

FREE

BONAIRE

July 8 - July 22, 2019, Year 26, Issue 14

# The REPORTER



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## Selibon



Student art work  
STINAPA junior rangers  
Taste of Bonaire-talent

Mountains of glass will soon be turned into roads and sidewalk  
photo by Julie Morgan



### Selibon does more than pick up your trash

Three containers of scrap metal leave Bonaire every month, destination Taiwan. Our cardboard boxes, bundled and compressed, are exported to Asia for recycling. Glass is being stockpiled while Selibon waits for a glass-crushing machine that will turn empty bottles into roads and sidewalks.

This beautiful island's trash crisis will move even closer to solution as more and more Bonaireans start separating their trash and depositing it in the designated bins—glass, plastic, cans, electronics, batteries, cardboard, oil, metal and textiles.

Selibon is now disposing of trash in several environmentally friendly ways. Electronics are disassembled for valuable parts and metals. Oils are sent to Bopec. Textiles and clothes are passed on to various charities. Selibon even has a bio-medical waste incinerator for toxic products from the hospital.

Selibon has purchased a car shredder. The number of old cars on the island has been growing for years. Soon those derelicts will be departing Bonaire as scrap metal. Like every other country in the world, Bonaire hasn't figured out how to get rid of old tires yet. But Selibon is no

longer burying them in the landfill.

Jenny Marchena, supervisor at the waste management and recycling at Lagun said, "We are going in a different direction. We are the new face of Selibon."

For years Bonaire burned and buried its waste at the landfill, but in the last 10 years things have changed. Selibon has taken major steps toward sustainable waste management and recycling.

Marketing and communication coordinator Shanelca Martha said, "In the upcoming months and years, we are working toward a better waste management for Bonaire. We are going to focus on recycling...the big picture is to spread the awareness and motivate the people to separate their trash."

Selibon's new strategy is to communicate to the businesses, residents and even tourists and encourage them to properly separate their waste in a responsible matter. Everyone wants a better Bonaire, now and in the future for children.

Shanelca said, "Other nationalities are already used to separating their trash. But for the locals it's something new. That's why we need to make them aware and motivate them."

People are dumping their waste on the

roads and in the mundis and Selibon is trying to find out why through research. Why are they doing this? Is the entrance fee too high at the landfill, is it laziness, or are they in a hurry? Selibon is in the process of finding the answers and a possible solution that may come in the form of a government issued fine for perpetrators.

Selibon believes its main challenge is to motivate the public to separate and recycle their waste. There are now four recycling stations for convenience: by the school in Amboina; Hato, across from Cu-

*Selibon, continued on page 8*

**Waste is a byproduct of living and how we handle it can make a difference for our island and our planet. Worldwide we humans produce 2.6 trillion pounds of trash a year and the number continues to grow as we grow in number.**



# FLOTSAM and JETSAM



► **The August 30th deadline for licenses is extended.** The Finance department is extending the period during which you can make an appointment to collect new number plates. This coming week the Finance department will announce details of the extension and the collection procedures. Since June 17 the department has handed over 5,000 license plates. There are approximately 18,000 new license plates.

► **There will be a transition period for the new Traffic Ordinance that becomes law August 1, 2019.** From August 1 to October 1, 2019, the police will approach citizens if they do not comply with the new laws. No fines, however, will be issued in this period. Starting October 1, 2019 citizens will be fined if they do not comply with the new law. The decision to apply a transition period to allow citizens to get used to the new rules was taken by the "Justice Triangle," formed by the Public Prosecutor's Office, the Police Force and the Island Governor.

During the transition period, the police will conduct targeted checks on five regulations:

1. Vehicle occupants must wear a seat belt in the car.
2. Drivers and passengers of a moped, motorcycle or other motor vehicle without bodywork must wear helmets in traffic.
3. Drivers are not allowed to hold a mobile in their hand while driving.
4. Children up to three years old must sit in a special child seat.

Additionally:

5. Drivers will be checked for driving under the influence of alcohol. These drivers will be fined because driving under influence was not permitted in the old Traffic Ordinance either. If the tests show that drivers have drunk too much alcohol, they will be fined.

► **The maritime boundaries of Aruba, Bonaire and Curaçao will be strengthened** as part of the 23.8 million euros allocated to assist Curaçao and Aruba with the influx of Venezuelan migrants / refugees. Another part of the funds is intended to help the immigration processes on Aruba and Curaçao. The funds are administered by State Secretary, Raymond Knops, Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations.

► **ContourGlobal is installing new generators at the Karpata power plant.** The generators will be operational in August. ContourGlobal and WEB announced the increased generating capacity will assure they can supply sufficient electricity to Bonaire for years to come.

► **According to BONHATA, STINAPA has requested a nature fee for cruise ship guests,** but the fee was not adopted in the legislation by the local council (OLB).

BONHATA has requested the OLB to meet with relevant stakeholders to correct this. They have strongly advised the OLB to involve the private sector when making

*Flotsam & Jetsam continued on page 4*

► **Albert Gieling is appointed Interim General Commander of the Caribbean Netherlands Fire Department** (Brandweerkorps Caribisch Nederland, BKCEN) as of July 1st, 2019. Gieling (48) was previously employed at the Twente Security Region. He has comprehensive experience within the fire department organization. His last position at the Twente fire brigade was Head of Sector Professional Competence & Knowledge in combination with Commander of Service.

He will succeed Jair Tromp, who fulfilled the position of General Commander until April 1st, 2019.



► **Weero Koster became the new Director at Bonaire Chamber of Commerce as of July 1, 2019.**

As a lawyer, Koster has been advising on energy and sustainability issues and transactions for more than 30 years. He was a worldwide steering group leader for energy and sustainability at international law firms Norton Rose Fulbright and BakerMcKenzie. He has played a leading role in transactions that have transformed the energy sector, such as the first offshore wind farm in the Netherlands "NoordZeeWind." He is a member of the World Energy Council and a frequent writer and speaker on energy related topics. His most recent publication is "The Electricity and Drinking Water Act BES" at BOOM.

Of his appointment to the Bonaire Chamber, Koster said, "I am happy that I can use my legal knowledge, my passion for the island and knowledge about sustainability to help entrepreneurial Bonaire."

In his first week of work as the new interim director at Bonaire International Airport, **Jos Hillen discusses the twin priorities of safety and tourism with Deputy Tjin Asjoe.**





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## This Week's Stories

Selibon	1, 8
\$945 social monthly minimum	3
Crime victim subsidies	5
Cost of living	5
Hans Hass (to 1961)	5
Student art expo	6
Nominate an honorary citizen	6
Jr. rangers graduate	7
Herring auction	8
Culinary team brings back golds	6
Bonaire Ambassadors	10
Taste of Bonaire, talent version	11, 14
500 social housing units	12
Director over-pays self	13

## Departments

Flotsam & Jetsam (License plates, Traffic law, Maritime boundaries, Koster, Gieling ContourGlobal, BONHATA & STINAPA, safety rules, heat stress, postal hub	2, 4, 13
Who's Who in <i>The Reporter</i>	
2 Letters (REEF ID significance, Bonaire okay, Bicycle tours dangerous)	4
Ask Kate (Taxes)	4
Ask a Geek (Volts)	4
Law enforcement	5
Business news (DHL; Tropical Nature)	6
Reef Glimpses (Moray & grouper)	9
A Garden? Just Do It (Manzalina Bobo Kouseband, long bean)	10
Making Bonaire "Accessible"	
#13 Handicapped parking stickers	10
Did You Know? (Night diving & jellies)	11
What's Happening: Events, Churches, Museums	12
Cruise ship Schedule	12
Bonaire Sky Park (Penumbral eclipse)	13
Get Your Socks On (anti-aging)	13
Classifieds	13
Pet Of The Week (Andre, dog)	14
Shelter News (cat sterilization)	14
Business Directory	15

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# Dutch Cabinet sets \$945 as minimum monthly amount needed to live on Bonaire.



State Secretary  
Tamara van Ark (SZW)

The Dutch Cabinet has set a benchmark for the social minimum amount needed by someone in order to live in the Caribbean Netherlands. The amount for a single person is set at approximately \$945 a month on Bonaire, \$1,056 on St. Eustatius and \$1,077 on Saba. In order to realize these minimums, incomes of residents must rise and the cost of living must decrease.

## Increasing incomes and benefits

As of January 1st 2020, the Dutch Cabinet aims to increase the incomes of workers and households towards the benchmark.

