

**It's Still
FREE**

BONAIRE Nov. 20-Dec. 4, 2017, Year 24, Issue 22
The REPORTER

P. O. Box 407, Bonaire, Dutch Caribbean, Phone 786-6518, 777-6125, www.bonairereporter.com email: reporter@bonairenews.com

Career Fair
Page 10



**Cycle police
demonstration at the
School and Career Fair**



R. Wout photo

Cruise ship season is here. The next 14 days have 15 cruise ships visiting. See page 12 for which days are free of cruise ships and details of days with cruise ships in port. No cruise ships are scheduled for Nov. 23, 24, 25 (Thursday-Saturday) and Dec. 3 (Sunday). Enjoy our island in some peace and quiet!



► **Aruba Airlines will begin AUA BON flights beginning November 30th.** Four round-trip flights a week are planned on Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Sundays with a 50-seat Bombardier CRJ-200 jet. An Aruba Airlines office is open in Flamingo Airport weekdays from 9 am to 5 pm and on Saturdays from 9am to 1 pm. Round trip BON-AUA will cost \$175. For more information call 717-6825 or visit <http://www.arubaairlines.com/> when Bonaire flight info is put on. A reliable connection from Aruba would considerably expand the ability to travel to Bonaire from North American cities.

► **InselAir delayed resuming flights to Surinam, maintaining its reputation for disappointing travelers.** Originally set to resume November 20, the service is now set for December 18. According to a press release, needed administrative arrangements are not complete.

► According to reports on social media, **InselAir is beginning to send refunds to customers who had paid for tickets but**

could not fly when Insel's jets were grounded months ago. Go to <https://www.fly-inselair.com/en/contact-us/> to check.

► **The negotiations between Avianca and InselAir are still ongoing.** Takeover is still Avianca's goal, but the deal has a lot of legal-technical problems, says Curaçao Minister Steven Martina. The Colombians want to manage Insel Air from Bogota, having Insel Air a branch company. According to Martina, that is not possible under current Curaçao legislation because major shareholders are based on Curaçao.

► **Reportedly, the Island Government (OLB) is planning to cut the budgets of subsidized island operations like the Center for Youth and Family (CJG), the TCB (Tourist Corporation), FCM (Public Housing) The Chamber of Commerce (KVK) and others while at the same time proposing to pay big salaries to former party bosses to hold figurehead positions following their retirement from politics.** Resentment to this budget is being expressed by opposition politicians and the local press.

► **The present downtown harbor shared by cruise ships, bulk freighters, auto carriers and Roll On/Roll/Off ships has problems and emergency repairs are set to start this month.** Island shipping interests anticipate that the Island Council will give the go-ahead for a new container port in Hato by year's end. Hopefully, the new port will include a container cargo crane with enough capacity to lift containers directly from large vessels so Bonaire can be free from dependency on Curacao's port.

Hato was selected following a long period of evaluation of other island locations like BOPEC, the Salt Pier and Te Amo Beach because it is already an industrial zone, has relatively sheltered water and readily available road access. WEB will continue to desalinate water at the site. About 1.6 hectares (4 acres) would be available for container storage and other needs. The cost to develop the new harbor, including the emergency repairs, is estimated at €30 million-€50 million to be financed by public and private funds based on increased levies on cruise ship passengers, harbor dues, commercial concessions and other fees.

► **Opposition to roadside Billboards is growing.** An unconfirmed report is that the newest bill boards were put up by a Curaçao company. Refer to the letter to the Editor on page 4.



► **Sunbelt Realty moved into their spectacular new office on Kaya Grandi on Monday, November 13 as planned.** The office opened at 9am, complete with electricity, internet and everything ready to go. The entire staff is so proud.

► **Numerous Bonaire vehicle owners mistakenly received intimidating notices from the Tax Office that they had not paid their Road Tax (MRB).** Some even had the tax deducted from their bank account. When they called the Tax Office, they were asked to visit the tax office in person to show the payment receipt.

Bonaire's Consumers Union, **Unkobon**, declared it very customer-unfriendly to have people make all this effort to prove that they have paid. The consumers association convinced the tax authorities to allow sending a scan, photo, or the content of the payment information by email.

The MRB is a "road" tax imposed by the Island Government (OLB). The Tax Office (*Belastingdienst CN*) collects the tax. MRB "reminders" were sent by the tax office, based on information received from the OLB. Thanks to Unkobon, people can send proof of payment via email. In the event that it is not possible to send a photo or scan, it's OK to send the payment details (date, which bank and transaction number or transaction details) to: info@rijksdienstcn.com. The Tax Office will follow up to confirm payment.

► **European Union (OCTA) grant money is currently funding a Bonaire feasibility study to study growing micro algae for commercial production.** Prof. Dr. Rene Wijffels and his team will carry out this research on behalf of the Dutch Wageningen University. Two PhDs, one of whom is from Bonaire, will work on the project for the next four years.

Micro algae can be used in different applications. These include cattle and fish feed,

(Continued on page 3)

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Flotsam and Jetsam (Continued from page 2) but also refined products such as cosmetics or bio-fuel. Researchers anticipate presenting the results in the 2nd quarter of 2018.

register with a chance to win, but mostly to have fun and help with a good cause.

► **The American Thanksgiving Holiday is being observed more and more on Bonaire.** It's a nice way to express our gratitude for the good things we get just by living on Bonaire. The two Thanksgiving traditions are growing on Bonaire are:

► **Thanksgiving Dinner featuring turkey and more.** Big frozen birds are available in the markets and a traditional restaurant all-you-can-eat dinner is served at **Rum Runners Restaurant at Captain Don's Habitat.**—see reasonability priced menu on page 9.



► **Black Friday**, the day after Thanksgiving, November 24, is the traditional big bargain shopping day in the US. **On Bonaire it will be observed by Penny Lane Exchange.** Huge bargains up to 70% off will be available. See page 10 for more.

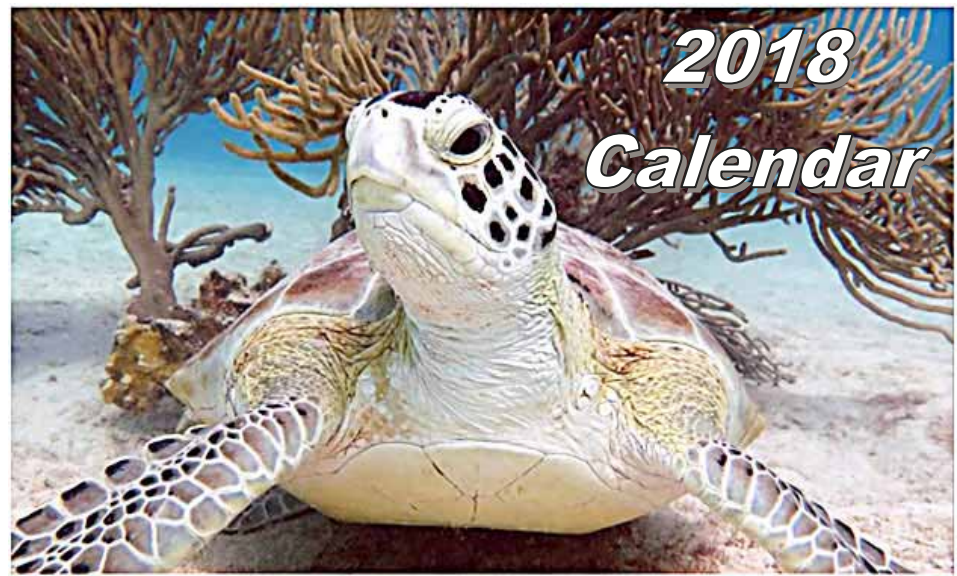
► **A free Community Yoga Class is beginning.** Every week one different yoga teacher from the island will give a free class at Laura Stefani's Smiling Buddha Yoga Studio from 5-6 pm. Teaching so far are **Lolymar Sanchez, Arlene Nagtegaal, Sarah Paauw, Sarah Sarah and Jane Bakx.** Every teacher is invited to share his/her yoga experience. Contact **Laura Stefani** on Facebook if you are a yoga instructor and want to teach, or a student who wants to learn.

