

It's Still  
FREE

**BONAIRE** Aug. 14-28, 2017, Year 24, Issue 15  
**The REPORTER**

*BES Island News Too*

**Terramar Museum**  
**One Year Anniversary**  
**Pg. 7**



Since the last edition of *The Reporter* another new island government (BC) has been put forward. The Papiamentu newspapers are calling it the “Vengeance (Vengansa) Coalition.” Following the collapse of the short-lived Island Government Executive Council on 27 July a new alliance of council members was proposed to Governor Edison Rijna. These five members of the nine-seat Island Council—Independent **Jeanoushka “Nunu” Raphaela**, who withdrew her support from the previous government causing it to lose its legitimacy; another independent, **Esther Bernabela**; old-guard Democrats (PDB-red party) **Robbie Beukenboom** and **Marugia Janga**; and Patriotiko Party member **James Kroon** (UPB-green)- sent a letter to the Governor. It said the sitting Executive Council (BC) can handle only current business and not initiate new policies and act as “guardians of Island Government” until a new coalition has been formed and a new BC sworn in.

Obersi Group, WEB Bonaire, STINAPA, Budget Marine, Selibon, Don Andres, Captain Don’s Habitat, Cactus Accounting, Caribbean Laundry, Gio’s and Hitess Bonaire.

► **Bonaire is the Number One Caribbean island for retirement says *The Caribbean Journal*** because it’s home to great food, European infrastructure and, more importantly, it’s outside of the hurricane belt. “It’s a place to pursue your passions, from gastronomy to art to windsurfing, with some of the friendliest people anywhere in the Caribbean. It also boasts very competitive real estate pricing by Caribbean standards.



► **When the We Dare to Care Foundation opened its children’s park (Parke Libertat—S. James Finies aka Parke Publico)** in 2005 there was no similar facility on Bonaire. Over the years admission to the privately-owned park has been essentially free. The anticipated government funding to maintain the park has never appeared while the government has opened and supports other similar parks.

As a result the Foundation, led by **Davika Bissessar**, has decided to introduce a sliding scale of entrance fees depending on the financial status of the users. The entrance requirements as of September 1, 2017 are:

**Low income families and government after school programs**—Free. Yearly pass (must be qualified by the Foundation based on NIBUD\* standards)

**Special privilege families**—6 months, \$60/1 year, \$110 (must be qualified by Foundation)

**Standard Families**—6 months, \$115 / 1 year, \$222

During the month of August families can apply for their entrance pass at the park from Monday to Friday from 4pm to 6pm or call whatsapp: +599 786-4576.

\* NIBUD (National Institute for Family Finance Information) is a very well-known and respected independent foundation in the Netherlands.



► **Speaking of parks, the popular Arthur Domacassé Park just off the Promenade needs people to keep it clean.** Just the other day we spoke to Din Domacasse, who led the effort to establish the park. He said that while it was great that the government built the park, it didn’t earmark funds for maintenance. So he was cleaning it up himself that day. If you use the park clean up after yourself, and if necessary; clean up after others too.

► **RE/MAX has a new face in its realty office, but she may look familiar if you watch HGTV. **Kate Butler and her husband Ian** were featured in a *House Hunters International* episode on HGTV last year. The show chronicled the couple's search for their dream home on Bonaire, where the life-long divers planned to relocate. She was an experienced, award-winning RE/MAX agent in the States and will use her knowledge to help home buyers and sellers on her newly adopted island. The next chance to see an **HGTV show featuring Bonaire will be on Sunday Aug. 27 at 9 pm**, when a RE/MAX Paradise Homes client decides on a big life change in the episode "No Regrets in Bonaire."**



► **The Board of STINAPA Bonaire has appointed **Arjen de Wolff**, 48, as executive, effective September 1, 2017. DeWolff has worked in journalism, government and politics in the Netherlands and abroad including Curacao. He has NGO management experience but nature management was not mentioned in the STINAPA press release. Current STINAPA**



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► **The sport of windsurfing continues its grass-roots development, **The 11th Annual Pro Kids Regatta at Sorobon is underway as we go to press.**** The Regatta not only features Freestyle and Slalom Windsurfing, but also beach games, fun walking dominos and bowling. Opening was August 10, closing August 13. Several local bands provided entertainment. Role models of the year were **Arnold and Raynold Wilsoe**; windsurfer stalwarts and pioneers, **Erwin Muller**, Olympian **Constantino “Patun” Saragoza**, and **Elvis “Piskechi” Martinus** who founded the Aquaspeed Windsurfing Club. Sponsors included the Bonaire Island Government, FWNB, TELBO, MCB Bonaire, Starboard, Budget Car Rental, Bonaire Windsurf Place, Krioyo Paint,

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Fokker 50 being broken up after critical parts were removed.

► **Bonaire suffered its worst insult from InselAir over two weeks ago when InselAir had no flyable planes for one whole day.** Connection to Curacao was curtailed except for flights by eight-passenger Norman Islanders from Divi Divi Air and charters from EZ Air.

Both of the old InselAir Fokker 50s flying the route needed maintenance. Some were so bad they had been scrapped. Outgoing Bonaire Commissioner Clark Abraham was outraged and announced **Bonaire would have an airline flying between the ABC Islands** this year.

Then the unions threatened a job action unless the current InselAir management was replaced.

Then **WinAir added another jet flight from St-Maarten to Curacao**, a previously lucrative route for InselAir.

► But the storm clouds may be clearing. The first official word that **Avianca Airlines will become involved with InselAir operations** was announced by Curacao

minister Steven Martina yesterday at a press conference and the minister in charge of aviation, Zita Jesus Leito, said one of the old MD80s had passed inspection and soon would begin flying. And reportedly an unnamed European airline may begin service with a 34-passenger plane as well.

However, if the Curacao government decides to give Avianca and parent company Synergy permission to administer InselAir's routes, the yet-to-fly, Curacao-registered airline **Ava Air will take them to court.**

Ava says it has met all the requirements of airline operation for quite a while but hasn't been granted all the needed permits.

► Trade union UGTK / Cadmu, who represents the interests of Insel Air staff, **wants André Delger and Gilles Filiatreault, the airline's bosses to resign.** This is stated in a letter sent to the government. The battle between Insel Air and the trade unions has hardened, as the restructuring plans cut the staff. About 130 of them must be gone, voluntarily or forced. ■

*Flotsam and Jetsam (Continued from page 2)*  
executive director, **Herman Sieben**, who will return to the National Forests Authority in the European Netherlands later this year, will assist De Wolff in the transition to his new job STINAPA

► Recently Curacao's water company discontinued adding fluoride to its drinking water creating a controversy. For many years it had been added to the desalinated water to promote dental health. **Bonaire has never added fluoride to its WEB-provided water**, considered to be the best tasting water in the Caribbean. **Visitors are encouraged to forego store-bought bottled water and refill bottles with Bonaire tap water.**



► **STINAPA Bonaire brought a shortfin Mako shark to CIEE Bonaire last week** after it was found washed ashore. This is the largest animal the staff at CIEE had necropsied at the station. The shortfin mako has the fastest recorded swimming speed of any shark and is highly intelligent. It is listed as a Vulnerable Species by the IUCN. There was a hole under the lower jaw where the shark had been

hooked and a wear-line where fishing line likely rubbed the skin of the shark. As far as we know, the shark was dead when it washed ashore.

