

FREE

BONAIRE

Sept. 2-Sept. 16, 2019, Year 26, Issue 18

The REPORTER



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Dia di Boneiru
Sunfish Worlds
48 Hour Film Project
Tax issue almost closes Port



Wounded Warriors dive Carl's Hill: L to R: Specialist Jason Coello (Army), Sgt. Gilroy Parks (Army), Sgt. Lou Tavares (Marine Corps/Army) (back), Staff Sgt. Asif Haider (Air Force), Colonel Kevin McMahon (Army) (back), Wilco Landzaat (Dive shop), Sgt. Danny Rodriguez (Marines), PO2 Albert Raguseo (Navy), Stewart Snyder. Photos & story: Julie Morgan. More Wounded Warrior on pages 6 & 12 and on our Facebook page.

Wounded Warriors welcomed to Bonaire again

After a four-year hiatus, the Wounded Warriors returned to Bonaire for a week of scuba diving and fun August 24 – 31. As always, the Warriors were accompanied by the dedicated Handicapped Scuba Diving Alliance instructor, Stewart “Stew” Snyder.

Stew works with handicapped adults and kids out of the hospital Centra State in Freehold, New Jersey. He’s made 22 trips to Bonaire from the U.S. with the Wounded Warriors since 2006.

The nine soldiers, seven men and two women, were stationed in either Afghanistan or Iraq and served in the army, navy, air force or Marine Corps.

Stew told us none of these warriors have any visible physical impairment but most are suffering from PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder).

When they landed in Bonaire, all the warriors had completed their open water certification, but some challenged themselves by taking advanced open water, nitrox or rescue classes.

“Diving takes their minds off themselves and what they went through. The warriors find it peaceful underwater. This

is a week about fun and learning,” Stew said.

Putting the initial project together in 2006 was a complicated process coordinated by DEMA, DAN, PADI, the late Jack Chalk of Captain Don’s Habitat and the New York branch of TCB (Tourist Corporation Bonaire). The dynamics of making this happen again were pretty much the same as before.

As in years past, the fun began with an escort from the airport to Captain Don’s Habitat by the Iron Order Motorcycle Club headed by Orlando Francisca. The motorcycle club played a significant role throughout the visit, as did Habitat and Rum Runner’s Restaurant. They provided the all important lodging, diving and meals. TCB’s Helen Thode choreographed the weeklong schedule down to the minute making everyday count for the Warrior’s first visit to Bonaire.

Two of the warriors, Sgt. Gilroy Parks and Danny Rodriguez agreed this was an amazing welcoming and it was so relaxing to get away.

“Scuba is so therapeutic. It blocks out all the noise and it’s so calming. You can

just enjoy the beauty,” said Parks.

While diving Bonaire’s infamous Helma Hooker, the warrior divers were lucky enough to see dolphins and a turtle.

Rodriguez added, “We got to ride motorcycles and took a tour of the entire island. We saw the different topography and learned the history about the island, the corals and the caves. It’s been amazing.”

A cocktail party and ceremony honoring the Wounded Warriors was held at the Governor’s house. Bonaire official and first citizen of Bonaire Papi Cicilia acted as MC.

“We honor our friends and our brothers as they return with a lack of something from defending us,” said Cicilia, “Nevertheless, they stay strong and life goes on. We are stronger with you. Together we are strong.”

The Warriors, Stew and his staff were honored with certificates, Ambassador medals and pens from TCB representatives. In turn, Stew presented certificates and plaques of thanks from the Handicapped Scuba Diving Alliance to the officials and many sponsors of the visit.

“My love affair with Bonaire began in 2006 when I was first asked to certify some wounded warriors. I was so impressed that the people here cared about the U.S.”

Attending the event were former Lt. Governor Herbert Domacasse and his wife. The Governor was the first person Stew met in 2006 and they remain friends to this day.

Standing in for Lt. Governor Rijna was Deputy Nina den Heyer.

“We have heartfelt gratitude to the Warriors. You leave your homes so we may sleep peacefully. Although we are a small island we recognize your contributions of courage, strength and resilience. You are always welcome here,” said Den Heyer.



WOUNDED WARRIOR PROJECT

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Dia di Boneiru

Friday, September 6, 2019, Wilhelmina Plaza

- 8:30 Meeting at Passengrahn
- 9:35 Uniformed Parade
- 10:00 Presentation of the flag of Bonaire
- 10:10 Benediction by Herbert Domacasse
- 10:20 Two songs by the praise team
- 10:30 Speech by Lt. Governor Edison Rijna
- 10:35 Winners of the children 'kanta nos Boneiru'
- 10:40 Speech by Deputy Nina den Heyer
- 10:45 Winners of the adult 'kanta nos Boneiru'
- 10:50 Recognition of people of honor
- 11:00 Angelo Emerenciana
- 11:15 Refreshments
- 12:15 Closing



In a naturalization ceremony August 22, 2019, 11 people were given formal Dutch nationality with all rights and obligations including the right to vote and a Dutch passport. In his speech, the lieutenant governor stated that this group of naturalized persons have contributed positively to Bonaire during their time on the Island.

► On August 19, the Shared Service Organization of RCN (SSO-CN) moved back into the RCN building on Kaya International. The building was emptied for renovation November 2017, and the 110 civil servants were housed four SSO-CN buildings in the central area.

The building's open spaces and shared workplaces offer a new working environment. Its renovation has also made the building more sustainable. It is equipped with energy-efficient lighting,

water-efficient toilets and, in collaboration with Selibon, waste is separated.

The entire renovation was carried out by regional companies. Goods and furniture that do not go to the new office building have been transferred to local foundations.

► All fuel products will increase from September 3, 2019. The Bonairean Island Government has announced a price increase for gasoline is 11.00 cents, kerosene is 0.30 cents,

Flotsam & Jetsam continued on page 5



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► **Minister Carola Schouten of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality is visiting the Caribbean Netherlands this week.** She

is consulting with local authorities about various projects funded from the Regio Envelop. The Regio Envelop is € 30 million the cabinet has made available for Bonaire, Saba and Sint Eustatius to be used, among other things, to fight poverty and improve food security and food safety in the Dutch Caribbean.

► **Hotels, farmers, and gardeners can again purchase recycled water for irrigation.** The cost is \$7/m3 delivered, or \$1.50/m3 for registered customers who bring their own tank to the filling station at LVV. Customers who need water delivery now order from the Krusada Foundation instead of WEB.

Supplying irrigation water to Bonaireans is a new Krusada work project for practical education and training. Like its other work projects, which included metal, wood, and greenery work, this one will help individuals and families with social problems to return to society.

The Krusada Foundation, WEB, and the Executive Council put together the agreement. With funds generated from the distribution service, the Krusada Foundation will be able to invest in practical training and education programs and work training for their clients.



► **SKAL (Department of Culture, Art and Literature) invites you to celebrate with them the 30th anniversary of the Bonaire Museum.** On September 5, 2019 the museum will be open for everyone from 9 to 4 with an official ceremony from 4 to 6.

The theme chosen for International Museum Day 2019 was "Museums as Cultural Hubs: The future of tradition." Honoring this theme, the Bonaire Museum will meet with children in after-school childcare September 3rd and 4th. The activity is designed to motivate young people to learn the history and culture of Bonaire.

The Bonaire Museum houses an international cultural museum and a Bonairean archeology department.

Tax issue almost closes Port of Bonaire

The new island Executive Council, ten days after being sworn in last April, had to initiate emergency measures to keep the Port of Bonaire open. The Caribbean Netherlands Tax Office (BCN) was about to chain the tug boat to the dock, effectively closing the port to cruise ships and other large vessels. BCN claimed that BOPEC owed almost a quarter million dollars in excise tax to cover the "importation" of the tug boat.

The crisis was inherited from the previous government. The preceding October, BCN had ruled that the tax had to be paid. Then BCN granted a six month extension to allow time for the preparation of the required import documents. When the new government took power, nothing had been done and the deadline was expiring.