Rotarally 2017

Date : December 3rd, 2017 Price : Rally card incl. 2 pax lunch and 2 BBQ tickets US\$ 50. Separate BBQ tickets US\$ 15
 Start : Komplado Deportivo Bonaire
 Time : 9:00 am
 Finish : To Sunset Beach
 Winners : Will be announced at 5:00 pm

Get your Entry Card & BBQ Tickets at:
 Members Rotary Club of Bonaire, Sunbelt Realty, It Rains Fishes Bar & Restaurant and Akkermans Auto Supplies

► **On December 3, 2017, Rotary Club Bonaire will conduct its popular annual "Rotarally."** It's a day of fun filled activity, driving around Bonaire over defined routes that will take you on little known roads and "kunuku" trails. The start will be at the Sporthall on Kaya Amsterdam, next to Akkermans Auto Supplies, and finish at the parking lot of the old Sunset Beach Hotel. There will be a small lunch package for participants and at the finish they can enjoy a splendid BBQ. **Tickets for this event are available at Akkermans Auto Supplies, Sunbelt Realty and It Rains Fishes Restaurant. Cost \$ 50** and include two BBQs and two small lunch packages. This year the raised funds will again be used for community projects. Come and



2018 Calendar

Underwater Bonaire
2018 Calendar

Photography by
Ellen Muller

► **Once again Bonaire's own renowned underwater photographer Ellen Muller has produced a calendar for the coming year.** Facebook users who follow her regularly see some of the wonderful photos she has taken so they know what to expect in the calendar. Ellen's 2018 version contains 12 new and unusual underwater photos, all taken right here on Bonaire, all printed on heavy card-stock. Calendars, \$20, are currently available at VIP Diving and at Bruce Bowker's Carib Inn (cash only please) while supplies last. They will also be available in the U.S., Canada and elsewhere by mail. Orders are being taken now and shipping will be in late November. Please send an e-mail to Mark at EllensBonaireCalendars@yahoo.com for information and pricing. All 12 photos in the calendar can be seen at <https://www.infobonaire.com/underwater-bonaire-calendar/>. - By Mark Director

► **Earthquakes in the Caribbean are a normal phenomenon.** Last month the active zone between Trinidad and Grenada, at sea, registered a quake of 5.7, more powerful than typical. No damage was reported. This year, about 3,500 quakes have been reported in the Caribbean area. Bonaire is in a quiet zone for earthquakes. ■ G./L. D

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What Bonaire Doesn't Have and Doesn't Want

This is the last chance to get your wants and don't wants for Bonaire entered in our contest. This is a repeat of the contest held 22 years ago on Feb. 9, 1996,

New additions this week:

Want-

- All major roads to be pothole free!
- All government services (tax, customs, immigration, ZVK, etc) in one location away from Playa with tons of parking spaces!
- Telbo to provide 24/7 repair services
- More parking downtown
- More staghorn and elkhorn corals in the shallow waters,
- Reduced usage of harmful suntan lotions and
- Free roaming donkeys in the back country.
- RV Parks

Don't Want -

- Bike lanes everywhere- (island is too small and too busy)
- Government offices spread out all over with no parking
- Pot holes!
- Big, commercial signs
- The loss of a culture
- A new Bonaire with harsh Dutch regulations

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 all neighbor-

hoods

- 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 your ideas for more of the things we WANT and DON'T want on Bonaire?

Send in your ideas now. We'll publish and award a delicious **Pasa Bon pizza** to the best entries.. ■ G.D.
Email entries to George@bonairenews.com



Letters to the Editor

DO AS I SAY, NOT AS I DO

Dear Editor:



I discovered that the Director of the Chamber of Commerce (Kamer van Kophandel-KvK) chose to hire an off island company from Curaçao to perform work that could well have been done by

Bonaire companies.

This was after the process of inviting quotes for the project at their offices on Kaya Amsterdam. Several Bonairean companies submitted bids. Nevertheless, the KVK director chose to hire an off island company for the work.



The local Chamber of Commerce or KvK was established to assist and promote small businesses on Bonaire. As their website advocates as part of their services: "Supplying information and giving recommendations both individually (aspiring entrepreneurs) and collectively, issuing documentary evidence, organizing activities, providing facilities to promote corporate transactions, entrepreneurship and general interests of entrepreneurs."

I guess I didn't realize they work for other islands besides Bonaire. It is illegal for foreigners to work on Bonaire without the necessary legal documentation and permits. It's plainly hypocritical for the KvK Director and its board to hire an off island company when local companies can do the job. It's not what the **Bonaire** Chamber of Commerce was established to do.

Actions like this are an insult to the people of Bonaire and their businesses who pay yearly dues to help support the Chamber of Commerce, its director and staff. Bonaire's KvK should be setting an example and employ, support and promote local businesses instead of betraying them.

Bonaire is experiencing economic growth in many ways. For the small business owner or entrepreneur, the process of starting a new business on Bonaire can be a daunting task. The KvK must help, not hinder, local businessmen and businesswomen.

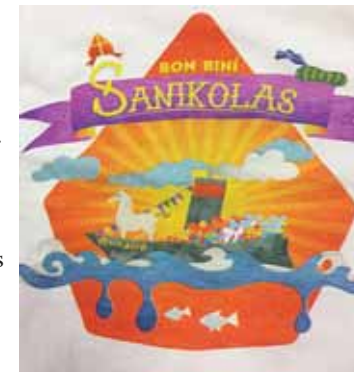
As Albert Schweitzer said "Example is not the main thing in influencing others. It is the only thing."

A Small Businessman

Sanikolas is Coming to Town!

Sanikolas and his wild and crazy guys, the Swartepieten (Black Petes), arrive by boat to Bonaire this coming Saturday, November 25, around 9am, at the main pier. All sorts of events are scheduled for the kids at the Telbo parking lot, starting around 8am. There's face painting, bouncers, food and drink, Tio Pepe, Dance Sensation, Casa de Musica and Lito of MCB.

A limited number of Sanikolas children's sized T-shirts at \$3 each may still be available at SKAL on the waterfront, Kaya Kachi Craane#34. ■ L.D.



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... September 12th, 2012 - Marilena Arzani and Sergio Tixi

“The first time we came here was for the wedding of my brother Gabi and his wife Charlene on 11-11-’11,” Sergio says. “We stayed for 15 days, liked it very much and started joking about opening a pizza place here. Then we went back home to Milan, Italy.”

