

**FREE**

# BONAIRE The REPORTER

August 17 - September 14, 2022, Year 29, Issue 17



Box 603, Bonaire, Caribbean Netherlands, Phone/WhatsApp (+599) 796-4055,  
[www.bonairereporter.com](http://www.bonairereporter.com) email: [bonairereporter2019@gmail.com](mailto:bonairereporter2019@gmail.com)



Founder Patrice Verschoor and volunteer Pleun de Koeijer with some cute FKK pups Photo Julie Morgan

## FKK animal rescue needs your help

Along with Bonaire's growing human population, the animal population of cats and dogs is growing too. Even with free dog and cat sterilization programs, the cute big-eyed puppies and fluffy kittens keep on coming.

Bonaire's two pet organizations, Fundashon Kunuku Kakelvers (FKK) Animal Rescue and Animal Shelter Bonaire (ASB), work hard to give the island's dogs and cats an opportunity for a good life. But the job is momentous and both animal organizations need and depend on volunteers and monetary support through donations and fundraisers. Both the rescue and shelter organizations constantly stress the need for animal spaying and neutering. But there are still too many animals being born. As a result, FKK and ASB are at full capacity and overwhelmed with the need to find homes for the animals. (see page 15 for our ASB Pets of the Week)

FKK evolved into a rescue shelter after big hearted animal lovers, Peter Kersse-makers and Patrice Verschoor, moved to Bonaire from the Netherlands in 2011. The couple had no plans to start rescuing dogs and cats; they just wanted to help a few animals. Suddenly they found themselves with a growing family of needy dogs and cats and FKK was founded in 2014.

Now eight years later their kunuku is the home of 150 dogs and 20 cats.

The foundation takes care of needy animals that are found in compromising situa-

tions. They rescue, provide shelter, healing and socialization with hopefully an end result of adoption.

Patrice said, "We take care of all dogs and cats that still have a chance and we follow a strict 'no-kill policy.' We don't put animals to sleep unless that is really the best thing for the animal because it is too sick or too badly injured."

Additionally, FKK has a rescue truck providing animal rescue of not only dogs and cats but birds, including flamingos that are taken to Elly Albers at Bonaire Wild Bird Rehab.

Due to a successful fundraiser in 2021, FKK was able to build new animal enclosures, kennels and a small animal treatment

room. But there is still more to be done.

Plus there is the rising cost of food, litter, medicines, medical treatment, maintenance and FKK has to bring in their own water due to their remote kunuku location.

This October 8, FKK will hold an Open Day fundraiser with a Lottery. This will not be an adoption day but more of a 'get acquainted with FKK day' to see first hand the work they do for Bonaire's animals. To make the 'lottery' work, FKK is asking businesses or individuals to provide contributions for the Open Day Lottery. The goal is to sell 500 tickets which would go a long way in supporting Bonaire's dogs and cats.

Suggestions for lottery donations from businesses or individuals are:

HORECA – an overnight hotel stay, dinner, lunch or a drink voucher

Tour operators - donate a tour on land, sea or by air.

Supermarkets - shopping extravaganza or gift voucher

Car, truck, scooter, boat or bike rental donation

All retail shops including furniture, interior shops, electronics stores, souvenir shops, opticians could donate an item or gift voucher

Sport adventure organizations could donate gift certificates for scuba, snorkeling, windsurf or kiteboarding.

All donations are appreciated to make the lottery a success for the well-being of FKK's animals. A deadline for donations is set for August 25. Please send your response by email with your name, company name and address and donation to [knoek-kakelvers@gmail.com](mailto:knoek-kakelvers@gmail.com). One of FKK's volunteers will contact you with more details. Monetary donations can be made to FKK's bank account at Banco di Caribe # 31584701; FKK Animal Rescue; Flor di Cuba 40, Kralendijk, Bonaire.

FKK works in collaboration with "Stichting Dierenlot" in the Netherlands and Flamingo Island Veterinary Center on Bonaire. FKK is completely dependent on donations, sponsorship and their own resources.

Story and photos, Julie Morgan



FKK's cat and kitten enclosure makes use of the local driftwood for a great climbing structure.



### This Issue's Stories

FKK	1
Diver's Life	3
Real Madrid	5
Sunfish Italy - Sebastian's sail	6
Motorcycle rally Flag Day	7
DuoXtreme	7
Loggerhead nest	8
Tale of two turtles	8
Terramar's new focus	10
JanArt driftwood crosses	10
Art for Life exhibit Terramar	11
Taste of Bonaire/Miss Teen Bonaire	13
Dive Friends job opportunities	13

### Our Facebook page and

**The Reporter's Online Updates** bring you news that arrives between issues

### Departments

Flotsam & Jetsam: Drugs seized; Landhuis Karpata; Fuel price; Caves under BIA; Fights full BON/CUR; Playa Frans fish station; VET adjustments	2
Who's Who in The Reporter	2
Police Report	4
Ask Kate & Jean (closing)	4
Letters (Dog problems)	4
RAMSAR permits; BIA problems	5
Did You Know (Damselfish & coral)	6
Foodies' Dining Guide	9
Sky Park (Mercury)	10
Optimal Health (Care of airways)	10
Reef Glimpes: (Eyes)	11
What's Happening (Nos Zijle-Flag; Neighborhood clean ups; Flights; Cruise ships)	12
A Garden? (Sugar Apple)	13
Accessibility (Beach chair; buddy)	13
Business Directory	14
Pets of the Week (Cats Jake & Jeffery; Dogs Dave & Bea)	15
Shelter (Hot weather tips)	15
Echo - Mid-year roost count	15

### How to Find Us

Read us online:  
<https://bonairereporter.com>  
<https://www.facebook.com/TheBonaireReporter/>  
 Available in 70 locations  
 Printed every two weeks  
 Next edition: September 14, 2022  
 Contributor's Deadline September 9, 2022

### Stories, tips, questions, ideas & ads:

Phone (+599) 796 4055  
 Email: [bonairereporter2019@gmail.com](mailto:bonairereporter2019@gmail.com)  
 Address: Box 603, Bonaire, Dutch Caribbean.

### The Bonaire Reporter Staff

Julie Morgan, Publisher  
 Production: Barbara Lockwood  
 Contributors: Angliet Baidjoe, Ria Evers-Dokter, Dee Scarr, Jane Madden-Disko, Don M. Ricks, Alan Zale, Malcolm Wilson, Caren Eckrich, Roxanne-Liana Francisca, Irene de Cunda Costa, Sanne Attevelt, Monique Degenaar, Kaj Schut, Daria Taiakina, Caroline Walta, Wilma Nijland, Ralf Theyse  
 Distribution: Marlene & Co. (Playa), Yuchi Molina (Rincon), Divi-Divi Airline, Printed by: DeStad Drukkerij, Curaçao  
 Founders: George and Laura DeSalvo  
 © 2022 The Bonaire Reporter

**We are taking a break.  
 Look for our next issue  
 September 14, 2022**

## Smuggler go-fasts 0 – Coast Guard go-fasters 9

Twenty-five suspected drug smugglers have been jailed on Aruba, Curaçao, and Bonaire. Almost 10,000 kilograms of drugs have been destroyed, mostly cocaine. Nine smugglers' boats, known as go-fasts, have been eliminated. These results were racked up by the Sr. Ms. Groningen while patrolling the waters between Venezuela and the ABC islands in recent weeks.

The Groningen, when alerted via the Maritime Operations Center by coastguard helicopters and aircraft, intercepts suspected go-fasts, then launches its own high-speed hard-bot-tomed inflatables to search them and arrest the suspects.

Various scenarios played out during the recent interceptions. The suspected smugglers sometimes threw the packages of drugs overboard. Since the packages float, the Coast Guard recovered them easily.

In another dramatic sequence, a go-fast loaded with barrels of gasoline was caught while refueling another go-fast. As the Groningen approached, the suspected smugglers dumped their



goods in one of the boats and tried to escape in the other. When the suspects refused to stop, even when warning shots were fired, the Coast Guard crew destroyed their outboard motor with gunfire.

A multinational partnership that includes the KPC, KPA, BOT K-9 of the KIA, Guarda nos Costa, and Customs and immigration services, cooperates to control drugs. *DMR*

## Landhuis Karpata to be restored again

Landhuis Karpata was previously restored in 1980 with Dutch funds. Opened by Queen Beatrix as an ecological center, it was at one point considered as a possible headquarters for the Marine Park. But it remained unused and unmaintained. The mansion has been empty for a long time and is now dilapidated.

The Executive Council of Bonaire and the Cocari II Foundation will jointly ensure that the mansion is restored, along with the aloe oven. The renovation will take about a year. Sustainable materials will be used in the restoration and the former plantation home will be powered by solar energy. Historical consulting will be provided by Boi Antoin and FuHiKuBo. Using the site as a visitor center is being discussed, and other possibilities will be considered as well.

The mission of the Cocari II Foundation is to preserve the cultural heritage on Bonaire by restoring old buildings. The buildings are intended to be accessible to the public and serve a social purpose. The Foundation has previously restored the former primary school and Kas di Seur in Rincon. The dilapi-



dated buildings were completely renovated by the foundation, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport (VWS) and the Executive Council. Today they are the location of a day care center for the elderly and a police station. In addition, the Foundation plans to renovate the Fraterhuis, also known as Hotel Bonaire Inn, behind the Catholic church in Kralendijk. *DMR Photo via BEACHES-BONAIRE*

## Gasoline costs less now

Thanks to the OLB's monthly price adjustment that is based on world markets, the price of gasoline is now \$1.64 per liter, a reduction of \$0.22. The price of propane has also decreased, but the price of diesel has risen \$0.09.

## Search for caves under the airport underway

A crew of technicians is searching for caves that may exist under the airport. As work continues on Phase 1 of the Masterplan Flamingo Airport, any weight bearing limitations that exist in areas where foundations will be laid or heavy aircraft will roll must be detected so plans can be made to strengthen them. Geotron Caribbean is using ERT (electrical resistivity tomography) to measure electrical resistance anomalies that identify where caves may be located.

## Too many butts, not enough seats

Not enough planes are flying between Bonaire and Curaçao. People wanting to travel between the islands must plan ahead and book early. As of last weekend, Divi Divi Air had no seats available until August 18. EZ Air had some tickets available from August 11.

## Playa Frans fisherman's structure restored

The fishermen's hut and fish cleaning station at Playa Frans has been completely restored. Several years ago the building became infected with mold and was condemned and torn down. Subsequently the cleaning station was destroyed by wave action, and the roof over the work area rusted away. The entire structure has been made serviceable again. Construction is now planned for a new slipway where the fishermen

can launch their boats. The restoration was financed by the Prins Hendrik Foundation and Cargill Salt Bonaire BV. The fishing corporation Piskabon, STINAPA, and the OLB collaborated on the project.

## Tax relief coming for island hoppers

One unintended consequence of the new tourist tax is that it discourages visitors from island hopping—that is, from travelling to other islands for a few days. The OLB is working on a solution.

## Hospital taking new visitor precautions

Cases of Covid and stomach flu have turned up in Fundashon Mariadal and the Kas di Kuido. New measures for visitors to both the hospital and the Kas di Kuido have been announced. All visitors must wear a mouth-nose mask. They may not bring their own masks. Mariadal will provide masks.

Visitors must use the hand disinfectant provided. A person who has a fever, respiratory complaints or a stomach flu, is not allowed to visit the hospital or the Kas di Kuido.

Fundashon Mariadal employees are subject to the same restrictions. The hospital expects covid to be with us for a long time.

## KVK course for entrepreneurs starting soon

The 2022 offering of the Chamber of Commerce Academy in-depth course for entrepreneurs will start on August 30. It's not too late for business people to register. Information is available on the website [www.kvkbonaire.com](http://www.kvkbonaire.com) or on the Facebook page Bonaire Chamber of Commerce and Industry. *DMR*



# Living the Diver's Life



Still from Diver's Life video Rich and Doreen Schwerdfeger

*"Divers Life is about two people who left the corporate world to live a diver's life by the sea. Many only dream about this life. Our hope is to inspire you through our experiences and stories so that you can live the dream too. This is a Diver's Life."*

channel, Rich Schwerdfeger, explained, "I want to allow people to have an experience that if you aren't a resident [of Bonaire] you would never have this experience at these sites. It's simple stuff that all of us take for granted... and people can see what's really there."

