

FREE

June 24 - July 8, 2019, Year 26, Issue 13

# BONAIRE The REPORTER

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## RIDE FOR THE ROSES



**Emergency road repair  
Real Madrid coming to Bonaire  
DeLoachs of Reef ID fame**

For the fourth year in a row, residents of Bonaire stretched their legs and literally traveled the extra mile, (kilometer), to support their neighbors suffering with cancer in the Ride for the Roses on June 23. Home for the “Roses” was Eden Beach Resort.

The original event launched by cancer survivor and cyclist Lance Armstrong was held in Austin, Texas in 1997. The benefit cycle race was so successful that the idea caught on in Europe and other places around the globe. Curacao held its first “Ride” in 2005 and today it is the biggest charity event they hold attracting more than 10,000 cyclists. Bonaire adopted the idea in 2016 thanks to Ride for the Roses president Jursi Marshall and ORCO Bank’s John Soliano.

Jursi Marshall said, “My grandmother had cancer and I just wanted to do something to help.”

Marshall said he heard about the Ride for the Roses in Curacao and liked the concept. He went to Soliano with the idea and that was the beginning for the Ride for the Roses in Bonaire.

The main idea is to get everyone involved in a healthy and fun way to raise money for the people fighting cancer. Participants ride, walk, run and swim in memory of someone they know that has had cancer or is fighting against it now.

“Because we don’t have so many bikers here, we decided to expand the ‘Roses’ to include walking, running and swimming. Next year we are looking to include kite boarding,” said Marshall.

The Bonaire event this year welcomed over 400 participants, in the various events. Some of the athletes did a combination of the three disciplines: walk or ride and swim. Prior to the activities there was yoga to get everyone warmed up by several of the best yogis on island.

There was truly something for every exercise skill level in the support of helping those fighting cancer.

At the end of each course, participants received a congratulatory rose.

Everyone on the planet has been touched by cancer in some way. The disease is so prolific it has invaded the lives of everyone, even our animals.

The “Ride” is one way that everyone can help in a healthy way. It brings awareness that this disease doesn’t just happen to someone else. *Story and photo: Julie Morgan.*



**President Jursi Marshall, treasurer Anna-Marie Mercera and John Soliano of ORCO Bank hand out t-shirts for Ride for the Roses 2019**





### PRESS STATEMENT AUTHORITY EDISON RIJNA

As the Public Prosecution Service has announced, the public prosecutor has decided to unconditionally dismiss the case in which I was regarded as a suspect. This means that the Bon Recycling company and I, as the then owner-manager, will not be prosecuted.

I am grateful that the investigation has been completed quickly and that I can use this outcome as a lieutenant governor of Bonaire. I have already informed the State Secretary for the Interior and Kingdom Relations, the group leaders of the Island Council and the Executive Council about the conclusions of the Public Prosecution Service. 20-06-2019, *Department of Public Body Communication Bonaire.*



► **House of Representatives member André Bosman** wants to widen the Netherlands Court of Audit investigation into agricultural subsidies from 'The Hague' to the Caribbean Netherlands.

Initially the audit was to investigate the effectiveness of monies spent on the development of agricultural policy on Bonaire. Bosman has recommended the research include the following questions:

- 1) How is the supervision of the regularity and effectiveness of the special benefits organized on the basis of Article 92 of the Bonaire, Sint Eustatius and Saba Public Bodies Finance Act, including the expenditure for the development of agriculture?
- 2) What is the quality of the provision of information about (the supervision of) these expenses and benefits to the House of Representatives?
- 3) What is the position of the Ministry/Minister of the Interior and Kingdom Relations on relations with the public entities in the Caribbean Netherlands? *Kingdom Relations, 6-18-2019.*

## DROB and WEB solve the Playa Frans water crisis

DROB responded quickly to the recent road emergency at the north end of the island and rebuilt the worst sections of the Playa Frans road. Three weeks ago WEB was forced to curtail water deliveries to the area after two of its trucks broke down on the road beyond BOPEC. WEB announced it will now resume water deliveries for the residents of the area, and for the hundreds of young trees planted there by the Echo Bonaire reforestation project.

DROB sent a contractor whose road crew spent the week of Monday, 7 June, re-surfacing the seriously potholed section of the Playa Frans road from Salina Tam to Boca Druifi. They continued on the weekend to rebuild the half kilometer of badly broken road running north from the BOPEC gate.

Julianka Clarendia, Director of Echo Bonaire, had approached DROB because of the urgency of the issue. She reports that DROB's response was prompt and constructive. Pedro de Jong, Inspector of Infrastructure, was especially helpful in expediting the road repairs, she said.

Immediately after the road repairs were completed, WEB spokesperson Sigfried Quarton said he was pleased to confirmed that customers in the area will now receive water delivery as before. Everyone involved is to be commended. Both DROB and WEB reacted quickly to meet an urgent public need.

**The newly appointed consul general of the United States, Mr. Christian R. Olsen, introduces himself to Lieutenant Governor Edison Rijna. The U.S. consul is based in Curaçao.**



► *The Bonaire Reporter* was flown to Bonaire Tuesday—one day later than usual. Our printer asked for the extra time to run diagnostics. We have been working with DeStad to improve the print quality of the paper.

► **St Eustatius is now testing a smartphone fish app called StaBlu.** The fishing app is designed to link the daily fish catch directly to customer demand on the local and regional market. "It is an approach that has been used successfully in Scandinavia," says Dr. Teresa Leslie, Director of St Eustatius Foundation (SEF). "This app will not only stimulate local supply and demand but also outline sustainable fishing practices." Climate change is placing pressure on our oceans and this has an impact on marine life. Fisher-folk need to become the stewards

of their own oceans," Leslie continues. "The app will be able to actively record information on the type and amount of fish being sold which will aid in planning for sustainable fisheries."

► **On June 13 more than 100 volunteers read to primary school classes and to reception centers on Bonaire.** Bank employees, firefighters, civil servants, entrepreneurs; adults from all sectors participated in Bonaire's third annual National Reading Day. The Reading and Writing Bonaire Foundation organized the day to show parents and children that reading, and especially reading aloud, is fun. Thanks to MCB and all the organizations who gave their employees time-off to read to the kids.

*Flotsam & Jetsam continued on page 5*



## TUNG FONG STORE N.V.

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**Opening Hours: 8:30 am – 12:30 pm, 2:30 pm -6.30 pm  
Open from Monday till Saturday. Sundays Closed.**

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## BES(t)4 kids program gets off to a good start



The BES(t) 4 kids program's goal is to offer all children in the Caribbean Netherlands good quality, safe and accessible childcare and after-school care by the year 2022. Launched January 2019, each of the BES islands have worked toward that goal.

At the moment daycare and afterschool care are not free. To make these facilities accessible to everyone, BES public entities make money available for subsidized childcare places. In Bonaire the number of subsidized places for children in childcare and after-school care facilities has been increased. More parents will be eligible for the subsidies because the qualifying income threshold has been raised. Saba has increased classrooms and recruited additional employees so more children can use childcare and after-school care facilities. As result, Saba's waiting list for childcare has decreased. In St. Eustatius the kindergarten is expanding its nursery. Come September there will be room for more babies and the facilities for their care will have improved.

In addition to providing more spaces for children, all three islands have enrolled their staff in professional training. In Bonaire different groups of employees continue to be trained in the pedagogical Kaleidoscoop program. Childcare organisations have met with the education sector to discuss how Kaleidoscoop therapies can offer children a stronger start in primary school.

Saba and St. Eustatius are putting groups of staff through the two-year CVQ-2 Early Childhood Development training. The two islands are also training staff in the pedagogical High Scope program which focuses on the child from zero to six years. Additionally, in St Eustatius, management teams of childcare organisations will be trained, and a platform has been established so childcare organisations can discuss and coordinate organisational matters with each other.

The Public Entities have appointed BES(t) 4 kids project managers Tamara Nicolaas, Bonaire; Angela Dekker, St. Eustatius and Rosalyn Johnson, Saba. Fleur Lagcher is the overall program manager. The Public Entities and the Central Government (the Ministries of SZW, OCW, VWS and BZK) work in close collaboration with each other in the BES(t) 4 kids program. Civil service representatives will meet in a work conference in St. Eustatius in the period June 19th to 21th, 2019 to discuss follow-up actions.

## Flying the Caribbean

**Taxes are killing Caribbean airlines**, says Paul Gravel, founder and CEO of St. Vincent & Grenadines Air (SVG Air). A recent Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) study reported that 54% of Liat's ticket prices consist of taxes and charges. LIAT is an airline headquartered in Antigua. Gravel believes that governments of various Caribbean countries see tax on tickets as an easy way to generate income for projects which are, in his opinion, way too expensive.

According to the report compiled by the Caribbean Development bank, "Air connectivity is a critical element to economic growth and development, especially for the small island nations of the Caribbean. Improved connectivity means additional air services, frequencies and traffic volumes. These have been found to contribute to increased employment opportunities and to benefit the wider economy." Introducing policy remedies could, according to CDB, lead to increased long-term employment, adding approximately 288,000 jobs, as well as USD4.4 billion in GDP across the Caribbean.