“I am originally from Valenza, the ‘City of Gold’ as we call it,” Marilena says. My father made jewelry, the whole city made jewelry and I was working for a big jewelry company called Zydo which belongs to a friend of my father’s. They specialize in large diamond jewelry, mainly sold to the Arabic Emirates, Malaysia, Singapore, Dubai and the US. So I was travelling extensively.” “At the time I had two jobs,” Sergio continues. “I had a small sign and stamp workshop in Genoa and I also worked for Herbalife, a health supplement company. So when we came back from Bonaire, life went on as usual. But then, in March 2012, we received a phone call from my brother Gabi who told us that his wife Charlene was planning on opening an Elements shop on Bonaire. Until then they’d been producing the jewelry at home and then selling it at the cruise ship market. Gabi told us they needed our help; they could not do it alone. That night we didn’t sleep. We made a list of all the pros and cons and the result was Yes!”

“Fortunately our parents were healthy,” Marilena says, “and also Sergio’s son had a girlfriend – whom he married later – so there was nothing to worry about family wise. But my boss needed time to replace me. It wasn’t easy, because I had been 13 years with them and my father had been a longtime friend of his. I gave them six months and at the very last moment – they had a hard time believing I was really leaving – they found someone.”

Earlier I’d made a change in my life too. I changed cities and I got a better position with the same company and I liked it, but somehow it wasn’t enough. I was looking for a real big change and I thought this could be it.” Sergio says, “I wanted to relax more. I’d already closed the workshop and worked online with Herbalife. As I could do that anywhere, I was looking forward to a different lifestyle – no stress.” “Bonaire was something else!” Marilena says. “The first month Gabi and Charlene told us to take a rest and get used to the temperature, the island and its people. Then we started to work for Elements at their first shop in town in No-



Sergio Tixi and Marilena Arzani

vember 2012. We would take turns staying in the front to sell jewelry or working in the back where there was a small studio to make jewelry. For me it was difficult in the beginning; I had a hard time slowing down and the mosquitoes loved my fresh blood!” “For me it was much easier,” Sergio says, “although I cannot swim and I hate the sun, the beach and the warm weather! In Italy I never went to the beach – I love mountains! But in spite of all that I immediately liked the people and the island.” “We were very surprised,” Marilena says, “that people were so kind to us from

work but in the end you don’t have time for the family or for yourself. I’ve embraced this new way of life now and I really like the island. The same goes for Sergio, but he is still a little bit impatient which is part of his character. He’s the kind of man who cannot sit still. Meanwhile we’ve started another job inside Elements; our personalized painted driftwood which we sell in Elements as well.

And on September 8th, 2016, we got married here on Bonaire. We decided to marry at the Pasanggrahan and do something easy with the family, but then Gabi changed the plan and sug-

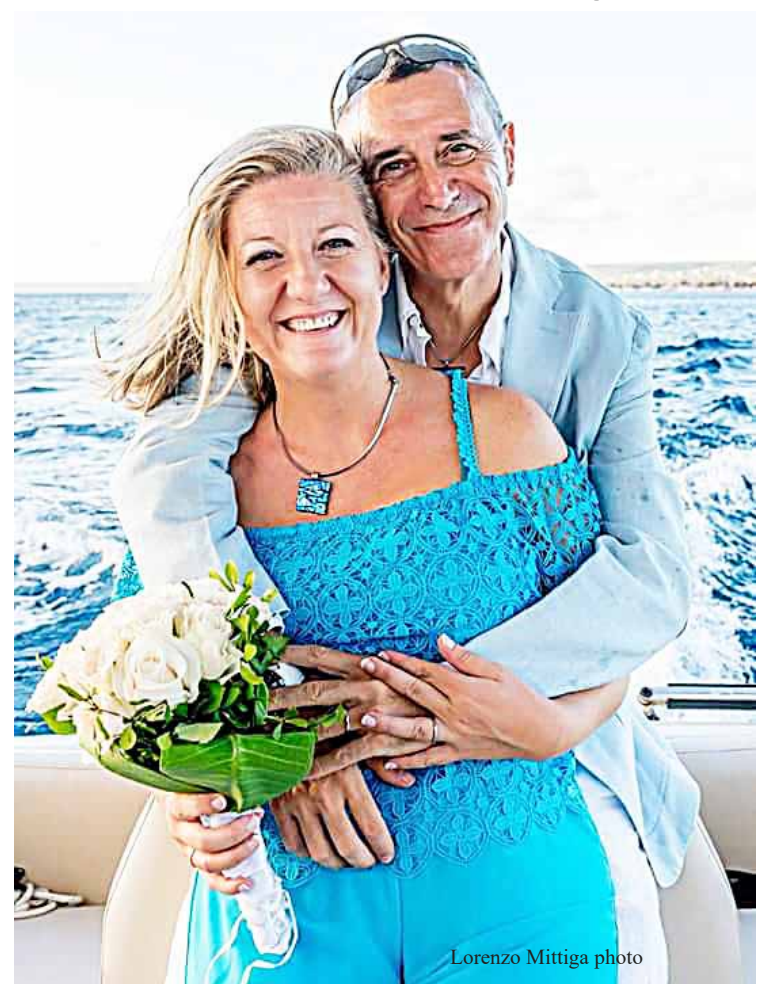
“We were very surprised that people were so kind to us from the very first; they made us feel at home.”

gested we could get married at Sebastian’s at the pier. It was never done before and it was really kind because we didn’t have to pay for the location. Because we married outside the Pasanggrahan we needed six witnesses and so, Lorenzo and Elisabetta, Gabriel and Charlene and Meike and Jan became our witnesses. Lorenzo Mittiga made the photos as a wedding present.”

the very first; they made us feel at home. Then Gabi and Charlene built a studio in their garden to produce more jewelry as the demand for Element’s jewelry was growing. They’d also opened a shop in St. Maarten and one in the Dominican Republic, and last year in November another one here at the south pier. So we got busier and we’re working harder, but nothing compared to Milan where everything has to be done the day before and life is always organized and planned and very fast. Here people take their time and they don’t rush you either. They stop their car in the middle of the road to talk to someone or to have someone get in or out of the car and you have to appreciate it! For us it is strange because if that would happen in Milan, the whole city would be blowing their horns immediately, but here it’s nice, you have to slow down. For me it’s the change I was looking for and maybe I will learn from it, to take my time, to live. I realize in Europe you work and work and

gested we could get married at Sebastian’s at the pier. It was never done before and it was really kind because we didn’t have to pay for the location. Because we married outside the Pasanggrahan we needed six witnesses and so, Lorenzo and Elisabetta, Gabriel and Charlene and Meike and Jan became our witnesses. Lorenzo Mittiga made the photos as a wedding present.”

In Milan we didn’t see much of each other because of the travelling, but now we are together all day, which is not easy because both of us need to be patient with the other. The real challenge here was to start a life together as a couple. This was the big change and I thought either we get stronger or we split, but it worked out well for us because as a couple we are way stronger than before. Here it is just the two of us and you get to know each other very well. And I love him a lot! It was the second marriage for both of us. I was married without children, unfortunately, and he has a son,



Marilena and Sergio on their Bonaire wedding day

a daughter-in-law and also a granddaughter, Elisa, of whom we are very proud.”

“My father calls us every day by Skype,” Sergio says, “Nonno is 93. My son gave him his old computer when we left and my dad learned how to handle Skype, email and Facebook, where he has his own profile, Prospero Tixi. We talk every day about soccer, his heart problems and about what he ate and who died. As we talk daily, there aren’t a lot of new topics. Marilena talks to her mother and sister once a week.

We also brought our cat here; she’s 11 years old and she’s out all day because she wants to be free. But as soon as I call her, she comes. And when we get home she recognizes the sound of the car and the motorcycle and immediately shows up. You cannot lock her up inside the house. Once, in Milan, she had to stay in the apartment and she got dandruff and became fat like a pig, but now she’s happy.