This was a female mako and had a total length of 2 m (6'6"); with a fork length of 1.8 m. A female shortfin mako becomes reproductive at a fork length of 2.75 m, which is approximately 18 years of age. This shark was probably 8 - 10 years old and was not large enough to have reproduced in its short life. The largest shortfin mako listed on wikipedia was 3.3 m (11') and was 32 years old.

CIEE staff collected tissue samples that they hope to have analyzed for heavy metals and parasites. They found two types of parasites that they preserved in the lab. One is a parasitic copepod that was on the gills and attached to the roof of the mouth. The parasites will be studied as well.

Thanks to the people who reported the shark and to the Marine Park for bringing it to CIEE Bonaire! (*press release*)

► **CIEE may leave Bonaire following the upcoming Fall semester.** If it does it would represent a major loss to the local community. We haven't heard this officially and hope it is untrue.

► **TUI, the European tour package airline, will fly from Amsterdam to Bonaire one extra day per week beginning November 1**, on Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, using a Boeing 787 Dreamliner with stops in either Aruba or Curacao.

(Continued on page 5)

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# On the Island Since... 2007 - Tineke and Maarten de Groot-Looman

A Bonaire Reporter regular feature since 2001



Maarten and Tineke in front of the Beach Hut



Marjolein, Tineke and Maarten at a dark and gloomy Sorobon

“My family has always lived on Aruba and Curacao. When Maarten was with the Marines, he was stationed on the islands twice, so he was also familiar with the region. We lived in Holland. Maarten worked with the same company for 21 years and I had my own business but we wanted a change, a challenge.”

“After looking around,” Maarten says, “we chose Bonaire. The people were friendly and it was small-scale and peaceful. After our arrival we started taking care of vacation homes. I would pick people up from the airport and maintain the pool – but it wasn’t really my thing. Tineke was more involved in it.”

One day I was talking to the general manager of Plaza and he asked me to put Plaza’s logistics back on track. I was okay with it but didn’t want to do it for a longer period of time. I was still looking for something that would fit me. When I heard the restaurant of the Beach Hut at Sorobon was available, I decided to rent it from Patun, Elvis and Roger. The only experience I had in that field was being a customer – but together with two guys from Plaza I made the leap in July 2008. I opened the day the Pro Kids event started. It was a coincidence but it worked out great! Shortly after, my two partners started to become homesick and within a year both of them left the island and I was running the business on my own. But it went well and soon enough the local people started calling me ‘Grandi.’

“Let me tell you a little story,” Tineke laughs. “My mother, who lives in Holland now, has an Antillean nurse who helps her with everything. When the nurse saw a photo of Maarten and me on my mom’s cabinet she asked my mom, ‘What’s Grandi doing on your cabinet?’ Ha! That was so funny!”

“Well,” Maarten says, “after having worked alone for a while, Marjolein started helping me out in November 2008. She was a flight attendant with Transavia and had a winter stop and was staying in one of the apartments Tineke was taking care of. When she told Tineke she was looking for a temporary job, Tineke immediately sent her to the Beach Hut. Not long after she decided to stay. Later in 2009, Tineke and I quit taking care of the apartments so I could concentrate completely

on the Beach Hut. Tineke did the administration, which she is still doing. And I am very lucky to have a super team here. My personnel is always in a good mood and very friendly. And when the cruise ships come in it’s no big deal for us, we are so attuned to each other that everything runs smoothly.

Sometimes, when I arrive here in the morning, I take photos and post them on Facebook for my friends who are working at an office.” He grins. “Comments are hilarious! On a regular basis I go to Denver, Colorado, where I stay with friends because I get so fed up with this view I have here, believe it or not! However, days before I’m returning to Bonaire I’m thinking, ‘Great! Time to go home!’ And then, when I arrive at Sorobon, it hits me: This is it! No place like this in the whole wide world!”

“There is something I would like to mention,” Tineke says. “It’s about the sea level rising. Here, at the Beach Hut, we had three rows of beach chairs in front of the restaurant on the beach, but now we can

only put one row and often not even one, when the water rises up to the door. When you think about it: What has happened in only nine years?”

Well, aside from doing the administration I am not involved in the Beach Hut. After having worked at the Animal Shelter for a short while in 2007, I became convinced that there should be more awareness about sterilization and castration of dogs and cats. Also, people needed more information about how to take care of their animals and what to do when their pet gets sick. All this to prevent dogs or cats ending up at the Shelter or worse, being euthanized, because there were and still are too many animals. I didn’t know how to go about it, but then, Marina Melis put me in contact with Stichting Dierenhulp – the Animal Help Foundation - in Holland and with their help, Jan Laarakker, a vet, and I started offering sterilizations and castra-

tions. I think that when you help the animals, you also help the owner. When people have a clean, healthy and happy pet, their relationship with their pet becomes different. It doesn’t cause stress or anxiety anymore and it gives them joy and subsequently the animal becomes part of the family. Whether it’s a dog, a cat or a Lora - or any other animal - when you take good care of your pet, it becomes more fun, more sociable and more affectionate.

To me an animal is part of the family and that’s why we have 12 dogs, hahaha! I’ve found abandoned and totally miserable puppies, but we also have a bunch of old dogs that people left behind because they were old. To me it’s like a potato chip commercial where you can’t eat just one – I can’t stop taking them in! And Maarten is just as weak as I am!”

Maarten: “People know us too well. One night I was out late at Havana and a guy I know shows up with a puppy in a cardboard box. He didn’t know what to do with it. So I came home in the wee hours of the night and Tineke was in a bad mood

appointment with Jan. We also help with the housing of the animals and many other issues that show up. At the same time, people get to know us and they learn to trust us.

The vision of Stichting Dierenhulp is that through sterilization, castration and guidance you will get a healthier animal population and eventually people will keep their animals in their own yard. I think the situation on the island has improved and there are definitely fewer poor wretches roaming the streets, thanks to the effort of more and more organizations who are committed to the animals and their welfare.

Still, I find we have to aim for the perfect outcome, otherwise I couldn’t do it. But you also have to look at the circumstances and you should not have the Western picture in mind. You must look at what’s achievable for people and animals and respect people’s dignity. Everything Jan and I are doing is being paid for by the foundation which was founded by Mark Vos. We are not subsidized by the government; our funds come from gifts from Holland but also from sponsors here on the island.

Never before have we worked as hard as we work here.” She laughs. “In Holland we had office hours, vacation and weekends. On Bonaire we’re just going on and on.” “But we are a strong team,” Maarten says. “We’ve been together for 33 years and we support each other in everything we’re doing. We love to travel and we went to Chile together, which was an amazing trip and very special because usually we have to go separately because of the dogs. Each of us went to the Azores several times to visit our dear friends, Sean and Marjolein, and to see what life is like there. Sean is my buddy and we miss them. Then there’s our unrest and wanderlust because the world is big and beautiful and we feel we haven’t reached our final destination. However, for the time being we’re good. We’re living a fantastic life. Bonaire is still freedom and tranquility and still the island has more nature than people.” ■

Story & photos by Greta Kooistra

“...through sterilization, castration and guidance you will get a healthier animal population... .”



