

**It's Still
FREE**

BONAIRE *May 8-22, 2017, Year 24, Issue 9*
The REPORTER

*Remember
Mother's
Day, 14 May*

BES Island News Too

Harvest Time Parade
Page 10



Doei and Chana Dia— Parade Patrons



The Bonaire community was revolted by the murder of Adriana Morale de Florencia, a crew-member of a visiting cruise ship apparently by a Bonairean man (see page 5 for details). But a more rewarding story is what Bonaireans did in the wake of the tragedy. They mourned the loss of the Mexican girl with a spontaneous memorial Mass in the largest church on Bonaire. The idea sprang from four island women: **Esther Romijn de Palm, Christie Dovale, Vivan Delanoy and Lourdes Perdomo Hart.** (photo)

The church was three-quarters full for the 7 pm hour-long service. **Father Santiago** said the Mass, the **Flor di Coromoto** choir and the Mariachi group **Trio los Amigos** sang. Donations were collected for Adriana's family, who were unable to be present, and leaflets were passed out. NosTV recorded the event to give her parents a copy and it was broadcast live as well and available on Social Media. *By Christie Dovale*

► **Donate your body to science and get it back, along with a \$25 gift card.** That's a great deal, especially because you are helping our future generations. So if you are selected for the Health Study, please participate.

On May 2, the 2017, Health Study for Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba started. This is a large-scale study by which the islands will get an idea of the health situation of the population. The research provides answers to questions such as: Is the population adequately protected against infectious diseases such as measles and polio? And how often does dengue occur? How are personal living conditions? And what chronic diseases, such as diabetes, occur?

The research is underway and will last through May 24. Bonaire invited 5,000

people up to 89 years old to participate in the Study. For the people of Playa this will be at Jong Bonaire; in Rincon at Cocari on May 22 and 23.

The study takes about an hour. As a thank you for full participation in the survey, the participant receives a \$25 gift card good at BonDiGro, Warehouse Supermarket, Van den Tweel Supermarket, DA and Top1Toys.

► **Don't catch, buy, serve, sell or eat fresh lobster.**

From now until October 31st it is prohibited by law to catch lobster in the waters around Bonaire, Klein Bonaire and in Lac.



When lobster season opens again on November 1st, lobster may be taken only between Willemstoren and Malmok, on the east coast. Spiny lobsters breed and spawn when the ocean is warm during the summer and female lobsters may produce hundreds of thousands of eggs twice during the reproductive season. She lays the eggs and holds them under her tail for up to 10 weeks, until they are ready to hatch. That's the prime reason it is prohibited to take lobster during this time.

► **WILLEMSTAD – The preliminary results of the 2017 Curacao elections are in and the two parties without convicted criminals in their ranks were the biggest winners.** The biggest winner with 18,362 votes is the party of the new political leader **Eugene Rhuggenaath**, former Economics Minister and graduate of Erasmus University in The Netherlands. It is the first time that Rhuggenaath participated in an election as leader of the party.

Last Monday night three political leaders signed an agreement for the formation of a new Government for Curaçao. The parties that have agreed to work together are the winner of Friday's elections with six seats **PAR** led by **Eugene Rhuggenaath**, **MAN** (five seats) led by **Hensley Koeiman** and the new party of former PNP-minister **Suzanne Camelia-Römer** PIN (one seat) for a 12-seat majority in the 21-seat Parliament.

► **The first sea turtle nest of 2017 has been confirmed.** STCB volunteers Hans and Jannie found the loggerhead nest, which was laid on King Willem-Alexander's birthday

(April 27th), during a beach patrol on Klein Bonaire. The company, Blue Jay Holding Bonaire B.V., adopted this nest. You too can help us protect Bonaire's endangered sea turtles by joining **Adopt-A-Nest**. For more information, please send an email to cepa@bonaireturtles.org.

Do you want to keep track of the number of nests that are laid on Bonaire and Klein Bonaire? Check out the STCB Nest Counter on our website: <http://www.bonaireturtles.org/wp/what-we-do/nest-monitoring/>

► **As is custom near Kings Day, the so called 'lintjes' have been awarded.** The royal award is given to people who have excelled as volunteers or provided social service.



In Bonaire, the honor went to three men and two women. A.S. Nicolaas Mercera, S.H. Pop, A.I. Sint Jago, G.P. Thodé and R.B.J. Wilsoe were all decorated as Member in the Order of Orange-Nassau.

In the entire Kingdom a total of 2,815 royal decorations were awarded, of which 11 persons in the Order of the Netherlands Lion and 2,804 persons in the Order of Orange-Nassau.

The Royal Decorations Committee received 3,174 proposals this year, of which 359 were declined. More men than women received royal decorations – 64.4% versus 35.6%.

► **On Friday, May 5th the Plaza Resort hosted the grand opening of the photo exhibition, "Salute To The Sailors."**

The exhibition provides a snapshot into the history of shipwrights and sailors of the ABC islands. **The Fundashon Patrimonio Marítimo Boneiru (Maritime Heritage Foundation) is currently restoring one of the last sail cargo ships, Stormvogel.**

The opening was highlighted by awarding special commemorative pins to five local sailors for their contribution to Bonaire's Maritime Heritage and their involvement with *Stormvogel*:

• **Jan Felida** - harvested wood for the frame of *Stormvogel* and was a member of the boat-building crew.

• **Luis Coffi** - served as the ship's cook aboard *Stormvogel*.

• **Valentine Frans** - deckhand on *Stormvo-*

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Flotsam and Jetsam (Continued from page 2) gel.

•**Ismael Soliano** - occasional captain of *Stormvogel* during the ship's first four years. He is now 88 and is restoring his classic sailing fishing boat, *Etienne*.

•**Lucio Soliano** - deckhand on *Stormvogel*. More on page 8.

► **Organizations in the Caribbean Netherlands (Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba) which have sports, culture and projects to aid children can apply for grants** from May 29 until June 12 from an additional €1 million per year grant made available by the Dutch Cabinet until 2021. The aim is to increase opportunities for island children. Information meetings will be organized on all three islands in the near future.

Registered not-for-profit organizations such as schools, foundations, churches and associations can apply. Funds can only be spent on items such as school supplies, subscriptions, sports clothing or music lessons for children. The aim of the funds is to allow children whose parents cannot afford to provide them with a healthy meal and/or pay for them to participate in activities such as swimming and music lessons. You can find more information on : www.rijksdienstcn.com

► **WEB, Bonaire's utility company just launched an improved website.** For English go to <https://www.webbonaire.com/en/home-en/> for details on WEB operation, outages, solar system hookup and more. It's very useful and in three languages.

► **TCB invited everyone to like their new Facebook page,** "Tourism Corpora-

tion Bonaire," and stay updated with the tourism industry of the island.

► There two above items are part of a growing trend on Bonaire for government departments, the Police, NGOs, businesses and others to **post important information directly to the public.** This will allow quicker dissemination of news but eliminates the "vetting" established press outlets give to press releases. This might mean an increase of "fake news."



