

It's Still FREE

BONAIRE Aug.28- Sept. 11, 2017, Year 24, Issue 16
The REPORTER
BES Island News Too

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**Sailing Kits
For ABC Kids
Pg. 7**



**Why are these people so happy?
The kits are assembled! See page 7**



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A new Executive Council (BC) coalition self-named 'Seed Of Hope' was formed by Marugia Janga, James Kroon, Jeanoushka Raphaela, Robby Beukenboom and Esther Bernabela. The coalition is made up of two members of the Democratic Party (Robby Beukenboom and Marugia Janga), UPB-leader James Kroon and independent (but soon-to-be UPB) island council members Jeanoushka Raphaela and Esther Bernabela. As reported in previous editions, a new coalition was necessary after Raphaela last week withdrew her support from the coalition that had just a few weeks earlier been formed by herself, together with the DP-fraction of Michael Pieters and Clark Abraham and the MPB of party leader Elvis Tjin-Asjoe. The new group has marginal support, making it potentially unstable as this coalition has the minimum of five seats in the nine-member island council to maintain leadership.

► **Unkobon,** Bonaire's consumer advocacy group, has voiced its reaction to a bill that outlines a bank deposit guarantee system for the BES islands. Currently Bonaire bank deposits are not insured if a bank goes bankrupt. Account holders can lose their money.



A guarantee proposal has been in the works since 2010. The proposed guaranteed amount is up to \$6,000. However, Unkobon says it is too low. In the European part of the Netherlands deposits are guaranteed up to €100,000. Unkobon has advised the Ministry of Finance to adjust the bill so that cases are comparable to the European part of the Netherlands

► On Wednesday, 16 August, a declaration was signed in Kralendijk (Bonaire) in which

the Public Prosecutor (OM), Royal Marechaussee (KMar), Caribbean Netherlands Police Corps (KPCN) and Bonaire Government (OLB) have committed themselves to work together on public safety. Titled "The Security Image Study BES 2017," it was being commissioned by the Attorney General of Curaçao, Saint Maarten, Bonaire, Saint Eustatius and Saba, to define what threats, and especially what criminal threats, are on the islands. The leadership has been given to KMar and is assisted by researchers from the Bonaire Government.



► **A police raid** on a house on Kaya Victoria in Antriol and two kunukus on August 18 resulted in the arrest of four persons and the recovery of a significant quantity of stolen articles like laptops, phones and tablets as well as a car, \$5,872 in cash and 200 grams of cocaine. Then last Thursday, August 24, Bonaire police posted photos of items recovered during the raid. **If you had something stolen check out the items posted on the Korps Politie Caribisch Nederland (KPCN) Facebook page.** Included are: Various Samsung and iPhone mobile phones, USB stick, a Panasonic TV, Go-Pro camera, Samsung and Acer tablets, a car radio, a watch and jewelry, Yamaha outboard, power tools and several laptops. Anyone who recognizes one of the articles as their property, should contact police headquarters at 717-8000.

► **Insel Air** was granted a year's debt postponement. Now, one of the two MD80s, can soon resume service to St. Maarten and beyond, eventually South America again. Currently its fleet is two Fokker F50 prop jets. The planes are totally committed to providing ABC Island and St Maarten service. Last week Curacao officials said a takeover by Avianca Airlines was looking possible by year end. A



return CUR to BON flight was offered for \$100 last week. Slightly more, \$141, was asked for a BON-SXM flight. Those were prices 10 years ago. Currently InselAir owes creditors NAF 31 Million (\$17.4 million).



► **Bonaire's young athletes** (above) continue to make their mark around the world. On August 20, Bonaire's U-15 Select soccer team returned from participating in the CONCACAF and IMG Academy championship in Bradenton, Florida. Thirty nine countries participated in the tournament. Bonaire's selection finished the tournament with 2 wins and 2 losses. The results qualified them for the semi-final round in which they beat Dutch St. Maarten 4 to 1. The semi-final win resulted in Bonaire finishing in 3rd place among all the countries that participated in the U-15 category. This great success put Bonaire on the international map of youth soccer.

► **The Bonaire Government is asking for comments on the new permit for the extension of the Karel's Beach Bar pier.** According to the government the new design complies with the policy and statutory rules of Bonaire. Stakeholders have four weeks to comment in writing about the design. The Government can revise the permit following the reactions. The new design is said to be based on the nature legislation protection of the underwater park. The expansion of Karel's pier has been controversial. There have been several legal proceedings between nature organizations and the Government. To hasten resolution the Government has put forward the new design. The buildings originally planned on the pier will not be built. The pier will be built on the pilings that are already in the sea. They will support a steel structure with a wooden deck. Current legislation does not allow the construction of similar piers elsewhere in the underwater park. The design permit can be viewed at the Directorate for Space and Development (ROB) at Kaya Amsterdam 21.

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►Recently the Divi Divi Airline celebrated 16 years in business serving Bonaire reliably. It was begun by Peter Bart, an ex ALM pilot, flying a 'Cessna 402' that was soon replaced by the Norman Islanders flying today. The cost of a flight to Curacao was NAf 69 or \$39.50. Several Bonaire pilots got their commercial start flying for Divi Divi. Jacinto Cicilia, Bonaire station manager, has been the face of Divi Divi since its start. Divi's future is bright and they will soon upgrade to flying 19-passenger Twin Otters.



►UTRECHT--The fast spreading of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) in the Dutch Caribbean and the factors that cause this phenomenon are the subject of a new research project of the Aids Fund Netherlands, to be carried out to research the factors that play a role in the spreading of HIV in Aruba, Curaçao, St. Maarten, Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba. The data will be used to compile recommendations on how to prevent the spreading of the HIV-virus on the islands.

The percentage in Aruba of infections with resistant HIV is much higher than the 10% that has been reported world-wide, and researchers fear that the same high figures apply to the other Dutch Caribbean islands, also due to the high migration in the region. According to the Utrecht researchers, the resistant HIV-virus is also present on Bonaire and Curaçao and nearby South-American countries.

►World Parrot Trust partner, Bonaire's Echo Foundation, has been busily updating their group of aviaries. Three new enclosures, generously funded by Sea



& Land Wonders Trust, have been constructed. The new complex is designed in a U-shape and features two large flights that will be for the project's former companion Yellow-shouldered Amazons (*Amazona barbadensis*) and Yellow-crowned Amazons (*A. ochrocephala*), which can't be released back to the wild. An aviary in the middle will house native Brown-throated Parakeets (*Eupsittula pertinax*) which need a permanent home. And, thanks to funding from DierenLot, Echo has been able to repair their current aviaries and other parrot-related structures.

And other good news: in late November 2016 staff released three parrots from the center's resident flock. After that, in February of this year another Amazon that was brought to the center for rehabilitation was set free.

►The new owners of Wil's Restaurant (formerly known as Wil's Tropical Grill) are Rick and Porchia Duncan. Word on the street is that the restaurant is scheduled to re-open in October with a "fusion of Caribbean and International cuisine." Dining will continue to be "al fresco" while the interior portion of the restaurant reportedly will be a clothing and gift shop. ■

G./L.D/Bula Bonchi.



The island is proud of our Master Women Swimmers who competed in the 17th FINA (International Federation of Swimming) World Championships from 14 to 20 August in Budapest, Hungary, with more than 10,000 registered entrants. It was the first time Bonaire participated and overall scored among the top quarter of Master Swimmers in the world. The Bonaire Barracuda team consisted of Evy Witlox, Anita Smits, Simone Sweets and Nathalie Peterson who all took part in both individual and team events. The team's overall 10th place in Freestyle and Medley earned them the top Dutch team in the standings. This major event is, in fact, the biggest championship organized by FINA in terms of participation. Our master swimmers proved that even when retired from the high level competition, they are still capable of making Bonaire proud.

