

**It's Still  
FREE**

**BONAIRE** Nov. 6-20, 2017, Year 24, Issue 21  
**The REPORTER**

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**Taste of Bonaire**  
**Page 9**

*Industry of Activity kids and teachers  
At Taste of Bonaire-Wellness Edition*

Laura DeSalvo photo





**T**he new Dutch cabinet was sworn in by King Willem-Alexander late last month before taking the traditional photograph (above) on the steps of the king's offices in the Noordeinde palace in The Hague.

Seven months after the general election, the new line-up of 16 ministers and eight junior ministers is now ready to start work. "We are going to keep a close eye on the money," said Prime Minister Rutte after holding individual talks with all the members of his third administration.

Although a largely new team, one member – Menno Snel who will take charge of the tax office – has no political experience and, according to the *Volkskrant*, was not even a member of his party D66 before his appointment.

All but two of the eight junior ministers are sitting MPs, as are most of the other ministers. Just three faces from the previous cabinet – Mark Rutte, Eric Wiebes and Sander Dekker – are returning to front-line jobs.

Rutte's new cabinet is the first in 40 years to draw its members from four different parties and its line-up is strikingly homogenous. The team of 24 ministers and junior ministers – state secretaries – is 14 men and 10 women. Rutte has acknowledged there is a lack of female ministers, but argued "what counts in the end is that we have the best people."

► **InselAir was true to its old form again when its first flight of the repaired MD-80 jet was delayed for a whole day under questionable circumstances.** It has been flying reliably since then and plans for more flights. Discounted fares are being offered on the InselAir website.

Insel's Suriname flights are set to resume Monday 20 November, twice a week on Monday and Friday afternoons

► **Two days later than announced, Aruba Airlines started flying between Aruba and Curacao with two return trips per day on Tuesdays and Thursdays.** Initially, the company announced that they would operate using a Bombardier Dash 8 Q300. Instead, the

company is flying this route with a Bombardier CRJ2000 which also seats 50 passengers. The airline hopes to get a second CRJ2000 soon which can be used as a backup and also for charter flights. The aircraft is wet leased (plane and crew provided) from Voyager Airways.

► **The pre-announced Aruba Airlines flights between Aruba and Bonaire did not materialize** because, according to the airline's head, this has to do with the Dutch Civil Aviation Authority requirements for a license. "But I expect that we can fly to Bonaire starting November 16 three times a week," he said.

► **During the past weeks Divi Divi Air has been testing and training pilots** to fly their new 19-passenger Twin Otter aircraft. Hopefully, this month they will take over the flights of the 8-passenger Norman Islanders.



► **They are the tallest structures, six+ stories high, on Bonaire – the amusement park rides set up in the stadium parking lot** (photo). However, with the statement, "Public Safety is important to me," Governor Edison Rijna, who is constitutionally charged with maintaining order and security on Bonaire, closed the entire "Coney Island" amusement attraction that was set up in the stadium parking lot. His decision was based on safety problems with the rides. The attraction opened on October 31 and was closed on November 3.

► **Is Bonaire ready for Uber taxi service?** Several queries from visitors prompted this question. According to reports, Curacao is considering permitting Uber to operate there. Bonaire's few struggling taxi drivers

might not take this idea very well, unless they are included.



► **The outrage against the explosion of billboards, especially in the rural areas of the island is growing.** Coupled with the new ordinances being established, hopefully, these insults to everything precious to Bonaire will disappear. We've even noticed the board at the entrance to North Salinja is dark. The one just northeast of the airport however, is still blinding the night vision of drivers.

What can you do to make this scourge go away? If you are a business owner, don't advertise on them. If you are a consumer, boycott any products they dare to advertise. If you are a voter, complain to your representative. If you are a tourist, complain to your hotel.

► **The new BON DOET season is under way.** Bon Doet is the island's largest volunteer event. During the annual BON DOET experience, foundations, associations and care homes (NGOs) come up with jobs that can be done by volunteers. This way they get a day of help and a lot of positive promotion. The general public can pick an organization of choice and try out a day of volunteer work. Many hands make light work and make it fun. BON DOET is organized by the NGO Platform Bonaire in cooperation with the Dutch Orange Fund (*Oranje Fonds*) in the Netherlands, Aruba, Curaçao, Sint Eustatius and Sint Maarten as well.

**The next BON DOET will take place on Friday and Saturday, March 10th, 2018.** Beginning now, businesses, government departments and organizations can sign-up one or more jobs on the website [www.bondoet.com](http://www.bondoet.com). Info is in Dutch and Papiamentu. Use Google Translate for English.

**Organizations needing help can sign up until January 21, 2018,** after which volunteers are invited to enroll for a chosen job. The NGO Platform recommends organiza-

(Continued on page 3)

## This Week's Stories

|  |    |
|--|----|
| American Airlines MIA-BON                  | 3  |
| The Gouden Verrader                        | 4  |
| What Bonaire Doesn't Have Contest          | 4  |
| Study and Job Market 2017                  | 4  |
| What Bonaire Doesn't Have and Doesn't Want | 4  |
| Sanikolas Is Coming To Town                | 6  |
| Birthday Boy Melchior Martijn              | 7  |
| Halloween Bonaire Style                    | 7  |
| Modeling Op                                | 8  |
| Trees For Our Loras                        | 8  |
| Taste of Bonaire Wellness Edition          | 9  |
| Solving the Goat Problem                   | 10 |

## Departments

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Flotsam & Jetsam   | 2  |
| On the Island Since—Debby Rauwers  | 5  |
| Picture Yourself—Yellowstone USA   | 6  |
| A Garden—Just Do It (It's Raining-A Time To Sow))                                  | 11 |
| Did You Know? (Park Reserves)  | 11 |
| What's Happening + Cruise Ship + Exhibitions                                       | 12 |
| Classifieds, Masthead, Tide Table, Sunrise & Sunset Times, Moon Phase              | 13 |
| Pet Of The Week ( <i>Mika the Giant-ess</i> )                                      | 14 |
| Animal Shelter News— <i>Animal Safe Sex, You Don't Want to be a Bonaire Animal</i> | 14 |
| Bonaire Sky Park (Star Secrets!)   | 15 |
| The Stars Have It (Horoscope)  | 15 |

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*Flotsam and Jetsam (Continued from page 2)*  
 tions **not** to wait until the last minute because there is a limited budget for job materials. Up to \$650 can be requested for each job. For more information, advice or support, please contact NGO Platform Bonaire, phone 717-2366.

► **According to Curacaonieuws.nu, snack restaurants on Bonaire will no longer be allowed to play music** due to a new "music directive." Also sporting events must have a license to play music up until 10pm. Police on Bonaire will be checking for this "illegal music."

► **Price of fuel went up again.** This month it's \$1.14/liter, Diesel up to \$0.65/liter. It's been climbing for the last few months and no end is in sight.

► **The public library of Bonaire will present a lecture with theme, "Dyslexia: A Gift or Task?"** The lecture will be given by Mrs Evelien van Dort, internationally known children and youth book author, who combines her experience and knowledge of childhood physiotherapy with her authorship.

Dyslexia is a common reading problem. How can we support the dyslexic child to explore this gift? Unfortunately, dyslexia is sometimes related to low literacy. The lecture will be held on **Wednesday, November 8. See Happenings on page 12 for details.**

► **Maduro & Curiel's Bank (Bonaire) N.V. plans to close its Rincon branch office on January 8, 2018,** as part of streamlining, regulatory compliance and

cost cutting efforts on Bonaire. The branch has been operating since 1981. But the historic village has not been abandoned by the bank: **MCB will provide free transportation to 60-plussers for three months as they become accustomed to the new arrangement.**

The ATM will not only dispense cash but allow bill payments for utilities, "swiping" for electronic transactions, and more. During the next two months there will be sessions in Rincon to demonstrate the facility.