► **On Mother's Day, Sunday, May 14, Bonaire music lovers are invited to a free special open-air concert at the Wilhelmina Park** offered by the Classic Music Board of Bonaire (CMBB), sponsored by the Island Government and the Prince Bernhard Culture Funds. The concert will run from 19:30 to 22:00.

(Continued on page 8)

INSELAIR UPDATE

At press time there has been no solution to the steady deterioration of air service between the ABC Islands. InselAir service to Bonaire has reached a low point and there is serious concern that the airline will cease operations. Travel between our islands is currently challenging.

On April 27 the Bonaire Island Government issued a **press release, impressive for its wordiness and lack of detail,** about its short and long term efforts to restore reliable air service. It drew a scathing response from the Bonaire Business Group (BBG) who took note of its lack of substantive further steps and failure to initiate targeted actions to solve the problem,



Winair based in St. Maarten, said they are planning to begin jet operations in the coming weeks as part of plans to start twice weekly flights routed Curacao-St. Maarten-Port au Prince and return. Winair is looking to use an ancient wet-leased MD-82/3 to run the route. The launch is contingent on final approvals being secured. Winair operates five DHC-6-300s on scheduled passenger flights connecting Antigua, Basseterre, Beef Island, Dominica Cane Field, Nevis, St. Maarten, Saba, and Saint Eustatius and shows a profit. Perhaps Winair, with an already established infrastructure for inter island operation, can serve Bonaire?

Last year you might have flown in this plane. Go to :

<https://www.facebook.com/shoconews/videos/1080215168751651/>

Shredding InselAir plane. Scary isn't it?

Poor Bonaire air service is affecting visitors from other islands. The first edition of the Bonaire Soap Box Derby (see story on page 7- *Kareda di Garoshi*) was well attended on King's Day by participants and on-lookers. Regrettably, the drivers of the cars from Aruba were disappointed because they were booked on an InselAir flight that did not make it here in time for the race. So about 20 creatively designed cars were just "on display" and never raced. In any case the event was deemed a success with over 100 cars participating. The "Derby" will likely return next year with improvements. ■

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On the Island Since... 1992 and 1996 - Agnes and Sandro Joosten

A Bonaire Reporter regular feature since 2001



Agnes and her son Sandro at their new "Multishop" in Hato

The idea to move to Bonaire came from my husband Gert. We'd been here four times for vacation – each time for five weeks - and he loved the tranquility and I went along with him. My sister had been living here for five years so I did have family on the island. In Europe we'd travelled extensively and Gert, who had been with the Dutch navy for nine years, working as a sub officer technical service on minesweepers, had seen different parts of the world too. However, Bonaire was the place he liked best.

First I finished my college education and received a Bachelor in Human Resource Management, specialized in Social Business Administration. Two years later we moved to Bonaire. Gert was immediately hired as a mechanic at Don Andres and I was not allowed to work; I came here on Gert's permit... those were the rules at the time! Nevertheless, six months later I was asked to work at Mar Cultura, the shrimp nursery at Sorobon. It was a semi-government business and they needed me.

In 1994 – I was 36 – our daughter Nicky was born on Curacao because we didn't have a gynecologist or a pediatrician on the island and she came with a Caesarean. I was so ready for her. She was a very vivacious child. I kept on working and she went to crèche. Nicky was quick with everything. At seven months she had seven teeth and she walked at 10 months. Within 18 months she was potty-trained. Thanks to the crèche; they knew how to do it! She started talking at a very early age – baby Papiamentu! I didn't understand a word and so, along with her, I learned the language.

In 1995, when Mar Cultura closed its doors, I opened my own administration office. After one year with Don Andres, Gert moved on to Divi Flamingo Beach where he became the dive engineer of the dive shop and he's still there.

Thanks to our vacations before we moved here, we had a fairly realistic impression about what living on Bonaire meant in real life. And of course I had my sister Riet and also my brother Theo here, which was very nice. Our life was relaxed and except for the weather and the easy

going lifestyle I didn't see it as a big change.

I am number 10 of 14 children and we had to fight for our existence. If not, the bigger ones would grab their own chances! You had to make sure you were there at dinner time, otherwise there wouldn't be anything left. I was a wild child, the leader of the pack. I wasn't afraid of anything and I'm still like that. I grew up in freedom and my parents were not complicated. I have a lot of respect for my dad because he never hit one of us. He respected us and he respected our mother. He was a very good example, which is extremely important."

In 1996 our son Sandro was born, again on Curacao and again a Caesarian, but a totally different child. He was very quiet and in every way the opposite of Nicky.

"...at the end of the day - when the sun sets in the ocean - Bonaire is just sweet, it's freedom."

It's really special to have two children who are so different from each other. But both of them are very caring and sweet. It was a busy time. My business was doing well from the beginning. My clients were and still are mostly small and medium sized businesses and one-man businesses, but I also have clients where I finish the job within one day for the whole year. As well I'm doing private tax assessments and immigration permits.

In 2001 we moved to the house which was designed and built by Gert in Nikiboko, a nice and cozy neighborhood. It's a beautiful house and I'm still very happy with it. Nicky went to SGB and Sandro went to study in Holland for two years while living with family. After finishing SGB, Nicky also left for Holland. She studied to become an executive secretary and now she is going for her Bachelor's degree. Nicky lives in Rotterdam and she likes Holland very much as there is plenty of stuff going on.

Sandro left when he was 13 and came back when he was 15, then he went to SGB, but" she laughs "let him speak for himself."



Agnes' husband Gert having fun with daughter Nicky who lives in Holland

Sandro continues, "I studied motor vehicle technology for two years at SGB, then I became a volunteer at Stinapa. For one year I went along with Desiree Croes in her nature and environmental education program, visiting the schools and helping her organizing activities. After that year I moved to Holland where I went to study 'all-round water sports industry employee.' It includes engine maintenance, woodworking, metalworking, sales and rentals of boats and engines and accessories and repairing everything. It was a two-year education. In the meantime I had an operation on my jaw, because I had an 18 millimeter (0.71 inches) overbite – no trifle! The whole procedure took at least six months because not only do they split the jaw but they also pulled the muscles and then everything was fixed with six screws. In spite of the pain it was so worth it! I missed one month of school, but after that I just went on with my studies. On June 30st, 2016, I graduated and headed back for Bonaire."

Grocery. It's like every so many years I begin a new chapter. I can't sit still and do nothing and I don't like watching TV. I really have to confess that I'm not much of a housewife. I loathe house work, but I am very social and I like to help people. I accompany my friends when they need to see the doctor or are being operated on abroad. I was a buddy to Marlis Seelos-Schmid who used to be a client of mine and with whom I developed a special bond during her illness. She shared her wisdom with me. She had so much life experience. She taught me how to see things in the right perspective and it has been so helpful. I took care of her until the very end and I think of her every day. It has been intense.