### Curaçao is getting more flights.

Caribbean Airlines has proposed a twice-weekly service from Trinidad & Tobago to Curaçao. The Monday and Friday flights will provide Curaçao excellent connections to and from Barbados, Grenada, Guyana, New York and other destinations.

Sint Maarten-based Winair will move to double daily flights between Sint Maarten and Curaçao as of July 4, 2019. After the bankruptcy of Insel Air, Winair stepped in to serve the route between Sint Maarten and the ABC-islands. Although Winair has been generally successful, passengers complain that checked-in luggage often stays behind because the ATR aircraft has limited baggage space. As of late, they also complain of an increased number of delayed flights. Winair will also add one flight per week between Curaçao and Port Au Prince (Haiti), but is dropping the route between Curaçao and Santo Domingo.

### Aruba Airlines has a new plane.

Aruba Airlines has received their new CRJ-200 airplane. The new plane will primarily be used on the ABC routes served by the 50-seater CRJ aircraft. The arrival of the new plane is good news for Aruba Airlines, which has had financial problems caused by the closing of the border between Venezuela and Aruba.

### Bonaire's Flamingo Airport welcomes new people

J.G. (Jos) Hillen has been nominated as new interim director of Bonaire International Airport (BIA). Commissioner Elvis Tjin Asjoe welcomes the nomination: "There

*Flying the Caribbean continued on page 4*

## FOR SALE Kaya Krisolito 79 Spacious Family Home



- Location: Santa Barbara
- Lot size: 1000 m2 / 10763 sq. ft. owned land
- Living area: 219 m2 / 2358 sq. ft.

- 3 bedrooms / 3 bathrooms / office / laundry room
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is a lot to do at BIA, because a lot of work has remained after the departure of the entire management and Supervisory Board in 2017.”

Hillen worked at Rijkswaterstaat (Directorate-General for Public Works and Water Management) from 1975 to 1995 where he held the position of deputy director of Infrastructure and Building Policy. In the past 24 years, he has led several major infrastructure projects on an interim basis. Hillen (who holds a pilot’s license) was involved in the transition from the Twente military airbase to a civilian airport and was interim director of Groningen Airport Eelde from 2009 to 2012.

The appointment of takes effect on July 1 and is provisional for the duration of six months. “The Supervisory Board will soon start recruiting a permanent management, but first a job profile will be drawn-up that is in line with the initial findings and recommendations of the interim director,” said Tjin Asjoe.

**Bonaire International Airport (BIA) and Progressive Air Services (PAS) have signed a seven-year concession for ground handlers.** Negotiations for concessions have not been easy. The two biggest ground handlers, Air Handling Services Bonaire (AHSB) and Bonaire Air Services (BAS), have both repeatedly threatened BIA with legal action unless the airport becomes more reasonable with certain details of the ground handling concessions. Among others, PAS handles the flights of Aruba Airlines; BAS handles KLM and American Airlines, while AHSB handles United Airlines and Delta Airlines.

## Letters and Opinions

Dear Editor,

I am most impressed with the new format. It is very user friendly and inviting. Thanks for keeping it available on-line. Unfortunately, I can’t imagine myself returning to Bonaire. I know tourist currency is necessary to the Bonaire economy. However, on my last trip, I drove to Tolo to dive and from about Cliff/Hamlet Oasis I had to follow a herd of cruise bicyclists that refused to pull over to let me pass. They most always took both lanes preventing passing. They seemed to feel that they were somehow privileged to take the entire road and every one else be damned. It galls me to think that these inconsiderate people do not have to pay the Park and Marine fee.

I have been coming to Bonaire for two week vacations to dive each year since 2010. Every year I have witnessed reef destruction by divers from cruise ships with no buoyancy control crashing through soft coral, bryozoans, and worse. Each year it has gotten worse. Now even the above water environment is being corrupted. Bonaire is no longer a divers paradise. It’s become a cruise ship destruction zone. It breaks my heart. Bonaire was my one, go-to every year, absolutely dependable dive destination. Not ever again. My last trip was enough to make me realize that Bonaire is no longer for divers.

*Sincerely, Larry M. Litwin*

Dear Editor,

During the dry season, do goat drink sea water? Anyone have an informed answer? Recently several observers have reported goats gathered every morning on the coral dike that forms Salina Tam, just north of BOPEC. That’s one of the few places in the area where goats can find easy access to the shore line. And there’s no browse for them there, no other reason for them to show up every morning. *Don Ricks*

Have something to say? Want to give your opinion?

All letters must be signed. Email: [BonaireReporter2019@gmail.com](mailto:BonaireReporter2019@gmail.com)

### The Younger Set

**All members of the 6th grade VWO class of Liseo Boneriano have passed their final exams in the first sitting.** The VWO (literally: preparatory scholarly education) has six grades and is typically attended from age 12 to 18. A VWO diploma provides access to research universities, although universities may set their own admission criteria.

**On June 8 the junior rangers of STINAPA cleaned beaches on the east side of Klein Bonaire,** where the trash floating over from Kralendijk gets stuck. Most of the trash was plastic bottles, plastic plates, menus, cups and shoes. The trash was registered, separated and brought to Selibon. 42 large trash bags were filled, representing only five percent of the total amount of trash that is at that location. STINAPA says they are very proud of their junior rangers. STINAPA also thanks Selibon N.V. and Epic Tours for their support!

**Starting in September, Indebon will organize sports events in the neighborhoods of the island for all boys and girls between seven and 17 years of age.** Indebon will be organizing matches in volleyball, ball games, and athletics. Athletics is the only sport that will place in the Playa Stadium and the Antonio Trenidat Stadium in Rincon. The matches are from Monday to Friday from 3 until 4:30 pm at Nikiboko Neighborhood Center, the Johan Cruijff Court in Tera Kòrà, Jorge Nicolaas Sports Complex for children in Antriol and Nort’i Saliña Neighborhood Center. For the children of Rincon the competitions will take place in the Antonio Trenidat Stadium and the gym in Rincon. After the summer holiday, Indebon will provide more information about sports activities in the neighborhoods.



## Ask Kate

### Bonaire real estate advice

**Question: I know real estate advertising on Bonaire is different from where I live. If I list my Bonaire home for sale, what kind of exposure can I expect? Judy**

Hi Judy, I can only speak for what I offer my clients. After completing a market analysis, I provide professional home staging, including the decorative items necessary to stage the property. In addition to professional photographs, we arrange for a 3-D photographic tour that can be viewed online. This gives Buyers the opportunity to “walk through” the property on their computer. Each property listed with me is featured in a half-page color ad in the Bonaire Reporter, the window in our office, the local and international RE/MAX website, our real estate magazine available both online and locally at high visibility locations throughout the island, and our monthly newsletter to existing and prospective clients.

I also send targeted emails to international investors I work with to keep them advised of new residential and commercial listings coming soon. Through these efforts, I have sold a number of my listings within days, even before they appear online.

If you’d like to learn more or have further questions, please contact me.

*All the best, Kate Butler, GRI, Real Estate Agent, RE/MAX Bonaire*

If you have a real estate question for Kate, email her at [kate@bonairehomes.com](mailto:kate@bonairehomes.com) Tollfree from US: 1-866-611-7362

## Ask a Geek by Brian Niessen

### Cables everywhere, but never the one you need.

There are cables to charge your laptop, phone, or tablet, cables to connect your printer, cables for internet and ethernet, three different types of USB cables to connect gadgets and all kinds of charger cables.

Living in a closed ecosystem like Bonaire has its challenges, especially when you are looking for a special type of cable, for example, to connect a 2009 MacBook to a TV, because no store on island inventories a cable for a 10 year old computer.

The question is always “Where do I get my XYZ cable on Bonaire?” Everyone always seems to answer “Order online and send to CPost or eZone.”

But there is an alternative to find cables and chargers/transformers.

On Saturday morning, head to the Pakus di Pruga (Flea Market) run by the Animal Shelter Bonaire, and go inside, past the myriad of kitchen things, and into the little back room where all the Geek goodies are.

There you have to dig through the semi-sorted boxes of chargers, cables, and other odds and ends, and most of the time you will find what you are looking for – and pay only a fraction of what it could cost to have it shipped in.

In addition, there are printers, scanners, monitors, routers, ink cartridges, and all kinds of other electrical and electronic items which I have found very helpful to fix/recycle a bunch of computer parts which run the online cameras at the Animal Shelter.

Good luck, and remember, if you have computer things you don’t want anymore, then donate to the Pakus, it may be useful to someone else.

**Reminder: Donate your old license plates to the Pakus (See Jane Dis-ko-Madden’s Animal Shelter article page 14 for more information).**

...*Brian Niessen, The Geek.*

Do you have a question about using computers and computer technology on Bonaire?

Email it to the editor, and we’ll get an answer for you next issue.

### Two reminders:

**Picking up a new license plate is mandatory.** The new license plates can now be collected. Join the line-ups at J.A. Abraham Boulevard 27, June 17 to 28, Monday through Friday, 8am to 6pm.