SZW will increase the minimum wage by five percent on Bonaire and Saba and by two percent on St. Eustatius. Social benefits will rise as well. Parents with children

will receive more child benefit again, after the increase of 50 percent this year. They will get about 20 USD extra a month per child as of next year, an increase of 17.50 USD on top of the already announced increase of 2.50 USD. In 2020 parents on Bonaire will receive approximately 82 USD per child per month and on St. Eustatius and Saba 84 USD per month.

## Decreasing costs of living and childcare

The Dutch Cabinet is committed to get fixed costs down. The Ministry of Interior and Kingdom Relations is taking steps to increase social housing and regulate rents.

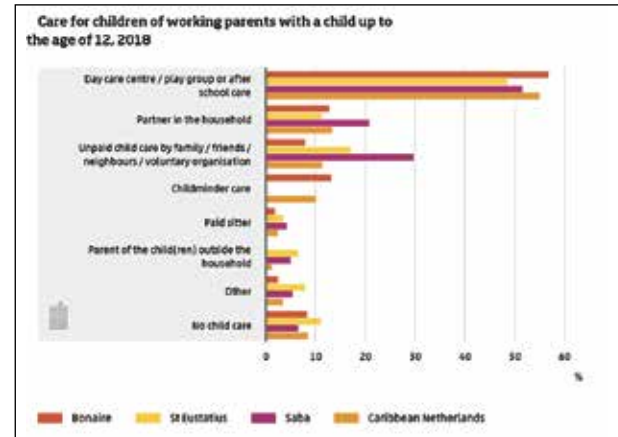
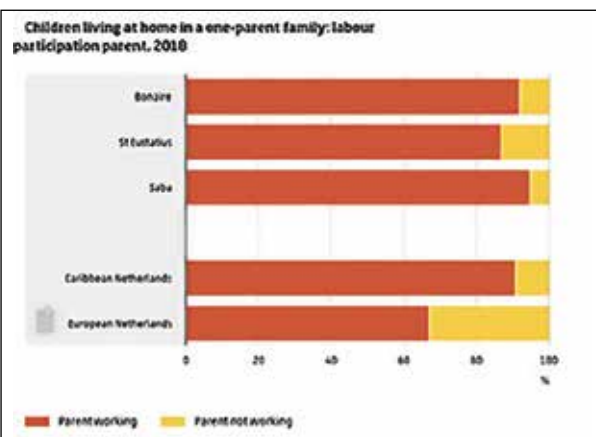
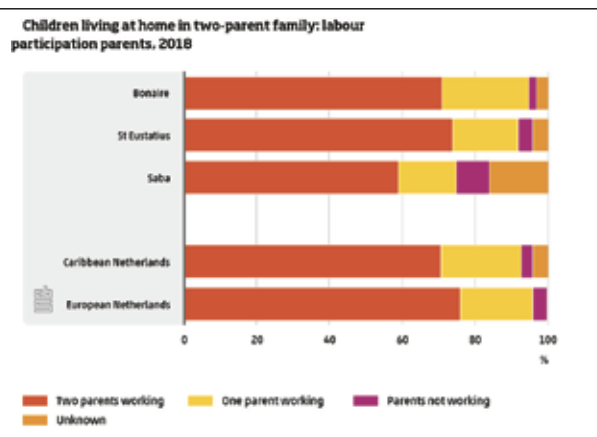
To keep the price of drinking water affordable, subsidies are available from the ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management. The Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Policy is reviewing the "Telecomwet" (telecom law) and regulations in order to improve service and to reduce costs.

To make quality childcare accessible to all parents, the Dutch Cabinet, together with the Islands, started a multi-annual program, BES (t) 4 Kids for children aged zero to 12. As of 2020, 9.8 million Euros will be avail-

able each year to improve childcare, pre-school and after-school facilities in the Caribbean Netherlands. Presently child care on the islands is not free. Some parents cannot afford the costs of daycare or out-of-school care. The number of children who are at risk for a developmental or learning deficit is large. By investing in quality, reducing the costs of childcare, and making pre-school education a permanent part of childcare, the government wants to encourage more children to develop successfully and more parents to work.

State Secretary Tamara van Ark (SZW) says of childcare: "All parents in the Caribbean Netherlands must be able to use good, safe and accessible childcare. Together we put our shoulders to the wheel to achieve this. In this way we work on the future of the islands, we tackle poverty and we ensure a better start for our children."

The ministries of Social Affairs and Employment (SZW), Education, Culture and Science and Health (OCW), Welfare and Sport (VWS) and Interior and Kingdom Relations (BZK) jointly deliver the 9.8 million Euros contribution.



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significant decisions about the tourism sector.

The players:

BONHATA: The Bonaire Hotel and Tourism Association;

STINAPA: Bonaire's National Park (Stichting Nationale Parken Bonaire).

OLB: The Island Government (Openbaar Lichaam Bonaire)

► **Rules to keep you safe and healthy at work.** An Occupational Safety Decree IV for the Caribbean Netherlands was introduced on July 1. The decree establishes safety rules for workers in scuba diving, asbestos workers, construction, the hospitality industry and other physically demanding jobs.

Both employers and employees are responsible for a workplace that is safe and healthy. The employer will provide the information and instructions and the employees will work in accordance with the instructions. Labor inspection will supply supervision.

Asbestos workers will be required to receive instruction on asbestos removal through videos and physical courses.

Other workers may receive materials and courses at a later time.

Finally employers and employees will collaborate to set up healthy and safe rules in a catalog specifically for diving, construction and catering.

The decree has been established to ensure these workers can remain motivated and productive until retirement.

► **The current CIMH newsletter predicts that the usual heat waves between August and September may bring "peak heat stress."** (Heat stress is defined as too much heat absorbed by a person, a plant or an animal causing stress, illness or even death.) During these two months, Bonairean homes can also expect the red dust which comes from "episodes of Saharan dust incursion."

Drought conditions will continue in the ABC Islands from July to September predicts the Caribbean Institute for Meteorology and Hydrology (CIMH). The drought may extend into the rainy season. The extended drought is due in part to a weak El Niño.

Looking back to past years, the CIMH newsletter reports that during June to August, the ABC's can usually expect five to 15 wet days and up to three wet spells (two of

*Flotsam & Jetsam continued on page 13*

## Letters and Opinions

Dear Editor,

Your article about Ned and Anna DeLoach was very enjoyable, and I learned a lot. As I read it two thoughts popped into my mind.

First is the foresight and significance of the REEF fish database. The REEF fish surveying project began in Caribbean and South Florida waters, using citizen divers – sport divers – in addition to scientific divers. One pretty useful result is that when we wonder about the significance of the lionfish invasion here or anywhere else, we can just go to the stats at REEF.org for information about any time period and just about any reef. By the way, the first person anywhere to turn in one thousand surveys for REEF was the Carib Inn's Linda Baker.

The other thing I thought about was the significance of the REEF ID books back in the late 80's. Before the REEF books were published, there were several books for identifications; the scientific names of the animals were consistent, but the common names were not. A Bonaire diver and a Cayman diver and a South Florida diver could log seeing a ruffleback nudibranch, a lettuce sea slug, and a ribbon nudibranch, for example – and they'd all be writing about the same critter! The REEF ID books standardized common names.

And wow, at the slide show, Ned shared an amazing photo of a larval flounder! *Dee Scarr*

Dear Editor,

I read Larry Litwins opinion in the editorial section. This is my 4th time to Bonaire and just love it here. It is the only place where my family and I can dive, kitesurf, and windsurf. Conservation and healthy reefs are important and I see a good balance being maintained. Unfortunately, what I have seen creeping in more and more to the diving community is an in-tolerant and judgmental attitude. I know to some divers telling people how to dive is their religion but honestly keep your dive religion and your in-tolerance to yourself. Bonaire is a great dive location.

I do agree with Larry about some aspects of the bicycle tour from the cruise ship. That group was extremely rude and really I would say not a safe tour. We sat in traffic for an extremely long time and watched as cars tried to get around them at the airport. They shut down the entire round about so if you wanted to get to the grocery store or into town forget about it. I think it's just a matter of time before there is an accident as there is just not enough space on the narrow roads. The cycle tour does not keep them in a single file line to the right. This was beyond aggravating.

Thanks for keeping the island great for all. We will be back. It's diving, windsurfing, and kiteboarding is without comparison. *Scott Dalton*

Have something to say? Want to give your opinion?