Rich and Doreen Schwerdfeger's first trip to Bonaire was in 1997. On their 35th dive they opted for a custom video on Bari Reef at the old Sand Dollar Dive & Photo. It proved to be a dive they would never forget when a whale shark swam by for the perfect ending.

After such an experience, Rich, an IBM Chief Tech Officer for disability software in Austin, Texas and Doreen, a

pharmacist, returned many times to Bonaire.

In 2001, Rich took the leap into videography on a trip to Palau and Chuuk (Truk Lagoon) in the Pacific.

"My first camera was a Sony mini-dv. I filmed both places and had a little success with it. I always wanted to be a Cousteau," said Rich. "The big thing about Cousteau was he was a master storyteller and a model for ocean conservation."

In 2010 the couple bought a house in Bonaire and for several years Rich worked remotely for IBM for two months of the year. The couple retired in 2016, packed up their stuff, moved their three cats and began to enjoy what they call the "Diver's Life."

Rich said, "Doreen is a phenomenal

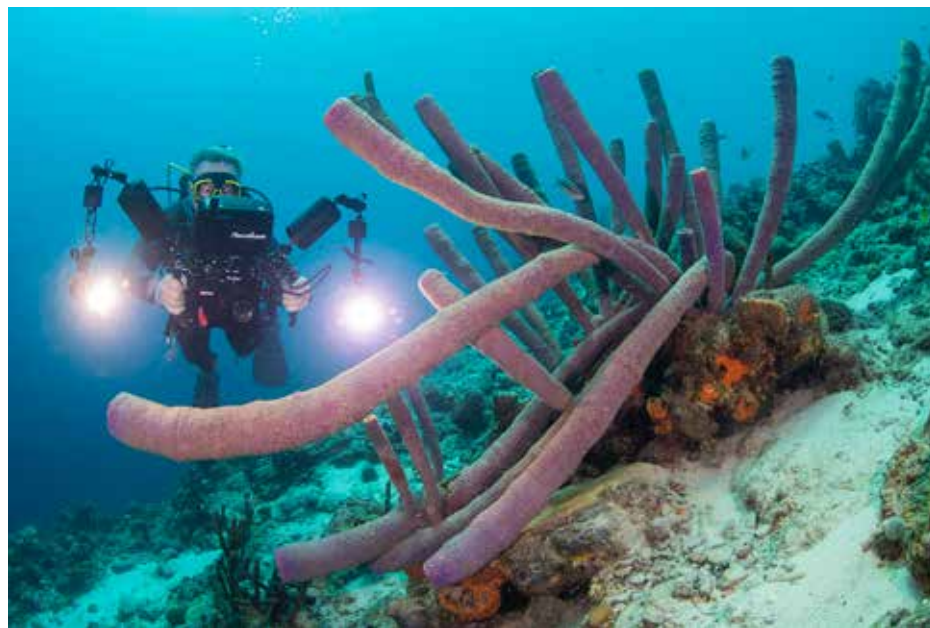
diver and spotter finding things, but hates to be in front of the camera. She's my buddy. We have a lot of fun as a couple diving."

In December 2018, with a new and better-quality camera, Rich produced his first Diver's Life video on a dive at Something Special.

Just as a Diver's Life was getting started, the couple took a dive trip to Indonesia and Rich took a spill and ruptured his knee.

"I had lots of time to edit all the footage I shot in Indonesia and learned Pre-

## Diver's Life continued on page 7



Rich shooting video for Diver's Life

## FOR SALE Cozy Affordable Condo Kaya Onix 3D



- Location : Republiek/Santa Barbara
- Living area : approx. 56 m2 / 603 sq. ft. plus porch
- 1 bedroom / 1 bathroom / private parking

- Large covered porch
- Communal pool, garden

Virtual 3D tour



Asking price \$199,000 US Dollar

Kaya Grandi 24-A Bonaire, Dutch Caribbean Tel. +599-717-7362  
info@bonairehomes.com www.bonairehomes.com  
f http://www.facebook.com/REMAXBonaire



# Letters & Opinions

The opinions, beliefs and viewpoints expressed by the various authors and forum participants do not necessarily reflect the opinions, beliefs and viewpoints of The Bonaire Reporter.

## Roaming dogs on Bonaire

I don't see where the Police Department should be the governing authority on solving the problem of roaming dogs and increased biting incidents. Should they be involved in the solution, certainly. Exchanging ideas between various entities on Bonaire is so very important for a society. But, has thought been given by the council to creating a position on the island of Animal Catcher?

The Bonaire Animal Rescue Group attempts to rehabilitate and retrain some animals and find forever homes for them but it never seems to be enough. People are requested to be better responsible animal owners but this doesn't seem to be enough either. I financially support Bonaire's Animal Shelter and Bonaire Kitten Rescue on Bonaire plus two from previous towns I have lived in, in the United States. So, I don't favor euthanasia but sometimes it is required. Often the animals are better off away from their owner's possession. Possibly there needs to be fewer animals allowed coming onto the island. A hard decision to make but it is adding to the problem. How many animals should be allowed to reside at one address? Dogs live 12 to 18 years. Cats can live to the age of 20+.

There is no money to create a Dog Catcher position and what department will it be under? Recent changes have shown that considering a problem from many angles can make a difference in the tax base. One group decided to tackle the problem from their perspective and the month of July brought in \$940,000.00. Kudos to them.

The island has a problem collecting taxes in other instances also. No one wants to pay taxes but for a society to function for its people, it has to exist. I'm learning some people living here owning property have not paid any tax because

the registration papers were not completed. It was learned the resident has to go to the Motor Vehicle Department (?) to finalize the home ownership paper process? How many people living here knows that? How many people actually tells the department they are willing to pay taxes but have not received any documents telling them how much they owe? Upon notifying a clerk behind a counter the owners had never received a paper notice or email of taxes owed, they were told, upon the final decision of the committee, they would be contacted. When asked how soon this could be expected, were told whenever the committee meets.

When we moved here, our house address had not been registered on any street zoning map and it was an older property. It could not be found in any of the islands records at that time and had to be added. All that confusion had to be cleared up going to different departments in various areas of the city to get the address certified. Then we could finalize our Cedula. Possibly a flow chart showing new residents where various departments are and their purpose could be handed out by realtors in Papiamentu, Dutch, Spanish and English?

We need to get people from all walks of life to become involved with fresh ideas on how Bonaire is to exist. Retain the culture of the island but implement ideas to strengthen the life style of the current century.

The phrase "God helps them who helps themselves" was common when I was a child. It won't happen on its own. It will take you, me and others to put forth ideas to our representatives and urge them to make changes where needed. You roil against The Netherlands but there are some things locally one can do to improve Bonaire for everyone. Let's begin.

*Earline Wasser, Bonaire*

## Ask Kate and Jean Bonaire real estate advice

**How long does it take to close a property on Bonaire once the Seller and I sign a purchase contract? Jess**

Hi Jess,

The time depends on whether you are paying cash or financing the property, and whether there are any contingencies that need to be satisfied prior to the transfer of ownership.

A cash sale with no contingencies can complete in as little as 30 days if the buyer sends all funds and documentation on time. If you have an inspection contingency, plan at least 60 days. If you require a mortgage from a Bonaire bank, plan a minimum of 90 days, since the bank will require an appraisal and detailed financial information from you before the application goes to the loan committee for approval.

## MPB faction leader, Elvis Tjin Asjoe: Abuse of and By Dogs Unacceptable!

The abuse and neglect of dogs on Bonaire is still a problem. Last week we were all shocked by the news that a dog was brutally beaten with a club and then died. I am a big dog lover so this kind of news hits me hard. But this doesn't just apply to me. Our community is horrified to hear over and over again about the abuse of dogs on the island or that dogs have seriously bitten someone.

In the case of the dog abuse, the reality is that its effect goes beyond simply causing animal suffering; Abused and neglected dogs, in turn, start to exhibit socially deviant and undesirable behavior. We see dogs leaving their yard to attack goats, for example, causing emotional and financial damage to livestock farmers. We also notice that dogs make our residential areas unsafe for pedestrians, athletes and traffic. The number of incidents involving dogs is unacceptable. Too often we are confronted with reports of abuse or dangerous behavior. It is unacceptable for cyclists and scooters to be attacked. It is unacceptable that you as a pedestrian avoid a certain street because there are aggressive dogs around. It is unacceptable to teach your children to walk with a stick to deter certain dogs in the vicinity.

The core of the solution lies in how we treat our dogs. They are our main companion animals and they are part of our daily lives. This also requires a sense of responsibility from every dog owner. Every owner is responsible for the education of his or her dog. Each owner should also ensure that his or her dog is not left unattended outside of their own yard. Every owner should be willing to take action when the behavior of his or her dogs warrants it. Good ownership starts with ourselves. I am therefore very happy with so much social commitment to improve the welfare of dogs and the knowledge about raising dogs. That commitment comes from foundations, volunteers, donors, veterinarians, dog trainers, and concerned citizens. Bonaire is very grateful to you.

MPB priority - animal welfare

Reducing biting incidents and animal cruelty must be stopped. This topic was part of our 2019 election manifesto and we made sure to include it in the 2019-2023



L-R: Jean and Kate

The time frame can also depend on market conditions. During a busy selling season, the demand for appraisals, inspections and closing appointments increases. However, there is not an increase in the number of professionals who provide these services, so appointments may take longer to schedule during busy times.

*Jean Scarce, Real Estate Agent.  
Re/Max Bonaire*

**If you have a real estate question or want to buy or sell property, email us at [jean@bonairehomes.com](mailto:jean@bonairehomes.com).**

governance program. In February 2021, as party leader of the MPB, together with colleague Esther Bernabela (UPB), I submitted a motion to promote animal welfare, containing concrete recommendations and special attention to the situation regarding dogs. This motion was unanimously adopted by the Island Council.

Following the motion, the Executive Council has drawn up an Action Plan for animal welfare policy and has launched an information campaign for dog owners. But we are not there yet. For example, in addition to education, I would like to see more and faster results when it comes to registering and sterilizing dogs. These measures form the basis for improving the well-being of dogs and the safety of humans.

## Enforcement and prosecution

But adequate enforcement of violations is also essential. The lack of enforcement on animal cruelty and aggressive dogs is a recurring complaint from society. It is seen as inadequate. I agree.

Based on the Bonaire Dog Ordinance 1997, the police can catch stray aggressive dogs and dogs that come onto other people's property. Apparently, the Dutch Caribbean Police Force (KPCN) does not have enough capacity to give priority to maintaining the 'dog problem'. In 2018, the National Ombudsman also pointed this out. He then advised the KPCN to take steps to have appropriate resources, in view of the high frequency of reports of aggressive dogs. I don't think the police ever followed up on this.

In addition to the police, the lieutenant governor can act on the basis of the regulation. Namely, if there is a danger to public order and safety involving dogs, he can take measures to prevent further danger. I would like to see more involvement from the lieutenant governor when it comes to acting in a timely and correct manner in these dangerous situations.

In addition, the Criminal Code offers BES the possibility to prosecute and punish neglect and abuse as a crime. A penalty may be imposed on anyone who intentionally causes pain, injury, or harms an animal's health for no reason whatsoever. It is about the imposition of a prison sentence.

*Elvis Tjin Asjoe*

# POLICE REPORT

## Property crime

**August 4/5.** Thieves broke into a house on Kaya Inca between 7 p.m. on Thursday and 4:15 a.m. on Friday, taking, among other things, a gold watch and bracelet.

August 3. Thieves forced a window into a Crown Ridge, Sabadeco house between 6:15 and 8:00 p.m. and stole, among other things, a Lenovo laptop, a Motorola mobile phone, an iPad, Bose headphones, a wallet with several bank cards, various jewelry, a Tag Heuer watch and an Apple Mac with charger.

August 1/2. Thieves gained access to a tourist accommodation on Kaya Finlandia during the night and took, among other things, cash, an Olympic camera, a TW Steel watch, a Nikkei GoPro, an HP laptop, Ray-ban sunglasses, a black East Pack bag containing a wallet with various cards, a green Fjall Raven bag and a JBL music box.