After five years Marilena got her permanent residency and we got our local driver’s license. Our dream is to have a house with a garden one day. Of course Italy is a beautiful country with mountains and good food, but we are not going back there.”

“My father’s plan was to move our family to Vancouver, Canada,” Marilena says, “but he died at 46, really unexpectedly so it did not happen, but maybe

now we can go there - it’s on my bucket list.

Our life here is simple. After work we go home and relax. Sergio runs and I do yoga with Elisabetta. Both of us are good chefs, so we don’t need to go out to eat well. Bonaire is relatively safe and it doesn’t have a lot of people, which I like. Sergio loves it. For him it is perfect: no people, no confusion. He doesn’t feel like socializing after work, but I like to go out with friends and chat. This island is just perfect. Even Sergio learned how to swim... not entirely because he walks with his feet on the ground in the water and with his snorkel he sees everything down below. It’s a big step because he almost drowned when he was 10 and became terrified of water. Even taking a shower would choke him. He found a new joy in life and I am happy because now he can enjoy that part of the island too. Bonaire has been good to us, especially as a couple, but it also gave us a purpose because we started to plan our future together, something we’d never done before because we were too busy.” ■



Story & photo by Greta Kooistra

Special Olympics Games Bonaire

On Friday and Saturday, October 27 and 28, Special Olympics Bonaire (SOB) organized their first Bonaire Games, dedicated to Head Coach, Silvio "Chio" Semeleer. Mr. Semeleer had an idea/wish to have our Bonaire Games and this year his wish came true with the participation of athletes from Aruba and Curacao and also Group Athene for athletics and Group Barracuda for Bocce.



Some of the Special Olympics Bonaire Athletes showing the flag



Head Coach Chio Semeleer receives an award for his dedication to the SOB Athletes and the first Special Olympic Games in Bonaire.

The opening was on Friday, October 27, at the Stadium in Playa with a parade. On this day they started with athletics, softball throw and fa jumping. On the second day there was swimming in the morning (freestyle, 500 meters, long distance, group ages). Later in the evening the First Bonaire Games was finished with the sport Bocce and awarding medals to the winners. After this everyone enjoyed a delicious BBQ and music of Grupo Eso.

Special Olympics Bonaire wants to thank every sponsor, volunteer, organization and persons who made this activity possible and successful. We also want to thank the participation of Aruba, Curacao, Group Athene, Group Barracuda and Dance Sensation. Last but not least we want to thank the board of Special Olympics Bonaire and especially Chio Semeleer for making this day one that we will never forget. ■

Press release, special to the Bonaire Reporter, Special Olympics photos



Chio's Award

Picture Yourself With The Reporter in The Alhambra, Spain



Bonaire Reporter garden column writer, Angliet, spent some time not long ago backpacking in Spain. Here she is admiring the Alhambra in Granada, Spain, with an issue of *The Bonaire Reporter*. ■

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. (All 2017 photos are eligible.)

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New BESt Care Building Sculpture Circle Cleanup



After a festive party for the staff and employees and few speeches, **BEST Care Director Iona Bergers** and **Pieter Degen (ZVK)** placed their hands in the wet cement of the first stone to be laid for the new offices. The staff looks on. Board member **Kumar-Tavid Piar** is at far left. Far right is **Antonio DaSilva** of Silvosa Construction. Behind him is **Keimpe Bax (ZVK)**.

The new building of the foundation is set to be finished in April 2018. It's located next to Bonaire Food Group and will have plenty of free parking.

Working together with Bonaire's health care insurance BCZ offers nearly everything for people temporarily or permanently handicapped (wheel chairs, hospital beds, walkers, accessories, etc.) as well as serving as headquarters for hearing aids.

They're doing a remarkable job and the island is lucky to have them in time of need. **L.D.**

BEST CARE ZORGWINKEL



Soon in our new home

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

Opening Hours: 7:30-17:30 Non-Stop
Kaya Jean B. Vitté 3

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Cleanup crew from left to right: **Ronny Heijmans, Ester Bekink, Marco Vermeulen, Damaly Linkers, Debby Rauwers, Lily-Ann Domacasse, Carolyn Caporusso**

Cleanup at the Hato traffic circle was finished on Saturday, November 4. Originally planned for the sponsors and volunteers of **Fundashon Bunita Boneiru** to clean it by hand, MCB, the primary sponsor, offered to hire a bobcat and truck to clean up and cart away the debris. What a nice surprise!

The adopted rotunda will be the site of artist/sculptor Mark J. Ansier's monumental sculpture of an underwater scene and diver, the natural subject of choice for an island known as "Diver's Paradise!" It will be constructed completely out of metals reclaimed from throughout Bonaire. The metals will be recycled and sculpted into a coral garden, turtles, stingrays,

tropical fish, topped by one or two divers. Reclaimed metal includes steel which is naturally rusted, coming from cars and buildings, stainless steel and other metals from appliances. Mark says, "This is the time for art. Collect steel and make a fish! Why not clean up the island and create something beautiful and meaningful on that ugly piece of land?" **L.D.**

Thank You APA Construction for setting the strong foundation last Wednesday.

Other sponsors are: Den Laman Condominiums, Dive Friends Bonaire, Sand Dollar Condominiums, Avis Bonaire, IronWaves Custom Iron Art and Breeze and Bites. **L.D.**

Stylish Home + Protected Land

Environmentally protected open land in the Caribbean is rare and unaffordable to most people. Until now. In the high terrace area of Bonaire you can find 11.5 hectares (28.6 acres) of land with a beautiful home surrounded by a few homes of similar size in an exclusive area of over 260 hectares (600 acres) on the unspoiled east side of Bonaire.

Included on the land is a eclectic living compound of four buildings including a 269 m² (2,900ft²) environmentally refined stylish home with massive walls, beautiful ocean view, no noise-, smell- or light-pollution which is part of the original Bolivia Plantation area. Now offered for sale at a once-in-a-lifetime price.

Price: \$450,000



For more information contact Peter at:
Sotheby's International Realty Bonaire
(+599) 788 1781 or FB Messenger @Sothebysrealtybonaire

Native Trees of Bonaire Plant A Tree



Palu Sia blossoms

Bare of leaves, the red bark is obvious

PALU DI SIA KORA (BURSERA SIMARUBA) - THE "TOURIST TREE"

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 Echo will be writing a biweekly article about the trees of Bonaire. In these articles Echo will share with our readers 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

In this issue we will talk about the Palu di Sia Kora (*Bursera simaruba*), sometimes known as the tourist tree. It got this name due to its uncommon bark which is smooth, red and peeling (flaky), just like a tourist who has been in the sun too long and has become sunburned! Next to this funny fact there is way more to discover about the Palu di Sia Kora. This tree is one of the tallest trees on Bonaire; because of the dry climate not many trees can grow very tall. However, when there is a long drought this tree will be hit the hardest due to its height. It will be one of the first trees on Bonaire to drop its leaves during a drought. But it will also be one of the first to begin re-growing

its leaves when it starts raining again. The leaves are a bright, light green and easy to recognize due to their oval and pointed shape, and because they grow in bunches far from each other. They also smell very good, so give it a try. The flowers of this tree are small, white and bunched in clusters and the fruits are small balls of a reddish-brown color.