Well, when Sandro came back to Bonaire, he was looking for an opportunity and I felt we should bundle our forces – at least for a while – and start something new!" Sandro explains, "My idea was always to have an activity agency/center and I have had the permit since 2014, from before I went to Holland. But to make a living from just an activity center is not financially feasible – at least not now. I wanted to rent a place together with someone to cover the costs. When we found this shop, located between 'The Tasty Treat' and 'Between 2 Buns' at the roundabout in Hato, my mom said we could do it together and share the costs and she moved her office here. Then I thought it would be a good idea to also sell groceries and we added telephone cards, cigarettes, sunglasses, T-shirts, 'I Love Bonaire' shirts, caps and bracelets, local art, locally made jewelry. Soon we will have a car rental as well. We also have local art on consignment. We named the shop 'Multishop' and it's my company, but I am running it together with my mom.

I came back to Bonaire because Holland is not for me. This is where I feel at home. I love the water, I love to fish and at the end of the day - when the sun sets in the ocean - Bonaire is just sweet, it's freedom."

■ Story & photos by Greta Kooistra



Agnes laughs. "We thought it was really nice and quiet with the kids in Holland; just Gert and me. It felt good! I started with my mosaic art, something I'd wanted to do ever since 2004, when all seven sisters went to Barcelona where we were infected with the Gaudí mosaic virus. When I saw his work I was completely overwhelmed. One year later, Riet went to Holland where she did a mosaic workshop with my other sisters. When she came back, she taught me. It's a very nice, relaxing process. You start thinking of something and then you begin to visualize it. The greatest part of the work happens in your mind, which is good for me, because my head is always full of numbers. But before I start the real work, I have to know for sure that I will have enough time to finish. If I only have a few hours, I will make jewelry which goes faster. This is what I do when I am free. But I am also an organizer, it's my social side; I love to set something up. Like Kriabon, which I turned into a thriving business within five years.

I like challenges. I worked with Michael Gaynor and with Bud from Sand Dollar

Cruise Ship Murder Solved



Surveillance video that apparently broke the case photo Aimed Ayubi

A repeat of a “Natalee Holloway * type” fiasco was avoided by competent investigation and a fast arrest by Bonaire police following the disappearance of a visiting cruise ship crew member. The incident rocked the Bonaire community and was the sixth violent crime of recent months. Last week Bonaire’s Law Enforcement Triumvirate presented the latest developments of the case which has been code-named “Saturnus.”

Missing Person

In the evening of Thursday, April 20, the Police received notification from the cruise ship *Navigator of the Seas* that a crew-member, **Adriana Morales de Florencio**, who had disembarked from her ship around noon, was missing when the ship, leaving for the last time this season, was about to depart. Morales studied tourism at Puebla University in Mexico and was on an internship aboard the Royal Caribbean cruise line ship. The search began for the missing woman at that time but there were many unknowns to be resolved.

A routine check for missing persons in places like the hospital was conducted and the cell phone number of the missing woman was monitored. However, the phone itself was missing and police asked the public for help in finding it,

The Investigation Begins-CCTV key

As soon as it was clear that Morales was truly missing, **25 detectives** were put on the case. Local authorities received assistance from the **FBI in Miami**; when the ship sailed into Miami, the FBI interviewed fellow crew members, searched Adriana’s cabin and gathered her personal items for further investigation. A FBI agent then flew to Bonaire, bringing along her belongings from the ship.

The **Coast Guard and STINAPA** searched at sea and Klein Bonaire to rule out a swimming mishap. Miss Morales’ parents were contacted. In a TV interview from Mexico they described her as a serious person who called her parents almost

every night.

During the weekend following her disappearance, CCTV video images were collected from private surveillance cameras of companies in the area. They had to be viewed individually, which was very time consuming.

Results

This provided the first break in the case. On Friday, April 28, the missing woman was seen in a video walking on the street following a tall man. That same day the man was identified. The Public Prosecutor’s Office and a judge ordered three house searches that evening resulting in the discovery of an illegal firearm which was confiscated. As a result a suspect, 44-year-old **Raysley Sambo**, was arrested in connection with violation of the Firearms Act. He was subsequently questioned.

On Saturday morning, a kunuku (farm) at Playa Grandi in the northeast of Bonaire, linked to the suspect, was searched. Later that Saturday afternoon a buried, lifeless body of a woman was found. The distinctive tattoo on her shoulder was recognized as belonging to Adriana Morales de Florencio. Her parents were immediately informed and the kunuku closed off for further investigation. It took 12 hours before the body could be lifted from the ground because extreme caution was required to safeguard any evidence. There were indications that she had not been dead for very long as there was minimal decomposition.

On Sunday, **Morales’ parents arrived on Bonaire** and were greeted by Police and the Island Governor. Victim Support was made available to them 24 hours per day and a “family” detective was appointed to be the link at all times between them and the Police. Although the suspect was initially held for violating the Firearms Act he is now also accused of murder/manslaughter. A preliminary autopsy report stated that the victim died violently by being stabbed or cut with a knife. “The question as to when and how exactly Morales was killed is a matter that will have to be determined by specialists,” said



Navigator of the Seas in Bonaire

the Chief Prosecutor. Chief of Police Rosales denied the rumor that the suspect led Police to the burial site. Forensic specialists and specially trained dogs arrived in Bonaire at the end of last week to assist local police.

More Investigation

Authorities said they still have no clue as to the motive of the suspected killer. A lot still needs to be determined. Chief prosecutor Hambeukers pointed out that it was very important to put the pieces together in order for the prosecutors to finalize their case and bring Morales’ killer to justice.

The Police and the Prosecutor did not make any further announcements. But the father and brother of the suspect expressed their sympathy in a letter to Morales’ parents and apologized for what Raysley might have done to their daughter.

Governor’s Statement

Island Governor Reina conveyed his condolences to family and loved ones of Morales. “As a father I can imagine what her parents must feel right now. It is really heart breaking,” said Reina. Reina also called on citizens to assist the Police with any relevant details linked to this case. “Our island is known as a quiet and safe place. This case and other recent cases threaten our society as we know it. We have to come together to solve crimes like this. I also appeal to parents to really guide their offspring to ensure they stay on the right path and grow into law-abiding citizens,” said Rijna.

Cruise Line Reaction

Royal Caribbean Lines issued this memo to its employees in the wake of the death: “Today – April 30 – 10 days after Adriana was reported missing on the Island of Bonaire, the body of the 24-year-old Royal Caribbean crew member was found buried on a beach. Radio station Live99 FM, reported the discovery of Adriana’s body buried on the coast of Playa Grande, Bonaire. This corresponds to Adriana Morales de Florencio, native of Atlixco, Puebla, Mexico. Adriana was working her second contract as a part of the crew aboard the Royal Caribbean cruise ship *Navigator of the Seas*.”

An important message to all cruise ship crews was added:

It is highly encouraged and recommended that when departing the ships in one of the port-of-calls to always be accompanied by a trusted person, a so-called “travel buddy.” Safety is important off the ships as much as it is aboard the ships. It is recommended that some research of the port-of-call visits is done prior to departing the ship to ensure avoiding suspicious locations. Furthermore, our experience with working on ships and traveling the many

MISSING

Adriana Morales de Florencio (Age 23)



Last seen on April 20th in Kralendijk.
Personal information : born in Mexico on June 4th, 1993.
Personal characteristics : slim posture, long black hair. The top canines are slightly forward.
Special features: On her right shoulder Adriana has a striking tattoo.