► **The trial, code named "Saturnius,"** of the accused killer in the stabbing death of Andriana Morelas de Florencio (23), the cruise ship employee found dead at Playa Blanca, **has been postponed from next week to January 2018** because of the illness of the defense lawyer.



**Defendant in court appearance last week**  
*Breaking News 99 photo*

► **Sunbelt Realty has completed their new offices in what we think is record time for such a building.** On Friday November 10th, they plan to move from both of their old locations on Kaya L.D. Gerharts to the new office at Kaya Grandi #41. Pass by after Monday, November

► **A combination comprised of the TCB/Airport/OLB/Private Sector are trying to raise enough funds to cover a requested \$500,000 letter of credit that's needed to have American Airlines start non-stop service MIA-BON-MIA on Saturdays.**

This service will start with an Airbus 319 with 120 coach and eight first class seats. Service will start June 7, 2018. Based on past experience, a market of 63 seats a week already has been established which is close to the 77 passengers load factor guarantee. So if just 14 more people choose to fly to BON from MIA, there will be no cost to the island and revenue from the new visitors.

TCB says that a BON flight has great support within the route planning group at AA, and that the \$500,000 LOC/Guarantee is the minimum guarantee AA expects when starting a new route to anywhere.

The next step from the meeting is for the OLB/Airport/TCB to bring a proposal to the Private Sector outlining how much they will contribute toward the LOC/Guarantee and how much they expect the private sector to contribute. They have promised this for next week. *-Info from Bob Bartkoski*

**Details:**

- Non-Stop Saturday only service from MIA to BON for one year
- No Service from August 22, 2018 through October 3, 2018 off season
- Revenue guarantee of \$28,837 per One-Way operation, or \$57,674 per Round Trip
- At this moment the aircraft is guaranteed
- The economic benefits are clear: Assuming 70% occupancy....90 passengers
  - Daily spend @ \$220 x 7 days = \$138,600 / flight
  - Room Tax @ \$ 5.47 days \$3,402 / flight, Airport Tax @ \$ 36 = \$3,240/flight
  - With 46 rotations annually it will result in an income of \$6,375,600 / year to the Private Sector, plus Room Tax of \$156,492 / year and Airport Tax of \$149,040 / year



13th, to check it out. (also see the back page of this edition.) There's on-site parking too!

► **Want to become knowledgeable in video production, graphic design or social media marketing?** You can learn right here on Bonaire. In just five weeks you learn all the ins and outs of video production, graphic

design or social media marketing. Sign up now for one of the workshops. Mail to [curussen@infamousproductions.com](mailto:curussen@infamousproductions.com). Workshop social media marketing starts October 24; the graphic design starts November 7; and media basics starts November 20. See their Facebook page for more info. ■G./L. D

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# Tracking A Legend The Gouden Verrader

## THE GOUDEN VERRADER

One of Terramar Museum's collection highlights is a beautiful wooden ship's figurehead called the Gouden Verrader. Although the carving's recent history is well known, there is a lot of uncertainty about her age and provenance. Over the past year, Terramar Museum staff has conducted extensive research and gathered information from all around the world trying to solve this mystery.

Stylistic features indicate the figurehead was carved in the United Kingdom between 1855 and 1865. The fact that she is of a generic style suggests that she is not a portrait figurehead and does not represent a real life person. She was most likely carved for stock and sold off the peg at the carver's workshop.

It is still unsure which ship the figurehead belonged to, but the most likely candidate is the *MairiBhan*, built in Glasgow and launched in 1874. After the *MairiBhan* ran aground on Bonaire's northwestern shore in 1912, it took two weeks before she sank, during which time the ship was publicly auctioned. As was customary in those days, whenever a ship wrecked people would flock to the beach to see if anything from the ship could be retrieved. Thus there was plenty of time to remove the figurehead. Three historic photographs of the *MairiBhan*, held in an Australian archive, show her bow to be decorated with a figurehead that looks remarkably similar to our Gouden Verrader. Moreover, one of the witnesses to the sale of the vessel was the owner of the residence at JatoBaco plantation where the figurehead was kept until the 1950s.

In 1952, the figurehead was stolen from JatoBaco by Lodewijk Gerharts and Jules Heitkönig and mounted on the bar of Zeebad Hotel (at present Divi Flamingo Beach Resort). She was named the Gouden Verrader (Golden Traitor) and became the counterpart of Curaçao's famous figurehead, the Loden Verrader. On two occasions, in 1953 and 1958, she was stolen by the Dutch navy and abducted to the Netherlands. Luckily she was always returned. The hole in her belly was made during this time to attach her to the bar in order to prevent any further thefts. Over the years, she was repainted several times as well.

In 1990, Captain Don Stewart, the founder of Bonaire's dive tourism, took the figurehead home to keep her safe. He painted her fingernail green, one of Don's customs through which he identified as an environmentalist. In 2016 she was loaned to Terramar Museum by Captain Don's widow, Janet Thibault.

The figurehead is now on display for the general public. Even those who are not able to see her in real life can still admire her beauty, as Terramar Museum staff created a 3D printed model which can be viewed at <https://sketchfab.com/terramarmuseum/models>. In this way, a unique piece of Bonairean history is now available to the entire world. □ Story by Terramar Museum Director Ruud Stelten



L.D. Gerharts giving the figurehead a well-deserved drink at the bar of Zeebad Hotel.

## Study and Job Market 2017



Scene from the 2009 event

On Friday, November 10, the annual Study & Career Event Bonaire will take place again. Preparations for this event, the continuation of the Study & Occupation Market, are in full swing. This year the event will take place on a Friday so that we can end the week with music!

The event supports the youth of Bonaire in making a choice for their further education or occupation, and focuses on young people in the final classes of secondary or vocational education. Because young people can talk to advisors about further education, it becomes easier to make a choice.

Schools for further education at home and abroad are present, such as the University of Aruba, the University of the Caribbean (Curaçao), the University of Curacao and FEFFIK of the boroughs; Indian Hills Community College, Wayne State College, Monroe College and ULM from the United States, Fontys Colleges and TIO University of the Netherlands, and Fundashon Forma, Mariadal and SGB-Mbo of Bonaire. In addition, employers on Bonaire present what kind of job opportunities there are on the island. Thus there will be a special 'hospitality square' with employers such as Bonhata, hotels and restaurants. They will show which jobs are in the tourism sector.

There are also several spectacular demonstrations. The police, justice department and the ambulance groups plan to demonstrate how they work.

The Market is open from 1 to 6 pm at Jong Bonaire. From 4pm it will be extra cozy with music, food and drinks. All welcome! □ Press release

## What Bonaire Doesn't Have and Doesn't Want

On Feb. 9, 1996,

Port Call (previous name of Bonaire Reporter), asked its readers to list "What Bonaire Doesn't Have and Doesn't Want" Contest –

**We are repeating this contest – Get your entries in now**

Below are some of the "wants and don't wants" received last week:

### Want

Only used cars available for sale for a 3 year period

Ban on Island Council members changing parties in mid-stream

Cruise ship tourists to pay a higher head tax

More bicycle lanes

One day per year for duty free/tax free imports for citizens (we choose our day)

A Mexican restaurant

An MRI machine

An airport parking payment machine that takes bills larger than \$1.00

A ban on golf carts on the road

A ban on bicycle riders riding 2 or 3 abreast

Drivers to use turn signals at roundabouts

Cheaper inter-island plane tickets

Fiber optic cable in every neighborhood

Lower WEB bills

Sidewalks and bike paths

One car per person only

### Don't Want

Cruise ships furnishing bikes and other equipment to passengers

To be the most expensive island in the Caribbean

### What are you ideas for more of the things we WANT and DON'T want on Bonaire? Ideas like:

Send in your ideas. We'll publish and award a delicious Pasa Bon pizza to the best entries. ■ G.D. Email entries to [George@bonairenews.com](mailto:George@bonairenews.com)



## Scheduled Water Taxi TO KLEIN BONAIRE

From Bonaire Nautico Marina in front of It Rains Fishes Restaurant

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# On the Island Since... 1980 and 2014 – Debby Rauwers



Marco and Debby with the rocks which will part of the sculpture

“I was eight when I came here. My parents had come for a vacation to Bonaire and when they came back they told me we were going to live there. I’d never heard of it; for me it was just one big adventure.