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



## Ask Kate

### Bonaire real estate advice

**Question: I know that if I buy an existing property, I pay 5% transfer tax on the purchase price. If I buy a lot and build, do I pay 5% transfer tax on the house I build? Tim**

Great question, Tim! You will pay 5% transfer tax on the lot at the closing with the Notaris, but you won't pay transfer tax on the cost of new construction. You will pay ABB tax, which is a general expenditure tax that is applied to products in varying amounts. For example, when you receive an invoice from a plumber or gardener on the island who provides a service, the invoice will include a 6% ABB tax. Insurance has a 7% ABB tax added. When we import goods, we pay an 8% ABB tax. Since builders produce new goods (a building) the invoices you receive from your builder will have 8% ABB tax added.

There are many variables in ABB tax, so for more detailed information, consult the tax office and your builder about costs. For more information go to <https://www.belastingdienst-cn.nl/>

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

### There 110/127/220volts, 50/60 cycle – WAHH-HH!!!!

If you are new to Bonaire or other islands in the Caribbean, determining which power outlet is the right one for your computer, charger, hair dryer, or other appliance can be a hit-and-miss and possibly expensive and dangerous experiment.

On Bonaire, we have two voltages (127 volts and 220 volts), and one frequency (50 Hz) and six different types of plugs you may see in your hotel, condo, or home. (See chart below).

In comparison, the USA has two voltages (110 volts and 220 volts) and one frequency (60 Hz), and Europe mostly has one voltage (220 volts) and one frequency (50 Hz).

So what does all this mean? Let's look at some examples:

Your laptop or other appliance has a USA plug on it, and on the charger/adaptor it says it can handle 110v-240v at 50/60 Hz. Great, you are in business. Just plug it in and go. If you don't have the correct plug, you can use a plug adaptor that converts the round or horizontal slots to the vertical slots type. The same goes for a European charger/adaptor, but you might need the opposite plug adaptor.

But, if you have something with a motor – like a vacuum or fan, designed for 110V, 60Hz, expect it to burn out and stop working in about a year. The

higher voltage and lower frequency wrecks havoc with motors.

Things with heat, like hair dryers rated for 110v will get hotter due to the 127v and may start a fire.

And if you happen to have an old mechanical clock that you plug into the wall, it will run about 10% slower, so be aware of that (Digital ones are OK).

Just because it has a ground plug, does not mean it is connected to the ground. Most wiring in Bonaire is only two wires, not three. For example, if you touch the outside of your fridge, it may give you a bit of a humming low voltage shock.

Also, just because it is a 220v or 110v style plug, doesn't mean that is actually what is connected to it. In our home, some of the 220v style plugs have 127v.

Also, for appliances like fridges, washing machines, etc, the stores like CityShop and OMNI require you to have a 127v to 110v transformer to keep your warranty (but the transformer doesn't change the frequency). Best thing, if possible, is to buy 220v, 50Hz appliances and use them on the 220v, 50Hz outlets.

Remember, if you are in doubt, ask someone.

...*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.

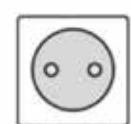
### CHART: Plug Types, Voltages, Frequencies and Grounds



127V, 50Hz, Ungrounded



220V, 50Hz, Grounded\*



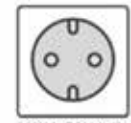
220V, 50Hz, No Ground



127V, 50Hz, Grounded\*



220V, 50Hz, Grounded\*



220V, 50Hz, Grounded\*

# Remembering Hans Hass

## XARIFA journeys to 1961



The journeys with the [research vessel] XARIFA produced sensational results far too numerous to count. For example, there was the first underwater encounter between a human and a sperm whale, the ocean's largest predator. Hass was able to determine that this animal is far more timid than was generally assumed. The XARIFA's research journeys produced in many respects an important contribution to a more precise knowledge of the ocean and its residents. With his legendary expeditions with the XARIFA, the diving pioneer completely opened the ocean floor to future swimdiving researchers. It was as if a door had been opened behind which the ocean now presented itself enticingly to Science.

In 1961, the much-traveled zoologist interrupted his career under water. He had established a new method of oceanographic research and reached the goal he had formulated in 1941. He had contributed greatly to the advancement of humans into this immense and soon-to-be enormously important realm and had written a significant chapter in the history of diving.

Hans Hass himself summarized best what it was that captivated him, and later captured the imagination of millions of readers and film goers, about the underwater world, when he wrote: "Everything else has already been explored and man has left his mark. Only the sea remains untouched as it has been for thousands of years. Beneath its endless waves numberless fish live, their size and form unknown, there reigns the romantic magic of the underworld."

Everywhere on seacoasts and inland waters, people were already copying him. The conquest of the submarine world was off to a flying start. Underwater research and Sportdiving in general would never have become what it is today without Hans Hass. In 1961, the dynamic scientist reached for new goals, which had less to do with diving technology than with problems in the area of natural philosophy, such as conformity to natural laws and evolution. He developed in the next ten years thereby what he called the "Energon-Theorie." *Michael Jung*

## The costs of living here

The Kingdom is concerned about the BES cost of living. In the Dutch parliament, Attje Kuiken (PvdA) submitted a motion that all ministries and departments must subsequently report to the Lower House on the efforts they are making to reduce the cost of living on Bonaire, Sint Eustatius and Saba.

The chairman (voorzitter) spoke to the motion, saying: "We have had a fairly unified debate about Bonaire, Saba and St. Eustatius. A lot goes well there. Not everything goes well, but we also see that it is difficult to arrive at an acceptable income because the costs are so high: 180 dollars for internet alone. And you should also be able to follow education with that. You must be able to bank with that. The electricity bills can go up to \$400 a month. It doesn't take much arithmetic to feel that it is no longer tenable. Because we all felt so united, I have the following motion."

### The OBL has announced July 2019 price increases in:

- Cooking gas. The 100 lbs cylinder is \$31.82 (+\$3.26) and 20 lbs cylinder is \$8.55 (+\$1)

- Kerosine. Now costs 61.5 cents per liter (+ 2.5 cents).

Gas or diesel prices will not change in July 2019. Gas will continue to cost 1.22 per liter at the pump and diesel 82 cents per liter.

**Warehouse remains the least expensive supermarket on Bonaire** in the June 2019, reports consumer organization Unkobon. Wing Cheung has been in second place for months, but is threatened by Karibe Nobo, which has the cheapest for meat and meat substitutes in June.

Unkobon pays tribute to Xu Sheng, a small supermarket in Rincon which has been in the top five of cheapest supermarkets almost every month since the start of the price comparison in August 2018,

On the website Unkobon.org, consumers can see more extensive price comparisons.

**An average household on Bonaire can expect a decrease of USD 0.50 per month in their electricity bill.** For Bonaire the variable usage rate drops from 0.2693 USD/kWh to 0.2672 USD/kWh. The Pagabon (prepaid) maximum rate descends from 0.4765 USD/kWh to 0.4744 USD/kWh.

The Authority for Consumers and Markets (ACM) adjusts the rates twice a year.

# Law Enforcement

## Temporary subsidy scheme launched to prevent robberies

On July 1st, Schadefonds Geweldsmisdrijven (Violent Crime Damage Fund) launched a temporary subsidy scheme for preventative measures to reduce robberies of houses or companies. The Schadefonds provides this subsidy on behalf of the Ministry of Justice and Security (JenV).

Research has shown that persons or companies that have been robbed and who do not take (additional) preventive measures, have a greater chance of being robbed again. To reduce this chance, the Ministry provides a subsidy of up to €1000 for taking preventive measures, such as installing outdoor lighting, camera surveillance or organizing a robbery training for staff. To be eligible for the subsidy, individuals and companies must meet a number of conditions. For example, the regulation only applies if during the robbery violence was used or threatened. Applications can be submitted for robberies committed after January 1st, 2019. The temporary scheme is applicable until 2022. For more information about the conditions or about submitting an application, visit [www.schadefonds.cn.com](http://www.schadefonds.cn.com)

## One-off compensation payment to crime victims

On April 1st, 2019, the regular scheme of Schadefonds Geweldsmisdrijven was introduced in the Caribbean Netherlands. The Damage Fund provides a one-off compensation payment to victims of a violent crime with serious psychological or physical injury. The fund also applies to surviving or close relatives of the victims of a violent crime. Since the introduction of the Schadefonds in the Caribbean Netherlands, 25 applications have been submitted: 18 from Bonaire, two from St. Eustatius and one from Saba. A number of decisions have already been made. With the compensation, the Schadefonds acknowledges, on behalf of the society, the injustice that has been done to victims. In this way, the Schadefonds contributes to restoring trust and it does justice to victims and their loved ones. *Source: Communication SSO-CN*

## Bonaire Police Report for June 21 — July 1.

### On the roads.

On June 21, a traffic control was held in the evening on the Bulevar Gobernador Nicolaas Debrot. A total of 35 drivers were checked for driver's license, insurance and alcohol. One person did not have a valid driver's license and one person consumed a little too much alcohol. KPCN will regularly carry out these types of checks in order to continue working on safe(er) traffic.