*Flotsam and Jetsam (Continued from page 3)*  
The additional Bonaire arrival was at the expense of TUI's flying to St. Maarten.

► **Teacher Jane Lo-A-Njoe from Kolegio San Luis Bertran** receives the keys of the renovated school building from builder **Asdrubal Marciano of APA Construction**. Following renovation, the San Luis Bertran School in Rincon is open again. Most Bonaire schools have had structural improvement and expansion since the 2010 restructuring of the Antilles. **Jacobs Architekten NV is responsible for the design of the school.**



► We live on a beautiful, but small island, where everything we do has a direct impact on our nature and our environment. **Solid waste is one of the biggest challenges that Bonaire is currently facing.** Our landfill is reaching full capacity and expansion into nature areas is simply not an option.

“What can I do to help solve this waste problem?” asked **Lorella (Lola) Scandaletti** co-owner of Capriccio Ristorante. Lola decided that she would no longer use Styrofoam to-go boxes and switched to a nature friendly alternative. She noticed right

away that biodegradable packaging costs a little more, especially when you buy it in smaller quantities. So, the next logical step would be to increase the buying volume. **Already Pasa Bon Pizza and Go Green Restaurant are using these boxes.** Lola approached **Sharon Bol** of Boneiru Duradero, a WWF/NL sponsored project on Bonaire and that is how the idea started for a collective **Non-Profit** buying platform. Their first goal is to reach out to local restaurants and get a feel for the quantities of to-go boxes that restaurants use. The ultimate goal is to buy biodegradables collectively at the lowest price! When you buy collectively you can order bigger quantities, negotiate a better price and share the costs of shipping and handling. Pilot testing with kraft-paper food boxes on Bonaire already shows that tourists are willing to pay a little extra for nature friendly food-containers.

► **During the months of August, September and October, Bonaire's coral will reproduce.** This phenomenon, known as the Coral Spawning, takes place two to three times a year and is one of the most unique natural phenomena on earth. For most divers, coral spawning is an experience they'll never forget. In addition to the coral, other underwater organisms continue to spawn in these months, such as sponges and brittle stars, and also contribute to the special spectacle. According to Carmabi Curacao, for the best experience plan to dive six to eight nights after the full moons in August, September and October. **Full moon nights are August 7, September 6, and October 5.** G./L.D.

## Picture Yourself With The Reporter At The United Nations, N.Y.



**B**onaire activist James Fines (left) brought a *Bonaire Reporter* with him when he and Dr. Carlyle Corbin called at the UN headquarters in July to call attention to the BES Island's situation as special municipalities of Holland. He believes that adding Bonaire to the UN's list of 29 Non Self Governing Countries would better reflect the current situation of Bonaire in the Dutch Kingdom. He was sponsored by Davika Bissessar's Dare To Care Foundation and other contributors.

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# Bonaire Statistics: People, Houses and Utilities

The Dutch Government publishes key statistics and economic indicators throughout the year. Recently figures for the BES Islands were re-released. Several trends are revealed in the tables published here. Please take note that the last column in all tables is unofficial and subject to modification.

- The population is **growing**, but **not as fast** as after the 10/10/10 restructuring.
- Migration from Aruba and Curacao is small but growing.
- the **departure** of residents from Bonaire is fairly **stable**
- The number of **houses** sold and their sale price is **dropping** (below)

## Bonaire: population growth births, deaths, migration

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016*
Population on 1 January (source: CBS)				15518	15823	16541	17408	18413	18905	19408
Population on 1 January (source: CBS-NA)	11515	12093	12877	13389						
Live births	180	194	209	183	181	191	194	207	160	
Deaths	77	67	72	84	109	70	79	98	102	
Natural increase	103	127	137	99	72	121	115	109	58	
Immigration	1275	1538	1209	1234	1539	1523	1525	1213	1245	
Emigration incl net adm corrections	800	883	837	1035	849	820	658	824	826	
Migration	475	655	372	199	690	703	867	389	419	
Net migration between 3 islands					3	5	15	19	20	
Population growth	578	784	509	298	718	867	1005	492	503	
Population on 31 December (source: CBS)				15823	16541	17408	18413	18905	19408	
Population on 31 Dec (source: CBS-NA)	12093	12877	13389	13687						

## Bonaire; sold dwellings price index 2011=100

Periods	Price index 2011=100	Changes %	Number of Houses Sold	Changes %
Year	\$ index	Chnged	# sold	Change %
2011	100		155	
2012	102.7	2.7	151	-2.6
2013	102.3	-0.4	168	11.3
2014	102.2	0	156	-7.1
2015	95.2	-6.8	150	-3.8
2016*	95	-5	147	-2

\*estimate

## Bonaire connections and production of electricity and water

item	action	Subject	item	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014*	2015*
Electricity	Connections	Households	number	8307	8593	8827	9190		
Electricity	Connections	Companies	number	1518	1540	1565	1619		
Electricity	Production	Total	mIn kWh	82.2	85.1	91.1	93.6	97.3	103.4
Electricity	Production	Fossil Fueled	mIn kWh	77.3	58.8	58.6	56.9	56.1	63.4
Electricity	Production	Renewable	mIn kWh	4.9	26.3	32.5	36.7	41.2	40.1
Mains water	Production	Production	1,000 m3	1206	1248	1309	1359	1514	1587

Production of electricity and water is often used as a measure of economic fitness. Bonaire's consumption of both has experienced a **steady upward trend**. Potable water is produced from electrically powered reverse-osmosis. A bit less than 40% of the island's grid-delivered electricity is produced from wind power. Private solar power facilities are growing but not included in the totals. ■ G.D.



Bonaire's Phillies Baseball Bonaire Under-18 baseball team returned home last Friday as champions of the World Baseball Federation's annual international tournament. The tournament was held in Miami, Florida from July 29 through August 5.

Our Phillies made it through to the semi-final, defeating Panama in a 10-inning thriller with the final score of 1-0. In the final championship game, the Phillies blanked Mexico 5-0 and were crowned champions. Major league scouts were present at the tournament and at least four of the players have received a study and sports scholarship to get started in

the United States.

Congratulations to Phillies Baseball Bonaire on their great success and for proudly representing Bonaire around the world. ■ Jane Madden-Disko

## BEST CARE ZORGWINKEL

The island's health care foundation offering products and services for sale and rent: hearing aids, special food products, diapers, diabetics, disability aids, impaired vision devices, wheelchairs, walkers, crutches, electric scooters, patients beds and more. Cooperating with Bonaire's health care insurance



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Our team servicing what we rent and sell



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## Colombia-Bonaire's Mysterious Plantation



The ruins of the Colombia Plantation land house overlooking Puerto Spanjo

I have just renewed my acquaintance with the past. After having left Bonaire four years ago it was exciting again to discover the island, to feel and see how it goes with the people, nature, and also the architecture. Development on the island hasn't stopped. The island feels a bit more full, not surprising with a 20% population growth between 2011 and 2016, to 19,000+. The progress regarding monument protection also did not stand still. The Bonaire Spatial Development Plan (ROB list with 637 buildings) was established on October 8, 2010.

During my short vacation on the island I continued looking for the beautiful architecture pearls. My only way to find them was to drive around island, talk to the residents and read the old records.