Either BCN had to exempt BOPEC from paying the tax, which it wouldn't do; or BOPEC had to pay the tax, which it couldn't do; or the OLB had to pay the tax on BOPEC's behalf, which budgetary controls wouldn't allow it to do. Under the terms of the Administrative Agreement, several government departments have to sign off before the OLB (the Public Body of Bonaire) can make unbudgeted expenditures. When the OLB presented its case, those departments recognized that Bonaire needs to keep its port facilities operating and responded positively and promptly. The deadline was met, the excise tax was paid, and all agreed "that the OLB has acted correctly and fully in accordance with legislation and regulations."

Historically the two tug boats were leased by BOPEC from a firm on Curacao. BOPEC "made them available" to the Port of Bonaire to meet its intermittent needs. Then everything changed. The Dutch Caribbean came into being as the governing, and taxing, authority. BOPEC effectively went out of business. And arrangements were made for Bonaire to start hiring the remaining tug by the hour, as needed. Somehow, by the time all the various agreements had been signed, BCN deemed an importation had occurred and a tax liability was created. The tug, in the meantime, had been docked on Bonaire performing its regular duties, as it had been for years.

The opposition has accused the new government with illegally bailing out BOPEC. The new Executive Council has responded that the previous government ignored for six months a critical safety and economic threat to the island. It praised its own "services and the ministries" for diligently and proactively solving the problem in a few days. Now the Council says it's "working on a structural solution to this issue and other issues that are important to society."

Some concern has been expressed regarding how the OLB will recover the unbudgeted expenditure of \$248,000. That should not be a major problem, given that the government recently collected \$248,000 in unbudgeted revenues

Going to Brussels for funding

Member of European Parliament, Samira Rafaela: "In October the Lieutenant Governor and I are at the invitation of the Association of Overseas Countries and Territories, the OCTA, in Brussels. We are going to use that journey to make contacts. Curaçao and Aruba have their own representation in Brussels, we cannot afford that, so we must ensure that we are not skipped in another way."



Tjin Asjoe points out that money is needed to make up the decade long backlogs. "In addition to our own income from local taxes and the contributions from the government, we are therefore looking for additional forms of financing. The EU funds are an example of this. We are not only concerned with money. There is also a lot of expertise in the EU, for example in the areas of sustainability, innovation, education and poverty reduction."

The Prince Bernhard Cultural Fund for the Caribbean (PBCCG) has established a new Cultural Fund by Name (FON) under its management with an initial investment of € 50,000.

PBCCG writes of the Named Cultural Fund: "With your own Named Fund you, your circle of friends or your company can make sustainable investments in culture and nature. You set up your own fund under the umbrella of the PBCCG, with a donation by life or by will, and you determine the objective and the name in consultation with us. You can also remain anonymous."

Established in 1953, the PBCCG aims to promote and support art, culture and nature initiatives on the six Dutch Caribbean Islands. Once a year artists and groups can qualify for a subsidy by submitting an application via the PBCCG application portal before 1 October 2019. The application procedure, guidelines and conditions can be found on the website www.pbccaribbean.com.

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Dear team of *The Bonaire Reporter*,

I need your help: in the last 24 hours 2 flamingos were killed by drivers south of white slave huts. There must be signs on the road to the South to make the drivers be aware of young flamingos crossing the road. The people speed like crazy, although no one needs to save a life!

The flamingos are protected and Elly Albers is putting so much work to make them survive, so *The Bonaire Reporter* needs to step up and do something!

It is heartbreaking to see those beautiful animals dead next to the road!

Please help to save them! Thank you. *Kind regards, Heide Taurer*

(Please visit The Reporter Facebook page for Heide's second letter and photos)

Opinion:

The Administrative Agreement: A heavy hand or a helping hand?

Like many expats, I wasn't sure what to make of the Administrative Agreement signed last November between the Public Body Bonaire (OLB) and the Central Government in the Netherlands. The Administrative Agreement seemed an exotic tool of governance to those of us who grew up in countries run by competing interests focused on battling each other for political advantage. We've had little experience of government by different stake holders working in cooperation to serve in the public interest.

Was the Administrative Agreement government overreach? Was it a "takeover" by people from far away who didn't properly understand the local culture? Or perhaps it was an assumption of responsibility by people who had a plan for empowering Bonaireans to govern themselves.

Having lived on the Island for 25 years, it's gratifying for me to write about Bonaire's new successes—medical care, schools, law enforcement, infrastructure, to name just a few. Bonaire even has roundabouts. In previous years everyone mostly talked about what wasn't working.

Bonaireans wanted improvements; those who worked in the government were willing to make improvements; and often funding was available. But the wheels of government don't turn by themselves. Built in models for cooperation and expertise are needed as well.

The Administrative Agreement will bring a healthy dose of Dutch pragmatism and effectiveness to the island. The stakeholders are sitting down together to talk with each other about the island's problems and how best to solve them. Goals are agreed upon, as are action plans for achieving them. The required financial commitments are being made upfront, and responsible financial controls are built in.

As a retired consultant in Human Resource Development, I'm especially impressed by the human methodology. Good government is not achieved by throwing public money at problems, but by giving competent people a good plan, realistic goals, and sufficient funding to achieve them. The Administrative Agreement includes impressive methods for helping the people who do the actual work of government develop their knowledge, professional abilities, and executive skills. Guided by the Agreement, government leaders and employees are learning to work more successfully by working successfully.

If time passes and objectives aren't being met, there are provisions for installing outside experts temporarily to perform key management functions. That might seem a bit heavy handed. However, in business and government organizations alike, when things aren't working right at the bottom, new leadership needs to be installed at the top—a necessary action the former leadership always objects to.

One discovery surprised me. The Administrative Agreement is not an exotic government instrument invented just for use on Bonaire. It's a well tested tool of governance that is used regularly in Holland. Last November Dr. Willem a. Cecilia, in an opinion piece in *The Daily Herald* on St. Maarten, reported on several administrative agreements that the central government signed with local administrations in Holland in recent years.

When discussing administrative agreements, terms like "government by discussion" and "central dialogue" are used. The principle governing concepts seem to be these: 1) government action works best at the local level; 2) the central government has the expertise and financial resources; and 3) the function of the central government therefore is to empower local governments to succeed on their own behalf. As to the method of governing: Let's sit down together and decide what needs to be done, how to do it, then work together to make it happen. *Don M. Ricks*

► **Kids drawing contest marks World Tourism Day.** Tourism Corporation Bonaire (TCB) has organized a drawing competition in honor of Worldwide Tourism Day, September 27. The contest is for elementary school children age three to eight. The competition's theme: Bonaire's tourism.

TCB has given drawing papers and contest information to all elementary schools. The last day of the competition is September 23rd.

Children will compete in three age categories: age three - four, age five - six, and age seven - eight. Winners will be announced and prizes awarded at the Taste of Bonaire on September 28 in Wilhelmina Park.

► **Back-to-school hair cuts.** Shaëdra Baromeo and a team of hairdressers provided free haircuts for a total of 130 children, 50 in Rincon and 80 in Playa. The School Nutrition Foundation (Stichting Voeding op School Bonaire) provided food and drink for the children and their families. The kids were selected by the district team who judged them to be from parents less fortunate.

► **Thanks to financial help from Kinderhulp Bonaire, more Island kids learn to swim.** Five children successfully passed their swimming exam at CoCo Beach in August. The young swimmers performed so well that two were awarded their B-diploma and two others earned a C-diploma.

Children whose parents are unable to pay for the swimming lessons are now receiving support from Kinderhulp Bonaire (Child Help Bonaire). The work of Kinderhulp has not gone unnoticed in The Hague. The unique swimming project has received a nice subsidy from the Ministry of Social Affairs & Employment from the 'Opportunities for All Children' project.

Children or their parents can contact one of the district coordinators of the Society & Care Department of the Local Government to see if they are eligible for financial support under this program.

► **Little League World Championships, Curaçao makes two finals.** Many wins stand between the first game of a baseball season and playing in the finals of the Little League World Championships in South Williamsport, Pennsylvania. This year teams from Curaçao faced off against Hawaii in the Senior League Baseball championship and against Louisiana in the Little League Baseball championship. Neither won, but second place in the world ain't bad!