If you have information about this person, please call: 717-8000 / 715-8000 or the anonymous tip line 717-7251



Police Poster circulated island wide

ports-of-call in the world have taught us to always encourage novice crew members to maintain vigilance near locals and areas frequented by tourists, as well as to avoid offers by taxi drivers and guides of private tour experiences. Working aboard the many cruise ships all over the world can be a fun experience by utilizing little safety skills, as a loss of a crew member is not only a loss for the family, friends, and crew members who knew them, but also for the broader crew community whose perceptual idea of safety and mobility is overshadowed with fear.

TCB Reaction

TCB Director **Maurice Adriaens** sent out a short statement in relation to the violent death of Adriana Morales. “Our thoughts and prayers are with the family and friends of Ms. Adriana Morales de Florencio. This tragic incident is being investigated by the Bonaire Police Department which will be providing information as the facts become available. Every year, Bonaire welcomes thousands of tourists to the island and through their contact with our people, we have developed a global reputation for our friendliness and for our genuine welcome. We deeply regret any type of incident that might tarnish that reputation and we will work with all law enforcement authorities to root out and expose any persons who run contrary to the true nature of our people. **We ask anyone with additional information that might be pertinent to this matter to report it directly to the Bonaire Police Department (Tel. 717-8000/715-8000). Morales’ missing cell phone was turned in late Friday, May 5, and may yield important clues.**

The Bonaire Community

Bonairean residents began an effort on Tuesday to raise funds for the victim’s family. A Catholic mass was celebrated to an almost full church on Thursday, May 4, for the repose of Adriana’s soul.

Condolences to her family friends and shipmates from all of us at *The Bonaire Reporter*. ■ G.D.

*In 2005 American teenager Natalee Holloway went missing in Aruba. She has never been found and no one has ever been convicted in the case.

Rotary Fair

Celebrating 35 Years of Service



Gregory Obersi and Sheila Diaz with Rotary Club member Marisela Croes (at right) who was working at the Feria

The 2017 Bonaire Rotary Club *Feria Rotaria* (charity fair) on Thursday, Kings Day, May 27, was a great success. Around \$20,000 was raised for distribution to island people and organizations.

Lots of people visited this event even before opening. By 7 am, people were scanning for bargains. Office furniture sold especially well. Over 700 tickets were sold at the children's playground attraction.

More than 200 BBQ meals were served.

There was entertainment from ESO and Dance Sensation. And a surprise appearance by Les Chicas del Can who did a marvelous

show with ESO.

Rotary Club Bonaire wants to really thank everyone who attended the *Feria Rotaria* and contributed to its success. We also want to extend our sincere gratitude to all the volunteers, companies and other persons who contributed to the organization of this successful event. As is well known, Rotary Club Bonaire is a service club which has as its main objective raising funds for various charities on Bonaire. Most of the raised funds will be donated to youth projects and to combat illiteracy on Bonaire. ■

Press release/G.D./Marisela Croes

Picture Yourself With The Reporter In Saba, Caribbean Netherlands



John and Lee Scruggs of Greenville, Texas visited one of the BES Islands - Saba. Tom van 't Hof, author of "The Bonaire Marine Park," joined them at his daughter's hotel, Julianna's. Tom's help was key in establishing the Bonaire Marine Park many years ago.

John and Lee are avid *Bonaire Reporter* readers, taking it with them on their world travels to out of the way places - like Raja am Pat, Boreno, Tasmania, Maldives etc. They are 'semi' residents of Bonaire having been on island for three months annually over the last 20 years. ■

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Downhill Racing Kareda di Garishi



Racer's view of the course

$F = ma$ where $a=g$ (the acceleration of gravity) provide the get go

No engine, no pedals, no solar power, not even a gentle nudge - the only power source a soapbox racer is allowed to use is gravity. You would think this limits possibilities, but if you ever drove down Karpata Hill in a car, you know what gravity can do. It's steep, very steep, and even in the safest car and with one foot on the brake and the gearbox in a lower gear, you still feel that adrenaline pumping.

So imagine a soapbox - basically nothing more than a seat mounted on wheels - speeding down that hill. And not just one: on King's Day 120 contestants gathered in Rincon for the race of a lifetime. There was even a team from Curaçao, looking very professional in their blue outfits.

It had everything you would expect from such an event: notable anxiety in the pits where all the racers were lined up, tough guys all dressed up in helmets and safety suits, gallivanting girls in red Digicel-catsuits, an enthusiastic crowd, safety-people with flags, hotdogs and Bright beers, press hounds with tele lenses - everything, except the sound of roaring engines and the sweet smell of gasoline in the morning.

The engineering was impressive. Everyone did their utmost to build an impressive personal ride. I saw dragsters, shopping carts, a coffin on wheels, even Batman found some time in his crime-fighting-schedule and joined with his infamous Batmobile.

They all raced in pairs, speeding down the hill, and this is serious business; the debates open at the starting line: competitors often pointed out to the referee that the other car wasn't behind the line. In high speed races, every inch counts.

You can feel the tension rise. From down the hill you can see the safety flags go green, one by one. The music stops. One flag remains red. Visors go down. Drones are hovering in the air. Everybody holds his breath - an eerie silence takes over. Just the flapping of that one flag. You see the drivers tightening their grip around the steering wheel. You see

Farid Ayubi helped organize the event



A few of the cars waiting for the start

beads of sweat on the foreheads of the technicians holding the carts, leaning backward a bit to balance the weight. And then a siren wails and a flag goes down and the guys let go and for an instant nothing happens - this is called Newton's Third Law of Motion where an object holds its momentum unless influenced by other forces - and then gravity digs his claws in the noses of the carts and starts pulling them down, slow at first, but once gravity has found a prey, it starts tearing and hauling, making it go down faster and faster, all the way to the bottom. Carts flash by in a second, sometimes nearing each other dangerously close like the chariots in Ben Hur - it's nearly unbearable to watch.

Meanwhile I and my colleague were debating the ideal race cart. "It's all in the wheels. They need to be thin and placed tightly together in the front.: That is certainly one factor, I agreed. "Reducing wind resistance seems to help a lot too. Some contestants lie down in the cart, which is ergonomic but hampers your sight." You could tell we were pros and not only because we were wearing Ferrari-caps.

