

FREE

July 22 - Aug 5, 2019, Year 26, Issue 15

# BONAIRE The REPORTER

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## Celebrating women divers



### Gibi's Lora café in Rincon Ban on single-use plastics New deisel storage facility

In 1943, Simone Melchior Cousteau became the **first woman** SCUBA diver when she tried a new invention called the aqua-lung created by her husband Jacques Yves Cousteau and Emile Gagnan.

Bonaire has seen a lot of women divers "firsts" since the early days of diving. Many made significant contributions to diving here and elsewhere, but they began on Bonaire. Several are responsible for some of the earliest photography taken of Bonaire's beautiful coral reefs like underwater photographers Geri Murphy of Skin Diver magazine fame and Pam Broderton. With their images Bonaire became a major dive destination.

Bonaire has a long history of women divers making a difference only in the diving community, but more importantly, to the economy and the environment of this nature rich island.

We have listed a few of the many unique women who have made exceptional contributions on Bonaire.

**Linda Baker** has been instructor at Carib Inn for 29 years. She was the first ever recipient of REEF's Golden Hamlet Award for completing 1000 REEF fish surveys. They actually created the award for her. Linda logged a year underwater November 11, 2014 and her 10,000th dive on December 11, 2018. She is also a supervisor at

Bonaire's recompression chamber.

**Elsmarie Beukenboom** was the former director for STINAPA Bonaire in 2005. She was a driving force behind Tene Boneiru Limpi (Keep Bonaire Clean) and the reforestation project on Klein Bonaire. Elsmarie played a significant role in setting up a working program in combating the lionfish.

**Babs Van Heet Camp** was the first female owner and manager of a dive shop, The Dive Inn, on Bonaire.

**Caren Eckrich** currently works for STINAPA as a biologist. She previously ran Sea & Discover, teaching kids and adults about the coral reefs. Caren worked for CIEE teaching coral reef ecology and scientific diving.

**Sabine Engel** is the project manager for ecological restoration of Lac for STINAPA. She developed the Mangrove Maniacs

**Kalli De Meyer** revitalized Bonaire Marine Park and was instrumental in changing it to "Bonaire National Marine Park". She has dedicated nearly 30 years in nature conservation and sustainable resource management in the Dutch Caribbean. Kalli was the founding Executive Director of DCNA and an inaugural member of Women Divers Hall of Fame.

**Kitty Handschuh** is the current manager at Carib Inn and has worked there since

1987 as a divemaster and instructor. She served on the board for the Foundation Preservation Klein Bonaire and on the board of STCB.

**Malin Kaisjer** and Pam Teitel are the first certified cave divers on Bonaire and mapped caves for John Burge. She has been an instructor since 1988 and master instructor since 1992 certifying countless students and continues to do so. She is a supervisor in Bonaire's recompression chamber.

**Jenny Marchena** is the first Bonairean female dive guide/instructor in Bonaire

**Mabel Nava** has been the STCB (Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire) manager for 14 years. She has molded STBC into a viable group in providing the critical protection needed for Bonaire's turtles. In addition, Mabel educates the youth of Bonaire about the environment and works with them in monitoring Bonaire's turtle nests

**Jeannette Nolan**, certified by Captain Don Stewart, is the first female Bonairean to be SCUBA certified on Bonaire.

**Susan Porter** was certified in 1970 and author of Bonaire Shore Diving Made Easy, since 2005. The book was originally penned by Jessie Armacost. Susan has dived all 73 sites listed in the books.

**Dee Scarr** has operated Touch the Sea since 1982 teaching divers how to inter-

act with marine animals. She authored the "What's That" Dive Training column from 1991 to 2000. Dee is responsible for the sponge reattachment project of the Town Pier tying 700 plus sponges to the pilings that had been cleaned. She is the author of three books, many awards and an inaugural member of the Women Divers Hall of Fame. Dee played a major part in the Save Klein Bonaire campaign.

**Suzi Swygert** was the memorable woman diver in the yellow wet suit perfectly posed in most every underwater Bonaire image gracing the pages of major dive magazines in the 80s and 90s. She is a writer, photographer and co-author of several books on Bonaire. Suzi was also a major force in activating the STINAPA Junior Ranger program.

**Pam Teitel**, an instructor for 35 years, was Bonaire's first course director. Pam

**Women Divers, continued on page 5**

Bonaire joined thousands of women scuba divers around the world on July 20 to celebrate Women Divers Day at Dive Friends. The global celebration is arguably the largest single day of organized diving. On this day women celebrate their passion for the ocean, the environment and themselves.

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## Caribbean Netherlands bans the use of single-use plastic.

Saba, St. Eustatius and Bonaire— islands surrounded by beautiful coral reefs and economically motivated to protect the marine environment—have agreed to end single-use plastic no later than 2021.

They signed an agreement with State Secretary Stientje van Veldhoven (Infrastructure and Water Management) during her recent visit. Van Veldhoven said, "The picture of a turtle with a straw in its nose is a notorious example of what discarded plastic can do. These turtles are swimming here, in the Caribbean Sea. And this step that we now take is also good for the climate; throwing away plastic after single use and burning it, is simply a deadly sin."

The three islands will draw up a plan of action within one year to eliminate single-use plastic effective 2021. The Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management will contribute financially and provide legal expertise. Experiences from the European Netherlands will be considered, such as the results of the recycling of plastic packaging and the ban on free plastic bags.

## New fuel handling facilities for Bonaire

New fuel handling facilities are going to be built on Bonaire. For planning purposes, the government is using a business model that will close the Hato location, expand the airport south terminal, and build two storage tanks near the Contour Global power plant. A pipeline will connect Contour Global to a delivery pier at BOPEC.

The airport facility will handle gasoline, diesel and kerosene. The Contour Global facility will handle fuel oil. It will assure that Bonaire can supply fuel oil independently without depending on a third party. At this point, Curoil will continue to be the Island's fuel supplier.

Bonaire has experienced long term fuel supply problems that became temporarily critical when BOPEC was seized.

A cooperation agreement will be concluded in the autumn in which Curoil, the Public Entity and the National Government will make agreements about roles, financing, process, permits, organization and feasibility study. The plan must be affordable; the security of supply must be guaranteed; and all modern safety and environmental requirements must be met. The construction will take approximately two years.

A Taskforce, "Long Term Fuel Supply Bonaire," has been working together on a structural solution of the fuel storage problems on Bonaire. It included the Public Body Bonaire (OLB), the Ministries Economic Affairs and Climate (EZK), the Infrastructure and Water Management (I&W), and Home Affairs and Kingdom Relations (BZK).



► **The quarterly Clean Up Dive is Saturday, July 27th.** Volunteers should check in at 9:30am at North Pier for a 10am briefing.

Divers should bring their certification cards (unless yours is on file), BMP tags and dive knife or shears for cutting fish line. You can contact Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire for more information about their turtle shaped line collectors. [cepa@bonaireturtles.org](mailto:cepa@bonaireturtles.org) Divers will be cleaning up around the pier. Diving under the pier is strictly forbidden as it is unsafe.

Non-divers are also needed to help with counting and logging the items removed from the water for PADI Project AWARE Dive Against Debris. The counting and logging will be conducted at Yellow Submarine after the dive.

At 6:00 pm, DiveFriends hosts a potluck BBQ for volunteers at their Hamlet Oasis location. It's a potluck, so please bring a snack, side-dish or dessert to share and they'll provide the main course and one beverage.

The clean-up is run by DiveFriends in collaboration with STINAPA and STBC.

Van Veldhoven, State Secretary Infrastructure and Water Management, together with Commissioner James Kroon (Environmental Planning), start site preparation for a fireworks storage facility in Santa Clara. For some time now Bonaire's fire department has been concerned that fireworks brought to the island are not stored safely.



Flotsam & Jetsam, continued on pages 3, 4, 5,



## TUNG FONG STORE N.V.

"The Store With Almost Everything"  
Great Service, Too!

**Kaya Korona 52 Tel. 599-717 4224 FAX. 599-717-5224**

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

► This year Cruise-critic.com named Bonaire number one in the “Best Southern Caribbean Cruise Destination” category. Cruise Critic awards are based entirely on consumer ratings.



In their press release, Tourism Corporation Bonaire (TCB) states that they work to maintain a balance between the cruise ships and Bonaire’s nature. TCB would like to thank its stakeholders and all the dedicated people who work hard to keep Bonaire “on the map.” TCB also would like to thank the community of Bonaire for their cooperation during the cruise season.

Cruise Critic is the world’s leading cruise reviews site and online cruise community **Boneiru Pabien!!**

► Deputy Nina den Heyer spoke with officials of the Alzheimer Bonaire Foundation: chairman, Evert L. Piar, vice-chairman, Henna Winklaar and secretary, Maira Vaseur. They discussed current status of the foundation as well as the daily bottlenecks and challenges. Heyer stated that the elderly have her attention and priority. The board presented the Annual Report of Stichting Alzheimer Bonaire of 2018.



