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BONAIRE June 8-22, 2012, Year 19, Issue 12
The REPORTER

Helping Bonaire Grow Responsibly

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**Last Concert of the season— see page 8
plus many original stories and features**



Tour d'Azul : Tjako van Schie (piano), Ines Soares (vocals), Lonte Conradus (percussion) and Henk van Twillert (saxophone)

Flotsam and Jetsam

BOINAIRE The REPORTER

In the past forty years the population nearly doubled. Recently, the Central Bureau of Statistics published an article on the population composition in Bonaire by district and neighborhood. This article examines the growth of the population on Bonaire. Especially the last decade, the population grew strongly: in the period 2001-2011 the increase was 50 percent. Previously there was moderate growth, with an increase of 10 percent per decade.

The article also said fewer Antilleans are living on Bonaire. The population of the island has mainly grown through immigration of people primarily from South and Central America and the Netherlands. The demand for labor for the growing tourism sector has been a major driver for this. Read the full article of the CBS website, www.cbs.nl.

► **Maxime Verhagen, Minister of Economic Affairs, Agriculture and Innovation (right) informed parliament that he has examined whether electric-car charging stations in the Netherlands can be done in Bonaire.** The Foundation E-loading, in the Netherlands, installs and maintains public charging stations for electric cars, in principle would welcome placement of some charging stations in Bonaire. At present the practical implementation is being discussed, such as choosing the type of loading pole, connection to the mains and instruction and on-site maintenance. At least two local car dealers said they are investigating importing electric cars. But is there a better alternative for Bonaire.? See article on page 9.



► **Fuel prices on Bonaire rose on 21 May. They now are:**

- Gasoline \$1.481 per liter
- Kerosene \$1.12 per liter
- Diesel \$1.19 per liter
- Propane gas cylinder 100 lbs -\$ 40.80 per cylinder
- Propane gas cylinder 20 lbs -\$ 9.18 per cylinder (residential valve)

► **Power outages continue to be a regular event on Bonaire.** Last Sunday power was out on the whole island, from three to five hours depending on location. The cause was a short circuit in a distribution transformer, due to unknown causes. Most cellphone services were out for some period.

► As a result of legislation proposed by Immigration Minister Gerd Leers, **airlines will in the future have to provide digital personal data of passengers to Dutch border control and customs officials**, prior to their arrival at Amsterdam's Schiphol Airport. The measure is aimed at increasing speed and efficiency of border controls. Both on arrival and departure, the passenger's name, address, nationality, passport number, travel route and baggage will be transferred automatically to the airport authorities. The same system will also apply to other Dutch air and seaports.

► The Dutch Government Institute for Public Health and Environment (RIVM) **will carry out follow-up research on the environmental impacts of last year's Bonaire Petroleum Corporation (BOPEC) fire** at the Goto Lake provided the Executive Council of Bonaire, submits a formal request to the Ministry of Infrastructure and Environment. The follow-up chemical research will focus on the eventual environmental hazards of the possible existence and spread of polluted material including perfluor, octane, sulphonate (PFOS), in the soil, groundwater, organisms and silt of the lake. The RIVM will prepare the program of requirements for this study in close consultation with DROB (Bonaire's Space and Development Department). It is expected that the research can be concluded this year.

► **The Dutch Government has agreed to make 10 million euros available to the BES islands Bonaire, Saba and St. Eustatius** for nature and greenery, and to improve procedures for the three islands to acquire interest-free loans.

Dutch Minister of Home Affairs and Kingdom Relations Liesbeth Spies revealed this grant during a video conference last week with representatives of the three governments in keeping with an earlier agreement, that such conferences would be held in between the semi-annual meetings in The Hague.

► Members of the Dutch Parliament's Second Chamber again are seeking clarity from the Dutch Government about the **continued inadequate postal services provided in Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba.** Dutch caretaker State Secretary of Economic Affairs, Agriculture and Innovation Henk Bleker was asked to provide information "in detail" on the reasons for the poor postal services. It's been reported that people on the islands



► According to tour guide Christie Dovale, having a **flamingo sculpture at Flamingo Airport, would be nothing new.** About 50 years ago there were cement flamingos at the old terminal (now the flight school building behind the jet fuel tanks).

are facing fines because they haven't received mail from the Dutch Tax Office or have received it too late.

► **The forecast for the Atlantic hurricane season will be "near normal"** with nine to 15 tropical storms and four to eight of those will strengthen into hurricanes, a U.S. government weather agency predicted last week. One to three of those will grow into "major" hurricanes of Category 3 or higher on the Saffir-Simpson intensity scale. Major hurricanes have sustained winds of 111 miles per hour (178 kph) or higher and can cause devastating damage. Hurricane season for the Atlantic Ocean, Caribbean Sea and Gulf of Mexico officially runs from June 1 to November 30, but got off to an early start this year, when Tropical Storm Alberto formed off the South Carolina coast last weekend. It turned away and fizzled without threatening land.

► **On June 23rd 2012, Dutch pianist Michiel Borstlap, together with Maruja Bogaard, will be giving a dinner concert on behalf of Wings of Support** at the Plaza Resort. Michiel and Maruja will be accompanied by Antillean musicians, and they will be playing a mix of ballads, jazz and Latin music. See poster on page 11. Wings of Support is a foundation supporting children around the world. It is run by volunteers, all personnel of KLM and Martinair. For more info call Aart Dil at 796-4931.

► Fitness fans take note: Physiotherapist Eva de Jong, winner of the women's class in the Rincon Day race, will **lead a new half-hour workout on Mondays and Thursdays from 10-10:30 am at Bon Bida Gym.**

► **Father's Day is on Sunday, the 17th of June. Make your father feel special on that day.** ■ G.D.

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How to contact us

Find Bonaire Reporter on Facebook. Press "like"
Letters to the Editor:
 Reporter@bonairenews.com
Story tip or idea:
 info@bonairenews.com
The Publisher:
 George@bonairenews.com

Box 407, Bonaire,
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Separate Your Glass

In the first three months of this year, the population of Bonaire discarded approximately 24,000 pounds of glass jars and bottles in the yellow "bon-bon" containers scattered around the island. If lined up that's enough glass to make a row of bottles from the airport to the WEB site in Hato. Separating the glass makes the landfill grower slower and makes our island cleaner.

More than 10% of our waste consists of glass. Half of it is generated by restaurants, hotels and bars. The other half comes from households. Selibon and Bon Recycling collect the glass and store it separately from other trash. Initially the intention was to grind the glass to sand and use it locally in construction. But the plant to grind the glass is not yet complete. In the meantime, the glass is sold abroad as raw material for new glass. The government intends to coop-



erate with the business community on our island to create a market for crushed glass. The government would require that the ground glass is used in road construction. ■ *Selibon Press release*

BONHATA Cash For Culinary Students



Craig Dewey, Gorvan Dubero, Anja Romeijnders, Charles Vos, Liz Rijn, Irene Dingjan, Sara Matera, Eri Gietma, Gaby Tixi and Bous Scholts

The Bonaire Hotel and Tourism Association, BONHATA, recently met with Liz Rijna representative of SGB, to hand over a check for the amount of \$2,060. The association raised this amount at a fundraiser at their annual Awards Party back in April. The funds will go towards the "Italy Stage" program for SGB students. This incredibly formative program takes a group of SGB students to the Emilia-Romagna region in Italy. During the course of several weeks the students get the opportunity to network and connect with their peers in Italy and from around the world. They will also get familiar with the region's renowned products, such as Balsamic vinegar, Par-

mesan cheese and Parma ham. The program is the highlight of the year for the students, and has been inspiring and shaping culinary talent on Bonaire for over a decade. To date more than 80 students have participated in this program.

BONHATA wishes the students and their mentors, great success on their upcoming trip, and hopes that it will be inspirational and fruitful. BONHATA continues to support local initiatives that promote the tourism sector and believes that investment in education especially in the fields of tourism, is pivotal for the island. Tourism plays an important role on Bonaire and is the key to its economy and future. ■ *Bonhata Press release*

Polluting Goto Lake?