The Master Swimmers of the Bonaire Barracudas Aquatics Club offer people of

all ages the opportunity to participate in lifelong fitness, a competitive swimming program or water polo. By participating in international championships and especially this event they would like to show youngsters 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 promotes 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 Barracudas Aquatics Club are grateful for the generous support of local businesses and organizations who sponsored their Budapest participation especially A&Ω, BonDiGro, Ennia, WEB, TCB and Nature's Discount Nutrition center. ■

G.D./ Nathalie Peterson/press releases
Visit <http://bonairebarracudas.org/> for more information of if you would like to be a swimmer and be part of the team.

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THE STARS HAVE IT

September 2017

ARIES (Mar. 21- April 20) Opportunities for romance will develop through activities with large groups. You can meet new and exciting friends who will provide mental stimulation. You have a lot to offer. You should get into programs that will enhance your appearance and help you to be the best that you can. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Monday.

TAURUS (Apr. 21- May 21) Your temper may get the better of you if a colleague has tried to ruin your reputation. Socially, you need a fast paced form of entertainment. Enjoy some socializing this month. You will not impress others by being foolishly generous. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Tuesday.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21) Come to your own conclusions rather than taking the word of someone else. You will back yourself into a corner if you are baited and your stubbornness will only make matters worse. Make changes to your living quarters that will please the whole family. Don't let someone talk you into parting with your cash unless you can truly see the benefits of doing so. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Thursday.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) There might be one who is quite willing to take the credit for your work. Don't get intimately involved with a coworker. Take advantage of the opportunities that present themselves. You may have a rather hectic day due to events that children are involved in. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Tuesday.

LEO (July 23-Aug 22) You are in a high energy, get it all done, mood and you'll have little patience with those who are slacking off. Focus, and concentrate on yourself and your future. Your words will be taken out of context if you're evasive with coworkers or employers. Make plans that will take you to exotic destinations. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Friday.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) Pleasure trips will be a form of healing for your emotional state of mind. Be cautious when dealing with coworkers. You are best not to nag or criticize. Visit friends who have not been well. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Wednesday.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) You can benefit financially if you put money or maintenance into your living quarters. Try to make your lover understand that you need to do things with your friends. Don't avoid situations that may deteriorate; try to mend them. Do not sign contracts or get involved in any uncertain financial deals. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Wednesday.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) Your boss may be on the rampage and you certainly don't want to be the one to take the brunt of a bad situation. Put some energy into getting back into shape. Listen to reason. There is not much you can do to alleviate the problem, but consider putting some extra work into your house. this month will be rather hectic on the domestic scene. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Friday.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) Travel will be on your mind, but you should be sure that you've got all your work up-to-date. Emotional partnerships may develop through projects you initiate. Sudden changes regarding work and colleagues are apparent. Look into ways that you can make extra cash. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Saturday.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) Take care of your personal needs. Health problems may prevail if you don't take care of them immediately. Make the necessary changes that will enable you to advance financially. You can get ahead if you present your ideas to superiors. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Saturday.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) They won't pay you back and you'll be upset. Your fight for those less fortunate is not likely to end in sweet victory. Try to keep ahead of the game. Don't jump as quickly as you usually do. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Saturday.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) Talk to your emotional partner about your intentions. Things will be hectic and family members will be erratic. You can have a working relationship with children if you exercise patience and understanding of the dilemmas they face. Put your time and energy into home improvement. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Tuesday.

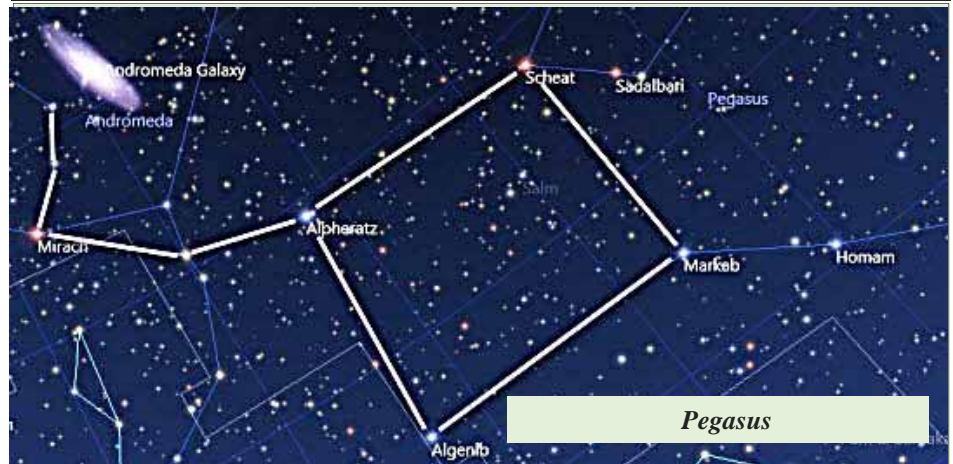
■ SunSigns Horoscope



BONAIRE SKY PARK*

*to find it... just look up

Arabic Stars of Pegasus



If you're a fan of horses and peculiar star names, the Bonaire Sky Park has a show for you. At this time of year, **Pegasus**, the winged horse, appears in the east shortly after sunset. And it has some amazing stars with cool names.

About an hour after sunset, face east. Pegasus, the winged horse, is easy to find. Simply look for four bright stars that form a large square, just above the eastern horizon. That square is an **asterism** that we call the **Great Square of Pegasus**.

You probably noticed that some of the stars in the sky have very interesting names. That's because many of the stars were named by Persian astronomers thousands of years ago. When astronomers of that time chose to name the stars, they often liked to name them after the body part they represented in the constellation. The stars that make up the great square of Pegasus, starting with the one highest above the horizon and moving counter-clockwise are **Scheat, Alpheratz, Algenib and Markab**.

Scheat (whose name in Arabic means the leg) is a red giant star 196 light years from Earth and it's approximately 1500 times as bright as our Sun. Alpheratz (which means navel of the horse) is 97 light years away from us and is also the brightest star in the neighboring constellation **Andromeda**. The next star is Algenib. It's 390 light years away and its name means the flank. The last of the four stars in the square is Markab. Its name means the saddle of the horse and it's a white sub-giant star. It's exhausted the hydrogen in its core and expanded to almost five times the diameter of

our almost million-mile-wide Sun. The stars that branch out from Scheat, moving upward, form the legs of Pegasus. The star directly above Scheat is a binary star system named **Matar**. Matar's name is derived from an Arabic phrase meaning lucky star of rain. Its Bayer designation is **Eta Pegasi** and it's 167 light years away. Matar is interesting because its primary star is a yellow giant 18 times the diameter of our Sun with a rotation rate of 818 days. Its companion star is a yellow-white star which orbits every 813 days. One of the stars in Pegasus' other leg is just to the upper right from Scheat. Its name is **Sadalbari**. Its name means lucky star of the splendid one and it's a yellow giant star 106 light years away.

Moving toward the head of Pegasus, we have the star **Enif**, which marks his nose. Enif is 690 light years away and is a super-giant star 12 times the mass and 185 times the diameter of our Sun. The next star in is **Biham** (also known as Theta Pegasi). I like to think of it as the eye of Pegasus. Its name is derived from an Arabic phrase meaning lucky stars of the young beasts and is over 97 light years away.