After our arrival, my parents started Buddy Watersports and I started third grade at St. Bernardus School. Our first house was where Capriccio Restaurant is now, so life was just about school and the sea. For me it was luxury! However, moneywise it was a struggle and my dad, who was a technician, took another job at Radio Netherlands where he became head transmitter technician. Altogether he worked about 16 hours a day. At his own business he filled up the tanks, dove with the tourists and entertained them as well, while my mom did the administration, ran the dive shop and welcomed the guests. When we moved to Abraham Boulevard where all the neighborhood children were going to the Beatrix School, I went there too. My school years were just wonderful and the matinee of E Wowo discotheque was the place to be!

In 1987 my parents got the land at Buddy Dive where they first built 10 apartments. Then, five years later, it became a complete resort with 40 apartments, a dive shop and two pools. As a child - and I was an only child - I always had to help my parents and I think we did a really great job! In 1987 I laid the first stone of Buddy Dive, then I left for Holland to finish Havo high school. I stayed with family and they’ve been wonderful to me - because I was very homesick. When you grow up on Bonaire, Holland is disappointing when you have to live there again. Not only the weather, biking through the rain to school, but just about everything. Good thing though was that I made friends immediately. I wanted to become a veterinarian, but even before my graduation I already decided I would go back to Bonaire again.

I applied for a job with my parents and I was hired for one year

to clean all around, fill up the bar and maintain the pools. Only much later was I allowed to do some reservations. That year I found out that I really liked to work with tourists so I went to the Hotel Management School in Maastricht in the south of Holland. Five years later, after my graduation, I came back. Pascal de Meyer was the manager at Buddy Dive and for three years I worked in all departments of the resort as it didn’t feel right to obtain a management position right away being a small girl, blond and the daughter of the boss! It wouldn’t have worked anyway, because when you’ve just finished school you don’t have experience.

**“If the children of Bonaire would learn more about their island they would love it more and take pride in being a Bonairean.”**

In 1998 I became the general manager and my parents officially retired – or – ‘they began to enjoy life’ after having worked extremely hard for 20 years.

They moved to Costa Rica, then to Panama and nowadays they divide their time between Bonaire and Germany/Holland because my dad’s mother is living there. She’s 98 and completely independent.

We’ve always been known for being the ‘German Resort’ and when I came back after my studies, our clientele was 65% German. In 1998, the management team of Buddy Dive hired an American Marketing Manager and the business started growing fast and it became 50/50 European/American. When Hurricane Lenny damaged a lot of oceanfront resorts badly in 1999, we were operational in two days - thanks to our fabulous team. Also, as we were the owners, no time was lost in meetings with a board about who was going to pay for what.

In 2002 we sold Buddy Dive. For me it was hard, but the resort was at its top, and when do you



Marco and Debby at the Hato traffic circle where the sculpture will be erected

get a chance to sell something so big? I went back to Europe and for two years I looked around in Holland, then I started an event bureau for businesses together with my partner, Marco Vermeulen, whom I’d just met at the time. We did it for nine years and then Bonaire started itching again...

While we lived in Holland, we bought my parents’ house on Bonaire and remodeled it into a bed and breakfast, La Pura Vista. It was sort of an excuse to come

we had a guest at La Pura Vista, Mark Ansier, an American artist/sculptor who makes custom iron art. Then, looking at the tag lines for Bonaire -Diver’s Paradise and *Tene Bonearu Limpi* (Keep Bonaire Clean), one and one became three and the idea to construct an artistic sculpture of scrap metal on the traffic circle in Hato was born. However, its execution took two years. Now, having established *Fundashon Bunita Boneiru* (Beautiful Bonaire Foundation), the hope is, if we can get sufficient funding, we are going to make more things beautiful on Bonaire.

Mark has been here to make all the preparations. He went to the landfill to look for scrap metal and got very inspired by what he found. Welders and students from FORMA (the adult education and vocational school) and the Technical School who are interested in learning the trade and in applying it creatively will assist Mark. The sculpture will symbolize life underwater. Last month we had an event during which people could buy a rock for \$25 - up to \$500 - on which they could write their name. Those rocks will be incorporated into the artwork. Around the sculpture, donkey- and goat-proof flowers and plants in the colors of the Bonairean flag will be planted. November 11 we will clean up the roundabout together with the coworkers of the head sponsors: MCB Bonaire, Den Laman, Sand Dollar and Dive Friends. It’s going to be fun! On November 13th, the artist will start working at the roundabout and at the parking lot of TWR.

We have a great committee for the traffic circle: Damaly Linkers, Sharon Bol, Carolyn Caporusso, Lily Ann Domacasse, Tanja Staring, Ronnie Heijmans, Marco and me. It is a turbo-team which makes you aware of the fact that it is possible to realize something truly beautiful with a

small team!

Bonaire is home, something Holland has never been to me. I think part of the charm of the island is the authenticity of its people. Schools on Bonaire nowadays are teaching the children lots more about Holland than about Bonaire, which is wrong, because what you don’t know, you don’t love.

In my time we were taught by Frater Candidus about our birds and we knew them all by name, just like we knew the names of our plants and trees and fishes. We learned the anthem of Bonaire from Mr. Scherptong and we knew everything about Bonaire and we were proud of our island. It is such a great, great pity that children at school are not learning about the island anymore. However, Bonaireans who are working in tourism are often proud of their island because many times a day they hear from tourists and complete strangers that Bonaire is paradise. They also see people coming back, over and over again even though this island is not a cheap destination. If the children of Bonaire would learn more about their island they would love it more and take pride in being a Bonairean, and then they will take care of it once they’re grown up.

Personally, I’ll stay here; there are still enough challenges. And as long as I can start the day walking barefoot outside, having a coffee under the tree while listening to the songs of the birds and then to leave the house with a feeling of live and let live – that’s Bonaire to me.” ■ Story & photos by Greta Kooistra

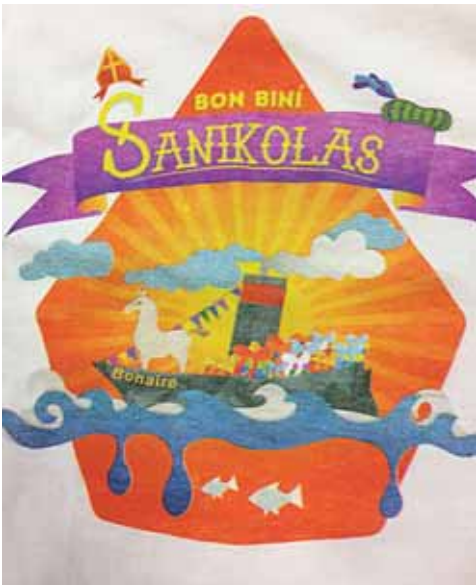




# Sanikolas is Coming to Town! Picture Yourself With The Reporter in Yellowstone National Park, USA



Sanikolas Organization Team L to R: Timoteo Silberie (SKAL, Bonaire Museum), Selimah Agostien, Bettino dePalm, Lily Ann Domacasse (MCB), and Mimi Dongen (SHiF)