The Dutch Government Institute for Public Health and Environment (RIVM) will carry out follow-up research on the environmental impacts of 2010's Bonaire Petroleum Corporation (BOPEC) fire near Goto Lake provided the Executive Council of Bonaire submits a formal request for such to the Ministry of Infrastructure and Environment. The follow-up chemical research will focus on the eventual environmental hazards of the possible existence and spread of polluted material including perfluor, octane, sulphonate (PFOS), in the soil, groundwater, organism and silt of the lake. ■ *Press release*

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On The Island Since... 1994 - Bastian Kuipers

I was just fourteen when I came to live here with my parents. I went to SGB Havo and it was a bit of a culture shock; I felt I had to sort things out by myself and I didn't know any Papiamentu either. At the time there were not so many 'foreign' children at high school, it was just a few and I was one of them but after a year I'd found my place and I had made friends. And, in the long run, the friendships I still have from Havo are Antillean.

When I finished school I was seventeen but I found myself too young to go to Holland or Curacao to continue my education and be on my own. So... I went to high school in California and lived with a host family who took care of me... a little bit... and of course there was the opportunity to participate in all kinds of sports and as I am a sports fanatic, it couldn't have been any better! I am a golf surfer, I can't wind surf - I failed at it horribly - so I picked up surfing instead and it's my passion. I surf at the east coast, at Playa Grandi or at Playa Chikitu. I was raised to be responsible and independent and things like calculating risks were part of my upbringing. In California I played soccer

and tennis and I swam, but I didn't surf much because in northern California the water was terribly cold. California was great - it was a super year!

Then I returned to Bonaire; I worked for my father for a while (at the time he owned Hot Shot Scooters) and I worked at the marina cleaning yachts underwater and then I was asked to work for Harbour Village's Great Adventures. I qualified as Rescue Diver and I would take the wives for a 'fun' introduction dive while their husbands were going for deep dives. I did it for six months and then a military exercise took place on the island and I saw the marines landing here with their speed boats and marching around in their full load... I'd always wanted to do something in sports, but then you have to be better than really good. I was good, but I was never brilliant. I joined up with the Dutch Marine Corps and had to go to Amsterdam to undergo the selection procedure. Twenty-two people tried out but only two made it through. I was one of the lucky ones; you can say it was my calling.

It was 1999 when I told everybody

You become more black and white because you can not afford to be doubtful - that would be a danger.

goodbye and left for Holland. For seven months I underwent a tough basic training in Rotterdam and then I was immediately sent to Kosovo. I was almost twenty.

The training teaches you the basics; it is a reeducation of the brain and it stays with you the rest of your life. I went to Bosnia. I went to cold weather training in Norway and Scotland. I went to Iraq. I've done it for six years. When you start, you're not ready for it, but the older marines teach you how to deal with it and you pass it on to the newcomers - the groups are very close-knit. You grow up fast; you've been in situations and you've seen things and it puts your own life in a different perspective. You become more black and white because you can not afford to be doubtful - that would be a danger. And you learn to go for it... all the way. It's hard work and the relaxation is also hard and you learn to improvise, especially mentally.

The last year I was sent to Aruba... great! The only thing I had to do was jungle training in French Guiana, but the rest of the time I had a wonderful life. It was there that I met the mother of my son Kalani and together we traveled back to



Bastian and Kalani

Holland to end my contract with the Marines. I was supposed to go to Afghanistan for 6 months, but I was madly in love and I thought 'now I have to call it quits!' We returned to Aruba and this time it was very different, because I was no longer a Marine. And so I became a beach boy!

(Continued on page 5)

Q. Where can I find The Bonaire Reporter?
A. Just about everywhere!

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On The Island Since (Continued from page 4)

My son Kalani (named after a famous Hawaiian surfer and his name is Hawaiian for 'between heaven and earth') was born on Aruba in July 2006 and although

I worked two jobs we didn't have much money and so, in 2007, we came to Bonaire to work with my parents. Many years before, my parents had gotten a piece of land from the government across from Hamlet Oasis and in 2006 they got the permits to start building a small resort. We called it Bamboo Bali Bonaire and except for the foundation we've built everything with our own hands and while we were building we've planted hundreds of trees and plants in a great variety.

After one year, unfortunately, my girlfriend and I separated. However, we've got joint custody of Kalani; he spends one week at his mom's and then he is one week with me. It was the intention that his mom and I would run the business, but when we split up my parents decided to stay longer.

We opened in 2010; it was exciting because we had no experience in this sector at all! Now my parents have moved to Holland and for the last month I'm on my own, ha! I have to get used to it! It's only five cottages, but we're almost always fully booked and in addition to the resort I also have trucks; we do the Big Foot tours. We get a lot of people from Canada including French Canadians from Quebec. We get people from Switzerland and Italy and Brazil and those people have to travel a lot to get here. But Bonaire is a little pearl and its beauty is not only underwater but also on land.'

Bastian is an exceptional person; he can

look you straight in the eye and there's no malice, no second thoughts. He is passionate, hard working, open and responsible, and a super nice guy.

'To me Bonaire has always been home, because my most important years I've spent here. It's wonderful to see my son growing up and we really enjoy spending our time together outdoors. He is already a surfer! I take being a single father very serious; it's the most important part of my life. You can say I am a passionate father; I enjoy it tremendously – so much love and so much responsibility. A short while ago we went on our first real trip together... to the Indians who live at the Orinoco river in Venezuela. I told Kalani it would be good to take some clothes and toys to give to the children as we have so much and it would be a good experience to share. He thought it was very interesting; the children loved his toys and clothes and even his toothbrush and in exchange one of the boys came up with a (living) pelican under his arm and offered it to Kalani! It was fun and beautiful. I've traveled a lot and I love it and sharing with Kalani makes it even better.

Something else that's important in my life is the veterans' association here on Bonaire. It was founded a year ago by one of my best friends, Theo Knevel, who's also the author of the book Aruba Arriba. We have eight active members; the oldest member is about 70 and I am the youngest at 32. Boi Antoin, from the Extra newspaper, is a member as well. It's my social outing four times a year, but we also hold



Bastian points out the name of his resort

occasional meetings when for instance, somebody's roof is leaking then we're go to help and we celebrate good things together. This year we held the second memorial on May 4th, to honor all people who died in wars and conflicts. The association is open for all military and the purpose is to find back the camaraderie which you experienced during your service and to support each other, but also to support projects on the island. Like last time when the marines from Curacao and Aruba came over for training they also cleaned the roads to the caves.

Bonaire has always been my place of peace and relaxation for me and of course

you can't find everything here but it's an island we should be proud of. I feel we are at crossroads considering the future and I hope people with vision and capacities will get a chance to manage this path.' He smiles 'I think we will see more changes in the coming five years than we saw in the last twenty years and I become very passionate when I talk about the subject, but that's because I love the island. It's my home you see.' ■

Story & photos by Greta Kooistra






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Bonaire Loses A Great Friend

Jake Richter who moved to Bonaire in 1997, passed away following a year-long illness, on June 1. He called Bonaire his home.

He and his family came to the island just as the Internet Age was beginning. Bonaire offered him its charms and in return he helped make Bonaire a leader on the World Wide Web and enriched the island with donations of his time and talents in computers, art, generosity and conviviality.

Jake was born in New York City in 1964, the son of immigrants who had recently defected from Czechoslovakia to escape Communism.