STINAPA has moved the landing zone at No Name beach to the west. The dedicated area will be marked with white buoys. The change was made when rangers noticed that loading and unloading divers had become increasingly more dangerous.

► According to the government publication, Bon Bin Bonaire: **Bonaire is introducing a ban on January 1, 2021 for the use of sun creams that contain substances harmful to the coral.** A motion to that effect from island councilor Renata Domacassé received unanimous support. These are products that contain Oxybenzone and Octinoxate which have been shown by scientific research to affect the coral. The coral reefs in the protected Bonaire Marine Park are among the most beautiful in the world. A locally developed cream is now available on Bonaire that is not harmful to the coral. *Page 27, BBB.*



► August 1-30 you can register for a stand on Bonaire Day (Sept. 6). Cultural events are at Buurtcentrum Nort’i Saliña. The stands can sell food, drinks and art objects. They can provide games such as the “bon ku n” card game and children’s games. You must personally register at the office of the Skal on the Kaya E.C. Craane in Playa Pabou.

Organizations and individuals based in Bonaire have priority. You must make the payment at the Burgerzaken office

at Kaya Neerlandia 40, on the account of “Volksfeesten”. After you have paid, return to the Skal with your payment receipt to receive the approval of your request. The last day to show your proof of payment is August 30. In the event that the rent of the stand is canceled, the tenant will NOT receive the amount paid back.



► After 12 years of dry dock and restoration, the Oscarina owned by Frans Roefs is finally back in the sea. The boat was previously owned by Laura and George DeSalvo who published many issues of Port Call, (the forerunner to the Bonaire Reporter) aboard the boat. Happy sailing Frans!

Flotsam & Jetsam continued on page 4

## FOR SALE Caribbean Club Blue Tower A Penthouse with 2 separate studios for 1 price!



- Location : Resort in the North of Bonaire
- Lot size : 153 m2 / 1647 sq. ft. lease land
- Walking distance to dive site Oil Slick Leap

- 3 bedrooms / 4 bathrooms / ocean view / parking
- 2 swimming pools, dive shop, restaurant, bar
- Great investment with great rental possibilities

Listed for \$299,000 USD



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# Letters and Opinions

Dear Editor,

## WARNING FOR ALL USERS OF DIESEL FUEL.

The picture on the left shows a bottle with clean diesel fuel. On the right the residue that remained in the bottom of a 20 liter jerry can with diesel from a local gas station. Two months ago we took this sample to Curoil, the supplier of all fuels on Bonaire. They promised to investigate the contamination and let us know, but despite several reminders we never heard back from them. We repeated filling the jerry can with diesel, found a similar residue and took a sample to the government inspection office (Directie Toezicht en Handhaving) but they showed no interest and referred us back to Curoil. Butcher, inspect your own meat!



You will recall that several months ago the gas station owners temporarily closed their stations to protest the poor quality of the Curoil fuels. *Rene Hakkenburg*

*(On receipt of this letter to the editor The Reporter queried Curoil and this is the response we received.)*

*Curoil recently received a complaint regarding the quality of the fuel. Within Curoil quality is a priority and it is within this context that Curoil immediately handled this complaint and took precautionary measures. Curoil supplied all gas stations with complementary filters to capture any dirt particles. In addition, Curoil has had the fuel tested by an independent party and the results showed that the diesel is in accordance with the applicable quality specifications. Furthermore, Curoil, partly in conjunction with the gas station owners, examined the entire distribution chain and took precautionary measures to further ensure the quality of our products.*

*With kind regards, Jessica Flocker - de Freitas, Head Corporate Communications*

*Curoil Group, Willemstad, Curacao*

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The laws for boats on moorings within the Bonaire National Marine Park are quite clear. Various individuals try to interpret these rules but do not seem to understand them. One rule in particular is commonly misunderstood.

### **Only one boat per buoy or up to three small boats of 12 feet (3 meters).**

This clearly states that only one boat **OR** up to 3 small boats. This does not say one dive boat **AND** one or more small boats.

It is both common courtesy and common sense not to drive a boat up to a mooring where divers are in the water. If there is an emergency, these small boats can cause delays and generally be in the way. Also it seems that many boat owners do not know the actual length of their boats and do exceed this 3 meter rule.

Do NOT tie up to a mooring when another larger boat already is there. *Bruce Bowker*

Dear Editor,

Scott Dalton said "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."

Well Scott, when I see divers crashing through soft coral, bryozoans, smashing into coral or sitting on it, and all the other myriad things that divers with little to no buoyancy control, or

worse, those that just don't care, I will speak up. And what I have said is in exact accordance with STINAPA Marine Park Rules. Do NOT touch anything, do NOT harass any wildlife, etc.

Apparently you think that these violations are fine. Allowing them will continue to eat away at Bonaire's reefs that you claim to care about. And without cruise ship divers paying a marine park fee and hearing the rules, they apparently don't feel it necessary to respect the reef and follow the rules.

No it's not my religion to tell people how to dive. I do feel a responsibility to protect the reef and marine species. I get the impression you are someone who feels it's perfectly all right to cause damage to the reef, either through lack of skill or deliberately. Sorry, not you, nor any other diver is entitled to do that. Maybe you should stick to wind surfing and kite surfing and stay off the reef because you obviously don't respect it and probably contribute to it's continuing demise.

And by the way intolerant and intolerance are not hyphenated. *Sincerely, Larry M. Litwin*

Letter to the editor,

A brutal string of Bonaire's Historic Donkey deaths has wildlife lovers heartbroken and the crisis isn't over yet.

A pregnant mother and her foal was killed when a speeding vehicle struck her. Their deaths were followed by six more donkeys killed and vehicles damaged, on our roads in a two week period. To date there have been 30 donkeys killed in traffic related accidents this year.

**Bonaire local government and Dutch approval of The Donkey Salvation Plan, "Back to Nature" is urgent. The plan has been presented to the government six times. The plan is needed to protect Bonaire's Historic Donkeys, other imperiled animals, people and their vehicles.**

However, It does not end there. The inhumane and unreasonable catching of the donkeys of Bonaire must stop now if we are to keep a sustainable amount that will allow a healthy breed to continue to exist.

This has been noted by many international geologist and equine professional by letter to our Governor. Some state, our "Historic Donkeys" that have been isolated here for 500 years are defiantly of international interest.

Persons without proper, extensive information are threatening Bonaire's healthy breed by rapidly eliminating our Historic Donkeys that are close descendants of the African Wild Nubian Ass. The animals have been taken from their natural Bonaire habitat by inhumane catching and the females have been isolated in an area without natural forage and shortage of food on occasions. Estimates raise as high as 700 animals.

Please note once these species go extinct, we'll lose them forever.

Rightfully, the inhumane catching was stopped by the Red and Green Coalition Government until proper impact studies could be done. This rule was over turned, in 2019, by the ombudsman visit due to a letter to OLB with improper facts, that they did not attempt to verify.

Therefore the catching of the females and young has been allowed to continue due to this ruling. This is adding a round-the-clock threat to Bonaire's historic donkeys and their economic value that can extend to Bonaire's population.

Imagine a family living peacefully and a mother and her newborn calf being separated because persons with out proper studies refuse to abandon their elimination agenda.

### **SAVE Bonaire's Heritage**

**Donkeys on Bonaire/world wide should not be eradicated for Convenience, Prejudice or Profit.**

**Bonaire Donkey Protection League Foundation and Citizens For Better Safer Animal Friendly Bonaire. *AL Catalfumo.***

Have something to say? Want to give your opinion?

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

## Flotsam & Jetsam continued



### **►Divi-Divi Air once again flies Curacao-St. Maarten starting July 22nd 2019**

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday:  
DVR501 09:55 CUR-SXM 11:30  
DVR502 12:30 SXM-CUR 14:00

Friday and Sunday:  
DVR503 15:25 CUR-SXM 17:00  
DVR504 17:45 SXM-CUR 19:15

Divi has signed with FlyAllways for

an ACMI (wet-lease) of their F70, the same plane they used in March and April 2019. Return tickets range from US\$320 to \$390 (exclusive of airport tax and departure tax).

**►After 36 years at Centro Medico Central, Dr. van der Vaart has retired. He has transferred his practice to Dr. Schröder .** Schröder's GP practice will now see patients at two locations: Schröder's current office at Bonaire Medical Center and Centro Medico.

Centro Medico Central has two new general practitioners: Doctor van der Post and Doctor Lukkes. Both are experienced, Dutch certified (BIG registered)

GPs who are long-time residents of Bonaire. For the time being, the two locations will continue to exist with permanent nurses and assistants. Both locations will accept new patients.

Bonaire Medical Center is at Kaya Soeur Bartola 17. Centro Medico Central is at Kaya Soeur Bartola 7.