Breast cancer screening



► **Bonaire will start a 6 months pilot for breast cancer population screening in September 2019.** Women between 50 and 75 years of age who are insured with the Health Insurance Office (Zorgverzekeringskantoor – ZVK) will receive an invitation to participate.

If you do not receive an invitation although you belong to this age group and are currently not undergoing treatment for breast cancer, please contact the screening coordinator.

The 25-year old Dutch Breast Cancer Screening Program has led to fewer false-positives and overdiagnosis than in some other countries, while the number of false-negatives is low. In the Netherlands approximately one in eight women will develop breast cancer at some point in their lives. The average age at the time of diagnosis is 61 years.

In this screening program women in the 50 to 75 age group will be invited for a mammogram once every two years. When breast cancer is detected soon, treatment is likely to be more successful and less invasive.

This pilot is run by the Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport (VWS). Cooperating agencies are the Public Body Bonaire (OLB), the Fundashon Mariadal hospital, the health insurance office (ZVK), the local GPs and the National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM) center for population screening.

For more information, visit the website www.screeningkansernapechu.com (english translation at <https://www.screeningkansernapechu.com/?lang=en>) or mail info@screeningkansernapechu.com.

Law Enforcement

Bonaire Police Report for August 16 — 28, 2019

Robberies

On August 16 an attempted house burglary on Kaya Lora was reported. Thieves tried unsuccessfully to break open the front door.

On August 17 • between 7:30-9:30pm, there was an attempted house burglary on Kaya Piedra Presioso. Thieves tried unsuccessfully to enter through the bedroom window. • At company on Kaya Mamore reported a burglary between August 16 to 17. Thieves away a toolbox and a high-pressure sprayer, among other things.

On August 19 a company on Kaya Nikiboko Noord reported a burglary. It is not yet known what has been removed.

On Wednesday, August 21, theft / destruction was reported to a company car parked at the company on Kaya Nikiboko South. Thieves took the hood off the car and completely destroyed the window on the driver's side.

On August 22, a scooter battery was stolen from the parking lot of a tourist accommodation on Bulevar Gobernador Nicolaas Debrot.

Dive Site Robberies

On August 26 a theft was reported at the dive site 1000 steps. A shoulder bag with contents including an iPhone 7, sunglasses and cash was stolen while the owner was snorkeling. KPCN again advises not to take valuables to beaches and / or dive sites.

Investigations

August 27, a multidisciplinary check was held at a construction site on Bulevar Gobernador Nicolaas Debrot by the Aliens Supervision Office, Basic Police Care, OCPK 2019 and the SZW unit (Social Affairs & Work). The team interviewed 30 people, five of whom were brought to the police station for a document check. One person was deported to his country of origin.

On the Roads

On August 17 a car and a scooter collided at the T-junction of Kaya Nikiboko Noord and Hanchi Amoina. The driver of the scooter was injured and taken by ambulance first to the hospital, and then to Colombia for medical assistance.

On August 21, a traffic check at the airport stopped 33 motor vehicles. Six drivers received a ticket for driving without a license and / or without insurance. Also checked were 100 vehicles on Kaya G.F. Betico Croes, Kaya Korona and Kaya Industria, resulting in a total of 16 fines / tickets.

On August 26, the driver and rider of a scooter fell when the scooter slipped into the turn at Kaya Libertador Simon Bolivar. Both were checked on the spot by the ambulance personnel.

On August 27, a collision between two scooters took place on Kaya Nikiboko South. One of the drivers was taken by ambulance to the hospital.

Arrests

On August 16 a man 41 years old was arrested during a traffic check for violating the Opium Act BES.

On August 28, a house search was conducted in a house on Kaminda Gurubu. A 43-year-old man was arrested for violating the Opium Act and the Weapons Act. Two men aged 37 and 60 years were arrested in the violation of the Opium Act.

Natural Deaths

On August 17 a natural death was reported at Kaya Chalota.. Our condolences for the family.

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



Ask Kate

Bonaire real estate advice

Question: What does "long lease" mean? I want to own my property, but it seems many of the house and condos I like the most are listed as long lease. Ryan

Hi Ryan,

Long-term land lease, also referred to as long lease, is common on Bonaire, as it is on other islands. To get the full picture, you'll want the specific details of the lease on the property you are interested in, but here are the basics.

The government of Bonaire issues long leases (generally 60 years) and unlike a normal lease, the lessee receives a proprietary right, which means the lessee is allowed to use the real estate as if he or she was the owner. The lessee pays the annual property taxes on the property and can mortgage the property, build on it, or sell it (the new owner assumes the lease terms.)

The lease does not start over each time the property is sold, so you may see one home with a lease that is subject to end in 50 years, or one that ends in 20 years. At the end of the lease, the government has the option of renewing the lease or paying the lessee for the value (including any buildings on the land.)

The fee is determined per square meter and the location of the property. The value of the land is determined by the government, as is any index and terms of the lease.

My husband and I own houses on both owned land and leased land here on Bonaire, and like many investors, the only difference we notice is that we pay an annual lease fee for the property on the long-leased land.

Please email me directly if you need more information on a specific property.

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 Tollfree from US: 1-866-611-7362

Flotsam & Jetsam continued from page 2

diesel is 8 cents, LPG 100 LBS is 1.30 dollars and LPG 20 lbs is 0.24 cents. The next fuel price adjustment is October 2019.

► **BONHATA (The Bonaire Hotel and Tourism Association) and its stakeholders are drafting a letter to the Hague protesting upcoming water tariff changes.** Currently, more than 4.5 million dollars a year is subsidized for the costs of water. The government would like to phase out the subsidies and transfer the costs to the large consumers.

► **Do not trespass in Washington Slagbaai National Park after closing during the week of September 1-7, 2019.** STINAPA will be hosting Peter Haverson from New Zealand, an expert on control of invasive species. He will be teaching STINAPA's biologists about animal control. Exercises will include shooting practice.

► **The pension fund for Caribbean Netherlands (PCN) has made a two investments on St. Eustatius in August.** PCN will be providing a loan to Old Gin House Exploitatie Maatschappij B.V. (OGHEM B.V.), to facilitate the purchase of the Talk of the Town apartments on St. Eustatius. After preparatory work of nearly a year, PCN has also signed the contract to the purchase of the historical Hill Compound.

► **Press of Bonaire congratulated.** Bonaire's government declared September 1 the Day of the Press and said Masha pabien! to the entire press on the Island. The Executive Council of the Public Body recognizes that a probing and free press is one of the cornerstones of our democracy. It acknowledges that the press keeps the public informed about events and issues that are important to the island, and, when needed, asks questions that those in authority sometimes would prefer not to answer.

► **The Ocean Foundation has organized a series of consultation sessions on Bonaire from September 27 to September 30.**

The Ocean Foundation is a national (volunteer) non-profit organization that focuses on projects and activities aimed at improving the position of Dutch Caribbean people and related target groups in the Kingdom of the Netherlands. Ocean advises on how to write and submit project proposals for funding to SZW (Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment). The Support function project by Ocean is called "Together We Will Stand."

► **Selibon has changed their garbage collection schedule for Friday, 6 September 2019 (Bonaire Flag Day).** On September 6 the garbage truck will be collecting residential garbage at an earlier time. Industrial waste and bulky residential waste will be collected a day earlier than usual, on Thursday, September 5. In addition, Plasa Medio Ambiente located at Kaya Industria, Waste Collection Station at Morotin and the Waste Management & Recycling location at Lagun will be closed for public on Friday, 6 September 2019. On Saturday, September 7 they will reopen again for business. Please see *The Reporter's* facebook page for more details.

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

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World Championship Sunfish Worlds set sail

Bonaire welcomes the World Championship Sunfish Worlds, Youth & Masters competition on September 13 to 25 at the host hotel Plaza Resort Bonaire. A total of 11 countries with 72 participants are expected for the tournaments making this the biggest sail event ever on Bonaire.

Major sponsor MACLAREN shipped 72 brand new Sunfish, trailers and equipment from the U.S. for competitors to use. Each sailor will have his own identical MACLAREN boat to narrow the playing field.

