

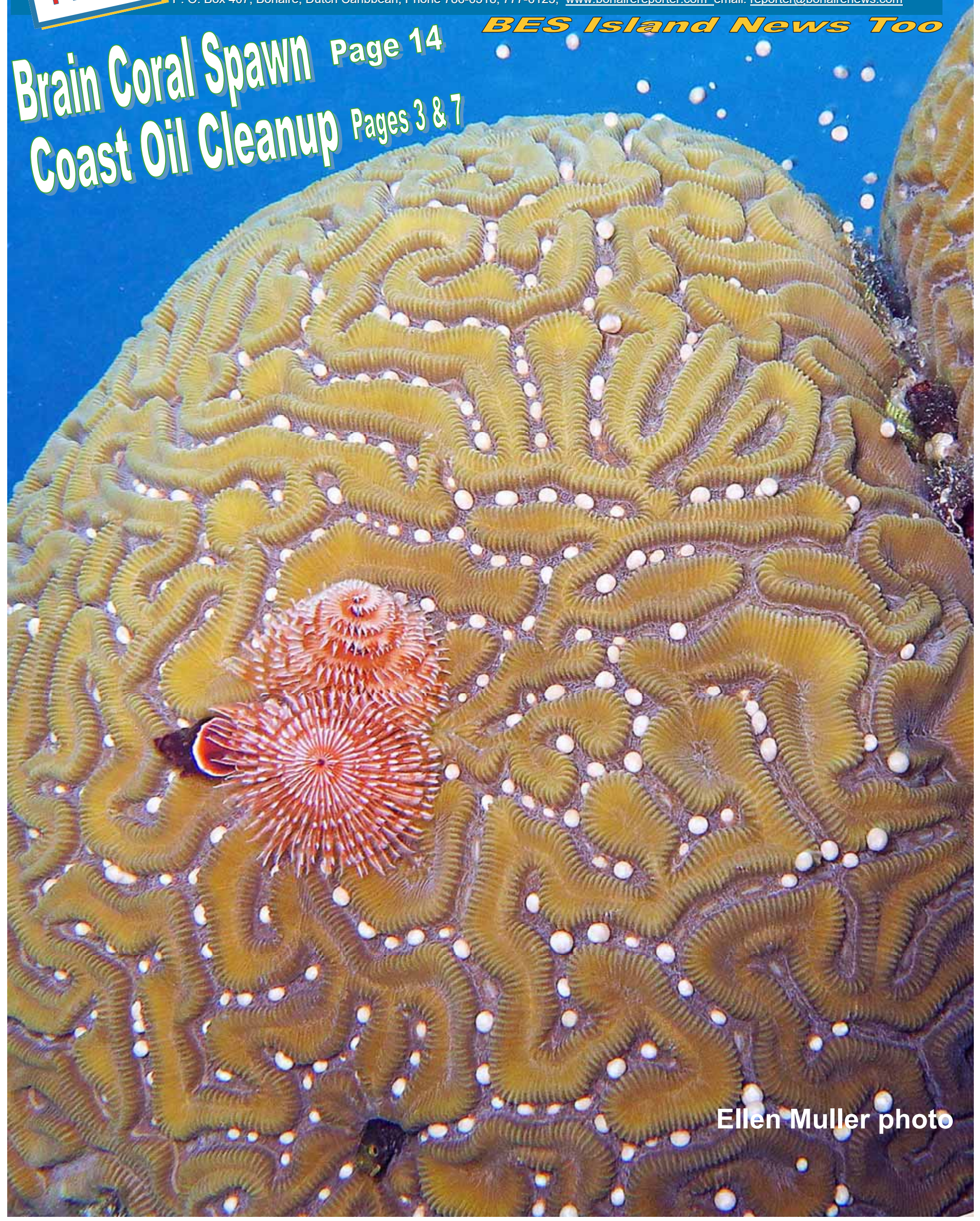
**It's Still  
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**BONAIRE** June 5 - July 2, 2017, Year 24, Issue 11  
**The REPORTER**

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**BES Island News Too**

**Brain Coral Spawn** Page 14  
**Coast Oil Cleanup** Pages 3 & 7



Ellen Muller photo



When MPB leader Elvis Tjin-Asjoe dissolved the former coalition, a new one was formed as reported in the last issue of *The Reporter*. Now the three current factions partners will each have one - still to be officially named - commissioner.

While we can't give you the names of the commissioners of the different local government departments, we can tell you which party has the responsibility:

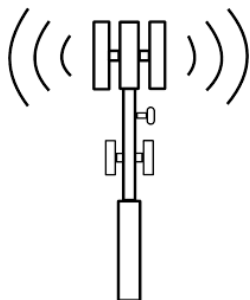
The **nominee of MPB** will be in charge of Social Affairs and Wellbeing, Health Care, Education and Culture, Labor, Civil Services, Personnel and Organization, as well as the Socio-economic Agenda.

**Clark Abraham's** representative in the Executive Council is to handle Economic Development, Tourism and Investment, General and Judicial Affairs (including constitutional structure), Finance, ICT, Communication, Post and Archives, Facility Matters, Sports Policy, Supervision and Enforcement.

**Nunu Rafela's** nominee will take care of Spatial Planning, Infrastructure, Urban Development and Domain, Public Housing, Traffic and Transport, Agriculture, Fisheries and Livestock, Environmental and Nature Management, Sustainable Waste Processing and Sports Affairs.

► **Bonaire resident families who have a household income of less than or equal to \$1468 per month can get government subsidies to help pay for their elementary or secondary student's school uniform and supplies.** The first deadline for applying has passed, but if you or someone you know are eligible contact Semaya Dortalina Martina at 717-2211 or they can come personally to the office at Kaya Neerlandia 41.

► If you encounter **slow mobile internet or dropped calls, the Agentschap Telecom (Radio Agency Netherlands), the telecom regulator for Bonaire, Sint Eustatius and Saba, explains that the cause may not always be because of problems with the local cell-phone**



company.

Weather conditions, buildings, the landscape and radiation of the sun all have their influence on the way radio signals travel.

If you would like to check if problem conditions are probable, you can find a prediction on the following website: [www.dxinforcentre.com/tropo\\_car.html](http://www.dxinforcentre.com/tropo_car.html)



**Signing the Hospice contract (left to right): Theo Braeken, Tania Kokelkoren (Director Kas Flamboyan), Arnoud Boesten (Chief ZVK), Evelyn Betancourt-Anthony and Jodeska Cicilia.**

► **Hospice care is now available on Bonaire.** Recently, the Health Insurance Office (ZVK) signed a contract with the Hospice Bonaire Foundation for providing palliative care to people who are ill and in the final stages of their life. The palliative care will be provided by volunteers affiliated with Kas Flamboyan.

Palliative care provides the patient with the highest possible quality of life when the patient's illness appears to be incurable. In palliative care, attention is paid not only to the physical complaints that patients may suffer during the course of the illness, but also to the psychological, social and / or spiritual problems that may occur with the patient and / or his neighbors.

The board of the Hospice Bonaire Foundation consists of **Evelyn Betancourt-Anthony**, Chairman, **Jodeska Cicilia**, Secretary and **Theo Braeken**, Treasurer.

► **For just under \$600, Sunwing, a Canadian airline, will fly Toronto to Bonaire every Sunday beginning mid-December 2017 with a 189-seat Boeing 737.** Now if another airline will do the same from other American cities....

► **Save The Date:** By popular demand, Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire (STCB) will be organizing another Fundraising

Auction this year. The Auction will take place at El Encanto Boutique Hotel (formerly Hotel Roomer) on the evening of **November 25, 2017.**

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► **Here are the consumer prices for fuels for June.** There has been a creep up in prices in recent months. Prices are set by the government monthly

Mogas 95	106.00	USDct per liter.
Kerosine	51.00	USDct per liter.
Diesel	63.50	USDct per liter.
LPG 100LBS	28.50	USD per cilinder.
LPG 20LBS	7.42	USD per cilinder



► On course for a gold medal in Miami, the 2017 Bonaire Culinary Team: **Miguel Alfredo Saragoza, Maria Luisa Maestroni, Sherundly Bernabela, Dustin Libiee, Kelvin Ariel Ventura, Danny Klein and Floris van Loo-** at Flamingo International Airport. As we go to press the team is preparing their entries at the Taste of the Caribbean event.

► **There will be just this one edition of The Reporter in June, vacation time.** The next issue will be out on July 2. ■

G.D. /L.D.

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# Coming Together For Coastal Cleanup



## COASTAL CLEANUP - VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE BRINGS AWARENESS

I love Bonaire. When I read about the call for volunteers, I was grateful for the opportunity. Social media is a great megaphone.

My experience, coordinated by STINAPA, began with a briefing by group leader Janece Garrison and Wijnand de Wolf, Marine Park manager.

The clean up procedure and designated work zone for the morning was explained to the 40-50 gathered volunteers.

The Harbormaster brought protective and recovery equipment supplied by the Ministry of I&M: white HAZMAT paper/plastic full body suits, heavy red rubber gloves, black boots and paint scrapers. Not glamorous but much appreciated, although the protective plastic lining looked like it could be hot?