The last star we'll discuss is the one just above Markab. Its traditional name is **Homam** and its approximately 204 light years away. I like the meaning of the traditional name of Homam, which means man of high spirit or lucky star of high minded.

Nine stars with very cool names for you to enjoy during autumn nights.

■ Dean Regas & James Albury

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It's A King's Warehouse Weekend



Some of the tasty local delights on the table at Nos Zjilea

This coming Saturday, September 2, is the next event, "Nos Zjilea," at the Cultural Park Mangazina di Rei from 8 am to 2 pm.

As part of Bonaire Flag Day, Mr. Charlton Thomas and Mr. Gilberto Martis will explain the significance of how to fold and hoist the flag as described in the protocol. Different persons such as one of our rising stars, Ruvelio Josephia, and the very well known sports figure, Leo Domacasse, will share their talents and experience. The local band, Grupo Sabor Krioyo, and our youngsters from the music group, "F.M.K." will entertain us with their lovely music.

As usual there will be the program, "Kunuku Lifestyle Challenge," for youngsters from 8 to 14 years who are interested in learning more about culture, planting, healthy eating, exercising and entrepreneurship.

Don't miss the local fresh products such as syrup of the local gourd, natural local juice ("made in Rincon"), local art and much more. The kitchen opens at 10 in the morning. Come enjoy a nice cup of goat soup, and during the midday you may enjoy different delicious traditional local



dishes. There will be a tasty grill to lick off your fingers and beg for more.

"Nos Zjilea" is an ideal opportunity to enjoy with your family and friends. If you wish for more information you can always visit the Facebook Fanpage of Cultural Park Mangazina di Rei.

Mangazina di Rei is located on the Rincon Road, at the eastern entrance to Rincon. ■

Story & photo by Izain J. Mercera



Picture Yourself With The Reporter At Yavapai, AZ, USA

Joan and Alan Zale were so excited about winning the 2015 Picture Yourself with *The Bonaire Reporter* contest that they took the paper naming them the winners on their world wide tour that included crisscrossing the



US. During the tour that issue (and the Zales) traveled to the US Military Academy at West Point, NY, the Grand Canyon, Sicily, Rome and the San Diego Zoo in California to visit the flamingoes. Their final submission from the *Celebration Tour*, pictured here, is Bell Rock, located in Yavapai, Arizona, just south of Sedona, AZ. Bell Rock is one of four rock formations in the Sedona area believed by some to contain a power vortex which has masculine energy, which helps increase spiritual strength, confidence and decisiveness. It has an elevation of

4,919 feet (1,499 meters) at its summit. Bell Rock is a butte, an isolated hill with steep, often vertical sides and a small relatively flat top and is composed of horizontally bedded sedimentary rock of the Permian Supai Formation. We know the Zales did not need the power vortex to inspire them to carry *The Bonaire Reporter* as they always surprise *The Reporter* with new and exciting locations that are rich in history. They own a condo at Sand Dollar and are regular visitors to Bonaire with more than 40 visits to the island. ■

WE NEED MORE PHOTOS FOR THIS FEATURE

Send your photo holding *The Bonaire Reporter* to reporter@bonairenews.com to be entered in our annual contest for the best picture.

Multishop Opens



A radiant Gert, Sandro and Agnes Joosten (photo in front) welcomed their guests on Wednesday, August 23, for the grand opening of Multishop in Hato. At least 100 people- from all walks of life and nationalities - made it a party not to forget. Amongst other selections Multishop offers a great and precious variety of mostly local but also South American art and the "I love Bonaire" brand. They represent AB Dive and AB Car Rental as well as the new land sailing company and various boating companies. Multishop is located near the Hato traffic circle at the Sand Dollar Shopping Mall, between the restaurants Tasty Treat and Between 2 Buns. Open Monday through Friday, 8am-5:30pm, and Saturday 9am-2pm, non-stop. ■ Story & photo by Greta Kooistra



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Recovered Fishing Line And Brownies



Bonaire/Kralendijk –

On Sunday, August 13th, 31 enthusiastic volunteers got together at the Dive Inn location of Dive Friends Bonaire in Playa to recover fresh fishing line from the bottom of the sea under the South Pier of Kralendijk.

Sue (STCB) and Richard Willis gave instructions to the divers and the other volunteers who stayed ashore to collect the mesh bags with fishing line. It is always pretty difficult to do the one-hour, one-tank, non-deco job. It takes experienced divers to cope with the increasing weight of the mesh bag. It is difficult to handle the buoyancy and to dive upside down while cutting the fresh, shiny and dangerous fishing line with a pair of scissors. It is always difficult to decide which line to remove and which line to leave as older line gets more and more tangled in coral and finally, after a very long period of time, gets covered and finally gets overgrown.

Fishing line is a real threat for the underwater life, especially for the turtles as they can get tangled, then there is the risk of choking and death.

This time visibility was excellent. The temperature of the water was perfect and there was hardly any current.

After the dive all fishing line was collected and inspected. The total treasure was two large grey industrial trash bags, overfilled with fishing line.

One of the volunteers declared: “No, cleaning the underwater world is not frustrating at all! The job makes you realize there is a lot more to do. What we collect is just the top of the iceberg. We know every little bit helps to make this a better world. It is not like jousting with windmills. All volunteers do their utmost best; they all have a very positive attitude. We don’t blame the fishermen. They do not lose their lines, their lead and their bait on purpose. They just fish to get some food out of the ocean!”

After the dive there were plenty of drinks and snacks. The home made double chocolate salted brownies made by the sponsors from the charter company “Bonaire From The Sea” were especially popular as they were very tasty and the volunteers were hungry...

A word of thanks to Dive Friends Bonaire and their employees for the assistance, free air and the use of the location. “Together we can.” And do not forget:

“Without blue there is no green!”
 ■ Story & photo by Jan Brouwer



Raising the Roof



GAZEBO ROOF READY

Last week the roof of the gazebo of cultural community center Hófi Kultural in Antriol was completed by Javier Boezem and his crew. As the shipment of palm leaves from Venezuela was cancelled due to the circumstances there, Javier managed, with the help of Roland Verbeek of Bonaire Logistics who financed the transport, to get the leaves from Santo Domingo. Next thing they’re working on is to tile the floor, connect the electricity and the sprinkler installation. Then they’ll finish the houses on the premises which will be used as an office and storage for musical instruments, a cantina and restrooms and to host the artist in residence.

The gazebo is a stunning eye catcher for the neighborhood and it makes the cultural center easy to find. There is a 10-year guarantee on the roof, but Javier also brought the seeds of the Sabal Palm from the Dominican Republic which will be planted, and so, in time, they will be self-supporting considering the leaves that cover the roof of the gazebo.

Hofi Kultural is an initiative of Fundashon Plataforma Kultural and more news about Hófi Kultural’s plans will be released in the next Reporter. ■ Story & photo by Greta Kooistra

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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Sails in the Schools



SAILS IN THE SCHOOLS

An innovative maritime history curriculum kicks off this year in Bonaire, Aruba and Curacao. The hundreds of Classroom Instruction Kits were assembled last week.

It is often said that the youngsters of Bonaire know little about their island culture and its connection to the sea. To bridge that knowledge gap, the **Bonaire Maritime Heritage Foundation** has developed **Zeilen Op School (Sails in the School)**, an innovative curriculum that brings sailors, boats and nautical traditions into the classroom.