On June 21, two cars collided on Kaya Industria. Because a truck suddenly braked, a black car bumped into an oncoming car. One driver was taken by ambulance to the hospital. The other driver was checked on the spot by the ambulance personnel. On June 27, three cars collided on Kaya Korona around 11.30 am. One driver was taken by ambulance to the hospital.

June 30, a car and a scooter collided on Kaya Internashonal. The driver of the car probably fell asleep and drove into the scooter head-on. The driver of the scooter was not injured but was checked on site by the ambulance personnel.

On July 1, a car and a scooter collided. The driver of the scooter was checked on site by the ambulance personnel.

Three people were arrested for driving under the influence: on June 29, a man age 61 (initials R.E.G.) and on June 30, a man aged 42 (initials B.V.T.); on July 2, a woman age 27 with initials R.S. 27 year old.

**Burglaries.** Evening of June 21 a children's mountain bike was stolen from the porch of a house. It was not locked.

On June 27, a battery was stolen from a car parked at a tourist accommodation on the Bulevar Gobernador Nicolaas Debrot.

On June 28, a garden company on the Kaya Industria Pariba was burgled. Thieves removed four rolls of shadow nets.

On June 29, a man was robbed and assaulted around 4.30 am in the Center area. About seven men took money from the victim. He was injured above his eye.

In the evening hours of Monday, July 1, the police station was notified of a robbery at a counter in Antrio Pariba. Police officers and the investigation team went to the scene and started an investigation into this case.

**Arrests.** June 22 a man aged 30 (initials R.A.P.T.) was arrested at the airport for assault and destruction. • On June 27, a man (initials E.M.T.) was arrested for violation of the Firearms Act BES. • On June 29, a man aged 43 (initials E.V.O.N.) was arrested for the threat and insult of a police officer. Later, while patrolling, officers came across some marijuana plants at a home in Tera Kora. A man aged 38 (initials G.G.L.) and a man aged 25 (initials M.W.A.G.) and a man aged 35 (M.R.R.) were arrested for violating the Opium Act BES. • On July 1, a man aged 36 (initials G.A.A.I.) was arrested for attempted homicide and assault with a weapon. Also a man aged 34 (initials D.A.N.) was arrested for mistreatment and resistance.

### Two natural deaths were investigated.

**House search.** In the early morning hours of, June 29, the investigation team conducted two house searches in the context of the shooting incident on the night of Tuesday to Wednesday. Articles relevant to the investigation were seized. Investigated also was a man with initials R.H.C. 28 years old. *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



# Student art work focuses on environment



Bottom row, L-R: Jean Mary Emer, Santee Emers, Jamienien Melam, Sierra Moeljoredjo; Top row, L-R: Jaydro Thode, Braggi Moreno, instructor Camla Crestian-Thomas, Joshua Hart and Reagan Pourrier.

Graduating art students of instructor Camia Crestian-Thomas from Liseo Bonaeriano displayed their work at SKAL Museum naast parke Tulai on July 1 and 2. The work was the result of one year's work from September 2018 to June 2019. Each of the nine students selected the three pieces of art of which they were most proud.

The subjects for the art were based on three periods of time: 1900; 1900 to 1950 and 1950 to present day. A fourth subject was the meaning of water in their life.

Thomas revealed that much of the work was based on global warming, plastic and trash affecting Bonaire and the earth. She said the students were very aware of Bonaire being number three as a blue destination and it was revealed in their work.

The students range in age from 16 to 20 years of age and all plan to attend college.

The show was attended by family and friends with a reception of treats and drinks.

Funding for art in the school system is limited as are supplies on the island. If anyone would like to contribute to the art program, they can contact Mrs. Thomas at camlathomas\_81@hotmail.com or at Liseo Bonaeriano.

Due to limited space we are unable to print all of the artwork.

Braggy Moreno – Nature – People are killing nature with a poem created on a tablet symbolizing that technology is killing nature.

Jurainy Nicolaas – Environment; mixed media

Reagan Pourrier – Nature – Animals in cages. We as people feel this isn't good for

the animals. We should think more of the animals than we do; mixed media

Jean Mary Emer – Culture – African woman with Bonaire culture; mixed media

Sierra Moeljoredjo – Environmental – global warming. Illustrates dead and live corals' mixed media

Joshua Hart – Religion – Day of the Dead in Mexican culture; pencil. *Story and photos: Julie Morgan*



(L) Jamienien Melam –Nature – The four elements of nature expressed in the man with fire and air and the woman with water and earth; acrylic



Jaydro Thode – Chaos – inspired by a photo of a decaying pelican revealing its death was due to the ingestion of plastics; splatter paint and found objects



Santee Emers –Water–woman drowning with bottles; Santee faced her fears of drowning with this piece of woman drowning in water with floating bottles; mixed media

## Business News

**Rocargo has replaced Bart Fielmich's eZone shipping service as the DHL representative on Bonaire.** Rocargo will handle both incoming and outgoing DHL shipments. Bart Fielmich's eZone will continue to receive goods Bonaire shoppers order from the U.S. or Europe.

**With a deep concern for natural products that wouldn't harm the environment and Bonaire's precious coral reefs, Dorian Crespo created the sunscreen Tropical Nature.**

Armed with a degree in cosmetology and specialist in creams, facial treatments and skincare Dorian has spent the last decade researching chemicals and the negative effects on skin. After Dorian and husband Francisco Zavala were inspired to make the product, when they heard a Dutch professor speaking about Oxybenzone, a main ingredient in almost all sunscreens. Oxybenzone is toxic to corals, algae, sea urchins, fish and mammals and in some cases humans. With this newfound knowledge, Dorian and Francisco decided to do their own research and to develop a natural sunscreen. In 2015 they released Tropical Nature that Dorian makes here in Bonaire.

The product has received support from Maaïke van Sleen and longtime visitor and professor George D. Buckley who teaches sustainable ocean environment courses at Harvard.

Buckley said, "...the problem with sunscreens is that they have one chemical ingredient for every function, one chemical ingredient to keep it on your skin, another chemical ingredient to make it smell nice... there are so many that the toxicity levels are just too high so companies that manufacture these products lower the percentages to make it not so toxic for humans, but they are still harmful for corals and marine life.

Tropical Nature Natural sunscreen is made with natural oils, zinc, shea butter and beeswax, (Carnauba wax). As opposed to most sunscreen products, you don't have to apply much and it is transparent. It is also packaged in an all natural specially designed cardboard tube.

The product is currently available at DA, Warehouse Bonaire, The Cruise ship Market, The Islander and The Laughing Seahorse.

For information or inquiries email: tropicalnaturebonaire@gmail.com

**Do you know someone who you think deserves honorary citizenship from the government? Suggest this person!**

The annual honorary citizenship ceremony takes place on Bonaire Flag Day, September 6th, 2019. The proposal forms must be submitted to the SKAL (Department Culture, Art & Literature) no later than 01 August 2019.

The honorary citizenship is awarded for personal merits and achievements to Bonaire. contributions to the island could be in administration, social, sporting, cultural, charitable, economic or scientific fields.

If you wish to nominate someone for honorary citizenship, ask Seferina Saragoza of the SKAL for a proposal form. Contact her by e-mail: seferina.saragoza@bonairegov.com, or via tel. 717-5330 ext 3611



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# STINAPA Junior Rangers graduate

“My mother said, ‘All the coolest kids on the island are in this program,’” said 17 year-old Junior Ranger Bonnie Roes, “ I wasn’t excited about giving up the time after school that first Wednesday afternoon, but then, I was hooked... My mom was really right!”

This is just one of the statements made by a few of the STINAPA Junior Rangers in the graduation program on June 28 at Kunuku Arawak. Many of the kids spoke of their love for the program and how much they have learned and experienced.

This is the tenth anniversary for the program that provides kids age 12 to 21 knowledge about the earth, oceans and environment.

Mistress of Ceremony for the event was former Junior Ranger Julia Marisol Martinus, now in college studying oceanography and meteorology at Florida Institute of Technology.