Further, it was explained that our focus was to clean up the oil (globs of black tar goop) on the shore and place it in heavy plastic bags. Trash debris could be placed in blue bags, but that was secondary to our mission.

Trash was to be separated from the toxic tar to be able to calculate the damage. SELIBON was to collect the waste, weigh it and store it separately.

We were given a phone number to report a bird or animal in distress and instructed to take a photo to report large patches of oil/tar. Having arrived at the cleanup site, SPF 50, HAZMAT gear on (sans the black boots which were too big and heavy to navigate the steep stony East Coast slopes) paint scraper in hand, let the cleaning begin.

Well, scraping really...it seems impossible to clean it? It's not like a ball just lying there that one can toss in a bag. The black tar goo sticks to everything. It sticks to my scraper, my gloves, my shoes, my hair. My hair?

Did I mention the HAZMAT suits are hot? My own personal sauna.

Plastic debris, blown ashore, came in handy as containers to scrape the black tar goo onto before tossing it in the collection bag. Seaweed loved the goo and grabbed clusters of small coral rocks into a formidable glob.

Tossed it in the bag.

A flock of flamingos and a few seabirds flew overhead and I was thankful they prefer waveless water. As I scraped I wondered if more oil globs were going to wash ashore or if the volunteer efforts of this week will take care of the mess?

I scraped more tar goo off a large rock and what was left behind turned to oil. It's only 9:30 am. Hot and windy. My mind wanders doing this work, it seems ironic that what

we're trying to do on Bonaire is live a sustainable lifestyle with a long history of nature preservation and now somebody "upstream" is having problems that could be devastating to us.

So, what began as my effort to simply help out does impact me enough to be curious and concerned about who caused this incident? "Petrotrin Oil Spill April 23, Trinidad." We should keep abreast of all reports and developments attributed to this news. There is reason to believe there is more to this story...

But, I digress, Bonaire has a way of touching everyone who experiences her pristine waters and tranquil ambience. Eco-friendly activities abound. Conservation and preservation is Bonaire's middle name.

I would encourage all who would like to help with clean ups to do so. Wear SPF 50+, sunglasses, old heavy shoes, old clothes, ball cap or visor. Bring water. Sign up on FB, STINAPA Bonaire or email [volunteer@stinapa.org](mailto:volunteer@stinapa.org)

Many thanks to STINAPA, STCB, BNMP, Jr. Rangers, Dutch Marines, the Island government, Harbormaster, I&M, SELIBON and all volunteers.

■ Michelle Craig  
More on pg. 7.



Bonaire's Junior Rangers started it all. When tar balls from a ruptured storage tank in Trinidad reached our island's east coast the Rangers mobilized to clean them up. But, when it became clear that the job was bigger than expected, STINAPA sent out a call for more volunteers. And scores of people responded. (photo above)

The government provided special clothes and gear, training sessions were conducted and the work began and still continues. Bonaire's waters are almost sacred to the people who live on the island. Protection of nature is a key element in creating the environment that attracts tourism, the island's key industry. The coastal zone of Bonaire is a national park teeming with fish and sea birds. Mangroves line the protected coastline providing nurseries for them all.

Dozens of the volunteers, garbed head to toe in hazardous-materials suits, worked in the hot sun, picking blobs of oil from the sand and digging out tar balls from the coral rubble. SELIBON, Bonaire's waste management company, constructed a sealed-soil compound in the landfill to hold the dumpster loads of goeey waste.

Fortunately the government and STINAPA reported no contamination of the western shoreline, where the majority of recreational activities, like swimming, snorkeling or diving happen. At press time the east coast beaches of Lac, Sorobon, Lagun and Washikemba are largely clean but monitoring and cleanup continue as some tar is still arriving. For more information see the story at right and more on page 7. ■ G.D.

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# On the Island Since... November 2013 - Luise Maria van Lieshout

A Bonaire Reporter regular feature since 2001

“A friend of mine was talking about Bonaire and after he left I looked it up on the internet. When I saw the images, my whole being said ‘yes’ and for the first time in years I was feeling good about my future. My mom was so thrilled that I was finally looking forward to something that she told me she would sponsor me! My mother is totally adorable and such a positive person. She would never say, ‘Don’t do this’ or ‘Be careful’ and I don’t have to visit her for Christmas or call her for her birthday – as long as she knows I am doing ok – that’s all she’s asking for.

Four weeks later I arrived on Bonaire. I’d never been here and I didn’t know anyone on the island. I just wanted everything in my life to be different. And even though I was still walking on crutches and not yet recovered from a long period of ‘I don’t know what’, I knew I was alright. I felt at home before I even set foot on land; everything fell into place and then my new life began.

I founded ‘De Schrijfclub’ (The Writing Club) – an ongoing writing course. Every Monday night from 7 to 9:30 pm, we meet at Bonaire Basics on Kaya Korona. The fee is \$15 per class and people’s stories are being published in the *Amigoe* newspaper every Saturday. It is fun! Recently we also started with ‘Beasts of Bonaire,’ a Facebook page where animals get a voice. People can post pictures of their pets and let them speak for themselves, in any language they want.

What I find fascinating and awesome is that it makes me realize that the love for writing – something I feel so strongly about – can be found in others too. When I teach a class telling them for instance they should use as few adjectives as possible and use verbs instead, you see them looking at you in such concentration. Then they tell you ‘what a great tip!’ and they are just as excited as I am!

I also started working at the prison as a writing teacher, teaching the prisoners to write creative stories. Most of the stories they write are true stories. They themselves choose in what language they want to write: Papiamentu, Spanish, English or Dutch.

It’s a challenge because many people think they cannot write, but it’s not about how you use the language or whether you master it. It’s about the story itself and the feeling behind it. When they let me read it, I mostly advise them to be more detailed: how it smelled, what it looked like, the way it sounded, how did it feel and what were they thinking. Only then are you really painting a picture in the reader’s mind. Because the reader wants to experience the story, wants to be inside it, feeling all his



Luise Maria and Charlie

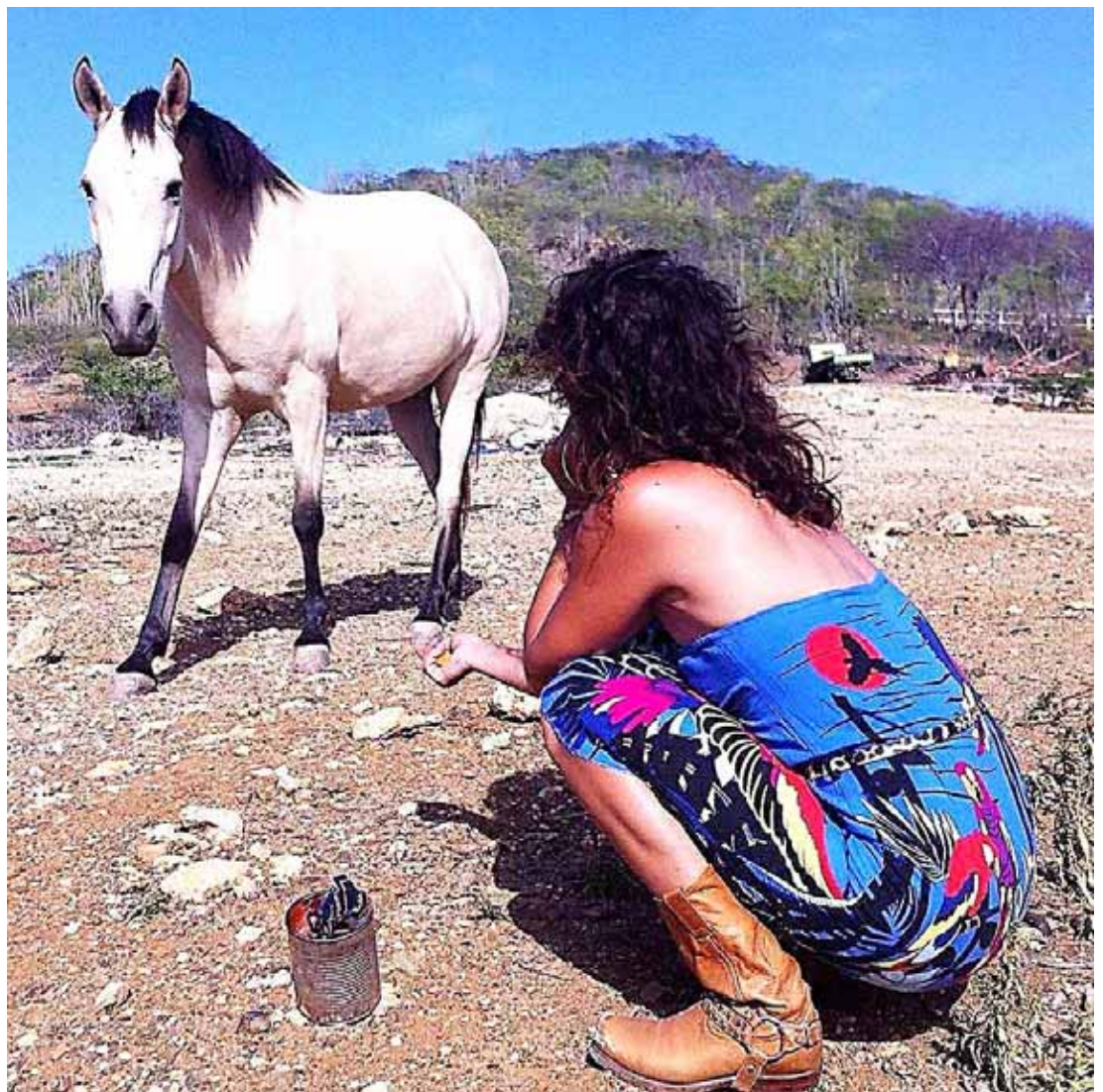
or her senses quivering, vibrating.