**►The BES public awareness campaign against domestic violence and child abuse is 18 months old.**

*"E no ta stop di mes"*

*"It doesn't stop by itself."*

Personnel from the care sector, judicial authority and the public entities of Bonaire, Saba and St. Eustatius have under-

taken to train personnel and strengthen collaboration among agencies. They have promoted three relevant relief organizations on Bonaire: • Youth & Family Center: 715 7200 • Integrated neighborhood approach: 717 2211 • Victim Support Office: 717 61 81

They have also produced nine very smart little films inviting citizens to seek support help if faced with overwhelming problems. (link to short films)<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LQFpuAC7kws&list=PLM-07h0SmYtOPm8777VTIuDWxvx2P-pNly4>

The 18-month project was financed by the Ministry of Justice and Security.



# Ask Kate Bonaire real estate advice

**Question: Are there any restrictions on foreign citizens buying Bonaire property? How long can I stay on Bonaire if I'm not a resident? Lena**

Hi Lena, Anyone may buy a property on Bonaire, you do not have to become a resident of the island. American and Dutch passport holders may stay on the island up to six months in a calendar year, passport holders from other countries are limited to three months in a six month period, with the six months beginning at time of arrival on the island. You don't need a visa if you are a passport holder from a country whose nationals are exempted from the visa requirement (this includes visitors from European Union countries and the United States.) If you do need a visa, your time on the island is limited by the date on the visa.

Remember to always check the official regulations for your particular situation. For more information, please see: <https://english.rijksdienstn.com/immigration-naturalisation/tourist-stay>

We look forward to seeing you on Bonaire! *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

## Business News

**July 15 to August 16 Dance Sensation dance school operates on a holiday schedule.** They offer a 10 strip ticket for \$95. For info look on facebook, drop by the dance school at Kaya Italia 9, call 717 1529 or email: [dskkantoor@gmail.com](mailto:dskkantoor@gmail.com).

## Remembering Hans Hass Protecting Klein Bonaire

It was not until 1970 that Hans Hass returned to the sea as a diver. He began to make a series of films for television, and in 1976 he visited with his wife Lotte again Bonaire. Again he lived in a tent under the DiviDivi tree on Klein Bonaire, and dove at the wreckage of the Windjammer on the northwest coast.



Hans Hass and Bonaire's Captain Don, 1976

He conducted an interview with Don Stewart about the development of scuba diving and tourism on Bonaire. About his visit he produced the TV-film "The Human Fish".

Hans Hass laid the foundation stone for all his future projects on Klein Bonaire in 1939. It was there that Hass set himself all those goals he was to achieve in the course of the years to follow. Therefore, there was no question for him to support a petition in February 1997 for a group that wanted to protect Klein Bonaire. "PORT CALL. Bonaire's waterfront weekly" (*The Bonaire Reporter's* predecessor) published his handwritten open letter:

*"Plea for Klein Bonaire!"*

*In 1939 I made Klein Bonaire our headquarter for skin diving and underwater photography. In fact we were the first to explore coral reefs in such a way - so Klein Bonaire is a historical spot for modern diving. A tourist development of Klein Bonaire would be a shame. Klein Bonaire should be kept as it is. Please transform it not into a tool of commerce.*

*Prof. Dr. Hans Hass"*

\*\*\*\*\*

2019 is Hans Hass' 100th birth year. 60 years after Hans' first visit to Bonaire, we thank author Michael Jung for allowing us to publish excerpts from his book in remembrance of Hans Hass' life and contributions. Here the circles close.

## Former OTB director charged

On July 15 Lieutenant Governor Edison Rijna brought formal charges against S. Balentien, past director of the government NV, Oil Trading Bonaire (OTB).

In recent weeks the media has reported that the past director of OTB, S. Balentien, overpaid himself by more than \$ 388,000 between 2014 and 2018. Balentien claimed that the payments were intended as an 'advance' on a modified management agreement and promised fee increase.

The Public Prosecutor's Office in Bonaire (OM) reviewed the file previously submitted by Gov. Rijna, and has found no signed agreements and no clear verbal commitments to justify the amounts paid. Because the charges concern a government NV, the national criminal investigation department will conduct the investigation.

Source: Department of Public Body Communication Bonaire

## Law Enforcement

### Bonaire Police Report for July 5 — July 10.

#### On the Roads

On July 5, a pickup crashed into a parked car Kaya Salsa. The driver hurt his jaw and right arm and was taken to the hospital by the ambulance. The driver was driving for work, but had no driver's license. He received a ticket, just like the one who had given him permission to drive.

On July 7, a hit and run took place on the Kaya L.D. Gerharts. A man and a woman were hit by a car. The car then continued as usual. The ambulance personnel checked both victims on the spot. They were stable.

On July 10, a man (age 37) was arrested for drink-driving.

#### Robberies

On July 5 around 21.30 an unknown man was taking some tools from a car parked on Kaya Utrecht when he was caught by a neighbor. The perpetrator succeeded in taking a Makita brand hammer.

On July 6, between 1 p.m. and 2.30 p.m. a white Mazda brand pick-up, with registration number V-1086, was stolen from the parking lot in the Center area.

#### Dive site robberies

On July 6 between 8 - 9 pm, while the owners were diving at a dive site on the Kaya J.N.E. Craane various valuables were stolen.

On July 8, between 7 - 8 am, while the owners were snorkeling, a gray Eastpak brand backpack with contents was stolen.

**Arrests** On July 8, a man (age 38) was arrested for threatening with a weapon.

**Investigations** On Monday, July 8, the police station was informed in the late afternoon hours that a car was on fire at the Kaya Internashonal. Upon arrival of the patrol, they found only smoke from under a chair. *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

## World Ranger Day 2019, Wednesday, July 31

World Ranger Day is celebrated world wide on July 31 to commemorate Rangers killed or injured in the line of duty. It celebrates the critical work Rangers do to protect the world's natural and cultural treasures.

We would like to honor and recognize our Bonaire Marine Park and Washington Slagbaai Rangers and say thank you for caring for our ever sensitive coral reefs, animals and environment. *Photo, STINAPA*

*We salute you!*

### Bonaire National Marine Park:

Leonel Martijn, Edwin Domacasse Michel Meyer, Suradno Mersera, Nashantha Mersera, Gedion Cicilia, Enchomar Wanga, Edgar Ortegon, Alessandro Vargas

### Washington Slagbaai National Park:

Manager Albert Crestian, head ranger George Cultura Thode, Clifford Cicilia, Ruchsal Caula, Rishison Frans, Henry Beaumont, Jonathan Pourier and George Saragosa.

## Women's Divers Day, continued from page 1

and her team made an official translation for the IE exams in Papiamentu for the local instructor candidates. She and Malin Kaisjer were the first certified cave divers on Bonaire. They mapped the caves with John Burge who wrote the 'how-to' cave-mapping textbook. Pam is also a supervisor at the recompression chamber.

**Francesca Viridis** has been the coordinator for Reef Renewal Bonaire coral restoration project since 2012.

Bonaire's Women Diver's Day event was coordinated by two exceptional

young women divers, Dive Friends Caitlin Hale and Sarah Sati of Mindful Island. Approximately 30 women came together to celebrate their love for the ocean through a healthy lifestyle in sustaining the environment. The women enjoyed yoga, free-diving and of course SCUBA. The food served was vegan and mostly organic. Women owned businesses on island contributed 25 prizes for a raffle. The event was held at Dive Friends Hamlet location.



# Bonaire Diving Inspires Writer



Adventure series, Bonaire!

*Deep Shadow* is an amazingly fun and easy read that you will not want to put down until you are finished. It's an action and adventure novel, mixed with a little romance. The book tells the story of two fictional dive masters, Boone Fischer and Emily Durand, who go on a shore dive hoping to find dolphins but see something a lot more interesting. Their characters are based on dive masters Mr. Sullivan has met over the years.

The book is filled with many Bonaire references. It opens with Boone and Emily shore diving at Willemstoren Lighthouse, where they find something other than a dolphin, "but it'll do."

Boone and Emily work for the fictional dive operation, Rock Beauty Divers, located next to Hamlet Oasis. The manager of Rock Beauty Divers, Thomas Dupont, known throughout the book as "Frenchy the Belgian", and the dive operation, has some similarities to the old Divi Flamingo shop from years ago. The author named the dive shop after the fish he has never been able to successfully photograph.

Another character in the book, Martin Petersen, a native Bonairean, runs a snack called Washington-Snackbaai, which is where La Fama Snack is actually located in Rincon. A "snack" is a specially

licensed business on Bonaire. It cannot have more than five tables, must sell inexpensive local food, and, one of the most important regulations, beer must be under two dollars and kept at the freezing point.

Martin would make Boone his breakfast pastechi, and offer him advice. Martin's character is loosely based on Norman, the owner of Le-Ma-Se Snack.