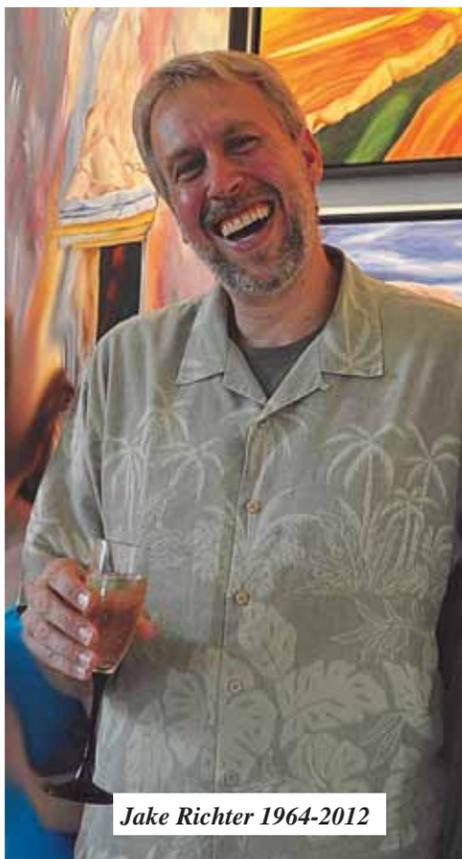
He spent the early years of his life in the New York area before moving to Germany. At age 11, he returned to the U.S., living first in Eugene, Oregon, then Southern Florida, before ending up in Wellesley, Massachusetts.

Jake subsequently earned a degree in Computer Science with a minor in German at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, while also pursuing photographic visual arts, video game development, and computer graphics technology, which he combined with his passion for fantasy and science fiction stories and movies.

He raised his family in Bonaire at the same time he was raising the awareness of the island to the opportunities offered by the Internet. At the end of the 90s he founded the Internet company, NetTech and started the E-news to spread the word of events on Bonaire. His InfoBonaire website continues to offer the best information about the island on the Internet. He assisted scores of people and business to become "Internet savvy", including the Papiamentu language newspaper, *Extra*.

Numerous Bonaire charities and foundations, were bolstered because he established a way Americans could get tax breaks for donating to them. He founded Bonaire Talk, a forum where people could express their feelings about Bonaire and related events. His New Year and post dive clean-up BBQs he sponsored are legendary.

Not long before becoming seriously ill Jake described what he was currently doing: Registered U.S. Patent Agent, professional photographer and artist, technical



Jake Richter 1964-2012

"I have always been a believer in the idea that when life throws you a challenge, it also provides opportunities for positive change. What those opportunities are may not always be inherently obvious at first, but time and exploration will reveal them." - Jake Richter, 2011

consultant and expert witness in various patent litigation matters, President of a 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable corporation, President of a licensing company of copyrighted works, co-director of an Internet web and e-mail hosting company, which also provides Internet marketing services, co-manager of a WebCam company, computer programmer, journalist and analyst in the digital media technology field, inventor, scuba diving instructor, graduate student, director of an art gallery, operator of several on-line stores, developer and operator of a patent document procurement service, father of home-schooled children and more.

It isn't surprising, then, that within hours of his passing, hundreds of expressions of condolence, remembered events and sympathy filled Facebook pages and Internet blogs.

It's tragic that the "spot" he noticed on his leg in March of 2011, metastasized into the cancer that took his life much too swiftly.

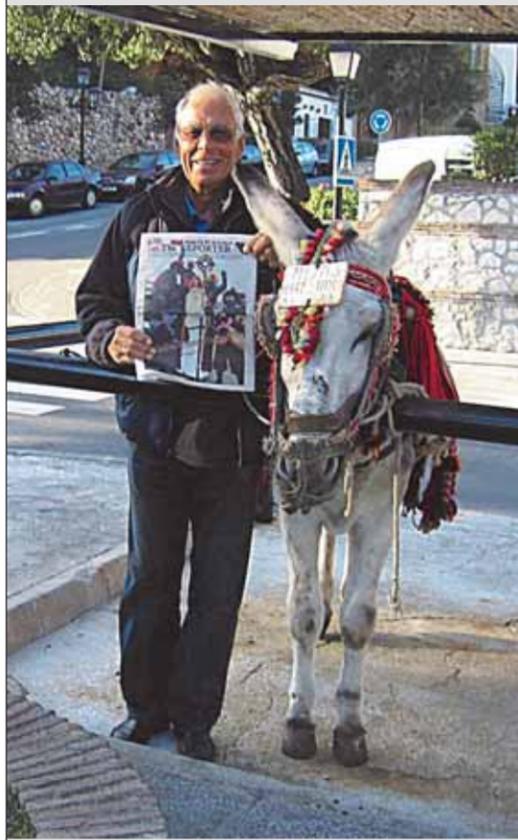
All of us at *The Reporter* are saddened and offer our condolences to his family. ■ G.D.



The Travelling Richter Family in Antarctica -the 2011 Bonaire Reporter Picture Yourself winner

Picture Yourself On A Donkey Taxi in Spain

This is Trevor Naylor holding a copy of *The Reporter* with a Mijas Burro (Donkey) Taxi. Mijas is a white village in southern Spain where the burro (donkey) taxi is a tourist attraction. They are licensed and each have their own taxi number. So there is a donkey connection between Spain and Bonaire. Trevor frequently visits Bonaire and has a home in Mijas. ■



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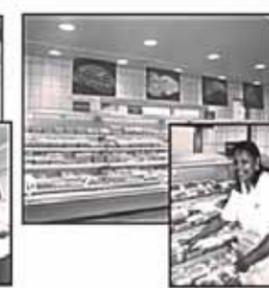
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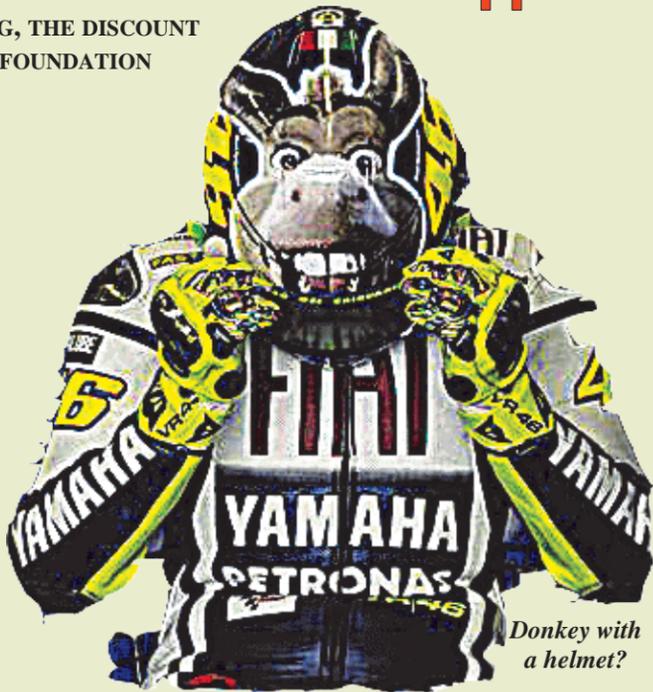
In this week's Bonaire Reporter edition three topics about helmets are highlighted:

First: the owners of Zeeko Auto offer a five dollar discount on their new flat black or white ski helmets. These helmets have cool looks and are light, sturdy and comfortable. So now you can become the owner and wearer of a new helmet for only twenty dollars, instead of or twenty five dollars. The only restriction is that they want you to show up with your motorcycle, trike, moped, bicycle, long board, skateboard or kite surf board. This can be your last trip without a helmet! The new shop of Zeeko Auto is located next to the new pet shop at Kaya Industria.

On the island of Bonaire helmets are for sale at, at least four locations. The other locations are De Freewieler, Kaya Grandi # 61, the Harley-Davidson shop from Orlando and Superstore at Kaya Amsterdam. You can even send me an email to borrow one of my seven helmets. (digitalis1956@hotmail.com).

Second: Last week several unofficial meetings were held about "head: safety between individuals and people from the hospital. Brainstorming led to the discussion of the need of a foundation to promote safety. Especially, people from the hospital got fed up and stressed, because they have to deal with more and more patients suffering from serious injuries caused by accidents. All persons present were highly motivated and a kind of in a hurry, because they want to do their utmost best to save lives.