The way I see it, all the people who are in prison are people like you and me, but the majority of these people carry an immense sadness within them. From the time when they were very little they’ve been hiding their sorrow in order to survive. And the thing is they often don’t know that themselves. When you’ve been badly hurt as a child and you’ve put that pain aside and moved on, it is not surprising that one day you flip and life becomes total chaos. And then, when it has passed, you should be rebuilt.

I believe in building up people so they know who they are and what they want and what they are capable of. There needs to be love but also attention and guidance to get them back on their feet again. They have to know they are worth being loved.

Well, in Holland I was always a writer in advertising and magazines. Here I write folders and websites for companies or people who are making their dreams come true. Altogether my income is just enough to survive. I live in a house where I don’t have to pay rent and in exchange I take care of the owner’s horses twice a day. I feed them and clean the stables. I prefer shoveling horse shit to having a lousy job at an office. It’s funny, because in the past I never liked animals. I found them stupid and dirty and irritating and mostly pathetic. My dad never got over the death of his two Scottish Terriers and we were not allowed to have any pets as I was growing up. Maybe I’ve been carrying my dad’s trauma all along.

Charlie had been following me for three weeks before I finally noticed him. I guess I never saw him because I was so not into dogs. At the time I lived in a container and somehow he was always around, strategically positioned. When I talked to myself he would wiggle his tail. One day I took a good look at him and thought, ‘Damn! You are right! We belong together!’ Now he is the light of my day. I know he knows I saved him and I know now what it feels like to love an animal. When I think of it, I knew all along that it wasn’t right that I didn’t love ani-



With a friend

mals. But now I really feel what I was missing. So now I am living with Charlie. I am a soloist together with Charlie.

I feel... I’ve learned to develop my intuition and I make my decisions fully intuitively. Your body delivers signals and I have refined the contact with my body and

hard, I played hard and I partied even harder. The music was never too loud for me. It had to be deafening - always. It was an awful lot of fun and it was extreme. And then, one day, it was over.

I’m writing a book called ‘*De Slaaf en de Dienaar*’ – ‘The Slave and the Servant’ - and I am almost

sing a song, I see his ears focusing and his face opening up completely. There is nothing in the world that can compete with it. It tears me up.

I am very grateful that I’m here on Bonaire, that I get to experience, to explore and discover life once more. Here it’s not so loud. You’re not being screamed away from yourself. In western society it has become hard to listen to your inner voice. I had such a need for a small community where it is quiet and warm - also because for 40 years I’ve had cold feet.

I was able to start anew quietly and it gave me a very special feeling that will last forever. After an extreme and severe life I came to a tropical island – of which I didn’t know the ins and outs – because I only saw what I needed so badly: a small life. That’s what I wanted and that’s what I have now.”

■ Story & photos by Greta Kooistra



To contact Luise Maria:

www.luisamariavanlieshout.wordpress.com or go to FB pages: de SchrijfClub Bonaire or to: Beasts of Bonaire or to her own page: Luise Maria van Lieshout.

**“I believe in building up people so they know who they are and what they want and what they are capable of.”**

when I feel something is physically not right, I concentrate on that point – a pain, or a cramp, or a little nuisance – and then I discover for instance that I made a decision which is not good for me and I cancel it. To me, intuition is the same as God’s voice. It’s the language of a higher power which speaks through your body. But you have to learn the language, just like any other language. When I do something that’s not right, I feel physically bad. In fact it’s a good system because I have to follow my inner voice. It’s either this or self-destruction. I cannot make any concessions because in my previous life, when I didn’t know how to listen to signals, I just headed off to death, frankly.

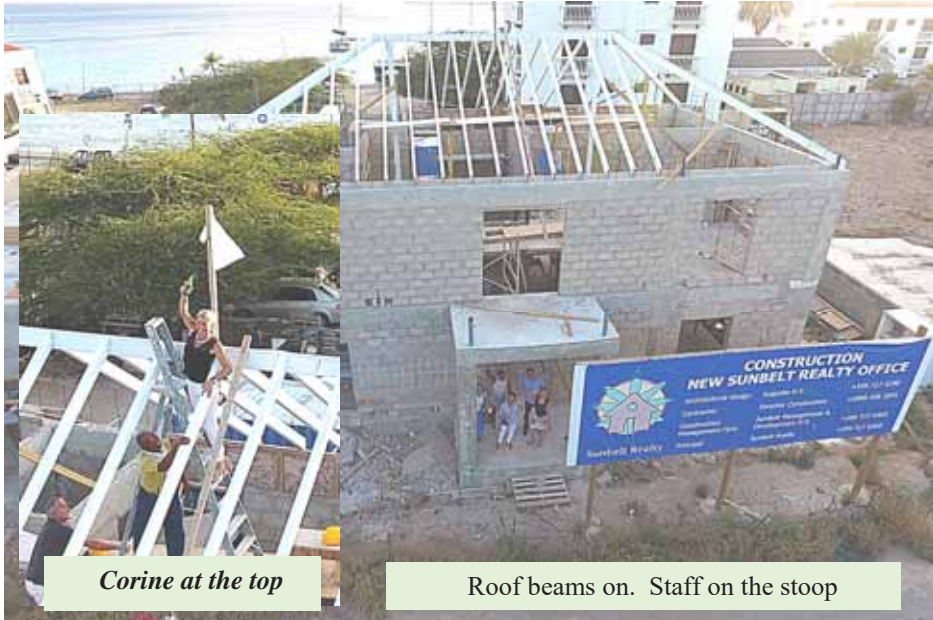
Before I started this life, I had many solid friendships. I worked

finished. I still don’t know if I should publish it myself or look for a publisher. But I believe things will come your way if you’re open to them. Everything will come in its own time. If you listen carefully, you never have to worry about anything. It’s one huge cliché, but it does work like that.

Presently I’m living together with silence, my dog and the horses. Every morning I get up at five to meditate or something similar to it, haha! Then I go for a walk with my dog. Then I shovel shit. Subsequently I work on my book with the soothing sound of horses eating in the background. Maybe one day all this will change, but for now it is alright. When the horse puts his head next to my face, touching my cheek and I feel his nostrils quiver, and then, when I



## New Sunbelt Office Reaches Highest Point



Corine at the top

Roof beams on. Staff on the stoop

On Friday June 2nd, Sunbelt Realty celebrated in proper manner (with traditional 'panten or pannenbier') the fact that the highest point was reached of the construction of its brand new office, located at the Kaya Grandi 41. This milestone could not be left unnoticed, and the construction team of contractor Kenchi Construction was placed in the spotlight by the proud Sunbelt Realty management and the entire team.

The new office will be a stylish mix of a genuine Bonairean land house and a contemporary office. At the new location, the Sunbelt Realty office will be more easily accessible, have more exposure and clients can be welcomed with greater hospitality and style.

There will be more space to display all

listed homes and condos. The display style will be brought to a higher level with state-of-the-art technology in order to enhance traffic of potential customers.

The expected opening is planned for the second half of this year.

Sunbelt Realty has been the leading real estate office on Bonaire for the last 24 years. Our extensive local and international experience in real estate and knowledge of the island allows us to assist buyers, sellers, investors, renters and landlords in choosing the right "piece of paradise."