As you go through the book, readers familiar with Bonaire will appreciate all the local flavor and references. When a character needs to write down a phone number, he pulls out a piece of paper and writes the number on the back of a receipt from Zhung Kong supermarket.

Emily's dive flag nails were inspired by a dive master the author met at Rum Runner's at Captain Don's. He also loved Buddy Dive's BBQ night and incorporated that into the book as well.

An avid diver, Mr. Sullivan's attention to detail about the sport is clearly evident. His first dive vacation was to Bonaire twenty years ago, and he has made multiple trips since then. Commenting on his first trip to Bonaire, he says, "I realized scuba diving was the greatest form of recreation there is." He added, "I dream of moving there (Bonaire) one day."

Mr. Sullivan has been a professional actor since the early 1990's, appearing in



**Author Nick Sullivan with Norman, the owner of Le-Ma-Se Snack August 10, 2018**

film, TV, and on Broadway. He has also narrated more than 450 audiobooks during the past 25 years.

It was narrating audiobooks that led Mr. Sullivan to think about writing. His first book, *Zombie Bigfoot*, hit #1 in Horror Comedy on Amazon.

After his first book, he realized that he wanted to write about what he loves, travel and diving, resulting in *Deep Shadow*. The second book in the Caribbean Dive Adventure series, *Deep Cut*, came out earlier this year and is based in Saba.

Both books, *Deep Shadow* and *Deep Cut*, are available on Amazon and Audible. *Deep Cut* is also on sale at Sea Saba dive shop. *Story by Alan Zale/Photos courtesy the author, Nick Sullivan.*

## 2019 Winners announced for donkey photos

Results of the 2019 Historic Free Roaming Donkeys of Bonaire photography contest are in. After a successful first year we received dozens of entries from visitors across the globe. The decisions were tough, but we are excited to announce the first annual winners circle. Thank you to our professional and talented judges: Olaf Veltman and Tim Peters.

**Winners List:** Grand Prize Winner: Scott Stratmoen;

2nd Place: Patrick Faulhaber;

3rd Place: Bob Gizinski;

4th Place: Alessandra Polo;

**Runners Up:** Judy Langsner; Jill Blanchar; Alexander Taurer; Ava Bary; Christiaan Elderson; Andrew Hassell; Naina Malhotra

To view the winning images visit The Bonaire Reporter Facebook page or: [https://drive.google.com/open?id=1VnwNoR-d8\\_6Wp03rFS72BfTuc1r5xWErC](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1VnwNoR-d8_6Wp03rFS72BfTuc1r5xWErC)

Winning photos represent the donkeys of Bonaire in a variety of settings in the wild, that leave the viewer with a variety of feelings. Donkeys are featured in a variety of colors against the stunning natural backdrops of the diverse landscape of Bonaire.

Enjoy the spectacular winning photos from the 2019 Bonaire's Historic Free Roaming Donkeys Photography contest. Let these images be a reminder of the importance of protecting the donkeys in the wild on the island of a Bonaire.

A very special thank you to our sponsors who made this contest possible and continue to support the freedom of the historic donkeys on Bonaire:

- Xerox: The Obersi Group (<http://www.obersigroup.com/home.html>)
- Captain Don's Habitat (<https://www.habitatbonaire.com>)
- Cadushy Distillery (<http://www.cadushy.com>)
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- Blue Garden Restaurant (<https://www.bluegardenpizza.com>)
- Mangrove Kayak Center (<https://www.mangrovecenter.com>)

- Bistro de Paris (<http://bistrodeparis.com>)
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- Smiling Buddha Yoga Studio (<http://www.smilingbuddhayoga.org>)
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- Bonaire Donkey Protection League Foundation (<https://www.facebook.com/Bonaire-DonkeyProtectionLeague/>)



photo by A Stramoen



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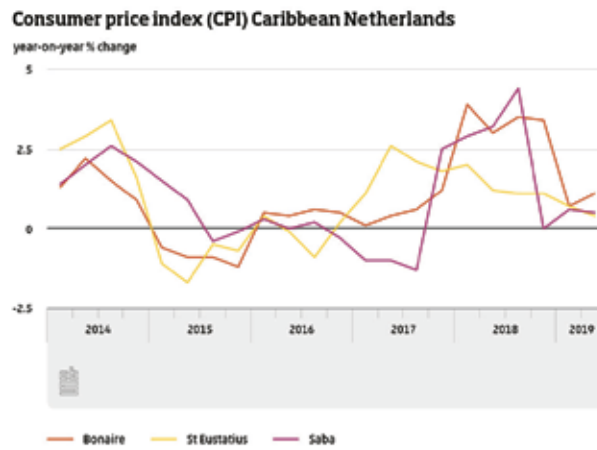
# Sunbelt funrace July 28



Annual Sunbelt Realty Funrace is scheduled for July 28, 8 am in Bolivia on Bonaire. The course heads through the mundi and kunuku areas in Bolivia giving bikers the opportunity to explore areas of the island many have never seen from a bike. Riders can experience the challenge of riding on dirt roads and single trails of either six or eight kilometer routes. The start is at the end of the asphalt road to Lagun. Signs and flags are positioned leading the way. Bikers can sign up at De Freewieler prior to the funrace or 15 minutes at the starting point on race day. There will be water, sports drinks and fruit available. For more information contact De Freewieler 717-8545 or 777-8545. The funrace is sponsored by Sunbelt Realty.

# Cost of living rises

In Q2 2019, consumer goods and services on Bonaire were 1.1 percent more expensive in 2018. In the first quarter, consumers paid 0.7 percent more than in Q1 2018. Prices also rose on St Eustatius and Saba, by 0.4 percent and 0.5 percent year-on-year respectively.



BES' rising costs jar with the Dutch Cabinet's commitment to lowering fixed costs in the Caribbean Netherlands. On July 1st and 4th Bonaire's Central Dialogue (CD) met to discuss the progress letter 'Benchmark social security Caribbean Netherlands'. They have sent a letter to the State Secretary asking, among other things, for consultation and when measures, especially on the cost side, will be taken. The Central Dialogue (CD) is a local consultative body of employers, trade unions, local government and Chamber of Commerce under the chairmanship of the lieutenant governor. Visit [www.centraaldialoogbonaire.com](http://www.centraaldialoogbonaire.com).

# Chatting about parrots and people



The babies

While it's low season for others on the island, at Echo we celebrate the High Season for the Lora's. We recognize that the population is stable and growing. Not only are they seen in bigger groups in the neighborhoods trying to survive but in the last days the baby squeak (high-pitched clicking sound the babies make) has increased among the flocks foraging for food in Rincon. With all the new members joining the existing flocks at the peak of the 2019 breeding season, there are still more fledgling learning to fly.

At the Dos Pos Conservation Center we have reached new milestones from cozy cuddles in captivity to spreading wings into the wild. Jhon and Nathan, the first babies to be born at the center last year, left the flying aviary where they have been trained to fly long distance and enjoy native forages for the last three months. They were released together with Oscar, another feathered friend rehabilitated at Dos Pos, leaving our flying aviary empty. Not for long, because we have had successful captivity breeding for the second time. This is something else to celebrate. Out of the eight eggs that were laid by two ambassador couples in May, not two, not four, but six babies were hatched at Echo, Dos Pos.

Ms. Pink and Bruce accepted that Jhon and Nathan were better off in the wild and were excited to be part of the captivity breeding program again this year. To keep it natural, they were returned to the

same artificial nest in room four they used previously. They have been there since the beginning of the year. Now they are raising their three babies next to first time breeders Earle and Sylvia that are also rearing three healthy babies.

Parents of the captive breeding program all came from a dark box confiscated in 2011 by the police. Now after

all these years, they found the courage to return to the dark, wooden nest box to rear healthy chicks that will be able to do something they have never been able to do - Fly!

We hope that with the little rain showers of the last few days the parrots and people can rely more on the well deserved wild fruit season. To secure a healthy habitat for the released ones and all the new babies born this year; Echo is preparing to kick off the fourth tree planting season of the reforestation project commissioned by the public entity of Bonaire together with STINAPA. The first tree planting day of this season will be on World Nature Conservation day, July 28, at Pos Bronswinkel in Washington Slagbaai National Park. We will repeat this community event every two weeks till the end of the rainy season.

You are invited to help us reforest Bonaire's dry forest with native trees. The new trees are also beneficial for people. Echo's aim is to safeguard the population of the yellow shouldered Amazon par-



A breeding couple.

rots in the Dutch Caribbean to achieve harmony focusing on parrot and people to support each other through conservation. Story by Julianka Clarendra . Photos by Julie Morgan



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## Van Veldhoven: keeping Bonaire clean and livable



(L) Milton Horn, Environmental Coordinator, Dutch Caribbean and (R) Sebe Buitenkamp, Manager, both of I&W. On July 18, 2019 they erected a sign at Bonaire's long abandoned shrimp farm announcing a 30,000 m2 asbestos removal project.