Sunfish Worlds Bonaire organizing committee member and Mistress of Ceremonies Elisabeth Vos said, "The Sunfish arrived ahead of schedule. Everything has cleared customs and has been stored. Preparation of the boats will begin September 9."

With the help of the Vocational Technology students, a world cup competition venue has been built behind Plaza's Topsy Seagull. The area is complete with tents, flagpoles, containers, notice boards, water, trailer spaces and more. The racetrack is located just south of Plaza close to the coast and is easily visible for viewing from Plaza Beach, T'Amo Beach and Donkey Beach.

Opening ceremony, for week one of the "Open" category, includes a flag parade with all Sunfish participants at the Topsy Seagull on Sunday, September 15, at 7 pm. Bonaire's Lt. Governor Edison Rinjina will be on hand to launch the event. Practice races will be held prior to the ceremony.

World Cup races are September 16, 17, 18 and 20, daily from 9-1 pm on all racing days. An award ceremony will be held around 2 pm, immediately following the games. The final award ceremony will be Friday, September 20th at 7 pm.

"Open" category participants not only originate from the Caribbean but also North America, China, South America and Europe. Bonaire has a strong team of 13 sailors, some of which have previously participated in several World Cups. They are expected to have a huge advantage.

Week two opening, of the Youth & Masters races, (youth to 18 years and the masters age categories 40+, 50+, 60+ and even 70+) will take place on Sunday, September 22 at 7 pm at the Topsy Seagull. Practice races begin at 2 pm. The World Cup races are September 23, 24 and 25, from 9 am to 1 pm daily. Final award ceremony is on Wednesday, September 25th,



7 pm at the Topsy Seagull.

Bonaire has a large team of four young sailors and nine veterans, including one woman. Registration for week two is still open and there is a maximum of 72 racers. Sign up information is available on the website.

Bonsai Ling, sailing federations of Bonaire, will publish information through press releases, the website www.sunfish-worlds.org and Facebook page Sunfish-worlds Bonaire.

Bonsai Ling is proud to organize the Sunfish World Championship 2019 with more than 30 companies and organizations partnering to make this a success-

ful event. Big thanks go to Diamond partners MACLAREN, the Ministry of Health, OLB, to silver partners Littman's, BonRed BV, Blue Bay, Tropical Travel, Jibe City, Budget Marine, Plaza Beach Resort Bonaire and all silver and blue partners. For a complete list of sponsors visit the web page. Bonsai Ling can be reached at 717-4052 or Elisabeth Vos at 785-5225.

The Sunfish/trailer and accessories will be available for sale at half the normal price following the competition via the www.sunfishworlds.org site. *Elisabeth Vos*

Wounded Warriors, continued from page 1

The goodwill of sponsors from the U.S. and Bonaire made this trip possible for the Wounded Warriors. The U.S. sponsors included: Princeton Tec, Henderson, PADI, Bonaire Talk, Centra State hospital and Freckles the Clown. Bonaire sponsors were Habitat, Rum Runners, KFC, Buddy Dive, RentoFun, Elements, Jewel of Bonaire and TCB.

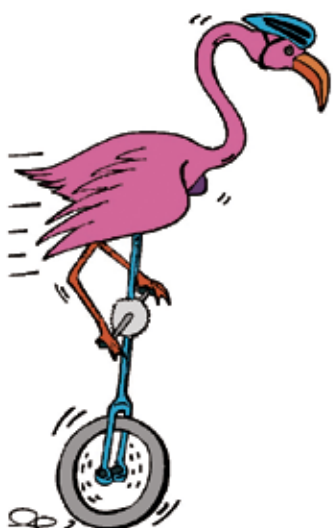


Sgt. Lou Tavares, Marine Corp/Army and Sgt Gilroy Parks



Iron Order Motorcycle Club has been the official escort of the Wounded Warriors since 2006

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The Cadushy Distillery celebrates 10th Anniversary!

Eric and Jolande Gietman are living their dream. They recently celebrated the 10 year anniversary of their Cadushy Distillery in Rincon with approximately 150 guests.

The unique cactus based liquors flowed with the music along with some new items in the Cadushy line and a special guest author, Jannet Butter, announcing her new book.

Standing before his guests, Eric reminisced about their beginnings on Bonaire and what their dreams for the future of Cadushy and Bonaire are.

"It's a new year; it's a new plan, it's a dream and a mission", said Eric.

He explained in the future he plans to see the Cadushy bottles lining the shelves of stores around the world. And also a future for his new Belgium beer to become a Bonairean beer made on the island. The dream he holds is to get rid of plastic water bottles on the island by producing glass water bottles on the island.

Eric said, "The challenge to you, is to do it together with me."

Cadushy and the Gietmans are strongly

committed to the future of Bonaire. They have been intoxicated by what they call the "spirit of Bonaire" since first stepping off the plane many years ago.

Many ask, "What is the spirit of Bonaire?" Eric will tell you its difficult to describe but once you feel it then you know it. He and Jolande and some other entrepreneurs even wrote a song about it. The history, the beauty, the nature, the ocean, the diving and of course the people.

They are hoping to preserve the island yet move forward and they are excited about the new Master Tourism Plan.

Guest Jannet Butter, revealed her new book, *The Ghost of Washikemba*.

Butter said, "This is my first American English story book about Bonaire. Translating in English was quite a challenge as lots of the meanings are lost in translation."

The book contains two new stories that have never been published in Dutch. One story is about Captain Don Stewart and his partner Janet Thiboult and the second is about the Cadushy.

Butter honored the hosts of the night



Cadushy Distillery staff celebrates their 10 year anniversary! Photo by Skyview Bonaire

Eric and Jolande Gietman with the first copy. She said she wanted to present the book to someone who means a lot to the tourism on Bonaire.

Congratulations to Eric and Jolande Gietman on their 10 year anniversary!
Julie Morgan

Jolande and Eric Gietman feeling festive at their 10th anniversary party for Cadushy Distillery



photo Julie Morgan

No excuses! It's time to join Clean Coast Bonaire



Clean Coast Bonaire is celebrating their one year anniversary of beach clean ups and litter surveys on September 14 at 4 pm. Yes, that's right, 4 pm, for everyone that has said they would love to join the group, but 8 am on a Saturday is too early, the time has been moved; so, no excuses! The cleanup will be at Te Amo Beach, which is the next location on the Clean Coast schedule.

Clean Coast Bonaire became the first island in the Caribbean region to use the OSPAR Marine Litter Monitoring method. In September 2018. The program, involves beach clean ups where volunteers collect marine litter and record scientific data at the same time. The OSPAR method is a professional monitoring protocol used by authorities in Europe to identify the amount, constitution and sources of marine litter. The data collected was a successful part of the single use plastic ban in the EU. The Clean Coast Bonaire program was initiated by the World Wide Fund for Nature in the Netherlands (WWF-NL),

in collaboration with Boneiru Duradero.

Three sites on Bonaire, Boka Onima, Piedra Pretu and Te Amo Beach, are the designated survey sites where volunteer citizen scientists take inventory of washed up waste four times a year per location. So far, over 42,000 pieces of marine litter have been collected, categorized and recorded. The results are overwhelmingly plastic and polystyrene. The data that has been collected has been shared with the government of Bonaire, the Netherlands and regionally in the Caribbean. Over the past year, Clean Coast Bonaire has organized additional clean ups and shared data with students from Boneiru Duradero's MBO Nature Education Program, visiting volunteer groups and university studies.

The September 14 clean up will be followed by a small celebration party to thank all volunteers for the year. All volunteers or potential volunteers are welcome to attend. *Carolyn Caporusso*

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Reef Glimpses

Trunkfish Defending Itself (Almost) Kills Dive Guide

This trunkfish's mouth is a bit misshapen-possibly from being hooked as a youngster. Everything is healed up and the critter is fearlessly examining my camera system.



This spotted trunkfish has a prim set to its mouth, don't you think? If I had to name its expression, I'd say it looks pensive.



Once upon a time, a dive guide on Curaçao (we'll call him Bart) could have lost his life to a trunkfish.