Third: Start an island "waving" cam-



Donkey with a helmet?

paign. The idea of having helmet wearers, waving, popped up. Persons wearing a helmet, can wave at other people wearing a helmet. So the rider of a heavy motor cycle, can wave at a guy on a 49 cc two stroke moped. A person on a mountain bike can wave at a girl on skelers.

Even a pedestrian, or an old lady sitting on her front porch, can wave at the wearer of a helmet. Support the Bonairean wearer of a helmet, and show you have got brains!

Ever seen a donkey wearing a helmet? ■ J@n Brouwer



Don't Thump Your Melon.

Rotary Club Rotarally A Success

This year's popular Rotary Club fundraiser, "Rotarally" was once more a huge success, with 75 participants driving the six hour rally, consisting of four routes. The start was again at the Sport Hall, with a route stop at Spice Beach, where coffee and sandwich was served, and finish at Te Amo Beach.

Organizers and experts; Huub Groot, Edwin Vrieswijk, Jan Henk van der Wier, and from Curacao rally map maker Freddy Rush, with the support crew by all the staff from Sunbelt Realty, Akkermans Auto supply, and It Rains Fishes received many positive comments and quite some already asking about next year's Rotarally.

Winners were: Route 1 and 2-Ron Gijzen and Paul Wichers, also overall winners, with just 120 penalty points; Route 3 and 4-Anja Romijnders and Aniek Schouten

The total net collected, is \$10,000 to be donated to the Prinses Wilhelmina Foundations, which helps cancer patients and their families. ■ Press release/photo



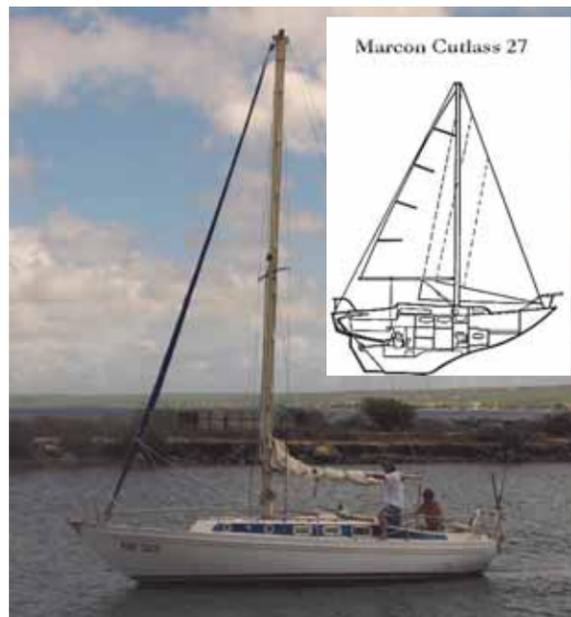
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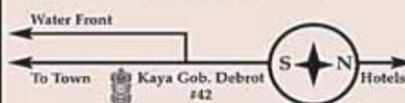
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Cover
Story

The Tour de Azul Offer A Bag Of Music



Bonaire's Classical Music Board brought three wonderful musicians and an awesome singer for the last concert of the season on May 26. The program was full of musical surprises with an eclectic mix of music.



CMBB member Guus Gerritsen, advisor to the CMBB, greets artist Wil Dykstra and Rene Essink of sponsor Caribbean Homes.



Governor of Bonaire, Lydia Emerencia, and Lorraine de Souza attended the after party.

Lionfish Feeding Frenzy

It was a feeding frenzy... but for humans, not fish, last Friday, May 25, at Patrice Rannou's Zazu Bar at the Harbour Village Marina. Thanks to lionfish exterminators like Bas Toll (who averages about 20 lionfish per dive) there was plenty to eat and lots of variety, with the fish prepared in eight different ways, thanks to Patrice's chefs.

According to one report, it took 10 divers and three hunters just six dives in Washington Slagbaai National Park to shoot the around 500 lionfish. That made up the feast. The largest was 16 inches (42 cm.) long. In case you want to prepare some fish yourself a proven recipe is below. Happy hunting... and cooking, ■ G.D.



Breaded Lionfish Nuggets

- 4 oz lionfish
- Flour
- 1 cup liquid egg
- Panko (Japanese) breadcrumbs or crushed Club Social crackers
- Salt and pepper
- Cajun seasoning

In three separate bowls, place flour, liquid egg and breadcrumbs. Cut lionfish into bite-size pieces and season with salt, pepper and Cajun seasoning. Dip pieces into flour, shake off excess, then dip into liquid egg, and then into breadcrumbs. Submerge in oil heated to 325°F. until crispy golden brown.

Cilantro and Key Lime Tarter Sauce

- 1 cup mayonnaise
 - 1 small pickle, diced small
 - 2 tablespoons Key Lime juice
 - 6 leaves cilantro, chopped
 - 2 tablespoons capers, chopped
- Mix the above ingredients in a mixing bowl. Add salt and pepper to taste. Refrigerate until ready to serve.



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Piece of Paradise

A column to answer your Bonaire real estate related questions.
Please email your questions to reporter@bonairenews.com

HOW DOES BONAIRE COMPARE TO THE REST OF THE WORLD?

We all have different reasons why we live on Bonaire; we are born here, we fell in love with the island, and perhaps on top of that with one of its residents, we need to be in the sun 365 days of the year, or, if you believe in that, fate. Fact is, we live here, or visit the island on a regular basis, and we need a place to live. Since a home is the most important investment that most of us will ever make, we are regularly asked about the developments in the real estate market on Bonaire in comparison to the rest of the world.

The position of our island automatically attracts residents and visitors from at least three continents: North America, South America, and Europe. And, just by chance, these are all very important markets to tap into from here on Bonaire. It also means that if we play our cards right, we can always benefit from at least the ones that are doing well at that moment.

Over the most recent years, both the North American and European economies have not been doing so well. However, fortunately for us here on Bonaire, this was not completely simultaneous. By the signals that are reaching us, the US real

estate market is slowly picking up, and people from South America, where a number of countries are starting to improve economically, are showing more interest in our island as well. We are therefore hopeful, this development will continue, so there is always at least one of our direct markets doing well enough.

So, where does this leave the real estate market on Bonaire? Well, we believe, in the exact same position as our geographical location: somewhere in the middle. The real estate bubble has never really been given a chance here on the island, due to the conservative approach of our banks, which will hardly ever finance 100% or even more of the purchase price of a property. In addition they have set strict rules on the percentage of income one is allowed to spend on mortgage payments. The most important effect of the real estate bubble on Bonaire therefore is due to foreign banks providing top heavy mortgages on properties outside of Bonaire, allowing the owners to use that cash value to purchase property here.

So yes, indeed, there are some property owners here on our island, that would like to sell their property on Bonaire, to solve some of their issues that were created by over financing property elsewhere in the world. However, that number of sellers is



Bonaire is beautiful, and somewhere in the middle of the world's real estate market. This is a view from one of the properties Sunbelt has for sale.

limited. Most of our sellers are selling in order to cash back on their investment to improve their cash position, or because they are getting older and can no longer travel as often to Bonaire, or simply because they would like to move on to their next real estate venture on our island.

That is why, after a value decrease that set in around the end of 2009, at the moment we see real estate prices stabilizing. Due to this value decrease, and the fact that property owners on Bonaire needed a while to adjust to this, the number of sales have decreased, which has increased the inventory of what is for sale right now.