So I recently learned about Plantation Colombia. Many residents on Bonaire know the name Colombia and some know that it is the name of an old plantation. Several of the other plantations were more familiar: Slagbaai, Washington, Bolivia, Karpata, Guatemala and Bakuna.



### Finding Colombia

Ellen Cochrane-Herrera who owns Kunuku Rooi Lamoenchi knows some stories about plantation Colombia and recently paid it a visit. For her it was a special encounter since, was built by her grandfather. ■ Wilna Groenenboom

Groenenboom wrote the book Document Bonaire and authored the column Antique Living Houses which ran for several years in the pages of The Bonaire Reporter. She plans to resume the column in the future.



## Happy Birthday Terramar

Cover Story



Tour guide Rianne explains about how remnants can explain the life of the early settlers.

On Saturday, August 5, the Terramar Museum opened its doors to celebrate its first anniversary, and 107 visitors came. During the day free tours were given in English and Dutch. The first 50 people to sign up were given coupons for a free scoop of ice cream at Luciano's. The children had a contest whereby they had to guess how many visitors the museum had since its opening one year ago. Smartie Boy Indie won the contest, guessing 6,417. The actual number was 6,636.

Our tour, led by Rianne Van Rijswijk, took the visitors from the beginning of time, through the years of the Arawak Indians, through slavery times up until the present moment. We were encouraged to enjoy the fascinating exhibits more in depth, some with "voices of the people of the time" explaining their lives. Visual inter-active exhibits appeal to the children as well as the adults. Tour participants were invited to add information. One lady responded in answer to a question about the wild cotton we see growing on the island. She said her grandmother and mother as well as many of the other residents on the island always grew cotton in their gardens. They would harvest it and in the evenings sit around as a social group and pick the seeds out. The cotton was used for pillows and cushions, but not turned into fabric. A new fact about Bonaire.

Don't miss a visit to the Terramar Museum on the waterfront, behind the Terramar Shopping Mall. It's entertaining, fun and educational. They're open Monday through Saturday, 9am to 6pm. Cruise ship days, 9am to 6 pm. Sundays they're closed. Entrance is \$10, \$5 for residents. And you may become a "Friend of the Museum" for \$100 which gives you free admission and invitations to special Museum Evenings. Worth every penny! ■ L.D.



Let's see: how many visitors came to the museum in the last year?



The kids are impressed with how life was in the early days. This exhibit shows it so well.

## Penny Lane Exchange

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Kaya Grandi #23-G, Up the stairs—Across from Gio's Ice Cream,

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Friday: 10am to 5:30 Saturday: 11am to 3:00pm Closed – Sun. and Mon.

**Phone 599-795-9332 email- [PennyLanebonaire@hotmail.com](mailto:PennyLanebonaire@hotmail.com)**

# Regatta 50



## BRING BACK THE "REAL" BOATS

Bonaire has a long maritime history. Ship building was commonplace and before engines became the norm, the fishermen set to sea in sailing boats both large and small. These were replaced by power boats, and the fishing boats were only seen once a year in the Regatta. With only one big race per year, even this event sadly fell by the wayside. Most of the boats are now filling with weeds on various kunukus.

The island's local government has made it priority for this year's Regatta to bring the fishermen's boats race back for the 50<sup>th</sup> Regatta, as this is how Bonaire's Regatta started. Many in the community had their own desire to bring the boats back, but without help, it was an insurmountable goal. Hype Events, the organizers of Regatta this year, are organizing a group effort to make it happen.

### The Group

**Budget Marine**, our main marine supply store, the **Obersi group** of companies including Xerox; Ports of Passion – a quality of life improvement company; Teal Consultancy – a project management and management consultancy company; other individuals and companies are working to make this a reality not only for this Regatta, but for those in the future.

### Teamwork

Traditional fishing boats are a big part of Bonaire culture. It is important to foster our local culture and keep it alive for future generations.

So, how are we going to do this? **First, we are putting a call out to anyone who has a traditional fishing boat to participate.** If you have a boat, a sail, or any part of a boat, let us know! **You can contact us at Budget Marine by phone 717-3710 or [Bonaire@budgetmarine.com](mailto:Bonaire@budgetmarine.com).**

Together, we will figure out how we can get the boats to the Kas di Regatta which will be our repair central.

Once we have the boats there, they will be evaluated and repair work can begin. We have many craftsmen already set to assist with the repairs.

If you do not have a boat but would like to be involved, you can come on down and work alongside the craftsmen and get a firsthand view of how the work is done.

Not ready for repair work? Support us with a pot of soup, a bag of ice or a cold beer to fuel the workers. Together as a community we can make this happen.

Material support is always welcome. Have any sails that are not being used? We will work to repurpose. We need not only the boats, but trailers to get them to the sea, lead for ballast and other fitting and items

necessary. Financial support is required as well. Many materials still need to be purchased, future races to be organized and more to make this all work.

Once the boats are ready to sail, there is need for crew. These boats are not simple sailing vessels as are many modern boats. Experienced sailors are important. Check if there are spots open to sail in the races if you feel you qualify.

Cheer – of course we need you all to come out and cheer for these beautiful boats at the Regatta. Take and post photos, embrace the traditions.

Sea Hawk, a manufacture of paints and Epoxies has already donated nearly \$4,000 worth of materials to begin the project. We look forward to others joining forces with us to make this a great success.



Plans are to get at least six sail fishing boats like these racing in the Regatta

### Long Term

Of course, once restored, how do we ensure the boats do not fall to the same fate again? Our goal is to have a minimum of four events per year to keep the boats and sailors active and involved.

Budget Marine is already planning a big event for December that will include a Regatta, triathlon, walk, festival and more. If there is anyone interested in sponsoring or organizing more events, let's get together and make it happen. If



September 8, 1986: The 'Velia' with the banner of sponsor Zincke-Smith

you have ideas of other ways to support this effort, we look forward to hearing from you! This is just the beginning. ■ *Lara Chirino*



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# The Taste Of Bonaire

Which Bonaire event is the best for drawing locals and tourists? Many people think it the monthly Taste of Bonaire event usually held on the Wilhelmina Plaza waterfront.

On a typical evening you will be able to sample cuisine from a score of countries, prepared fresh, very inexpensively, enjoy entertainment and visit with friends.

On Saturday August 5th, TCB together with Selibon NV organized the fifth Taste of Bonaire, with the theme, "Recycling." The program was filled with music, talent and food stands. There were arts and crafts stands selling recycled products at a great price. Music group Hoben Positivo and Steelband Silver Bullet entertained the crowd. As an extra attractive touch there was a fashion show with beautiful outfits made out of recycled materials.

Aside from the local and international food, you'll love to check out what creative minds produced from true local products, such as goat skin bags, driftwood art, aloe vera products, sea salt and more.

The next Taste of Bonaire will be on September 2, again at Wilhelmina Park. The theme will be "A Dance Festival." ■ G/L.D.



Total island entertainment:  
The inexhaustible  
Silver Bullet Band



There was even a real Wine Bar



Is there anything more refreshing than shaved ice?



Falafel from the beloved Garden Café crew.



To alert everyone that land sailing is back a blo-kart was on hand. Contact Bonaire Landsailing Adventures via Facebook or give Sandro a call at 786-1572 to try it.