Photo by Alan Zale

**State Secretary Stientje Van Veldhoven of the Ministry of Infrastructure & Water Management (I&W)**

State Secretary Van Veldhoven endorsed several specific environmental projects during her working visit to Saba, Sint Eustatius and Bonaire July 14-18, 2019. She heads up the Ministry of Infrastructure & Water Management (I&W).

On Bonaire, she initiated:

- site preparation for a new, safe fireworks storage facility in Santa Clara (see page 2);
- closing the Morotin landfill in Rincon, the largest illegal landfill in the Caribbean Netherlands;
- supporting the asbestos removal project at the former shrimp farm near Sorobon.

She also signed agreements on all three islands to ban single-use plastic. (see page 2).

## Sharks are protected in Bonaire's marine park.

STINAPA has been told that sharks are still being fished. Sharks have been protected by law in Bonairean waters since 10-10-10.

STINAPA stresses that sharks are legally protected. It is strictly forbidden to fish and / or buy sharks and manta rays. All species of sharks and manta rays in Bonaire's waters are protected by local and international laws.

Sharks and manta rays are globally protected because they are threatened with extinction. This is mainly due to industrial overfishing in which the sharks are caught for their fins and then thrown back into the water alive and left to die. The shark is a very important species. Sharks keep marine life in balance and healthy. If we destroy of the shark population, we are also destroying the ocean and our eco-system in which we live.

Many countries and jurisdictions throughout the world have enacted complete or partial bans on shark fishing. Many airlines and hotels have refused to transport, serve or sell shark fin products.

STINAPA would like to point out once again that it is against the law to fish and / or sell sharks.



The illegal practice of tribon finning



## Gibi's Lora café in Rincon



Gibi and his Loras at feeding time.

During the drought hundreds of Bonaire's yellow shouldered parrots, (the Lora) fly to one good hearted man in Rincon, Gilbert "Gibi" A Coffie.

At the same time every morning and evening Gibi sets out water, bird food

and peanuts. If you drive by, you will see the beautiful Lora perching in the trees to wait for Gibi to feed them.

In 2012 Gibi noticed Loras in the street eating Calbash fruit. To save them from passing cars, he moved the fruit to the

fence and then later into his yard. He began feeding them bird food on mounted trays, a small table and even on his roof. In 2015 the birds decided Gibi was an okay guy and began landing on his body and perching on his head. Now they even eat from his hands. The birds flock around him squabbling over who has the prime spot on his body.

"They come for about eight months of the year and then when it is green they go away; but a few still come," said Gibi.

Approximately 100 Lora visit Gibi every morning and evening. He said they are here waiting everyday at 5 o'clock. His neighbor Myrna Yanga's home is the second stop for the Lora. Although they aren't quite as outgoing with Myrna, she enjoys them and feels it is important to help them during the drought.

The birds go through quite a bit of food between the two food stops. Gibi uses a huge bag of bird feed and a bag of whole peanuts every week feeding the Lora.

Echo director Julianka Clarenda said, it

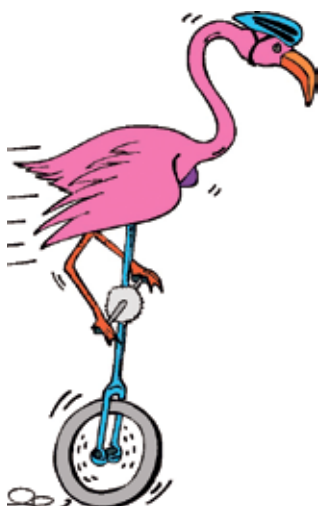


Myrna Yanga, Gibi's neighbor, is the second food stop for the Lora. She stands watching them from her door.

was better the birds get the food from Gibi and Myrna rather than eat from peo-

Gibi's café continued on page 10

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## Sunbelt Realty Funrace

Zondag 28 juli 2019

Inschrijfgeld: \$10,-

Sunbelt Realty

Inschrijven bij De Freewieler of tot 15 min voor de start op locatie

Lokatie: Lagoen/Bolivia

Start 08:00 uur

Gekoeld water, sportdrink en fruit gratis aanwezig

Informatie bij De Freewieler of FB





# Donkey Caught Stealing Hamburger Buns

George the Donkey looks away sheepishly after taking a bag of hamburger buns that were left unattended by Louis Petrich, an owner at Sand Dollar. Petrich had stepped away from the grill to get a drink and when he returned George had the bag of buns in his mouth. Startled when Petrich emerged from his condo, George dropped the bag. Petrich was able to save five out of the six buns but George did make off with one.



George is a male donkey that has been visiting Sand Dollar Condos since last summer according to the Sand Dollar Owner's Newsletter. The newsletter explains that George was not part of herd and was badly beaten this past March when he tried to join one.

Owners from Sand Dollar requested help from the Donkey Protection League who supplied them with antibiotics for the badly injured George. Every evening George would return to Sand Dollar for his medication and was showing improvement after three days.

Soon, after treatment, George was in much better shape and posing for pictures. Most recently he has been looking for hamburger buns. *Photo and Story by Alan Zale*

# Coaches selected for Real Madrid



Real Madrid clinic coaches: Ramfis Sint Jago; (unidentified); Brian van den Bergh of Real Madrid; Terence da Costa Gomez and Franklin Nicolaas

Four local candidates tried out for selection as soccer coaches during the Real Madrid soccer clinic on July 13 at Kralendijk Stadium. Brian van den Bergh, Dutch Antilles director of Fundacion Real Madrid Clinic, choreographed the event. The candidates were asked to coach 50 of the kids who will be participating in the clinic.

The youngsters were divided into four groups and put through various skills and training modes by the coach candidates. After several hours of training, van den Bergh accepted all four of the men to be coaches for the clinic. Real Madrid soccer clinic for Bonaire's local youth will be held August 13th to 16th Soccer practice photos with the kids and new coaches will be posted on The Reporter Facebook page.

# Reef Glimpses

## Spotted Morays and Cleaners

In this first photo you can see the cleaner goby on the moray, and also the whiskers of the banded coral shrimp, another cleaner, on the moray. The shrimp itself is difficult to see because it's facing the camera and only has one claw, but there's no question it's there.



More than once, I've seen cleaner critters jump aboard a moray swimming along the reef. They provide a quick servicing, then return to their stations before they ride the moray too far.

Cleaner animals really like spotted morays.

Maybe because they're so popular with cleaners, morays are willing to share. This moray is perfectly comfortable with the trunkfish client and the camera, as is the scarlet lady cleaner shrimp. Its mate is inside the pipe, showing only whiskers to the camera. *This photo was taken by, C. David Batalisky, Touch the Sea*

"Well," I thought, "if the moray is so willing to share its cleaners, maybe it would share them with a person, not just another fish!"

Would you believe that I couldn't get a single person to volunteer for this modeling job? Not one! I got to be both photographer and model.

This was in the (golden) days of the Nikons, and I used a thingy called the Close-Up Kit, which covers an area about 9" (23 cm) x 5" (13 cm). A small strobe was attached to the system, so I was able to take photos with only one hand, a good thing since my other hand had to be my model. We were under the Pier, the bottom beneath me was sand and rubble with no coral at all; I could very slowly move closer to the moray and shrimp.



Once I was close enough, I positioned the camera, then very slowly extended my hand. The moray wasn't disturbed. After a couple of minutes one scarlet lady jumped aboard my hand and began busily cleaning my cuticle while the other stayed with the moray. I snapped the shutter.

The photo was taken with the camera a little crooked – maybe it wasn't all that easy to use one-handed. And just maybe – not that I remember it like this at all -- I was the tiniest bit uncomfortable.



Nah. *Dee Scarr*

*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 touchthesea.com.*



The Mendel family (pictured with Bruce), who have been diving with Bruce Bowker's Carib Inn, were the first people to get their STINAPA Bonaire Marine Park Tags with the new online QR system. They are numbers 01-06!!! They were impressed with how simple and easy the new process is!



**"Great food, great value!!!"**  
Neptune, New Jersey USA - Sept. 2013

**"Hopi dushi mes."**  
Kralendijk, Bonaire - Nov. 2012

**"Heel erg lekker"**  
Amsterdam, The Netherlands - July 2013

<b>WEEKENDS ONLY...</b>	Friday 6-10 PM
	Saturday 6-10 PM
	Sunday 12-2 & 6-10 PM

# A Garden? Just Do It!

## Prepare your soil.

Some rain showers came down the past two weeks right above my yard and, of course, in my living area. The rain prompted me to prepare my soil. People think that water is the most important thing for a plant. But that is not true. There are more necessary ingredients for a successful garden.