Bring your ID, proof of auto insurance, receipt for motor vehicle tax assessment 2019, Proof of payment for the new license plate with your plate number and your CRIB number (vehicles \$ 8.40; motor cycles \$ 5.60).

**Traveling with ZVK medical insurance is a good idea.** If you are going abroad temporarily, take along proof of your ZVK medical insurance. The certificate will be valid for six months, and covers only acute medical treatment, hospital admissions and urgent attention. (ZVK warns that it is not travel insurance, and doesn’t cover loss of valuables.) Curacao, Aruba, St. Maartens, and the European Netherlands are considered “abroad” by ZVK.

You can pick up your proof of insurance at the ZVK office, Kaya Gobernador Nicolaas Debrot, Kralendijk.



# Remembering Hans Hass

## Jimmy Hodges death 1954



Sadly, it was also during this expedition [of Hans Hass] that Bonaire recorded its first diving death - one of Hass' cameramen, the Englishman Jimmy Hodges, died at Punt Vierkant when his oxygen-equipment failed. James Hodges, was a top-rank diver of the British Admiralty, a typical naval officer - reliable, calm, good-humoured. During the war he had seen much active service; he had been an officer in one of the two 'X' craft, the midget submarines acting as markers off the coast of Normandy on D-Day, and was mentioned in dis-patches. After the war Jimmy became an expert in underwater filming.

Wherever difficult diving tasks and problems of underwater cinematography were waiting to be tackled, Jimmy Hodges was asked to help: he surveyed the famous Spanish galleon at Tobermory, he dived into the underwater forests off the Scottish coast for the Seaweed Association, and eventually Hans Hass engaged him as a member of his XARIFA team.

On 16. April 1954 an unbelievable item of news came from Bonaire. Hass had stopped there again on his way back from Galapagos to Europe to finish his film. While shooting undersea pictures in only 60 feet of water, Hodges died near Punt Vierkant, at the end of his long tour with Hans Hass. After a dive, Hodges had come up, called to the ship nearby for help - and gone down again. Hass brought him up: he was dead.

The news was unbelievable because his colleagues and friends knew Jimmy Hodges was not the man to take unnecessary risks, that he was one of the best swimmers in the world, and that a mere ten fathoms was a depth from which he should have been able to escape even if something went wrong with his equipment.

But there it was, Jimmy was dead, one of the vast army of victims of the deep. The crew paid there last tribute to their friend and comrade Jimmy in the little cemetery of Kralendijk. Hass dedicated his successful film "Under the Caribbean" to Jimmy Hodges. *Michael Jung*

### Safe driving protects wildlife, your car and yourself



In the last month Bonaire's wildlife has taken a toll due to unsafe driving practices. Speeding cars and bikes have destroyed an undetermined number of flamingos. Seven donkeys have been killed. Another donkey was hit and has a broken leg. These injuries and fatalities can all be avoided if drivers follow a few simple driving rules.

Citizens For Better Safer Animal Friendly Bonaire/Bonaire Donkey Protection League would like to remind all residents and guests about the driving skills that will protect you, your family and the animals on the roads of Bonaire.

#### Basic driving skills can keep everyone safe:

Have all vehicle safety items checked: lights, turn signals, brakes  
Speed limits aren't posted but they are: 40km (25mi) in town 60 km (37mi) on country roads

Keep your eyes on the road – no cell phones or texting  
Stay safe distance behind the car in front of you: 10 meters (30 ft behind the car in front of you)  
Slow down for pedestrians, bicyclists or animals on the side of the road.  
Do not pass on turns or near cross roads.

#### Night time

Head lights should be properly aligned, (left one a bit to the center of road, right side direct in front).

Bright lights should be dimmed when cars approach.  
Never overdrive your headlights (You should be able to stop inside the area illuminated by your headlights otherwise there is a blind "crash area" in front of your vehicle.)

#### Accidents happen when:

- You drive too fast
- You use your phone when driving
- You aren't alert to all on and off the road. *Al Catalfumo. Citizens For Better Safer Animal Friendly Bonaire/Bonaire Donkey Protection League*

# Law Enforcement

## Van den Tweel robbery

On Tuesday, June 11, two men were arrested in connection with the May 20th robbery at the Van den Tweel supermarket: a 32-year-old man with the initials A.B.D and a 24-year-old man with the initials S.J.M.

## Transporting cocaine

On June 12, a 42-year-old man (initials E.E.D.J.) was arrested. He is suspected of being responsible for the transport of 60 kilos of cocaine by plane from Bonaire to Amsterdam in June 2018. The arrest is the result of extensive investigations by the Recherche Samenwerking Team (RST), the Royal Netherlands Marechaussee (KMar) and the Corps Police Caribbean Netherlands (KPCN). After the arrest, a search was carried out in and around a house on Kaya Nikiboko South with the support of a specialized unit of defense. The investigation is continuing.

## Bonaire Police Report for June 7 — June 17.

### On the roads. On June 9:

- A motorcycle driver lost control on the Kaya G.F. Betico Croes. His face was injured and an ambulance took him to the hospital.
- A car hit a donkey which died. The driver was not injured.
- A car drove through the wall of a fence on the E.E.G. Bulevar. Because the impact trapped the driver in the car, the fire brigade was notified. An ambulance took the driver to the hospital and later the victim was transported to Colombia for advanced medical treatment.

On June 12, the police gave chase to a car that then crashed into an electrical box, after which the two passengers fled on foot. Investigation in this case is in full swing.

**Burglaries.** Between June 10 and June 11, unknown people sawed the locks from 4 containers on the Kaya Grecia and removed some goods.

On June 13 a car parked in the yard of a house in Amboina was burgled. Between June 12 and June 13, a burglary was reported at a company on the Kaya Nikiboko Noord. Unknowns have taken various goods away. Both cases are being investigated.

On June 19, thieves took two bags from a car parked at Para Mira while the owners were taking pictures.

On June 20 a house on the Kaya C.E.B. Hellmund was burgled. Thieves forced a balcony door. Computers, jewelry, cash and cameras were taken.

**Arrests.** On June 8 a 27-year-old man (initials C.C.C.) was arrested at the airport for registered fraud. And a 43 year-old man (initials R.J.W.P.) was arrested at a snack on the Kaya Korona for abuse.

On June 9, a 39-year-old man (initials M.H.P.G.) was arrested for drunk driving on the Kaya Korona. And a 15 year-old man (initials S.A.C.C) was arrested at the Kaya Neerlandia in connection with mistreatment and destruction.

On June 11 a 30 year-old man (initials R.C.M.) was arrested for insult and crimes against public authorities.

On June 19 three men were arrested: a 22 year-old (initials N.v.D.) and a 46 year-old (initials M.A.v. D.) for violation of the Firearms Act BES; a 59-year-old man (initials E.P.StJ) for pilfering and theft.

On June 20, a 27-year-old man (initials J.M.M.B.) was arrested for pilfering.

On June 21, a 24-year-old man (initials D.W.R.) was arrested for assault and non-compliance with a police order at an entertainment venue.

**An on-going investigation.** On Friday, June 7, around 1.30 pm a hairdressing party took place at a snack on the Kaya Avelino Cecilia. One person hacked another with a "machete". The victim who was taken to the hospital by ambulance is out of danger. The investigation continues. *Communicatie KPCN*

If you want to give an (anonymous) tip, phone (+599) 717 7251  
If there is no emergency, phone Bonaire (+599) 715 8000 or 717 8000

## Flotsam & Jetsam continued from page 2

► **The Executive Council of St Eustatius signed a 10-year Management Contract with the St. Eustatius National Parks Foundation (STENAPA) June 20.** The agreement defines STENAPA's management duties for Statia's National Land Parks (The Quill and Boven) and the St. Eustatius Marine Park. STENAPA already works under a local mandate, but the contract now clearly defines STENAPA's tasks and services and what the government of St. Eustatius provides in return.

This spring STENAPA had a 2-day staff exchange with STINAPA. During the exchange, STENAPA employees visited park departments to better understand how STINAPA works. The staff exchange was organized and funded by the Dutch Caribbean Nature Association (DCNA).

► **For the twelfth time, Tourism Corporation Bonaire (TCB) has converted its lobby into an art gallery to showcase a local artist. Ronald Trinidad,** known as 'Tony' began drawing cartoon figures when he was a little boy. He then copied other's drawings, and began to draw people. Since he had a little bit of trouble with colors, he decided to take a short course to learn how to mix colors. He now paints with acrylics. Tony paints our nature and our culture. He would like to thank God for giving him this talent and, as long as he is able to paint, he will continue to do so. TCB invites everyone to visit its art gallery located at Kaya Grandi # 2 to admire the art of Mr. Ronald (Tony) Trinidad. You may also buy the artwork on display.



# De Wolff presents Bonaire's needs to Hague

STINAPA Bonaire director Arjen de Wolff went before the members of parliament, senators and various ministries in the Hague fighting the good fight for the nature of Bonaire on June 13.