Bart was guiding at night, his third dive of the day. At about 60' he saw a trunkfish. None of his divers was looking his way, so he caught the trunkfish by its top and bottom and brought it over to them. (Thirty years ago, this was still acceptable behavior, although opinions were beginning to change.) The photographers signaled for him to pose with the fish. He held it to the side of his face, both facing the camera. He held it so they were looking at each other. Then he got an inspiration.

He took his regulator out of his mouth and kissed the trunkfish on the lips.

The photographers loved it. Bart loved it. The trunkfish, not so much. It sucked – immediately and painfully -- onto Bart's lip.

(At this point I admit I was smirking, "Heh heh, I guess you learned a lesson," when he continued.)

Not only was the attached trunkfish killing his lip, he had a bigger problem: the trunkfish prevented him from replacing his regulator, so he couldn't get air. He couldn't bolt to the surface because his normally perfectly safe dive profile expected a slow ascent and a safety stop. In desperation, he pushed his purge button to try to grab a passing gulp of air. The trunkfish, surrounded by bubbles, finally detached and departed. A few stitches and a few weeks later all that was left of the event was a scar on Bart's lip and his deeper respect for marine life.

Under most circumstances, trunkfish would be protected by their instinct to zip away -- surprisingly quickly -- from trouble. They have a second defense, also: a bony carapace just beneath their skin. That hard shell is what enabled divers to hold trunkfish, who can't wriggle -- but morays and other predators might seek more penetrable prey once they crunched their teeth against a trunkfish.

The two types of trunkfish we see most often on Bonaire's reefs are the smooth trunkfish (Bart's instructor) and the spotted trunkfish. Spotted trunkfish are less common, more aloof, and are usually found on the reef. Smooth trunkfish live around the reef, too, but they also hang out on the sand. If there's a foraging ray or goatfish around, you'll often see smooth trunkfish checking out the sand clouds, sucking down tiny shrimp and other critters that no one else seems to see; without the help of other fish, trunkfish will hover head down over the bottom, blow out a jet of water, and forage through the sand they disturbed. If you catch the eye of a smooth trunkfish, try patting any nearby sand. Sometimes the trunkfish will come over to investigate, giving you a great opportunity to check it out without stressing either of you (but watch out if you have a shrimplike freckle on your hand).

[Juvenile trunkfish hang out near sheltering crevices or ledges, and if you've ever seen one you know that trunkfish babies are the gosh-darndest cutest little fish around! They're the size of dice, more cube-shaped than the adults, and are yellow with black spots (spotted) and black with yellow spots (smooth). Their eyes are huge, their fins are transparent, and they bounce and flutter like [drunken hummingbirds/children at recess]. Being able to hover to watch them is a great reward for your excellent buoyancy control skills. Divers who scull with their hands create currents that send the fish farther into shelter.]

Watching trunkfish at night is usually a tranquil event, since they "sleep" at night. Like most fish, they have no eyelids so they can't close their eyes, but they must sort of "turn off" their vision at night the way we turn off our hearing. If undisturbed, trunkfish rest, hovering near the bottom, until dawn arrives.

But Bart will assure you that if awakened, they're not as defenseless as they look. *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 touch-thesea.com.



IOMC road rally celebrates Bonaire Flag Day

The streets and roads of Bonaire will echo with the sounds of well-tuned motorcycles during the 21st Annual Bike Rally September 4-9. The yearly charity event is sponsored by the Iron Order Motorcycle Club (IOMC) and Caribbean Pirates in celebration of Bonaire's Flag Day.

Since 1998 the motorcycle clubs have donated funds from the ride to Bonaire charities and organizations that are without any government funding.

Event organizer and Iron Order head for the Caribbean chapters Orlando Francisca said, "I'm so proud of everything we do in the club. With this kind of event we show the world we are not what they see on TV. We organize things that have an economic impact on the island – airfare, hotels, shopping and restaurants. We are a law abiding club and we do whatever we can as good citizens."

This year's ride is expected to draw between 200 – 250 riders from Aruba, Curacao, Surinam and the United States.

"We estimate a total of approximately 400 in the rally if we include all the scooters, ATVs and other bikers that aren't members of the club," said Orlando.

Some of the many charity groups they have support-

ed through this ride are a Rincon soccer club, cancer fund drives, organizations for the elderly, scouting, a karate club and others.

The bikes are unloaded on the 4th, and the event itself begins on Thursday, September 5 with a warm up ride ending at the IOMC clubhouse. This is a combination registration night and welcome party complete with DJ beginning at 8 p.m.

On Friday, Sept. 6 there is breakfast and the Flag Day Ride followed by live music at the clubhouse from 8 pm.

A Poker run is scheduled on Saturday, Sept. 7 that begins and ends at the clubhouse followed by entertainment.

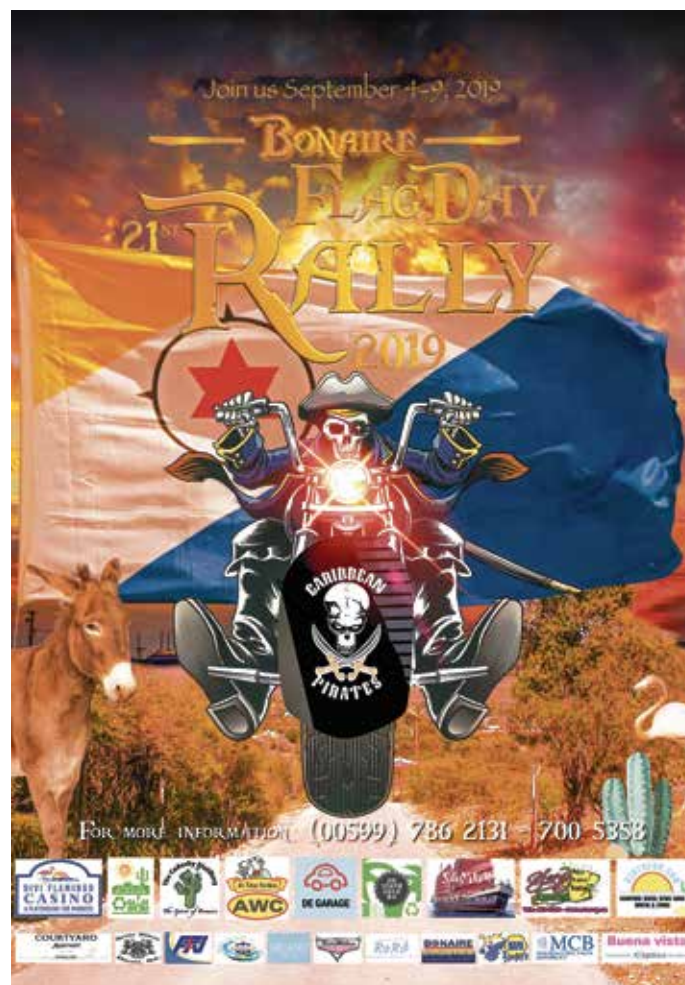
Final day of the rally is Sunday, Sept 8 with a social ride for fun followed by the closing ceremony and live music from 8 pm on at the clubhouse.

All riders and passengers are required to wear a helmet and riding under the influence of alcohol is prohibited.

The Iron Order is an international motorcycle club that has ties all over the world.

For more information call 786-2131 or 700-5358.

Julie Morgan



Taking Stock



Mangos from my yard.



My carambola (starfruit) tree



soil moist. After a while you will notice the tree sprouts again. Perfect, you saved a tree and will enjoy its fruit, shade, fresh air and oxygen.

Last but not least, my veggie garden is still busy. But even with a drought, it produces sweet and hot peppers, tayerblad, spinach, perslen, yuca, kouseband, sweet potatoes and eggplant. Some are young plants and some I can use already. It's not much, but I think "not much" is good, because good is much!

Everyday I enjoy my herbs in my food and tea. Mexican mint, yerbi hole, oregano, basil, moringa, passion fruit flowers and lemon grass. Lemon grass needs a lot of water, so it hardly survives the drought. But all together, in different combinations, the herbs make teas which surprise me with aromatic smells and delicious flavors and they are so good for the body.