Luisa and cakes are synonymous... and help from Norca



The versatile Arda Dirksz served delicious local food.



Want a tattoo without the permanence? Visit Kanchan Kundnani Devnani (right)


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# SHOPPING, SERVICE and DINING GUIDE

## Check these places first When shopping, needing services or dining Advertisements in this edition

### AIRLINES

**Divi Divi Air**- Bonaire's "on time airline" with 16 flights a day between Bonaire and Curaçao. Your first choice for inter-island travel. Reserve early to ensure a seat.

### BANK

**ORCO Bank** offers one-on-one attention, personal banking. Each client is a person, not a number. The office is the historic building at Kaya Grandi 48.



### BEAUTY

**Hair Affair**. Expert hair cutting, styling, facials and facial waxing. Great new shop on Kaya Grandi. Walk-in service too. Find them on Facebook.

### BIKES

**De Freewieler** sells bikes and all kinds of bike accessories. They do professional repairs on almost anything on two wheels. **Have your keys made here too.**

### DENTURE REPAIR

**All Denture Lab**—for the best denture care by an experienced professional. Repairs while you wait. Next to Botika Korona on Kaya J. G. Hernandez.

### FITNESS & Yoga

**Bon Bida**— Complete Physiotherapy, Fitness and Beauty facilities under one roof. Class, exercise machines and Bonaire's first spinning studio.

**Yoga Terrace at Eden Beach**— Offers yoga classes M-F 8-9am, Monday 5:30pm, Saturday 9am

### HEALTH CARE

**BEST Care Logistics** is where to go for convalescent and health products and services: hearing tests/aids, food products, diapers, diabetics, disability aids, impaired vision devices, wheelchairs, walkers, crutches, electric scooters, patients beds **and more.**

**Body Stress Relief** — Do you suffer from back, neck and / or shoulders, headache or other physical complaints? BSR is a gentle technique that releases body strain and accesses your body's self-healing power.

### ON and IN the WATER

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

### OPTICIAN

**Buena Vista Optics** is Bonaire's most up-to-date place to get eyeglasses or contact lenses. The combination of experienced personnel and advanced equipment and technology make it a top value.

### PHOTOGRAPHER

**Bonaire's most creative above or underwater video and still photographer for the wedding or other important events in your life.** Drone photography too. ScubaVision, recently renamed Bonaire Vision Films & Photo, has a new website at [www.bonairevisionfilms.com](http://www.bonairevisionfilms.com).

### REAL ESTATE /RENTAL AGENTS

**Harbourtown Real Estate**; since 1989 YOUR agent for the purchase, sale, lease and management of residential and commercial properties!



**RE/MAX Paradise Homes** is your one-stop-shop for Selling and Buying real estate; Purchasing an existing business; Commercial or residential development; Holiday rentals and Long term rentals. See page 3.



**Sunbelt Realty** offers full real estate, rental, and insurance services. If you want a home or to invest in Bonaire, stop in and visit. Ad on back page



### RESTAURANTS

**Bobbejans**— Bonaire's quintessential "rib joint" not only has some of the best ribs but tasty extras like Gado-Gado, pork chops and fries. Open Friday night and weekends only.

**BonAroma**— One of Bonaire's newest fine restaurants. Just five tables, continental cuisine and superb service Most romantic spot on the island?

**Pasa Bon Pizza**—Bonaire's quality pizza. Best ingredients, best baking and best taste. Great salads and lasagna too. Eat in or take away.

### RETAIL

**Dushi Shoes, Dushi Style, Reef & Dive Friends Shops** – featuring Clarks, Guess, DC Shoes, Reefs – as well as Tee Shirts for men and women.

**The Tung Fong Store** is a great asset to everyone on Bonaire because it stocks so many thing we want: clothes, hardware, food, auto and bike supplies. If you don't see it... ask for it. They probably have it. See page 2.

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



### SECURITY

**Special Security Services** will provide that extra measure of protection when you need it. Always reliable.

### STORAGE

**The Storehouse (Mangazina** in Papiamentu) offers Secure Storage for Vehicles, Household Items, Diving and Sporting Gear, Business Files or Inventory. Across from the northern hotel row.



### SHIPPING

**Rocargo Logistics Services B.V.** Air and sea shipments in/out of Bonaire. Customs agents. Professional and efficient. **What would we do without their superb services?**



### WATER TAXI

**Get to Klein Bonaire by Ferry.** Ride the *Kantika di Amor*. Hotel or downtown pickup The only water taxi to Klein Bonaire with an easy on/off built-in ramp at Bonaire Nautico (It Rains Fishes Restaurant)

# A Garden? Just Do It

## ROOTS

Another nice thing to do on a rainy day is be busy with art. For me its writing, and at this moment writing about nature for *The Reporter* while listening to the rainfall. Such a peaceful inspiration that makes a lot of good ideas come into my mind.

While watering the plants this morning (before the rain started), I noticed two wild cats in the yard, hunting for the birds. I have no dog so they are often around. And because the birds love my garden, they also are often coming and going. So for the cats it's a perfect place to hide in the branches and catch the birds. This morning I found a just half eaten lora, the feathers all over the place. Oh no! This is not a Bloody Mary, but a bloody Lora. What a pity, but this was pure nature.

My neighbors and I are busy replacing our wall because so many roots destroyed it. As I said many times, roots can be a serious danger for buildings and walls. But not all trees have dangerous, invading roots. So I made a kind of list of different trees and what their roots do for you to consider when planning your garden.

First, don't plant big trees too close to your fence or wall. You might have some space between your fence and your house, but your neighbors may not. That means that roots can damage their house even though the tree is in your yard. That can bring troubles to an otherwise nice relationship with your neighbors. So the best place is to plant those giants in a more open space in your yard. Consider this list:

**Big trees with big invasive roots:** Mango, Tamarind, Knippa tree, Neem tree, July tree, Mispel, Baby Druif, Druifi Surinam, Hoba, Watapana, Golden apple.

**Trees in between which can damage too:** Sunsaka, Carambola, Avocado, Wayaca, Appledam, Noni, Cashew, Palm trees, Birambi, Guaba, Kalbas, Makapruim, Sorrel, Big Oleander.

**Small trees or shrubs which you can plant close to a wall or house:** Papaya, Cherry, Banana, Coco, Pomegranate, Skopappel, Lemon, Tuturutu, Hibiscus, Cactus, Parchita.

When you don't want a tree anymore, remove the roots too. Dead roots get rotten and that's exactly what termites like. So dead trees and roots in your yard are also dangerous for nearby houses. (This includes beach wood, pallets or building



*Big Appeldam tree. Planted too close to the wall*



*Kalbas tree, a tree with smaller roots than the large knepa tree. It's too close to the wall as well.*

wood.) Even dead roots from small plants like the oleander or roots that can keep on growing and start a new tree, and suddenly you see it growing from under the house.

Roots are not always dangerous. In places on Bonaire where there is no "klip" (rock surface), roots grow deep into the soft soil and are no danger for houses. Trees are only dangerous when they cannot grow deep into the soil, so they spread their roots on the surface and go in the direction of where they can find water. Soil drainage depends on the area where you live.