Sunbelt Realty has the largest number of listings. Appraisals are done by a sworn broker/appraiser. Our multilingual staff has extensive knowledge of the local real estate market and offers personal attention and advice. ■ *Press release*

On Sunday, June 11th, there will be an open day at the Washington Slagbaai National Park. All are invited with free entry. The administrative company, **De Brandaris B.V.**, is sponsoring a **Mountain Bike Fun Race in the Park**. The fun race starts 15 minutes earlier than normal, at 07:45. The race starts and ends at the Park entrance where there is plenty of parking. After the race you can visit various activities of the park. There are two routes, 23 and 32km. At Slagbaai there is a stand with water and fruit. For more information, please contact De Freewieler bike shop. Advert below. Last week there was a very exciting fun race in Jatu Bacu. A scant second separated the leading riders, 2 seconds for the third! Results below. ■ *Press release*

28 mei 2017		Jatu Bacu Race 30 May, 2017 Results			
Naam	Ronde 1	Ronde 2	Eindtijd		
1 Virgilio Batista	30.19	1.00.27	1.30.15		
2 Nick Ruhe	30.20	1.00.28	1.30.16		
3 Frank Bohm	30.18	1.03.19	1.36.01		
4 Arnold Koolen	32.21	1.06.52	1.41.54		
5 Lucienne Dekker	32.05	1.07.06	1.44.20		
6 Wotty de Palm	32.35	1.09.08	1.47.10		
Ahmed Prince	33.50	1.18.40			
<b>Short Course</b>					
Naam	Ronde 1	Ronde 2	Ronde 3	Eindtijd	
1 Andrea Magni	11.32	25.29	38.47	52.30	
2 John v.h. Hof	11.33	25.30	39.01	53.24	
3 Ronald Neuman	12.57	26.21	40.37	55.20	
4 Erik Ruhe	13.33	28.04	42.58	58.18	
5 Sedney Marten	13.03	28.11	44.18	1.00.47	
6 Janny Tjalma	13.16	28.26	44.44	1.00.48	
7 Gemma v.d. Linde	14.32	30.08	44.59	1.01.32	
7 Bianca Kranen	14.32	30.08	44.59	1.01.32	
8 Aguilés Francees	15.19	31.24	49.18	1.07.20	
Eric v.d. Keuken	11.34	28.09	44.22	59.12	
Ruud Masker	32.58	1.09.08	1.47.10		
Henri Protuijt	32.22	57.59	1.25.32		



**Roderik Six**, writer for *The Bonaire Reporter* won **The West Flemish Prize for Literature** for his latest novel **Val**. The prize, consisting of a gold medal and a cheque, is awarded only once every three years. The jury was impressed by "this dark novel that reminds us of the work of Cormac McCarthy and has the filmic qualities of series like Twin Peaks and True Detective."

The proclamation took place in the Concert Hall of Bruges - a modern landmark in the otherwise medieval city - and was embedded in a larger literary festival called BruTaal that went on for 10 days. Famous Dutch writers as **Arnon Grunberg**, **Herman Koch** and **Cees Nooteboom** were present and provided the audience with talks, interviews and readings.

After the proclamation, Six went on a book tour, visiting independent bookstores where he was interviewed by Ann De Bie, a Belgian journalist who works for national television. ■ *Press Release*



## The Bird Tree - A Little Bit of Happiness



When I moved to the island 17 years ago I didn't really know about The Bird Tree. I had seen it, but it was a tree like any other to me, although it was peculiar that it was standing in the middle of a parking lot in the middle of Kralendijk. Back then the parking lot wasn't a serious parking lot; there were hardly any cars to park.

A couple of years later I started working in an office in Kralendijk. At 8:30am I parked my car, which by then was a busy parking lot.

I finished work at 5:30 in the afternoon, and then for the first time I started really noticing The Bird Tree. By the time I was done with all the hustle and bustle that came with the job, the birds were getting ready to go to bed. All the "city birds" seemed to go to bed in the same tree, the tree in the middle of the parking lot.

They appeared not to care about deadlines, money, color of skin, politics, abuse of alcohol and drugs, lack of parking lot space or any other human worry. They just wanted to go to bed, in their tree, together.

I still don't know what they exactly do just before they go to bed, but they make a lot of noise. They sing, maybe talk about their day, fight about who gets to

get the best spot in the tree. It is a mystery to me. But everyday, whatever happened that day, they made me go home smiling.

After a couple of years I started working in a bar. Sometimes I went home at 5:30 in the morning, and when I passed The Bird Tree the birds were just waking up. Same ritual it appeared and nothing in the world could make me more happy than hearing them doing their thing in the middle of the sometimes evil night. Every single day the same ritual at 5:30 AM and 5:30 PM. The tree fills with birds after a hard day of work, and in the morning they wake up and start all over again.

That, my dear Bonaire friends is what life is really about I think. Just do your thing every morning and night. Make sure you have a good night's sleep in between. Live next to each other in peace. And if you are really lucky you make somebody really happy in life. Like the birds in The Bird Tree do to me!

We can't always change the world like we want to, or change the way some people think if you wish. But if you have a minute, take some time to take a look at our Bird Tree and listen, stop, enjoy and then go on with your life again, in peace, happily living together on our small, beautiful island, just like the birds. ■

*Anonymous*

## Picture Yourself With The Reporter In Orzysz, Poland

**L**t. Alexandra Baker holds a copy of *The Bonaire Reporter* in front of a Stryker, an Infantry Carrier Vehicle, while on deployment in Orzysz, Poland. Helping her hold the Go Army banner is her fiancé, Lt. Granath Musson. Alexandra and Granath each have their own Stryker and are part of Battle Group Poland, NATO's enhanced Forward Presence (eFP). They are "Ready to fight tonight," as part of the overall deterrence and defense posture for Poland. Alexandra is a certified scuba diver and Granath is a certified skydiver who was a member of the Army Black Knights parachute team.



The copy of *The Reporter* Alexandra is holding just so happens to be the one naming her good friends, Joan and Alan Zale, 2015 Picture Yourself winners, and was mailed to her by the Zales, along with multiple batches of individually wrapped brownies to share with the troops stationed in Poland. Alexandra and Granath chose to eat the brownies first and then pose with *The Reporter*. ■

### WE NEED MORE PHOTOS FOR THIS FEATURE

Send your photo holding The Bonaire Reporter to [reporter@bonairenews.com](mailto:reporter@bonairenews.com) to be entered in our annual contest for the best picture.

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# Coastal Cleanup Continues

Petrotrin's Tank 70 was a catastrophe waiting to happen. Filled with bunker oil containing high levels of heavy metals and toxic contaminants, in the Petroleum Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited storage tank farm, it was rated unsafe in an inspection report way back in 2003. At 2:45 pm on April 23, 2017, it sprung a leak at its base. The consequences would be disastrous for the Caribbean's environment.

Tank 70 has a capacity of 150,000 barrels. It has no containment wall. Initially, Petrotrin reported 20 barrels of oil was spilt into the Guaracara River which leads to the Caribbean sea. When it ruptured it contained 12,281 barrels of bunker oil. But that was just the beginning.

Tracking systems and aerial and maritime surveys have the spill moving in a westerly direction. It reached Bonaire on May 25... and is still moving west.

Bonaire's east coast is being spotted with goeey "tar," the result of the oil interacting with seawater. It's sticking to the reefs, shore, birds, turtles and feet. It lurks just below the surface. Fortunately, Bonaire's west coast has been spared.

Social media has been most effective in communicating the situation and enrolling volunteers. STINAPA has received the special materials to clean the beaches. These include gloves, special protective clothing for the volunteers, cloth to pick up the oil and forks so that the dirty cloth is not touched. The pieces of tar are usually quite small. They less than 15 cm.

If you see birds (flamingoes can be espe-

cially vulnerable but usually avoid the rough coast), turtles or marine life covered in oil and in distress call STINAPA +599 717 8444 or Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire + 599 717 2225. Also, if you see large patches of oil please take a photograph and let them know the location.

If you want to join in the continuing coordinated clean-up effort STINAPA's Desiree Croes suggests you send a short email to [marinepark@stinapa.org](mailto:marinepark@stinapa.org) and volunteer@stinapa.org with subject: OCV (or Oil Cleanup Volunteer) mentioning Name, phone numbers, days available this week, address, and own means of transportation yes or no.

Cleaning up is most effective in the mornings. Lower temperatures make the tar less fluid.

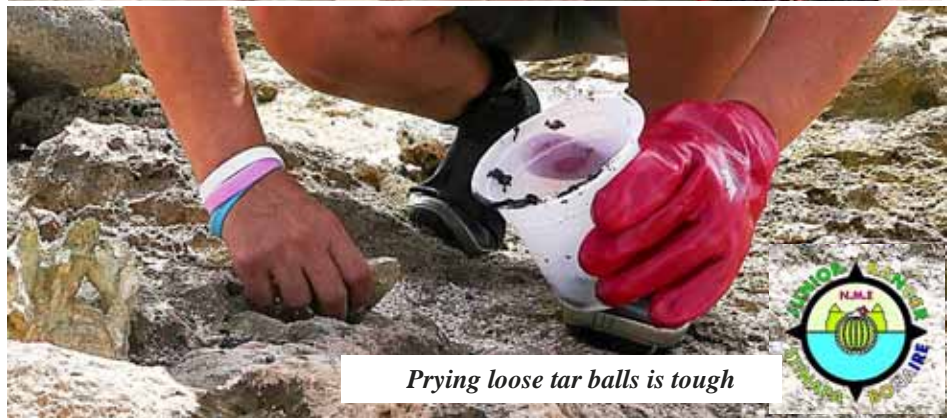
It's important to work according to a special procedure for several reasons:

1. To make completely sure you don't get any unnecessary health issues use proper equipment: Gloves, skin protection available through Bonaire's Harbormaster.
2. SELIBON will collect the waste, weigh it and store it separately for assessment.
3. Key areas will be covered by dedicated people.