As Bonaire lives on its nature, de Wolff worked to convince the members how important and necessary good nature management was for the economy, culture and heritage. His argument maintained that the fight against climate change and environmental pollution is a fight for coral, nature and biodiversity. De Wolff said measures must be taken in the way of spatial planning and nature restoration through programs like reforestation.

The ongoing sargassum crisis was a source of major debate. The Hague cabinet urged STINAPA to provide the necessary resources to tackle the sargassum due to the threats it poses to the environment, coral, public health and employment on Bonaire.

Bonaire manages the status of endangered species, monitors seawater quality, conditions of the coral reefs, mangroves, seagrass and the constant pressure on the

protected nature parks.

PvdA spokesperson Attje Kuiken was surprised STINAPA's biologists were not equipped to handle and study severe and short term problems due to the lack of a lab equipped with the necessary instruments and equipment.

Kuiken wanted to move forward and did not want to wait for the nature policy plan that is being prepared. He asked the cabinet to act before the minister of LNV, Carola Schouten visits the island in September.

In the coming weeks, the "tweede kamer" ("second chamber" / House of Representatives) will continue to discuss nature and the environment on Bonaire. STINAPA Bonaire, the World Wide Fund for Nature and the Dutch Caribbean Nature Alliance (DCNA), of which STINAPA is a co-director, may be organizing a major nature and climate gathering about the Caribbean Netherlands this fall.



**Mounds of sargassum were manually removed from the areas of Lac Bai throughout March, April and May.**

Other matters addressed in the meetings were the energy supply, internet, social domain, dental care and telecom on Bonaire, Saba and St. Eustatius. *Source: Stinapa*

## Bonaire will have new driving laws in August

As you may have heard, there are new driving laws going into effect August 1, 2019. The entire set is 61 pages in Dutch, but thanks to Google Translate, I have tried to summarize the main items to the best of my ability.

1) Drinking and Driving (Section 28, Item 2): Alcohol on breath 220 micrograms per liter of air, or 0.5 milligrams per milliliter of blood. (*No, this isn't a typo*). By Bonairean law, it states, you can have 50% blood alcohol. Here is the original in Dutch and Google-Translated English. *I hope this gets changed.*

### Original:

2. Het is een ieder verboden een voertuig te besturen of als bestuurder te doen besturen na zodanig gebruik van alcoholhoudende drank dat:

- het alcoholgehalte van zijn adem bij een onderzoek hoger blijkt te zijn dan 220 microgram alcohol per liter uitgeademde lucht, dan wel
- het alcoholgehalte van zijn bloed bij een onderzoek hoger blijkt te zijn dan 0,5 milligram alcohol per milliliter bloed.

### Google Translate:

2. It is prohibited for anyone to drive a vehicle or have it driven as a driver after using alcoholic beverages in such a way that

- the alcoholic content of his breath appears to be higher in a study than 220 micrograms of alcohol per liter of exhaled air, or
- the alcohol content of his blood appears to be higher than 0.5 milligrams of alcohol per milliliter of blood.

2) Parking: Illegal parking in handicapped or other no-parking zones will be dealt with.

3) Traffic Lights (Section 3): There is a whole section about traffic lights. *I hope it's not a sign of what's to come.*

4) Road Markings: There is also a section about lines painted on the road. *That would be a welcome improvement.*

5) Derelict Cars: Cannot be left on the road for more than two days before they are towed at the owner's expense.

6) Cell Phones: You are prohibited to hold your phone while driving so you should use hands-free mode. But there is no texting.

7) Speed Limits for Vehicles: In urban areas, 40 kilometers or 25 miles per hour. Outside urban areas, such as the road to Rincon, 60 kilometers or 47 miles per hour. These are the maximum speed limits. There may be signs reducing the speed in various locations that override these limits.

8) Animals: If you are herding your donkeys or goats, you still need to have the red lantern on the back and white lantern on the front of your wagon.

There are many other sections about signs, stopping distances, speeds on roads, etc. I guess this means the Driver's License tests will have to adapt to the new rules.

The entire set of rules, in Dutch, is available on the Bonaire Government's Website at <https://bit.ly/2Z93zqy> (I have shortened the URL for ease of typing.) *Brian Niessen*



## Working with Employers

► **Recently nine of Bonaire's professionals successfully completed training in "employer services."** The training was organized as a twinning project between the Caribbean Netherlands and the Municipality of Leiden. Its aim: to strengthen labor market mediation on the islands.

All participants are engaged in job placement. The nine employees came from the Directorate of Society and Care (OLB), the RCN-unit Social Affairs and Employment (SZW), Forma (Education for Adults) and Mental Health Caribbean (MHC).

During the training, participants learned, among other things, how to structure discussions with employers. They also learned how their various organizations can uniformly provide employers with the same information.

Ingrid Sealy, department head MOA (Social help and employment), said, "I was in Leiden last year for the exchange program and I met the Employers Team there. I was impressed by [their approach] and I wanted that for Bonaire as well. With this training, which has been adapted locally in a nice collaboration, a foundation has been laid that we can also continue in the new Plenchi di Trabou (Job Center) to be set up."

On May 2nd 2019, Dick ter Burg, former director of the Chamber of Commerce, was appointed project manager to establish a new job center for Bonaire. The OLB and RCN unit of Social Affairs will cooperate in the job center to serve job-seekers and employers.



**Ride for the Roses**



# Real Madrid is coming to Bonaire August 13-16.

The number one, top rated soccer team in the world, Real Madrid, is coming to Bonaire August 13 – 16. Not to play, but to teach 80 lucky kids what it takes to play “Real” soccer.

This is the first time Real Madrid will bring its unique brand of sports values to the Caribbean thanks to local sponsors Digicel, Banco di Caribe and Ennia.

The world famous soccer organization has brought this same project to 48 countries around the world. Now kids from Bonaire, Curaçao, Aruba and Sint. Maarten will reap the benefits of this once in a lifetime experience.

Sponsors are donating \$250 per participant and that includes uniform, football and everything they need for the clinic.

Real Madrid is sending one of their coaches to lead the clinic. Three local coaches from the soccer clubs on Bonaire will assist.

As a way to get everyone involved, Digicel will run an exclusive digital content feed during the event. Everyone will



**Nineteen of the 80 lucky participants came to Stadium Antonio Trinidad in Rincon to meet some of the sponsors and representatives from Real Madrid. The kids were given a little backpack decorated with the Real Madrid insignia.**

“We are really grateful to Digicel for their support and effort to enable 60 kids in the Dutch Antilles to live this great experience,” said Brian van den Bergh, director of the Real Madrid Foundation Clinic of the Dutch Antilles.

In the closing ceremony two participants will be selected to visit Spain for a week compliments of Real Madrid. The kids may not necessarily be the best in sports but will be chosen more for exhibiting the Real Madrid sports ethics and values. There will be at least two from each island.

This June the Real Madrid Foundation celebrates 20 years of enhancing peoples lives around the globe. Through sports, their programs reach out to people with disabilities, children and elderly. Their main objective is to promote the values of the sport and instill in the kids a unity through sports. Much of the program is about social integration, building self-esteem, cooperation and equality. Real Madrid is committed to offer the kids a better future and invest in the society for future

generations.

“Where the help is needed, the Real Madrid Foundation will be there to give a hand to promote equality and give opportunities to those who need it,” said van den Bergh.

The foundation divides its activities into four areas: the sport activity itself, education and culture, social welfare, international cooperation and institutional activities! *Story & photos: Julie Morgan*



**In a press conference at La Terrazza, the Real Madrid team shirts were unveiled. L-R president of the Bonaire Football Federation, Ludwig Balentien, director Fundacion Real Madrid Clinic Dutch Antilles, Brian van den Bergh, new project manager for Real Madrid, Andrés Muntaner, president Real Rincon, Carolos John Jr Pourier, and Digicel marketing manager ABC, Jorge Cuartas.**



**Two of the six female participants pose with their backpacks.**

be able to enjoy the event by using an app on their phones or other devices.

Digicel marketing manager from Curaçao, Jorge Cuartas, said, “Digicel is very excited to participate in this project because it is completely in line with our goals to invest in the youth and make a better future.”

A total of 60 kids from the Dutch Antilles will be sponsored by the mobile phone provider: 20 from Aruba, 15 from Bonaire and 25 from Curaçao.

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# DeLoachs complete 17th year as resident naturalists



**Anna and Ned DeLoach dive the south pier during the Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire (STCB) fishing line cleanup dive June 16.**

If you have ever looked at a Reef ID book or taken a fish count survey then you owe a big thank-you to underwater naturalists and photo/video team Anna and Ned DeLoach. They just wrapped up their 17th visit to Bonaire as resident naturalists at Buddy Dive. The couple has been visiting the island together since the early 90's and can easily call it their home away from home for diving, photography and fish identification.

The DeLoachs, along with Paul Humann, are best known as the authors and photographers of the most used fish, creature and coral ID books available for the average diver and snorkeler: the Reef series, by New World Publications.

The first Reef ID book came out in 1989 after DeLoach and Humann became frustrated with the current books available, as they were too technical. The Reef books are designed by divers with the normal diver/snorkeler in mind. To date there are nine books and the list continues to grow with new or updated versions.