The Palu di Sia Kora has been used for a lot of different things. One of these things is building fences. Because the trunk of the tree grows very tall and straight it is perfect to use as a fence post. It is also easy to grow from cuttings: which means if you cut the branches of a Palu di Sia Kora and put them in the ground with some water, it can grow into a new tree and serve as a fencepost if necessary. Experi-

enced growers on the island recommend waiting until a full moon to make a cutting. Last but not least, this tree grows very tall and has big cavities for parrots. Parrots use these cavities to nest in, however, bees also like these cavities and sometimes they have to fight over them.

Now that the rainy season has started, it's time to plant trees! Echo is organizing bimonthly Tree Planting Days; the first four tree planting days have already been a success with over 2,500 trees being planted into three 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 for more information. □

Roos van Rijen for Echo



On Friday November 24 the 8th Tree Planting Festival will take place at Washington Slagbaai National Park from 8:30 to 10:30am.

About 300 students from the 3rd grade of all primary schools will be planting about 100 endemic tree at the entrance of the park.

During the past weeks, the coordinator of STINAPA's education department, Desiree Croes, visited all the schools and informed the students on why it is so important to plant trees. The students were taught a song about tree planting as well, to be sung before the planting of the trees. The students were requested to draw and color a fantasy tree of their liking. The drawings were collected and brought to the STINAPA office where the STINAPA staff picked out the winners of each school. A poster was made of the best drawing (see above).

The overall winner is Izahyr from Kolegio Rayo di Solo, 2nd place Andrea from Pelikaan School and 3rd place Zales from Kolegio San Luis Bertran. □ Diana Sint Jago for STINAPA.



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Changes At Echo

Changes At Echo

Bonaire's Echo Foundation has been working hard to improve Bonaire's environment for people, birds and animals. Last week its leadership changed

After nearly three years on Bonaire, **Lauren and Nathan Schmalz** and their baby Jack will be returning to the United States this month so that they can be closer to family. Lauren is stepping down as head of the Echo environmental organization on Bonaire but she will remain as the Director of Echo through 2018.

Julianka Clarendra and **Quirijn Coolen** will now manage the Bonaire organization, operations and projects.



Ayo, Lauren and Nathan



Julianka Clarendra

Julianka Clarendra was raised in Rincon and has Bonaire's nature and culture close at heart. She returned to Bonaire in 2015 after having lived abroad for eight years, during which she completed her studies in Management, Economy and Law at the Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences, HvA. She joined the Echo team in May 2016 as the Communications Assistant for the feral pig control project and was later promoted to the position of Assistant Director of Administration and Community Relations.



Quirijn Coolen

Quirijn Coolen first came to Bonaire in 2015 with STINAPA to do thesis research on the impact of feral goats eating local native vegetation. Later that same year he returned as an intern with Echo where he was involved in the planning of the reforestation project. After completing his Masters degree in Forest and Nature management at the University of Wageningen, Quirijn joined the Echo team in August 2016 as the Habitat Restoration warden. He was promoted to the position of General Manager in September of this year. □

⇐ Check out the first story by Echo's Roos van Rijen about Bonaire's trees on the opposite page. More to come in future editions

Sportswear, fashion, skate and sporting goods.
Keeping Kaya Grandi cool since 2015.... That's Dushi Style!

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THANKSGIVING DINNER

Thursday,
November 23

ALL YOU CAN EAT BUFFET

THE MENU

ONLY \$28.50

Soups

Butternut squash soup
Seafood chowder

Breads

Homemade corn bread
Homemade assorted bread

Appetizer/Salads

Marinated sweet potato, corn, apple and walnut salad
Mixed salad
Crudites mix

The Main Courses

Whole Roasted Turkey
Served with Three Stuffings

- Classic American
- Classic Ground beef
- Rum Runners style

Oven roasted ham with a maple, garlic & bourbon glaze.

On the side

Sautéed Cauliflower, Broccoli and Carrot
Green veggie casserole with bacon bits and red onions
Spicy Cranberry & Apple Relish
Cranberry sauce
House style gravy

Mashed potatoes with fresh garlic and parsley
Candied yams

Desserts

Pumpkin pie
Sweet potato cakes
Pecan pie
Fresh fruit salad

Rum Runners Restaurant and Bar
at Captain Don's Habitat
Kaya N. Debrot 103 North Hotel Row
Reservations (Highly Recommended) 717-8290, ext. 100
Email: rumrunners@habitatbonaire.com

Two seatings available: 17:30 (5:30 pm) and 20:00 (8 pm)

At Rum Runners we do our utmost best to work with fresh ingredients only. However being on small remote island means that these are not always available if this is the case our chef will adjust the dish accordingly. For this we ask your understanding.

Career-Study Fair



Some of the 500 students who visited the Fair last Saturday

Bonaire students again had the opportunity to contemplate their career and academic future during the annual Study and Career Market held at Jong Bonaire last weekend. The event is organized by **Fundashon Ban Boneiru Bèk** and **Skills Netherlands Caribbean**.

There were 25 exhibitors including representatives from the fire department, police, prison, government, Mariadal (hospital), banks, resorts, colleges from US, Holland, Curacao, Aruba. One US college, Wayne State, even had a flyer in Papiamentu. With the increase in numbers of American colleges it's clear that students from Bonaire are sought after.

Fundashon Ban Boneiru Bèk receives financial support from RCN-OCW. Telbo and Breathe-IT provided a free internet connection during the fair.

A super exciting event was a demonstration of the bicycle police team apprehending a criminal. Fast, efficient and proves "crime does not pay!" □ L./G.D.



Scenes from the event:
Above- Mariadal worker sets a cast
Left: Fire department equipment demo
Below: Culinary Team holds a taste test



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GO BARRACUDAS! GO!



The Team



A few of our winners

For the fifth consecutive year the Bonairean "Barracudas" Aquatic Club participated in the Aruba Dolphins Invitational. The 16th edition of this annual event was held on November 3-5, 2017, at the 50 meter-long pool of Pisina Olimpico Roly Bisslik on Aruba. A total of 13 clubs, comprised of 199 swimmers from Aruba, Curacao, Dominican Republic, Venezuela, USA, and Bonaire participated

After three days of swimming the seven Bonaire Barracuda swimmers improved their times by a total of 192 seconds and broke 31 personal records. The 10 medals for Bonaire were won by **Faricha Bergman** (1 bronze), her first in competition, **Chenice Bergman** (1 gold, 1 silver), **Anita Smits** (2 bronze),

Marcel Spruit (1 gold, 1 silver, 3 bronze). **Marcel Spruit** was additionally awarded with the third place overall in his age category. **Bas Spruit** and **Nicole Pedersen** swam beautiful races and broke their own personal records.

If you are interested in joining the Barracudas swimming or water polo teams e-mail barracudasbonaire@gmail.com. You can check the latest news and events at www.bonairebarracudas.com or like us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/bonairebarracudas>. □ Press release to The Bonaire Reporter

Penny Lane Exchange The Fashion Revolution

November 24th 2017

BLACK FRIDAY



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Penny Lane is on the **second floor** of La Terraza, downtown Kralendijk

Kaya Grandi #23-G, Up the stairs—Across from Gio's Ice Cream,
Shopping Hours: Tues: 10am to 5:30; Weds & Thurs: 10:30 to 5:30
Friday: 10am to 5:30 Saturday: 11am to 3:00pm Closed – Sun. and Mon.
Phone 599-795-9332 email- Pennylanebonaire@hotmail.com

A Garden? Just Do It

NATURE SURPRISES

About two years ago a nice papaya plant started growing on its own in my back yard. It grew like crazy. At a certain moment it got flowers, the good ones, the female flowers. I was happy. Soon I would have my own sweet papayas. Then I noticed that the tree was leaning more and more against the roof of my back porch. Not good. The iguanas were climbing the tree to go under the roof tiles. The leaves were falling on the roof and rotting which is not good for the roof material.