You can do it too. Just start now. *Angliet, Nature lover.*

It's a while since I gave you an update of fruits on the island and in my yard. You might think, of course, there is no fruit with this drought. But yes, there is!! Just this week I picked carambola (starfruit) from its tree. The sunsaka (sour-sop) tree is full. The last mangos have come. My papaya tree started bearing again. I was surprised because papaya can't stand heavy dry air, even with watering. And while I just chopped off a big bunch of bacoba, I see a new bunch in another tree.

Here is another story. In a tall tree, close to my porch, a huge bunch of bacoba was growing. The tree bent a little so the bunch rested on the roof. I kept my eyes on that bunch, and then climbing a ladder to see if the bacobas were ready to pick. After a week, I climbed the ladder again and ... oh no, the bacobas were all damaged by birds and turned black and nasty. What a disappointment!!

So I chopped the tree with rotten bacobas in small parts and gave it to a kunukero for the goats. Going around the island I see young kenepa (Spanish lime) in the trees. The lorras are hanging around too because they love the kenepas. Also the mispel tree keeps on bearing fruit. They are delicious, if they get the chance to ripen. Most of the time they drop off green from the trees because of the birds. But I pick them when they are almost ripe, even when they are a little damaged by the birds, and wrap them in paper to ripen.

The dry seeds of ripe almonds contain a delicious nut. With a hammer I hit the hard skeleton and with a knife I push the nut out. As children we made it a game as to who had the most nuts. Nowadays children play all kinds of electronic games and don't know how to gather food from nature.

Cocos are all over the place, and luckily they are free from birds, iguanas, and lizards. When cocos are very dry (but still contain water), they are easiest to open to take out the nut. When green or light brown it's hard to get through the skin. The dry coco skin is very good for plants, because it keeps the soil moist and soft. Orchids hook onto coco fibers. Coco is very nice as a tea. Oh yes, it has a lot of fiber and more healthy stuff. Be smart, make use of all these goodies of nature. And don't forget the tamarind; there are still good ones in the trees and it is nice as a juice.

In my garden the guava tree doesn't have the energy to bear fruit. Most fruit trees don't have any leaves these days, and you might think these trees are dead. And that will happen too if you leave them like that. Trim them as small as possible. Take away all dead parts and water every other day. Gather dead leaves, wood dust, teabags, pieces of carton boxes to place around the trees to keep the



Very Personal...

On Dutch television every now and then they show this very specific commercial.

An old lady is slowly taking off all her clothes. And at the end when she is completely naked, she states, "Every day, when the home-care worker comes to help me, a different person shows up. Never the same one, so, I might as well get undressed in front of the whole nation!"

Is she right? A lot of patients may agree.

Care is very personal. Every patient has her/his issues and every person has a very personal sphere surrounding them. It is the patient themselves that allows another person to invade that sphere.

Of course everyone is human, and not everybody loves everybody. Growing up, everyone has been taught not to let anyone touch you. When you grow older you learn what touching is okay to allow and what is not.

But as soon as you become a patient, everybody touches you. Whether you like it or not, you get poked into, kneaded, turned - you name it. And when you protest, you are told to hang on one minute more, and you get touched again until they are finished.

As a patient you are not asked if you want to be handled by persons you may

not even like very much. On the other hand, the caretaker also might dislike you.

Most every time a caretaker that is doing their job confronts you, you are told what they came to do and they start right away; ready or not.

Does one have the right to disagree or to refuse being helped by a specific person? Do caretakers have a right to refuse giving care to someone?

Has this ever been addressed? Is this taught in nursing school?

Do the caretakers even realize what effect their presence can have in the home?

Apart from the patient, there are the family members to consider. They know the patient best and they know the history. They can also be a force to be reckoned with.

There are patients that do not like to be touched by women and others may not want to be touched by men.

What do you do in this case? Respect that? Make a joke and go ahead anyway?

How does an organization address these issues?

Nowadays we have quite an interesting, mixed population of patients and caretakers on Bonaire. Does this make things more complicated?

What should be done? Do we just need to offer decent care? Can we always show patience and consideration for the patient and their family? Can we always show we love our work, we care, and that we are beautiful people? Or do we need to build some leeway into the system to cope with individuality and human weakness? *Ria Evers-Dokter.*

Deputy Nina den Heyer officially opened the renovated Amboina district center August 30, 2019.

Pierre Periguat Monte, the coordinator of the neighborhood development program, organized a day-long program for adults, children and young people from the neighborhood.

Left: Nina serves cake to the elderly of Villa Antonia who were invited to the opening.



Visit The Cadusdy Distillery or our Cadusdy Shop and taste.....
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To find The Cadusdy Distillery, drive to Rincon and follow the Cadusdy Signs.

Kaya C.D. Crestian in Rincon.
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Did You Know...

that a couple of nights a year Bonaire's coral reefs put on dazzling shows of subaquatic fireworks?

Many of us are familiar with the monthly display of bioluminescence seen after the full moon when the ostracods are swarming. Snorkeling or diving between two to eight nights after the full moon you can often see a beautiful show of lights. But, there is another magnificent phenomenon that also happens on our reefs. When the conditions are just right the corals will reproduce. During this mesmerizing spectacle all the corals belonging to the same species will simultaneously release little pink balls containing the sperm cells and egg cells necessary to create the next generation of corals.

Because corals are not able to move around to find a partner, reproduction is a little more complicated than for most animals. The basics however are still the same. Egg meets sperm and voila, a baby coral is made. Unlike the adults, this baby coral, a small worm-like creature called a planula larva, is able to move around. The larva will often drift some distance away from where the adult colonies are before actively swimming around trying to find a place to settle on the reef. This is one of the most important decisions for a coral larva to make. After all, once the larva has settled down and transformed into a coral polyp, there is no going back. They are stuck in that location forever! Once the larva has chosen its forever home, it will undergo some drastic physical changes. During this metamorphosis the larvae will transform from a worm-like creature to the very first polyp. It will basically look like an upside down jellyfish, and will hopefully grow to become a large and healthy coral colony.

Now that we have covered how coral babies are formed, it is time to talk logistics: how will boy meet girl? For many members of the animal kingdom this is a relatively simple problem to solve. They just need to make sure that the male and the female of the species

can encounter each other. But how do corals, animals that cannot move or talk to each other, make sure that the right sperm cell meets the right egg cell and at the right time? Plants get around this problem by using other creatures to carry the sperm cells, (pollen) to the flowers of other individuals. Corals however have landed on a different strategy. Usually once a year, all the corals release little packets containing the building blocks for the next generation. These little packets, resembling tiny pink balls, will float up to the surface where they burst open to release the sperm and egg cells they contain. At that point the sperm cells and egg cells can meet in the water column. If fertilization is successful a tiny planula larva is formed and the circle of (coral) life carries on. This is what we call a coral spawning event. Different coral species will spawn on different days or at different times. You can imagine how critical it is for every colony to spawn at the right time; not too early or too late or they miss their chance at reproduction.

As with many mysteries of the deep, much is still unknown about how the coral spawning process works. We do know that it is very tightly controlled through complicated systems of internal clocks. Most species will use the moon's phases to track when it's time to spawn. Timing is everything; because corals prepare all year for this important event. Most coral species will only spawn one or two times a year. You can see a mesmerizing display of spawning acroporids a couple of days after the August full moon; between two to four days for staghorn corals and 0 to seven days for elkhorn coral. Both *Acropora palmata*, elkhorn coral, and *Acropora cervicornis*, staghorn coral, are critically endangered species at high risk of going extinct. These species used to be extremely abundant on Bonaire until a disease outbreak decimated their populations. If the species is to survive



Spawning of *Acropora cervicornis*, elkhorn coral, at Tori's reef. The little pink balls coming out of the corals contain egg and sperm cells that, once fertilized, will become planula larvae and eventually form a new elkhorn coral. Photo by Roxanne-Liana Francisca.

we need them to make many, many babies. This year Reef Renewal Foundation Bonaire, together with groups of volunteers, monitored various *Acropora* outplant sites to track their spawning. While this involved several late night dives, it was certainly worth it. Without a doubt, spawning *Acroporas* make for a truly mesmerizing sight.