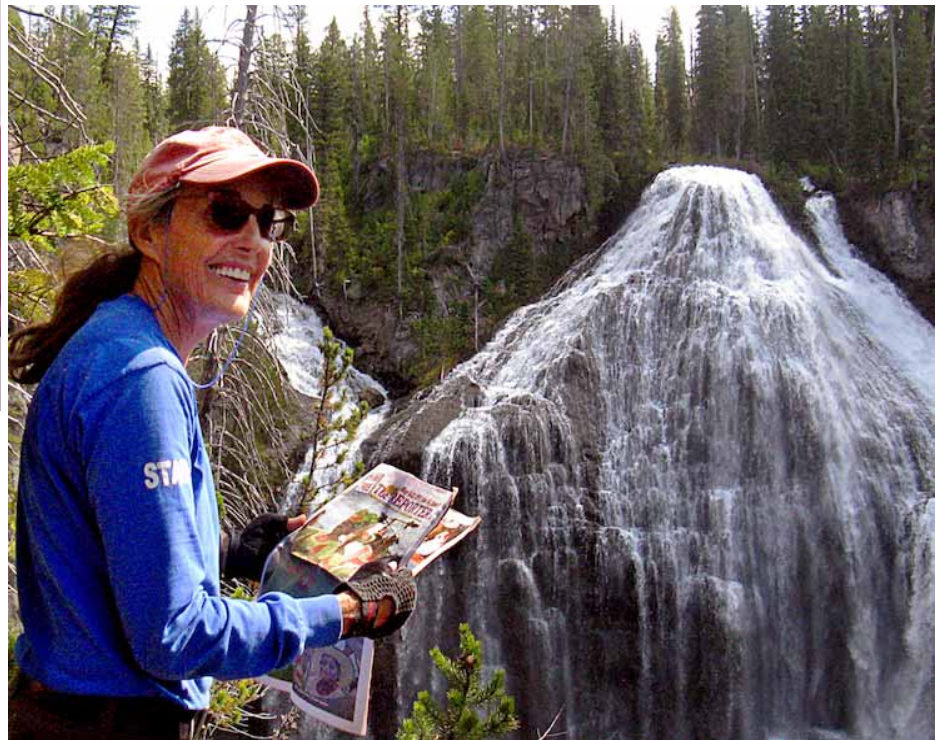


Put this on your calendar. Sanikolas and his group of more than 40 Swarte Pieten (Black Petes) will be arriving via boat at the waterfront and Wilhelmina Park on **Saturday, November 25, around 9 am.**

All the action starts at 8am at the parking lot of Telbo where there will be the bouncer, face painting, food, drink, Tio Pepe, Dance Sensation, Casa de Musica, Lito of MCB.

After disembarking from the boat and greeting hordes of children and their parents, Sanikolas and his cavorting and teasing Swartepieten, and accompanied by a

(Continued on page 13)



Anne Boucher Shrake is holding 'The Bonaire Reporter' at Union Falls, Yellowstone (highest falls in Yellowstone National Park). The Shrake family has been visiting Bonaire for the last 22 years. ■

**WIN GREAT PRIZES!** Take a copy of *The Bonaire Reporter* with you on your next trip or when you return to your home. Then take a photo of yourself with the newspaper in hand. **THE BEST PHOTOS OF THE YEAR WILL WIN THE PRIZES.** Mail photos to *Bonaire Reporter*, Box 407, Bonaire, Netherlands Antilles (AN). E-mail to: [picture@bonairereporter.com](mailto:picture@bonairereporter.com). (All 2007 photos are eligible.)

## Stylish Home + Protected Land

Like a timeless work of art, **protected open land** in the Caribbean is a legacy investment meant to be preserved. For those who seek a rural island retreat, with an ideal climate surrounded by an incredible mix of majestic cactus, wind-sculpted trees with **endless sea views**, **Santosha** is the answer. It offers over 11.5 hectares (28.6 acres) of privacy surrounded by a few home sites of similar size in an environmentally protected area of over 260 hectares (600 acres) on the unspoiled east side of Bonaire.

Included on the land is a lovely eclectic living compound of four buildings including a 269 m<sup>2</sup> (2,900ft<sup>2</sup>) environmentally refined stylish home with massive walls. This gorgeous property has it all: Elevation, beautiful ocean view, no noise-, smell- or light-pollution and part of the original Bolivia Plantation area.

Price: \$450,000

For more information contact Peter at:  
**Sotheby's International Realty Bonaire**  
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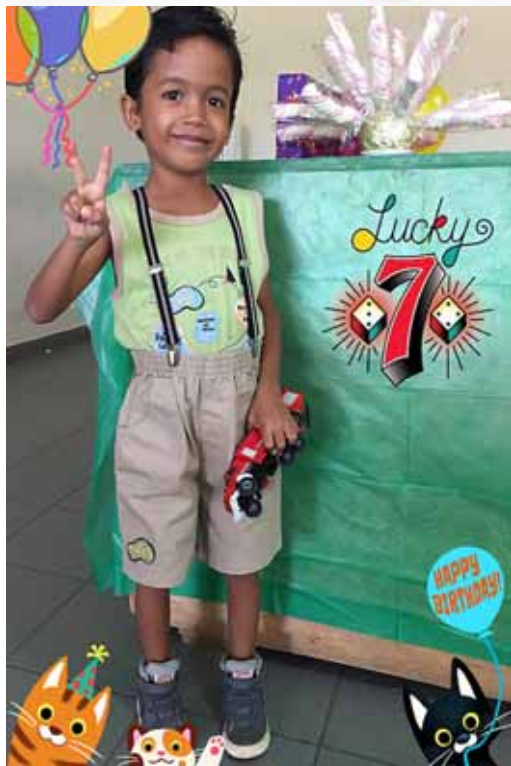
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# BIRTHDAY BOY



Happy birthday to Melchior Martijn ... from all his fans

# Halloween Bonaire Style

It's become an annual island institution mostly due to the efforts on a woman and her assistants. She is "Tante" Corine Gerharts, who guided this year's crop of 50 kids, accompanied by parents, grandparents, well wishers, etc. through the main street, Kaya Grandi, of Kralendijk, singing a now traditional trick or treat song as they visited nearly all the shops, looking for sweets.

Costumes are becoming more elaborate, but the kids are still the cutest. Corine has been leading this parade now for 21 years, long after her own son has grown and moved off the island. Some of the alumni from past years now act as assistants in herding the kids. Her "day job" is running Bonaire Tours.

Miss Anna's crèche classes were there too, as always. (Miss Anna told us that she and her family will be relocating to Portugal, her husband's home country. Miss Anna has run her very popular crèche for over 20 years. She will be deeply missed!)

Kaya Grandi was especially busy as a cruise ship was at the dock with hundreds of passengers milling around the downtown area. Everyone seemed to be having a wonderful time, judging by all the smiling faces. L.D.



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# Modeling Opportunity



Canadian swimsuit designer Danica Salajko, of **Bathing Belle Swimwear**, is coming back to Bonaire for another shoot.

Danica Salajko was introduced to Bonaire in December 2007 when her husband surprised her with a trip to the island. "Through the years we have made so many friends. Every time we return it feels like home," says Salajko. Bonaire has beautiful natural landscapes, making it an ideal place to shoot a swimsuit catalogue.

Miss Bonaire 2010, Benazir Charles, has also modeled for Bathing Belle through the years. "Danica's swimsuits are so fun to wear! I love her prints, and her suits bring smiles to the people who wear and see

them!" says Bena.

You can see more of Danica's designs at [www.bathingbelle.com](http://www.bathingbelle.com)

Next month Danica is bringing her new collection back to Bonaire, and she is looking for fresh new faces. Who does she want to be her next models?

>Women ages 20-35 years (all body types),

>Boys and girls ages 4-8 years, and

>Men ages 20-35 years.