Starting this year, students in School Groups 6 and 7 (ages 9-11) will hear first-hand from the original crew of *Stormvogel*, a sailing cargo boat built on Bonaire in 1951. Six of the original crew, including a captain, ship's cook and deckhands, describe a number of different topics from what was traded between the islands to life aboard a cargo boat; from how wooden boats were built on Bonaire to storms at sea, shipwrecks and smuggling. Through these stories other topics are introduced including geography, science and economics.

"Our intent was to make the lessons lively," says **Xiomara Frans**, Zeilen Op School's educational coordinator and veteran of working 30 years in Bonaire and Curacao schools. "We included games with dice and plastic chips which kids can use in an unique way to learn more about a lesson's topic. We have visuals-videos, photos and graphics that can be accessed directly through the Bonaire Maritime Heritage Foundation's website. All this material comes directly to the students via a video projector or classroom Digi-board."

But there was another important audience that shaped Zeilen Op School during its two-year development, the classroom teachers. The six lesson plans were designed to be comprehensive, but with elegant simplicity. Zeilen Op School is an all-inclusive package that edu-



Xiomara Frans, the lynchpin of the project, with finished kits

cators can simply insert into their current history or world orientation classes. The lessons adhere to the requirements of DIM (*Directe Instructie Model*), an educational model developed for schools in the Netherlands. "Each teacher receives a boxed kit that includes lesson plans, class exercises, and game materials," explains Frans. "All the rest of the material is delivered through the Internet. We strived to make this curriculum easy for the teachers to use. All they have to do is 'plug' it in."

Starting this month, teacher kits will be delivered to all schools on Bonaire. But they will also be distributed to students on Curaçao and Aruba. After all, these three Dutch islands have a string shared maritime heritage. It was locally-made boats that bound the islands together delivering goods, uniting families, and providing commerce and financial growth. As sister companion of Zeilen Op School was developed for those schools in Curacao that teach in Papiamentu. Titled *Nabegashon Na Skol*, it is a clone of the Dutch-based curriculum. A total of 53 schools will be using the two versions this year reaching approximately 2,275 students.

Another accommodation was made for the Zeilen Op School kits for Bonaire. Upon the request from **Governor Edison Rijna**, an explanation of Bonaire's Coat of Arms was included. The nautical symbolism on the crest is extensive from the blue shield representing the sea to the ships wheel and the red star that indicated the many directions that Bonaire seamen have worked on ships around the world. But this is not the only spinoff that has come from Zeilen Op School. **Anja Heij**, the principal at Basisschool Aquamarin, was so enthusiastic about the curriculum's content, that she

has organized a field trip to visit *Stormvogel* in September. Students will travel to the Navegante Boatyard in Hato to see what remains of the last of the sailing cargo boats of the ABC Islands. The reception to Zeilen Op School in Aruba was similarly exuberant. **Clifford Rosa**, director of Stichting Rancho which celebrates the maritime past of Oranjestad's Rancho neighborhood, was instrumental in linking Xiomara Frans with Aruba school administrators. They, in turn, accepted Zeilen Op School with open arms, but also want to distribute the six videos to high school students on the island.

The project was made possible from funding from Fonds Voor Cultuurparticipatie, Samen Werkende Fondsen and Prins Bernhard Cultuurfonds for the Caribbean Region. "Project Stormvogel received from the The Cooperating Foundations for the Dutch Caribbean (Samenwerkende Fondsen Cariben) a contribution of appreciation," says **Roosje van der Hoek**, the Bonaire director of the organization. "It was especially the attention planned for the intergenerational transfer of know-how of such an interesting piece of history of Bonaire that stood out."

Zeilen Op School also demanded the talents of a number of skilled people on Bonaire. **Xiomara Frans** not only served as educational coordinator visiting school administrators on all three islands, but she wrote all the curriculum and provided Papiamentu translations. **Wijnand Vlok** did the design work for the teaches kit materials including the project's eye catching logo. **Corine Unger** was responsible for proof reading all the Dutch text and **Hendrik Wuyts** completed the filming and editing of the project's six videos.

"The beauty of Zeilen Op School is that it is timeless," concludes Ms. Frans. "It will be used year after year for little additional cost. And it will link future generations in an engaging and meaningful way to their rich maritime culture." ■

Patrick Holian

Patrick Holian is also the driving force behind the restoration of the sailing vessel *Stormvogel*.



You Won't Believe What She Does



Sabi Saragoza

SABI SARAGOZA IS BONAIRE'S DRIFT PRINCESS

She's a spiffy 10-year-old who's got 4,462 likes on her Facebook page – **Bonaire driftprincess** – and even more people who are following her. On Bonaire, imagine!

"When I was a baby I already liked the sound of the engine of my dad's motorbike," *Sabi laughs*. "I would laugh and wave my hands. Then, when I was about four years old, my papa (**Wimpy Saragoza**) bought me a Yamaha 50cc PW, a blue and white crosser, which I still have. I started training and I fell a lot, but I always wore my special suit and my helmet. My papa taught me, but my mom (**Ilse Felida**) was scared; she didn't want me to do it at first.

My brother had a small 50cc quad so my dad taught me how to change gears. When the quad became too small and I turned seven, my father surprised me with a 2012 Yamaha Raptor 700R Special Edition Sport ATV, black with gold!

It was much more difficult than the old quad because it was huge and it had a lot of power. Then my dad taught me to square and drift on the kunuku roads. It wasn't easy and there was a lot of dust, but I wore a cloth over my nose and mouth and I also had a special helmet that covered my face. Then a man came who wanted to buy my quad and my dad said okay.

Then he bought me a 2014 Yamaha Raptor 700R. It's stock, no extensions, no nothing, straight from the factory. With that one I started drifting seriously, first on the dirt roads but then, one day, my dad told me he would teach me how to drift on asphalt. He taught me on the asphalt of a new neighborhood in Mexico and it went well!

Then papa looked for someone to teach me some tricks I didn't know. He found **Maurison Martines** who is still helping me. I

also participate in events on Curacao and I've been invited to come to Holland and Aruba as well, but that I can't do because school comes first. Now I'm training to do wheelies. It is dangerous, but I've got my suit and my special helmet that covers my whole face and it has a microphone, so you can talk to me or call me or I can listen to music.

We also have agreements with the authorities where and when I can practice. There is this gentleman who gave us permission to use his parking lot for practice. What I would love is that there would be a terrain – like an adventure park – for us, because there are more kids like me, where we can drive and drift and where it is safe.

To pay for all the stuff we sell caps and T-shirts with my logo or we sell food. My mama supports me in everything I do, she's my biggest fan - next to my papa - and she's very proud of what I've accomplished. I don't have a sponsor yet because it's not easy to find one to suit my age.

Bike life is a sport that makes me want to go on and on. In all of the Caribbean I am the youngest girl who can do all these tricks that many grown-ups are not even capable of! But... I am also a good student; at Papa Cornes School. I am in the 7th grade. I love math and I love to draw and I really like to sing, but I also love to swim and I like animals very much! And when I'm a grown-up I want to have my own business: selling cars, quads and motorbikes and everything that comes with it! That's what I want!" ■ **Greta Kooistra**



Regatta 50



Regatta House renovation debris



to go clockwise around Klein Bonaire with a start and finish at the Flamingo Beach Club. As for rules, some people suggested that there would be none, but in the end, with the aid of a lawyer who happened to be a hotel guest, both parties agreed on a set of simple rules.

There is a lot of activity around Regatta House these days as we all get ready for the Golden Anniversary of the Bonaire Regatta. In the weeks leading up to the event, set for October 11-14, *The Reporter* will be reviewing the history and highlights of what some argue is the oldest organized regatta in the Caribbean.