We see this as a chance for both buyers and sellers. Buyers now can be critical, compare many properties, and really buy their perfect piece of paradise. While sellers now have a good chance of selling, as long as they price their property right. This to us is a sound basis for a healthy real estate market on Bonaire, and a security, for prevention of a real estate bubble on Bonaire. ■ Corine van der Hout



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Bonaire-Sun Rise/Set, Moon Phase and Tides

Winds and weather can further influence the local tide's height and time

Day	High	Low	High	Low	High	Sunrise	Sunset
Fri 08	03:40 0.91 ft	12:01 -0.39 ft	18:07 0.44 ft	23:12 0.22 ft		6:10	18:59
Sat 09	04:34 0.79 ft	12:39 -0.35 ft	18:49 0.55 ft			6:10	18:59
Sun 10		00:38 0.21 ft	05:28 0.65 ft	13:12 -0.30 ft	19:28 0.65 ft	6:10	19:00
Mon 11	Moon L Quarter	01:58 0.18 ft	06:20 0.51 ft	13:42 -0.23 ft	20:06 0.74 ft	6:10	19:00
Tue 12		03:13 0.13 ft	07:14 0.38 ft	14:08 -0.17 ft	20:42 0.81 ft	6:10	19:00
Wed 13		04:25 0.07 ft	08:09 0.25 ft	14:30 -0.10 ft	21:17 0.85 ft	6:10	19:00
Thu 14		05:35 0.01 ft	09:09 0.15 ft	14:45 -0.05 ft	21:50 0.88 ft	6:11	19:01
Fri 15		06:41 -0.05 ft	10:21 0.07 ft	14:50 -0.00 ft	22:24 0.90 ft	6:11	19:01
Sat 16		07:44 -0.10 ft	12:07 0.02 ft	14:27 0.02 ft	22:57 0.91 ft	6:11	19:01
Sun 17		08:41 -0.15 ft	23:32 0.91 ft			6:11	19:01
Mon 18		09:30 -0.18 ft				6:11	19:02
Tue 19	00:08 0.90 ft	10:11 -0.21 ft	New Moon			6:12	19:02
Wed 20	00:45 0.89 ft	10:44 -0.23 ft				6:12	19:02
Thu 21	01:23 0.86 ft	11:10 -0.23 ft				6:12	19:02
Fri 22	02:03 0.82 ft	11:30 -0.22 ft				6:12	19:02

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BONAIREAN VOICES

DIALYSIS CENTER BONAIRE

The new dialysis opportunities in Bonaire, are a blessing for sick people. Patients don't have to travel to Curaçao for the treatment, because now the island's 13 patients, are treated in a modern well equipped center.

But of course is not a matter of not wanting to have such kind of treatment for certain patients, but is a must. From the experience of one patient, we got to know and understand how she ended-up being a dialysis patient.

I interviewed Mrs. Shalena Balentin (50) who works at the public library and has three children. As she tells it, "she always had problem with high blood pressure and in 1986 Shalena started having kidneys problems. Shalena had a stone in one of her kidneys, and over time the problem persisted, and she lost one kidney in 1990. She was left with only one kidney and had to use medication, plus being supervised by her house doctor and the nephrologists in Curaçao. In 2005 Shalena got very sick. Her body began swelling and for four days in a row she went to the doctor in pain. The doctor thought it was just her blood pressure again. Shalena was sent to the hospital, but nothing could be done to ease the pain. Then, on a date she'll never forget, she made an emergency trip to Curaçao. When she got to the hospital in Curaçao the specialist realized that her other kidney was failing, and that she needed to be operated on immediately and had to be dialyzed.

Shalena's life was really in jeopardy. She never can forget on that 6th of De-

cember 2005 how sick she was, and how she nearly lost her life. She had to stay in Curaçao for 2 months, finally returning to Bonaire in February 2006. After that, Shalena had to travel to Curaçao three times a week to dialyze.

In February 2012 Fundashon Mariadal at San Francisco hospital, opened a Dialysis Center, so her and 12 other patients don't have to travel to Curaçao any more. Dialysis will be taken care of in Bonaire and after your treatment you can go back to work, or if you feel sick the specialist will give you a sick leave letter.

This sickness is not a very pleasant. First, Shalena has only one kidney that is not working properly, so dialysis is the option. Second, you can't drink too much liquid, because you don't have the kidney to filter the liquid and convert it into urine. Third, you need to use lots of medications. Fourth, your diet needs to be regulated by a dietician. Fifth, you need to be under the control of a cardiologist and nephrologists. Sixth, you need to sleep well and limit your activities. Seventh, your whole life and the life of your family changes. You need to have a very supportive family to cooperate in all your needs. Shalena general advice is to eat healthy, and do not have to many alcoholic drinks. Don't smoke, and get enough sleep. Be on guard of your health; don't take your health for granted.

For the house doctors: be alert to your patient's problems, don't be negligent. If the patient needs specialized care, send for it right away. Don't make evaluations on your own, if you are not specialized in

the disease. Consult other doctors and spare the patient's life.

Mrs. Shalena asked me to take her picture at the Dialysis Center, so we can understand what she had to under go three times a week.

I ask Mrs. Maite Snijder(57) head officer of the Dialysis Center permission. She is an experienced Bonairean, who worked with dialysis patients on Curaçao, Aruba, Netherlands and is now on Bonaire. She is in charge of whole center. Only with the patient's permission, was I allowed to take pictures of the patient. But of no other patients.

Mrs. Snijder tells me that the Dialysis Center dialyze 13 patients (10 women and three men) a week from Monday through Saturday. Three CAPD (Continue Ambulante Peritoneale Dialyse) a kind of belly dialysis; these patients still need to go to Curaçao for this treatment. The Dialysis Center in Bonaire supervised these patients that need to go to Curaçao once a week, to be dialyzed. In cases of emergency they will be sent to Curaçao right away. So we got to know about Mrs.

Shalena Balentin experience. And of course, every patient has his/her own experience how of they started dialysis.

We now have an idea how the Dialysis Center works. Just make sure you take care of your health, Don't neglect it. ■ Story & photo by Siomara Albertus.



Shalena Balentin, dialysis patient

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Bistro de Paris— is back at a new location at the H.V. Marina. Superb menu, genuine French dishes in a waterfront ambiance.

Pasa Bon Pizza—Bonaire's quality pizza-Best ingredients, best baking and best taste. Great salads and lasagna too. Eat in or take away.

RETAIL

Benetton, world famous designer clothes available now in Bonaire at prices less than those in US. For men, women and children.

SECURITY

Special Security Services, will provide that extra measure of protection when you need it. Always reliable.

STORAGE

The Storehouse, (*Mangazina* in Papiamentu) offers Secure Storage for Vehicles, Household Items, Diving and Sporting Gear, Business Files or Inventory. Across from the northern hotel row.



SHIPPING

Rocargo Freight, Air and sea shipments in/out of Bonaire. Customs agents. Professional and efficient.
FedEx agent. What would we do without their superb services?



SPAS/GYM

Bon Bida Spa & Gym, World Class fitness and health facility- Classes, top notch machines, trainers. Day, monthly or annual rates.



Face and Body Day Spa by Nubia.

Professional massage therapy, facials, reflexology, lymph drainage, Shiatsu, deep tissue massage and other body and facial treatments

SUPERMARKETS

Carniceria Latino— Best BBQ on Bonaire every Saturday. Plus an exceptionally well-stocked supermarket featuring local meats and fish

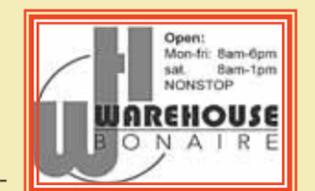
TOP Supermarket—

Conveniently located downtown at the old Culti-mara location. Featuring a complete selection including fresh meat, fruit and vegetables.



Warehouse Supermarket on Kaya Industria—

Big air conditioned market with a friendly staff, the largest selection and lowest prices on the island. They stock what you need.



MADE ON BONAIRE

Semper Kontentu goat cheese. Ask for it at restaurants and look in the markets. Lovingly hand-made. Mugs now available.

VARIETY STORE

The Tung Fung Store, is a great asset to everyone on Bonaire because it stock so many things we want: clothes, hardware, food, auto and bike supplies. If you don't see it... ask for it. They probably have it.