But I wanted papayas, so I had to be patient and shoulder the burden. But even when the tree was full of blossoms there were no papayas. Someone told me I have to pound some nails into the trunk, which I did. Still no papaya. Another one said to tie a red ribbon around the trunk. Again not one papaya. Locals told me that for sure I will get papayas after a good rainy season. That was a year ago, but nothing at all—only a dirty roof with rotten leaves and iguana poop.

So I had enough of it. Three months ago, when some workers were busy in my yard I ask them to chop the tree down. So they did and there was only a trunk of about 60 centimeters high, which I thought would rot.

But I tell you what. The papaya tree began to grow again. I got five stems and soon after that all the stems got flowers and soon I saw young papayas on the stems. Amazing! So finally, unexpectedly, in a strange but wonderful way, I got papayas.



Papaya flowers again... at last



Guaba ripening

Do you know what else is strange? Often, the smaller the fruit the more concentrated the vitamins, minerals and fiber are. Don't underestimate these little fruits and think that only big fruits are healthy. In fact, often what grows wild and freely in nature is small, and it's always more healthy than cultured ones.

One of the most underestimated fruits which grows everywhere on Bonaire is the **Guaba (also known as Guava)**. The fruit is one of the healthiest fruits on earth; it belongs among the top super foods. With the good rain these days all the trees are in blossom or have fruit. My four trees have given so many fruits already that I have been able to share with friends and neighbors.

Guaba trees are small and have skinny trunks. They can grow close to your house or fence. So even when you have a small yard a Guaba tree can fit in it. This tree stays always green, can survive the drought perfectly, can stand the strong sun and does not need so much water. Iguanas don't eat it and birds love to hang out on the thin branches while filling their belly with the sweet soft Guabas.

A Guaba tree can grow from a seed or from stem cuttings. I plant the seeds in cups, and when the plant start to grow I cut the cups and carefully plant the young plant in a bigger container like a half cut coca cola bottle. There the plant can grow to about 30 centimeters. Then I cut the side of the bottle open and carefully put the plant with all the dirt (don't damage the roots) in a hole in the yard. I fill the hole with some goat manure mixed with black dirt and rotten leaves. Water every other day. After a while you notice the plant gets new leaves. Now you can water it twice a week.

There are four types of Guaba: yellow with red or white interior, big or small ones

and big green ones with white interiors.

On Bonaire people make the popular "lee" with it, a kind of a frozen fruit cream. They take out the seeds, add powdered milk and some sugar, a little bit of cinnamon and a few drops of lemon. Mix it all, fill plastic cups with it and freeze it. Yummy.

Popular too are Guaba juices, by themselves or mixed with mango, papaya, pineapple or banana. And what about smoothies? Easy to do with this soft fruit.

In South America the Guaba cake is popular, cut into small pieces and nice to serve with a cup of tea.

And last but not least, my grandma always had her own Guaba jam, jelly and marmalade in the kitchen. Try a great compete for Christmas. All easy to make, just Google some recipes.

What makes this fruit a super food? The very high amount of antioxidant with a lot of magnesium, (mangaan), potassium (kalium), vitamins C, A, B, caroteen, a lot of fiber and way more, making it a blessing for your health.

It helps against high blood pressure, obesity, diabetes, constipation (because of its fiber). The plant is very antiseptic and medicinal. The young leaves as tea are good against diarrhea, flu and sore throat. The mashed fruit is good for the skin as a mask for your face because it keeps your skin elastic and young.

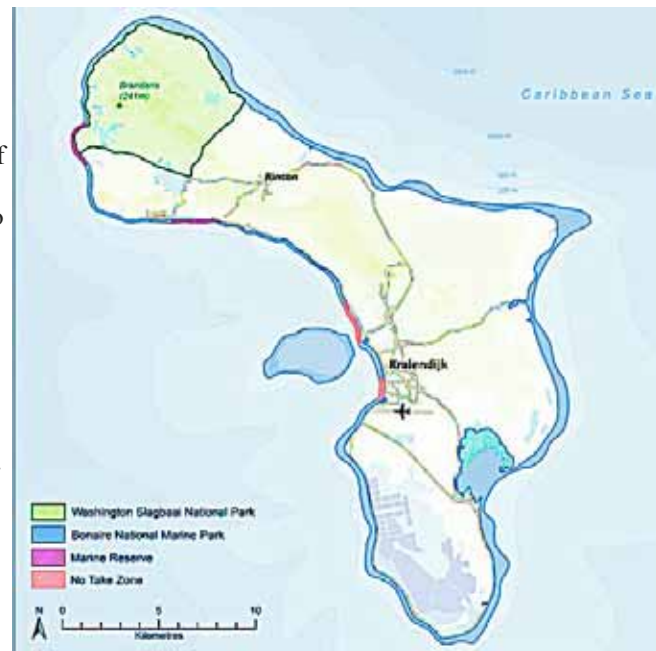
Just do it and feel good. ■

Story & photos by Angliet, Nature Lover



DID YOU KNOW?

The Bonaire National Marine Park (BNMP) has two fish protected areas (FPAs). One FPA encompasses the portion of the Marine Park between Punt'iWaya (Hato Gate) and the marina entrance at Harbour Village Beach Resort. The other FPA encompasses the area between the pier at Chachacha Beach and the marina entrance at Plaza Resort. These FPAs are designated as no-take (no-fishing) zones. It is forbidden to gather marine life in any manner of any kind within these areas of the BNMP.



In the past, Bonaire fishermen fished on the near shore reefs. Fishing with spear guns was common and the fishermen brought in very large groupers and snappers. However, now, since there are very few large reef fish compared to the past, most fishermen fish offshore for fish like tuna, wahoo, and mahi-mahi. Fisheries throughout the world have experienced a distressing decline due to increasing fishing pressure. With increasing fishing pressure, many fish populations have changed in size, species distribution and abundance. A study in the Zambezi Region, comparing FPAs to non-FPAs, showed a big difference between the two. **A higher fish weight, number and size was found in the FPA than the non-FPA.** This is one of many studies that confirms the importance of FPAs in conserving fish resources, which directly affects local economies and food supplies. To conserve and protect fish stocks on Bonaire, FPAs were formed. In 2008, the Bonaire government, STINAPA and local fishermen, among others, worked together to determine the boundaries of these no fishing zones, which encompass

approximately 3km of Bonaire's 105km of coastline.

The creation of networks of fish protected areas is an outstanding strategy in marine conservation. Currently, less than 2% of our oceans are protected areas. More than 100 studies of reserves worldwide show that the protection of these areas leads to increases in the biomass, abundance and, size of organisms and an increase in species diversity. In addition, as protected fish stocks in the reserves build up, this build-up will boost local fisheries due to the spillover of juveniles and adult fish into nearby fishing

grounds. With just a bit of conservation, major benefits may be acquired. ■ *Story by Mavelly Velandia, STINAPA intern. Connecting people with nature.*



Festival at Mangazina di Rei Saturday

Bonaire has numerous writers, composers, poets and playwrights. Find out the stories behind Bonaire's songs, books, poems and plays this weekend, **Saturday, November 25th, at the next edition of the cultural event "NosZjilea" at Cultural Park Mangazina di Rei** just south of Rincon.