The first Regatta was held on Sunday, September 8, 1968, between two fishing sloops with the names *Velia* and *Sislin*. The skipper of the *Velia* was Hubert 'Ibo' Domacassé, while *Sislin's* captain was Don Stewart. At the time Ibo worked as a bartender in the restaurant of the Flamingo Beach Club where Don Stewart was the manager. A week earlier a few regulars had come up with the idea of a race. Of course there was a bet as to who would win for an ever increasing number of cases of Amstel beer: 27! The start would be on Sunday September 8 at 9 am. Each boat would carry four persons, the course was

After the start in front of the Flamingo Beach Club, the *Sislin* took the lead, but after the rounding of Klein Bonaire, the *Velia* was ahead. She finished first after one hour and 40 minutes. The *Sislin* came in three minutes later. So the 27 cases of beer went to the winner, but the runners-up spontaneously shared its consumption.

This 1968 race between the *Sislin* and the *Velia* is considered to be the beginning of the Bonaire Sailing Regatta, which later became the Bonaire International Sailing Regatta, an important event on the island's calendar and for its tourism. For the continuation of this initiative, to develop this race into an annual sailing regatta, the local Lions Club stepped in. Initially called the Bonaire Lions Club Sailing Regatta, it continued to be organized at the Flamingo Beach Club for the first couple of years. The month of October was chosen because this was the month that hotels on Bonaire needed more guests and the regatta offered an

Regatta House got a new roof



Plans are to get at least six sail fishing boats like these

opportunity to increase the occupancy rate. In 1969, 54 boats participated, from Bonaire, Curaçao and Aruba, in three classes: Sailfish and Sunfish, Sterns and yachts and fishing boats. Fishing boats from Curaçao entered the races too, most of them from Boca San Michiel. The 1969 regatta was a two-day event and the 28 members of the Lions Club Bonaire were

involved in the organization.

Currently Budget Marine is spearheading an effort to gather all the traditional sail fishing boats still floatable. Several are in need of repair. If you know of a boat or can help in the repair contact Pam at Budget Marine +599 717 3710 or email pam.teitel@budgetmarine.com. ■ G.D.



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On the Island Since... 2012 - Elisabetta Maccari and Lorenzo Mittiga

A Bonaire Reporter regular feature since 2001



At left: Elisabetta and Lorenzo Above: Elisabetta in the Eagle yoga pose on the beach

“We met under water in Italy when we were working for a record-setting attempt by two guys who were spending 10 days under water. Lorenzo was the videographer and photographer of the event and I was the underwater assistant for the two guys. After the event we stayed together. Both of us had travelled extensively before we met, and together we travelled even more as we were searching for a place where we could stop and start or start and stop – depending how you look at it!

We went to the Seychelles, Mauritius, Chile and Australia, Egypt and the Canary Islands, chasing the summers and then, one day, I told Lorenzo, ‘Okay, we’re going to Bonaire!’ And he answered, ‘What is Bonaire?’ Well, I had never been here,” *Elisabetta laughs*, “but I had German friends who’d been here. So we came for two weeks to have a look. We liked the place, especially the ocean which is very important to us, and here we can get into the ocean whenever we want to. We can dive, free dive, and snorkel and windsurf at any time. So, we went back home to Rome and did all the paperwork to be able to come back to Bonaire. And we came here. We said, ‘If we find a job in three months, we will stay.’

Lorenzo is a marine biologist and a photographer and videographer. We are both dive instructors and I am a yoga teacher. Together we made underwater documentaries. We found a job here within two weeks with a small marine ecology company and we were both hired to do some underwater projects, one of them about the lion fish hunting. Then we worked a few years for BonPhoto, doing video and photography.

When we stopped working for them, we decided to look a little bit more into our passions. So Lorenzo concentrated on doing fine art photography and I started teaching yoga in the beginning for Flow/BonPhoto who had island activities, and they promoted the yoga for me. Nowadays we have our own company called ‘Light and Move.’ It stands for photography and Yoga Sensible – which is the yoga I teach. I teach at Eden Beach on the terrace, during the week every morning at 8 am and on Saturdays at 9am. If people are interested, they can come and see or join us immediately. It’s open, you don’t have to contact me or make an appointment.

Money wise it’s not easy and there are different months, depending on the seasons, but we don’t have to pay to get into the ocean and we don’t have to sit in an office all day. We have our freedom and that makes the balance. Of course we would love to travel more, and if we would stay in an office all day, we probably could, but we chose this kind of life. It is what it is.

At this moment Bonaire is still paradise, otherwise we would not be here. We live a lot in the present and we are not afraid to change or to move on, but for now Bonaire is what we want and it gives us the opportunity. I have my nice yoga group and Lorenzo does photo shooting or fine art photography or he makes videos or does commercial advertisements.”

“We are both from Rome,” *Lorenzo says*, “and since we were children we were taken to the sea. We have a beautiful sea, the Mediterranean. My father taught me how to scuba dive when I was five. In Italy when the schools close, people take their children

when friends come over from Italy, they have to bring the parmesan, otherwise they cannot come! HaHaHa! What Italian food needs first is a fresh market. You walk around, you have a lot of choice, fresh from the land, and the fish market is something you dream about. We Italians spend hours buying the food, preparing the food and eating the food. Those are the most important hours in our life. The most important question of the day is ‘What will we eat today?’ On Bonaire you have to be creative and we are adapting but we miss the ingredients. What we see in Italy is product change by season. Here it’s pretty much always the same. But... on Bonaire we have 365 days of sun and sea. So, either you go to Italy and have the big choice of food or you stay here and you manage with what you can buy.” *She laughs*. “I am speaking as an Italian who is so much in love with the taste of our food! However, when we are not there we eat everything; travelling makes you adaptable.

When you come from Italy, where there

“Here I have the time and opportunity to experience, to learn and study more... Bonaire is like a cocoon – a safe place – to take care of yourself...”

to the sea or to the mountains. We spent the summers at the sea, and because I became a dive instructor later on, we had the possibility to travel. You don’t have to stay in the same place. We love to travel to discover the true meaning of life. You become more open to everything: people, culture, food, nature and customs. For me it comes naturally to have this curiosity. I prefer travelling over buying a new car!”

Elisabetta continues, “When you travel you learn that there are differences and you learn how to adapt and to be more open and flexible. You have to accept countries and people as they are, because not everybody is like you. In Italy we say: ‘In each country that you go, you find different ways of doing things.’ Even a simple thing like having a coffee can be done in a million ways and in each country they say ‘This is the best one!’ And that’s what we like!

What do we miss? We miss Italian food! The parmesan is always in the luggage and

is plenty, it’s nice to be somewhere where you have less. Here we feel really happy when we see something special under water or when we have one hour of perfect wind to windsurf and that makes us come home satisfied. This is what we are searching for. We don’t go out so much but when we spend the evening with good friends, good conversation, good food and a nice bottle of wine, then that’s enough!”

Lorenzo: We like to be outside and spend our time outdoors, but we are not fanatics. It’s not like we have to climb that mountain and plant our flag! If we’re out somewhere and we get tired we take the bus! We like the lonely places. We travelled through Australia like this, staying away from the crowds. We go for the open spaces and therefore we also like sailing. But when we are on our way, most of the time we meet people who have the same dreams and visions like we have. We share the same life style.”

“I like people,” *Elisabetta says*, “if not, I couldn’t teach yoga or diving. I like to teach, that’s my passion and without people I cannot do anything. I like to meet new people, to interact and to exchange. Six years on Bonaire didn’t change me.”