Julia led the attending guests and Junior Rangers through the evening with a synced slide presentation as honors and certificates were given to various recipients.

STINAPA interim marine park manager Leonel Martijn in a short speech stressed how important the program is for Bonaire.

Thanks and certificates were extended to the many sponsors for providing opportunities to the group.

Nature Ambassador award recipients were recognized for their outreach efforts: Fernando Simal, (bats and caves), Gielman Funchi Egbreghts, (Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire) and Julianka Clenda of Echo.

Volunteers in attendance were recognized and presented certificates of thanks and wooden medallions signifying the 10th anniversary.

The 51 Junior Rangers received their graduation certificates and many were honored with awards for completion of scuba certification, advance scuba certification, O2 provider, debate captains. Junior ranger Alexi Crestiaan was honored for PADI master diver.

Alexis said, “Junior Rangers for Life!”

Following the ceremony, the party continued with music by DJ Marvv and a cake celebrating the 10th anniversary.

STINAPA began the Junior Rangers as a pilot program in 2009. The kids learn to dive and how they can help protect Bonaire’s valuable natural resources. The main objectives are to create awareness of nature and environmental issues, and also to instill leadership. These kids are being groomed to be Bonaire’s Nature Ambassadors.

Julia said, “The Junior Ranger program definitely made me confident regarding what I wanted to do with my life.... through all of my opportunities and experiences I got while in the program, I knew 100% I was going to continue to enjoy advocating for the environment.”

Sponsors receiving appreciation certificates were: Cargill, VIP Diving, DCNA, Fundashon Cas Boneriano, Reef Renewal Bonaire, Stichting Jong Bonaire, Dive Friends, Echo Foundation, Great Adventures Diving, Wannadive, Buddydive, STCB, Carib Inn, Mangrove center, Kentucky, Epic Tours, It Rains Fishes, Bonaire Landsailing Adventures, Woodwinds and Kooyman.



**Junior Ranger cadets L-R: Sleender Lubo Santiago, Ismar Enriquez, Sky Wakanien, Humphrey Welvaart, Mateo de Leon, Artimah Charles, Gordey Winklaar, Marek van Burik, Melody Alvarado, Thomas Jonker, Mariuksy Saldarriaga, Elena Werdath, Maroef Lami, Eveshardeny Domacassé**



**Volunteers with medals L-R: Monalisa Domacasse, Kevin O’Brien, Danielle Noeken, Diana Gevers, Scott Gilchrist, Sue O’Brien, Sabine Engel, Roxanne Francisca, Yilliany Curial, Suzi Swygert, Julia Marisol Martinus. The group of volunteers pictured is about a third of the total of volunteers this year!!**

To become a member of the STINAPA Junior Rangers contact Tracy Jenkins at outreach@stinapa.org. or Joselle Margarita at STINAPA. All junior rangers applicants are accepted who meet the criteria of living on Bonaire and have a passion for nature. *Story and Photo: Julie Morgan.*

**Everyone enjoyed the 10 year anniversary cake and cupcakes.**



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# Selibon, continued from page 1

roil; Rincon; and the Selibon office in Playa. Trash can also be taken directly to the Waste Management Recycling Center at Lagun.

Selibon wants to tell people what actually happens to their trash once they separate it and deposit it in the bins. Therefore they have planned two major public events. On August 3, Selibon, in cooperation with TCB (Tourism Corporation Bonaire), will begin their campaign on recycling and separating waste at the Taste of Bonaire with the theme of recycling.

And in September, Selibon will dedicate the entire month to a cleanup campaign culminating with World-wide Cleanup Day on the 21st. Selibon will target each of the different areas of Bonaire for cleanup and clean up the known dumping areas.

“We are taking this month to make the public aware of the benefits of a clean island,” said Shanelca. *Story and photos: Julie Morgan*



Aluminum and steel cans and boxes compressed ready to be shipped.



The box warehouse is overflowing



Tires are no longer buried. They lay in a pile awaiting their undetermined future

Historically, there have been five ways of managing waste: dumping, burning it, burying it, reusing or recycling or *Not Creating It* in the first place



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## It rains herring at local auction

It Rains Fishes held its seventh annual ‘Herring Party’ auction on June 30. The event attracted a crowd of 150 people who bid on a bucket of herring (approximate 20 whole fish). The ultimate goal of the event is to raise funds and awareness for a specific charity.

The ‘herring bucket’ top bid this year was a generous \$1800 for the foundation Tabithah Kumi, a shelter for women and children abused due to domestic violence.

Guests gathered around the new pool and enjoyed live music, food, drinks and, of course, herring in the unique and cozy atmosphere of the restaurant.

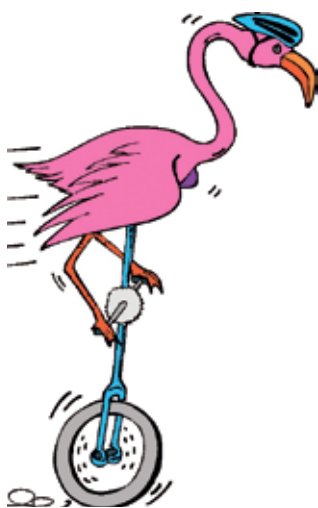
Huub Groot of It Rains Fishes called the event a huge success. He expressed sincere thanks to friends,



Peter Schoenmaker of It Rains Fishes serves some of the delicious herring to guests.

guests and sponsors and to Canarbo and Jan van As for making it possible to serve the delicious Herring.

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# Culinary team brings home the gold



Bonaire Culinary Team flew away with 10 medals from the Taste of the Caribbean 2019 in Miami June 21 to June 25, After four days of competition against some of the best teams in the Caribbean, the Bonaire team literally brought home the gold (four), silver (three) and bronze (one) medals.

The team was awarded several other notable accolades. Team member Elise won best Chocolate Chef of the Caribbean and Dhanesh was awarded best overall in beef preparation. He will be traveling on a study trip to Ohio to increase his knowledge even more. A truly exciting honor, Spirit of the Competition award, was presented to team captain Floris Van Loo, Rum Runners restaurant manager. He was selected for being the most involved and collaborating team captain.

**BONAIRE TEAM** - All members (Silver - Team Competition) • CHEF- Rhashindra Donge (Gold - Chef of the year) • CHEF- Rick Baak (Bronze - Seafood competition) • JR CHEF- Akira Cecilia (Silver - Junior Chef competition) • PASTRY CHEF- Elise Weerstand (Gold - Pastry Chef of the year, Overall Winner & Gold - Chocolate competition) • BARTENDER- Kelvin Ventura (Silver - Bartender of the year) • MANAGER- Floris Van Loo (Special Spirit of the Competition Awards) • JR CHEF OPT.- Juan Molle • BEEF COMP- Dhanesh De Kok (Overall Winner & Gold - Beef competition) • PORK COMP: Jeomar Arrindell. *Photo: Casper Douma*  
**Congratulations to the team.**



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# Reef Glimpses

## Mystery Underwater Situation



This photograph was taken 'way back in the olden days, with a film camera system. My strobe was running out of charge and I was really lucky to get even one shot of this grouper. Normally I would judge this photo as just OK, not one I felt really lucky to get – so what's going on here? If you'd like to try to figure it out yourself, stop reading now and begin again when you're ready.

\*\*\*

You'll notice that this grouper and these corals look unusual; that's because the photo was taken in the Red Sea, where the critters are related to but usually not exactly the same species as ours. The really lucky part of this photo is the black thing that extends forward from the grouper's gill flap (just in front of its pectoral fin) to below its eye. Because this isn't video, you can't see the black thing wriggling, but it was. That's a vital clue.

\*\*\*

The vertical neon stripe just below the grouper is my strobe's reflection on a cleaner wrasse, who was examining the grouper for service but ignoring the black thing, which kept wriggling. The grouper made two or three more passes through the cleaner station; the cleaners continued to pretend they saw nothing unusual.

Finally, the grouper gave up on the cleaners. It moved away from the reef, flared out its gill flaps, opened its mouth, and shook its head violently. The black thing disappeared through the grouper's gill flap, the grouper stopped shaking its head, closed its mouth, flattened out its gill flaps, and casually swam back to the reef.

Here's how I reconstructed the backstory: the grouper saw a goldentail-sized moray swimming out in the open, maybe from one coral to another. The grouper darted down to the head of the moray, opened its mouth and flared out its gill flaps; this created a suction which pulled the moray into the mouth of the grouper. While the grouper concentrated on swallowing the moray headfirst, the other end of the moray was struggling to lead an escape. It found a gill flap and began to try to pull itself tail first out of the grouper.