Mixed dirt, ready for gardening

To have a good harvest, it is important to prepare the garden soil a few months before planting and sowing. The planting area should be a total mix of healthy soil with nutritional ingredients that will feed the plants so they grow strong and produce enough vegetables and fruit. First step is to gather all necessary soil: black dirt, red dirt, dry leaves and/or organic compost, charcoal and or ash and manure. The best manure is from rabbit, bats, goats and cows. Chicken and donkey manure needs preparation and to rest for a long time before using, otherwise the plants will get bad and dry out. The PH of donkey and chicken manure is too high and too strong, so most plants die when this manure goes fresh into the soil. It has to rest first and dry in the sun. Then soak it in water and rinse and repeat the procedure a few times. Donkey, horse and chicken manure has to get old and dry and to look like a rough powder before using.

The other mentioned manures are softer for plants and will feed them fat. Mix manure with the dirt and rotten leaves, compost, used charcoal (it can be from BBQ) and ash in a big container or on the ground and let it stay a while. After a month spread this mix over the topsoil of your garden and mix it with this topsoil and leave it to rest again. Preparing soil needs time including the time that it has to rest. With the water and wind, the soil is mixing itself and becomes a healthy topsoil for the next planting season. It's very good to mix the topsoil with very dry old grass without seeds. Also wood dust, which one can get from carpenters. But ask first if this is pure wood, so its not treated with pesticides. This wood dust keeps the topsoil moist and it's good for the plants. Also keep a heap of cut grass dried in the sun to mix with topsoil. Tea bags are also a good solution to keep soil moist. I have been told that used coffee pads and grains are very good against bugs and will not harm the plants. When you have your garden ready, and the young plants

are planted, just add some dry manure on top of the soil every three weeks. This manure keeps feeding the soil and keeps your plants strong. Good mixed soil with a balanced PH keeps your plants healthy and keeps sicknesses and some bugs away. Stronger the plants are less sensitive to viruses and bugs. They can withstand the drought and strong wind better.

## Easy-to-grow Napoles.

Some people want to have green in their yard but want the plants easy to grow. There is an easy plant which can be consumed too. Do you dare to eat cacti which are called nopales? Look at the picture. We all know them because Bonaire is full of all types of cacti including these types. And you know what, it's an amazing vegetable and it becomes more and more a popular food in the world. The nopal cactus is more known as the prickly pear cactus. It is native to Mexico and famous for its health benefits, due to its high antioxidants that have anti-inflammatory properties, fiber, carbohydrates, vitamin A, vitamin C, vitamin K and minerals.

Nopales are the pads of this cactus. They are eaten as a vegetable and can be sauteed, eaten raw, turned into juices, jams, tea or cooked as a stoba. Look for the many recipes to make a great dish. There are three different colors of prickly pears: red-purple, white-green and yellow-orange. The red-purple variety has the most anti-oxidants.



My own napoles

The cactus has been used in traditional medicine. Cactus nopales and fruit are used to treat: glaucoma, wounds, fatigue, liver conditions and ulcers. Fresh nopal juice lowers blood sugar, cholesterol and benefits diabetes.

To cook the pads, remove the thick green skin and thorns; then rinse to remove the slimy texture. Diced nopal can be sauteed in olive oil, then added to a salad, tacos, fajitas or scrambled eggs.

So if you like new recipes, try nopales, and if you don't have it in your garden, start planting it now. It loves Bonaire soil. Angliet, Nature lover



# Making Bonaire "Accessible"

## OUR WHEELCHAIR CHALLENGES # 15



If a picture paints a thousand words, then why...as you must have noticed, the picture that accompanies my stories, has been replaced by a really nice one. And I get a lot of good

comments. So, I would like to forward those to the photographer. She really knows how to shoot great pictures. The moment the picture was taken, I was not well at all, but the picture does not show that. My bright smile covers all the bad stuff.

One of the reasons I rarely place real pictures with my stories, is that it is not allowed without the permission of the subject. But of course, I would like to very much show all those wonderful people and tell about the rights they have but do not get.

There is a young woman whose eyesight is very bad. She wants to drive a car, but Insurance does not cover that, because of her handicap. Now she must drive a scooter-mobile.

And then there is this hard working cook. His leg was amputated and he is still so motivated that he is looking into possibilities to get to the beach and swim, like he used to.

The lady with cerebral palsy who has been fighting all her life to get to where she wants to be and even further.

A woman with mental retardation who wants nothing more than to be recognized and learn to live on her own. She just wants to be able to be the special person that she is.

A young man with mental retardation

who is angry at the world because he has been neglected from his birth on. He wants to be understood and loved. That is all.

Not only the persons with a handicap, but all the care-takers need attention too. Especially those who take care of a loved one at home.

There is the lady who is always at the side of her husband, after he suffered a bad stroke many years ago. Later he had smaller strokes and yet, she is always there for him, together with their daughter.

And then there is the mother who took care of her mother, her husband and her son. Always on the job, 24 /7, and still having an ear and eye for other people who care for someone.

And there are more, many more. All those very lonely people who stay at home and keep to themselves. They need our attention. They need to be seen to, taken care of and given the attention they need.

This can happen professionally, but also privately. In Papiamentu there is a saying : "hari, saka djente". Which means: laugh and show them your teeth; make it seem like a smile and keep the rest to yourself.

Volunteers, friends, neighbors and social clubs are all needed to make those people feel good. They take them for an outing, a drink, a drive or get-together for a card-game. Taking care of someone has to come from the heart. That is when that smile gets real and bright. And then we can make a group photo that lights up our whole dushi Bonaire.

Ria Evers-Dokter

### Gibi's Lora café continued from page 8

ple's mango or other desired fruit trees.

"We would prefer they eat more of the wild fruit like the Calbash or Watakeli seeds. It might also be a great project for people to donate their old fruit to feed the parrots," said Julianka.

Gibi has a true love and appreciation for the Lora. He says they are the smartest birds on Bonaire.

Gibi is a craftsman and part-time mechanic by trade. He says he's good with his hands and can fix everything! Myrna works a few days at the Museo Chich'I Tan.

If you would like to help Gibi and Myrna feed the Lora during the dry season call 599-956-9736 and leave a message. Gibi is hoping to develop a website so everyone can share the experience of the Lora. *Story and photos by Julie Morgan.*



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## Did You Know... that there are five different species of terns that nest in the Pekelmeer area?



**Tern breeding colony.** Photo by Paulo Bertuol

The terns that nest in the Pekelmeer area are the least tern, the common tern, the cayenne tern, the royal tern, and the roseate tern.

In addition to being a Ramsar site and Important Bird Area (IBA), the Pekelmeer area managed by Cargill is also a Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve (WSHRN) site. A WSHRN site is a place deemed to be important in the life cycle of many different shore bird species. While there are over 106 WSHRN sites, only two of these are in the Caribbean. And Pekelmeer is one of them! This unique environment plays an important role in the lives of many birds and many are endangered species that travel long distances to get to places where they can

lay their eggs and raise their young. The five tern species you can see in Bonaire also fall in this category; they make an incredible journey just to get to our beautiful Bonaire and raise their chicks.

Terns are fascinating birds. You can often see them flying along the shoreline or near the salinas looking as graceful as ballerinas. Observe them long enough and you are guaranteed to see them diving for fish in incredible displays of aerial acrobatics. The five species found on Bonaire come in a range of sizes: the smallest of them, the least tern, is only 24 cm long, while the royal tern, the second largest tern species in the world, is more than double their size at a whopping 50 cm long. Terns nest in large colonies often

consisting of different species. Like many bird species, terns have a variety of calls, or vocalizations, that are often meant to communicate a specific message. You can just imagine the cacophony of sound that is a tern breeding colony.

Cargill, recognizing the importance of these amazing birds, together with STINAPA, conducted surveys during the nesting season from 2014 to 2017. Not only were all the known nesting sites surveyed to count the number of nests with eggs and the hatchlings, under the guidance of IMARES an artificial nesting island was created. The purpose of this island was to attract more birds to a safe nesting area away from potential predators. From these surveys we learned a lot about the terns in the Pekelmeer area. One of the most exciting findings was in 2015. STINAPA biologist Paulo Bertuol discovered that roseate terns were nesting in the salt pans; as far as we know this was the first recorded incidence of this species nesting on Bonaire since the 1960s! Unfortunately it was not all good news. The survey also found that the greatest threat to tern nesting success was feral cats. On multiple instances cats were recorded attacking the nests resulting in either the eggs being destroyed or the chicks being killed. This illustrates why it is so important to not release unwanted strays into nature around the island. Cats are incredibly well adapted predators. On many islands they have driven many ground nesting birds to near extinction!

This year STINAPA, together with Cargill, went back for a one time count of

the tern nests, hatchlings, and chicks. The results were overwhelmingly positive. Once again roseate terns were found to be nesting in the salt pans. We even found two adorable fluffy chicks. As for the other tern species that also use this area, their populations also seem healthy and are doing well. The numbers from this year are looking even better than those from previous years.