“But it did change me,” *Lorenzo adds*. “I definitely know now that what I want to focus on is photography. Here I have the time and opportunity to experience, to learn and study more.”

“Bonaire is like a cocoon – a safe place – to take care of yourself,” *Elisabetta says*. “For instance in Italy you spend hours in traffic and here I go to Eden Beach in 10 minutes, so we gain a lot of time to do what we like to do. We didn’t just move - we changed our life completely. We chose for quality and to us quality means spending more time outside and enjoying nature more directly. On top of that, we have clean air! The consequence is that we’re more relaxed, we have less stress and better health. Sure, we do miss the opportunity to do cultural things or to go by car to the next city, another country. But I am like Mary Poppins, ‘when the wind calls me I go fly!’”

“It’s exactly the same for me,” *Lorenzo says*, “the more we travel the more we feel we can go anywhere. It takes like one day to get accustomed to a place and we don’t say forever for anything. We feel at home wherever we go. But... we really appreciate that we can stay here; it’s like a gift that you get.”

“Life is a path,” *Elisabetta says*, “whatever is coming our way is a lesson we have to learn. Now we are learning from Bonaire and when it’s finished we’ll move on, but if we don’t learn the lesson we will never move and maybe stay. This place is light and when I think about the six years we’ve been here... it just flew.” ■

Story & photos by Greta Kooistra

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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.



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A Garden? Just Do It



Kids from the Industry of Activity Center tour the garden



Angliet gets total attention from the children

CHILDREN IN THE GARDEN

The best way to learn science is to experience it with all your senses. And the best and nicest way to learn is when a teacher can let the students enjoy the pure wonders of science. So with this in mind as my personal opinion based on many years of experience as a teacher, I was lucky to be able to guide a group of young kids through my garden and explain all about gardening at their level.

Mieke de Louw of the Industry of Activity company asked me if I could organize a gardening tour in my yard for a kids' camp. Of course I could do that and I liked the idea of being "in front of a class" again. So we planned this tour for Thursday, August 10, at 9am.

I had to prepare some stuff for this "lecture," so early in the morning I took a walk in the garden and planned what I would talk about: what is interesting about gardening for young kids and how to keep their attention. There is so much about this subject and I was limited in time of course. I also prepared a paper bag with fruits, flowers, seeds and plants for each child that they could take home.

The kids were very enthusiastic and motivated. First we gathered in front of the garden and talked about saving the planet and life on earth. What to do with pollution like plastic, how to deal carefully with drinking water and how important it is to protect all life on earth: animals, human and plants. The children gave their opinions about all of this, and I was surprised how much they know about these subjects at their young age and how much they do care about Mother Earth. This was an introduction in science which was meant to bring the kids into the atmosphere of the tour.

Then we started the walk in the garden and stopped at each corner with plants, fruit trees, veggies, flowers, herbs, dry coconuts and the water tank. We talked about the importance of bugs in the soil like ants, and which problems we face on Bonaire when gardening- like little rain, Loras and iguanas who eat our plants, a lot of rocks in the hard dry soil. But still, with love and effort, one can have a lovely garden and fruit trees with nice shade in the yard.

The kids could also smell the scents of different herbs and tasted their leaves. They could feel certain plants, look at

DID YOU KNOW?

That once a year, entire colonies of corals release their tiny eggs into the ocean simultaneously? The event is triggered by the lunar cycle that only occurs once a year and begins in a couple of weeks!

With some coral species, a coral colony is either male or female. But there are also coral species that are both female and male simultaneously or change sex at some point in their life, sometimes more than once! During the annual spawning event, coral colonies release eggs and sperm, called **gametes**, right into the water column. For colonies that are either male or female, it is crucial that they time their spawning just right so that the eggs get fertilized. Amazingly, the coral colonies sync the release of gametes like clockwork. Researchers believe the long-term preparation of the corals for spawning, which may take up to a year, is related to water temperature, day length, and/or the rate of change in water temperature. The lunar cycle usually controls the short-term preparation. The actual spawning moment is usually based on the time of the sunset.

The exact time of the release of gametes is crucial, since the gametes are only viable for a couple of hours. The gametes float to the surface where the fertilization process begins. Once an egg is fertilized by a sperm gamete, it develops into a **coral larva, called a planula**. A planula can actually swim and will stay at the surface for a couple of days to weeks before it swims to the ocean floor and settles. If the circumstances are right it will attach itself to hard substrate and grow into a new colony with a growth rate of about 10cm (or 4 inches) a year, depending on the species.

One of the dangers corals face is **bleaching**. Bleaching occurs when sea temperatures rise to a level that causes the corals' **zooxanthalle (good algae)** to



Coral spawns Photo Research Station Carmabi

leave the colony. If this happens, the coral is slowly starving to death because the zooxanthalle are the corals' main source of nutrition. Bleaching events may disrupt the coral spawning event, making colonies spawn at a different time than usual, or not at all. This makes a coral species very susceptible to reproduction failures and predation on the gametes.

The coral colonies in Bonaire's waters are doing better than other reefs in the Caribbean, and we are anticipating another spectacular spawning event this year. Of course, we want to keep it that way. That means that if you are planning to witness the spawning event, please be careful with your buoyancy so that you don't bump into corals or kick up sand (something we should be aware of on all dives).

If you want to know more about the coral spawning event, come to our presentation at CIEE on September 5th from 7-8 pm. Everyone is welcome and attendance is free. For the actual spawning dates and times, see our news section at Stinapa.org. ■

Thijs van Wuijckhuijse,
STINAPA Assistant
Biologist

Connecting
People With Nature.



fruits on the trees like the carambola, take photos of veggies like the eggplant and pick flowers from the cat tail plant.

I explained how to mix soil and how various plants need different attention in different ways. Plants and trees are unlike each other and have different needs, just like people. For example, we don't water all plants with the same amount of water all the time because some need less water, some need a lot. A cactus can have dry soil and banana trees not. Some plants need a lot of sun and some only shade.

All the things they collected could go in their personal paper bag and went home as a gift from Angliet's yard.

After the 45-minute tour we had to stop and continue with the last part: the evaluation. We sat on the porch, each child with a cup of cold water and fresh fruit. Everyone could come up with their opinion of

the tour or with questions.

The kids now had so much to say and at a certain moment the leaders said they had to stop because they were already a half hour late into their schedule.

There was one little girl who surprised me with her total attention and true love for gardening and nature. She wanted to feel, taste, smell everything. She collected everything she was allowed to take with her. She made great photos and at the end she asked me if she could come back with her parents. I was surprised by her question and this, together with all the nice feedback of the kids, was my biggest reward. ■

Story & photos by
Angliet, Nature
Lover



What's Happening

Cruisingships

DAY	DATE	NAME	ARR/DEP	CAP	C.LINE
Tue	29-Aug	Zenith	0700-1800	1828	CEL
Tue	5-Sep	Zenith	0700-1800	1828	CEL
Mon	11-Sep	Adventure of the Seas	0800-1700	3114	RCCL
Tue	12-Sep	Zenith	0700-1800	1828	CEL
Tue	19-Sep	Zenith	0700-1800	1828	CEL

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

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 Branderis 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 Industri, **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. 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 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month at 8 pm at Kaya Sabana #1. All Lions welcome. For more information call 510-0710.
- **Rotary lunch meetings Wednesdays, 12:15-2 pm** - Divi Flamingo

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

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

• **General 12-step meeting (AA, NA, CoDa etc) NO MEETINGS on September 6, 13 and 20.** (Vacations)

• 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

CHURCH SERVICES

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Prayer Walk at Rooi Lamoenchi every first Sunday of the Month (or on request) for all followers of Christ. Hours: 4.30 pm till 7.30 pm. Contact Ellen Cochrane-Herrera at

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

— **Winfred Dania (The van Gogh of Bonaire) Painting Exhibit Sept. 2-Oct. 31,** Kaya Amsterdam 23. More in the next edition.