In 1990, Ned and Paul founded REEF (Reef Environmental Education Foundation). They introduced the fish counting organization to Bonaire a few years later. Since then, Ned and Anna have spearheaded the creation of the largest marine-sighting database in the world with over 240,000 reef fish ID surveys. 26,000 are from Bonaire.

Anna and Ned have been the resident naturalists at Buddy Dive for up to five weeks per year every year for the last 17. Their visit coincides with Buddy's Marine

Life Education week. During that time, guests are treated to a welcoming slide show of Ned's amazing images, fish ID class and a dive or snorkel. The divers/snorkelers are taught how to look for fish by slowing down and watching for behavior cues.

One of the couple's favorite books they've penned is Reef Behavior, released in 1994. They have been working on a second edition since 1999 and it will finally go on sale in November, just in time for holiday gift giving.

Ned said, "Behavior is where our heart is. We are naturalist, not scientist".

The majority of photos from the new book are from Bonaire and Bimini and a few other Caribbean islands.

"This book is much improved from the first one in both knowledge and photographically," said Ned, "There is a chapter on the lionfish invasion and new info about the larval phase of fish."

Ned explained that 20 years ago people thought larval fish were little waifs carried away by currents to the unknown. We have discovered that the largest part come right back to where they were spawned.

Using Little Cayman's Nassau grouper spawning as an example, he described how new fishing regulations enforced during a grouper spawn resulted in a dramatic change from 2000 fish when they were hunted to 7000 under protection after only 14 years. This legislation was due to REEF, citizen scientists and the Cayman Department of the Environment.

REEF has a strong history with Bonaire and at least



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one planned survey group visits each year. When lionfish were discovered in the Bahamas in 2007, REEF traveled the Caribbean for two years educating the islands.

"When we were here in September 2009, I did a presentation for the public at Buddy Dive because we knew it was a matter of time before they made it to Bonaire. I think the first was captured in October 2009", said Anna, "We were so impressed at how fast Bonaire and STINA-PA were mobilized to start removing them."

The DeLoach's are very proud of the work REEF does and still serve on the REEF board of trustees.

What excites Anna and Ned today is fish behavior and studying larval fish through black water diving. They are also working hand in hand with scientists from the Smithsonian lending their documentation and photographs.

Ned said, "We like being here on Bonaire on every level. We enjoy heightening the awareness of divers and increasing their joy of diving."

The Reef ID books available from New World Publications are: Caribbean Fish, Creature, Coral (known as the Reef set); Fish Behavior; California -Alaska Fish; Baja - Panama Fish; Galapagos Fish; Tropical Pacific Fish; Tropical Pacific Creatures, Caribbean Travel Edition (condensed version) and the new improved Fish Behavior available in November. *Story and photo: Julie Morgan*

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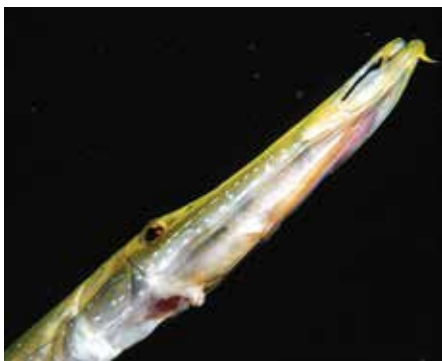
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## The Lost (Last?) Trumpetfish Hunting Techniques



I hope you enjoyed reading about trumpetfish hunting techniques in the Reporter's last issue. And I definitely hope you felt cheated after I promised lots of hunting strategies and ended abruptly after only two! We've got to blame the ether, or technology, for that one, folks, because half the article was lost. Luckily, we then found it, so below are the Lost Trumpetfish Hunting Techniques, which follow last issue's Shadow-Stalking and Ambushing.

What I think of as the **Predator/Prey Dance** is a type of ambush predation in which the trumpetfish is in plain sight, not lined up or otherwise hiding from its prey. Think of the clouds of brown chromis, joined by the occasional trumpetfish, off our reef slope here. I used to think that they all were nibbling plankton. The chromis were nibbling plankton, but I was oh-so-wrong about the trumpetfish. The trumpetfish were hunting chromis, not plankton, hoping that their continued presence would cause a chromis to get careless.

**Opportunistic predation:** any time something takes the attention of small fish, trumpetfish will crash the party. Hunting morays and snake eels glide along the reef in late afternoon, looking into caves and crevices for fish, crabs, and shrimp. Opportunistic predators, including trumpetfish, bar jacks, and coneys, join the party, seeking any critters the eels disturb but don't capture.

When blue tangs, ocean surgeonfish, and doctorfish move along the reef munching on algae, damselfish try to protect their algae farms by attacking the thieves. Some afternoons brown chromis engage in mass spawnings along the reef slope. In both cases, trumpetfish are there to take advantage of the preoccupied fish.

The next time you see a trumpetfish with a big bulge in its skinny body, it's not pregnant, it's digesting. Hang around and watch it, and you'll get some great practice in buoyancy control but not much action. If you want action, watch a skinny trumpetfish. *Photo and story by Dee Scarr*

## What Do Sponges Do?



Guy "listening" to sponge

This may have been the first time I paid attention to a sponge. I'd pointed my camera at this diver, and he posed with the sponge, and I've been in love with this photo ever since.

Of course, even way back then (Can you guess how long ago by the style of the mask? Find the photo date at the end of this article.), I knew that sponges don't make noise, or whisper, or speak to even me with sound. They don't do much else, either, from our perspective on a dive. Over time we can see how sponge colonies have grown, but that's about it for sponge signs of life – except for their exhaust currents.

Every sponge colony, from the smallest ones to the big reddish-brown touch-me-not sponges, sucks in water from the outside of the colony, and pushes that water through hundreds of canals (serving the cells like our blood vessels do) throughout the sponge. Individual sponge cells take their oxygen and food from that water, and the water continues through the canals until it exits the sponge colony, usually through a tube, volcano-shaped structure, or other exhaust port.

The best clue that there's something going on in sponge exhaust ports is the critters they collect. Gobies hang out in sponge tubes day and night, creole wrasse and the occasional Spanish hogfish like to spend the night in sponge tubes; these fish mainly use the sponge as a place to hide. Other fish, such as squirrelfish and banded butterflyfish, deliberately seek sponge exhaust currents, often from inside the sponge. Maybe they're enjoying the underwater equivalent of a filtered, extra-clean breathing medium, or the relaxing effects of breathing low-oxygen water.



Mickey Mouse Sponge

Given enough food, oxygen, and space, sponge colonies can live for decades. One elephant ear sponge was more than 3' (1m) wide when I first noticed it in 1982; now it has split in half and each half is almost as big as the original sponge. Many of the sponges that were scraped from Old Pier pilings and tied back on in 1989 are still flourishing, 30 years later.

We have amazing sponges on Bonaire: their colors range from yellow to red to lavender to black; they are tube- and volcano- and rope- and elephant-ear-shaped; even their textures vary, from smooth and soft to bumpy and tough. No wonder sponges got a special introduction in Dave Woodward's photography classes: "Sponges are large, so they fill the frame; they're colorful, so they delight the eye; and they don't swim away!" *Photo and story by Dee Scarr* Top photo: Guy "listening" to sponge, 1979

*Dee has been guiding divers on Bonaire since 1982. She's written about her undersea experiences in her books, Touch the Sea, The Gentle Sea, and Coral's Reef (for children); in Dive Training Magazine from 1990 to 2000, with "Coral Glimpses" in the Bonaire Reporter, and now with "Reef Glimpses".*

*The Bonaire Reporter is delighted to bring "Reef Glimpses" to you free of charge. Dee's books are available for purchase at the Carib Inn on Bonaire or through touch-thesea.com.*



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The rain this morning is such a blessing.

I was just thinking yesterday that my garden needs water and just in time, I'm surprised with a short but heavy shower.

So I took a walk in the garden after the shower and it's amazing how the plants react to the rainwater. It's like they have been touched by a magic wand. Maybe, rainwater is something like magic for the plants on Bonaire. They are lifted up in a way that impresses me. So I thought, I will write about some herbs in my garden, which always stay green even under the pressure of the drought.



**Yerbi Hole**

Another popular herb on Bonaire is Yerbi Hole. The herb is in the basil family that belongs to the mint family. There are many basils such as lemon basil, hoary basil and Lao basil. There are small differences in the types but they have a lot in common. The leaves are almost the same; seeds form on the plant after flowering and dry on the plant. They are all tropical plants that should be in a spot receiving at least six hours of direct sunlight a day. Yerbi Hole grows very fast and needs to be watered as soon as the topsoil looks dry. Basil should never be harvested when flowering because it diminishes the flavor and the leaves become smaller. Its best to remove the seed clusters from the plant as it takes a lot of energy to flower. When you want seeds, leave some flowers on to get seeds that can be sowed for new plants. You can also take stem cuttings that will root after one week in water. Take the most vigorous stems because they will root faster. Change water every few days and after two to three weeks the roots will be long enough for the cutting to be planted in pots or straight into the garden. Harvest once a week for a bushy plant due to the side shoots that will develop. The plant should never be completely defoliated.