The terns were not only using breeding sites identified in previous years, including the artificial island, they also seem to have branched out into novel territory, a possible indication of growing populations. Because terns and many other species of shorebirds lay their eggs on the ground it becomes extra important during nesting season to be careful around the shorelines and the salinas; you wouldn't want to accidentally destroy a nest!



**Tern nest on the ground. Can you find the egg?** Photo by Roxanne-Liana Francisca

*Written by STINAPA Biologists Roxanne-Liana Francisca and Paulo Bertuol, Connecting People With Nature*

## First sea turtle nests of 2019 hatch



Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire (STCB) is excited to share that the first nests of the 2019 sea turtle nesting season have hatched! The first hatchlings, 114 loggerheads, headed to the water on June 21st and STCB expects the first hawksbill nest to hatch this week.

Each year, an average of 100 sea turtle nests are laid on the beaches of Bonaire and Klein Bonaire. During the nesting season, STCB trained volunteers patrol the beaches every morning, looking for sea turtle tracks and other signs of turtle activity. If a nest is found, the volunteers and STCB staff locate the egg cavity, which contains between 100 and 200 eggs, depending on the sea turtle species. The nest is then marked, so it can

be monitored daily during the incubation period of 50-60 days, to ensure that the nest remains safe and undisturbed.

Companies, friends and families help STCB keep the eggs safe by adopting the nests laid by (critically) endangered green, hawksbill and loggerhead turtles. With their support, STCB monitors the nesting beaches, places barriers around nests that need additional protection and collects data that help determine, amongst others, the hatching success of the nests.

Bonaire residents and tourists can support the conservation work of STCB, and learn about Bonaire's nesting population at by joining a sea turtle nest monitoring patrol on Klein Bonaire. Between May and November, STCB conducts patrols three times a week, on Monday, Wednesday and Friday morning. During these patrols, you can help STCB's turtle experts look for new activities, including false crawls, attempts and new and hatched nests.

To learn more about STCB's work or to find out how you can help, please contact STCB's Communications and Fundraising Officer Kaj Schut at cepa@bonaireturtles.org.

Thank you for adopting a nest in 2019: Best Cellars Bonaire, Blue Jay Holding Bonaire, Bonaire Office Systems, Administratiekantoor Brandaris, Brave Water Foundation, Buts Technical Consultancy, The Cadushy Distillery, Cargill Salt Bonaire, Casa Presioso, Contour-Global, Dan & Christine Fisher, Dinska Dohmen, Dive Friends Bonaire, dNM Interim, Doris & Martin Elle, Hamlet Oasis Resort, Harbour Village Beach Club, Harbourtown Real Estate, HVK

Stevens, International Tax Advisors, Jim & Judy Kewley, Joan & Alan Zale, Labor Omnia Vincit BV, Michael & Anne Contratto, Moon Tower, Nagico Insurances, Nederlands-Belgische Schildpaddenvvereniging, Parrot Island Divers, Patricia Coe, QVillas Bonaire, RE/MAX, Sand Dollar Ca'Nesta', Sand Dollar TLC 1 & 2, Sunbelt Realty, Sundhevy & Stijn, The Laughing Seahorse, Villa Kiki, VIP Diving and Wadyckis Family. *By Kaj Schut*



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# What's Happening

Saturday, July 27	<p><b>N.Pier Clean-up Dive</b> Friends in collaboration with Stinapa and STBC 9.30am. PottatchBBQ 6pm. See page 2.</p> <p><b>Mashe Rincon Krioyo</b> Street market in Rincon, 1st &amp; last Saturday each month</p> <p><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 &amp; crafts, plants &amp; vegetables, educational presentations and an exhibition about Rincon. Fun, relaxed and entertaining for kids and adults alike. All proceeds go to our educational programs. SEE, FEEL AND TASTE THE CULTURE OF BONAIRE.</p>
Sunday, July 28	<p><b>Annual Sunbelt Realty Funrace</b>, 8 am in Bolivia on Bonaire. See page 7.</p> <p>Echo and STINAPA host a tree planting day for World Nature Conservation day at Pos Bronswinkel in Washington Slagbaai National Park. See page 7.</p>
Saturday, August 3	<p><b>Mashe Rincon Krioyo</b> Street market in Rincon, 1st &amp; last Saturday each month</p> <p><b>Taste of Bonaire</b> Recycle Edition, 6pm-11pm, Wilhelmina Park. Sample local and international food from fine restaurants, meet Bonaire's artisans, buy local souvenirs, enjoy live music and dancing. At this Taste of Bonaire, Selibon reminds us that everyone can recycle.</p>

# 2019 Cruise Ships

DAY	DATE	CRUISESHIP	TIME	PIER	CAPACITY	& LINE
Tuesday	7-23	Monarch	0800-1800	N.pier	2744	Pullmantur
Tuesday	7-30	Monarch	0800-1800	N.pier	2744	Pullmantur
Thursday	8-1	Freedom	0800-1700	S.pier	3782	RCCL
Friday	8-2	Insignia	0700-1300	N.pier	824	Oceana

## 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

**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** every two weeks. For more info. 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 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-10am in Dutch. Rincon, Kaya C.D. Crestian; Sunday 8:30am in Papiamentu/Dutch.

**Children's Club** Saturday 4:30-6pm in Kralendijk, (church annex) Marytjin@gmail.com or Daisycoffie@hotmail.com

**Dutch service** Sunday 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 in English; 10:45am-Sunday school for all ages. 717-8332 or ride bonaireibc@gmail.com.

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

**Our Lady of Coromoto in Antriol.** Satur-

day 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 ellenhereracochrane@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.

## REGULAR EVENTS

1188 or email info@echobonaire.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 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 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, Bolacentre GOLDFINCH (next to baseball centre on Kaminda Sorobon) Info: 786-0150.

**Reef Renewal Bonaire.** A free educational presentation every Sunday at 6:30pm at Blennies at Buddy Dive. For questions, email info@reefnewalbonaire.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-

## Bonaire Reporter Classifieds—SELL!

Call 796-4055 or e-mail [BonaireReporter2019@gmail.com](mailto:BonaireReporter2019@gmail.com)

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**Finding the Milky Way**

Light pollution is a big problem. City lights, illuminating signs, parking lots, buildings. The more light that we shine up, the less light the stars shine down. Even though it's invisible from cities, we can share a sneaky tip to find the Milky Way in your sky.

Let's pretend it's 11 o'clock at night and we're far from city lights. In the countryside it is so dark. You can see so many stars that you can't even count them all. We're facing south and you can also see a faint band of light. It will span nearly 180 degrees of the sky. This is the Milky Way. When you look at the Milky Way, you are observing billions and billions of stars. This is the galaxy we live in and its stars are all around us.

There are so many stars in our line of sight that they appear as milky clouds. Most ancient cultures were just as fascinated with the Milky Way as they were with any planet or constellation. You can definitely see why. Out in the country it dominates the sky.

Some bright and famous constellations can be found along the Milky Way such as Cassiopeia the Queen, Cygnus the Swan, and Sagittarius the Archer. Cassiopeia is one of the most recognizable constellations and on summer evenings, she sits on her throne in the northeastern sky. Those stars that look like the letter w—that's a queen if you use your imagination. In that case, picture this w-shape of stars as Cassiopeia's crown, sparkling with five stellar jewels. Now, kick back and look high in the eastern sky. You'll see three very bright stars marking the summer triangle. The summer triangle includes three constellations: Lyra the Harp, Cygnus the Swan, and Aquila the Eagle.

Let's focus on Cygnus since it's probably the easiest to identify because of its cross-like shape. In fact, it's also called the northern cross. Cygnus' brightest star is Deneb, which marks the tail of the swan. Cygnus is located in an extremely rich part of the Milky Way, so imagine it flying along the great river in the sky.

Near Deneb, the Milky Way branches into two channels leaving a dark region in the middle called the Cygnus rift. Now face south. Here the Milky Way threads between two zodiacal constellations - Scorpius and Sagittarius. Scorpius the Scorpion is easy to spot with its bright red star and its curved tail-stars. The stars in Sagittarius resemble more of a teapot than a centaur wielding a bow and arrow. But when you look between Scorpius and Sagittarius, you're peering into the center of our galaxy. In that direction, there are billions and billions of stars, and at the very center lies a supermassive black hole.

Of course, you can't see the Milky Way if you're a city-bound star gazer. Even though the Milky Way disappears in the city, we still have three constellations clearly visible to guide us. Cassiopeia, Cygnus, and Sagittarius. And that's where the Milky Way is - even if you can't see it. Once you identify Cassiopeia, Cygnus, or Sagittarius, scan these regions of the sky with binoculars. With just a little magnification, a wealth of stars will be revealed to you. You can start counting those billions and billions of stars as you keep looking up.