July 24/30, At a house on Kaya Maraka thieves took gold and silver jewelry from a jewelry box on a dresser in the bedroom.

## Arrests

**August 2.** In the evening hours a man, 47, was arrested for vandalism and threats at a nightlife on Kaya Dr. Jose Girigorio Hernandez. The suspect had threatened a man and smashed his car tires.

## Traffic accidents/violations

**August 5.** In the evening a car and scooter collided on Kaya Grandi. The driver of the car said he saw the scooter which had stopped to turn left too late to stop hitting it. The scooter driver was taken to hospital by ambulance.

## Contacting the police

911 (urgent or red-handed)

717 8000 or 715 8000 (no emergency)

9310 (anonymous tip line)



# Letters & Opinions

The opinions, beliefs and viewpoints expressed by the various authors and forum participants do not necessarily reflect the opinions, beliefs and viewpoints of The Bonaire Reporter.

## A new residential area in RAMSAR?

### Going faster than expected!

The Reporter issue 15 of 2022 featured an update about building in RAMSAR. I was not planning on coming back to you with a new update so soon, but this cannot wait it is too important to keep quiet.

Last week I saw a publication of the OLB (Openbaar Lichaam Bonaire) with a long list of applications for building permits. Again, there was a new building permit application for RAMSAR area (LAC 199, International protected area). This time it is an apartment complex with in total eight apartments on two floors, Kaminda Sorobon 64. The developer accompanied the permit request with an EIA (Environmental Impact Assessment) of more than ten years old. As if there would not be any changes in the environment in a period of 10 years.

The same week the OLB published that the initial memorandum (startnotitie) for the EIA to be carried out for the construction and operation of a windsurf school at Sorobon was available to take a look at.

So, two more treats for Ramsar area Lac 199 and for me a couple of visits to R&O (Ruimte en Ontwikkeling).

## Back to basics, what the Treaty of Ramsar is all about.

The Ramsar Convention is aimed at preserving wetlands of international importance, in particular, as a habitat for waterfowl. An important obligation of the parties to the Ramsar Convention is the designation of these wetlands (Article 2).

The treaty provides a number of criteria for designating wetlands, namely their international significance in ecological,

botanical, zoological, limnological or hydrological respect.

The contracting parties then have an obligation to formulate their (spatial development) plans for these areas in such a way that the conservation and wise use of such areas is promoted (Article 3).

Wise use of wetlands is the preservation of their ecological character, achieved through the implementation of ecosystem approaches, in the context of sustainable development.

By 'in the context of sustainable development' is meant to recognize that, while some wetland development is unavoidable and many developments have significant societal benefits, sustainable development can be facilitated in ways that are sustainable within the framework of the Treaty have been worked out, and it is not correct to imply that development is an objective for every wetland.

Sustainable development "development" that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs." (UN World Commission on Environment and Development. 1987, Our common future)

## Ramsar Lac 199 is in danger of being completely destroyed by development urges.

Where the government should be the protector of the Ramsar area, this government is more of a helping hand. Building is still seen on Bonaire as the ultimate progress.

Opinions (zienswijzen) end up in R&O, under the guise of taking it into account in the assessment, in the circular archive and the developers don't seem to be put anything in the way.

Building permit applications for Ram-



sar Lac 199 follow each other faster and faster. From buildings of full concrete structures such as the apartment complex Kaminda Sorobon 64 and the house at 5-G-28, Troca Suelto as the more sustainable constructions such as the windsurfing school.

Reason enough to approach the Ramsar organization again after my previous contact at the end of 2021 with the request to start its own investigation as a Ramsar organization. On July 27, Ramsar requested information from CN (Caribisch Nederland) by email, a repeated request on August 9. No response yet. The well-known story, not reacting, will pass.... We will see if and how the Ramsar organization handles this.

There are those who argue that wetlands covered by Ramsar are well protected. If only it were that simple. There is more to it than designating an area to protect it so that future generations can also enjoy and benefit of this nature.

It is easy to say that another person or organization has or should take responsibility for the protection of nature, after all, if nature disappears, it is not due to the lack of one's own efforts. We have enough nature organizations on Bonaire. Every one of them is busy with its own animal and/or plant and is careful not to

make waves. Protecting nature appears to be too (politically) sensitive to really commit to it and to step off the beaten track. These organizations do not want to jeopardize their good relationship with the OLB, but rather risk the future of our children ..... or do they think not that 'far'

**Protecting nature (on Bonaire) so that it is preserved for our children and the children of our children comes down to us, to you and me. Are we good ancestors?**

## List with events:

1. Lot 5-G-33, Troca Suelto, building permit pending for wooden house, 2021;
2. Lot 5-G-28, Troca Suelto, building permit pending for concrete house, 2022;
3. Lot 6-B-56, Kaminda Sorobon 64, building permit pending for concrete apartment building, 2 floors, total of 8 apartments, 2022;
4. Windsurf school, Sorobon, initial memorandum EIA, 2022;
5. Lot 4-K-63 till 67, sleeping building permit for 2 apartment buildings with total 32 apartments, 2012.

Wilma Nijland

## Airport problems

I have been traveling to Bonaire for over 30 years, and the airport experience is always the worst experience of any trip.

The fact that a \$75 per person arrival tax is now being charged without the proper procedures being put in place was a major aggravation on our most recent trip. The QR code could not be downloaded and paid prior to the trip. Upon arrival, I was directed to the front of the line to scan a QR code and then told to go back to the end of the line and wait to pay!! (We don't fly first class to be put at the end of any line.) On top of that you are still crowding the airport with three arriving flights at a time (Delta, United and American), so the lines and confusion are ridiculous! We then had to go through the trailer to pay, then another line to double check that we had just paid, and then the immigration and customs line. Maybe this is the answer for Bonaire to have full employment?? This makes Bonaire look like some third world illiterate destination. A true embarrassment for the island.

Please embrace technology. If you are going to charge this entry fee, make sure passengers are aware of this and can

download and prepay. As one descends the plane, an airport employee should have a scanning device to quickly and efficiently scan the QR code. We don't need any long lines after flying. Also, on departure, we were amazed that we had to have a paper receipt and the boarding passes on our phones could not be scanned. Again... third world.

Upon departure, the same three airlines were crammed together within 30 minutes of one another causing more frustration. On a positive note, we do appreciate the new outdoor sitting area as we waited for our flight.

Please note that we love Bonaire and the people. We are coming back in December. Please think about us tourists who spend thousands of dollars each trip. We need to be made comfortable and feel welcome.

I also highly suggest that you create volunteer committee of frequent flyers to the airport to give you suggestions and feedback. I would be more than happy to serve. Make the airport experience pleasant.

Sincerely,  
W.E. "Chip" Gaylor, Attorney at Law  
Sarasota, FL USA

## REAL Madrid challenges Bonaire's youngsters



Real Madrid football (soccer) training camp is underway from August 15 – 19 at ATC Field in Tera Cora. Forty kids age 7-13 are receiving the benefit of experienced coaches, L-R Brian van den Bergh, assistant coach and Real Madrid representative in the Dutch Antilles; Alejandro Rodriguez, coach from Real Madrid and Nicolas Amundaray, assistant coach. Closing ceremony for the training camp is August 19. One player who best displays the Real Madrid values will be selected to compete in the World Challenge at Real Madrid Sport City in Spain. Photo Julie Morgan



Sunday August 7, Sunfish Team Bonaire sailed the traditional Sebastian's race route from Sebastian's restaurant in Kralendijk to Sebastian's Beach restaurant in Sorobon and back. The team uses this yearly event as preparation for the World Championship Sunfish which is only weeks away. The next 'World' will be held in Italy, September 4 – 11.

There was not much wind, so it took the team awhile to get to the Sorobon restaurant. However upon arrival, the team's spirit was uplifted by the fantastic beats from the Sunday Sundowner DJ and a great lunch sponsored by Sebastians' Beach.

For me, this is only the second time I am sailing this race. When I was around 14 years old, I sailed a Sunfish for a couple of summers back in the Netherlands. Always just for fun, but never for competition. I was the only Sunfish on Lake Grevelingen. This was pre-internet, so I had no comparison or information about the boat and no clue on how to trim the boat or de-power it.

Two years ago I arrived on Bonaire and as I knew the boat, I really wanted to start sailing it again. One of the first things I did was to become a member of the Bonaire Sailing School. After sailing the Sunfish recreational for a while, I wanted to join the races. By following a course in racing provided by the Bonaire Sailing

GEARING UP FOR ITALY

## Sailing from Sebastians to Sebastians



Photo Pieter Smith

School, I learned a lot about the boat and what it means to race with an open sailboat. The thing for me now is to bring it all into practice. But it is great fun and I encourage everybody to join.

Last year in Sarasota, FL, was my first "Worlds" and it was quite an experience! As the sailing conditions on Lake Garda in Italy are difficult, I am very curious

how I will do this year in comparison to the other sailors from the different countries. For me, it will be all about building more race experience, competing against 99 other Sunfish sailors and enjoying sailing in such a large field of sailboats.

At Sebastian's Beach Sundowner, Team Bonaire felt it hard to leave so quickly again as the atmosphere was

great. However, if the team wanted to be back at Sebastian's before nightfall, they had to start sailing again directly after the lunch. Luckily the wind picked up a bit and the team made it back just before sunset. It was a long day on the water but it turned out to be a good endurance training session. Italy here we come!

*Ralf Theyse*

## Did You Know?

*that damselfish sometimes bite and kill corals?*

Damselfish juveniles are some of the prettiest little fish in the shallows. They're small and colorful, sparkly and adorable. But once they grow up, they turn brownish or blackish and there is nothing cute about them. They become 'intensive' gardeners; they find a small area of reef where they create a garden of algae which they defend vigorously. They eat only a few kinds of algae plus the tiny critters that live in their algae patch, so they are forever grooming their little patch, keeping out the 'bad' algae, and viciously attacking any parrotfish, surgeonfish or person stupid enough to get too close. I've seen a 9 cm long damselfish attack a 2 m long diver! Repeatedly! If damselfish were two meters long, NOBODY would enter the water!

Years ago, when Bonaire had abundant staghorn and elkhorn corals in the shallows, most damselfish made their gardens among the branches of those corals because there was more protection from predators than anywhere else on the reef. To create its garden of algae, a damselfish will bite living coral tissue repeatedly until the coral tissue dies and little tufts of algae begin to grow on the dead coral skeleton. Garden created. At this point, the branching coral has little scars all over it where algae is growing and damselfish are spread out in their little territories. Branching corals grow quickly compared to other corals, so the scars don't appear to cause too much damage to the corals.

After the long-spined black urchin die-off (early 80's), white-band disease outbreaks (80's onward), and some pretty intense storm events, the majority of Bo-

naire's branching corals died. What we're seeing is that the damselfish are still making their gardens in the shallow coral rubble, but they are also moving deeper on the reef and creating their gardens on the slow-growing boulder corals. This is concerning because one damselfish can slow the growth of, sometimes even kill, one large boulder coral. And the little buggers are everywhere. To identify a damselfish garden, look for a coral with fuzzy turf algae on the top and multiple bite marks (each with a little tuft of algae) spreading out and down from the top. And, of course, the damselfish won't be far away; if you don't immediately see it, back off and be patient because it may just be hid-



You can see the blackish damselfish within the red circle towards the top of the photo.

***Damselfish and coral continued on page 7***

**DUO XTREME BONAIRE**

**BRANDARIS B.V.**  
Accounting • Taxes • Consultancy

**25 SEPTEMBER 2022**

**Xtreme Bonaire**



# IOMC readies for Flag Day



Photo: Big Papa

Iron Order Motorcycle Club (IOMC), otherwise known as the Caribbean Pirates, are ramping up for their annual bike rally. This will be the 24th edition of the Bonaire Flag Day motorcycle ride celebration. Motorcyclists from Aruba and Curaçao are expected to join Bonaire's bike clubs for the September 1 – 7 event. Spectators are always amazed to see the hundreds of bikes roar through the streets and the ride brings business to the island.

Pre-registration and unloading the shipped bikes from the nearby islands begin September 1. Bikers register at the Iron Order Clubhouse located at Rento-Fun.