At the time I took the photo they had reached a temporary impasse: the grouper couldn't swallow any more of the moray (because the moray's tail was hooked around its gill flap) and the moray couldn't back out of the grouper any farther (because its head was inside the stomach of the grouper). Soon after that the moray weakened (an inevitable result of trying to breathe inside a grouper), the grouper changed its strategy, and the battle ended! *Photo and story by Dee Scarr*

*Dee has been guiding divers on Bonaire since 1982. She's written about her under-sea 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 touchthesea.com.*



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# A Garden? Just Do It!

## Danger!

Not so long ago people approached me with a story and a question. In Sabadeco they had a very bad experience with a plant with red berries. On contact it gave them big blisters that hurt a lot.



**Manzalina bobo, a dangerous plant**

From the knowledge of a plant specialist on Bonaire, I learned the plant is called MANZALINA BOBO. It's a Manzalinia type which means: be careful! Everything from this family is very poisonous: their leaves, berries, bark, juice and also their dust will give you a terrible skin irritation, even if you are under a tree when it rains. So big warning, don't mess around with this family!!! These plants mostly grow on raw sharp cliffs like in Sabadeco. So watch out there and needless to say, don't plant it in your yard.

I hope that this information will reach those people who approach me with the questions about this plant in their living area.

From the friend mentioned above, I got seeds from the "kouseband" as we called it in Dutch. It is also called asparagus beans, yardlong bean, Chinese long



**Green kouseband, yard-long bean**

bean, long-podded cowpeas, bodi bora, snake bean or pea bean. It is a variety of the cowpea. And its Latin name is: *Vigna unguiculata* subsp. *sesquipedalis*. Wow!! I can't say this out loud. This rare name means: "one and a half foot long," which is true. Have you ever seen the plant on which this rare bean is growing? It's a vigorous climbing annual vine that grows easily on Bonaire. The asparagus bean is grown primarily for its strikingly long immature green pods. The many varieties have mature seeds of different colors. I got the grass green-and purple red type

from my friend.

The plant is easy to grow; the only difficult thing is how to protect it from the lizards and the iguanas. The lizards love to chop the young seed head off and the iguana is crazy about the leaves.

To sow I put two seeds in an old paint bucket which I put beside the wire fence. The lizards cannot climb on the smooth plastic, and they also cannot see the young growing seeds. For the Iguana I don't have a solution yet. The plants are growing well and I already have some beans but the first under-leaves are gone. I don't know if the iguana will climb inside the fence for the rest of the plant, but my yard has a lot of green so maybe it will try other stuff. The more plants you have, the more beans are left for you. Here you will never have it all. Nature is looking to survive too. But I think when I have half and nature the rest, I don't mind.

Yesterday I tried my first crisp sweet beans, and I must tell you that they taste better than any beans I ever bought at the grocery shop. Of course you can grow your kouseband in a green house, but from my experience they miss sunlight and grow skinny with no beans because there are no bugs and bees to fertilize.

Mix dirt with goat manure, compost, red and black dirt and charcoal to give you the best beans in only two months. When you have four buckets with three plants each, you will have more than enough beans for a long time. Pick the beans before they reach full maturity, so they are crisp for cooking. It's important not to pick the buds that are above the beans, since the plant will set many more beans later on the same stem. I support the vines also with old stems from other trees. These plants don't need much water only a cup once a day in each bucket.

The young beans grow out of white-purple flowers as soon as the flower dries out. If you see that lizards are eating the flowers, tie some small brown paper bags around the flowers. The lizards don't eat the beans. Once the bean is big, you can remove the paper bag and use it again for other flowers.

The beans are not only delicious but also very healthy. Nutritional value: vitamins B1, B2, B3, B5, B6, C and A, folate, protein, carbohydrates and minerals including calcium, manganese, magnesium, phosphorus, potassium, sodium and zinc.

In Surinam kouseband is served with roti, curry potatoes and curry chicken. From India it's a popular dish on Bonaire introduced by Surinam folks here. There are way more recipes on the internet. The beans are at their best when young and slender, cut into short lengths.

Look for seeds at LVV or Kreabon, or maybe Krusada. When you have a lot of strings you can make your friends happy with some and you can also freeze them. What you plant yourself always taste the best. Just do it now. *Angliet, Nature lover*



# Bonaire Ambassadors

## Honoring Paul Marlin, Melinda Matheny, and Keith Andersen

During the last week of June, TCB (Tourist Corporation Bonaire) honored three American guests as ambassadors to the island.

Melinda Matheny and Paul Marlin who have visited Bonaire for 12 consecutive years received bronze medals.

Keith Andersen who has visited Bonaire for 15 consecutive years received a silver medal.

Helen Mercera presented the medals and certificates at Sand Dollar Condominiums.



## Making Bonaire "Accessible"

### OUR WHEELCHAIR CHALLENGES # 13



Nowadays I have to make a list and check it twice!

Since I found myself on the ground, beside my bicycle and with my spouse's deteriorating health, there are many things to do

and even more things to organize.

I learned it is wise to sit down, think about what needs to be done and make lists. Time management is as crucial as health management. This is why I am very pleased with all the wonderful friends we have. They do what they can and assist in every way. Plus there is this great service that ZS-Group provides.

For patients with diabetes there are not many good or affordable products in the shops and supermarkets. And once you find a decent product, it is out of stock and unobtainable in no time. So my ability to improvise is being challenged every day.

But it is not the grocery list that takes so much attention. There are the medications and special care products we need. We have to go get the prescriptions (call or mail), pick them up at the GP, take them to the botika and either wait for them or come back later.

If it is something that is not available in the botika, you need to go to the 'care-store' and not everything you need is available right away. There is always a possibility that the prescription is not approved by the ZVK yet. So then you have to go again and arrange it.

Now, if I get help from a friend with a car, we park in a parking spot for the handicapped. We get cursed at or told to leave the spot asap. So we move the car and park it somewhere else. We don't have the special sticker that allows us to park in the handicapped spot. So I have to walk all the way to the shop-

ping carts or entrance. I limp and I am in pain. So, what else can I do?

By the time I am in the supermarket, I forget where my list is and pick at random.

Now a few days ago, I read on Facebook that at a certain supermarket in Curacao your car gets a wheel-clamp and the owner/driver has to pay a fine of \$ 370. This is something I approve of, because on Bonaire the handicap parking spots are almost always taken. In our case that would have been a horrible shame.

I know for a fact that in Holland there



are two types of handicapped parking stickers available; one for the car owner and one for the passenger. If the car is parked illegally the owner of the car gets a \$150 to \$350 fine.

I think that a fine is a great way to teach the trespasser. I sincerely hope that Bonaire will change its bylaws and provide the handicapped inhabitants and visitors with the rights they need and deserve.

So, when making my shopping and to do list, I have to take all this into consideration. And in the meantime, I hope that supermarket and shop owners are a bit more lenient to the people with a handicap. I am very aware that some handicaps are not visible. I will go and buy myself a sticker and will always have it in my bag.

Please people, having a handicap is sad enough. You take our parking spots... do you want the handicap as well? *Ria Evers-Dokter*



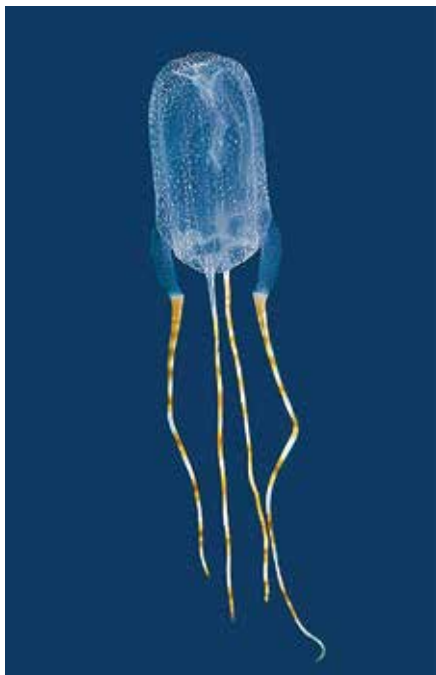
## Did You Know... night snorkeling/diving is fabulous if you know what you're doing.

If you're aware and prepared, diving and/or snorkeling at night can be extremely rewarding. I'll be the first to admit that going in the sea at night has more risks than going in the day, but your efforts will be rewarded with seeing vibrant creatures that you won't see out in the day. This article will give some info on what to look for at night, when to look for it, and what to avoid.