No experience necessary! If you, or someone you know might be interested, please send a photo of your best smile to [danica@bathingbelleswimwear@gmail.com](mailto:danica@bathingbelleswimwear@gmail.com)  *Sanica Salajko*

## Trees For Our Loras

Bonaire's natural environment is well known and loved around the world. However, it is mostly the underwater environment that gets all the attention. Bonaire's tropical dry forest deserves some recognition as well, as it is a home to endangered birds such as the Yellow-shouldered Amazon parrot, *Amazona barbadensis* (photo at right), and plants such as two of the *Guaiaacum* species (commonly known as the Lignum Vitae or Ironwood).

Echo is a non-profit organization that was founded in 2010. Its mission is to safeguard the future of the Yellow-shouldered Amazon parrot. The biggest threat to maintaining a healthy and growing population of these parrots on Bonaire is the lack of suitable habitat. Their habitat is in danger due to habitat degradation and deforestation. In 2015, thanks to funding from Openbaar Lichaam Bonaire (the local Island Government), Echo could launch a reforestation project with the goal of planting 20,000 native trees across Bonaire into 'herbivore-exclusion' areas - fenced areas about one hectare in size that plant-eating animals such as the goats, donkeys and pigs cannot enter.

Did you know that worldwide tropical dry forests are among the least-researched and conserved habitats? And yet, they account for about half of the world's forested



area. To give Bonaire's tropical dry forest some deserved-attention we will be writing a biweekly article about the trees of Bonaire. In these articles we will share with you some of the wonderful and unique features that make Bonaire's trees so special for both the parrots and people. As you follow the series, we hope that you will discover a tree that becomes your favourite, or if you already have a favourite in mind, please share it with us by writing to [info@echobonaire.org](mailto:info@echobonaire.org).

Now that the rainy season has started, it's time to plant trees! Echo has organized bimonthly Tree Planting Days; the first three tree planting days (7 and 21 October and 5 November) have already been a success with over 2500 trees being planted into two reforestation areas. But we can still use your help! If you are interested in joining us for a Tree Planting event, sign up on our Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/echobonaire.org>). You can also call 786-7447 or email [info@echobonaire.org](mailto:info@echobonaire.org) for more information. **The next tree-planting day will be on the 18th of November.**

*Roos van Rijen*



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# The Taste of Bonaire - Wellness Edition



*Agnes of Multi-Shop serves up delicious kibbling (fried fish)*



*Bakery Fait Maison's Estelle Bruni serves a happy customer*



*One of the turtle-oriented art pieces up for auction at the Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire Fundraising Auction on November 25*



*Reiki Master Francheska of Reiki Cheska offered on-the-spot treatments*



*Rianne and Simone show off some of the super swim wear offered by the Bonaire Barracudas team*

Last Saturday night's Taste of Bonaire Wellness Edition was bubbling with activity and enthusiasm. While the focus was on health and healthy eating there were also plenty of goodies to discover

People of all ages were enjoying the atmosphere and fun and visiting the booths, watching the demonstrations on stage. There was Yoga and Reiki, Tai Chi, Pilates and Zumba, dancing schools, sports groups, the bands, Vipe Entertainment and Proyecto 2000.

Combine that with the fragrances of aromatic cooking wafting over the crowds and it made it an enjoyable evening for everyone.

The Tourist Corporation Bonaire has been doing a marvelous job with these "Tastes," making them even more appealing to locals and visitors and encouraging even more participants.

Another big downtown event coming up is the **Bonaire Christmas Shopping Night 2017 on Saturday, December 16.**

Visitors and shoppers to the Christmas Shopping night will have the opportunity to experience amazing shopping with discounts in most of the stores on Kaya Grandi and the streets adjacent. A special event that evening will be an old time Christmas-themed parade.

And of course, there will be lots of special Christmas foods.

Christmas Shopping night starts at 6pm and will go on until 10pm. □ L.D.

*The Bonaire Reporter Nov. 6-20, 2017*

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# Solving The Roaming Goat Problem



Goats roaming free

Bonaire has 1 1/2 times as many goats as people. And their roaming free has become an issue. On Saturday, October 21, the Kriabon agricultural cooperative organized an information afternoon for its members on the future of goat farming. During this meeting, the research on the current state of affairs and the plans for professionalization of goat farming was reported.

Research by Imares ( The Wageningen University, Institute for Marine Resources and Ecosystem Studies) reveals that the 32,000 loose goats are harmful to nature. They eat the young trees. The plants that

are not eaten remain, just thinly sprinkled with scrub and cacti.

Due to overgrazing, the soils become bald and erosion arises. During the rainy season, the rain mixes with the soil and manure and flows to the sea and the coral reef. In the dry period, soil is blown by the wind to the reef. This is affecting the coral reef, Bonaire's main source of income.

On behalf of the OLB (island government) and the Ministry of Economic Affairs, Wageningen University has conducted a research into goat farming. The research shows that the existing goat farm

has no future: There are many problems with theft and wild dogs. The price of goat meat is low and the yields are marginal. A large number of kunukus (farms) have been abandoned, so social cohesion has disappeared. This should not happen.

The OLB has asked the Wageningen University to draw up a plan for the professionalization of goat farming. The goal is to create a win-win situation by combining economics and ecology: reinforcement of goat farming and goats inside pens. To strengthen goat farming there needs to be quality feed, more professional goat management, lamb production and enforcement.

The farmers and goat owners agree with the plan, provided that the following conditions are met:

1. Affordable animal feed.
2. Efficient distribution of water in the appropriate areas.



Runoff from erosion stains the sea and kills the coral

3. Support of the goat farmers when outfitting their premises.
4. Security in the farm areas.
5. According to the kunukeros, the loose donkeys are also a threat to nature and action must be taken against this.

When these five points are met, the goat farmers are prepared to keep their animals fenced in.

The researchers from Wageningen will return in November to discuss the plan further with the kunukeros and other stakeholders. **■ Press release**

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Kaya Grandi #23-G, Up the stairs—Across from Gio's Ice Cream,  
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# A Garden? Just Do It

## It's Raining So It's a Time to Sow

Yes, finally after a very hot season we got some good rain showers. Yes, there is rain in the air. Time to sow seeds and to plant. There was a time when people living on the kunukus were now fully busy with their gardens. The time to lie back and relax was over. The rainy season started so it also was time for the land.



The mound of earth in the foreground, and the depression behind it to hold rainwater is a Bonairean "dam."

Also now, early in the morning a few kunukeros start their work on the land, cleaning their plot, cutting the grass and then plowing the soil. These days the plowing is often done by machine. But not in the old days when all the work was done by hand and garden tools. Then neighboring people helped each other and shared garden tools. Whole families were busy on the land. While men made the holes in the soil the women put in the seeds of the maishi chikitu and maishi grandi. The holes were all in a straight line with the same space between the holes.

Maishi chikitu, the small corn as called on Bonaire, comes in different colors. There's the red corn, the dark and white corn, with different names: *maishi crem*, *maishi rikla*, *maishi danki shon*, *maishi mahi lihe*, *maishi rabu*.

It is from the small corn the locals make the delicious *maishi chikitu pap* or a kind of pancake which they call *repa* (a mix of normal flour with *maishi chikitu*). Some add the typical local tamarind pulp (with sugar) on the porridge, and I tell you what, this is a blessing for the tongue!

The bigger corn is used to make the *funchi* meal. Also the whole corn is cut into pieces for fish soup and goat *stoba*.

On the land there are other things growing like pumpkin (*pompuna*), watermelon (*patia*), yellow melon (*melong*) different type of beans (*bonchi*) and local cucumber.

Sometimes there are some small fruit trees like papaya, cherries (*shimaruku*), *bacoba*, *guyaba* and bigger trees like *tamarin*, *knipa*, *yellow mombin* (*hoba*), mango, *mispel* and *coco*.