In such risky events, safety is priority number one. And while there were some minor incidents preceding the race - one daredevil kid broke his leg during a testdrive, he probably wears his cast as a badge of honor - it was well organized and the public stayed nicely in the safety-zones. As far as we know, no times were recorded, no winners pronounced, and fun seem to be the main incentive. Next year *The Bonaire Reporter* will gladly join in; our senior editor is already concocting a speed machine that will outrun everybody. ■

Roderik Six



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Located at: Yoga Terrace at the Eden Beach Resort

Salute to the Sailors

Photo Exhibit at the Plaza Resort



Left to right → Tiger Frans (grandson of Valentine Frans), Ludwig (Luti) Frans (son of Valentine Frans), Ismael Soliano, Regina Frans (wife of Valentine), Valentine Frans, Jan Felida, Olga Felida (Jan's wife), Governor Edison Rijna and Captain Johnny Craane

I arrived at the Plaza Resort expecting to report on a typical, formal presentation of awards. Instead I found an informal, culturally unique gathering of about 30 people, gathered to honor some men whose lives shaped the maritime culture of the island. The cordial ambiance was helped by unobtrusive Plaza Resort staff who had helped create the photo display and the facing seating area. Governor Rijna gave a relaxed speech filled with the accomplishments of Bonaire seamen. He then presented them each a commemorative pin. See related story on page 2, column 3 for more.

Life at sea, especially in the first half of the last century was rugged and took a toll on the health of sailors. Sailors Ismael Soliano, Valentine Frans, assisted by his wife, and Jan Felida, all in their 80s, each spoke of their experiences and thanked the Governor. Then the Governor cut the ribbon and the exhibit officially opened. Refreshments provided by Plaza followed.

Everyone on Bonaire is invited to visit the photo exhibit in the coming months free of charge. The Plaza is encouraging this. The Maritime Heritage Foundation (Stormvogel restoration) thanked the Prins Bernhard Cultuurfonds for providing funding to make the photo exhibition a reality. ■ G.D.

Flotsam and Jetsam (Continued from page 3)

It will feature Vento do Norte, a group of a new generation of musicians playing their own versatile, competent, passionate and sincere sound. Vento do Norte was founded in 2005 by Henk van Twillert, internationally renowned saxophonist. Several famous Bonairean songs will be performed by local singers Yonchi Dortalina and Nelly Kopylova. The Bonaire saxophone group will also be on stage. After this free concert, Vento do Norte will present concerts at some local schools on the island. Poster on page 14.



► Kaya Résida in Rincon has been renamed Kaya Raymonda (Maritsa) Juan Pedro to honor the Rincon woman who was an inspiration for Bonaireans and worked tirelessly for Rincon. In her speech at the dedication of the street, Commissioner Nina den Heyer said, "I hope this new name will be appreciated by everyone and that every time you come by this road it will bring a smile to your face."

► Perhaps reflecting InselAir's problems Bonaire had an increase of 7.6% in passengers coming from Newark (EWR) and 14.8% in passengers coming from Houston (IAH) via United Air Lines during the first quarter of this year. The TCB attributed the in-

crease to digital marketing and new collaboration between TCB and US travel agencies focusing on Boston. There was a 13.9% decrease from passengers coming from Atlanta (ATL) aboard Delta Airlines. This year Delta didn't have a third flight during Spring Break and the lateness of the Easter holidays.

► On Saturday May 13th the bird-watcher world is conducting Global Big Day. Naturally, STINAPA is joining in this event by connecting the Bonairean community with the rest of the world by finding as many bird species as possible in one day. See the Happenings page 12 for more details on how you can take part. ■

G.D. /L.D./R.S.

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YOU'RE INVITED

BONAIRE CULINARY TEAM 2017

~ Second Fundraising Dinner ~

Join us for a sumptuous 3-course dinner with wine and cocktail samplings and help send off the 2017 Bonaire Culinary Team in style. This is one of the final opportunities to show your support and wish the team well!

Date: May 14, 2017
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Place: Courtyard by Marriot Bonaire
Price: \$60 p.p.

For reservations call +(599) 701 0102 or +(599) 786 1508 or mail arubamo@hotmail.com or floris@habitatbonaire.com

TASTE of the CARIBBEAN

The Bonaire Culinary Team is again competing in the Taste of the Caribbean, a culinary competition for professional chefs and bartenders. These cook out dinners are for the team to practice and prepare for their competition, for you to enjoy an evening of good food and for the team to raise the funds needed to travel to Miami this June.



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Courtyard's Restaurant Aims High



Some of the Courtyard team who make dining there a real treat

The restaurant at the Marriott Courtyard hotel on Bonaire wants to raise the already high standards for dining on our island. To showcase the new menu, members of Bonaire press corps were invited to meet the chefs who originated the menu and to sample some of the new dishes. To sum up our experience: truly superlative

The chefs, obviously proud of their new creations, explained that they were working with new flavors for the island. Bonaire's reputation for culinary excellence has grown by leaps and bounds in the last years, and "we want to raise the bar for dining," said Chef de Kok. "We want to be the competition!"

Seated at the poolside restaurant, the press was treated to some amazing dishes in interesting combinations, like an appetizer of quinoa and pumpkin topped with goat cheese, or a homemade beef pastrami and ginger.

One of the entrees was a red snapper with black olive crumble with an out-of-this-world Parmesan cheese "foam." The chefs explained how it was done. Best to let them do it! Desserts included an "Awa di Lamunchi," the local lemonade but with a modern twist.

On Mother's Day, Sunday, May 14, the Bonaire Culinary Team will be in the kitchen of the Marriott, preparing one of their fundraising dinners to help send them to the Taste of the Caribbean 2017 this June. More information on page 8.

The restaurant is open every day for dinner except Tuesday and Wednesday. Open every day for breakfast. There's plenty of easy parking and the poolside ambience is perfect for dining. ■ Laura DeSalvo



LtoR: sous chef Marijn Koops, lead chef Dhanesh de Kok and junior sous chef Dior Marchena



Bonaire traditional Awe di Lamunchi foamed into an extravagant dessert

Heartfelt Thanks

Estien Martijn, *The Bonaire Reporter's* "cover girl" (at right) from the April, 10, 2017, edition, wants to thank everyone who supported her in the Dama Kultural 2017 event.

She wrote, "I've experienced such great time together. Even when everything came all at once, at the same time, including attending a busy schedule. For me it felt almost like a family thing. My message is to encourage anyone.

Anyone can also be a part of this event. Any nationality- Dutch, American, Latin, Chinese, Surinamese- who is willing to help and participate next year to make the Bonairean culture grow. Try to learn their culture, whoever you are from any age.

I did not participate to win the title "Dama Kultural" like I said in my speech. I am already a winner! I really love their culture too, especially when you grew up here in Bonaire.

The biggest event of all is 30 April, Dia di Rincon, where you can see all the differences in their unique folkloric dresses, a true history you cannot take away from them. This is the best event in Bonaire. Together we can unite to this, not only for local ones. My point is: You give respect, you'll get respect, from different cultures throughout the world.