Come and listen to different writers as they tell where they got their inspiration to write their piece. Each writer has her or his own way of expressing themselves.

The Market also offers fresh local products such as syrup of the local gourd, natural local juices, "Made in Rincon," local art and much more. Breakfast and lunch are available. The kitchen opens at 10 am. The Market is from 8 o'clock in the morning till 2 o'clock in the afternoon. ■ *Izain J. Mercera*

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
- **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 Man-**

gazina 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. 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

Cruise Ships

Day	Date	Ship	Time	PAX
Monday	November 20,	<i>Eclipse</i>	0800-1800	2858
Tuesday	November 21,	<i>TUI Discovery 2</i>	1300-1800	2435
Tuesday	November 21,	<i>Monarch</i>	0700-1800	2744
Wednesday	November 22,	<i>Carnival Sunshine</i>	0800-1600	2974
Wednesday	November 22,	<i>Koningsdam</i>	0800-1800	2650
Sunday	November 26,	<i>Norwegian Star</i>	0700-1500	2348
Monday	November 27,	<i>Britania</i>	0600-1800	3600
Monday	November 27,	<i>Mein Schiff 3</i>	0700-1900	2500
Tuesday	November 28,	<i>Sliver Wind</i>	1300-2200	294
Wednesday	November 29,	<i>Navigator of the Seas</i>	0700-1700	3114
Wednesday	November 29,	<i>Aida Diva</i>	0700-1800	2194
Thursday	November 30,	<i>Star Flyer</i>	0900-2200	170
Thursday	November 30,	<i>TUI Discovery I</i>	0700-1500	2076
Friday	December 1,	<i>Thompson Celebration</i>	0800-1800	1264
Saturday	December 2,	<i>Europa 2</i>	0800-1700	516

No Cruise ships on the following days:
Nov. 23, 24, 25 (Thursday-Saturday)
Dec. 3 (Sunday).

Two Cruise Ships on days in bold highlighted

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

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 Antrio**l - 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 Exhibit**—Kaya Amsterdam 23, next to KVK. Hours 9am-2pm, 4-8 pm.

Close In Events

Thursday, Nov. 23—American Thanksgiving. More on page 9

Friday Nov. 24 — 8th Tree Planting Festival, Washington Slagbaai National Park 8.30 to 10.30am. Free. More on page 8

Saturday, Nov. 25
— **Sanikolas and Swartepieten** arrive to a big celebration, 9am. More on page 4.

— **Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire Fundraising Auction**, Landhuis Wanapa. Live music, food, drinks. Starts at 6 pm, auction at 8 pm. Pre-bidding for all items at the special website: www.stcbfundraising.org

Sunday, Dec. 3— Rotary Club annual Rotarally—More page 3
3See page 3 for more details

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Bonaire-Sun Rise/Set, Moon Phase and Tides

Day	High	Low	High	Low	High	Sunrise	Sunset
Mon 20	14:13 0.93 ft	23:35 -0.12 ft				6:35	18:07
Tue 21	14:51 0.92 ft					6:36	18:07
Wed 22		00:07 -0.13 ft	15:28 0.90 ft			6:36	18:07
Thu 23		00:35 -0.13 ft	16:05 0.88 ft			6:36	18:07
Fri 24		01:00 -0.12 ft	07:55 0.46 ft	10:36 0.44 ft	16:43 0.85 ft	6:37	18:07
Sat 25		01:23 -0.11 ft	07:54 0.50 ft	11:54 0.43 ft	17:21 0.80 ft	6:37	18:07
Sun 26	First Quarter	01:44 -0.09 ft	08:04 0.56 ft	13:06 0.41 ft	18:01 0.73 ft	6:38	18:07
Mon 27		02:04 -0.07 ft	08:23 0.64 ft	14:16 0.37 ft	18:44 0.64 ft	6:38	18:08
Tue 28		02:25 -0.05 ft	08:47 0.73 ft	15:28 0.32 ft	19:31 0.54 ft	6:39	18:08
Wed 29		02:46 -0.03 ft	09:18 0.84 ft	16:43 0.25 ft	20:25 0.42 ft	6:40	18:08
Thu 30		03:10 -0.01 ft	09:55 0.95 ft	17:58 0.15 ft	21:32 0.31 ft	6:40	18:08
Fri 01		03:38 0.01 ft	10:36 1.05 ft	19:09 0.05 ft	22:54 0.22 ft	6:41	18:08
Sat 02		04:11 0.04 ft	11:23 1.13 ft	20:13 -0.06 ft		6:41	18:09
Sun 03	00:31 0.18 ft	04:51 0.08 ft	12:13 1.19 ft	21:10 -0.16 ft	Full Moon	6:42	18:09
Mon 04	02:10 0.18 ft	05:42 0.13 ft	13:07 1.22 ft	22:02 -0.24 ft		6:42	18:09



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ANIMAL SHELTER NEWS

Pet Of The Week



PROTECT YOUR PETS FROM FLEAS AND TICKS

Here on Bonaire we are in the thick of flea and tick season! These insects live on the blood of your pets and can cause health problems ranging from allergic reactions to life threatening illnesses.



The growth of a blood sucking dog tick

Fleas can jump thousands of times (an average is the length of three football fields) and as high as two feet in each jump in search of a host. Fleas live 16 days to 21 months, depending on the environment, feeding on your dog or cat about once every two days. Fleas can cause anemia in adult dogs. And in puppies a flea infestation can be life threatening. Pets who are allergic to the saliva of fleas can have problems after a single bite of one insect.

Ticks are a major problem on Bonaire and can cause a variety of serious anemia-type illnesses that are generally referred to here on the island as "tick disease." Because they are found deep within the hair of animals, pet owners may not immediately see them. Sometimes, an infestation may not be recognized until populations grow large and ticks are seen crawling across floors or walls. Adult ticks typically imbed themselves in a dog's ears and between its toes, while larvae and nymphs typically attach to the dog's back. After feeding, the tick drops



Checking between toes for ticks

off the host but does not travel far. The adult female tick lays a mass of 1,000 – 3,000 eggs after taking a blood meal, and eggs are often laid around baseboards, window and door casings, curtains, furniture, and rug edges. Females can often be seen climbing up walls searching for a place to lay their eggs. Adults that have not consumed a blood meal may live for as long as 200 days.

There are all kinds of ingredients in different products on the market—most are topical, but some are oral. Any topical product you choose needs to be waterproof. You want to make certain you do not use products designed for dogs on cats, and vice versa.

It's super important that you get specifics from your vet on which product is safe to use on your cat, kitten, dog, puppy, or your lactating or pregnant pet.

And be cautious if your pet has a history of seizures. Some products also require your pet to test negative for heartworm before use. And some should only be given with food.

Be smart and protect your pets! Talk to your vet about what product is best for you and your pet! □ *Story by Jane Madden – Disko*



One type of tick preventive

Endangered Sea Turtles Killed

Kralendijk, November 16th, 2017 –

On October 26, Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire (STCB) was informed of the discovery of sea turtle carapaces in the area of Lac Bay. A passerby, looking for driftwood, had found two carapaces under mangrove trees.

On investigation, STCB staff and STINAPA Rangers located another two sea turtle shells. All four sea turtle carapaces were identified by STCB's Manager as green turtles (*Chelonia mydas*), an endangered sea turtle species. The turtles' heads, flippers and meat had been removed, which indicates that the turtles were butchered.