On the kunuku there was often a "dam." That is a spot on the land where the rainwater is directed to flow by itself into a man-made "lake." The kunukeros used to dig a big hole to capture and store the rainwater. Where the rainwater

flows in small streams they call a "rooi." In the photo above you see a dam with the heap of dirt around it which came out of the hole. On this heap the kunukeros used to plant those plants which need a lot of water and space like pumpkin, watermelon, *bonchi* and local cucumber. When it's a good rainy season, this sweet rainwater can stay for a long time in the hole, even through a dry season. But after a while it dries up. Time to rest again.



A healthy hoba tree

Besides the big areas of land meant for *maishi*, there is also the "hofi." That is the garden around the house.

When the rainy season starts locals plant sweet peppers (*prementon*), *bonchi kunuku* (type of local bean), sugar cane (*canja*), *patia*, melon, tomato, local cucumber, *pomkin*, spinach, okra (*yambo*), eggplant (*berehein*).

# DID YOU KNOW?

Has the Bonaire National Marine Park has two no-dive marine reserves.

The area between BokaSlagbaai (GPS-coordinates: 12° 15'51.49"N – 68° 24'52.11"W) and Playa Frans (GPS-coordinates: 12° 14'48.75"N – 68° 24'53.01"W) is called the **Reina Maxima Marine Reserve**. and the area between Karpata landhouse (GPS-coordinates: 12° 13'10.77"N – 68° 21'9.85"W) and the entrance to Gotomeer (GPS-coordinates:



12°13'12.89"N – 68°22'29.69"W) is called the **Rei Willem-Alexander Marine Reserve**. They are designated as no-dive, no-snorkel, no-swim reserves. In these areas, it is forbidden to enter without a permit, except for boat traffic through the reserves, and/or when fishing with traditional fishing gear. (See map above)

Coral reefs are the most diverse marine ecosystems on the planet. Coral reef tourism alone generates \$US90 billion throughout the Caribbean. But these spectacular marine ecosystems are under serious threats. For example, coral disease and coral bleaching, both of which are thought to be increasing due to human-induced climate change, are causing wide-scale reef declines. At the local scale, coral reefs are affected by nutrients, sediments and even divers. Divers touch corals unintentionally, which damages corals. Corals have a very thin and fragile membrane which is easily ruptured. When a coral is damaged, it becomes more susceptible to bleaching and disease.

Coral reefs are considered the most vulnerable marine ecosystems. Therefore, it is extremely important to protect these remarkable marine ecosystems. So, what can we do to help?

- Try not to touch the corals by practicing safe and responsible diving and snorkeling.
- Help reduce pollution by choosing to walk, ride your bike or carpooling.
- Dispose of your trash properly: Don't leave unwanted fishing lines, nets or plastics in the water or on the beach.
- Support reef-friendly businesses, use reef-friendly sunblock and eat seafood that is sustainably fished.
- Most importantly: Spread the word.

■ Story by Mav-elly Velandia, STINAPA intern. Connecting people with nature.



So I started a few weeks ago too with different vegetables. I have red and green spinach, *tajerblad*, eggplant, pepper, wild bitter melon, *postelein*, okra, plantain and papaya. And many herbs. Some of them I have all the time. Now with the rain I also add manure and old leaves so they can get strong and fresh again after the hard dry time.

But with the rain the grass and weeds start to grow like crazy and the big mosquitoes are around again. Those are the big aggressive black ones that stick to your body. Even when you try to drive them away with your hands they don't fly away. Its horrible. They are around the whole day, waiting in the grass and in the shade of plants and trees until you are there.

So I cover myself totally with old clothes, a cap and boots to work in the garden. It can be terribly hot with all those rags on me, but there is no choice.

Sometimes I burn the outside of the coco. That's a good solution as the smoke keeps them away. Also plants on your porch and near your house are perfect places for mosquitoes to live and breed. So keep your porch free of plants when you want to enjoy it.

Don't forget to always empty all things in your yard that can store rain water. Think of tires, cans, plastic cups and containers, even an old shoe can store a little bit of water which is exactly enough for mosquitoes to breed in. In fact we all should give the yard a big cleanup and remove all those things that can store water. It is in our interest to fight together against mosquitoes to preserve our health. Each one of us is responsible for a healthy and safe Bonaire, so start today with cleaning up your yard.

Just do it. ■ Story & photos by Angliet, Nature Lover





# 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, 717-0423, 780-4327

•**Bonaire Museum**—on the waterfront at the old Kas di Arte, Kaya Kachi Craane #34. 717-8868. 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.

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

## Cruise Ship

| Date              | Cruise ship           | Time      | # PAX |
|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------|-------|
| November 9, 2017  | Norwegian Dawn        | 0800-2200 | 2338  |
| November 9, 2017  | Royal Princess        | 0700-1700 | 3600  |
| November 12, 2017 | Equinox               | 0700-1600 | 2850  |
| November 13, 2017 | Rotterdam             | 0800-1800 | 1404  |
| November 14, 2017 | Adventure of the Seas | 0800-1700 | 3114  |
| November 14, 2017 | Balmoral              | 0800-2300 | 1778  |
| November 15, 2017 | Aida Diva             | 0700-1800 | 2194  |
| November 16, 2017 | TUI Discovery I       | 0700-1500 | 2076  |
| November 20, 2017 | Eclipse               | 0800-1800 | 2858  |

**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, )**

•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 Sabana 26 Sunday Services - Papiamentu/ Espanol 9:00 am to 12 noon Add'l Info (599) 701- 9522 Dutch/English 1pm to 3pm Add'l Info (599) 701-2892

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

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

Contact: [Marytjin@gmail.com](mailto:Marytjin@gmail.com) or [Daisycoffie@hotmail.com](mailto:Daisycoffie@hotmail.com)

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

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

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

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

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

## Close In Events

**Wednesday, Nov. 8** — **Dyslexia info lecture**, Peter Hughes meeting room, Divi Flamingo, 6:30-8:30pm. Entrance is free. Information and registration, please contact Bonaire Library tel. 717-8944, or mail [gretadelanoy@yahoo.com](mailto:gretadelanoy@yahoo.com)

**Saturday, Nov. 11**—**Clean up of the Hato Roundabout** in preparation for the large underwater sculpture, with the co-workers of the head sponsors. More on page 5

**Saturday, Nov. 18**—**Tree Planting by Echo.** Volunteers needed. See Echo's Facebook page or contact Quirijn Coolen: [info@echobonaire.org](mailto:info@echobonaire.org) or 770-4129. More on page 8.

**Saturday, 25 Nov. -Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire Fundraising Auction**, Landhuis Wanapa. Live music, food, drinks. Starts at 6 pm, auction at 8 pm. Prebidding for all items at the special website: [www.stcbfundraising.org](http://www.stcbfundraising.org)