Many thanks to my sponsors: Robert Smaal from BonFysio/Bon Bida, Marjolijn from MG Bonaire, Anke from Anke's Scissors including Chenny for my hair color, hair style and make up. Especially a big hug and thanks who made my folkloric dress Mevr. Leintje Wilson from Rincon. Also those well known great persons from Rincon: Shaba and Hosé Mercera who've taught me to play a bit for my topic on the bari (African drum) Thanks to the people who believed in me, when they've said I had the guts, especially the organization of Kosecha di Diamante: Angelo Emerenciana and Chynesca who has received me with open arms. God bless you." ■



Estien Martijn and her children Melchior and Neriyah (below)



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Harvest Season - Rincon Day



Beauty and colorful costumes were on the march



Mariadal Foundation Marchers



Rincon Day Simidan Parade

As has become traditional, the annual Simidan harvest celebration parade from Doei and Chana Diaz's kunuku "Buena Vista" was held on May 1. This year the parade route was from the Department of Culture (SKAL) office on the waterfront boulevard to the Diaz residence. And it was spectacular. The parade was long, colorful and musical. Participating were Folkloric groups and individuals: the Grupo Colegio Strea Briyante and Colegio Kristu Bon Wardador, around 100 musical participants and DJs, the Ginies dance group with the Grupo Karinjo, Grupo Kosecha di Diamante accompanied by the Rincon Boysz direct from Aruba; and even a medical folk group from the Mariadal Hospital Foundation.

The groups, both adult and children, were made up of some of the most beau-

tiful people on the island. And everyone was having a marvelous time. What a gorgeous and lovely sight.

Many of the groups we saw at the Simidan parade had participated in Rincon as well.

This year's harvest was one of the most bountiful in years and sorghum (*maishi chiki*) flour is available at local markets.

Sponsors included SKAL; J.C. Herrera; Dikon Holding; Panadero Trading; Panadero Business; Panadero Living; PB Car Rental; Boulevard Management; MCB (Bonaire) N.V.; The Bonaire Windsurf Place; Rocargo Services Bonaire; Krioyo Paint; Akkermans Auto Supplies; Don Andres N.V.; Stone Crusher; Sr. Evy & Evalina de Jongh; Obersi Electronics; Live 99 FM; Glenn Thomas and Gerald Silberie and team. ■

Press release

Playa to Rincon Road Race

Comcabon again organized traditional foot races from Playa to Rincon on Rincon Day. About 42 people participated in the event. The distance was 17.5 k, and included runners from Aruba, Curaçao, Holland



Fastest men on Bonaire



Rianne—Fastest woman runner



Nate—Fastest in his class



Caren—Fastest in her class



Nazario—North Salina Road Runner

A Garden? Just Do It

Say It With Flowers

Flowers are nature's fantastic artworks that make our surroundings nice, colorful, creative, peaceful, happy and joyful. With flowers we can say so much: happy birthday, get well soon, welcome home, have a great wedding, thank you, I love you, friends forever, and so on. I especially like, "I'm sorry!" Yes, you can say it with flowers.

On Bonaire, there are many flower plants that can handle the climate very well. Some of them are even adjust in a perfect way to the weather and other consequences like the hard, dry soil, the rock surface, the strong wind, the hot temperature, the drought and just a little rainfall. Two of these types of flowering plants one can often find are **Bougainvillea**, known by the locals as **Trinitaria** and the **Caesalpinia pulcherrima**, known as the **Tuturutu**.

The Bougainvillea grows from 1 to 12 m tall, scrambling over the other plants with their spiky thorns. The thorns are tipped with a black, waxy substance. When you get hit by these thorns, it hurts for days and the area around the wound can get swollen. The Bougainvillea is a deciduous evergreen. It's a relatively pest-free plant, (great, no white fly or piespies), but it may suffer from worms, snails and aphids.

The Bougainvillea can be used as a garden plant or hanging in baskets, and also along fence lines, walls and as a hedge.

Its drought tolerance makes it ideal for Bonaire and its high salt tolerance makes it a natural choice for color in coastal regions. The thorns are a storeroom for liquid so the plant can provide itself with water during a drought.

Its long thorny branches bear masses of papery bracts in white, pink, orange, purple, and burgundy, including double flowered and variegated. They tend to flower all year round and grow best in dry soil, in very bright full sun and in fact will not flourish if over-watered. They can be easily propagated via tip cuttings and very attractive for bonsai.

To propagate cut the thick branches in 10-15 cm pieces and put each one in a



Trinitaria

plastic cup with soft black dirt. Water once every three days and put them in the full sun. You get 2-3 plants out of 10 trials. The young plants are very sensitive. So let them grow for a while, then put them in a bigger pot or straight in a sunny place in your yard. The flowers are very good for dry flower bouquets. When fresh they keep their color for a long time. So, I make dry bouquets and hang them in corners of my porch.



Tuturutu

Another thorny plant which likes similar conditions is the Tuturutu, a species of flowering plant native to the tropics and subtropics of the Americas. Its a striking ornamental plant, widely grown in gardens with yellow, red, orange, pink and off-white flowers. Its seeds are poisonous, however, the seeds of some species are edible before they reach maturity. It flowers the whole year round, and the flowers grow at the end of the prickly branches. Its a great plant to plant in groups to form a hedgerow and it attracts hummingbirds. It needs full sun and well drained soil in a yard but grow well also in big pots. They can live for years when you take good care of them.

Tuturutu plants grow very fast and eas-

DID YOU KNOW?

That feeding wildlife does more harm than good, even when it seems the animal is in dire need? I am referring to all of Bonaire's wildlife, but most importantly donkeys, lizards, birds, and fish.

Feeding a wild animal is often unhealthy for the animal since human-made food may contain substances that put the animal's health at risk. Furthermore, if you feed an animal you unconsciously teach that animal that it is safe to approach humans. Animals have a natural fear of humans, and there may be serious consequences if this behavior is altered. Lizards often approach humans in search of an easy meal. They learned this behavior due to previous feeding, often times by tourists. This leads to a gathering of lizards, causing crowding and competition. These unnatural conditions increase the chance of fighting and injury among the lizards. It may also increase the spread of diseases, some of which could be transmitted to us as well. Moreover, if feeding is regular, it may lead to a shift in the ecosystem's balance due to less feeding on the animals' natural food source. And lastly, feeding wild animals sometimes results in people getting bitten by an animal that mistakes a finger or a toe for food!

Another example is feeding donkeys from the car. It all looks fun to do and many tourists cannot resist the temptation to stop on the roadside to observe and feed them. These actions, although they seem harmless, result in the donkeys not being fearful of humans and cars. Donkeys are more often on and near roads and sometimes get struck by vehicles, which is terrible for both donkeys and people. The feeding of donkeys may also



lead to property damage if fed near houses, because donkeys will start looking for food on people's properties.

From these examples, you can understand why feeding wild animals puts the animals more at risk rather than helps them. No matter how cute and adorable they seem, they are still wild and we should remember the risks to their welfare and resist the temptation of feeding them. ■

Story by Thijs van Wuijckhuijse, STINAPA Assistant Biologist. Connecting people with nature birds.



ily from dry seeds. Just put two seeds in a cup full of black dirt. Water once every three days and after about two weeks the young plants will come out. Let them grow 10 cm. tall, then put them in bigger pots. Once they are about a half meter tall you can put them in the yard.

I have the orange, pink and off-white colors in my yard and in pots. To get more branches with flowers, chop off the stems with seeds and you get a bouquet of

flowers again and again.