**Lastly, here are a few nice things to know:**

Once a friend from Trinidad visited me. When she saw a Neem tree on my street she got crazy. She wanted to take almost the whole tree to Trinidad. She told me that Neem leaves are so expensive there and that you can't find them easily and they make a lot of home medicines from it. So I told her to become rich with Neem from Bonaire and that some of us here would be happy that that they all would move to Trinidad. So you see, what is too much here is needed in another place. And that's how we should share things in the world. ■ *Story & photos by Angliet, Nature Lover*

**Correction:** In the last issue we mislabeled a photo in the last "Just Do It" story. The

## DID YOU KNOW?

That the Flamingo Tongue Snail (*Cyphoma gibbosum*) stores toxic compounds from its food sources in its mantle to make itself toxic? The Flamingo Tongue Snail has developed an immunity to the toxins and uses it for its own benefit to become distasteful for most predators. Clever little snail...



*Flamingo Tongue Snail* Photo by Alchetron.com

The Flamingo Tongue Snail grows to about 2.5 cm (or 1 inch) long, and can reach an age of 2 years. It has two eyes and a sharp tongue called a radula that it uses to scrape and eat the skin (live tissue) of gorgonian corals, leaving behind the hard skeleton. Gorgonians are flexible corals which include sea fans, sea plumes and sea rods. The Flamingo Tongue's mantle extends all the way around its shell and has some amazing patterns with yellow colors and orange spots, which is thought to be a signal to predators that it is toxic and to leave it alone. The mantle is in fact toxic because the toxins that it absorbs by eating gorgonians are stored here. The mantle also serves as the snail's lungs, absorbing oxygen and releasing carbon dioxide. When the snail is being attacked, it temporarily retracts its mantle into its shell, revealing its rather boring, whitish-colored shell.

Even though the Flamingo Tongue is toxic, that doesn't mean this snail has nothing to be afraid of. Pufferfish, Hogfish and Spiny Lobsters seem to like eating this snail, regardless of the distastefulness of the toxins. It's lucky they have predators since this is necessary to keep the snail population in check. Should these predators become scarce (e.g. due to overfishing, diseases, etc.), the snail population could grow beyond sustainable numbers and may have devastating consequences for the gorgonians. Bonaire witnessed a Flamingo Tongue outbreak in the fall of 2009, but numbers went back to normal within months and not much is known about the effect they had on gorgonians during the outbreak. A single

snail, however, never intends to kill its host, but moves to other hosts to allow the coral to regenerate.

Like many other gastropods, the Flamingo Tongue Snail leaves a trail of mucus when moving from host to host. When another individual comes across this trail, it will follow it in the hope of finding a good host gorgonian and possible mating opportunities. The mating process may last up to 4 hours. After 4 days, the female lays as many as 300 eggs on the grazed part of the coral. Within 10 to 12 days the larvae emerge, are planktonic for an unknown time period, and eventually settle on or nearby a gorgonian to begin their lives on the coral reef.

A mistake that people make when collecting the snail for decoration purposes, is that they are convinced the shell contains the beautiful colors. This is not the case, since when the snail dies its colorful mantle also dies and disappears, revealing the pale shell underneath. In Bonaire, collecting is not permitted and we here at STINAPA encourage everyone to enjoy the Flamingo Tongue Snail's wonderful appearance while it's alive. ■

*Thijs van Wuijckhuijse, STINAPA Assistant Biologist*

Connecting People With Nature.



Although it is not a tree native to Bonaire, the bright red Flamboyant tree is flowering abundantly on the island right now. It's also known as the royal Poinciana or Flame Tree, a species of flowering plant in the bean family *Fabaceae*, subfamily *Caesalpinioideae*. It is noted for its fern-like leaves and flamboyant display of flowers.

In addition to its ornamental value, it is also a useful shade tree in tropical conditions because it usually grows to a modest height (mostly 5 meters, but it can reach a maximum height of 12 meters) but spreads widely, and its dense foliage provides full shade. In areas with a marked dry season, it sheds its leaves during A drought, but in other areas it is virtually evergreen. ■ *L.D.*

## Tree On Fire



# What's Happening

## 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.

## 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. Entry fee based on income level.
- 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 2017: [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

## 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.

- 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

## 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

CHRISTOPHER'S

DAY	DATE	NAME	ARR/DEP	CAP	C.LINE
Tue	15-Aug	Zenith	0700-1800	1828	CEL
Mon	21-Aug	Adventure of the Seas	0800-1700	3114	RCCL
Tue	22-Aug	Zenith	0700-1800	1828	CEL
Tue	29-Aug	Zenith	0700-1800	1828	CEL
Tue	5-Sep	Zenith	0700-1800	1828	CEL

Beach Resort in Peter Hughes meeting room upstairs above the dive shop. All Rotarians welcome. Call Gregory Obersi 785-9446.

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

- General 12-step meeting (AA, NA, CoDa etc)** Every Wednesday at Bonaire Basics, Kaya Korona 47. Starts at 19.15, ends at 20.30, walk in from 19.00. For more information, email: [12stepbonaire@gmail.com](mailto:12stepbonaire@gmail.com)

## 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](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 Cochrane-Herrera at

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

## Exhibitions

—**Coral Restoration Exhibit-Terramar Museum**

—**Stormvogel Salute to the Sailors** maritime photo exhibit, 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

**August 14, September 13, and October 12.** —*The best nights to view coral spawning while diving.*



**Tuesday, August 15<sup>th</sup>**— STINAPA biologist Caren Eckrich is giving a **presentation on reef fish behavior at CIEE**, Kaya Gobernador Debrot 26, from 7 to 8pm. Free admission

**Wednesday, August 16** — **Learn your Ayurveda body type.** Knowing your body type is one approach to knowing yourself and maximize your quality of life. At the GoGreen Center, Kaya Gobernador N Debrot 49, 6.30 pm. \$5

**Saturday, September 2**—**Taste of Bonaire**, Wilhelmina Park, foods, crafts, entertainment, 6pm-11pm

**Wednesday, September 6**—**Bonaire Day**, Colegio Kristu Bon Wardador

**Wednesday-Saturday, October 11-14** -**Bonaire Regatta #50.**

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Day	High	Low	High	Low	High	Sunrise	Sunset
<b>Mon 14</b>	<b>Last</b>	01:38	05:56	12:21	18:48	6:24	18:56
		02:36	06:52	12:57	19:30		
<b>Tue 15</b>		03:31	07:47	13:37	20:15	6:24	18:55
		04:25	08:44	14:21	21:03		
<b>Wed 16</b>		05:19	09:44	15:10	21:54	6:24	18:54
		06:14	10:48	16:04	22:47		
<b>Thu 17</b>		07:08	11:57	17:07	23:42	6:24	18:53
		08:01	13:09	18:22			
<b>Fri 18</b>		08:52	14:18	19:49	<b>New Moon</b>	6:24	18:52
		09:45	15:20	21:22			
<b>Sat 19</b>		10:35	16:13	22:48		6:24	18:51
		11:24	17:07				
<b>Sun 20</b>		12:11	17:54			6:24	18:51
		12:56	18:41				
<b>Mon 21</b>		00:42	19:28			6:24	18:51
		01:27	20:15				
<b>Tue 22</b>		02:11	21:02			6:24	18:51
		02:55	21:49				
<b>Wed 23</b>		03:38	22:36			6:25	18:51
		04:21	23:23				
<b>Thu 24</b>		05:03	24:10			6:25	18:50
		05:45	24:57				
<b>Fri 25</b>		06:26	25:44	11:40	17:41	6:25	18:50
		07:07	26:31	12:21	18:19		
<b>Sat 26</b>		07:47	27:18	13:02	18:57	6:25	18:49
		08:27	28:05	13:43	19:35		
<b>Sun 27</b>		09:06	28:52	14:24	20:13	6:25	18:48
		09:45	29:39	15:05	20:51		
<b>Mon 28</b>		10:24	30:26	15:46	21:29	6:25	18:48
		11:03	31:13	16:27	22:07		