Besides basils use in cooking it has some health benefits like reducing inflammation and it is said to have anti-aging and anti bacterial properties. Basil has a wide range of essential oils and may be useful in treating arthritis, bowel inflammation diseases. It increases antioxidant activity and reduces the effects of oxidative stress. It is used in a lot of Ayurvedic system medicine. On Bonaire we use it in soups, stews, salads and desserts. Many people use it as a remedy against colds and stomach problems. A mix of Yerbi Hole and other herbs like lemon grass and Lippia make a delicious hot or iced tea. It is also a good detox tea.

The herbs have great nutritional value: Fiber, protein, vitamin A, riboflavin, vitamin C, calcium, magnesium, phosphorus, sodium, manganese, fat, water, thiamine, Niacin, vitamin B6, vitamin E, Folate, vitamin K and Iron.

After reading this, I think you will be convinced enough to hurry and put the Lippia and Yerbi Hole in your garden. The benefit for your health is endless, the care is peanuts.

So just do it now.  
*Angliet, Nature lover*



**Lippia Alba, Oregano**

One strong herb growing easily on Bonaire is the Lippia Alba, or Oregano. It is also known as Malva, Bushy Lippia, Bushy matgrass, Pitona or Hierba negra. The herb is widely cultivated as an ornamental plant for its aromatic foliage and beautiful tiny flowers.

Lippia Alba will grow to about one meter high and will grow from seeds and cuttings. It belongs to the family of Verbenaceae.

The aromatic leaves are used in herbal baths, to cure fever, severe stomach-pain and to clean the bladder. It can be used as a tea that is good for high blood pressure, blood cleaning, kidney stones and delivery of babies. As a medicinal plant it is good for both intestinal, respiratory disturbances, influenza and relieves heart problems, cold, colitis, cough, digestion, dyspepsia, emmenagogue and hepatitis. It is also an essential oil.

Lippia means "sick" and Alba means "white". So when someone looks pale, he is sick.

The plant is always green and harvested for local use as flavoring in fish soup, stobas and tea. Medically it is used for its somatic, sedative, antidepressant and analgesic properties.

I am using this herb almost every day and many of my friends have been happy with it when sick with fever or cold.

You can grow it in a container with a little black dirt and a little bit of water twice a week. If you grow it in your garden by the house, it gives a nice citrus aroma.



**Rick Brink, minister of handicap-affairs**

Last June 17, a very special election was held in The Hague, the Netherlands. A minister of handicap-affairs was elected by the people of Holland. His name is Rick Brink.

This election was organized and presented by Lucille Werner. Having a handicap herself, she thinks and knows that there is not enough serious attention for the Dutch citizens with a handicap. And she feels that this has to change. The best way to achieve those changes is to have a minister who has serious physical challenges; because he knows, he has been there and he feels the pain.

There are 1.8 million people with a handicap in Holland. It is unsure if Bonaire is counted in these numbers. This would be interesting to know because we are a special community within the Netherlands.

Mr. Rick Brink is currently working as a member of the council and as a project manager, so he knows the do's and don'ts of politics.

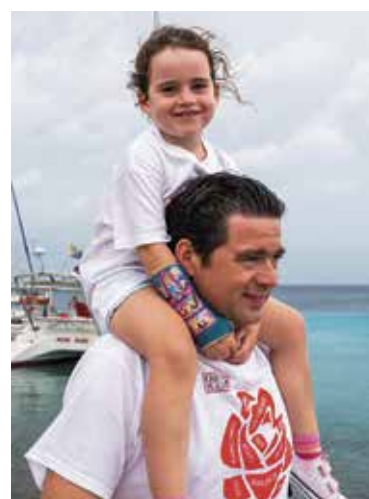
He stated, "I was taught to grab my chances. If something does not go as expected, you need to see how it will work out in the end."

To start, minister Brink will focus on:

- inclusive playgrounds
- optimal accessibility to regular education
- fighting the loneliness that people with a handicap experience.

We would be honored if Mrs. Werner and Mr. Brink would visit Bonaire and see for themselves how we are doing. They could see how things are done on Bonaire and what needs to be done, so life is safer and easier for everyone with a handicap.

Of course, it is easier to hide inside the home and stay there. But accessibility is important for all of us. We need to re-



**Ride for the Roses**



**Lucille Werner**

joice, get together and fight hard. After all, there is safety in numbers.

What do we have to talk about? We could start with all doctor's waiting-rooms. There is no real place for wheelchairs to park while waiting. You always have to sit in somebody's path. The other patients always trip over your foot rests.

And what's worse is they try to avoid you and not talk to you.

We can talk about all the hazardous situations in town: the bad sidewalks, the sad and dangerous roads, the way the sidewalks are claimed by the hotels, restaurants and bars is just as important.

On Bonaire we also have playgrounds that need to be accessible for kids with a handicap. There are so many children that need to be in regular schools, instead of in special ones.

I fear that fighting loneliness will be the hardest nut to crack. So many people stay home with no one to care for them.

So, please join us in this fight. Contact MiVaBo and let them know that you want Mrs. Werner and Mr. Brink to come to Bonaire to see our needs. We could join together and prepare for the visit.

<http://www.mivabo.org/en/contact/>

We congratulate Mr. Brink with this challenge and we wish him all the luck in the world.

There are things to fight for. Lets just do so! *Ria Evers-Dokter*

*Correction: In the June 10-24 issue of the Reporter: a care option for help was listed as B.E.S. Care. This should have been Zorg en Samenleving-Group.*



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# DID YOU KNOW?

## Did You Know? That dogs pose a serious threat to wildlife?

Many people ask why they are not allowed to bring their dogs to the beach. What immediately comes to mind is that dogs can be irritating to people, jumping on them or flinging sand on them and their picnic. More importantly, unleashed dogs are sometimes downright dangerous, attacking people or other dogs. But that problem can be solved by keeping your dog on a leash.

Another problem with dogs in public places is the mess they make. Many parks and cities require that dog owners clean up after their dogs when they poop. Responsible dog owners carry little bags with them with which to do this. So, why not require that people have their dogs on a leash and clean up any mess the dog makes instead of banning them?

Our government does not allow dogs on certain beaches because of the wildlife.



The red lines on the map indicate where dogs are not allowed. Many of these areas are important bird areas and/or wetlands.

If you look at this map of Bonaire, the red lines indicate where dogs are not allowed. Many of these areas are important bird areas and/or wetlands. Bonaire is an important stop-over for migratory birds and is an important nesting area for many species of seabirds. The seabird nests are not in trees, but rather right on the beach. These nests are small and extremely well camouflaged. At least one parent must stay with the eggs in order to protect them and keep them at a constant temperature. Seabirds have been around for millions of years. Islands used to be safe places to nest, even on the ground, since there were no dogs or cats or rats before the humans came. Humans brought them to Bonaire (the rats by accident I hope!).



Least tern looks at her chicks

photo by Sandy Selesky, Birdobserver.org

When a dog, even one on a leash, approaches a bird nest along the shoreline, the adult seabird abandons its nest until it feels safe again. Unfortunately, it only takes a few minutes for the heat of Bonaire's sun to cook the eggs, thus killing the developing chicks. So, dogs aren't allowed in many areas of Bonaire mainly to protect the birds (and other wildlife). Birds that have been nesting here long before humans and our dogs were here.

There are places along the coast that you may go with your dog/s. Have a look at the map. Whenever you do take your pet to these designated areas, please be careful. Keep an eye on your dog and try not to disturb the wild animals living and nesting there. *Written by Caren Eckrich, STINAPA Biologist. Connecting People With Nature*



## Ride for the Roses



## Bonaire's Culinary team competes in Miami



Bonaire Culinary Team- Front L-R: Juan Molle, Akira Cecilia, Elise Weerstand, Kelvin Ventura Back L-R: Rhashindra Donge, Rick Baak, Jeomar Arrindell, Floris van Loo, Dhanesh de Kok

The moment had arrived, the competitions we had been working for since January. The game faces were formed, some shaky and nervous while others had the conviction that the title was going home with us for sure. Little did they know that the tables could turn around in a second during the competition. The answers would be revealed at the end of the weekend, June 21 -25 at the Taste of the Caribbean in Miami.

Nine of us officially represented the Bonaire Culinary Team with four of us joining the support team consisting of BONHATA and Casper Douma for Photography. Last but not least, Isidoor van Riemsdijk, head culinary teacher at MBO, joined the team along with his students for the first time in about seven years. And we must remember that none of this would have been possible without the continuing and lasting support of our sponsors.

Our sponsors all understood the importance and significance of the team and the representation of Bonaire at Miami this year and every year. This event develops and represents the culinary art of Bonaire and the Caribbean as a whole. The teams learn from each other, compete to improve and share a common background and culinary heritage.

Most important of all are the smiles exchanged as colleagues and friends, full of positive energy, meet to discuss their passion for food. This is the energy that transfers back into the communities on return and lights the new candles for the future of culinary arts and the love for food.