Sea turtles have been protected on Bonaire since 1991



FABULOUS FIFI

Fluffy, flirty, fabulous and full of life...that's Fifi! When she arrived at the Shelter at five weeks old with her brother and sisters, Fred, Flaggy, and Farrah, we knew she was a special little fluff ball and gave her a silly fluffy name...Fifi! She is now about four and a half months old and is blossoming into a real beauty. Her silky soft fur is getting longer and her tail is beginning to explode into a beautiful "feather duster."

Fifi is a calm and affectionate kitten, but more than willing to jump in to play with a dangling toy or stuffed mouse. She gets along fine with other cats and kittens but is perfectly content to play or nap on her own. Fifi would be a fine feline companion for an adult household or one with children.

You can visit Fifi and her fabulous friends in the Cat Palace at Animal Shelter Bonaire, Kaminda Lagun 26. Open Monday through Friday 9am-noon, 3-5pm. Saturdays 9am-3 pm nonstop. 717-4989/701-4989. Be sure to visit the Animal Shelter Bonaire website

(www.animalshelterbonaire.com) where you can view the live "catcams" and also make donations. □

*Story by Jane Madden –Disko
Photo by Luvinia Rodrigue*



when the Island Council of Bonaire amended the Marine Environmental Ordinance (A.B. 1984, no 21). As of October 10, 2010, when Bonaire became a special municipality of the Netherlands, the penalty for violating laws that relate to species listed under Article 8 of the SPAW Protocol may result in a maximum fine of US \$560,000 and/or one jail time and confiscation of relevant equipment (spear gun, car, boat).

Therefore, all details have been provided to the police who will be investigating this matter. □

STCB Press release



BONAIRE SKY PARK*

*to find it... just look up

STAYING UP LATE WITH ORION

Winter is still a few weeks away, but that doesn't mean you can't see the stars and constellations of winter a little early. You just have to stay up a little later at night to see them rise above the eastern horizon. And there is one Sky Park constellation that is Mr. Winter. The guy with the belt of three stars, one of the easiest star patterns to identify in the Bonaire Sky Park.

We're talking about **Orion the Hunter**. There is just something about the arrangement of his stars that make you imagine a giant hunter standing in the sky with his arm raised up. Not to mention the three stars that make his snazzy belt. Orion is usually best seen in January and February, but if you stay up past your bedtime this month, you can get a preview.

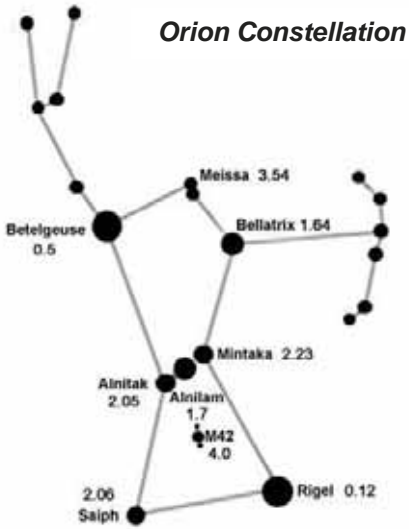
On any night in late November at 7pm face east. Do you see Orion up there?

Not yet? But you do see signs in the sky that he will soon be making an appearance. That little group of stars about one-third of the way up in the sky that looks like a really small dipper. are actually the **Seven Sisters**, an open cluster of stars that were said to be Orion's loves. There was one slight problem: the sisters didn't like him at all.

And that means that just below the Seven Sisters is **Taurus the Bull**.

You can recognize him by his orange, bulls-eye star, **Aldebaran** and the stars around it making a small v-shape pattern. His long horns point down and to the left. When you see Taurus coming up, that means Orion isn't far behind. Slowly but surely new stars rise up in the east and by 9 or 9:30pm Orion will have completely cleared the trees and he will appear to be leaning to one side. However, just look for his belt of three stars and you know you've found him.

And it's only 9:30pm. But to see Orion at his best - when he is highest in the **Bonaire Sky Park** - face south after midnight. You can now find Orion about halfway up in the sky seeming to lord over



all creation.

His belt is stylishly slanted a bit, but is unmistakable in the night sky. Orion's brightest stars are **Rigel**, that marks his left leg, and **Betelgeuse** that stands in for his, um, well, you know. His armpit!

Yes, that may be gross, but that's what Betelgeuse means: armpit of the central one. And it definitely fits the picture.

Orion's other shoulder is a beautiful blue star called **Bellatrix** and his right leg can be made with the dimmer star called **Seraph**.

But don't forget about his head. The dim star **Meissa** up there marks that. One final thing to look for with Orion is the sword hanging from his belt. There are three stars there that are much fainter than his belt, but sometimes you can see them. The middle star in the sword is no star at all. It is actually the **Orion Nebula**, a great cloud of cosmic dust that is making new stars. It's basically a huge star factory. Through a telescope you can see its cloudy nature and even some of the stars the nebula manufactured.

So tonight, try to view of one of the easiest star patterns, Orion the Hunter. **And get ready for the Super Moon on December 3.** and the next *Bonaire Reporter* on the day after. □ *Dean Regas & James Albury*



THE STARS HAVE IT

Last of November 2017

ARIES (Mar. 21- April 20) You need to put some trust in others. Do not let lovers cost you money or take advantage of you. Don't be afraid to confront situations concerning loved ones in order to solve any problems that may exist. You must lay down ground rules so that you can complete a job. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

TAURUS (Apr. 21- May 21) You need to get involved in groups that offer physical activities. Problems with fire, gas, or oil may cause disruptions and annoyances. Attend to things that you should have done yesterday. Your sensitivity toward those you love will capture their hearts. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21) You need to start planning that vacation. You will have to check your cash flow before you decide to indulge in hobbies or entertainment that may be beyond your budget. Do whatever your mate wants; it really doesn't matter as long as you're together. Don't let someone you work with put words in your mouth. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) You may end up being blamed if anything goes wrong. Look closely at motives and honesty in your personal encounters. You could come into extra cash. You will be on the rampage this week. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

LEO (July 23-Aug 22) Opportunities for new and exciting relationships will be yours if you get out and join groups. Don't gamble unless you can afford to lose. Your communication skills are at an all-time high. Your attitude could be up and down like a yo-yo. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) Do something constructive outside. Relationships will become stronger. However, be careful with luggage; it may be rerouted. You will find that superiors may not see situations as you do. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) Try to ease any disappointment by making

amends. Those close to your heart may be difficult to reason with. You could experience unusual circumstances and meet eccentric individuals. You may find yourself caught in a triangle. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) Get back down to earth and to basics. Try to convince a good friend to take a holiday with you. Do not let them in on your plans if you want things to run smoothly. Most partner problems are a result of both people not living up to their promises. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) Don't be angry, but be on your guard. Romantic opportunities are evident if you get involved in large groups or organizations. Don't let friends convince you that you should contribute to something you don't believe in. Creative endeavors will give you somewhat of an outlet. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) Social get-together will bring you in contact with intelligent new friends. You may not be too pleased with the actions of those you live with. Your high enthusiasm will be sure to inspire anybody around you. Try to accommodate them without infringing on your own responsibilities. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) You may be the recipient of false information. You're in the mood for love. You may win favors if you present your ideas and include your family. Don't tell others of your plans. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) You are able to make changes in your home that will be favorable to all involved. Work quietly behind the scenes. Make sure any presentation you have is ready. You may end up being blamed if anything goes wrong. Your lucky day this week will be Friday. □

Michael Thiessen



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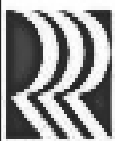
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