Concern for the environment is what Bonaire is all about. This action proves it once more. Special thanks to the volunteers, STCB and STINAPA Junior Rangers for your efforts. ■ G.D. Photos by STINAPA/ Jr. Rangers. More on page 3...



Dirty job well done



Prying loose tar balls is tough

Elly Albers at the Mangrove Sanctuary is handling the seabird cleanup. The six Blue-footed boobies, recovered early, were saved. All the others found later perished.



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Tel: (599) 717-5543 Fax: (599) 717-5724 [info@bestcarelogistics.org](mailto:info@bestcarelogistics.org)



# Krusada: Safe Haven and Veggie Paradise

Bonaire doesn't really produce anything, right? Well, okay, maybe some aloe and a few goats, but not much else . . . right? Not anymore. The Krusada Foundation (*Stichting Krusada*) and its partner, Green Bonaire, now grow a variety of fresh vegetables for the local marketplace. What's more, Krusada's community service projects produce a surprising variety of local-made products: backyard greenhouses, furniture, artworks, crafts and more.



By growing and producing locally for the island market, Krusada, a Christian foundation, offers a second chance to those who have been in drug rehabilitation programs or in prison and who will improve their lives through the dedication and refocusing of their time, energy and talent. Some live in modern dorms right on site while they transition to a new outlook and new careers. Others, even those still in prison, will visit throughout the week to work on meaningful – and salable -- products. Together with JICN (*Justitiële Inrichting Caribisch Nederland*: Correctional Institute Dutch Caribbean), Krusada initiated these projects nearly 10 years ago in an effort to provide a structure for their troubled clientele and to offer them a sense of direction and self confidence for their return to a normal work life.

In one of their recent community service projects, for example, Krusada clients make doghouses for *Dierenbescherming* (Animal Protection Services) to be given away in the Bonaire's neighborhoods -- Noord Salina and Nikiboko, among others. The idea is to make the doghouses without doors so that the animals won't be locked inside. The first 10 orders for these dog kennels are in!

But perhaps the most important project, overall, is the production and sale of just-picked, fresh vegetables for Bonaire residents and island visitors from Krusada's ample greenhouses.

Nowadays, the Krusada and Green Bonaire grow farm-fresh produce – local spinach and long beans, basil, both red and white okra, tomatoes, mint, micro-vegetables (cucumbers and mustard plants) – from the compost-enriched Bonaire clay loam (also lettuce from Green Bonaire's hydroponic garden) sold direct to you (via Bonaire Food Group) from Van den Tweel or the Warehouse supermarkets. Look for the Krusada label.

**Francisco Zavala**, Krusada's Product Coordinator for Sales and Marketing, says that, while he "loved the idea of making a difference and taking on a new challenge," he thought the barriers to creation of a local market for both perishable and non-perishable goods, almost all of which had long been purchased from abroad, would be all but insurmountable. "I was wrong," Zavala says. "The marketing, sales, branding, and so on, came together almost magically; that's to say, with a lot of hard work and a well thought-out strategy. The bottleneck

was in the production process."

Beginning with only two operating greenhouses just two years ago (now five), Krusada has almost literally exploded with sales of local spinach reaching up to and sometimes exceeding 500 kilos per month and sales of mint and basil (in a more limited market) of up to 100 kilos each per month. In addition, Krusada donates fresh produce to various food banks on the island. And, in keeping with its social mission to help in the rehabilitation and readjustment of socially challenged young people on the island, Krusada is providing vital therapy through on-going farming, mechanical, carpentry and artisan projects at their Kaminda Lagun location.

You may want to visit Krusada's "tienda" (the Foundation's store in the *kumuku*) yourself to buy their farm-fresh veggies (eggs too) from the source (and take a look at the local furniture, artworks and crafts also produced by Krusada artisans). It's just a pleasant drive of about five kilometers east of Kaya Korona on the Lagoen Hill road. **Kaminda Lagun 191; Krusada sign on the left; Tel. 717-6404. "Tienda" is open Monday through Friday, 9am-noon and 1-4pm.**



One of the Krusada shade houses

Perhaps an even more convenient alternative for many visitors and residents on Bonaire will be to have these same vegetables prepared for you in the freshest possible salads and side orders at some of Bonaire's finest restaurants, including At Sea, La Cantina del Mar, Cuba Compagnie, Ingridiënts, Spice Beach Club at Eden Beach Resort and La Balandra at Harbour Village. Fancy a Bonaire spinach soup or mashed potatoes with spinach, two local favorites? Just ask at one of these dining locales.

"Now," Project Coordinator Zavala says, "we are ready to share our knowledge, particularly on how to grow fresh local produce on Bonaire, with other entrepreneurs who may want to do that here as well." ■ *Story & photos by Karen Bastiaensen-Gilmour*

June 9<sup>th</sup> Medium Janson from Holland will visit Bonaire

### What To expect:

A Medium is a specialist, so to speak. A Psychic tunes into the "aura" or "energy field" of the person that they are reading for, to gather information. A Medium is also able to tune into the energy field of a person no longer in the physical body. In most cases a Medium can usually connect with one or the other only, and usually those who have crossed over. A Medium can also communicate with your loved ones or friends who have crossed over and deliver to you very specific and detailed information that is only know to that person,

The information a medium can provides may bring comfort to the bereaved and help them to move forward. Some describe this process as a form of soul healing...

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# Kitemanera 2017 Delivered Epic Stoke and a Few Surprises

Kitemanera photo



Following a kick-off party and fashion show at Windhoek Resort on Friday night, gray clouds and temperamental wind welcomed participants to the opening day of Kitemanera 2017 on Saturday, May 27th at Atlantis Kite Beach. But in typical Bonaire style, the skies cleared and the island's famed tradewinds kicked in just in time for the start of the event's signature Costume Race.

125 riders, representing 13 countries and 5 continents, hit the water and created an impressive visual for spectators on the beach. From Edward Scissorhands and the Pope to the Silver Surfer and a pair of colorful jellyfish, there was no shortage of costume creativity sailing across the Caribbean Sea. Even the pros got in on the action. **Youri Zoon, Lasse Walker and Annabel van Westerop** were all there, sporting their most creative looks. Kitemanera 2017 kicked off in colorful style.

Then it was on to the competitions. The best amateur riders from around the world competed in freestyle and big air show-downs in front of hundreds of fans on the

beach. Competitive heats showed off riders' best moves, and the best of the best advanced to the finals. There, the pros joined in for some friendly competition and wowed the crowds along the way. Day One wrapped up with a stunning sunset, followed by the Kitemanera Unhooked party at Spice Beach Club later that night.

Day Two featured the traditional down-winder. Over 75 riders, including all the pros, took part in a fun 10-mile (17 km) downwind ride from Atlantis Kite Beach to No Name Beach on Klein Bonaire. Meanwhile, the annual Monster Race around Klein Bonaire also took place. This long-distance race challenged foil board riders' talent, speed and endurance as they battled for the podium from Atlantis Kite Beach, around Klein Bonaire and back to the starting point.

Kitemanera 2017 wrapped up with a reggae band party and prize ceremony at Spice Beach Club on Sunday night. And in keeping with its pledge to support local island causes, Kitemanera donated \$1,100 to this year's charitable partner, Coral

Restoration Foundation Bonaire.

A huge thanks to all Kitemanera sponsors, including Claro, Fly Your Dreams Foundation, Windhoek Resort, Kiteboarding Bonaire, We Share Bonaire, Bonaire Kiteschool, HBN Law, Beach Vibes, Island Girl Writing, Hole Clothing, Tourism Corporation Bonaire, Sundance Air Venezuela, Lieuwe Boards, Waxed, Caribe Watersports, Epic Tours, Island Tribe, Kite City, Harlem Kitesurfing, Kitesurfshop.NL, Casa Calxico, VKM, Courtyard by Marriott, Asterion Development, BHM Bonaire, Spice Beach Club, Eden Beach, Rocargo Services, Caribe Car Rental, Phish Phactory, City Shop, Bistro de Paris, YOR Cleaning, Mezza, Capriccio, Gaia Pro Media Solutions, Fundacion Orellana, North Kiteboarding Benelux & Krus Kora Bonaire.