Day 2 includes an event at Tourism Corporation Bonaire prior to a warmup ride. The bikers will then head back to the clubhouse for entertainment and food. September 3 features a sunset ride and bario festival with authentic local

cuisine. A favorite of the bikers is the annual poker run on September 4. The 'run' takes the bikers to points of interest around the island with an 80's party ending the day.

Bikers will gather at the clubhouse for another sunset ride and after-ride karaoke party on September 5. The Flag Day Ride or the big ride with the bikes' and riders adorned in Bonaire flags and colors is on September 6. The riders will enjoy lunch at the entrance of Washington Slagbaai National Park followed by the closing ceremony with awards at the clubhouse. On the final day off-island bikers reload their bikes and all say goodbye until next year. For more information and a complete schedule about IOMC's Bonaire Flag Day celebration, visit the Iron Order MC Bonaire on Facebook. *Julie Morgan*

## Did You Know: Damselfish and coral

continued from page 6

ing from you.

Recently, Bonaire's branching corals have been slowly rebounding. The work Reef Renewal Bonaire and its volunteers are doing to bring back branching corals is amazing and we've documented that some wild patches are expanding as well. Perhaps, if the branching corals continue to rebound, the damselfish will move shallow again and release some of the stress on our slow-growing boulder corals!



Written by Caren Eckrich, STINAPA biologist. Connecting people with nature



## Diver's Life continued from page 3

mier and other software programs," said Rich.

Always trying to improve on the quality of his video, in 2021, he moved up to a new camera rig, a Sony A7S3 in a Nauticam housing with a large display and new lights.

Rich said, "It makes a huge difference. I'm shooting in high-dynamic range (HDR). I wanted sharper color images and brightness. Everything now supports HDR; TV, computer, iPhone and YouTube, so we decided to make the switch."

Currently 95% of the 31 episodes and 50 one-minute videos are shot with the old camera system. Episodes are usually 15-23 minutes.

Diver's Life explores dives sites in Bonaire from the north to south, the east and west coast, Klein Bonaire, Washington Slagbaai National Park. Rich and Doreen even explored the Willem Alexander Preserve which no one usually gets to dive. But they were given special permission from STINAPA to do three dives in the area for a video. Some of their videos ex-

plore the sites both day and night giving viewers the opportunity to see the difference. Certified tech divers, the couple has found old anchors at depth and ballast stones made from river rock in Europe that sparked great interest from Rich who is a bit of a marine history junkie.

Both Rich and Doreen are active in the Bonaire community, volunteering for beach and underwater cleanups. They are certified lionfish hunters and do what they can to help eliminate the invasive species. The couple recently bought a new boat to further expand their diving adventures. Rich even produced a video of the boat-buying experience as a learning tool for others.

"I'm living the dream I always wanted since I was 12 years old, after all those years of working. We love Bonaire, the more you stay the more you discover," said Rich.

Divers Life currently has over 2000 subscribers. Visit YouTube and start watching. <https://www.youtube.com > ADiversLife > videos>. Photo/story Julie Morgan

## Duo Xtreme set for September 25

One of the Dutch Caribbean's toughest mountain bike races is just ahead on September 25, the Bonaire Duo Xtreme. This will be the 12th year for this challenging and competitive ride. Cyclists from Aruba, Curaçao and St. Maartin will be here in full force. In years past, bikers from the Netherlands, United States, Spain, Venezuela and even France have participated in the race. Why? Because Bonaire's rugged, rocky and cactus lined backcountry trails are a hard won challenge.

Frank Bohm of Bonaire's premier bike shop de Freewieler and one of the initial organizers of the Bonaire Xtreme, told us an even more difficult route is in the works. It should be ready doubling the difficulty of the Xtreme of years past.

Duo Xtreme 2021 welcomed 80 riders (40 teams). The number of competitors was lower than in previous years. The 2020 race was skipped due to covid but some measures were still in place in 2021 limiting travel.

The race is called Duo-Xtreme because both members of the team must finish; there are no single riders. The last team member to arrive earns the officially recorded team time. If one rider doesn't

make it back, then both are disqualified. Bike repairs must be done by the riders of the team with no extra help.

The 2022 race will once again begin and end at Eden Beach. Check-in for the race is 6 a.m. with the start at 6:30 a.m. All riders must finish by 12 noon to qualify. Following the race an award ceremony is held with drinks, trophies, prizes and champagne.

Cyclists can choose to ride the Pro course or the more advanced Elite. Last year's teams numbered 23 Pro and 17 Elite.

- Age groups are: Junior 15 – 17 years, male or female; 18 and up;
- Open (a combined team member age of 100 years);
- Ladies Open; and
- Mixed group - male and female member team.

The Red Cross and Bonaire Police will be on standby for emergencies. A 'broom' or cleanup car will be available to pickup / bikes/riders and a nurse will be on board if needed.

Duo Xtreme volunteers are an integral part of making the race run smoothly. In previous years a group of 40 individuals have supported the race and they are ex-



Gearing up for the next Duo Xtreme scheduled for September 25. (photo from Duo Xtreme 2021). Photo Julie Morgan

pected to return their helping hands in 2022. But, more may be needed with the new route. Anyone interested can contact De Freewieler.

The main sponsor for the last few years and years to come is Brandaris Accounting. Other main sponsors are de Freewieler, Eden Beach Resort, Freixenet (Alcon) and Sunset Realty. Additional sponsors are NAPA Auto Parts, Bonaire Logistics, Bonaire Office Systems, Kar-

el's Beach Bar and Budget Car Rental. Anyone interested in sponsoring is more than welcome to be part of the Duo Xtreme team. All sponsors are featured on the Duo Xtreme bike jerseys, advertising and banners. For more information about the Duo Xtreme Bonaire, visit the Bonaire Xtreme MTB on Facebook or visit de Freewieler.

Julie Morgan



# Loggerhead visits Sand Dollar

Photos and story by Alan Zale



A loggerhead turtle lays her eggs on Sand Dollar's beach. Photo Alan Zale

Under the cover of darkness and a partial crescent moon, a female loggerhead turtle crawled onto the Sand Dollar beach shortly after nightfall on August 3 to lay a nest approximately 40cm (1.31ft) deep in the sand.

Divers, on the dock after returning from a night dive, observed the 90cm (2.95ft) long turtle on the beach and

started notifying people staying at Sand Dollar. Very quickly, a crowd of approximately 20 people gathered on the sea wall, looking down on the turtle as she laid her eggs.

One onlooker called Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire (STCB), who responded immediately. After the turtle finished laying her eggs, and meticulously cov-

ered them with sand using her back flippers, members of STCB measured the turtle and tagged it before she crawled back into the water. They then documented the site.

STCB decided to relocate the nest, a decision that is not taken lightly, because water washes over this beach regularly, which could have resulted in the eggs drowning.

STCB representative said, "If we're presented with the choice of losing the entire nest or taking a risk and saving some, or most, it's an easy choice."

Once the turtle returned to the water, members of STCB started digging for the eggs so the nest could be relocated to the Atlantis dive site on the south side of the island.

Time is of the essence if a nest needs to be relocated, ideally within a couple of hours to increase the rate of a successful hatching. When the eggs are laid the membrane attaches to the inside of the egg. When you move an egg the membrane ruptures and stops development. In this case, because the nest was so fresh, the eggs were translucent and slimy meaning the membrane hadn't attached to the shell yet. This means there is a greater chance for a successful hatching.

It is not uncommon for a turtle to return to a location where it had laid a nest before, so STCB believes it could be the

same turtle that laid a nest at this location last month. This turtle was estimated to be at least 30 years old and took about an hour to lay her nest.

STCB says if you happen to see a female turtle nesting, it is very important not to disturb her. They advise to keep your distance, do not make any sudden movements or sounds and to use a red light. The turtle could abort her nesting and return to the sea if she is spooked.

Another interesting fact is that the temperature of the sand determines the gender of the eggs. Incubating in cooler sand will produce male turtles while warmer sand will produce females.

A total of 87 eggs were collected and this was nest number 19 in the Bonaire turtle-nesting season. The eggs should hatch in 55 days.



Alan Zale spent 25 years shooting for The New York Times as both a freelance and temporary staff photographer. He is a contributing photographer to Catholic

New York, the official paper for the Archdiocese of New York and The Scarsdale (NY) Inquirer. Alan is also the photographer for the Hartsdale (NY) Fire Department.

## Tale of Two Sea Turtles by Kevin Pursley



Bakx at Margate October 12, 2019  
Photo Kevin Pursley

In my free time I love to SCUBA dive and snorkel taking photos and cataloging sea turtles. I give them names so it is easier to talk about them with family and friends. Some of the turtles are named Harry (lightning bolt on his head), Max (high school science teacher), Earl (high school math teacher) and Elvis (letter 'L' and 'V' on head). I was so upset in August of 2016 when Officer Ferry Bakx was killed that I wanted to do something to honor him. A green sea turtle that I saw for the first time on August 17, 2016 was thus named Officer Bakx. My wife, an extraordinary turtle spotter, and I had started tracking turtles in Bonaire a few years earlier when on our summer holiday. After we moved to Bonaire in 2018, I wrote a scientific paper in 2020 showing how to track

sea turtles using their flippers as unique "fingerprints". I did not see Officer Bakx between August 2016 and April 2019 but have seen him several times since then including a few weeks ago on July 15. This is almost six years after our first encounter. Officer Bakx is still not big enough to know whether he is truly a boy or a girl, but "he" has grown over the last six years.

Another green sea turtle named Armstrong is a real explorer just like his namesake, Neil Armstrong. His right front flipper has a unique defect and an upside down 'Y' on his head so he is easy to identify in the water. In the last 18 months my wife and I have seen him at Salt Pier, Tori's Reef, Margate Bay and Chogogo so his range is at least 8 km.

If you want to find out more about using Photo-ID to track sea turtles, you can view the scientific paper at <http://www.seaturtle.org/mtn/PDF/MTN161.pdf>

Freedom | Comfort | Royal Treatment

Majestic

Comfortable banking

A photograph of a man and a woman sitting at a white outdoor table. The man is wearing a white shirt and the woman is wearing a white dress. They are both smiling and looking at each other. The table is set with plates, glasses, and a bottle. The background shows a clear blue sky and a body of water.

Comfortable banking

Orco Bank is your personal banker in Curaçao, Bonaire and St. Martin. Entrust all your banking needs to us and be sure to receive the most courteous and competent of services available. With ample experience operating in the international arena, we offer expert advice and the perfect platform to design a mortgage tailor-made to your needs.

At Orco Bank, it's all about your comfort: knowing that your finances are well taken care of, so you can enjoy a carefree lifestyle!

Orco Majestic: the ultimate feeling of freedom and comfort

Orco Majestic is our private banking service for select customers only. No other bank in Curaçao, Bonaire or St. Martin will offer you more personal attention or privileges. We provide a complete package of extraordinary banking products featuring attractive conditions and lots of extras. Your freedom, comfort and flexibility are our first priority.

Majestic Current Account | Majestic Savings Account | Majestic Mortgage | Majestic Car Loan

The Majestic Lifestyle: you deserve it!

Kaya Grandi #48, Bonaire  
Tel: (599) 717-2000 Fax: (599) 717-2035  
www.orcobank.com  
email: John.soliano@orcobank.com

The logo for Orco Bank, featuring the word "ORCO" above the word "BANK" in a stylized font.