WATER TAXI

Get to Klein Bonaire by Ferry. Ride the *Kantika di Amor*. Hotel or downtown pickup The only water taxi to Klein Bonaire with an easy on/off built-in ramp

A Directory listing is free for regular advertisers in *The Reporter*
Call Rose at 795 0110 / 795 0318 or Laura at 786-6518 for information

WHAT'S HAPPENING

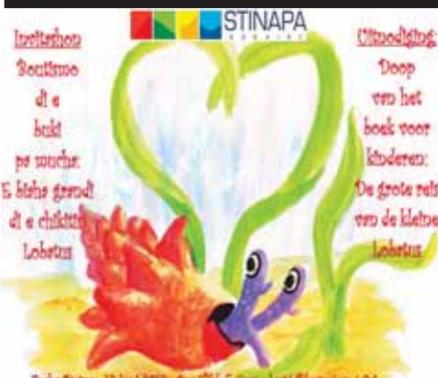
CLOSE-IN EVENTS

Have Questions About
Bonaire Real Estate?

Ask The Reporter -email:
reporter@bonairereporter.com

Tuesday, June 12 CIEE Lecture: "Coral-algae phase shifts: insights in the mechanisms leading to coral decline and algal domination." by **Rene van de Zande, University of Utrecht** At CIEE, 26 Kaya Gob. Debrot, 7 pm – 8 pm

Friday, June 15-Book Dedication



Saturday, June 23 Wings of Support Concert, see page 11

Wings of Support Dinner Concert 23rd of June



Tipsy Seagull @ plazaresortbonaire
Gourmet Dinner at its Best
US\$ 95,-p.p. supports Jong Bonaire

Sunday, June 24 –St. John's Day

Friday, June 29—St. Peter's Day

Sunday, July 1 – Dia di Arte– Art Day

July 27, 28, 29– Bonaire Heineken Jazz Festival. See page 18

REGULAR EVENTS

• **Rooi Lamoenchi Kunuku Park Tours** \$21 (includes tax). Discounts for residents and local people. Tel. 717-8489, 540-9800.

• **We Dare to Care Park children's playground** open hrs 1:00 pm - 7:00 pm entrance fee 1.00 per child & 1.50 per adult. Saturdays open for free. Closed on Sundays.

• **Kas di Arte—Ongoing exhibit and sale of work of different artists.** Temporarily closed

Saturdays

• **We Dare To Care Playground Bazaar,** Flea market tables are \$10.00 except first Saturday of the month when they are free. Open 9 am - 2 pm. - Call Marissa - 701 1103 Everything for sale, old & new: household items, plants, baby things, clothes & shoes. Food riot, BBQ. All funds go toward maintaining the Park.

• **Marshe di Kunukeru (Farmers' Market) 1st Saturday of the month,** at Kriabon, Kaminda Jatu Baco #55, next to Aquamarin School, 8 am to 12 noon.

• **Marshe di Kunukeru (Farmers' Market) Last Saturday of the month** at Pakus di Pruga (Animal Shelter's Garage Sale-see below), 8 am-noon

• **Bonaire Animal Shelter's "Garage Sale" Pakus di Pruga—every Saturday,** 8am-5pm. At Kaminda Liberador Simon Bolivar, across from Brandaris Café. Tel. 717-4989

• **Wine Tasting at Antillean Wine Company's warehouse** on Kaya Industria, **Second Saturday of the month,** 7-9 pm. (Always call to make sure it's on: Tel. 560-7539.) Snacks and tasting of six wines for \$10 per person.

• **Soldachi Tours—See the real Bonaire and be transported back in time.** Learn about the history, culture and nature by Bonaireans from Rincon. Call Maria Koeks for more information—796-7870.

• **Petanque- Jeu de Boules,** Saturdays 2:30 pm Tera Cora ranch. info: 786-0150

Sundays

• **Kunuku Arawak - Music, drinks, local food, dancing,** 10 am—6 pm. Live music starts at 4 pm. Tel.786-7210

Mondays

• **Soldachi Tours of Rincon,** the heart of Bonaire, 9 am-noon. \$20-Call Maria, 717-6435-best island tour value

• **Meet the Captain Night at Captain Don's Habitat Bar—** Get up close and personal with Bonaire's dive pioneer. The Captain will autograph your copy of his newest book Reef Windows.

Tuesdays

• **Chez Nous Restaurant—**Multi-course dinner prepared by students, under direction of teachers, \$20. At the high school. Reservations mandatory 700-4628

Wednesdays

• **Chez Nous Restaurant –**Multi-course lunch, about \$12, at the high school. Reservations mandatory 700-4628.

• **Ben & Harrie Acoustic Guitar Duo** at Spice Beach Club, 6-9 pm, Eden Beach

Fridays

• **Happy Hour Crafts Market at Wilhelmmina Park,** sponsored by Bonaire Arts and Crafts Association. 5-9 pm.

FREE SLIDE/VIDEO SHOWS

Monday -- Touch the Sea -- Dee Scarr, honored as a member of the Women Divers Hall of Fame conducts Bonaire's Touch the Sea programs of personalized dive guiding. She presents a unique perspective on critters and corals, plus an updated Bonaire lionfish report, every Monday **when she's on-island** at 8:30 pm in the Aquarius Conference Center at Captain Don's Habitat, Call 717-8290.

Wednesday - Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire (STCB) presents an informative slide show: *Sea Turtles of Bonaire*, at 8pm, every **2nd and 4th Wednesday** in the conference room at Captain Don's Habitat (717-8290)

BONAIRE'S TRADITIONS

• **Mangasina di Rei, Rincon.** Enjoy the view from "The King's Storehouse." Learn about Bonaire's culture. Visit homes from the 17th century. Daily. Call 717-4060/790-2018

• **Bonaire Museum** on Kaya J. v.d. Ree, behind the Catholic Church in town. Open weekdays from 8 am-noon, 1:30-5 pm. Tel. 717-8868

• **Washington-Slagbaai National Park Museum and Visitors' Center.** Open daily 8 am-5 pm. Closed on December 25th and January 1st. Call 788 - 9015 or 796 - 5681

CLUBS and MEETINGS

• **AA meetings -** every Wednesday at 7pm. Phone: 790-7001 and 796-4931

• **Al-Anon meetings -** every Thursday evening at 7.30pm. Call 700-7751 or 701-8728

• **Darts Club** plays every other Sunday at City Café. Registration at 4, games at 5. Tel. 717-2950, 560-7539.

• **JCI - First Wednesday of the Month-** Junior Chamber International Bonaire (JCI Bonaire, formerly known as Bonaire Jaycees) meets at the ABVO building, Kaminda Jato Baco 36 from 7:30 to 9:30 pm. Everyone welcome. Contact: Renata Domacassé 516-4252.

• **Kiwanis Club** meets at APNA Plaza, Kaya International, every other Tues-

day, 7 pm. Tel. 717-5595, Jeannette Rodriguez.

• **Lions Club** meets every **2nd and 4th Thursday** of the month at 8 pm at Kaya Sabana #1. All Lions welcome. For more information call 510-0710.

• **Rotary** lunch meetings **Wednesdays,** 12:15-2 pm - Divi Flamingo Beach Resort in Peter Hughes meeting room upstairs above the dive shop. All Rotarians welcome. Tel. 785-0046.

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

CHURCH SERVICES

• **Protestant Congregation of Bonaire:** (VPGB), Kralendijk, Plasa Wilhelmmina; Sunday service; 10 a.m. in Dutch

Rincon, Kaya C.D. Crestian; Sunday service; 8:30 am in Papiamentu/Dutch Children's club, every Saturday from 4:30 till 6 pm in Kralendijk,(annex of the church.) Contact; Marytjin@gmail.com or Daisycoffie@hotmail.com

• **International Bible Church,** Kaya Papago 104, Hato, behind Bon Fysio/Bon Bida Spa & Gym on Kaya Gob. N. Debrot. Sunday 9:00 am Worship service in English; 10:45 am Sunday school for all ages. Tuesday 7:30 pm Adult bible study class. 717-8377 for more info or ride bonaireibc@yahoo.com

• **Catholic: San Bernardus in Kralendijk** – Services, Sunday at 8 am and 7 pm in Papiamentu, 717-8304.