**Saturday, Nov. 25**—**Sanikolas and Swartepieten** arrive to a big celebration, 9am. More on page 6.





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

| Day    | High             | Low                    | High             | Low               | High             | Sunrise | Sunset |
|--------|------------------|------------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|---------|--------|
| Mon 06 | 03:49<br>0.30 ft | 07:36<br>0.24 ft       | 14:29<br>1.15 ft | 23:12<br>-0.21 ft |                  | 6:30    | 18:08  |
| Tue 07 | 04:52<br>0.35 ft | 08:49<br>0.27 ft       | 15:24<br>1.17 ft | 23:58<br>-0.27 ft |                  | 6:30    | 18:08  |
| Wed 08 | 05:43<br>0.41 ft | 10:04<br>0.28 ft       | 16:18<br>1.15 ft |                   |                  | 6:30    | 18:08  |
| Thu 09 |                  | 00:42<br>-0.29 ft      | 06:30<br>0.49 ft | 11:18<br>0.28 ft  | 17:12<br>1.11 ft | 6:31    | 18:08  |
| Fri 10 |                  | L. Quarter<br>-0.28 ft | 01:25<br>0.57 ft | 07:14<br>0.28 ft  | 12:30<br>1.02 ft | 6:31    | 18:07  |
| Sat 11 |                  | 02:06<br>-0.25 ft      | 07:59<br>0.65 ft | 13:41<br>0.27 ft  | 18:58<br>0.91 ft | 6:31    | 18:07  |
| Sun 12 |                  | 02:45<br>-0.19 ft      | 08:43<br>0.73 ft | 14:55<br>0.26 ft  | 19:53<br>0.78 ft | 6:32    | 18:07  |
| Mon 13 |                  | 03:22<br>-0.11 ft      | 09:27<br>0.80 ft | 16:11<br>0.23 ft  | 20:50<br>0.63 ft | 6:32    | 18:07  |
| Tue 14 |                  | 03:56<br>-0.03 ft      | 10:10<br>0.86 ft | 17:30<br>0.19 ft  | 21:54<br>0.49 ft | 6:32    | 18:07  |
| Wed 15 |                  | 04:27<br>0.06 ft       | 10:53<br>0.90 ft | 18:52<br>0.13 ft  | 23:11<br>0.37 ft | 6:33    | 18:07  |
| Thu 16 |                  | 04:52<br>0.15 ft       | 11:35<br>0.93 ft | 20:10<br>0.07 ft  |                  | 6:33    | 18:07  |
| Fri 17 | 00:53<br>0.29 ft | 05:08<br>0.22 ft       | 12:16<br>0.94 ft | 21:17<br>0.00 ft  |                  | 6:34    | 18:07  |
| Sat 18 | 12:56<br>0.95 ft | 22:12<br>-0.05 ft      |                  |                   | New Moon         | 6:34    | 18:07  |
| Sun 19 | 13:35<br>0.94 ft | 22:57<br>-0.09 ft      |                  |                   |                  | 6:35    | 18:07  |
| Mon 20 | 14:13<br>0.93 ft | 23:35<br>-0.12 ft      |                  |                   |                  | 6:35    | 18:07  |
| Tue 21 | 14:51<br>0.92 ft |                        |                  |                   |                  | 6:36    | 18:07  |



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*Sanikolas (Continued from page 6)*  
brass band will attempt to march up the street to the Telbo parking lot where the activities mentioned above are in full swing.

**A limited number of Sanikolas T-shirts in children's sizes will be for sale for \$3 each at SKAL on the waterfront, Kaya Karchi Craane #34.**

Thanks to the sponsors of this amazing event: the Bonaire Government, MCB, Komishon di Sanikolas, Sentro Hubentut i Famia (SHif), SKAL Telbo/Kla Mobile, BOPEC, Jong Bonaire, Bonaire Logistics,

Silfam Cargo, Live99Fm, Black Ice, Obersi Group, Sheriff Security, Club Soohoo, and the police corps..

Later in the week Sanikolas and his Black Petes will make appearances at the Kas di KIuido (old folks home at the hospital) and in the barrios.

For more information call **Tino de Palm, 788-8678** . Email: [komishon.sanikolas@gmail.com](mailto:komishon.sanikolas@gmail.com). Like and Share our Facebook Page: Komishon Sanikolas Boneiru. □ *Press Release /LD*

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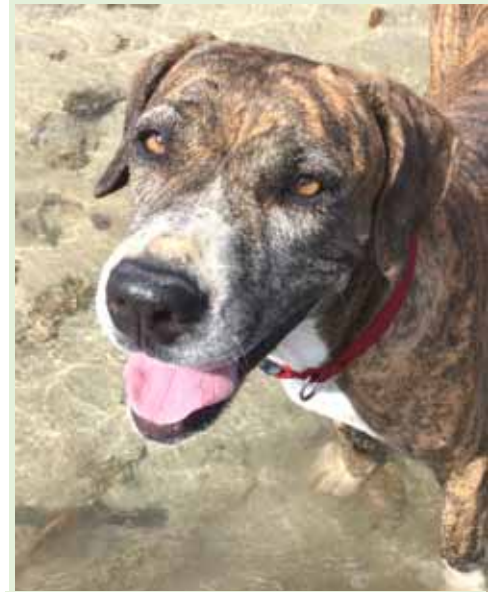
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# ANIMAL SHELTER NEWS

## Pet Of The Week



*Mika*

**M**ika, the gentle giantess! She is a large, very sweet dog who loves to go on walks and take a "dip" in the sea. While shy at first, once she gets to know you she loves to be by your side.

Mika is at least five years old and would love to have a forever home. She gets along fine with other dogs but is mature enough to do well as an "only" dog. Mika has a beautiful brindle coat and who can resist that fabulous happy dog smile? If you are looking for a big, calm and gentle dog, please feel free to pass by the Animal Shelter Bonaire and spend some time with Mika. She is healthy, sterilized and ready to walk wherever you lead! Animal Shelter Bonaire, Kaminda Lagun 26, is open Monday through Friday 9 am- 12 noon and 3-5 pm, Saturdays 9 am-3 pm nonstop. ■  
 Story by Jane Madden -Disko



*Love freely....*

### OUR ANIMALS PRACTICE SAFE SEX. DO YOURS?

**M**et Hercules and Felina, two cats living at the Animal Shelter Bonaire. As you can see, they love each other very much. Because they are both sterilized they share their love safely: through affection and play instead of breeding and creating more unwanted kittens for Bonaire. Every year unsterilized companion animals on Bonaire produce hundreds, possibly thousands, of unwanted dogs and cats. Con-

sider the fact that in six short years, one female dog and her offspring can give birth to 67,000 puppies. In seven years, one cat and her young can produce 420,000 kittens.

The goal of the Animal Shelter Bonaire Free Sterilization Program is to prevent the serious problem of overpopulation and suffering of unwanted cats and dogs on the island. The Animal Shelter Bonaire wants the residents of Bonaire to become more conscious of the importance of having their animals sterilized, not only to prevent suffering among the animals but also for their own

peace of mind. **In 2016, the Shelter provided free sterilization for over 500 animals.** Spread the word to your neighbors and friends:

### PLEASE STERILIZE YOUR CAT OR DOG! AND IT'S FREE!

You will have a better pet and you will help end the suffering of unwanted and abandoned animals. If you, or anyone you know, needs help with the cost of sterilization, the Sterilization Fund of the **Animal Shelter Bonaire can provide assistance. Call us at 717-4989 or 701-4989 for more information.** ■ Jane Madden -Disko

## You Don't Want To Be A Bonaire Animal



**M**ore than two years ago, representatives of the cooperative animal advocate organizations - Animal Protection Bonaire, F.K.K Animal Rescue, Animal Assistance Foundation and DogPartner Bonaire, accompanied by veterinarian Jan Laarakker- began meeting to discuss making Bonaire more pet-friendly. This working group was supplemented by a representative of the Eiland Secretariat, Dierenziel Foundation and veterinarian Fulco de Vries. The prime reason was the Dog Control Program (Dog Catcher), which was established by the local government, was not working.

Dog Control was stopped at the insistence of the cooperating animal organizations. In the monthly talks it was agreed to observe

media silence in order to find solutions. But to date no satisfactory solution has been found.

Bonaire currently has a highly outdated animal regulation but could update it by adopting the regulation of, for example, Aruba or Curacao, or using the updated regulation offered by the Foundation for Animal Aid (at no cost to the local government (OLB)). Those regulations serve as the basis of an animal-friendly approach prepared by lawyers, veterinary services, and provide a memorandum of explanation.

However, despite the commitments made, nothing has been adopted so far. In addition, there is a problem of non-enforcement by

the police.

Unfortunately, in Bonaire stray dogs are sometimes shot by the police, often just based on suspicion without demonstrable evidence. The majority of animal advocate organizations are for a policy that demands a second opinion on animal euthanasia by several parties. For example, a second doctor or a specialized dog trainer. The shooting of animals with all the risks involved is not a pet-friendly approach or a solution to such incidents.