First, you should be familiar with the site and the place you're going to enter and exit, especially if it's a tricky shore entry. Imagine going out, having a great time and then not being able to find where to get out. Some people leave a small light at the entrance/exit to help them find their exit. Others use natural underwater landmarks (or is it seamarks?) and/or a compass to help them navigate back, for example a shallow coral that is large with an unusual shape. I advise booties for most shore entries. Remember, urchins come out at night and you don't want to step on one of those!

Have a reliable dive light. Try not to blind fish or other critters with a strong light, but rather keep the main beam of your light to the side of the animal you want to observe. Keep an eye out for shallow corals so you don't bump into them, harming them and yourself.

To avoid jellyfish stings, I advise peo-



**Bonaire Banded Box Jelly, *Tamoya ohboya*.** Photo: Ned DeLoach

ple to always wear a full wetsuit or, if you don't have one, wear a form-fitting long-sleeve shirt with long leggings. When in the water, make it a habit to scan the surface waters before swimming forwards, especially when snorkeling, since jellyfish usually hang out near the surface. Then, if you see a particularly nasty jellyfish, all you have to do is get your face

and hands out of the water and slowly swim towards the place you want to exit. More about jellies below.

What to look for: Coral polyps extend at night, lobsters leave their dens, octopus wander about, tarpon hunt, morays are on the prowl, fish have different color patterns at night, weird worms swim about your light, eyeshine from hundreds of small shrimp (reflecting your light), tiny crabs crawl on sponges, etc., etc. But the best part about going in the sea at night is the bioluminescence. If all of the dive lights are off and you wave your hands and fins about, millions of tiny dinoflagellates bioluminescence and it's like waving Tinkerbell's wand. They are there in the water – everywhere – every night. You just need to be somewhere with little to no ambient light. Amazing. Then, there are the ostracods. They light up like fireflies all over the reef when they mate. This happens quite often, but the best time to see them, in my opinion, is the 5th night after a full moon, 50 minutes after sunset. Choose a site with shallow corals and little to no ambient light. Memory of a lifetime.

OK – about jellies. We often get small jellies (pika pika) that sting, but the sting only lasts a few minutes. These are common in the day. Bonaire gets several species of box jellies that are more common at night. The sting from a box jelly varies depending on how much toxin gets into the skin. It may hurt for a half an hour or more and leave a mark for a week or two OR it may hurt for days and leave a scar. If you get a severe sting, you may have to head to the hospital for treatment. If

you get stung by a large box jelly, exit the water immediately. Remove any tentacles with tweezers. There are several treatments you can administer. I have used a product called Sting No More designed at the University of Hawaii medical school specifically for jelly stings. Some people advise rinsing in vinegar. Most advise applying heat to the site of the sting for at least 20 minutes, as hot as you can bear without scalding yourself - the heat helps to denature the proteins in the toxins, making them weaker. Some medics advise using a mild hydrocortisone cream to relieve itching and an over-the-counter pain killer to relieve pain. If the pain is unbearable or you experience difficulty breathing, seek medical attention immediately. Bonaire's hospital staff is well-trained to treat marine stings. Do not use an EpiPen. Experts say this actually makes it worse. One thing to be aware of: the large box jellies swarm 8-10 nights after the full moon, AND they swim towards light, so we advise people to avoid night snorkeling and diving on these nights. We also advise dive shops to avoid putting bright lights next to the ladder where people enter/exit the water.

So, after hearing all of that, if you're still game, go for it. Enjoy! I've done hundreds of night snorkels with kids and adults and it's always like a treasure hunt – you never know what you're going to find there.

*Written by Caren Eckrich, STINAPA Biologist. Connecting People With Nature*



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# What's Happening

Saturday, July 13	Clean Coast Bonaire Clean-up Survey Boka Onima. 8-10am
Tuesday, July 16	<b>Penumbra Lunar Eclipse</b> 7.02-8:30pm. See page 13. <b>Connecting People with Nature.</b> STINAPA biologist Caren Eckrich hosts these evenings @ DCNA Kaya Finlandia 10a. 7-8pm. <a href="https://stinapabonaire.org/event/connecting-people-with-nature-19/">https://stinapabonaire.org/event/connecting-people-with-nature-19/</a>

## 2019 Cruise Ships

DAY	DATE	CRUISESHIP	TIME	PIER	CAPACITY	& LINE
Tuesday	7-9	Monarch	0800-1800	N.pier	2744	Pullmantur
Tuesday	7-16	Monarch	0800-1800	N.pier	2744	Pullmantur
Thursday	7-18	Freedom	0800-1700	S.pier	3782	RCCL

## 500 social housing units will be built on Bonaire over the next several years.

On June 27, 2019 state secretary Raymond Knops for the Interior and Kingdom Relations (BZK), commissioner Elvis Tjin Asjoe of the Public Entity Bonaire (OLB) and director-officer Ben Oleana of housing association Fundashon Cas Bonairiano (FCB) signed the social housing Bonaire covenant.

In the covenant the three parties agree on binding arrangements. For instance, FCB will fund the building of 500 social housing units. The OLB will be fund the required infrastructure (roads, water and electricity) and will make the leasehold lands available. The Central Government will contribute EUR 2.5 million from the Region Envelope for the required infrastructure. The Central Government will also take over the rent compensation to FCB from the Public Entity; the OLB will then spend the released funds on the required infrastructure.



### REGULAR EVENTS

**“Reef Renewal Bonaire.”** A free educational presentation every Sunday at 6:30pm at Blennies at Buddy Dive. For questions, email [info@reefrenwalbonaire.org](mailto:info@reefrenwalbonaire.org)”.

**“Sea Turtles of Bonaire”** is a free public

presentation about Bonaire’s endangered sea turtles—topics such as where to see sea turtles, how they live, what they eat, how they reproduce and how you can help! Where: Yellow Sub, Dive Friends Bonaire (on the front porch) 8:00pm, 2nd & 4th Wednesdays.

**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.

**Nature Organization, STINAPA,** has frequent events— bird watching, sunset hikes, lectures, etc. Go to their website for information of events for the rest of 2019: [stinapabonaire.org/events](http://stinapabonaire.org/events), Tel. 717-8444

**Bonaire Goat Farm Tour.** Monday, Wednesday & Friday. 9 am. Meet the goats, see milking, and more. \$10 includes tea. Kids \$5. 786-6950.

**Echo.** See Bonaire’s parrots. Wednesday at 5pm \$10 per person. Public Conservation Tour. No reservation needed. For optimal birding, book a private tour by calling 701-1188 or email [info@echo-bonaire.org](mailto:info@echo-bonaire.org). We need at least one day’s notice. Private tours \$25/person 2 person minimum.

### 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 Sat-

urdays. 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 Lagoen 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 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.

### CHURCH SERVICES

**The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints.** Kaya Sabena 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, 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.

### 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 cruiseship days, 9am–3pm. Free.

Tues.-Fri. 9-6 pm  
Sat. 9 - 2 pm

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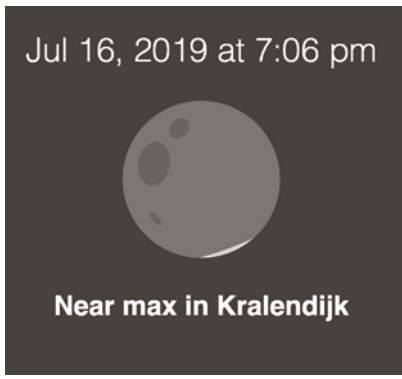




# BONAIRE SKY PARK\*

\*to find it—just look up

**Global Event:** Partial Lunar Eclipse  
**Local type:** Penumbral Lunar Eclipse, in Kralendijk  
**Begins:** Tues. Jul 16, 2019 at 7:02pm  
**Maximum:** Tues. Jul 16, 2019 at 7:05pm-0.07 Magnitude  
**Ends:** Tues. Jul 16, 2019 at 8:17pm  
**Duration:** 1 hour, 15 minutes.



We have a penumbral lunar eclipse in Bonaire July 16, 2019. On that date the moonrise is 7:02pm. The moment when the eclipse reaches its greatest magnitude while the entire moon is above the horizon is 7:05pm. (The true maximum point of this eclipse cannot be seen in Kralendijk because the moon is below the horizon then.) Since the moon is near the horizon at 7:05pm, we recommending going to a high point or finding an unobstructed area with free sight to East-southeast for the best view of the eclipse. At 8:17pm the penumbral eclipse ends.