Your Personal Banker



**Yhannis Arepas**  
Venezuelan "fresh food"  
DINE-IN GARDEN  
TAKE-AWAY  
Mon-Thursday 2-7pm  
Fri 12am-10pm Sat-Sun Closed  
+599-788-0035  
Kaya Neerlandia 21-behind Budget Marine

**ST KED**  
BURGERS  
SANDWICHES  
WRAPS  
FRESH TUNA  
SALADS  
VEGETARIAN  
786-6613

**OSCAR Lighthouse**  
Open 8am-12pm  
599-717-2009  
www.oscarlighthouse.com-info@oscarlighthouse.com  
International/French/Local/ Breakfast Lunch Dinner  
Waterfront Seating - Lounge w/ Full Bar  
Dinner Reservations - Dinner Guide \$

**Breeze n' Bites**  
Seaside Lunch n' Dinner  
Thurs-Sun 11:30-3 / 5-9 & Mon 5-9  
Thursday Burger Night  
Two hour Happy Hour  
Next to Den Laman 599-717-3003

**TURKISH FASTFOOD**  
KAYA GOVERNADOR N. DEBROT 66  
7874100 HATO  
MON/SAT 11AM/10PM  
SUN 12PM/8PM  
KAYA INDUSTRIA 29  
7828106  
MON/FRI 11AM/7PM  
SAT 11AM/4PM  
Takeout and seating outside  
tripadvisor rating 5

**RUM RUNNERS**  
restaurant & cocktailbar  
Open 7 Days a Week  
Breakfast-Lunch-Dinner  
Great Custom Made Cocktails  
Spectacular Sea View  
Captain Don's Habitat +599-717-8290 x 100

**Eddy's**  
South American Cuisine with a Caribbean Twist  
Monday-Friday 6-10 pm  
LIVE Music Tuesday & Friday  
599-717-6731  
Gov. Debro 79 - Reservations - www.EddysBonaire.com

**STADSCHAPE HET CONSULAAT**  
Open for Lunch and Dinner  
Tues - Sat 11am - 12am  
Kaya LD Gerharts 9 599-700-5820

**Beer and Burgers**  
Tues-Thurs 5-10pm  
Kaya Simon Bolivar 21 / 599-777-2907  
https://www.facebook.com/beerburgersbonaire

**Still available**

**EL PESCADO FISHBAR**  
LUNCH & DINNER  
TUESDAY - SATURDAY  
12:00PM - 2:30PM  
KAYA ISLA RIBA  
500 7013547  
INFO@ELPESCADOBONAIRE.COM

**Diver's Diner**  
GREAT DAILY SPECIALS / SEASIDE  
LUNCH 11:30 - 3 / DINNER 5:30-10  
Music Jam every Tues 6-10  
Happy Hour EVERYDAY 5:30 - 7:30  
Open Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri & Sat  
Weds Lunch only & Sun Lunch first & last of month  
Kaya Korsou #1 +599-788-3679

**Maya's Corner Cafe**  
DAILY FRESH FOOD  
The best flavors in the flamingo!!!  
Kaya Grandi 34  
(parkeerplaats Belastingkantoor)  
(across parking lot taxoffice)  
Phone: +599 7859191  
mayascornercafe

**Bobbejan's**  
717-4783  
BBQ  
WEEKENDS & TAKE AWAY ONLY  
Friday Saturday Sunday 6-10 PM

**BLUE GARDEN**  
brazilian grill & pizza gourmet  
You will LOVE our Brazilian taste!  
Open Tues. - Sat. 5-10 pm  
JA Abraham Boulevard 6  
+599-717-2600 / +599-795-0101  
www.bluegardenpizza.com

Look out for  
**HILLTOP**  
at caribbean club  
We're coming back  
BAR AND RESTAURANT

**LUCIVNO**  
ICE CREAM  
Kaya Isla Riba  
(centrum Kralendijk)  
DAILY 07:30-23:00  
New 2  
Bonaire District  
Shopping Center - Hato  
MON-SAT 9:00-22:00  
KRALENDIJK - BONAIRE

**Still available**



## Toasting Terramar's New Focus



Lianne Ijmker and Jude Finies. Photo Julie Morgan

Terramar Museum is the little museum in the center of Kralendijk that holds a permanent collection of historical and cultural artifacts. From time to time they feature Bonaire's up and coming local or visiting artists. Terramar has been open since 2016 and with support from World Wildlife Fund (WWF-NL) the museum is moving into a new phase with a focus on research, museum and community.

Four women are the major force working to achieve this new goal: director Jude Finies, curator/anthropologist Elena Baker, historian/educator Lianne Ijmker and event manager Maya Narvaes. They are building a new collection, one that will appeal both to locals and the island's guests.

According to the team, the renewed permanent collection will examine Bonaire's history beginning with its first

societies and continuing to the 10-10-10 amendment when the Netherlands Antilles was dissolved.

WWF-NL is partnering to present 'News Cafe' type discussions, exhibits, education programs and documentary movie nights. Terramar will still encourage art exhibits by local artists but their goal is to present a wide array of experiences for everyone. Much of the focus will be on Bonairean history, heritage, environment, anthropology and education.

No specific details are available for scheduling but the first stage will begin in September. To keep up to date about Terramar programs visit their Facebook and Instagram pages or check the Reporter events page. Terramar is open Monday – Friday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Julie Morgan

## JanArt Galley exhibits driftwood crosses

The driftwood that scatters Bonaire's East coast carries the mystery of faraway places, voyages and the unknown. The long forgotten wood has floated aimlessly with the sea waves until it washes up on our shores. But what if it is picked up, recycled, turned into art and given another life?

Artist Janice Huckaby Baillie has turned driftwood and other found objects into art which can be seen in her exhibit opening August 26 at JanArt Gallery.

Janice has created art on Bonaire since 1991. Initially she focused on the nature, the underwater world, and Bonaire's landscapes. Occasionally she draws her ideas from visitors, as she did several months ago when a woman visited the Jan Art Gallery looking for religious crosses. Huckaby Baillie realized that she could collect driftwood when she is painting at some of her favorite outdoor locations and combine it with other treasures.

Growing up Catholic in Texas, Janice learned early in life the importance of good friends and family. When she came to Bonaire she observed the religious community of this island to be just as strong. Her new work represents the Bonaire cultural and spiritual community that she has come to know.

To quote the artist, "The symbolism of the Cross: through death you are given hope and love to live and continue on, if



you have faith to believe it so." As life continues after death within the symbolism of the cross, so does driftwood re-purposed into art.

If you would like to see these two concepts merge together in unique art pieces, stop by Jan Art Gallery, located at Kaya Grandi 14, on August 26 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

[www.janartbonaire.com](http://www.janartbonaire.com)  
[janartgallerybonaire@gmail.com](mailto:janartgallerybonaire@gmail.com)



## Bonaire's sky park: When Is the Best Time to See Mercury?

With thanks to timeanddate.com

Because Mercury is small and lies close to the Sun, it is a challenge to observe. It can be seen with the naked eye shortly before sunrise or soon after sunset. To avoid permanent eye damage, do not try to observe Mercury while any part of the Sun is above the horizon.

The best time to catch Mercury is within a week or so of its greatest elongation: this is when Mercury appears to be at its farthest distance from Sun as seen from Earth. These periods occur twice every 116 days or so (roughly every four months).

Greatest elongation west is when Mercury is farthest from the Sun in the morning sky. Greatest elongation east is when the two bodies are farthest apart in the evening sky. In between these times, Mercury's swift orbit carries it either directly behind the Sun as seen from Earth (superior conjunction), or in front of it (inferior conjunction).

See entire article at:

<https://www.timeanddate.com/astronomy/planets/mercury/>

- Next greatest elongation east: August 27, 2022
- Next inferior conjunction: September 23, 2022
- Next greatest elongation west: October 8, 2022
- Next superior conjunction: November 8, 2022

Mercury is the closest planet to the Sun, and the smallest planet in the solar system. It has a large iron core that accounts for about three-quarters of its mass. By contrast, Earth's iron core accounts for only one-third of its mass.

A rocky outer shell surrounds the planet's core. Mercury has almost no atmosphere, and its grey surface is covered with impact craters caused by asteroids and comets. Mercury's cratered surface gives it an appearance similar to our Moon.

## Creating optimal health

by Irene da Cunda Costa

### Taking care of our airways

In the last two issues I wrote about breathing from a different perspective, instead of more is better, sometimes less is better. Buteyko's method and Patrick McKeown's functional breathing teach us that many times what helps us improve a health condition is learning to regulate or "dose" the breath. They also stress the importance of breathing through the nose and keeping the airways clear, so I am going to share some strategies for the care of the airways.

The bad news, at least for me, is that red wine and dairy products (mainly cheeses) produce congestion or mucus. This does not mean that we should definitively eradicate these foods from our diet, since not all people react in the same way, and the same person will not react the same way at different moments in life. What is indicated is to observe oneself and determine how much we are affected and by what quantity. Another luxury of our times, air conditioning, can be detrimental to our airways by cooling and drying the air we breathe. The AC can dry our airways, facilitating inflammation. Other factors such as dust, pollen and some mites are allergens for some people and thus enemies of clear airways.

The good news is that we can resort to different methods to clear our airways.

One of my favorite methods is a practice that comes from yoga. This nasal flush with salty water involves the use of a small container called "lota," that looks like a small teapot. You can fill the "lota" with either Physiological Serum or a homemade solution of water and sea salt at the rate of a teaspoon of salt for half a liter of water. The salt must be sea salt without additives of any kind (neither fluoride, nor iodine, nor desiccants). Use lukewarm water, preferably filtered. Fill the lota and place the tip of the lota in one nostril, then tilt the head in the opposite direction allowing the water to flow com-

ing out through the other nostril. Then fill the lota again and do the same on the other side. It is important to thoroughly dry the airways after this procedure. To do this, simply blow gently and repeatedly through both nostrils until you feel that no more water comes out. This will open your upper airways by washing away any existing mucus.

Another way to clear the airways is by performing alternate nostril breathing exercises. You can learn how to do this in a yoga class. This type of breathing helps with minor congestion and balances the activity of the cerebral hemispheres.

Our own production of nitric oxide can be used as a decongestant. After exhaling, cover both nostrils and gently rock your head from one side to the other, counting to thirty and then inhale. This maneuver must be repeated several times, until you feel your airways start opening. Nitric oxide does not work instantly as pharmacological decongestant does, so you need to persist to get the results. You can also hum while moving your head.

Chewing papaya enzyme tablets is popular among divers who struggle to equalize ears on descent. The enzymes dissolve mucus in the upper airways.

Aromatic oils such as eucalyptus, lavender and peppermint soothe and decongest. They can be used in ambient vaporizers, small ovens with candles or old fashion vapors.



Irene is passionate about health, neurosciences and personal growth. Originally from Uruguay, she is an Integrative Psychotherapist (PNIE), Life Coach (ICF), Master in Nutrition (IUSC) and Yoga Instructor.



# Reef Glimpses

by Dee Scarr

## The Eyes Had It on this day at Blue Heron Bridge

Here I am in Florida, but I miss diving so decided to take an easy plunge. Florida's Blue Heron Bridge (BHB) is one of the state's most well-known dive areas. It's a shallow shore dive (maybe to 20' [6m]), it's actually around a kind of island on the Inland Waterway, so winds or waves are rarely a problem, and entry is from a park with showers and other conveniences.

What more could you want?

The BHB is also well-known as a hospitable area for unusual creatures. In my almost two hours of bottom time, I found these critters noteworthy because we don't have them or they're rare on Bonaire: several blue angelfish; several gray angelfish juveniles (whom we see occasionally on Bonaire); a batfish, many porkfish, a zebra sole, a few Atlantic spadefish, several yellow spotted stingrays -- and a swimmer-type crab under every ledge. There were familiar faces, too, including several pairs of banded coral shrimp and a few arrow crabs. I saw three burrows constructed in the same way my mantis shrimp friend Godzilla constructed his burrow, and my identification was confirmed when the resident of one burrow came up to the doorway.

Godzilla's burrow was beneath the North Pier, and our interactions were more than ten years ago. I remember his eyes, though, sand-colored three-dimensional ovals on stalks, moving in what seemed to be every direction.

The BHB mantis shrimp eyes looked the same, but as they moved around, I saw a tiny black spot in each eye, itself moving all over the place! Later, in one of my pictures of Godzilla, I saw something that might be such a spot. "Hooray for the Internet!" I thought, "I'll find out all about this."

It was unexpected to learn that mantis shrimp have super-vision, a lot more sensitive than that of any other animal! Mantis shrimp eyes work in some ways that are now used in satellite photogra-



This closeup of the mantis shrimp eyes shows the mystery black spots . Photo Julie Morgan

phy, for example, a system that enables much more accurate images. This is pretty amazing (especially for a cousin of crabs, shrimp, and lobsters), and you'll have fun if you search "mantis shrimp eyes" for more information -- or you can wait for my upcoming Glimpse of mantis shrimp.

Surprisingly, I couldn't find any information at all about the tiny moving spots. I did see (or imagine) a tiny spot on one mantis eye in a couple of photos that accompanied the articles, but there was no mention of it.