#### Final Results

Best Costume Carla Verheggen (Edward Scissorhands)  
 Costume Race 1st Place – Peter Tuinman (NL)

#### Kitemanera participants

- 2nd Place – Elias (Venezuela)
- 3rd Place – Dayana Cadenas (Venezuela)
- Bon-Aire (Men's) 1st Place – Peter Tuinman (Bonaire)
- 2nd Place – Christian Zweepers (Bonaire)
- 3rd Place – Rens van der Schoot (NL)
- Bon-Aire (Women's) 1st Place – Joyce Chantal Stor (Bonaire)
- 2nd Place – Audrey Groenenboom (Bonaire)
- 3rd Place – Stephanie van den Boorn (NL)
- Freestyle (Men's) 1st Place – Christian Zweepers (Bonaire)
- 2nd Place – Rens van der Schoot (NL)
- 3rd Place – Oscar Armstrong (South Africa)
- Freestyle (Women's) 1st Place – Zwaantje Kooij (Bonaire)
- 2nd Place – Stephanie van den Boorn (NL)
- 3rd Place – Cecile Knitel (Bonaire)
- Monster Race 1st Place – Luis Fernando Padrino (Venezuela)
- 2nd Place – Pieter C. Zweepers (Bonaire)
- 3rd Place – JP-Pieter (Aruba)
- Best Local Talent Marit Zijlstra (Bonaire)
- Kids' Competition Max Maijer (Aruba) ■

Press release by Liz Wegerer



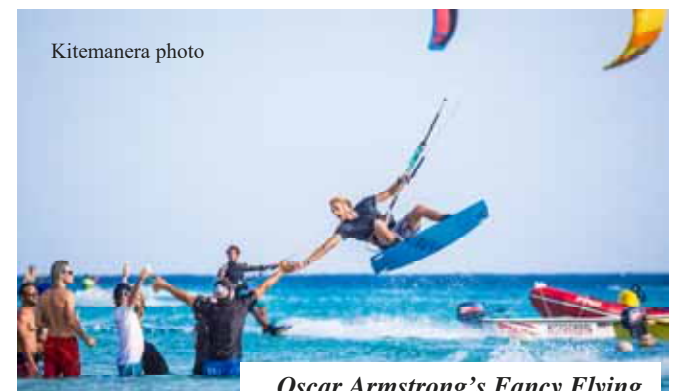
Delno Tromp photo

Kites and riders aloft



Delno Tromp photo

"Cannibal" Hendrik Wuyts



Kitemanera photo

Oscar Armstrong's Fancy Flying



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## @Terramar Museum



### HOUSES FOR THE LIVING AND THE DEAD

Besides a few rock drawings and some broken pieces of pottery, not much seems to remain of Bonaire's indigenous inhabitants. There is, however, much more to discover beneath our feet. Entire settlements can be reconstructed by 'reading' the soil.

Villages were the main locations where Amerindian people interacted on a daily basis. Most of these interactions left few material traces, but the evidence that remains – such as refuse piles and indications for post holes – is used by archaeologists to study past life ways in Amerindian settlements. Because Amerindian dwellings were made completely of organic – and thus, perishable – materials, almost nothing of these structures remains. When a house was destroyed in a fire, hurricane, or just simply rotted away, all that remained were the holes in the ground that held the posts. Over time, the surrounding soil filled the holes, creating perfect markings of where the posts were once located. Archaeologists excavate, document, and study these post holes to reconstruct the size and shape of the structure.

On many islands, Amerindian houses were large, circular structures measuring up to 20 meters in diameter. The largest house ever found by archaeologist was located at the Golden Rock site on St. Eustatius. Archaeologists have found evidence of these structures at the Santa Cruz site on Aruba as well. In these dwellings, entire tree trunks were used to hold up the roof. Multiple families could live in such large communal buildings. These so-called *malocas* are still used by people living in the South American tropical lowlands today.

Bonaire's indigenous people almost certainly lived in *malocas* as well, but because archaeological research on Bonaire has been relatively limited, a complete structure has not yet been excavated. Future research might reveal the presence of Amerindian house structures at some of Bonaire's larger prehistoric sites such as Wanapa and Amboina.

Throughout the Caribbean archipelago, Amerindians buried their deceased in shallow pits inside their houses. Rather than placing them outside and far away from the community, the departed continued to 'live' in the house. By doing so, people blurred the distinction between life and death and deceased people remained participants in the household. To continue this process beyond the lifespan of perishable structures, houses were often rebuilt at the same location. Both of these practices show that people had a particular interest in long-term social relations; the living were surrounded by their family's deep history.

Are you interested in what an Amerindian village actually looked like? At Terramar Museum, we have a beautiful *maquette* that our staff are happy to tell you all about. ■  
Ruud Stelten



**Information: 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

## Bonaire @ PanAmerican Games



The team with Sensi Silberie (center)



The team marches into the auditorium



All the teams assembled

Sensei Peter Silberie led his students to their first competition in the Pan American Games held last month in Curacao. It was the 21<sup>st</sup> Karate Contest in the Games. In all, 400 athletes from 33 countries in the region participated. Karate is a sport that builds strength, not only physical, but also of character.

The team consists of **Thuersten Winklaar, Ashanty Martina, Everon Vrutaal and Miguel Pietersz.**

The team faced tough opponents with lots of experience and while not taking top prizes it did gain lots of useful experience. Sensi Silberie was well satisfied with his BonKarate team. ■

Press release & photos by Desiree Silberie

## Master Swimmers @ Budapest



Winning swimmers in London last year Anita Smits, Nathalie Petersen, Evy Witlox and Simone Sweers.

The female Master Swimmers of the Bonaire Aquatics Club "Barracudas" will participate at the World Masters Championships (WMC) from August 14<sup>th</sup> until August 20<sup>th</sup> 2017 in Budapest, Hungary.

This major event, which is in fact the biggest championship organized by FINA in terms of participation, is certainly a milestone for those who devoted part of their lives to their passion for their sport. With the FINA World Masters Championships (WMC), the master swimmers like to prove that even when retired from the high level competition, or just practicing the sport for leisure, they are still capable of performing for their country and will make Bonaire proud! Over 100,000 athletes, men and women, from 25 years old up to 90, from all over the world, have already confirmed their participation. Masters Swimming is an adult aquatic fitness program for individuals who have chosen aquatics as their means of exercise for a healthier lifestyle.

The Master Swimmers of the Bonaire Aquatics Club Barracudas offer adults on Bonaire the opportunity to participate in lifelong fitness and/or a competitive swimming program, which also gives more energy in life and better performance at work. They also believe that social responsibility is very important and are therefore all involved in programs to educate youth on Bonaire in Sports and Health. By participating in international championships and especially this great event as the WMC, they would like to show youth and adults on Bonaire that "There is always a way to live up your dreams and goals in life, no matter what age you are." Sports and exercise promote meeting people and respecting others. Last but not least it is a great, fun way to keep you disciplined and mentally and physically fit.

The Master Swimmers of the Bonaire Aquatics Club Barracudas are therefore very grateful for the generous support of local businesses and organizations who are sponsoring: **BonDiGro, Ennia, WEB, TCB and Nature's Discount Nutrition center.** Thank you so much! **Let's take it to a higher level and try to win medals for Bonaire on the other side of the world and history can be made again! Will you be a part of it too?**

### Sponsors Wanted:

Your generous support will go towards providing team and exercise equipment, education on training and health, advertisements to attract new master swimmer members and participation in international competitions. The goal is to swim a minimum of two international swimming championships in the Caribbean, Pan-American and European region and the ultimate World Championships. Thousands of people will visit these events or follow it through media and will offer your company a lot of exposure!

If you would like to sponsor the Bonaire Masters Swimming Team please contact them by e-mail at [sponsoringbarracudas@gmail.com](mailto:sponsoringbarracudas@gmail.com) ■ Press release by Nathalie Petersen



# A Garden? Just Do It

## DID YOU KNOW?



### CACTUS

Cactus has become part of modern, young, stylish interior design. In addition to being the coral capital of the Caribbean, Bonaire is also the cactus capital. Multiple varieties of cactus are found growing naturally here.

Oh, yes, in a lot of shops, offices, showrooms, students' rooms and interiors of young families' homes one can find the small pots and all kinds of plant containers and fantasy pots with one or a collection of these mini-cactus. There is such a big variety of them and in combination with other plants gathered in a pot, it's cool.



*Elephant Ear cactus*

The cactus is a succulent, a plant which has the characteristic of being able to store water. They can survive easily in the dry season. They grow in the dry areas and deserts and adjust easily. They can stand the full sun and like dry air. Now and then a little bit of water is enough for them to survive dryness and low humidity.

These days mini cactus are very popular. One can create very nice groups of the different types and decorate a wall or room, a balcony or a table with them. Also they can go behind glass or on shelves, in a corner with art objects like a Buddha statue. In shops they are lovely among the souvenirs or in restaurants on tables. And very special are mini cactus

in glass pots or pots woven in macramé. There are so many ideas to start with these trendy gardens.



*Cadushi Pushi Garden*

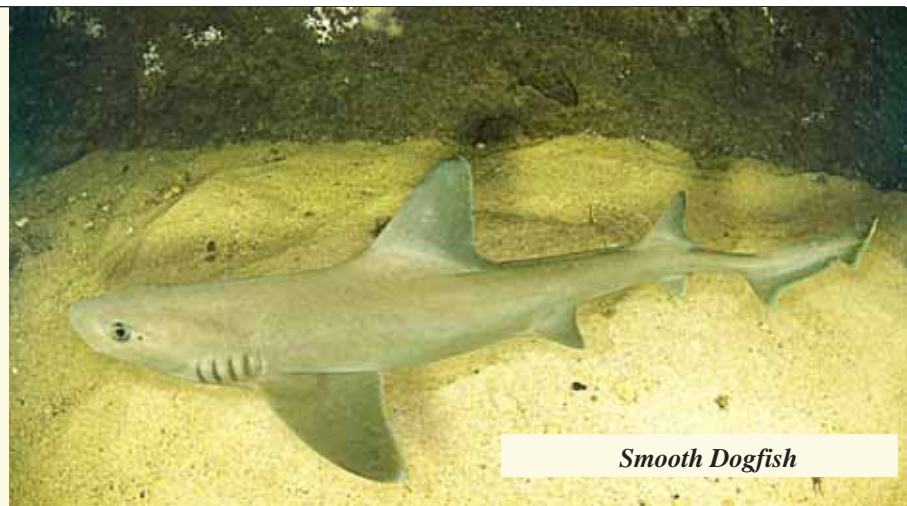
One can create "little gardens" of the mini cactus in pots and also can go straight into the garden. For cactus in pots, choose a wide, shallow pot. Cactus roots grow wide and on the surface. Fill the whole pot with special cactus soil: sand mixed with small stones and some dry pieces of wood.

