Bonaire and abroad.

The Bonaire Animal Shelter will continue to stimulate the spaying and neutering of dogs and cats. Spaying and neutering is free of charge and paid by the Animal Shelter Bonaire. For information how to make use of the sterilization program call 717-4989/ 701-4989 or e-mail to animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com If you'd like to support the Animal Shelter Bonaire and its sterilization program of dogs and cats by means of a donation please make a deposit on **MCB bank account no.10616410** stating "Sterilization Fund" to donate online visit <http://www.animalshelterbonaire.com/index.../how-you-can-help/>

And like us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/AnimalShelterBonaire/>

Also a special thank you to Florence Dittlow, Genady Filkovsky and to Just4pets for your generous donation by supplying Rescue Remedy for treating stress in animals associated with New Years fireworks!

We wish you an amazing new year and lots of animal love from all the Animals, the Shelter board, Luvi, Marijke, Renata, Regina, Kenneth, Nathalie and all volunteers. ■ *Nathalie Peterson*

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Sabadeco, Crown Terrace 112

Highlights:

- panoramic views
- pool with sundeck & gazebo
- wrap around 3 sides porch
- separate guesthouse with storage
- 3 bedrooms / 2.5 bathrooms
- carport for two cars
- freehold land (registered 4-A-1241)
- total lot size 20,024 sq.ft/ 1,816 m2
- living area approx.: 2,744 sq.ft / 255 m2
- 494 sq.ft/ 46 m2 (guest house)

**Asking price
US\$ 775,000**

Buyers cost



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

Sunbelt  Realty

717 6560 info@sunbeltbonaire.com
www.sunbeltbonaire.com

Penny Lane Exchange

The Fashion Revolution



Penny Lane is on the **second floor** of La Terraza, downtown Kralendijk
Kaya Grandi #23-G, Up the stairs—Across from Gio's Ice Cream,
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Friday: 10am to 5:30 Saturday: 11am to 3:00pm Closed – Sun. and Mon.
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