If you missed this event, don't worry: STINAPA will post some videos soon. Or, if you want to witness this yourself, there are several brain and boulder coral species that will be spawning in September and October. It is certainly worth it to see this amazing spectacle!

For more detailed dates/times, visit CARMABI's website for their spawning predictions. Written by Roxanne-Liana Francisca, Wildlife and Marine Biology Trainee; Connecting People With Nature

Picture Yourself with The Reporter Manor, Texas, U.S.



Dory West, Publisher of the Manor Community News, in Manor, TX, holds a copy of The Bonaire Reporter along with a copy of her paper. Page one features a story she wrote and photos she took during her July trip to Bonaire. Dory, and her husband, Tom, have been coming to Bonaire since 2003. This was their 13th trip. Manor Community News is a weekly paper that just celebrated its fifth birthday on July 4th. Dory took over the paper three years ago. Besides publishing the paper, Dory and Tom also operate a wedding catering business called TerrAdorna on their property in Manor, TX, a suburb of Austin. Joining Jody in the photo is her granddaughter Ariel Hoyt.

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What's Happening

September 4-9	21st Annual Bike Rally The yearly charity event is sponsored by the Iron Order Motorcycle Club (IOMC) and Caribbean Pirates in celebration of Bonaire's Flag day. See page 9.
Friday Sept. 6	Bonaire Flag Day "Dia di Boneiru" Official ceremony: Wilhelmina Park 8:30am-12:15pm; Afternoon Cultural celebrations begin: Buurtcentrum, Nort'l Saliña
Saturday Sept. 7	Tree Planting Day with Echo Foundation at Goto. 8-11am Soap Box Derby on Rincon Hill, morning start Gala Pagent Miss Tourism Bonaire. 8pm sharp. Courtyard by Marriott, (Advance tickets \$30 from TCB)
Sunday Sept. 8	Goat Festival at Washington Slagbaai National Park 9am-5pm. Local dishes made with goat meat. Folkloric music and dance, games and domino. A culinary contest.
Sept 14	Clean Coast Bonaire Clean-up anniversary TeAmo Beach. 4pm
September 14-25	Sunfish World Championships. Competition dates: 14/15, 16-20, 21/22, 23-25
Sept 16-18, 19-21	Coral Spawning Based on predictions from research center CARMABI
Saturday Sept. 21	STINAPA Clean-up Day
Sept 27-28	2019 Beach Festival, Coco Beach

2019 Cruise Ships

DAY	DATE	CRUISESHIP	TIME	PIER	CAPACITY	& LINE
Tuesday	9-3	Monarch	0800-1800	N.pier	2744	Pullmantur
Tuesday	9-10	Monarch	0800-1800	N.pier	2744	Pullmantur
Thursday	9-12	Freedom	0800-1700	S.pier	3782	RCCL

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. 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.

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 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 cruise-ship days, 9am-3pm. Free.

REGULAR EVENTS

• **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,** Bolascentre GOLDFINCH (next to baseball centre on Kaminda Sorobon) 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

• **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)

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

Bonaire Reporter Classifieds SELL!

BONAIRE GIFT SHOP NV is looking for a sales supervisor and a maintenance man. Please contact us in person with CV at Kaya Industria 36; 717 - 2210

Wounded Warriors, continued from pages 1 & 6.



Orlando Francisca of IOMC and Stew Snyder have worked together on the Wounded Warriors project since 2006.



Ask a Geek

by Brian Niessen

Spying, Snooping, Robots, Self-Driving Cars & General Prying

If you watch or read any of the news from outside of Bonaire, you are probably aware of the trojans, malware, spyware, hacking, and a myriad of other high-tech problems facing the civilized world.

I am going to give some examples of other high-tech threats, and explain why they don't matter to us here on Bonaire!!!

Self Driving Cars – I really doubt we will ever see a self-driving car on Bonaire, and if we do, it sure won't survive for long. We don't have lines on the roads to assist in navigation, our STOP signs (if any) are about 50 feet back from the intersection, we have very few street signs, and I doubt any car computer could navigate around our potholes. And watch out for donkeys, goats, or iguanas... I bet those obstacles aren't in the computer's memory. Add to that the fact that anything electronic corrodes and you soon have a heap of expensive automotive technology sitting waiting for parts.

Smartphone Controlled Door Locks – Not only are these locks controlled by your smart phone, but it is done through the internet, meaning your phone doesn't communicate directly to the lock... it communicates to the server in some other country which then directs your lock to open via the internet. What are the potential problems? The internet isn't working right – doors can't open and your child is sitting outside waiting OR worse, it is hacked and doors open for the hacker. Why doesn't it bother us on Bonaire – because we don't lock our doors.

Home Security Cameras – Many of the home security cameras send their feeds through the internet back to servers in China or other countries, and then to your phone. Not only can they be looking at or storing the video 24 hours a day, it was now announced that one of the companies is providing the footage to the police when asked. OK, that one does affect us in Bonaire from a privacy point of view.

Military Style Robots – Google owns or owned at one point, eight of the top Military Robot companies, plus Nest (Smart Thermostat), Google Maps, Google Streetview, Android (GPS tracking), the network (fiber optic and copper cables) and other related companies. Put it all together and you get a pretty powerful "big brother". They know where you live (Google Maps), what your house looks like (Google Streetview), which room you are in (Nest), and where you are at any time (Android). Do something wrong, and a Google Robot knocks down your door (think Terminator). But why would they worry about approximately 20,000 people, some 1,000 donkeys, and thousands of goats here in Bonaire? And I bet they do not want their robots to rust, get kicked by donkeys, fall in potholes or trip over goats before they can get to your house? So in the end, I would say that the robots won't bother us either.

So, even though there is all that "cool technology" outside of Bonaire, do we really want or need it? What do you think Alexa? Siri? Cortana? *Brian Niessen, The Geek.*



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

Lunar leapfrog: Part Two

Back in April, we saw neat little game of leapfrog between the moon and two of our favorite planets, Jupiter and Saturn. We get to see it again, but this time... At night! Jupiter and Saturn will play leapfrog with the moon next week. And it's going to happen again a month later during the first week of October! What are we talking about? For an hour after sunset, on September 4th if you look toward the south, you'll see three bright objects in the sky. The brightest, of course, is the moon. On September 4th, the moon will be in the waxing crescent phase in the constellation Scorpius the Scorpion.

The next brightest object in the sky is Jupiter. It will be to the left of the moon, and it will shine with a bright, steady white light. Jupiter is the largest planet in our solar system, and makes up over 75% of the solar system's planetary mass. Jupiter has been observed in the sky since antiquity.

The ancient Romans named it after the king of their gods, whom the Greeks referred to as Zeus. Babylonian astronomers have records of Jupiter dating back to the 7th century B.C..

Centuries later, Greek astronomer Claudius Ptolemy observed Jupiter's motion really accurately, even though he got one major thing wrong. He thought Jupiter went around the earth. In 1610, Italian astronomer Galileo studied Jupiter using a telescope and is credited with discovering the four largest moons of Jupiter; Io, Europa, Ganymede

Business news

Digicel is shortlisted across three categories of the prestigious World Communications Awards, to be awarded in London on October 30, 2019.

Digicel Dominica CEO, Nikima Royer Jno Baptiste, is shortlisted in the Women in Telecoms category. She is recognized for her work and leadership in the aftermath of category five Hurricane Maria which ravaged the island of Dominica in 2017. Digicel is also shortlisted in the Best Operator in an Emerging Market category for its work to connect the unconnected in Papua New Guinea. In the Social Contribution category Digicel is shortlisted for both its groundbreaking Mon Cash mobile money program in Haiti and its education project work through the Digicel Foundation in Papua New Guinea.

Commenting on the nominations, Digicel Group CEO, Jean-Yves Charlier said, "All across the globe, the phenomenal people who make up the Digicel family are doing amazing and transformational work to bring the benefits of digital connectivity to as many people as possible. Equally important to us are our efforts to help create a world where no one gets left behind through our Foundation work."