• **Our Lady of Coromoto in Antriol,** Saturday at 6 pm in English. Mass in Papiamentu on Sunday at 9 am and 6 pm. 717-4211.

• **Assembly of God (Asemblea di Dios):** Kaya Triton (Den Cheffi). In English, Dutch & Papiamentu on Sunday at 10 am. Wednesday Prayer Meeting at **7:30 pm.** 717-2194

• **Ministerio di Kristu Hesus** Services Sunday mornings at 10 am at Jong Bonaire Youth Center in English, Dutch and Papiamentu. Preaching the full gospel. Contact: 786-2557.

• **Prayer and Intercession Church, in English. A full Gospel Church** located temporarily at Kaya Alexandrit # 20, Santa Barbara, Republiek. Services are held Sunday mornings 10am to 11:30am. Bible studies in English on Monday nights from 7 to 8 pm. Contact: 717-3322

Who's Who on The Bonaire Reporter

Take The Reporter Home—1-year subscription: By mail to US \$75; By mail to Europe \$170. By Internet, Free (asking a \$35 donation.) For information about subscriptions, stories or advertising in **The Bonaire Reporter**, PO Box 407, Bonaire, Dutch Caribbean; phone (599) 786-6518, 786-6125, E-mail: info@bonairereporter.com

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Pet of the Week

This is a special alert.

This lovely black and white spaniel, Viola, needs to find a loving owner fast. She's a darling pup of only about six months old, but she's a "people dog," not a "dog's dog." Consequently she would be so much happier living with an appreciative owner, rather than in a pen at the Bonaire Animal Shelter with other more rambunctious dogs. She's more of a lady. Her previous owner, who had to leave the island to go back to the Dominican Republic, obviously treated her well and cared for her, as she looks beautifully groomed. Of course, Viola is in perfect health and has been examined by the vet. The adoption fee includes all that, plus sterilization and even an identity chip so that she can be identified even if she is lost. You may meet Viola at the Shelter on the Lagoen Road, open Monday through Saturday, 9 am to 1 pm and 3 to 5 pm. Tel. 717-4989.

WWW.BonaireAnimalShelter.com.



Viola and Heleen

SHELTER NEWS

Can you help as a volunteer, especially in the Cat Cage? Since three of the current volunteers had to leave there's a big empty space and need for volunteers. Why volunteer? According to some who work at the Shelter: "There's no need for Prozac if you take care of cats. They put a smile on your face and make you happy!" And that's the way others have felt who've worked at the Shelter – sometimes for years - until they had to quit for health reasons or because they had to leave the island. You may be assured that your life will be enhanced by these comical and entertaining little creatures.

CAT CRISIS – TOO MANY CATS.

So many kittens have been brought into the Shelter lately or dropped off in the *Kousa di Bestia* (animal cage outside the Shelter). We do love them all, but when there are too many it's a problem. The Shelter can accommodate only 25 cats – comfortably, safely, and health wise. So there's a campaign to **Neuter Your Cat – For Free**. Just bring it into the Shelter and they'll take care of the sterilization, at no charge to you. If you have cats that just stop by, bring them in too. The Shelter would like to "close the barn door" (sterilize the cats) "before the horse gets out" (before the cat gets pregnant) ■

Laura DeSalvo

Did You Know...

<http://www.tnaqua.org/OurAnimals/Invertebrates/Cuttlefish.aspx>



Research is being done to mimic marine animal camouflage for high tech materials

Scientists are in the process of looking at the camouflage of different marine animals, and are trying to mimic it for human use. Two scientists in the United States were awarded a large grant from the Office of Naval Research to develop materials that can mimic the ability of marine animals such as cephalopods to camouflage themselves. Cephalopods are invertebrates that include cuttlefish, octopuses, and squid. Cephalopod skin contains opsins, a type of light sensing protein that functions in the eyes and allows the animal, such as a cuttlefish, to instantly change its skin color and pattern in order to communicate with other cuttlefish or to hide from predators. Scientists call it 'smart skin' and are trying to mimic the protein in the cepha-

lopods by looking at how the protein receives light and transfers the visual signals to the skin. It will take time, but the final goal of the research is to develop materials that will allow soldiers and equipment to camouflage with any background. ■ *Abbey Elmer, Edited by Caren Eckrich*

Abbey Elmer is an environmental science major at Drake University in the United States and studied abroad during the spring 2012 semester at the CIEE Research Station in Bonaire. She loves the island of Bonaire and hopes to return to do research here.



NEW COLLECTION

UNITED COLORS OF BENETTON.

Kaya Grandi 29 | Kralendijk | Bonaire | T. 717 5107

The Bonaire Animal Shelter second hand store needs donations of household items, appliances, clothes, furniture, and anything else you want to get rid of. Call Paul at 787-0466 or Dabney at 717-3949 to arrange for them to pick up your donations.

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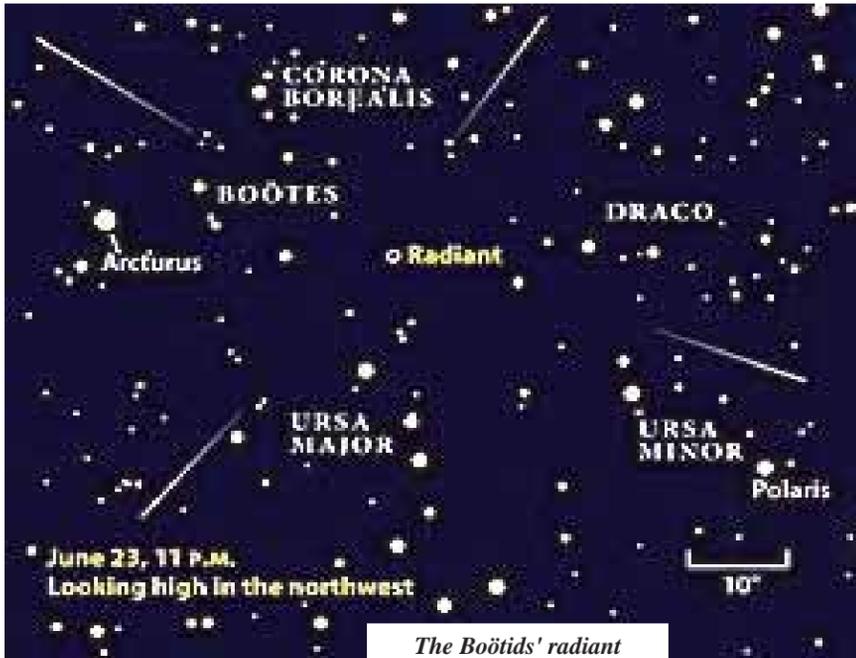
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BONAIRE SKY PARK*

*to find it... just look up

SYZYGY AND METEORS



The Boötids' radiant

Sky Park visitors got to see syzygy in action—the alignment of the Sun and Earth with a third celestial object—which ranks among the favorites of many astronomy enthusiasts. On June 4th they saw Venus pass between the Sun and Earth. This was Venus' second solar transit in the past eight years, but the last one until 2117. Observers nearly everywhere except eastern South America and western Africa could watch at least part of this rare and historic event.

Following the transit, Venus moves into the morning sky and pairs with Jupiter in some spectacular predawn scenes. The evening sky has its own charm, with Mercury on display during twilight and Mars and Saturn prominent after darkness falls. Meanwhile, Pluto reaches opposition and peak visibility, in late June. Although you will need a telescope to see the distant world, its position near a relatively bright star makes the task of finding it a bit easier than usual.

June 21st marks the morning of the June solstice, the start of summer north of the equator.