The team competed with 13 other Caribbean teams in chocolate, bartender and lunch competitions gaining knowledge and skills along the way through various workshops. *By Jarno Kniff, Bonhata marketing team. Photo: Casper Douma*

*Did they win some titles?*

*Unfortunately we did not have the results by press time for the Reporter.*

*We will publish updates on our Facebook page.*

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# What's Happening

June 23-26	<b>DéFi Wind Caribbean;</b> A race for experienced windsurfers who know how to surf in open sea. Hosted at Sorobon Beach Resort. Held at different locations, depending on the winds at Kralendijk, Pink Beach and Lac Bay.
June 27-30	<b>Sorobon Masters</b> begins directly after the DefiWind Caribbean – a windsurfing long distance race in the open ocean at Lac Bay Sorobon Beach resort. Divisions: Slalom, Freestyle, Speed and Rookies..
June 28-29	<b>Family Festival 2019.</b> At Parkeerplaats, Bonaire Christian Fellowship. Friday 8th, 6:30-9.30pm. Saturday 29. 9am-9pm. Food, Kids Area, Market. Fun. Food. Fellowship
Saturday, June 29	<b>Mashe Rincon Krioyo</b> Street market in Rincon, 1st & last Saturday each month <b>Nos Zjilea Cultural Event</b> from 8am till 2pm at Mangazina di Rei located at the east-entrance of Rincon. Enjoy delicious food, live music, local arts & crafts, plants & vegetables, educational presentations and an exhibition about Rincon. Fun, relaxed and entertaining for kids and adults alike. All proceeds go to our educational programs <b>SEE, FEEL AND TASTE THE CULTURE OF BONAIRE</b>
Saturday, July 6	<b>Mashe Rincon Krioyo</b> Street market in Rincon, 1st & last Saturday each month <b>Taste of Bonaire Talent Edition</b> , 6pm-11pm, Wilhelmina Park. Sample local and international food from fine restaurants, meet Bonaire's artisans, buy local souvenirs, enjoy live music and dancing.
Saturday, July 13	<b>Clean Coast Bonaire Clean-up Survey</b> Boka Onima. 8-10am

food . fun . fellowship

**Family festival 2019**

★ **28.juni** DJABIERNE 16:30 - 21:30  
★ **29.juni** DJASABRA 9:00 - 22:00

@ Parkeerplaats Bonaire Christian Fellowship

**Kuminda:** Diferente kuminda, Roshino Krioyo, vino, Drink Stand, kos di boka dachi, 7 hopi otro eskobo mas

**Kids Area:** Rouscer, Pelitula, wega di awa, foto painting, 7 hopi mas

**Marshe** hopi kos di kumpra manera fabor, presento, kumpra di bag sapato, kosnan di kuido 7 hopi mas

**i hoooppii otro stand mas**



Please consider this a personal invitation.

“Under Guardianship with Dementia / Alzheimer’s,” presented by Mrs. Marga M.A. van Lieshout, lawyer, Friday June 28 at 7 pm at Captain’s Don Habitat conference room Fundashon Alzheimer Bonaire.

**“Reef Renewal Bonaire.”**

**FREE! Every Sunday 6:30pm at Blennies at Buddy Dive.**

**For questions, email [info@reefnewalbonaire.org](mailto:info@reefnewalbonaire.org)**

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DAY	DATE	CRUISESHIP	TIME	PIER	CAPACITY	& LINE
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Tuesday	7-2	Monarch	0800-1800	N.pier	2744	Pullmantur
Thursday	7-4	Freedom	0800-1700	S.pier	3782	RCCL

more information, email: [12stepbonaire@gmail.com](mailto:12stepbonaire@gmail.com)

• **Chess Club** meets **Wednesday** to play starting at 6 pm at Tera Cora Ranch.

• **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.

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

Dutch & Papiamentu on Sunday at 10am. Wednesday- Prayer Meeting at 7:30 pm. 717-2194

**Casa de Oracion para todas las naciones.** Hanchi Amboina 37 Kralendijk, Spanish service: every Sunday morning at 9 am. Dutch service: every Sunday evening at 7 pm.

**Prayer Walk at Rooi Lamoenchi** every first Sunday of the Month (or on request) for all followers of Christ. 4.30pm-7.30 pm. Contact Ellen Cochrane-Herrera at [ellenherrera-cochrane@yahoo.ca](mailto:ellenherrera-cochrane@yahoo.ca) or phone 717-8489 or +5999-540-9800. English/Papiamentu/Dutch/Spanish.

## REGULAR 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 the first Saturday of the Month. Kaminda Jatu Baco #55, next to Aquamarin School, 8am-12noon.
- **Monthly Cultural Event 'Nos Zjilea' at Cultural Park Mangazina di Rei** - Every last Saturday of the month. See the calendar above.
- **Marshe Rincon Krioyo** 1st & last Saturdays. Street market in Rincon, crafts, local food, sweets, noon—6pm.
- **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 cast offs on Saturdays or at the Shelter on the Lagoon Road weekdays. 717-4989.
- **Food Bank (Stichting voedselbank Bonaire)** Last Saturday of the month. Donate foods & household items 9:30am-2pm at Van den Tweel Supermarket.
- **Petanque-Jeu de Boules**, 2:30-6pm, Bolascentre GOLDFINCH (next to baseball centre on Kaminda Sorobon) Info: 786-0150.

## CLUBS and MEETINGS

- **Rotary** lunch meetings **Wednesdays**, 12:15-2 pm - Marriott Courtyard Hotel, Piet B meeting room. All Rotarians welcome. Call Gregory Obersi 785-9446.
- **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

## CHURCH SERVICES

**The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints.** Kaya Sabana 26 Sunday Services - Papiamentu/Espanol 9am 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-10am in Dutch. Rincon, Kaya C.D. Crestian; Sunday service-8:30am in Papiamentu/Dutch.

**Children's Club** Every Saturday from 4:30-6pm in Kralendijk, (annex of the church.) Contact: [Marytjin@gmail.com](mailto:Marytjin@gmail.com) or [Daisycoffie@hotmail.com](mailto:Daisycoffie@hotmail.com)

**Dutch service** Every Sunday evening at 7pm, Hanchi Amboina 37. Kralendijk. Pastor Oppeneer. Info call+599 787-0646

**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,

## MUSEUMS & EXHIBITS

• **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. *Coral Restoration exhibit.* 717-0423, 780-4327

• **Museo Bonaire** on the waterfront at the old Kas di Arte, Kaya Kachi Craane #34 717-8868. Monday-Friday 9am-noon, 2-4pm. *Salute to the Sailors exhibit*—Free

• **Chichi i Tan Museum.** Step into the past in an old Bonairean home and garden. Open Thurs.- Sun. Reserve 717-3183 or 795-2021 Donations appreciated. Kaya Melon #4, behind Rose Inn in Rincon.

• **Washington-Slagbaai National Park Museum and Visitors' Center.** Open daily 8 am-5 pm. 788-9015 or 796-5681

• **Tanki Maraka Heritage Park and Open Air Museum.** Site of WWII American soldiers' camp. Self-guided tour. After leaving Kralendijk on the Rincon Road watch for sign to on the right. Entrance just a short distance. Free entry.

• **Yana's Fine Art Museum** at Lagoen Hill 19- Call:599 785-5002. Free entry. Also exhibited at Bon Bida Spa and Gym.

• **Bonaire Museum of National History** Kaya Julio C. van der Ree #7, open Wednesday through Saturday, and cruise-ship days, 9am-3pm. Free.



# Five candidates to compete for Miss Tourism 2019

Tourism Corporation Bonaire (TCB) officially announced five lovely young women as candidates for the title of Miss Tourism Bonaire on June 14 at the Courtyard by Marriott Bonaire Dive Resort.

The five candidates are Lorienne Mercera, Katharine Montero, Shanyvienne Seraus, Rayshantaly Coffie and Ewellin Lambert.

The event was opened by Angelo Domacasse of TCB and he wished everyone the best of luck and hoped they enjoyed the competition.

This is only the second year that TCB has held the contest to select someone to be the 'face of Bonaire'. The young lady will represent the tourism office in all official activities both locally and internationally.

In the next few months the candidates will learn about the island's history, culture and how they can best promote its tourism.

Evening events included words from Interim director of TCB Delno Tromp with Miss Tourism Bonaire 2018 Carolin Coffie. Other speakers included Henyson Thielman for commissioner of Tourism and Shurlette Connor of the Marriott. Musical entertainment was by Dibo Doran of Curacao.

The pageant will be held September 7 at the Marriott. There will be entertainment from local artists and the Dominican Dancers. Tickets to the event are \$30.



(L-R) Ewellin Lambert, Rayshantaly Coffie, Shanyvienne Seraus, Katharine Montero, and Lorienne Mercera.



## BONAIRE SKY PARK\* \*to find it—just look up

### STARS OF THE SUMMER TRIANGLE: VEGA, ALTAIR & DENEK

Summer officially begins Friday June 21 and the brightest stars of the season are overhead. There you'll find a triangle of three celestial dazzlers - the stars of the summer triangle named Vega, Altair, and Deneb.