Close In Events

Monday Aug. 28 — **Creative Arts,** runs to September 1 at TCB Office downtown. Pg. 13

Saturday, Sept. 2

— **Taste of Bonaire,** Wilhelmina Park, Dance Edition, 6-11pm— lots of fun, music, food.

— **'Nos Zjilea' at Cultural Park Mangazina di Rei.** See pg. 5

Sunday, Sept. 3- "**Grieving With Yoga**" Workshop at Smiling Buddha Yoga Studio led by Jacqueline Cino. At 47 Jacqueline lost her husband and found how yoga helped her in her grief process. Now she wants to share this knowledge with others. Time: 11am-1pm, **in Dutch. On Sunday Sept. 17,** 11am -1 pm, the workshop will be repeated **in English.** Price \$25 . See www.rouwenmetyoga.nl

Tuesday, Sept. 5

— **Magero Laundry Run,** sign up: 28 Aug - 1 Sept at Caribbean Laundry Time: 8am-4pm— Prizes — **Coral Spawning Presentation at CIEE,** Kaya Gob. Debrot 26, 7 -8pm, free. More on page 11.

Wednesday, Sept. 6 — **Bonaire Day, National Holiday Event** Wilhelmina Park. Full Moon that night

Sept. 13 & Oct. 12 — **The best nights to view coral spawning while diving. CIEE Presentation**

Saturday, September 16, Selibon will lead a clean-up of the island/ It's the fifth edition of the Bonaire Clean Up. More in the upcoming editions.

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Bonaire-Sun Rise/Set, Moon Phase and Tides

Day	High	Low	High	Low	High	Sunrise	Sunset
		01:58	06:45	12:44	18:55		
Mon 28	0.04 ft	0.40 ft	0.08 ft	0.84 ft	6:25	18:48	
Tue 29	First Quarter	02:47	07:31	13:13	19:31	6:25	18:47
		03:32	08:14	13:40	20:06		
Wed 30	0.00 ft	0.33 ft	0.11 ft	0.88 ft	6:25	18:47	
		04:16	08:55	14:07	20:41		
Thu 31	0.00 ft	0.29 ft	0.12 ft	0.88 ft	6:25	18:46	
		05:00	09:36	14:34	21:17		
Fri 01	0.01 ft	0.27 ft	0.13 ft	0.87 ft	6:25	18:45	
		05:44	10:19	15:04	21:55		
Sat 02	0.02 ft	0.25 ft	0.15 ft	0.85 ft	6:25	18:45	
		06:28	11:08	15:39	22:35		
Sun 03	0.04 ft	0.25 ft	0.17 ft	0.81 ft	6:25	18:44	
		07:11	12:01	16:28	23:19		
Mon 04	0.06 ft	0.27 ft	0.20 ft	0.76 ft	6:25	18:43	
		07:49	12:56	17:39			
Tue 05	0.08 ft	0.32 ft	0.24 ft		6:25	18:43	
		00:09	08:23	13:47	19:14	Full Moon	
Wed 06	0.69 ft	0.10 ft	0.39 ft	0.25 ft	6:25	18:42	
		01:07	08:54	14:32	20:55		
Thu 07	0.62 ft	0.11 ft	0.49 ft	0.23 ft	6:25	18:41	
		02:12	09:24	15:15	22:22		
Fri 08	0.54 ft	0.12 ft	0.60 ft	0.17 ft	6:25	18:41	
		03:20	09:55	15:58	23:33		
Sat 09	0.48 ft	0.12 ft	0.73 ft	0.09 ft	6:25	18:40	
		04:24	10:31	16:41			
Sun 10	0.43 ft	0.11 ft	0.85 ft		6:25	18:39	
		00:32	05:24	11:11	17:26		
Mon 11	0.01 ft	0.40 ft	0.09 ft	0.95 ft	6:25	18:39	

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ANIMAL SHELTER NEWS



THE "INVISIBLE" VOLUNTEERS

On the pages of this newspaper, on Facebook and other social media you always see photos of the volunteers at the Bonaire Animal Shelter working with the Shelter residents....cleaning cages, walking the dogs, playing with the cats. Their work is extremely important and very visible. But there also is a large group of volunteers, the "invisible" volunteers, who work tirelessly behind the scenes to help raise the funds and create the awareness that allow the Shelter to continue to grow and function as a refuge for unwanted animals.

These men and women work hard every week: manning the Pakus di Pruga (Shelter flea market store), the Shelter's cruise ship market booth, collecting the Shelter "donation house" funds; organizing book markets, Christmas markets, and auctions; selling t-shirts at local hotels; creating crafts and art work to sell at the markets; sorting and organizing thousands of books for hours on end; picking up donations for the Pakus; and the list is endless.

Their energy and devotion is tireless. Just this month, the "invisibles" worked on Saturday from 7:30am until 2pm at the Pakus, then packed up and worked at the Shelter until 6pm, setting up all the tables, tents and books for the next day's book market. They were back

at the Shelter Sunday morning at 7:30am to "man" the book market for the day and remained until well after 6pm, "closing up shop." This happens many times a year when the markets are organized.

The Animal Shelter Bonaire would like to recognize and express gratitude to these dedicated "invisible" volunteers whose efforts are invaluable:

Shirley Peters, Gibi Bomba, Flora Peters, Dabney Lassiter, Ria Huveneers, Barbara Huveneers, Renee Leach, Birgit Voss, Netty Bancroft, Mike, Dennis Sanipoen, Carin Zengerink, Mevris Dissel, Camille Naylor, Carine Murijn, Boudewijn (Bous) Scholts, Barbara van Olphen, Helma Schreuder, Paul and Amina Wichers.

There are also others who generously contribute their time as well when they are visiting Bonaire. If any names were inadvertently omitted, our gratitude remains.

The Shelter would also like to acknowledge and thank **George and Laura DeSalvo of The Bonaire Reporter** for their many years of generous and unwavering support in providing the Shelter with publicity and promotion of its work. ■

Jane Madden Disko, Chairperson, Animal Shelter Bonaire Board of Directors

Thank you all! You are not invisible to us or to the hundreds of animals that your work supports!

Pets Of The Week

BOWLS FULL OF FURBALLS

It's the second kitten season of the year and many unwanted or discarded kittens have luckily found their refuge at the Bonaire Animal Shelter. While the numbers of cat sterilizations through the Shelter's free sterilization program are increasing, many cat owners or feral cat feeders still have not taken advantage of the program, resulting in a large number of kittens who need homes. If you've been thinking about adopting one or more kittens, now is the time. The Shelter has "bowlfuls" of beautiful! You name it, they've got it! Boys, girls; long hair, short hair; short, tall; tabby, black, black and white, orange, grey, calico, tortoise, white and black and every color combination in between. The 18 kittens (yes, you read it right, 18!) range from six weeks to six months and all are loving, social and healthy.