And if you want to say something special to someone—just say it with a bouquet of these beautiful creations of nature. It always feels sweet. ■

Story & photos by Angliet, Nature



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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, near Warehouse Bonaire, locally made and grown products.

• **Marshe di Kunukero (Farmers Market) at Kriabon-First Saturday of the Month.** Kaminda Jatu Baco #55, next to Aquamarin School, 8am-12noon

• **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

• **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.

Cruise Ships

DAY	DATE	NAME	ARR/DEP	CAP	C.LINE
Mon	8-May	<i>Adventure of the</i>	0800-	3114	RCCL
Tue	9-May	<i>Zenith</i>	0700-1800	1828	CEL
Wed	10-May	<i>Carnival Sunshine</i>	0800-1600	2974	Carnival CL
Thu	11-May	<i>Equinox</i>	0700-1600	2850	CEL
Tue	16-May	<i>Zenith</i>	0700-1800	1828	CEL
Tue	23-May	<i>Zenith</i>	0700-1800	1828	CEL

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 Cruxita 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 Cochran-Herrera at

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

CLOSE-IN EVENTS

Exhibitions

-Photographs of Lorenzo Mittiga, Terramar Museum

-*Stormvogel* Salute to the Sailors maritime photo exhibit at the Plaza Resort, sponsored by Bonaire Marine Heritage Foundation and the Prins Bernard Cultural Funds

Yana's Fine Art Museum at Lagoen Hill 19- Call for appointment: 599 785-5002

Events

Tuesday, May 9 -Presentation - Identification of Common Birds. Join Caren Eckrich, STINAPA biologist, 7 pm at CIEE. Free, everyone welcome.

Saturday May 13 —STINAPA bird-watching event for Bird's Global Big Day, 4-6 pm. Call to reserve 717-8444 as space is limited.

—Free Seminar, Dr. Rajesh Kotechta: "Ayurveda as a Total Health Lifestyle," 9am-12noon, Go Green Center, Kaya Gob. Debrot 19. Poster on page 9.

Sunday, May 14 —Mother's Day —Bonaire Culinary Team Fundraising Dinner at Courtyard at Marriott. Poster on page 8

— **International Sax Festival**—with Henk van Twillert, Vento del Norte and local celebrities at Wilhelmina Park at 7 pm. Free admission. Sponsored by CMBB. Poster on page 14

Friday, May 19 —Celebrate the International Day of the Family at Sentro Hubentut i Famia. 5:30pm. Food & drink begin at 6pm. Call 715-7200 or visit the center at Kaya Princess to sign up your family. Free.

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Bonaire-Sun Rise/Set, Moon Phase and Tides

Day	High	Low	High	Low	High	Sunrise	Sunset
Mon 08		07:17	11:43	17:17	23:59		
		0.01 ft	0.22 ft	0.05 ft	0.70 ft	6:13	18:51
Tue 09		08:35	13:32	17:28			
		-0.05 ft	0.16 ft	0.12 ft		6:13	18:51
Wed 10	00:38	09:41			Full Moon		
	0.72 ft	-0.12 ft				6:12	18:51
Thu 11	01:16	10:32					
	0.74 ft	-0.17 ft				6:12	18:51
Fri 12	01:53	11:14					
	0.75 ft	-0.21 ft				6:12	18:52
Sat 13	02:30	11:49					
	0.75 ft	-0.24 ft				6:12	18:52
Sun 14	03:06	12:19					
	0.76 ft	-0.25 ft				6:11	18:52
Mon 15	03:44	12:47					
	0.76 ft	-0.26 ft				6:11	18:52
Tue 16	04:22	13:12	19:50	22:50			
	0.75 ft	-0.26 ft	0.30 ft	0.28 ft		6:11	18:53
Wed 17	05:00	13:36	19:53				
	0.73 ft	-0.25 ft	0.34 ft			6:11	18:53
Thu 18	L Quarter	00:03	05:40	13:58	20:07		
		0.26 ft	0.69 ft	-0.23 ft	0.40 ft	6:10	18:53
Fri 19		01:13	06:22	14:21	20:29		
	0.24 ft	0.63 ft	-0.21 ft	0.49 ft		6:10	18:53
Sat 20		02:23	07:07	14:44	20:58		
	0.20 ft	0.54 ft	-0.19 ft	0.60 ft		6:10	18:54
Sun 21		03:37	07:57	15:09	21:34		
	0.16 ft	0.43 ft	-0.17 ft	0.71 ft		6:10	18:54
Mon 22		04:55	08:55	15:37	22:15		
	0.09 ft	0.32 ft	-0.14 ft	0.83 ft		6:10	18:54

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Pet Of The Week Shelter News



Beautiful "Panda" all grown up



"Panda" as a baby (far left) with her siblings

Sweet girl Panda arrived together with her two siblings almost one year ago at the Animal Shelter Bonaire. While her brother and sister found new life long families....Panda is still waiting for the right one to take her home. Panda is like a nanny at the Shelter. She lives together with all the puppies who come into the Shelter and she takes great care of them.

Panda is an amazing well behaved girl, who loves attention, loves to play and loves kids. She will be the perfect family dog!

Are you looking for a life-long friend, who is easy going and always

happy, visit the Animal Shelter Bonaire at Kaminda Lagun 26a and meet Panda! For more information call 701 4989. E-mail to animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com

All the animals up for adoption at the Animal Shelter Bonaire are healthy and social. They're treated against ticks and fleas, are dewormed, vaccinated, micro chipped and spayed or neutered. ■ Story & photos by Nathalie Peterson



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RECOGNITION

We are happy to announce that The Animal Shelter Bonaire is officially acknowledged as an official Dutch recognized teaching institution for animal management and animal care taking.

The Shelter provides students with the best possible practical training with a view to gaining employment in the future. We love to make an important contribution to the content and quality of offered training programs that make it possible to give youngsters a great future and the animals a better life!! ■ Nathalie Peterson

Pakus di Pruga



Have you discovered the Animal Shelter Bonaire's Flea Market, Pakus di Pruga? It's loaded with all sort of fascinating things that people have dropped off to benefit the Animal Shelter Bonaire. There is furniture, clothing, bric a brac, children's toys, garden equipment and always lots and lots of books arranged in a beautiful, library-like order by a devoted volunteer. You never know quite what you'll find there. And everything is pretty much "dirt cheap."

It's open every Saturday, from 8 am to 5 pm, non-stop, and manned by devoted volunteers.

It's located on Kaminda Liberador Simon Bolivar, across the street from Brandaris Café.

At the Shelter itself there is a pet shop with all sorts of items for cats and dogs: toys, leashes, collars, scratching posts, and other pet needs. Again prices are low, low, low as all the items have been donated, so 100% of the profit goes to the Shelter. The Shelter's phone numbers are 701-4989 or 717-4989. ■ Laura DeSalvo

classicalmusicboardbonaire

Internationaal sax festival

met
Henk van Twillert & Vento do Norte

13 mei: Waterparade
14 mei: concert Wilhelminaplein
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Gebby Mercera, drums
Saxgroep Caroline de Jong
Winnares voice of Bonaire:
Nelly Kopylova

15 mei: Schoolconcert
16 mei: Schoolconcert

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THE STARS HAVE IT

April 2017

ARIES (Mar. 21- April 20) Try not to hang out with coworkers if you wish to avoid problems later. Trips will be favorable for business as well as pleasure. Love could develop at social events that are work relate. You can look around for the right place and enlist some of your friends to help you move. Your lucky day this month will be Friday.