Bonaire is a perfect place for cactus to grow because of its dry climate and soil—the best ingredients in the ecosystem for the cactus.

**Attention:** When working with cactus, use garden gloves. Even when the cactus are small and look like there are no needles or spines, they have them. I had a few bad experiences with them. Even in my pants these spines stick and then hit my legs. Then when I start to rub my leg I get them in my hand. That was no fun. Now I know better.

A nice collection of mini cactus is a real eye catcher. Those with bright flowers or another color on the top of the young stem, combined with the decorative types and different needles, the size and type of the pots— all together one can make so many different pots of these special plants.

Terracotta pots are the nicest to make your mini cactus decoration. The color of clay gives the idea of the warmth of the desert. But also with one big cactus in a



*Smooth Dogfish*

That a nearly invisible shark with cat-eyes lives in the waters around Bonaire? It is probably one of the most harmless sharks we know of: the Smooth Dogfish (*Mustelus canis*).

The Smooth Dogfish is a very slender and relatively small shark (up to 150 cm or 59 inches long) that is commonly found around Bonaire and sometimes caught by accident by our local fishermen. This shark prefers to hang around in shallow waters but is also found at depths of 200 meters (650 feet). Although its name suggests that it looks like a dog, it actually shares a feature that cats have: its eyes are cat-like and are optimized for seeing in the dark. In low-light conditions, the pupil becomes large to collect the smallest amount of light. In brighter conditions, the pupil forms a slit, just like a cat's eye. Another interesting feature is that Smooth Dogfish change their skin color from dark to light to camouflage themselves from predators.

This shark is harmless to humans: its teeth are not pointy and sharp like those of some sharks, but are flat and optimized for grinding food. The teeth are 10 rows thick, creating a plate of crushing teeth. The dogfish is a bottom feeder, and its diet mainly consists of crustaceans (like crabs), worms, and mollusks (like snails). Its jaws are so strong it can crush the hardest of shells.

Unfortunately, the Smooth Dogfish is a near-threatened species due to the demand of shark fins as a delicacy and from being caught in nets and hooks accidentally. It is

therefore very important to know more about this species around our island. Occasionally, divers put photos and videos on Facebook of shark species they encountered during their dives. STINAPA, researchers, and hobbyists all around the world use websites to collect data on species sightings. For Bonaire sightings, the website [bonaire.observation.org](http://bonaire.observation.org) is very handy. On this website, you can find all sorts of information on wildlife sightings. If you want to contribute to our understanding of where sharks, birds, plants, and other animals live and in what numbers, you can make your own account and add your findings and photos. It is fun to do and your contribution is most appreciated!

Join us for the opening of the Shark Room at the Washington Slagbaai National Park museum on Open Day – Sunday June 11 from 8AM-5PM. There will be music, food and fun – everyone is welcome! Find fossil shark teeth in our 'Shark tooth dig' exhibit, get a shark painted on your face and become a shark ambassador. Admission to the park is free this day only. ■ *Story by Thijs van Wuijckhuijse, STINAPA Assistant Biologist.*

*Photo : Andy Murch*



nice big terracotta pot one can create a nice eye catcher in a corner. Think of big car showrooms with a such a cactus decoration. It makes an immediate a statement.

When making a mini cactus garden, look for a place with full sun where the soil drains well. Choose ahead which types you want to put together, different groups of cactus in one area. You also can add some bigger types of cactus in the back, so it goes from some high bigger cactus in the back to low small cactus in front. Cover the top of the soil with nice small white stones or just stones you can find on Bonaire like small beach stones.

I did this myself in a combination of small cactus in pots together with mini cactus in combination with some bigger cactus in the yard. See the photos.

You see a very hairy bigger cactus which is the typical "cadushi pushi" from Bonaire with some smaller ones. In another photo there's a beautiful cactus which is called Elephant Ear. I don't know if this is the real name, but that is how the people

from Curacao from whom I got a piece called it. It's such a funny cactus that really looks like a lot of elephants' ears on each other. Many of my friends have it now too because all my gardener friends ask me for it. And I like to share my plants, because I know where I can get it from when a plant dies in my garden.

A collection of mini cactus is a nice gift, for an office for example or for someone who likes to have some green in the house but has less time to take care of plants or just easily forgets to water a plant.

And when you are trendy and love "to go with the fashion flow," like to hang out "young and sexy," these mini cactus are a must in your office!

It's cool too!

Just do it. ■

*Story & photos by Angliet, Nature Lover*





# 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](http://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](mailto:12stepsbonaire@gmail.com) or

[12stappenbonaire@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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

• **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

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

• **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

• **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
Tue	6-Jun	Zenith	0700-	1828	CEL
Tue	13-Jun	Zenith	0700-	1828	CEL
Mon	19-Jun	Adventure of the Seas	0800-1700	3114	RCCL
Tue	20-Jun	Zenith	0700-	1828	CEL
Tue	27-Jun	Zenith	0700-	1828	CEL
Tue	4-Jul	Zenith	0700-	1828	CEL

## CLUBS and MEETINGS

**Lions Club** meets every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 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 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](mailto:Marytjin@gmail.com) or [Daisycoffie@hotmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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

[ellenherreracochrane@yahoo.ca](mailto:ellenherreracochrane@yahoo.ca) or phone 717-8489 or 005999-540-9800 English/Papiamentu/Dutch/Spanish ■

## 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 Bernhard Cultural Funds.

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

**Luciano Tortorici painting exhibition** at Bistro di Paris Restaurant at the Harbour Village Marina. To June 15.

## Events

**Friday, June 9**

— **Red Cross 7 km. Walk** – Kaminata from Sorobon to Bachelors' beach. From 19:00-21:00. Call 786-2088 for information. Cost \$10.

— **Medium Janson from Holland** – See ad on page 7 Contact Go-Green

**Sunday, June 11—Brandaris Fun Bike Race** in connection with Washington-Slagbaai National Park Opening

**Sunday, June 18—Sunrise Brandaris Hike**, 5am-8:30am. \$10

**Saturday, June 24— San Juan Day**  
**Thursday, June 29—San Pedro**



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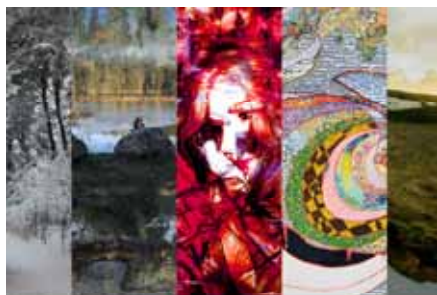


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**Bonaire-Sun Rise/Set, Moon Phase and Tides**

Day	High	Low	High	Low	High	Sunrise	Sunset
Mon 05		06:12 0.03 ft	10:04 0.20 ft	15:53 -0.03 ft	22:46 0.82 ft	6:10	18:58
Tue 06		07:27 -0.04 ft	11:31 0.12 ft	16:00 0.04 ft	23:22 0.83 ft	6:10	18:58
Wed 07		08:34 -0.10 ft	23:57 0.84 ft			6:10	18:59
Thu 08		09:31 -0.15 ft				6:10	18:59
Fri 09	00:32 0.84 ft	10:17 -0.20 ft			Full Moon	6:10	18:59
Sat 10	01:07 0.83 ft	10:55 -0.23 ft				6:10	19:00
Sun 11	01:44 0.83 ft	11:27 -0.25 ft				6:10	19:00
Mon 12	02:21 0.82 ft	11:55 -0.26 ft				6:10	19:00
Tue 13	03:00 0.79 ft	12:18 -0.25 ft				6:10	19:00
Wed 14	03:39 0.76 ft	12:38 -0.24 ft	19:37 0.34 ft	22:17 0.33 ft		6:11	19:01
Thu 15	04:20 0.71 ft	12:56 -0.23 ft	19:25 0.41 ft	23:59 0.31 ft		6:11	19:01
Fri 16	05:03 0.64 ft	13:14 -0.22 ft	19:37 0.52 ft			6:11	19:01
Sat 17	L Quar- ter	01:22 0.27 ft	05:48 0.54 ft	13:35 -0.21 ft	20:00 0.64 ft	6:11	19:01
Sun 18		02:38 0.21 ft	06:39 0.44 ft	13:58 -0.20 ft	20:31 0.78 ft	6:11	19:02
Mon 19		03:52 0.12 ft	07:34 0.33 ft	14:24 -0.19 ft	21:08 0.90 ft	6:12	19:02

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bij Jeroen Seegers

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# Pets Of The Week



Teddy and Amy

## LOVE COUPLES!

Do you remember these handsome guys...?