In addition to the little ones, there are also 22 terrific adult cats looking for a loving home. If a kitten is what you are looking for, and you don't have other cats, you should consider the "buddy system": adopting two kittens or a kitten and an adult cat. Young kittens need a lot of attention and activity to help them develop into good companions, both physically and psychologically. Having a playmate or role model keeps them occupied and entertained. If you are not at home for most of the day, a single new kitten or cat will become lonely and bored which leads to mischievous activity like shredded curtains and furniture. In addition, just as it often happens with humans, lonely and isolated cats tend to become shy and reclusive and don't make for particularly good companions.

However, if you have your heart set on a single cat, there are several adult cats at the Shelter that prefer the company of humans to other cats. Just ask the Shelter staff for a suggestion as to which cats would enjoy being in a single cat home.

All Shelter cats and kittens are healthy, social and have current vaccinations. The adult cats are sterilized and for kittens not yet old enough to be sterilized, the adoption fee includes free sterilization for those kittens when they reach the appropriate age. You can visit all the fine felines at Animal Shelter Bonaire, Kaminda Lagun



26, Tuesday through Friday, 9am to 12noon and 3-5pm. Saturday 8am-3pm non stop. Visit their Facebook page at Animal Shelter Bonaire or check out the LIVE "kitty cams" at www.animalshelterbonaire.com ■

*Jane Madden Disko.
Photo by Luvinia Rodriguez*



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Tourism Summit Offers Surprises

On Thursday, August 24th, the Tourism Corporation of Bonaire (TCB) organized a Tourism Summit in collaboration with the University of Central Florida (UCF) and the Rosen College. The TCB is preparing a Strategic Tourism Plan for Bonaire and this was an opportunity for stakeholders to input to the plan. More than 150 persons, including government officials, attended the meeting at Harbour Village.

Several sessions consisting of a presentation and interactive periods of questions and answers filled most of the program of the day. Presentations asked questions like:

- Where have we been, where are we at the present moment and where are we going?
- Who are our tourists, what do they want and what do we offer them?
- What do we sustain, what do we enhance, what do we change?

- What's the best way to do it?

- TCB head Maurice Adriens and politico Hubert Martis opened the meeting, and Robertico

Croes from Aruba was moderator.

Focus of the Government and the TCB has been on the natural environment of Bonaire, its development and role in Bonaire's tourism and economy. There is, of course, snorkeling and SCUBA diving, the reason most visitors choose Bonaire.

Apart from that, much more future attention might be given to Washington Park, Klein Bonaire and the southern part of Bon-



Robertico Croes

aire. Ecotourism is what Bonaire has already done and it's the intention to sustain and improve this goal.

Challenges facing the tourism industry on Bonaire include:

- A **very weak link between tourism and the people** from the island, especially between the island residents, the economy and profit.
- A **lack of airlift**
- The weak **structure of local government**

Results of research presented by Robertico Croes, UCF and Rosen College were disturbing and controversial.

- People have **low satisfaction and quality of life**, compared with other societies.
- Tourism represents **only 16%** of the island economy
- **50% of the young generation** is actively looking for a job.
- Overall the airport and the accommodation

of tourists **costs Bonaire money** instead of generating money.

It was noted that these results conflicted with figures reported by the Central Bureau of Statistics and other sources.

The Summit went on to discuss what to do about these problems and what direction to take. It is agreed the Bonaire has a huge potential. Making the island's natural gifts accessible while protecting them and earning a sustainable income responsibly is not easy. If this is to happen there must be innovation, vision and commitment by all stakeholders, loyalty to the plan and less diversion because of personal ideas or advantages.

During the Tourism Summit, despite the negative slant, a lot of optimistic and positive ideas were expressed. Undoubtedly, elected officials should pay more attention to the "tourism-concerned" members of their community. ■ *Jan Brouwer/ G.D.*



This is the 146th of a series of *Bonaire Reporter* articles by J@n (always wear a helmet) Brouwer, featuring some of Bonaire's interesting vehicles and persons that are "On Wheels". Up to at least 150 articles!

A TOUGH YOUNG LADY AND HER FOUR WHEEL DRIVE "BLACK OLIVE"

Bonaire/Antriol –
Years and years ago there was a yellow painted Lada Niva on the island of Bonaire. On top of that car an upside down surf board was mounted. The permanently mounted surf board outlived the Lada Niva as the car changed color. Yellow became brown and during the time more and more air left the five tires. Last time the vehicle was spotted in Lagoen Hill, parked along the road. Green grass started to grow around the Niva and finally the grass changed color as well...
 Then, after years, a black Lada Niva 4X4 popped up! The car lives in Antriol so one day I stopped at the little blue painted traditional Bonairean house to ask the owner of the house and the car whether it was okay to write an article about this Russian rarity. The owner appeared to be a

young lady, living on the island since 2014. A happy and independent and enthusiastic person, working in the diving industry and with plenty of experience with cars.

She informed me: "I was looking for the ultimate island car and I was thinking of a Lada Niva because of its simple and sturdy technique. Then I ran into this one. As far as I knew this was the only Lada Niva on the island. I approached the owner and he was willing to sell the weird vehicle. I knew what I was talking about as I have been working with cars, selling parts, doing little maintenance... My Lada Niva is a recent one. The car is built in 2006. I think she is perfect for the island as she has permanent four-wheel drive, coil springs and 16-inch tires. The body is stiff and sturdy and structure is very basic. Apart from valves for the tires and spark plugs for the engine you will not be able to find a single part of this car on the island. It is said that Leo Schnogg's Enterprises sold



the car on Curacao and Nivas are also spotted on Saint-Martin and other former French colonies. Some people think they are better off with a Toyota but prices for parts are very high and sometimes you have to wait for two months to get parts... Nowadays, with the internet and on line selling, parts are not a single problem. The Lada Niva is very popular in France and in the former French colonies. Americans think this is really a cult car. (That is what they think of the Land-Rover Defender too. Prices are over \$100.000 for a Defender of at least 25 years old in good condition.../jb) Wherever I show up with my black beauty they ask about the vehicle and they even want to touch it!"

The Lada Niva is produced in

Russia. The four-by-four is an original Russian design. The engine is based on the Italian FIAT-engine from the FIAT 124, car of the year, somewhere in the mid 60s. The design is pretty basic: four cylinders, overhead camshaft, two-barrel carburetor, no nonsense. One single problem: always carry a new chain tensioner for the camshaft as the thing cracks and breaks down every 20.000 kilometers. Luckily without damaging the engine. Just remove the valve cover and convert a paper clip into a hook to fish out the old tensioner. It is even better to renew the chain tensioner in advance. This saves you some angling...

The Lada Niva 4X4 is produced in the city of Toljatti on the Russian Volga. The first Niva was

introduced in 1975. Production started in 1977. The reliable engine is based on the 1600 cc Lada engine from the Lada sedan. This engine is based on the FIAT power plant. The engine produces 78 horsepower. Climbing ability is 58%. Forty-five Lada Nivas were used during the construction of the Channel Tunnel between France and England. They covered 70,000 kilometers on unpaved terrain— was it mostly under the English Channel?.

And again the happy owner spreads the word: "Lada never changed the concept: Three doors, sturdy axles, coil springs, disk brakes in the front, drum brakes in the rear, aluminum bumpers, high and low gear, 16-inch wheels. Those Russians never added nonsense. So there is no air conditioning, windows are not electric, there is no radio, there is no USB-outlet, there is no moon roof, no sun roof either... Oh well, there are some accessories: a roof rail and side steps. And there is a revolution counter! Those Russians like revolutions! Just recently I spotted another Lada Niva. Without side steps and without a roof rail. A drab green one. So that is the olive green one, but mine is the black olive! Black does not crack! See, that makes my Lada Niva more than unique!"

Story & photo by Jan Brouwer

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