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**POLICE INEFFECTIVENESS**

Dear Editor,

I've lived on Bonaire since 1993. There was always a police force, sometimes more effective, sometimes less. We are all human. But there is no excuse any more for what's been happening in the few last years. The number of policeman went up, the number of robberies, break-ins, weapons, drugs, car thefts went up ....and so on. From my own experience with the police I can only say they have been very, very sad. We at Budget Marine got broken in two times, and on the surveillance video you can see these guys perfectly. They had masks, but a day before both were in the shop to "check the place out." You can see on the video that even with the masks, who they both are. The police got the video both from the break-in and from the day before. Until now I haven't even received a response. This was four months ago.

Now I am parked by the traffic circle at Sand Dollar and watching a police "control."

All kind of cars were stopped, small ones, big ones, old ones, new ones... but not one big truck, not one construction vehicle, not one car with trailer, not one government vehicle. And this makes me wonder how the cars are picked out of the lineup. Every single truck which is used in construction, cement or just sand has at least 50% of all electrics not working, but they are not controlled. Not one trailer has brake lights, but apparently they don't need them. It is sad, everybody was expecting improvement after 10.10.10 but like always, keep on dreaming Swa!

*Peter Werdath*

**BIG THANK YOU**

Dear Editor:

Thanks to *The Reporter* for the "On the Island" story about Mariella Beverhoud. It was amazing how years of dedication brought her here and also to my home. I went looking for a back support for my office chair and found Ms. Beverhoud really understood my spine. She got me a pillow and then found through her network in Holland a perfect size adjustable office chair, which relieves back strain. She is an expert therapist at matching the body to the correct tool.

I wish her success, *Florence Ditlow*

# ANIMAL SHELTER NEWS

SHOP EVERY SATURDAY AT GARAGE SALE "PAKUS DI PRUGA".

We are often asked by island visitors, residents and Bonaire Animal Shelter supporters: "Can I do anything to help?" Sure you can help and in any number of ways, like donating items to sell in our thrift shop. Every donation in any form is greatly appreciated and helps us help the animals at the Shelter. All the items that are donated to sell in our thrift shop, such as furniture, clothing, books and much more are always welcome.

Everybody is happy to shop for affordable prices and the money spent goes back to help generate extra revenue for our animal protection programs and to provide food and medical care for the animals at the Animal Shelter Bonaire. We are truly thankful!

You can bring items directly to the Pakhus di Pruga on Saturdays or during the week to the Animal Shelter. If you have heavy furniture items we can



even arrange to pick it up!

You can find Pakus di Pruga at Kam. Lib. Simon Bolivar, across from Brandaris Café. Open every Saturday from 8am to 5pm, non-stop. ■

Story & photos by Nathalie Petersen



## Pet Of The Week



### Meet "Cate"

What a clever and funny personality! Cate is not big, but in the pack with other dogs she behaves like the Alpha Female. Certainly other females but also macho males keep their respectful distance if she is onto something.

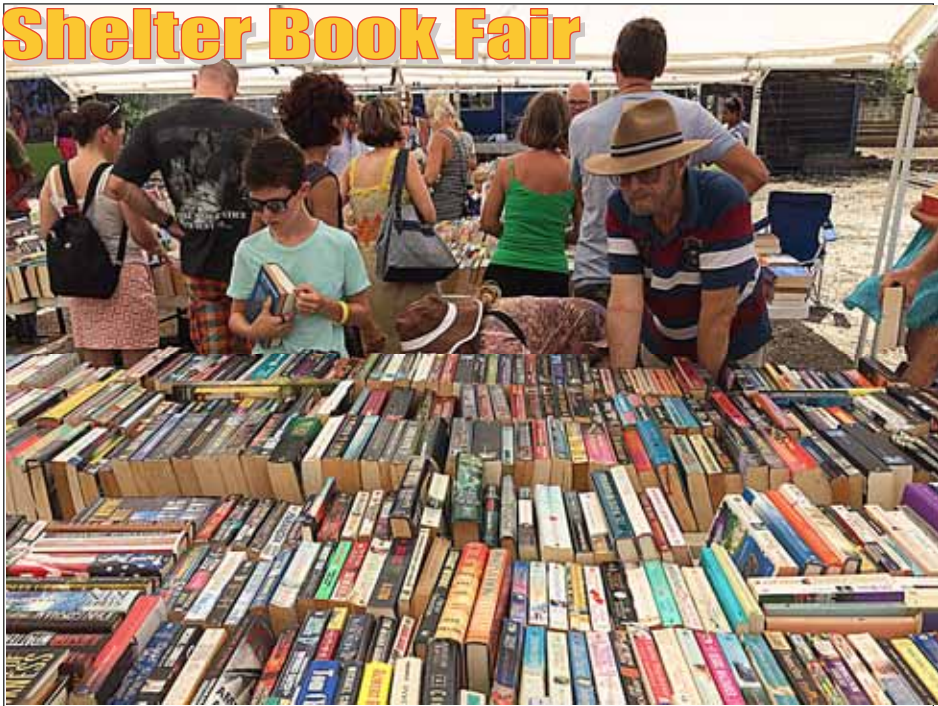
I had the pleasure to have her a week at home in order to convince another shy Shelter foster female dog that human beings can be trusted. As a mentor she teaches other dogs sensible things: keep the lizards out of the plants, away with the pigeons, but also how to play. After she found a hole in the fence, she was seen with her apprentice dog in tow two blocks away, but when called, both came back with amazing speed through the same hole in the fence! She was told several times that is not ladylike to jump, grab available items and play with them in the garden, however, without destroying them. She is good at reshuffling your

laundry neatly folded in basket. Always "in" for a hug and for cuddling, she remains in your vicinity in order not to miss a hug, a touch or some patting on her body. An ultimate friendly and kind personality, she loves everybody. If she had a Facebook account she would probably have 10.000 followers! This intelligent lady needs a lot of attention and will reward you with lots of love. This lovely companion is waiting for someone who has a lot of love in stock! By Raymond R.B. van Asperen Vervenne

Cate will be the perfect family dog! Are you looking for a long life friend, always happy and full of love? Then visit the Animal Shelter Bonaire at Kaminda Lagun 26a and meet Cate! For more information call 701-4989. E-mail to animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com

All the adoptable animals at the Animal Shelter Bonaire are treated against ticks and fleas, are de-wormed, vaccinated, micro chipped and spayed or neutered. ■ Nathalie Petersen

## Shelter Book Fair



A sea of books in Dutch, in English, fiction, non-fiction, books for children

It was an amazing day for book lovers. Hundreds of books were available for only \$1 each and they were beautifully organized. No hunting through boxes, getting a back ache!