About Digicel

Digicel Group is a total communications and entertainment provider with operations in 31 markets in the Caribbean, Central America and Asia Pacific. Digicel also runs a host of community-based initiatives across its markets and has set up Digicel Foundations in Haiti, Jamaica, Papua New Guinea and Trinidad and Tobago which focus on educational, cultural and social development programmes.

Wanika Games Saviors of Kimeria – Bonaire Squad is now available in stores.

Developed by Fernando Nava and Vanessa Peralta, the educational game promotes environment awareness. All the elements of the game are in Papiamentu and English.

The game tells of Kimeria, a distant planet similar to Earth. The Kimerians polluted the planet so that all their animals, called Kimeras, died. They have now cleaned up their planet and are trying to bring their Kimeras back to life with DNA from different animals. After a galaxy search, Kimerians discover that the island of Bonaire has the animals with the DNA needed. By playing Saviors of Kimeria, players will learn the names (in English and Papiamentu) of many animals from Bonaire, and have fun at the same time.

"At WANIKA we believe in promoting local pride, helping the environment, and helping people connect face to face, away from their screens. This game is in line with our values, our identity and our brand," said Nava and Peralta.

The game is for sale at Van Den Tweel, Addo's, VIP Diving and Obersi Electronics for \$49. This first edition has only 100 units, so hurry and get your copy soon.

WANIKA Games are the creators of "Saviors of Kimeria" and "Rincon ta On."

and Callisto. The motions of these moons around Jupiter provided Galileo with an example supporting Nicholas Copernicus' view of a sun-centered solar system.

The third bright object in the southern sky will be Saturn. Saturn was named after Jupiter's father; the roman god of agriculture.

Being the second largest planet in our solar system, Saturn is so large, you could put 750 earths inside it if it were hollow. Saturn is an amazing planet.

Aside from its beautiful rings, astronomers discovered something else interesting.

When the Cassini space probe visited Saturn in 2006, it confirmed a discovery that Voyager 1 made back in 1981 - a large hexagon at Saturn's north pole. Like Saturn itself, this hexagon is enormous.

'Each side of Saturn's hexagon is 9,000 miles in length and the clouds are estimated to be over 190 miles high.

Many astronomers believe that this bizarre feature is the result of an atmospheric wave pattern caused by differences in the densities and speeds of the atmosphere near Saturn's north pole. The Cassini mission determined the rotation rate for the hexagon to be a little over 10 hours and 40 minutes. This is the same period of rotation of Saturn's internal radio emissions.

Now that you know a little more about Jupiter and Saturn, let's check out that celestial game of lunar leapfrog. We have our skies set up for an hour after sunset on September 4th. The waxing crescent moon is just to the right of Jupiter and directly north of Antares; the heart of Scorpius the Scorpion. The fun begins the following evening, on September 5th. The first quarter moon will be a little over two degrees (or four full moon widths) away from Jupiter. On September 6th, the moon is now a third of the way between Jupiter and Saturn; and in the constellation Ophiuchus, the Serpent Bearer.

On the 7th, it's moved another third of the way toward Saturn and it appears right above the star Kaus Borealis in the teapot of Sagittarius. Let's advance time one more day to the 8th. Boom! Our second conjunction of the week!

This one won't be really close, but Saturn and the moon will be just under 5 degrees apart. If you miss it, the moon will be back again next month.

On October 3rd, the moon is next to Jupiter again. And on October 5th, it will be near Saturn once more. *Dean Regas & James Albury <http://www.stargazersonline.org/index.html>*

48 Hour Film Project rolls out in Bonaire



The 48 Hour Film Project

If you love movies and/or making films, then this is your chance to express yourself. With the 48 Hour Film Project this is your opportunity to use your imagination, hone your cinematic skills, express yourself and even compete at Filmopalooza or possibly in Cannes, France. The countdown for the 48 Hour Film Project for Bonaire is from October 4-6.

The first organizing meeting was held August 24. Teams were picked and everyone received an overview of this year's competition.

This will be the third year Bonaire has participated in this worldwide film competition.

Organizer and producer Dennis Martinus said, "Last year we had 14 teams and the year before there were seven. Each team submits their film and represents Bonaire."

Last year's winners were: first place, "By a Thread", a seven minute detective film by BYOF Media. This team's film made it all the way to Cannes. They will be competing again this year. Other winners were: second place: "Time Frame" by CINEARUBA and third place: "Nos Ta Bolbe Topa" by 599 Empire.

The competition is for pros, amateurs and enthusiasts of film. In other words, anyone can enter. Participants can use any camera! Teams are organized and on October 4 they draw the genre of film that they will produce. Subject possibilities could be: sci-fi, drama, horror, comedy, fantasy, buddy movie, musical, thriller, detective, holiday, western, fish out of water, film de femme. All films must have a main character, a prop that is used in the film and a specific line of dialogue. Teams work together to write, shoot, score, cast and edit their film in the 48 hour time frame.

In the coming weeks classes will be available for budding filmmakers. Anyone interested in attending the classes must register for the competition by September 7.

September 14: Cinematography with cinematographer/DP instructor Mr. Dolph Van Staple of Fisheye Media productions, Curacao.

September 21: Sound Design Workshop with sound designer instructor Adriano Cianciulli Fernandes of CeneAruba, Aruba

September 28: Storytelling with the film directors from the Netherlands by Frank Zichem

October 2: 48 Hour Film Project Procedures Workshop with the Bonaire City Producers.

The 48 Hour Film Project began in 2001 in Washington DC and has spread throughout the world. There were 5000 films submitted in 2018.

If you are up for the challenge and the fun, then you can find more information at www.48hourfilm.com/Bonaire. You can also watch some of the winning films from last years competitions.

Shelter News

Flea and tick season is here! Protect your pet and yourself.



Fleas and ticks are having fun in this long stretch of hot, dry weather. But they make your pets miserable. While the fleas won't survive on your sun-baked patio, odds are that they will be located in a shaded or damp place. Those are the same places your pet seeks refuge from the sun. Ticks are different. They aren't affected by the heat, so pet owners should be vigilant regardless of how hot it is.

Fleas can jump thousands of times (an average is the length of three football fields) and as high as two feet in each jump in search of a host. Depending on the environment, fleas live 16 days to 21 months, feeding on your dog or cat about once every two days. Fleas can cause anemia in adult dogs. And in puppies a flea infestation can be life threatening. Pets who are allergic to the saliva of fleas can have problems after a single bite of one insect. Flea bites can cause irritation and induce skin allergies in pets. A soothing bath will make pets more comfortable, but it is not going to get rid of the flea problem. At best it will kill five per cent of adult fleas and it is not going to touch the pupae and the eggs.

Fleas can also transmit other parasites, such as tapeworms, and diseases to pets and pet owners. Because of the long life cycle of the flea, it takes at least three months to get rid of an infestation. This is why your animals should be on a regular flea/tick preventative.

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

Check your pet daily. If you see a flea or tick, talk with your vet about a treatment program. There are lots of preventive options for both fleas and ticks. Ask your vet which ones are best for your pet. Some dog flea/tick products can kill cats so it is important that you only treat your animals based on the veterinarian's advice. Likewise, do not use over the counter cat and dog products without consulting your vet, and NEVER use products designed for dogs on cats, and vice versa. *Jane Disko*

Pet of the Week: Hazel



Hello everyone!

My name is Hazel, but 'Miss Foxy' is also fine! I am eight months old, sterilized, vaccinated and healthy as a young flower.

With my fluffy curly tail and fox eyes, I look sassy and so classy. But don't let my girly looks fool you. I like to run and play and wrestle with other dogs and humans. And like most of my friends here at the Shelter, I like to sit in the big water bowls and get covered in mud. I have heard that mud is good for the skin. Maybe that's why my fur is so fabulous or maybe it's because I like to be petted and groomed.

I am good with people and I like children a lot. I still have to learn some things because technically I'm still a baby. I am friends with all the dogs here. If you would like to meet me come visit me at the Animal Shelter, Kaminda Lagun 26, and I can have visitors on Monday-Friday, 9 am-12 pm and 3-5 pm, Saturday 9 am-3 pm nonstop, or call the Animal Shelter at 7014989 or 7174989.

Story and photo by Sanne Attevelt.



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