**Get your socks on**  
by Ronnie Heijmans

**Train your mind**

A lot of people say that Bonaire is an Island where you can relax without stress. Although Bonaire is a very relaxing and beautiful island, people can get stressed out here. You can get stress everywhere, it is an emotional problem not a geographic one.

A workout is not only good for your physical health but is also a real, proven stimulus for your mental health. Now days a lot of people call themselves a "vitality coach" or "mindfulness coach", but it isn't a certified profession yet. If you want a proven way to kickstart your mental health just go to the gym. Lets call it muscular meditation.

The mental benefits of exercise have a neuro-chemical basis. Exercise reduces levels of the body's stress hormones, such as adrenaline and cortisol. It also stimulates the production of endorphins, chemicals in the brain that are the body's natural painkillers and mood elevators. Endorphins are responsible for the "runner's high" and for the feelings of relaxation and optimism that accompany many hard workouts — or, at least, the hot shower after your exercise is over.

Behavioral factors also contribute to the emotional benefits of exercise. As your waistline shrinks and your strength and stamina increase, your self-image will improve. You'll earn a sense of mas-

**Backin' Up Is Hard To Do.**  
**(Apologies to Neil Sadaka.)**

Take a picture with your phone. Easy. Write a document on your PC. Easy. It all goes in that device and stays there forever, even when it is lost, stolen, dropped in the water, electrocuted, run over, eaten by the dog, peed on by the cat, or otherwise quits working. No problem. What, me worry? Apple, Microsoft and Google-Android look after me... right? **WRONG!!!**

Your computer, phone or tablet is made up of billions and billions of electronic bits, fans, motors, and other parts – and the failure of any one of them can cause your device to come to a dead stop – sometimes with magic smoke pouring out, sometimes just sitting there with a blank screen. So, now what?

First and foremost – You did make a backup, right? Great – Then you have only lost what you added since your last backup. When was it? 2005 you say... the day you got your computer.... Nothing since? Hmm, I hope you have a nice life – I hear the ocean calling me. Bye. If you have been making backups, then you are prepared for this and can handle it on your own. But, if you haven't got a recent backup, then here's what you need to know.

**Phones/Tablets**

Most phones or tablets have some sort of automatic backup. I am not familiar with the Apple systems, but for Android, the files, settings, programs, etc, are usually backed up automatically to your Google Drive account. If you need to get a new phone/tablet, then you can usually just log in to your Google account as part of the setup procedure and all the information is put onto your new device.

**Computers**

A bit harder – since there is no real automatic system provided with the operating systems (Mac, Linux or Windows), so you need to figure out how to do it. There are various backup programs you can use and they use either a cloud based backup storage or backup devices that connect to your computer, such as external hard disks that plug into your USB port or Network Storage Devices.

Some programs make an exact duplicate (image) of your hard disk (One that provides this is called "Casper"). This allows you to just swap the dead hard disk for the backup and continue working and is the fastest for a hard-drive only problem. Others do a partial backup on a daily, weekly or monthly basis and only copy the files which have changed. This is a bit harder to recover from.

I personally use 3 external USB hard drives that I rotate and backup a full image on a weekly basis, a 3TB Network Storage Device where I do a daily backup, and Dropbox to store certain files on the cloud.

One thing to remember is to test the recovery process. The last thing you want to find out when you lose all your files is that the backup didn't work.

And even though you have to spend a bit of money on hardware, just remember, how valuable all those pictures of your children and family are which you can never replace?

USB drives are available at Super Store, City Shop, Bondigro, and online for approx \$100 and up, depending on the amount of storage you need.

One last point to remember – do not store your backups beside your computer. If you are broken into and a thief steals your laptop, he will probably take whatever else is on the desk as well. Store them in places nobody would look.

Good luck, and I hope you never need your backups...*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.



tery and control, of pride and self-confidence. Your renewed vigor and energy will help you succeed in many tasks, and the discipline of regular exercise will help you achieve other important lifestyle goals.

Because the root cause of stress is emotional, it is best controlled by gaining insight, reducing life problems that trigger stress, and modifying behavior. But stress control can — and should — also involve the body. Exercise is one approach as physical fitness will help promote mental fitness. But there is another approach, you can learn to use your mind to relax your body. The relaxed body will, in turn, send signals of calm and control that help reduce mental tension.

So if you want a healthy body with a

healthy mind, combine a workout and meditation in your routine. Also take note of your breathing. Breathing deeply can cause your body to produce endorphins.

So relax and go the gym, and relax again. *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.*



# Picture Yourself in The Reporter

Alice and Bud Bracken's 30th annual 4th of July Lobster Feast in Lititz, Pennsylvania brought together this group of Bonaire loving people.

Everyone in this photo are Bonaire alumni – even the dog!

The Bracken's are gold level TCB ambassadors and are known for bringing groups of eight to 20 people on their Bonaire visits.

Seated L-R are gold level ambassador Resa Director, 20 year visitor Leslie Koppel, Nani the service dog and Josh Gress. Back L-R, gold level ambassador Mark Director, 20-year visitor Steve Hancock, gold level ambassadors Alice and Bud Bracken, Bob Bracken, John and Dawn Flaharty and Ashley Gress. The group proudly displays three "vintage Bonaire Reporters and Ellen Mueller's 2020 Underwater Bonaire calendar.

Are you elsewhere? We'd love to see you in *The Reporter*. Hold up the printed version, or go digital and pose with *The Reporter* as it appears on your ipad, phone, computer.



## Shelter News



- **Looking for a gift** for the person who has everything or as a remembrance? Animal Shelter Bonaire has a special donation program where a donation can be made in honor of someone's birthday, the loss of a beloved pet, or any other special occasion or event.

CAUSE FOR PAWS certificates can be issued for a donation of \$100.00 or more and contain the name of the honoree(s) and who made the gift donation. As an example, a donation was made recently as a birthday gift for a friend who lost both his cat and dog this year. In addition to the certificate, the Shelter will name two shelter animals (a cat and a dog) after the beloved companions of that recipient.

It's a gift that keeps on giving by helping save the homeless animals on Bonaire and giving them a second chance. Contact us at [animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com](mailto:animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com) if you want to give this special gift.

- **Vacation volunteering.** Did you know that Animal Shelter Bonaire welcomes volunteers who are just



**Travis**

vacationing on Bonaire? Many of our island visitors are divers who are accompanied by friends and family who are not divers and are looking for something to do while their travel mates are under water. Or maybe it's a "non-diving" day and you'd like to spend some time sharing island life. Volunteering at the shelter is a great way to spend a day (or two!) helping to care for and cuddle all our lovable residents. You'll be working with our staff and seasoned volunteers so no previous experience is required. Contact us at [animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com](mailto:animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com) before or during your vacation to make plans. *Jane Disko*

### Pet of the Week: Kai

*Hello Friends!*



My name is Kai. I am three months old and an "orange" kitty, though everyone here says I look like a little lion. I guess it's because my paws are big like a lion's and I am very majestic! When all the other cats heard that I was the "Pet of the Week", I think they were a little

bit envious of me. I was very excited because there is a new movie out with a lion cub that looks like me!

I really enjoy sitting in the hammocks or on a perch pretending that it is my Pride Rock and that I am the king of the cat palace. Being king, I always feel I deserve to be fed first, granted the other cats don't agree. The humans here give me lots of attention and love to massage my paws, which I gladly accept.

I am good with all the other kitties and even small humans. I really would like a human that will take me to my new kingdom and let me be the king of the house, while spoiling me with food and love. I have made lots of friends here at the shelter and I can introduce you, if you want to bring some

of them home with me too! You can visit me at Kaminda Lagun 26A from Monday till Friday from 9am-12 pm and 3-5pm, and on Saturday from 9am till 3pm nonstop or call for me at 7014989 or 7174989. *Story and photos by Laurie Smith*



- **Andre, successful pet of the week.**

Remember Andre, last issue's Pet of the Week? Bonaire Reporter readers took note and the Shelter received many visitors and phone calls about this wonderful dog. Andre has an adoption option and hopefully will soon be in his "fur-ever" home. *Jane Disko*



# At Your Service

The following businesses have been recommended by Bonaire residents.  
Introductory rate - call or email for availability - 796-4055 - BonaireReporter2019@gmail.com

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## Santa Barbara, Kaya Jade 8

### Highlights:

- family house and plunge pool
- great island and sea views from 2nd floors
- attractive rental potential
- in a quiet dead-end street in a residential area
- carport & off street parking
- separate storage/workshop in the garden
- freehold land (registered 4-A-43)
- total lot size: 5,382 sq.ft / 500 m<sup>2</sup>
- living area: 2,141 sq.ft / 199 m<sup>2</sup>

**Asking price**  
**US\$ 325,000**

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