I've come up with a possibility, though. One article mentioned "gaze stabilization," and I think that, in addition to its other gaze stabilization abilities, the tiny moving dots in mantis shrimp eyes may help them know which way is up and other useful such information. I'll report more about this if I can get any new info.

When I saw the zebra sole at the end of the dive, I figured it was just another one of BHB's usual unusual critters. Actually, when I first saw this striped thing, I thought it was a piece of cloth. I reached toward it -- and it moved! The cloth-turned-flatfish stayed close, though, and I could see its ball-bearing-sized eyes, one facing to each side. It was wonderful to be able to really look at the critter; in over 8000 dives, the only other time I've ever seen a zebra sole was when I worked in Antigua in 1979.

But I didn't realize that the sole was unusual even for the BHB until I looked for it in the BHB book, and it wasn't

there or even mentioned. Then I went to my older edition of Reef Fishes, and it said "not reported Florida...". Apparently a few have appeared, though, because REEF fish survey forms show that the zebra sole has been reported only a very few times from Florida, including from the BHB.

I guess the answer to "What more could you ask?" in this case is "Wish I

had brought a camera!"  
{The fine print: There are a few differences between diving the BHB and a Bonaire shore dive. Entry to BHB is through Phil Foster Park, which is used by boaters, swimmers, and fishers in addition to divers. This means that, especially on weekends, parking can be a problem. The Park is only open during daylight hours; although special arrangements can be made for night dives, everyone must be out by 10 pm. Oh yes, and visibility is essentially zero except for the hour before and the hour after peak high tide, when on a good day it gets to 40' (10m), so the tide charts, provided by all the local dive operators, are critical. Enjoy this famous shore diving site!}



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 through [touchthesea.com](http://touchthesea.com).



Art for Life by Marz World and Off the Grid exhibit is now running at Terramar Museum. Abstract, thought-provoking work on fabric, canvas and wood by Robert Nestor and Judmar Emerenciana. These artists were a part of the Street Colors project and their work can be seen around Bonaire in unique places. Each artist has his own special style of relating art to the viewer. The exhibit runs from now to September 2, Monday – Friday 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.



**DIVE FRIENDS**  
BONAIRE

**Join Our Team!**

We are looking for dive professionals  
who are ready for a new adventure!

Looking for people who will go  
above and beyond!

email: [hr@divefriendsbonaire.com](mailto:hr@divefriendsbonaire.com)



**Buena vista**  
Perfect Service and Quality - Our Passion!

Experienced Staff - Eye Exams on Site - Insurance Accepted-Advanced Equipment  
Lens Fabrication - Over 1000 different frames and sunglasses  
Ray Ban, Oakley, Maui Jim and more  
Mon-Fri 9-12 / 2-6

Kaya Grandi 36 **Optics** Tel: +599-7179181



# What's Happening

**Bonaire Arts & Crafts Market in Wilhelmina Plaza.** Weekly schedule can be found at:

<https://www.facebook.com/BonaireArtsandCraftsCruiseMarket/>

**Bonaire Library:** Mon. 12-5; Tues. to Thurs. 8-5; Fri. 8-4:30; Sat. 8-12. Kaya Gramel 715 5344. Anyone can become a member. Free for residents between 0 and 18 years. Adults \$6 a year. Members can borrow ebooks online. [www.onlinebibliotheek.nl](http://www.onlinebibliotheek.nl)

**Cultural Park Mangazina di Rei in Rincon:** Tuesday - Friday 9-4

**Washington Slagbaai:** Open every day. 8-5 (entry up to 1 p.m.)

**STINAPA headquarters:** Mon-Fri 8-4. +599 717 8444. +599 777 8444.

**Animal Shelter:** Open fully. Mon-Fri 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; 2-3:30 p.m. Sat. 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m. phone/whatsapp: 701 4989 or 717 4989. Email: [animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com](mailto:animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com)

**Pakus di Pruga (Shelter flea market. Central Kralendijk):** Pakus is back open, regular hours 8 a.m.-4 p.m. on Saturdays. Masks required indoors, social distancing.

August <b>15 - 19</b>	<b>Real Madrid soccer clinic ages 7-13.</b> 8:30-12:30 at : ATC Veld - Tera Cora.) (See online archive <i>Reporter</i> issue 15, Jul 20-Aug 3.) Spectators welcome. Tournament played Aug. 19. Register at Digicel or by email: <a href="mailto:info@frmclinicsdutchantilles.com">info@frmclinicsdutchantilles.com</a> .
Friday, August <b>19</b>	<b>Meet the Artist, Joel Muzo:</b> 7 - 9 p.m. MoltenWolf Glass. Kaya J.N.E. Craane Terramar 8 +599 701-1880 7:30 - 8 p.m. Papiamentu; 8 - 8:30 p.m. English <a href="http://www.MoltenWolfGlass.com">www.MoltenWolfGlass.com</a>
Friday, August <b>26</b>	<b>Opening of driftwood crosses exhibit, JanArt Gallery</b> 5-7 p.m. See page 10.
Saturday, August <b>27</b>	<b>Nos Zjilea Festival</b> 10 a.m.- 3 p.m. Cultural Park Mangazina di Rei, Rincon. Enjoy the music, dancing, crafts, amazing food and drink.
Sunday, August <b>28</b>	<b>K-Walk, 6 km Fundraising walkathon for Kiwanis kids programs: \$15.</b> 7 a.m. Start and finish at Felt di Snip. Contact Kiwanis members for tickets.  <b>De Jong Funrace.</b> A new technical mountain bike trail located on Gurubu. See page 16.
<b>Now to September 2</b>	<b>Art for Life by Marz World and Offth=Grid exhibit, Terramar Museum.</b> Monday - Friday 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Entry \$10. \$5 locals. See page 11.
Tuesday, Sept. <b>6</b>	<b>Bonaire Flag Day</b> Public holiday. You can eat, drink and dance on the streets with several entertainment bands. See page 7 for information on the accompanying motorcycle rally.
Saturday, Sept. <b>10</b>	<b>The weekly One Hour Clean Up Power returns.</b> 9:30 a.m. Volunteers Han and Henk will be organizing the clean ups.
Sunday, Sept. <b>11</b>	<b>Clean Coast Bonaire.</b> 8-10 a.m. Te Amo Beach. Donate your time by working as a citizen scientist to collect marine litter & data. <a href="https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=clean%20coast%20bonaire">https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=clean%20coast%20bonaire</a>
September <b>22 - 25</b>	<b>The 2022 Bonaire Music Festival</b> will run over several days in the area in front of the Kralendijk stadium. During the festival, musical groups will perform from the island and beyond.
Sunday, September <b>25</b>	<b>Bonaire Duo Xtreme.</b> on September 25, the
Friday, September <b>30</b>	<b>Taste of Bonaire 2022 (Tourism Day)</b> Starts at 6 p.m. @ Wilhelmina Park. Food, culture, local handicrafts. Signature dishes of well-known restaurants offered at special prices.
Sunday, October <b>5</b>	<b>Swim to Klein Bonaire fundraiser for Jong Bonaire.</b> It's a family event. Start from Eden Beach /Spice Beach Club and swim 800 meters to Klein Bonaire. Swim back or come back by boat.
October <b>3 - 8</b>	<b>Bonaire International Regatta 2022.</b> During the 55th edition of the regatta, the bay will be filled with sails from all kinds of sailing divisions, all competing for their class championship.

## International Flights to Bonaire

<b>Amsterdam (AMS)</b>	KLM Daily flights connecting through Aruba TUI Daily
<b>Brussels (BRU)</b>	Air Belgium will fly to and from Bonaire on Dec. 23 & 25 and on Jan 6 & 8, 2023. Will also connect through Curacao.
<b>Atlanta (ATL)</b>	Delta July: Tu. & Sat. August: Sat.
<b>Miami (MIA)</b>	American M. W. Sat. July and August
<b>Houston (IAH) &amp; New York (EWR)</b>	United Houston: Sat. July and August: New York Newark Liberty International: Sat. July to August 13.

## Tentative cruise ship schedule Summer

DAY & DATE:	DD/MM	CRUISE SHIP	TIME	CAPACITY	LINE
Thursday	18-08	Mariner of the Seas	0700-1400	3115	RCCL/CEL
Wednesday	24-08	Horizon	0700-1500	3954	Carnival USA

# Activities, Events & Meetings

**12 steps meeting:** 12 Step Meeting, Wednesdays at Kaya Den Haag 30 in Hato. Meeting starts at 7:15 p.m till 8:30 p.m. Info: [12stepsbonaire@gmail.com](mailto:12stepsbonaire@gmail.com)

**Alcoholics Anonymous open meeting** Every Thursday, 7 - 8 p.m. International Bible Church Kaya Papago 104 in Hato (Behind Bon Bida Spa and Gym and Bon Bida apartments). All welcome, regardless of primary addiction or no addiction at all.

**Beach Tennis Bonaire** can now be found at its new location, the Kaminda Djabou (direct left from Kaya Neerlandia --behind Budget Marine). It is open daily until 10 p.m. People can play for free or register for training and tournaments for a fee.

**Bridgeclub Bonaire** organizes a bridge evening Wednesdays from 7:15 p.m. You are welcome, whatever level you play. Contact us via phone 796 2819 or email [peejeese@gmail.com](mailto:peejeese@gmail.com). See <https://www.facebook.com/BridgeclubBonaire>.



**Echo Conservation Tours** - weekdays at 8 a.m. or 5 p.m. and Saturday 8 a.m. To reserve email at [info@echobonaire.org](mailto:info@echobonaire.org)

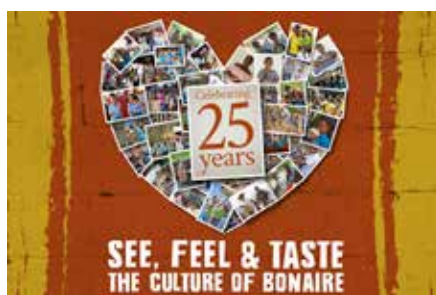


**Manta Monday - Canceled until August 29.** Nicole Pelletier of the Caribbean Islands Manta Conservation Program presentation at Yellow Submarine Mondays 7:30 p.m



**Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire (STCB).** Free public presentations are held at Yellow Submarine, every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month, at 8 p.m.

**Mangazina de Rei walking tours will resume September 2022.**



**Join us at 'Nos Zjilea', the monthly cultural event of Bonaire,** on Saturday August 27 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Cultural Park Mangazina di Rei, Rincon.

The theme will be: "The Flag of Bonaire, the pride of our island". Charlton Thomas will explain our flag, which we proudly carry, and the St. Michael's

Scouting Group, under the guidance of Chief Greavy, will give a demonstration on folding the flag to pay our respects.

Don't miss the cultural market with fresh locally produced gourd syrup, locally produced natural fruit juice 'Made in Rincon', local delicacies, local art and much more. The kitchen opens at 10 a.m. from which you may enjoy different delicious soups and a large variety of local creole dishes including fresh fish. All this in a cozy atmosphere with "LIVE" performances by the youngsters of the band FMK and the local band "Timon Krioyo".

For more information you can visit the Facebook fan page of Mangazina di Rei.

## Cleaning up the neighborhoods

Selibon N.V. and Fundashon Boneiru Limpi i Bunita are organizing a clean-up campaign in August and September 2022

From Friday, August 5 to Sunday, September 11, 2022, big waste containers will be placed in various neighborhoods of Bonaire to encourage residents to clean their garden, homes, and surroundings.

**Aug. 6 & 7 Tera Kòrá** 1. Kaya Maranon (At the square) 2. Kaya Monseigneur Niewindt (At the community center Tera Kòrá) 3. Kaya Maximiliano Rosario (At the square behind the community center Tera Kòrá)

**Aug. 13 & 14 Ambionda** At the square by the recycling container  
**New Amsterdam** Kaya Macario Sint Jago (In front of Tronco Snack)

**Nikiboko** 1. Kaya Avelino J. Cecilia (In front of Kristu Bon Wardador school) 2. Kaya Pos di Amor (In front of the community center Nikiboko)

**Aug. 20 & 21 Antriol** 1. Kaya Gatu (At the community center Antriol) 2. Kaya Papa Cornes (At Patun Saragoza park) 3. Kaya Korona (In front of the old Papa Cornes school)

**Lagun** Kaminda Lagun (Next to glass container)

**Aug. 27 & 28 Playa** 1. Kaya Italia 2. Kaya Jean B. Vitte

**Belnem** 1. Kaya Solo 2. Punt Vierkant

**Sept. 3 & 4 Republiek** Kaya Piedra Presioso

**Nort Saliña** Kaya Pueblo

**Hato** Kaya Diamanta

**Sept. 11 & 12 Sabadeco** Sabadeco Crown Court (Across the street of the tennis court)

**Rincon** 1. Kaya Trinitaria 2. Kaya Cocorobi (Next to Antonio Trinidad stadium)

**What can be deposited in the big waste containers:**

- Bulky waste (such as chairs, tables, cabinets, bed, and/or mattress).
- Garden waste (such as leaf and branches).