Teddy (picture 1) and Opa (picture 2). These two amazing guys have been "Pet of the Week" before. They have been living at the Animal Shelter Bonaire for two years and now they are very ready to be part of a forever loving family!

Both Teddy and Opa each found a best friend and are spending all their time with these adorable girls. Teddy fell in love with beautiful Amy, and Opa with happy Jolie! They all are very stable and obedient dogs. They enjoy human attention and love to play.

If you are looking for a life long friend or even friends, who are easy going and always happy, come visit and meet these amazing dogs at the Animal Shelter Bonaire at Kaminda Lagun 26a or call for information 717 4989. E-mail to [animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com](mailto:animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com)

All the adoptable animals at the Animal Shelter Bonaire are treated against



Jolie and Opa

ticks and fleas are de-wormed, vaccinated, micro chipped and spayed or neutered.

Opening hours are: Tuesday – Friday from 9 am until 12 noon and 3 to 5 pm. Saturday nonstop from 8 am until 3 pm. Sunday, Monday and public holidays closed. ■ Story & photos by Nathalie Petersen

# Daylight Coral Spawn



You can see coral spawning during daylight hours in Bonaire. In the months of May and June, 11 to 12 days after the full moon, shallow Grooved Brain Corals (*Diploria labyrinthiformis*) spawn between the hours of 6 pm and 7 pm.

In May of 2011 I was doing a late afternoon dive at Bari Reef when I saw some eggs drifting up in the water column. It took a minute but I was determined to find the source of the eggs which turned out to be a grooved brain coral. I swam around looking to see if any more of the shallow brain corals would spawn. Sure enough I was lucky to see more brain corals spawning and I was able to get photos. Most people might just think, wow, that was interesting but not me! I got home and counted the number of days after the full moon and noted the time and went back to Bari at the same time the next evening. Sure enough the brain corals were spawning again! The following afternoon I checked again and didn't see any spawning. My next step was to wait until June and check again at the same time and moon phase, and sure enough the brain corals were spawning again! I sent my observations and photos to Dr Mark Vermeij, the science director for the Carmabi Foundation in Curacao. Dr Vermeij wrote up a short scientific article that was published in the journal, *Coral Reefs*. The great thing about this was the interest generated in Curacao where subsequently many scientists have come to study and document this phenomenon.

This study is ongoing to this day. From SCORE International May 23rd 2017: "This year scientists from SCORE International together with Carmabi collected a record 5 million eggs from 25 colonies within 2 days. Using the pools at the Curacao Sea Aquarium floating outdoor devices were set up to raise coral larvae until settlement. Fertilization of the collected coral gametes took place in the lab-facilities at the Carmabi Marine Research Station. Settlement tiles for coral larvae that can be seeded onto the reef were already in place. In a few days, the coral larvae will be ready to settle down and metamorphose into tiny coral recruits, using the seeding units as settlement substrate. In the next weeks, the coral seeding units bearing the recruits will be transferred back to the reef; some will be moved into a nursery, some directly seeded onto the reef. They will be monitored to record their growth and survival. A very successful field expedition so far."

So, if you are on Bonaire in May or June, 11 or 12 days after the full moon, you might be lucky enough to observe daylight brain coral spawning!

Tips: 1. These are shallow brain corals at 15 – 20 feet.

2. Follow the Butterflyfish! (photo at right) The Butterflyfish are a good indication that a brain coral is about to spawn. They will keep coming back to the same coral over and over again before it spawns. Good Luck! ■

Story & photos by Ellen Muller



For more information:

<http://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s00338-011-0814-7>

<http://adsabs.harvard.edu/abs/2017CorRe..36...83C>

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# THE STARS HAVE IT

June 2017

**ARIES** (Mar. 21- April 20) Try not to get upset or angry without having all the facts. You should be looking into making changes around the house. You will easily blow situations out of proportion. You can come up with ways of earning extra cash. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Monday.

**TAURUS** (Apr. 21- May 21) You will be able to borrow money in order to invest. Your personal situation is fluctuating. Find ways to mellow out. You'll find it easy to talk about your feeling this month. Don't hesitate to find out what your mate's intentions are. Your luckiest events will occur on a Monday.

**GEMINI** (May 22-June 21) You can make major accomplishments while on short trips. Camping, swimming, and biking expeditions should all be considered. Don't let your lover put demands on you. Responsibilities with respect to older relatives may be a burden. Your luckiest events will occur on a Thursday.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22) Visit friends you don't get to see that often. Take the time to close deals that have been up in the air. Use your obvious talent to work with detail and you can come up with something great. Coworkers may not be on your side. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Friday.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug 22) You can make profitable investments if you purchase an art object for your home. You can receive recognition for the work you've done. You can expect opposition from family as well as colleagues. Take care of your personal needs. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Monday.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) Avoid friends or acquaintances who drink too much. You will make new friends through physical activities. Shopping could cost more than you bargained for. You can pick up some overtime this month. Your luckiest events will occur on a Thursday.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) Hassles with your boss are sure to erupt if you speak your mind. Make residential changes that will lift your spirits. Don't let your mate bully you into thinking that you owe them your time and your life. Resis-

tance leading to conflict will only make it twice as hard to turn the situation around. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Sunday.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) Talking to those you trust and respect will help you sort out any problems. You may want to take a serious look at your goals and objectives. Sudden changes regarding your domestic scene are probable. Organization will be the key to avoiding discord and family feuds. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Sunday.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) Although it does look promising, be careful not to overextend yourself or you will lose in the long run. Be sure to cover all the necessary groundwork before signing binding contracts. Overindulgence may cause conflicts. Stomach problems could prevail if you haven't been watching your diet. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Monday.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) Be careful not to push your luck or take too much for granted when dealing on either a personal or professional level. Verbal abuse could lead to carelessness. Be cautious while traveling; minor accidents are evident. This is a turning point. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Wednesday.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) You can learn from those who have had similar experiences. Limitations will set in if you haven't followed the rules. You should be trying to clear up legal contracts that have been pending. Be careful how you handle friends and relatives, they may take things the wrong way. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Saturday.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) You can purchase items that will enhance your appearance. Don't be taken advantage of by any fast talking salesperson trying to part you from your cash. You may need to lend an ear to an old friend. You need to concentrate on your business ventures more than on your relationship this month. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Monday. ■

*SunSigns Horoscope*



# BONAIRE SKY PARK\*

\*to find it... just look up

## Our Giant Planets

If May was "Mars Month," then June certainly belongs to **Saturn**. Sky-watchers in the Bonaire Sky Park currently have three bright planets in view. All are "superior planets," strictly defined as any of the planets whose orbits are farther from the Sun than

**Earth's**. Mars takes 687 days to orbit the Sun. In comparison, **Jupiter**, has a 12-year orbit, and **Saturn**, a 29-and-a-half-year orbit

Jupiter is the largest planet in the solar system. It's about 1,300 times larger than the Earth and you could even fit all of the planets and asteroids inside it. The second largest planet in the solar system would be Saturn. Saturn is most everyone's favorite planet - rings to forever, lots of cool moons. And it just so happens that these two largest planets - Jupiter and Saturn - will be shining after dark this whole month.

In early June, around 11pm, look high in the southwestern sky of the Sky Park. The first planet we want to view is that really bright thing to the left of the **Moon**. That is giant Jupiter and it will look brighter than any other star at this time of night. During the next few nights the Moon will pass Jupiter. They just look like they're close together. But the Moon will be about 240,000 miles from us while Jupiter will be about 450 million miles away.

Let's take a closer look at the giant planet and its 67 known moons looking like little fireflies circling the planet. Imagine if we had 67 moons in our sky.

Looking with a telescope we can see the planet itself has stripes, marking



*Cassini above Saturn's rings*

lines of latitude. And around the side is the great red spot. The great red spot is a humongous cyclone of gases that well up from the inside and churn the outer surface of the planet. It has been there for at least 140 years though many other spots have popped up from time to time. Right now the great red spot is about the size of two Earths - although it has been shrinking lately.

The other giant planet, Saturn, is a little tougher to find than Jupiter. When you face southeast at 11pm, you'll spot Saturn just above the horizon. It's definitely not as bright as Jupiter. Although to the naked eye, Saturn doesn't look like anything other than a steady, glowing, yellow star, it really comes to life when you look at it through a telescope.

NASA's **Cassini spacecraft** which has been in orbit around Saturn since 2004 gives even better views; like never before seen of the storms on the planet, its 62 discovered moons, and the dynamic rings. Although they look solid like a road, the rings are made of individual bits of ice and rock. They are rings of gravel, tiny moonlets that circle the planet.

So look for giant Jupiter tonight in the southwest after dark and search out Saturn low in the southeast. ■

*Dean Regas & James Albury*



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