Bonaire, which largely derives its revenues from the tourism sector, should have a pet-friendly approach. After all, every tourist is "armed" with phone with camera and has access to the many social media available, providing a global platform. ■ *Press release*





# BONAIRE SKY PARK\*

\*to find it... just look up

## STAR SECRETS

Stars are not always what they seem. Most stars in the sky are really two, three, or more stars orbiting each other.

Many stars wildly fluctuate in brightness. They're all different colors and temperatures. Some are newly born and Others are nearing their dramatic demise.

This time were going to look at three stars in the fall sky with hidden secrets. The first star is actually two beautifully colored stars in a small telescope.

The second star will make your head spin.

And the third is a lonely star with a funny name that gave astronomers a big planetary surprise.

As our telescopes get better and better, we're uncovering the mysterious nature of stars trillions of miles away. Let us introduce you to the stars **Albireo, Altair and Fomalhaut**.

Around 10pm Sky Park time look west. The most prominent feature is the **Summer Triangle**. Look for three really bright stars in the sky and you've found it! The three stars are called **Vega, Altair, and Deneb**.

Now Deneb is supposed to be the bright tail of the constellation **Cygnus the Swan** but look for the fainter head star visible within the Summer Triangle.

This is the star called **Albireo** and it's one of my favorite stars to look at with a small telescope. When you look closer at Albireo, you find its really a double star - two stars orbiting each other. The bigger one is orange in color and the smaller one is brilliant blue. The contrasting colors make a cool and hot sight to see - because this tells us their contrasting temperatures.

The bluer, the hotter. The oranger, the cooler. They're like two beautiful, sparkling jewels in the night

Now let's get back to the star Altair and it's hidden secret. Altair looks like any ordinary bright white star, but it is one of the closer stars to us, at only 17 light years away. And because it's relatively close, astronomers could uncover Altair's

secret - its mind-boggling rotational rate, meaning it spins really fast! Our Sun spins as well. The Sun rotates about 2 kilometers per second at its **Equator** so it takes about 25 days for the Sun to spin once.

Now let's compare our Sun to Altair. Altair is almost twice as big as the Sun and shines 11 times brighter.

But hold onto your seats, this star spins super-fast! At the Equator, Altair rotates at about 286 kilometers per second. That means that the entire star spins once every nine hours!

This unbelievable rotational velocity has actually affected the shape of this star. Instead of a sphere, Altair is squished at the poles and bulges at the Equator. The entire mass of the star has shifted and has left Altair looking like a rapidly spinning egg.

Look south at 10pm where you'll see only one bright star. This is **Fomalhaut** the brightest star in the constellation of **Piscis Australis**, or the southern fish.

With a little imagination you can make out a goldfish shape in these stars with Fomalhaut as one beady eye.

Fomalhaut is a blue-white star 25 light years away, making it another close target to observe with the best telescopes. In 2004 astronomers detected a dust ring around Fomalhaut. Astronomers call it **proto-planetary debris**. Or just a big ring of stuff, and everyone got excited. This was the kind of stuff that might harbor a planet or even a whole solar system.

And then in 2008, astronomers caught the first visible light image of a planet orbiting around another star - orbiting around Fomalhaut. You have to really squint, but there it is. So check out Fomalhaut tonight, the lone star in the south.

Find rapidly rotating Altair in the western sky on the left side of the summer triangle.

And don't forget to train your telescopes on Albireo to discover its second Sun. □  
*Dean Regas and James Albury*



# THE STARS HAVE IT

November 2017

**ARIES** (Mar. 21- April 20) Things are looking up. You can come up with future trends in creative fields. Someone may try to damage your reputation. Difficulties with your mate may lead to isolation. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Saturday.

**TAURUS** (Apr. 21- May 21) You will learn a great deal from people with different cultural backgrounds. Avoid too much discourse with colleagues this month. Your sensitive, affectionate nature will capture the heart of anyone you are attracted to. You'll find it easy to upgrade your environment by redecorating or changing your residence. Your luckiest events will occur on a Friday.

**GEMINI** (May 22-June 21) You may want to take another look at the investment you are about to make. Take action. Stubborn about making changes around your home. You may be ill-treated if you have to deal with institutional environments. Your luckiest events will occur on a Thursday.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22) Don't jump too quickly if someone tries to make you join in on their crusade. Colleagues may try to undermine you when talking to superiors. Your creative ideas will be put to good use if you dig in and do things around the house that will make your family happy. You can look into new jobs but don't count on getting help from someone who may have promised you assistance. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Wednesday.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug 22) You can make money if you work on personal investments. Don't hold back. You can meet a new romantic partner or secure the love connection you already have by going out and entertaining yourself. Things are looking good for you, so open your eyes and get to it. Your luckiest events will occur on a Wednesday.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) Do not get involved in joint financial ventures. You may want to put your creative thinking cap on. Make changes around your house and plan to do some entertaining. Talk to an older, established individual about your present situa-

tion. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Sunday.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) Older family members may try to put unreasonable demands on you. Your emotional life may be up in the air if your mate has been going through a change of heart. You will have to watch out for minor health problems related to stress. You must consider yourself for a change. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Tuesday.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) Take care of the needs of elders in your family. You may find that others do not do things the way you want; however, if the job gets done, let it pass. Try not to spend too much on children or entertainment. Your own small business on the side sounds pretty lucrative. Your luckiest events will occur on a Monday.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) Creative pursuits should pay off. Empty promises will cause confusion. You will be able to make favorable changes in your living quarters. You are likely to be left alone if you aren't willing to bend just a little. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Friday.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) Romantic opportunities will develop through friends or relatives. Try to understand their point of view. Travel should be on your agenda. You may need to lend an ear to an old friend. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Wednesday.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) It may be a disappointing day emotionally. You'll find it easy to charm members of the opposite sex this month. Someone you live with will get angry if you are neglecting your duties. Sudden romantic encounters will set your head spinning. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Friday.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) You need activity. You have a lot to offer. You can mix business with pleasure to get favorable results. Too many opportunities and too many changes going on. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Wednesday. □



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### **SUNBELT REALTY IS MOVING!**

**Sunbelt Realty** is proud to announce the completion of its brand new office.

Friday November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017 we are moving from our old locations.

As of **Monday November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017** you are more than welcome at **Kaya Grandi 41**.

Our new office, a beautiful mix of traditional Caribbean style and modern architecture, will host the entire Sunbelt Realty team under one roof. We have a state of the art window display with the best exposure possible. For those visiting us: we have on-site parking!

### **SUNBELT REALTY GAAT VERHUIZEN!**

**Sunbelt Realty** is trots om te melden dat haar splinternieuwe kantoorgebouw gereed is.

Vrijdag 10 november 2017 gaan we verhuizen vanuit onze oude lokaties.

Vanaf **Maandag 13 november 2017** bent u van harte welkom aan de **Kaya Grandi 41**.

Ons nieuwe kantoorgebouw, een prachtige mix van traditionele Caribische stijl en moderne architectuur, biedt plaats aan het complete Sunbelt Realty team, allemaal onder één dak. We hebben een enorme etalage met moderne raampresentaties. Voor onze bezoekers: er is parkeren op eigen terrein!

### **NOS TA BAI MUDA !**

**Sunbelt Realty** ta orguyoso pa anunsia ku nos edifisio nobo ta kla.

Djabierne 10 november 2017 nos lo muda for di nos edifisio nan aktual.

Entrante di **Djaluna 13 november 2017** nos lo ta na **Kaya Grandi 41** pa risibi nos klientenan.

Nos kantoor nobo ta un kombinashon di estilo klásiko di landhùis Boneriano di antes den un bachi moderno. Na nos edifisio nobo nos team di Sunbelt Realty lo bai ta bou di un dak. Nos lo tin un espacio amplio i ku un esfera ameno. E kliente nan ku hasi un bishita serka nos lo tin posibilidat pa parker!

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