The Boötid meteor shower could put on a nice show June 23. The moon is just past new phase and the sky will be dark for most of the night.

Streaking swiftly across the sky, motes of dust burn up as meteors. Although Earth constantly sweeps up interplanetary dust, our planet runs through a slightly denser trail this month. Named after the constellation from which the meteors appear to radiate, the Boötids peak June 23, three days before the Moon reaches its full phase.

The northern constellation Boötes, the Herdsman is easy to find because the brilliant orange star Arcturus, marks its base. Arcturus ranks fourth-brightest of all nighttime stars. To find it, first find the Big Dipper, and follow the curve of the Dipper's handle away from the Dipper to dazzling Arcturus.

The radiant—the point in the sky where the meteors seem to come from—lies about 30° (one-sixth of the way

across the sky) north-northeast of Arcturus. The Boötids' radiant (above chart) is in the northern sky early in the evening and high in the northwest at midnight. The highest hourly rates occur a few hours before dawn. The predawn hours offer the best viewing because that's when our location will face Earth's direction of travel. In essence, Earth will be running into the meteors.

The Boötids shower usually is a weak one, with rates around 10 meteors per hour, but it has been strong at times. One such outburst happened June 27, 1998. Skywatchers observed hundreds of meteors streaming out of Boötes over a few-hour period. Earth had encountered a denser part of the meteoroid stream. The years 1916, 1921, and 1927 also saw meteor activity way above normal. More recently, another nice display occurred in 2004.

INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT METEORS

Most visible meteors lie within 120 miles (200 kilometers) of an observer.

Meteors become visible at an average height of 55 miles (90 km). Nearly all burn up before they reach an altitude of 50 miles (80 km).

No known meteorite has been associated with a meteor shower. (That is, no shower meteor has ever survived its flight through the atmosphere and been recovered.)

The typical bright meteor is produced by a particle, with a mass less than 1 gram and with a size no larger than a pea.

The average total mass of meteoritic material entering the Earth's atmosphere is estimated to be between 100 and 1,000 tons (91,000 and 910,000 kilograms) per day.

The hourly rate on a "non-shower" night, is approximately six meteors per hour.

A meteoroid enters the atmosphere at velocities between 25,000 and 165,000 mph (40,300 and 265,000 km/h). ■

Michael E. Bakich

Horoscopes 2012

June

Aries (Mar. 21- April 20) New interests, projects, and learning endeavors are featured in June, dear Aries, and these may come about due to professional pressures or challenges. Career shifts can be sudden. More contact with family, siblings, and friends is pleasurable and helpful. This month, you begin a year-long trend in which teaching, authoring, and communications in general can bring great benefits to your life. Your work could involve more short trips or commuting, or you might work more heavily in the communications industry. Look for opportunities to expand your knowledge and skills set.

Taurus (Apr. 21- May 21) This month, you begin a year-long trend that brings more oomph to your earning power, dear Taurus. A significant gift or bonus may come your way. This is a good time to work with financial institutions, go for a raise, or apply for a loan. You may need to curb an inclination to overspend, however. You have opportunities to increase your income through education, travel, or by expanding your reach/audience in business during this period. This month, some backtracking is necessary. After the 27th, you're ready to push your plans forward.

Gemini (May 22-June 21) This month, you begin a fabulous year-long trend this month that boosts your self-confidence and brings personal opportunities to advance into your life, dear Gemini. It can be easier to find a close relationship, and for partnered Geminis, a partner has their best interests at heart and is especially supportive. Problems that have been holding you back in the past, are likely to lift in the year ahead. It's not the best month for lending money or collecting on loans.

Cancer (June 22-July 22) Your private life is especially animated in June, dear Cancer. You are beginning a year-long trend that brings great benefits from helping others, volunteering, and other forms of service. Spirituality is strong and your innate compassion is highlighted. However, you could experience conflict between the demands of a partnership and the demands of career this month. Finding a balance between the two, instead of pushing or rebelling against either, is the challenge now.

Leo (July 23-Aug 22) This month, you are beginning a year-long trend that brings great energy and many benefits to your social life, dear Leo. Wonderful opportunities can arise for new friendships and through current friends and connections. Some of you may find romance through friends, groups, and associates. Some might bring creative energy or skills to a group setting. However, some drama is likely with a friend this month, which is likely to be resolved after the 27th. Romance is emotionally-charged and exciting in June.

Virgo (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) Although career matters can be tricky this month, dear Virgo, you're beginning a year-long trend that will boost your professional life, and your reputation, to new heights. This can be a time of career advancement and success in business. Business-related travel or the reaching of a wider audience is possible during this cycle. Your status is set to change for the better, and a family member could receive an honor. However, this month you may be dealing with temporary problems with cash flow. A romantic relationship

can be difficult to define.

Libra (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) You are beginning a year-long trend in which opportunities to travel, study, and otherwise expand your personal horizons are likely to present themselves, dear Libra. Teaching, writing, publishing, promotional activities, travel, legal matters, and studying are all well-starred in the period ahead. However, this month you could be facing some challenges balancing the needs of a partnership and the demands of family. You can be pulled in many different directions with less time to pursue your own personal goals. Tame restlessness and tend to your responsibilities as best as you can.

Scorpio (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) You are beginning a year-long trend that brings more support from others, financial gain, and stronger opportunities to grow a deep relationship, dear Scorpio. Your sense of security or wealth can increase through a relationship with a partner. Sources of income might also come through counseling work or the handling of others' finances and resources. This month, however, your schedule may be hectic, particularly on a social level, and there can be some challenges organizing your finances. **Sagittarius**

(Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) This month, avoid risky financial moves, dear Sagittarius. Unsettled money matters may need your attention now. While close relationships can be tricky until after the 27th, you are beginning a year-long trend that brings great energy for forming or enhancing warm close relationships and partnerships, whether personal or business-related. Good publicity may come your way. Resolutions are likely to be found for long-standing problems in relationships.

Capricorn (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) While work can involve some minor frustrations until after the 27th, dear Capricorn, you are beginning a year-long trend in which you can improve your working life considerably. Work tends to be very available to you, and possibly too available at times, so that you may have to choose between alternatives or you could take on too much. Overall, however, work is likely to be very rewarding. As well, health is likely to improve in the year ahead. Home life may be unsettled in June, but should calm down by July.

Aquarius (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) While your romantic life may be on the tricky side until after the 27th, dear Aquarius, you are beginning a year-long trend that brings wonderful opportunities to boost your social life, explore your creativity, and find new avenues for entertainment and self-expression. For some of you, a friend could turn into a romantic partner, or could introduce you to one during this cycle. Even so, watch for a tendency to misplace your faith in someone this month.

Pisces (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) You are beginning a year-long cycle in which your home life is set to improve considerably, dear Pisces. You may be working from home, with family, or in real estate and domestic fields during this cycle. While it's a strong cycle in which to invest in real estate and in your home, this month, idealism may cloud your judgment. There may be some tense undercurrents or conflicts over money that disrupt a friendship in June. Relationships are lively and moving forward. From the 19th forward, romance and recreation figure strongly. ■ Baldev Bhatia

Centrally located home in quiet neighborhood



Kralendijk, Bonaire Exclusief 1

This home is centrally located at the outskirts of the well renowned park Bonaire Exclusief and offers a fulltime island life here on Bonaire or if you choose great rental possibilities for some extra income. Relax in the shade, enjoy the cool refreshing breezes or soak up the sun along the swimming pool deck. Lay out: entrance via covered porch with screens, sliding doors open to the living room with open kitchen, master bedroom with en suite bathroom, guest bedroom, bathroom, completely landscaped garden. Storage/laundry room which could be converted into third bedroom. Communal pool at the Bonaire exclusief Park (part of the Home Owners Association). Lot size: 6,240 ft² (580m²). Living area: 1,452 ft (135m²)



**Asking price US\$ 246,000
including inventory**

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