Set up the sky for 11pm any night this week. Facing east you'll see three bright stars that really stand out. No matter if you live in the country or the heart of a city, you should be able to find these three stars distinctly in the sky. When you connect them with lines, they form a huge triangle over 30 degrees long and 20 degrees high.

Remember the easy way to measure degrees in the sky? Your fist at arm's length is about 10 degrees, so your summer triangle should be two fists high and three fists long.

The brightest star of the three, and the one closest to the zenith just after sunset is called Vega. You will see a slight blue-ish tint to this star. Vega is a blue-white giant star, and this tells us its temperature. Blue is hotter than white which is hotter than yellow. Vega is well over 16,800 degrees Fahrenheit on its surface. Much hotter than our 10,000-degree yellow sun.

The second brightest star in the triangle, and the one off to the right, is called Altair. Altair is stark white in color with a temperature of 13,400 degrees Fahrenheit.

And the faintest of the three, over to the left is called Deneb. Deneb is blueish-white - not as blue as Vega but hotter than Altair. It scorches space with a surface temperature of about 14,800 degrees.

Each bright star in the summer triangle

is part of its own constellation. Vega is part of the constellation Lyra the Harp. The stars make a tiny parallelogram hanging off Vega. In some pictures of Lyra there's a bird around the harp. People also called this a vulture.

Altair is the eagle eye of the constellation, Aquila the Eagle. If you can't see an eagle in those stars, you're not alone. But at least you know where the eye is.

And Deneb is the tail star of the stellar swan - the Constellation Cygnus. That's an easy one to picture with his body and long, stretched-out beak. Cygnus forms a cross shape and is also called the Northern Cross.

Now let's talk distances. Vega is the brightest of the three stars but is not the closest. That honor goes to Altair who is only 17 light years away from us. With professional telescopes we can actually see that Altair is spinning rapidly. It spins so fast that it has squished its shape to resemble a blue-white egg.

Vega is the second closest at about 25 light years away. That means the light that you see left Vega 25 years ago.

Deneb is not only the farthest of the three, it is perhaps the farthest star you can see with the naked eye. At a whopping 3000 light years away, we can still see it as a bright star. That means Deneb must be humongous. In a side-by-side comparison of the three summer triangle stars Deneb dwarfs the other two.

So, get outside under the summer stars this week and look for the summer triangle rising in the east. Vega, Altair and Deneb shine in the sky as summer begins. Just... keep looking up! *Dean Regas & James Albury, <http://www.star-gazersonline.org>*

## Get your socks on by Ronnie Heijmans

### Are you into social media fitness?

People come to my gym with certain fitness goals in mind. Some people want to add muscle mass, lose weight, to get fitter and of course, develop their abs.

Sometimes they show me a photo on Instagram of what they want the end result to be. And they want it as fast as possible, please!

All of these examples are fed by, Social Media.

Let me start at the beginning; to look like a fitness model, you have to train like one. And with training, I mean the whole package. You have to eat, sleep and train like an athlete. If you are lucky, you will have good genetics and that makes it slightly easier but most of us have to work our butts off.

I know some of these fitness models and here are some of the things that happened to them.

- One athlete forbid his girlfriend to eat chocolate because when he kissed her, he would taste the chocolate and that would drive his urge for chocolate.

- I know of an athlete that was on a holiday and tracked his calories burned while out snorkeling for five minutes.

- Another athlete ate everything that was necessary for a great physique. When he reached his goal he turned his instagram page into "vegan" because being vegan was popular. He did nothing vegan to get the great body.

It is always good to have a goal but find a fitness professional who can guide you in your fitness journey. Together you can make a plan for a realistic goal in a realistic time-frame so that you can reach it in a healthy and sustainable way.

Don't make yourself crazy with instagram. They are just pictures and you don't see the effort and struggle behind it.

If you want to get better at fitness just contact us and we will help you take the first steps in your fitness journey.

*Ronnie Heijmans*

*Ronnie Heijmans is 35 years old and has been active in the fitness industry for over 10 years. He is the owner of CrossFit Flamingo and Flamingo Fitness Bonaire. His specialties include: CrossFit/ Strength & Conditioning / Powerlifting/ Weightlifting and lifestyle management. In this column Ronnie will explore fitness and a healthy lifestyle.*



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## THE STARS HAVE IT

The Reporter has retired its horoscope column. Today you can find daily horoscopes online. The Reporter's longtime favorites are: *Michael Emerson, Astrology Insight* and *Michael Thiessen, Astrology Online*





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**•Your old license plate can help feed our residents!** What to do with your old license plate? Please bring it to Animal Shelter Bonaire! The donation of your license plate will help to feed and care for our 100+ residents. What a great way to recycle! You can drop them off during our opening hours Monday-Friday, 9-12 and 3-5 or Saturday 9-3 nonstop, or at the Pakus di Pruga, Saturdays 8-5.



**•Are you coming to visit Bonaire?** If you are, please send us an email at [animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com](mailto:animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com) if you are willing to “courier” items for us. A lot of our medications, flea and tick treatments, and other needed items must be ordered from outside Bonaire. The shipping costs are expensive and we are always looking for people to whom we can send the products so they can bring them along on their trip to Bonaire. There is no cost involved, we buy and ship the products and you just have to fit them in your suitcase! Your help will result in lots of happy tail wagging and purrs! *Jane Disko*

**•Speaking of pakus di pruga: we need big stuff!** Are you renovating, moving or just cleaning up? Are you a property manager or resort manager sprucing up your property? The Shelter’s Pakus di Pruga (across from Brandaris Cafe) needs your help. We need furniture of any kind and in any condition. Beds, sofas, chairs, tables, lamps, mattresses, etc. All proceeds from sales of the items go to feeding and caring for our dogs and cats at the shelter and at the same time providing needed household items to local residents on a budget. Through your thoughtful generosity it’s a win-win situation all the way around. We also welcome other donations of clothes, books, and ANYTHING you have had forever and are now ready to part with. But, you say, “Nobody would want THIS?” Wrong! We welcome the donation

**•A great month for adoptions and donations!** In the last 30 days, nine cats, 12 dogs and one baby goat!...found their fur-ever homes. In addition, it was also a great month for donations and volunteer support from off-island visitors. Donations of food, medicines, toys, treats and cash were received with much gratitude by our staff and shelter residents. Such generosity helps us continue our mission of caring for Bonaire’s abandoned animals and continuing our free sterilization program. Thank you all!

## Pet of the Week Otis



Hello Friends! My name is Otis. I am a very affectionate, little kitten of just four and ½ months. I was brought to the Shelter because I was lost from my mom. I was a little weak when I arrived, but the people here at the Shelter were so great and they got me all fixed up. I am very unique. My fur is such a light red that I almost look “pink”. I love to be held and snuggle with the humans. I am also good if you have other kitties. Doggies scare me because I am small for my age and I don’t want them to eat me or think I am a play toy. I would really love if you would come to the Shelter and visit me. I just know I will win your heart! My address is Animal Shelter Bonaire, Kaminda Lagun 26, and I can have visitors on Mon.-Fri. 9 am-12 pm and 3-5 pm, Saturdays 9 am-3 pm nonstop. 717-4989/701-4989. *Story by Laurie Smith; Photo by Amy Weir*



## Defi Wind Caribbean is underway at Sorobon.

The competition began June 23 and will extend through June 26. It is followed-up by the Sorobon Master on June 27 – 30.

Defi Wind organization is one of the biggest windsurf and kitesurfing competitions in the world. The event is run by organizer Phillippe Bru and 42nd time world windsurfing champion Bjorn Dunkerbeck.

Sorobon Beach Resort is the host and also the starting point and the location for side events for the participants.

Bonaire is chosen as the host of this event because of steady winds all year long, the beautiful scenery, friendly water condition, and extremely pleasant weather and water temperatures. There’s a reason why people from all over the world of different levels see Bonaire as one of their favorite spots.

DefiWind Caribbean takes place right before Sorobon Masters, a local windsurfing competition! All the participants of the DefiWind Caribbean are invited to register for both events. Windsurfer categories are: Men 14 to 18 and 19 + and women 14 to 18 and 19 +.

Bru and his team take the windsurfers to different locations on Bonaire depending on the wind. Results will be available on [www.defiwindcaribbean.com](http://www.defiwindcaribbean.com).



Cancer survivors who participated in the “Roses” were given their red t-shirts as a badge of honor.



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Mon.-Fri. 9 to 5 / Sat. 10 to 4 / Sun. Closed  
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3/31





## Antriol, Kaya Anna 9

### Highlights:

- 4 bedrooms / 3 bathrooms
- large home with guesthouse
- air conditioning in bedrooms
- quiet residential area
- total living area 2,626 / 244 sq.ft./m2
- total ground area 8,073 / 750 sq.ft./m2
- freehold land (4-E-1860)

Asking price  
**US\$ 232,500**

Buyers cost



Kaya Grandi 41, Kralendijk  
Bonaire, Dutch Caribbean

Sunbelt  Realty

717 6560 info@sunbeltbonaire.com  
www.sunbeltbonaire.com

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