At right, see the friendly devoted volunteers selling shirts, cozies, cold drinks and tasty freshly made Surinamese food.



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# THE STARS HAVE IT

August 2017

**ARIES** (Mar. 21- April 20) Try to be fair in your dealings with acquaintances. Disharmony in your relationship may cause minor ailments. It is best not to upset the apple cart if you learn information that may damage a colleague's reputation. Children or friends may try to talk you into lending them money. Your lucky day this month will be Friday.

**TAURUS** (Apr. 21- May 21) Responsibilities with respect to older relatives may be a burden. Don't take advantage of your expense account. Don't hesitate to enlist the aid of friends or family if you have a big project to finish in your domestic environment. Take time to do something nice for yourself. Your lucky day will be Thursday.

**GEMINI** (May 22-June 21) You can meet potential new mates if you socialize with friends. Take a look at the possibilities of starting a small part time business with friends or relatives. You can make changes that will enhance your appearance. A day at the beach may satisfy the whole family. Your lucky day this month will be Sunday.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22) You may find yourself in an opportune position if you are willing to take a bit of a risk. You may have problems with those you live with. You are best to stick to yourself this month. Be careful not to let friends or peers make you look bad. Your lucky day will be Friday.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug 22) You will be able to communicate well this month. The great outdoors will allow you to teach youngsters some of the things you learned when growing up. You can mesmerize anyone you meet with your cultured attitude and outlook. Your lover may cost you financially. Your lucky day this month will be Sunday.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) Refuse to get involved in idle chatter; it will only make you look bad. You have two choices; Get out on your own, or bend to your mate's whims. Your personal life is going through a state of confusion. Help elders get their personal papers in order. Your lucky day will be Wednesday.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) If you keep

busy you won't feel the personal pressures you are going through. Most partner problems are a result of both people not living up to their promises. You will find yourself tied to the phone. Coworkers may not be completely honest with you; try not to rely on help from others. Your lucky day will be Sunday.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) Don't believe everything you hear. You may have the energy to clear up that mound of paperwork facing you. A trip to visit relatives should be rewarding. Compromise if you wish to have any fun at all. Your lucky day will be Tuesday.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) You need to spend some time getting to know this person all over again. Don't be shy; if you want to spend more time with a special person, make a commitment. You will upset your partner if you have spent money on things that aren't necessary. Efforts made to improve yourself will turn out to your satisfaction. Your lucky day will be Friday.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) You can have a great time if you go out with the one you love. You need an outlet that will help take your mind off any troubles at work. Do not push your opinions or try to reform your emotional partner this month. You can make positive changes in your home. Your lucky day this month will be Saturday.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) Outbursts of passion may cause arguments with your mate. You can make new friends who could turn into intimate connections if you join clubs or take creative courses. Get busy on projects that improve your own image; you'll have the discipline to succeed. Avoid lovers who already have a relationship, even if it is a bad one. Your lucky day this month will be Tuesday.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) Listen and formulate your course of action. You will be indecisive. You will attract potential lovers, but be sure that they're unattached. Throw yourself into your profession. Do not invest in ventures that only appear to be lucrative. Your lucky day this month will be Sunday. ■

*SunSigns Horoscope*

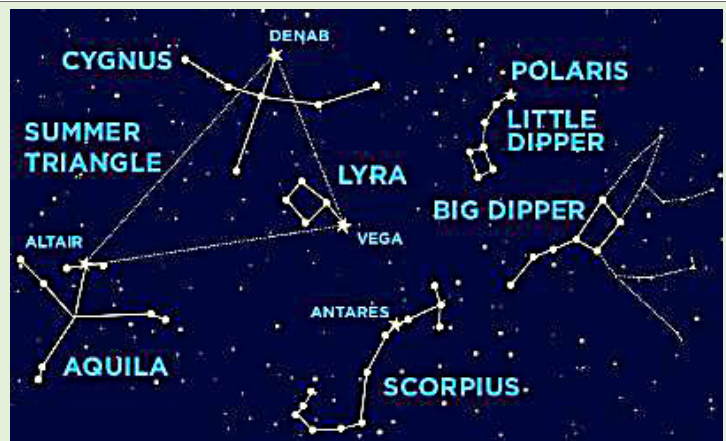


# BONAIRE SKY PARK\*

\*to find it... just look up

## Lyra the Harp

Have you seen Lyra the Harp? On any night this week, at about 10 pm Sky Park time look toward the east. You will see a grouping of stars we call the Summer Triangle. The brightest star in the triangle is actually the fifth brightest star we can see from earth and its name is Vega. Vega is



*Stars in the neighborhood of Lyra*

the star at the top of the triangle, and that's where you can find Lyra. The next brightest star in the Summer Triangle is Altair in Aquila the Eagle and the third brightest is Deneb in Cygnus the Swan. Lyra is often said to be the small harp that belonged to Apollo and was later given to Orpheus. Orpheus was so skilled at playing the harp that the music was said to charm anyone who heard it, even animals. When Orpheus played the harp, he could even charm inanimate objects like trees and rocks. Furthermore, when Orpheus joined Jason and the Argonauts, his music was able to muffle the songs of the dreaded sirens whose voices tempted the Argonauts.

Quite a few cultures saw this grouping of stars as a harp. In Wales, they refer to it as King Arthur's Harp and in Persia they called it the Lyre of Zurah. Lyra is also known as Praesepe Salvatoris (the manger of the infant Savior) and to the Incas, they saw it as Urcuchillay, a god in the form of a llama who watched over animals.

Of the 25 stars that are within the boundary for the constellation Lyra, five of those stars are bright enough to be visible with the naked eye from towns. The brightest one is of course Vega. Vega's blue-white color tells us that it is much hotter than our own yellow-orange Sun. In fact, compared to our Sun's temperature of 10 thousand degrees Fahrenheit, Vega blazes away at a fierce 17 thousand degrees Fahrenheit. Vega is also considerably larger, for while our Sun is a little

under a million miles wide, Vega is almost three million miles in diameter, which makes it easy to understand that if we could place our Sun and Vega side by side, Vega would shine 58 times brighter than the Sun.

Near Vega, there are four stars that make a parallelogram. Traveling counterclockwise from Vega, we have Zeta Lyrae, Delta Lyrae and the two on the far end are Sulafat and Sheliak. As far as statistics go, the stars in Lyra are quite impressive. Zeta Lyrae and Delta Lyrae are both binary star systems. Zeta is 156 light years away and Delta is approximately 1,100 light years from us. By comparison, Vega is very close to us at only 25 light years away. Sulafat is 2400 times as bright as our Sun and is about 620 light years away. Meanwhile, Sheliak is over 26,000 times as bright as our Sun, has a surface temperature of over 54,000 degrees Fahrenheit and is 960 light years away. Sheliak was also mentioned in an episode of Star Trek, The Next Generation.

One last thing about Lyra. Did you know that the Sun and all the planets in our Solar System are heading towards Vega? Our Solar System is racing towards Vega at the incredible speed of 12 miles per second, and even though Vega is only 25 light years away, at this speed it would still take our Sun almost 500 million years to reach Vega. ■

*Dean Regas & James Albury*

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