A penumbral lunar eclipse can be a bit hard to see as the shadowed part is only a little bit fainter than the rest of the moon. This eclipse is often mistaken for a normal full moon.

The moon shines because its surface reflects the sun's rays. A lunar eclipse happens when the earth comes between the sun and the moon and blocks some or all of the sun's light from reaching the moon. This penumbral lunar eclipse takes place when the moon moves through the faint, outer part of earth's shadow.

About one in three of all lunar eclipses are penumbral. It is impossible to observe the start and end of a penumbral lunar eclipse, even with telescopes.

Penumbral eclipses that involve the darker portion of the earth's penumbral shadow, however, are normally visible to the naked eye. Careful observers can usually see penumbral eclipses with a penumbral magnitude greater than 0.60.

**Source:** <https://www.timeanddate.com/eclipse/in/netherlands/kralendijk-bonaire?iso=20190716>

## Get your socks on by Ronnie Heijmans

### Exercise: an anti-aging prescription

Here's a pretty bold statement: exercise is medicine for anyone over 50. Your body is changing a lot when you are aging.

Weight training by older people may build not only strength and muscle mass but also motivation and confidence. It can potentially spur them to continue exercising, according to an interesting new study on the emotional impact of lifting weights.

The findings suggest that people who are worried that they might be too old or inept to start resistance training should perhaps try it, to see how their bodies and minds respond.

Aging is associated with physiological and functional decline that can contribute to increased disability, frailty, and falls. Contributing factors are the loss of muscle mass and strength as age increases. This is a phenomenon called sarcopenia. Sarcopenia can result or be exacerbated by certain chronic conditions, and can also increase the burden of chronic disease. Current research has demonstrated that strength-training exercises have the ability to combat weakness and frailty and their debilitating consequences.

Evidence backs up the benefits of exercise.

Regular physical activity has been proven time and again to ameliorate risk factors that frequently lead to poor health, such as:

- High blood pressure
- High blood glucose (sugar)
- Obesity
- Low muscle mass
- Psychological and mental health problems (I.e. mood, cognitive ability)

So what are you waiting for? Fight aging with a fitness subscription and feel better!  
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.



## Oil Trading Bonaire director overpays self by 388,000 USD

The past director of Oil Trading Bonaire (OTB), S. Balentien, overpaid himself by more than \$388,000 between 2014 and 2018.

Balentien was appointed in 2005 as CEO of OTB by the Executive Council under the leadership of Island Governor Herbert Domacassé. Balentien first performed the position as an individual, but later under an agreement with Balentien's company, Balfran N.V.

Ruud de Dood of Audit Force Curaçao could not find any signed documents to explain why Balentien paid himself considerably more from 2014 onwards. However, Balentien claimed that the payments were intended as an 'advance' on a modified management agreement and promised fee increase. The over-payments came to an end when the shareholders appointed another director in the person of Rene Laufeur in early 2018.

The generous payments to Balentien and Balfran N.V. are not the only discrepancies found by the audit. OTB did not keep its own bookkeeping, but had the financial statements compiled by Caribbean Accounting Services, a subsidiary of accountancy organization PwC. The organization failed to provide income tax returns for the period between 2004 and 2009, resulting in substantial fines for OTB. According to the articles of incorporation of OTB, annual accounts must be examined by a chartered accountant. The audits were not done consistently.

On July 5 a shareholders meeting of the Oil Trading Bonaire, OTB, was held to allow Balfran N.V. as statutory Financial Director of OTB to share their views with the shareholder. Balfran was represented by its president and financial director, and also by the author of the report (Audit Force). The initial report of the Audit Force was given to the Public Prosecution Service (OM) July 1st by the Lieutenant Governor, who is charged with monitoring integrity.

Based on the additional information, the shareholders have decided to deliberate.

### Flotsam and Jetsam continued from page 4

which can be very wet). Looking forward to September through November 2019, CIMH predicts that the peak of the Caribbean wet season may be wetter than usual in the ABC Islands. The Caribbean Climate Outlooks Newsletter can be found at: <https://rcc.cimh.edu.bb/files/2019/05/caricofjjason.pdf>

► **The postal hub for BES may move from Bonaire to St. Maarten.** Post for St. Eustatius and Saba might be shipped through the Postal Services of St. Maarten, said State Secretary for Economic Affairs, Mona Keijzer, in a recent letter to the Dutch Parliament. Currently mail from Holland is shipped through Bonaire and takes a long time to arrive to the two islands.

According to Keijzer, mail delivery is slow because airline service to St. Eustatius and Saba is poor. Currently FXDC Bonaire has a contract with Winair, but Winair has limited freight capacity for post and doesn't have direct flights to either island. The mail is also slow because KLM's ground handler in Bonaire doesn't have sufficient capacity to screen postal shipments. Screening is a requirement for KLM.

The Ministry of Economic Affairs is looking at various alternatives to shipping post through Bonaire. Using the Postal Services in St. Maarten as a mail hub for both islands is one alternative. The Ministry is also considering other options, such as using commercial services which open and scan letters to send them in digital form (for instance by e-mail) to the addressees..

► **You may bring back tax free goods up to \$500** if you are returning home from a trip abroad. Persons younger than 15 may bring in goods up to \$150. The exemptions apply to personal goods only.

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L-R; Gold medal winner Elise Weerstand, student Leomar Arrindel, Maxima Uia, coach Isidoor Riemsdijk coach Danny Klein



Tourism Corporation of Bonaire's (TCB) Taste of Bonaire on July 6, focused on the talent of Bonaire in music, food and drinks. Swarms of people sampled a variety of food while moving to Jong Bonaire's drum band and the diverse music of Fenty. Bonaire's restaurant association booth featured award winning foods from the culinary team including Taste of the Caribbean gold medal winner Elise Weerstands's take on chocolate cake. People stood in line patiently waiting for mojitos, fried ice cream, kiln fired pizza, Thai food and more. The next "Taste" will be held in August. *Story and photos: Julie Morgan*

# Shelter News

• **An amazing 103 cats and dogs found loving, "fur-ever" homes as of June 30.** The first six months of 2019 have been great for many Animal Shelter residents! It is a big achievement for the Shelter and these grateful animals considering that in 2018 the total number of adoptions for the entire year was 161. However, many more are still waiting for that special human guardian. Please come and visit the shelter where you are sure to find that furry friend who will capture your heart...**please Adopt, Don't Shop!**

• The shelter's 2019 sterilization campaign is also racking up good numbers. As of June 30, 271 animals have been sterilized through our free program. We are on track to hopefully exceed last year's total of 527.

• **This year has seen an explosion in the number of kittens brought to the shelter. In just the last six months we have taken in 122 kittens!** Despite the successful adoptions and sterilizations this year, unwanted or abandoned cats and dogs continue to stream into the Shelter. That's twice the number of kittens during the same period

in 2018. We are definitely in the middle of a cat overpopulation crisis.

• **Please sterilize your cats and advise your friends and neighbors to do the same. It's easy and it's free!** Take advantage of Animal Shelter Bonaire's free sterilization program. Simply make an appointment with one of the island veterinarians and come to the shelter to get a form to present to the doctor at your appointment. There is no cost to you. The accompanying graphic shows how just one unsterilized female cat contributes to the overpopulation problem. Please help us solve this very preventable problem. *Jane Disko*



## Pet of the Week: Andre

Dear Humans, My name is Andre, I am about 11 months old and very healthy and active. My appearance might be overwhelming because I am a power breed mix, but my insides are pure love and happiness. I love to run and play and afterwards relax in my private pool...well it's actually just a large bucket but I love it!

I am good with other dogs, and I like cats too. I like all kinds of people, I am everybody's friend! But what I really want is a true friend for myself. Someone that would like to train, walk with me and give me hugs.

I also really like kids. I love to play pirate and hunt for hidden treasures. I already have the eye patch so you can call me Captain Bucket...aarrgghh!!

Hugs and cuddles make me happy and I roll over so you can rub my belly. I will make you happy and make you laugh! Will you be my special friend? If so, I will be yours. I am healthy, sterilized, vaccinated and ready to move in with you – furever!

Please come visit me at the 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 and photos by Sanne Attevelt*





# At Your Service

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**CLEAN COAST BONAIRE**



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# Kralendijk, Caribbean Court 324

**Highlights:**

- 1 bedroom / 1 bathroom
- studio with bedroom loft
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