**Please:**

- Place electronic appliances such as TV, refrigerator and washing machine next to the waste container.
- If the waste container is full, put your waste next to it.
- Corrugated sheets and/or other types of material that may contain asbestos must be reported to Selibon NV to be picked up separately.

For more information or questions, please contact Selibon NV at:

Telephone: 717-8159 or 701-8159

Email: [balie@selibon.com](mailto:balie@selibon.com)

Facebook: Selibon NV



# A Garden?

## Just Do It!

by Angliet, Nature Lover  
Sugar apple

While living on St. Eustatius I would climb the hills to pick buckets full of what they call sugar apples. After a rainy season they used to appear, growing full, sweet and juicy. And because the trees are not that high, it's easy to just stretch your arms and pick them.

Since living on Bonaire, I have missed this fruit, because here you don't see them that much. So I grew a tree and since it has matured and bloomed I think I will soon get some fruit. I had to do my utmost to get the tree to mature. Every year during the drought the young plant would suffer. I had to add a lot of compost and extra water just to keep it alive. But this year with the regular La Nina rain, which means a lot of rain, the tree has grown and even produced some flowers. So I am waiting for the fruit. Sometimes it takes a while before a tree



The sugar apple

produces fruit even when it flowers.

I started the plant from a seed from a Sugar Apple. I put each seed in a plastic cup and some grew but only one survived and became the tree I have now. When the plant became bigger, I replanted it in a larger container and later in the ground with a barrel around it both sides open) to protect it against the iguanas.

Sugar apple or sweet apple, custard apple, cinnamon apple or skopappel, as it is known on Bonaire, is the edible fruit of *Annona squamosa*. Native to the tropics, it belongs to the Annonaceae family.

Sugar apple has an unusual shape, is light green, and divided into sections. You can eat it fresh straight from the tree by hand or with a spoon. It can also be used in desserts, ice cream, juices and smoothies.

Inside the apple there is a white soft and creamy flesh which looks like a small soursop, but it's not; it's a totally different fruit. The white flesh section contains a lot of small black seeds. Some might think why eat a fruit with so little flesh and so many seeds? You can answer this question once you have eaten this fruit. It is very delicious and juicy with a great tropical flavor.

It also contains a lot of health benefits: helps to reduce blood sugar; regulates blood pressure; fights bad cholesterol; is good for digestion; prevents anemia; fights asthma and builds up bone health.

Minerals are calcium, magnesium, potassium and niacin. It's rich in vitamin C,

antioxidants and phytochemicals.

The sugar apple tree can grow easily anywhere in a warm climate in the ground as well as in a container. It is tropically lush in your garden or on your porch or patio. And birds love to visit your tree when it's full of fruit.

If you are lucky within a few years you might enjoy your own sugar apples.

So don't hesitate, decorate your place with sugar apple trees. With all the rain these days, just do it now.



*Angliet grew up in the Surinam jungle, moved to the Netherlands as a teen, where she trained as a teacher; then in Alternative Healing. She has traveled the world - north*

*to Russia and Alaska, south to Tierra del Fuego and Africa and all points in between. Returning to the Caribbean with her young family, she taught in St Eustatius and Bonaire. Everywhere she has lived, she has planted a garden and grown her own food.*

## Making Bonaire Accessible

by Ria Evers-Dokter

What a special day...

As soon as I got home I went to the mirror, because I wanted to see how I looked: my very short hair was white/grey and standing up, my face was glowing, my eyes were beaming and my arms and legs were tanned with a hot pink glow.

Where had I been, you may ask....

I had spent a few hours at Sorobon with my buddy. She had wanted to spoil me a little, because she thought I deserved that. She picked me up and in her pickup-truck was her beach wheelchair! A special chair on thick wheels that you can use to get into the sea or just sit in and enjoy the water.

She had asked a friend to come and assist and they had me into the sea in no time. It turned out to be a real water therapy session and we stayed in the cool water for at least two hours.

With the help of the two ladies I was in the water-wheelchair in no time at all. They drove me to a shady spot under a tree. Here we ate freshly baked tert (a Bonairean pie) and drank ice water. There



Relaxing in the sea. L-R Ingrid Haverman, Ria Dokter in the water chair and a volunteer

were a few gentlemen that appeared to be from New Zealand and we had an interesting conversation. Then it was time to go. I was getting a bit tired, so I got help again to get into the car.

We drove back to town and I was amazed. I had never seen the kite beach; what a site! Huge colorful kites danced in the wind and were a spectacular contrast to the blue sea and white clouds. I

really think I have never seen the blue be so blue and the white be so white, until we passed the saltpans. There they were, the huge snow-like mountains. And every mountain had its own shade of white. At the bottom were the water filled saltpans and every one of them had another color of pink. Those high blue skies with the snow white clouds were a spectacular contrast. I had never seen it this way.

Suddenly my buddy started to scream, "I want to get into the sea with them, Look." And I looked, a big pod of dolphins swam their way home. Frolicking and spraying.... It really made you feel you could join them. My buddy was too late. The dolphins swam away and she came back to the car. Another thing I had never witnessed so close by.

Shortly before Belnem, a large group of motorcycle riders passed us. They drove in a steady pace and the sound was exciting.

When I was back home I was tired, but did not want to sleep yet. I went to sit on the porch to look back on this special day.

And I thought how easy it can be to make somebody very happy. Just go and be a buddy, take them for a little trip down memory lane (because that is what we elderly love to do).



*Ria Dokter is living happily on Bonaire, where she also used to work as a director at the FKPD and started Special Olympics Bonaire. She took care of her husband (R.I.P) for many years and feels that accessibility is the most important issue on our island.*

Tourism Corporation Bonaire (TCB) Taste of Bonaire summer edition held August 6 was alive with locals and guests enjoying food, drinks, crafts and music. Local bands entertained the crowd, and many were on their feet 'dancing to the music.'

Reigning Miss Tourism Bonaire and first runner up of Miss Tourism World, Sunniva Manuel, presented the new Miss Teen Bonaire, 18 year old Marjely Doran. Marjely was awarded Bonaire Ambassador for representing Bonaire at Miss Teen Mundial 2022 in San Salvador where she won 6th place.

For more photos of Taste of Bonaire visit [The Reporter Facebook page](#).



Manuel, (R) / Doran (L)



Dive Friends is looking for passionate team members who love the ocean and the environment. Multiple positions are available throughout the company at our eight different locations serving Bonaire's divers, snorkelers and water enthusiasts.

We are looking for passionate team members who preferably have dive experience. Come join our constantly growing team. Email [-hr@divefriendsbonaire.com](mailto:-hr@divefriendsbonaire.com)



# At Your Service

To advertise on this page: ad spaces are \$22 per issue for a minimum of six issues at \$132.  
Or for an INTERACTIVE AD linked to your email, website or Facebook the cost is \$25 per week or \$150 for a minimum of six issues.  
Contact us at [bonairereporter2019@gmail.com](mailto:bonairereporter2019@gmail.com) or 796-4055 (cell/Whatsapp).

**Bruce Bowker's**  
**CARIB INN**  
OPEN DAILY  
8am to 5pm  
Boat Diving  
Great Dive Shop  
SHEARWATER  
JA Abraham Blvd 46  
717-8819 • BB@CaribInn.com



**Yoga Sensibile**  
Eden Beach Resort  
Mon. 8am & 5.30pm; Tue. Wed. Thu. 8am  
Fri. & Sat. 8.30am; Private class on request  
Elisabetta +599 7807362 [betta@web.de](mailto:betta@web.de)  
[www.elisabettamaccari.com](http://www.elisabettamaccari.com)



**BEST CELLARS**  
WINE & SPIRITS  
Wines & Bubbles Liquors & Tobacco  
Kaya Industrial, Mon.-Sat. 9am-6pm



**Bonaire Scuba**  
PRIVATE PADI COURSES  
CUSTOM GUIDED DIVES  
EQUIPMENT RENTALS  
[www.bonairecuba.com](http://www.bonairecuba.com)  
+599-777-3483 (777DIVE)



**MANGROVE MANIACS**  
LAC RESTORATION PROJECT



**MULTISHOP**  
Local Arts and Crafts - Souvenirs  
Handmade One of a Kind Items  
locally crafted - paintings, drawings,  
photography, jewelry, clothing, cards & more  
Located at Hato roundabout  
Mon-Fri 9am-5pm / Sat 9am-2pm  
599-796-1715



**island time**  
vacation rentals bonaire  
indulgent ocean view vacation rentals  
+599 700 1660  
[info@islandtimebonaire.com](mailto:info@islandtimebonaire.com)  
[www.islandtimebonaire.com](http://www.islandtimebonaire.com)  
[www.facebook.com/islandtimerentals](https://www.facebook.com/islandtimerentals)



**GREENBIKES BONAIRE**  
ZERO EMISSION. A SPARK TO RIDE  
Electric scooter rental shop  
599-7950211  
[www.greenbikesbonaire.com](http://www.greenbikesbonaire.com)



**Denture Prosthetist**  
Full or Partial Dentures  
New and Repairs  
Call for an Appointment - 717-2248  
Thijs van Zijl - Denturist  
Kaya Dr. J.G. Hernandez (near Botica Korona)  
tandprothetische praktijk  
**BONAIRE**  
tandprothetische praktijk



For all your MARINE and residential SEWING needs  
CUSTOM CANVAS  
cushions - covers - roofs - shades  
SAIL & KITE REPAIR  
LOCATED AT: KAYA BENI 6A  
Near the VSB supermarket / project pick up and drop off available  
TEL: 780 9124  
[www.phishphactory.com](http://www.phishphactory.com)



**ezone**  
Easy, Affordable, Fast  
Shop on-line & we will ship to you  
<https://www.getezone.com>



**petals**  
BONAIRE  
Weekdays 9-12 / 1-5:30 / Sat 10-3  
+599-777-2055  
Kaya Barakuda 25D



**CrossFit**  
Flamingo  
HEALTH - FITNESS - COMMUNITY  
+599 795 1407



**DI**  
Copenhagen hygge Dec. 10-17  
[www.dessauinternational.com](http://www.dessauinternational.com)  
[louis@dessauinternational.com](mailto:louis@dessauinternational.com)



**OUTDOOR BONAIRE**  
DO SOMETHING DIFFERENT!  
KAYAKING • CAVING • CLIMBING • RAPPELLING  
ABSEIL • ISLAND TOURS • BIRDWATCHING  
+(599) 785-6272  
[hansoutdoor@hotmail.com](mailto:hansoutdoor@hotmail.com)  
[www.outdoorbonaire.com](http://www.outdoorbonaire.com)



**THE STOREHOUSE MANGASINA**  
Call 700-1753  
[www.bonaireselfstorage.com](http://www.bonaireselfstorage.com)  
[info@bonaireselfstorage.com](mailto:info@bonaireselfstorage.com)



**HISTORIC**  
Stop catching our Donkeys  
Bonaire  
Donkey Protection League  
BDPLF@hotmail.com/785-2205



The brands you want  
**Xprodiver** Bonaire  
The service you need  
Atomic Zeagle  
Hollis Oceanic  
[BONAIRE@XPRODIVER.COM](mailto:BONAIRE@XPRODIVER.COM)  
777-7333 (REEF)



**JEWELRY DÉCOR ART HOUSEWARE**  
MOLTEN WOLF GLASS  
Opening Hours:  
Mon - Fri, 9AM - 6PM  
Kaya J.N.E. Craane  
Terramar 8  
[moltenwolfglass.com](http://moltenwolfglass.com)  
+599-7011880



**DIVI DIVI AIR**  
Reservations  
24 hours a day  
Call (+5999 839-1515)  
Or (+5999 563-1913)  
Now Non-stop to AUA



Frequent Daily Flights  
Between Bonaire, Curaçao & Aruba  
**Divi Divi Air**  
Reservations  
24 hours a day  
Call (+5999 839-1515)  
Or (+5999 563-1913)  
Now Non-stop to AUA



**Bonaire Landsailing Adventures**  
Open daily for bookings  
Reserve online  
[www.landsailingadventures.com](http://www.landsailingadventures.com)



**del mar**  
books, art & office supplies  
For all your educational games  
& books, local books, art supplies,  
office supplies and much more!  
+599 717 6618 +599 701 6618  
[info@delmar-bonaire.com](mailto:info@delmar-bonaire.com)  
Kaya Soeur Bartola 13A | Kralendijk, Bonaire CN





# Pets of the Week

**Meet Jake and Jeffrey.** They are brothers and are about two years old.

In February 2021, the boys were found left in a kennel next to the Animal Shelter Bonaire gate. We knew nothing about them as there was no note or information. Luckily, they were adopted together within two months. Jake and Jeffrey thought they had found their forever home and were happy until....they were

brought back to the shelter. They didn't do anything wrong and they don't know why they were returned.