TAURUS (Apr. 21- May 21) You have a real need to be vocal. You may have to take a short trip to visit someone who hasn't been well. You may be emotional and quick to judge others. You can enjoy short trips. Your lucky day this month will be Saturday.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21) Try to keep ahead of the game. Don't reveal any personal details. You will be in a high cycle regarding work. Be cautious who you deal with financially. Your lucky day this month will be Monday.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) Romance is quite possible if you are willing to approach someone who interests you. New romantic partners may attend a function that puts you in the limelight. Get involved in physical activities that will stimulate you. This could be a difficult day to deal with coworkers. Your lucky day this month will be Tuesday.

LEO (July 23-Aug 22) Your temper may get the better of you if a colleague has tried to ruin your reputation. Don't be too quick to sign documents. You'll have amazing ideas, but superiors may try to block your attempts at implementing them. Opposition is present and you should be prepared to counteract it as best you can. Your lucky day this month will be Tuesday.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) You must lay down ground rules so that you can complete a job. Make money using your ingenuity and creative talent. Be innovative. You can look around for the right place and enlist some of your friends to help you move. Your lucky day this month will be Monday.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) Remain calm and you'll shine. Passion should be your goal. Taking on too much won't help the situation. Favors will be offered readily. A quiet restful day just staying in bed or catching up on reading will be your best bet. Your lucky day this month will be Wednesday.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) You may be frazzled this month. Try to visit friends or relatives you don't get to see often. Find out more, if you want to start your own business. You can make a big difference to children if you are understanding of the difficulties they are experiencing. Your lucky day this month will be Wednesday.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) Try not to get into disputes that will lead to estrangements. You have your own family to consider as well. Go after your professional goals. You will learn a great deal from people with different cultural backgrounds. Don't believe everything you hear. Your lucky day this month will be Saturday.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) This will not be the day to have minor surgery. You can make some money if you get involved in a conservative financial prospect that is presented to you. Gambling will be a waste of time and money. Do your job and don't ask for favors. Your lucky day this month will be Saturday.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) Don't exaggerate. Your sensitive nature will allow others to read you well. You may be out of sorts If you have been extravagant or have let children or friends take advantage of you financially. To avoid any minor health problems, don't get too stressed. Your lucky day this month will be Monday.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) Don't let your jealous imagination play games with you. Take care of any paperwork concerning institutional or governmental agencies. Visit friends you don't get to see that often. Don't be too quick to spend money. Your lucky day this month will be Sunday. ■ *SunSigns Horoscope*

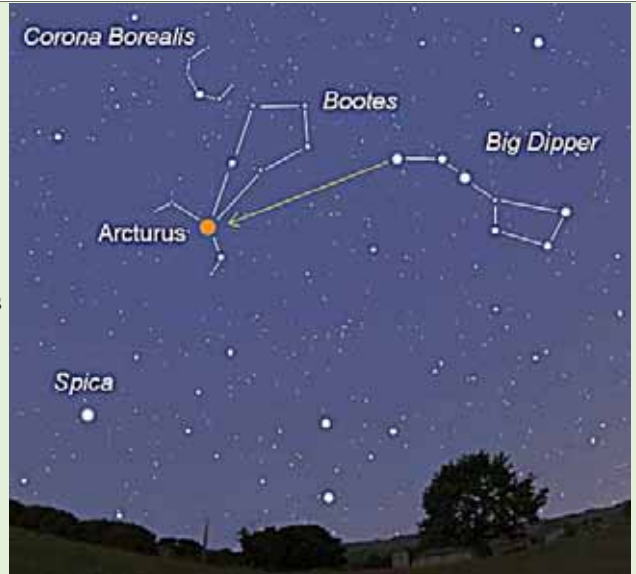


BONAIRE SKY PARK*

*to find it... just look up

Follow The Arc To Arcturus

In this edition we're going to do a little star hopping and discover new stars and constellations. Our jumping-off point will be the **Big Dipper**— the most recognizable star pattern in all the northern sky — visible almost all year-round. This will be our guide to the heavens. First it'll point us to the **North Star**... then show us the way to the bright orange star **Arcturus**... then speed us to the brilliant blue star **Spica**. And we'll even meet a planet along the way.



Around 10pm face northeast where we see the Big Dipper high above the North Star. If its cup was full of water it'd be pouring right into the Little Dipper. Now if we shoot an arrow through the two stars on the end of the Big Dipper's cup, and continue that line, it'll run smack dab into the North Star, **Polaris**.

Now let's use the Big Dipper's handle to find two more wonderful stars. Simply draw an imaginary line through the handle of the Big Dipper and extend it out along the curve, or arc, and you'll arc your way to the bright star, Arcturus. In other words, **follow the arc to Arcturus then speed on to Spica**. It's a ditty navigators use to remember where to look when at sea.

Arcturus is the brightest star in the **constellation Bootes the Herdsman**. His outline looks more like a narrow kite... or an ice cream cone on its side. After you arc to Arcturus, keep going. Straighten out the arc a bit and you will run into a brilliant blue star called Spica. Spica is the brightest star in the **constellation Virgo the Maiden**. She's standing upright and covers most of the eastern sky.

Let's compare Arcturus and Spica to our star — **Sol the Sun**. Arcturus is relatively close to us - only 37 light years away. Spica is about 7 times farther - around

261 light years. The Sun, on the other hand, is only eight light minutes away.

Let's size these three stars up. The Sun is about 865,000 miles in diameter. That's large enough for 109 **Earths** to stretch end to end across its width. But that's nothing compared to Spica which is over seven times wider than our Sun, and Arcturus which is over 25 times wider.

The arc-to-Arcturus and speed-on-to-Spica trick works every spring, but this year we have something extra. There's also a really, really bright light in the mix that should distract you. It's way brighter than Spica and is actually a planet! It shines with a steady, cream-colored glow just above blue Spica. It is **Jupiter**, the largest planet in the solar system.

Through a backyard telescope we can see four of its moons, stripes on the surface, and on rare occasions, the great red spot. Astronomers have been watching the great red spot and have seen some changes recently. It used to be a giant oval-shaped storm the size of three Earths. But now it's shrinking! Shrinking fast! If this keeps up, the great red spot could fade away. So be sure to go see it this year - just in case. . ■

Dean Regas & James Albury



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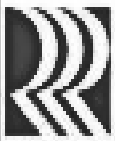
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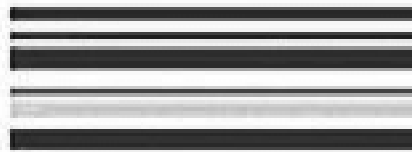
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