Jake and Jeffrey have been back at the shelter for three weeks now and looking for a second chance together. Who will give these healthy, good looking boys this second chance?

*Story/photo Monique Degenaar*



The brothers: Jake and Jeffrey

If you would like to meet our cats and dogs, please come to Animal Shelter Bonaire, Kaminda Lagun 26A. Open Monday - Friday 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and 2-3:30 p.m. Saturday 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m. nonstop. You can also call 7014989 or 7174989 to make an appointment, via whatsapp, facebook messenger, or email [animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com](mailto:animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com)

## Adopted

Damon, the big friendly dog whose photo appeared here issue before last, has been adopted by an appreciative family with other dogs for him to play with and plenty of room to roam.



apparently being dumped in the mundi.

If you know of anyone who might be considering abandoning a cat or dog, reassure them. The Animal Shelter welcomes unwanted pets readily, no explanation necessary, no fees to be paid. They neuter the pet if necessary and offer it for adoption. That's what the Shelter is for.

He was turned in to the Shelter after

# Parrots and People!

by The Echo Team



## Echo conducts mid-year Lora count

Echo's primary count of Lora, aka Yellow-shouldered Amazons, is conducted every year at the end of January. A second count at fewer sites is conducted in late summer to monitor where the Loras are roosting during the dry part of the year after their breeding season.

During this year's mid-year count, conducted on August 6th, 563 parrots were

sighted at 18 sites. Over 55 volunteers, including Echo staff, participated. The data confirmed that the parrots do move to different roosts through the seasons. At the Ketedel 3 roost site, for instance, 101 parrots were sighted this year. Most years only a handful turn up there.

***Echo offers heartfelt thanks to all its wonderful volunteers.***



The dream team: Dave and Bea

## Dear animal friends,

We would like to introduce ourselves. We are called the 'dream team' by the good people at the Shelter but our real names are Dave and Bea.

Dave is one year-old cream-colored male dog and I'm a gray, fluffy two year old female.

We did not come to the Shelter together, but it was love at first sight.

We really do love to play together, run

together, eat together and sleep together.

And we would prefer a home together so we can stay together and grow old together.

Dave likes to play with you humans, and I just love to cuddle and be groomed.

We are both good with kids of all ages especially the young ones.

Do you have a loving home for us? Then please come and meet us.

*Story/photos: Sanne Attevelt*

# Shelter News

## It's hot...protect your pets!!



In recent days there have been several reports of dogs becoming very ill and even dying due to dehydration, overheating and heat stroke. If it's hot outside for you it's even hotter for your pet! Animals don't have efficient cooling systems like humans (we sweat) and can overheat easily. Here are some important tips to keep your pets cool and safe

- Take walks only in the early morning and/or late evening. Try to walk in shaded areas.
- Avoid hot surfaces like asphalt or concrete that can burn your pet's paws. Avoid the beaches during this hot weather, the sand is too hot for them too.
- Take breaks during the walk and offer water frequently.
- At home be sure your dog or cat has shade in an open area (a dog house is too hot) and plenty of access to water. Large, deep bowls keep water cooler longer; you can add a few ice cubes during the day to keep the water cool. Put out extra bowls of water.
- Fill a large container with water for your dog to splash or lie in. Or wet him down with a hose during the day, let the water run first to be sure it is not too hot.
- A frozen water bottle wrapped in a towel in a shady place for your dog or cat to lie beside works too.

## Signs of heatstroke

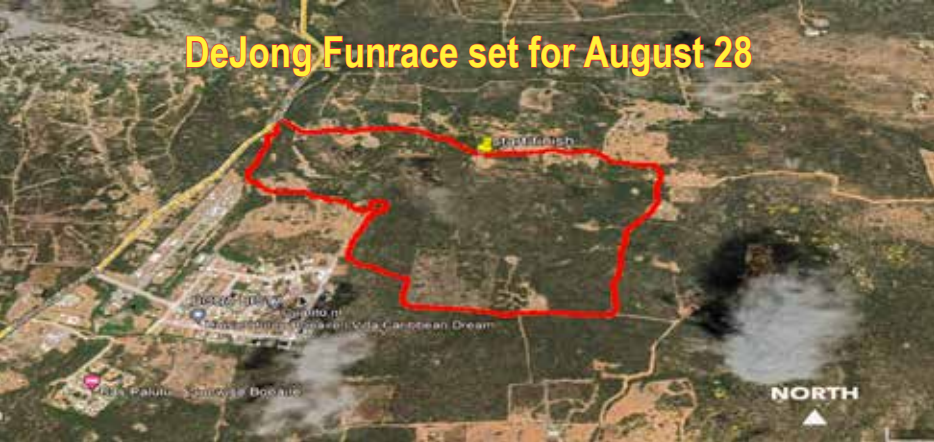
**IN DOGS:** Heavy panting; excessive drooling; excess saliva; bright red, gray, purple or bluish gums; muscle tremors; trouble standing or walking; dizziness; vomiting; diarrhea; rapid pulse.

**IN CATS:** Rapid breathing; rapid pulse; redness of tongue and mouth; "sweaty" feet; stumbling or staggering; panting; drooling; vomiting; excessive grooming; lethargy.

**If your pet exhibits these signs YOU NEED TO GET TO THE VETERINARIAN IMMEDIATELY AND CONDUCT SOME FIRST AID ON THE WAY.** Cool your pet on the way with air conditioning in the car and/or lightly cool them with tap water from a spray bottle (NOT ICE WATER). Get them drinking water on the way if they are able to drink. Heat stroke is a serious condition that requires immediate attention and intensive care is generally required to save your pet's life. Any initial first aid treatment on the way to the vet greatly increases the chance of survival but is not enough.  
*Jane Disko*



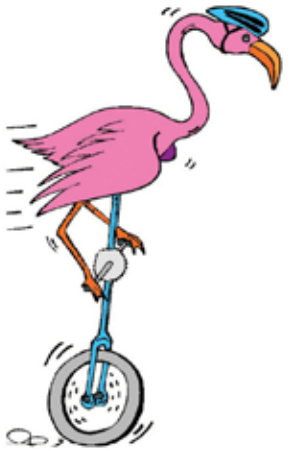
## DeJong Funrace set for August 28



Bonaire cyclists are already gearing up for practice runs for the De Jong Funrace on August 28. The course is a new technical mountain bike trail located on Gurubu in a section of Bona Bista. Designed by Roel and Sven, the course is only 3.25 km but very challenging for cyclists. The De Jong race is sponsored by Bonaire Infrastructuur Straatwerken and begins at 8 a.m. Two categories are set for the riders: Fun – 3.25km x 5 rounds and Elite – 3.25 x 8 rounds.

Helmets are required. The cost is only \$10 with water and sports drinks included. For more information drop by de Freewieler or visit Bonaire Xtreme MTB on Facebook.

## DE FREEWIELER



### Sales & Repair:

**Road, Mountain & Dutch Bikes.**

Giant, Specialized, Bikkell  
& Golden Lion Bikes

Parts and accessories for all brands of  
bikes

Beautiful bike clothes, shoes, helmets

House and car keys duplicated

Kaya Grandi #61 "The blue building"

Open 8:30-12:30, 14:00-17:00

Owner Operated Call 717-8545

Website: [www.freewielerbonaire.com](http://www.freewielerbonaire.com)

Email: [freewieler@bonairefreewieler.com](mailto:freewieler@bonairefreewieler.com)

**OSCAR**

## BRAZILIAN CHURRASCO NIGHTS

Dinnershow: 18:30-21:00  
DJ and live music 21:00-00:30



**SATURDAY AUGUST 13, 20 & 27TH 2022**

### Spectacular Brazilian Dinnershow

With live music from Grupo Batanga and DJ

Bring your dancing shoes!

Make your reservation now!

**DINNERSHOW**  
\$48 PP  
18:30-21:00

**DJ & LIVE MUSIC**  
\$20 PP  
21:00-00:30  
INCLUDING 2 DRINKS

**VIP TABLE**  
\$140 PP  
(ALL IN)

Enjoy this special Brazilian night at the most beautiful marina  
of Bonaire, Oscar Lighthouse Restaurant

Marina Harbour Village  
Blvd Gob. N. Debrot 67

Whatsapp (+599) 777 2009  
Tel (+599) 717 2009

[Oscarlighthouse.com](http://Oscarlighthouse.com)  
[info@oscarlighthouse.com](mailto:info@oscarlighthouse.com)



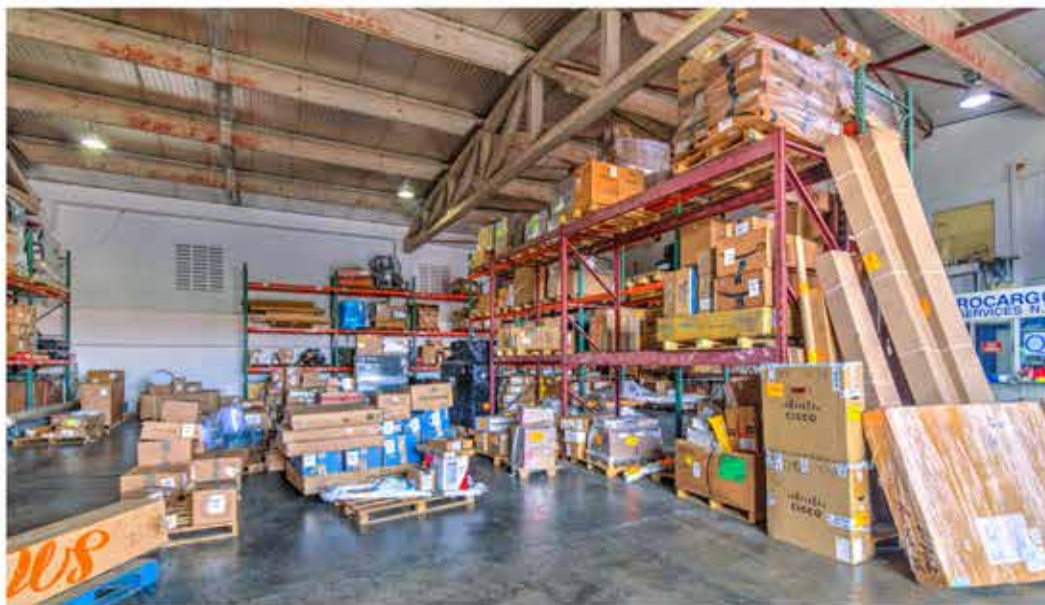
# ROCARGO

## LOGISTICS SERVICES B.V.



**IFC** | Experts in Expediting

**For all your shipping needs to or from Bonaire**



**WEEKLY CONSOLIDATED CONTAINER SHIPMENT FROM U.S. AND EUROPE**  
**CUSTOMS SPECIALIST - LOGISTICS PAPERWORK INBOUND AND OUTBOUND**  
**MOVING AND RELOCATION**  
**WAREHOUSING STORAGE - AIRFREIGHT**

**WWW.ROCARGO.COM - INFO@ROCARGO.COM**