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**BONAIRE**

May 19-June 9, 2014 -Year 21, Issue 11

# The REPORTER

**BES Island News Too**

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## Kibrahacha Bloom After Rain

Plus  
25 years

**JibeCity**

Pages 10-11

The Papiamentu name of the Yellow Poui (*Tabebuia billbergii*) tree "Kibrahacha" has its origin in the very hard wood of this tree. The wood is so hard that the ax (hacha) will break (kibra) on it. After months without rain, the first showers of the short rainy season fall, this tree envelops itself within three days in a cloud of bright yellow flowers. The yellow blooms are all the more conspicuous because most of the other plants are still leafless. The bloom does not last long; after three days the flowers drop off and only then the tree starts growing leaves.

Herman van Leeuwen photo

# Flotsam and Jetsam

## BOINAIRE The REPORTER



First MD-80 landing in 2002

Last week Peter Hartman, Vice-Chairman of KLM/Air France, made a convincing proposal to use Dutch Caribbean airports as a gateway between the Netherlands and Latin America airports. Bonaire's Executive Council issued a statement supporting his proposal and brought forward the advantages that Bonaire offers as a hub as well as the social and economic benefits that the island would gain under that arrangement. Hartman believes other Dutch businesses, like ArkeFly, Schiphol Airport and others could cooperate and invest in the project. On June 2, 2002, KLM used Bonaire as a very successful route hub for its flights to Lima and Quito. It sparked an economic revival on Bonaire that continues to this day. The route was discontinued a few years ago because of the availability of longer range airplanes in the KLM fleet.



Peter Hartman is vice-chairman of the AIR FRANCE KLM Group and holds a seat on the Board of Directors. He was replaced by Camiel Eurlings as President & CEO of KLM Royal Dutch Airlines. The KLM Board of Managing Directors will consist of Pieter Elbers, Erik Varwijk and Camiel Eurlings. KLM was founded in 1919, making it the world's oldest airline still operating under its original name. Mr. Eurlings was on hand last Sunday for the opening of

the new Executive Lounge at Flamingo Airport run by Moreno Binelli.

On Tuesday, May 6, Ramonsito T. Booi was sworn in as a member of the Bonaire Island Council. It marked his return to politics following two previous retirements and exoneration of corruption charges leveled against him. His reappearance on the political stage comes at a time important to the future governmental structure of Bonaire and strong challenges to his UPB party from rival parties. Booi replaced Councilwoman Milena Winklaar who stepped down to resume her studies. He was sworn in by interim Governor Edison Rijna in the new Island Council chambers.



The International Air Transport Association (IATA) called on the Venezuelan government to urgently honor its commitment made in March to permit the repatriation of \$3.9 billion of airline funds at fair exchange rates. The funds are from sales of airline tickets in Venezuela and are being held in contravention of international treaties. So far Venezuela has reneged on its latest promises to pay up.

A total of 24 airlines are affected by the Venezuelan currency controls. Blocked funds stand at \$3.9 billion. Within the past year, 11 of the 24 airlines operating in Venezuela have reduced operations between 15% and 78% while several have stopped flying to the country altogether. Aruba's Tiara Air seems about to collapse.

The Second Chamber of the Dutch Parliament is questioning the plan to

take away the voting right of foreigners resident in the BES Islands. The Socialist Party considers it "desirable" that non-Dutch citizens retain voting rights for the local Island Council, "just as non-Dutch residents in the European part of our country have voting rights for the municipal councils." The party pointed out that the Island Council, after all, was the only political representation of the local community and that on this local level, non-Dutch citizens have a right to cast their vote.

THE HAGUE--The Dutch Inspector of Education is generally positive about the improvements that have been made in primary education in Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba, but is concerned about lack of progress in some areas. The results for arithmetic and mathematics have shown an advance, but the results for Dutch are severely behind and this is not expected to change soon, the Inspector added.

THE HAGUE--Former Governor of Curaçao and the Netherlands Antilles, Frits Goedgedrag; former President of the Second Chamber of the Dutch Parliament, Gerdi Verbeet; and former Dutch Minister of Economic Affairs, Laurens Jan Brinkhorst will help to select a new National Government Representative (Rijkvertegenwoordiger) for Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba.

The candidate will succeed Wilbert Stolte in early July this year. The selection committee will assist the ministry in the process. The Executive Councils of the islands will also be consulted prior to the appointment. The candidate selected should speak fluent Dutch and English, and, if possible, Papiamentu. Being Dutch is a requirement.

The Rijkvertegenwoordiger will have an official residence in Bonaire and will be paid €9,098.26 (\$12,461.89) per month or (149,542.68 per year).

The Dutch Caribbean Police Force (KPCN) held information sessions last week to solicit candidates for the two-year training for police officers scheduled to begin in October. The theme of this campaign is "You have the guts? We have the job."

On Bonaire approximately 100 persons attended the event which included a PowerPoint presentation: procedures, functions, requirements, training and the terms of employment.

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*Flotsam and Jetsam (Continued from page 2)*

During the information sessions KPCN officials stressed that team spirit, flexibility, integrity, stress resistance, drive and perseverance are the main qualities the Police Force is looking for. Persons attending the meetings were afforded the opportunity to ask questions. The deadline for application was Friday, May 16.



► **GoGreen at Bonaire Basics** (above) is usually a place where people go to enjoy a vegetarian lunch. But last month it was the scene of something special – an art exhibition and sale featuring the paintings of Angelika Winsberg opened by Tina's husband, Achim Exner. Because of its success Tina Woodley, owner of GoGreen, will repeat the event on Saturday, **May 31<sup>st</sup> at 5pm.** Again there will be tasty snacks and natural organic wines. The open house *finissage* will also feature a discount of 30% on large paintings.

► **Henry Hambeukers will be the next Chief Public Prosecutor** (*hoofd officier van justitie*) for Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba. The Kingdom Council of Min-

isters approved his appointment. Hambeukers has been serving as a Public Prosecutor at the Prosecutor's Office of the BES Islands since August 1, 2013. He will succeed the current Chief Prosecutor David van Delft on July 1, 2014.

The Kingdom Council of Ministers also approved the appointment of three members of the Dutch Caribbean's Joint Court of Justice. **All new members are female judges.**



*Eric Gietman of Cadushy with Nathania Velasquez and Paul Sewtahalsing*

► Every season the Cadushy Distillery awards the **best performing tour guides of the past cruise season.** Every tour guide and other service staff for the cruise tours who visit the distillery has a chance to win.

**Nathania Velasquez and Paul Sewtahalsing**, both working for Bonaire Destination Services, were chosen this year by the Cadushy team.

On the last day of this season they received their award, a Magnum bottle of Cadushy of Bonaire Liqueur, from the



► **Getting Ready For the Washington Park Open House:** The sunset hike to the top of Mt. Brandaris in Washington Park on May 3rd was a successful warm up to the **open day festivities on June 1st.** Twenty people were guided by two Washington Park rangers to the top to watch the sun set, then down again, but this time in the dark using flashlights to show the way. Everybody was back safely at the Park entrance by 8 o'clock.

On **May 25** the next "Hike the Brandaris at sunset" will take place; this one is already fully booked. More hikes to the top of the Brandaris will be organized after the festivities on June 1st.

Rotary also had their annual Rotarally at Washington Park with registration at Playa Chikitu. A total of 55 cars finished the race. At the end of the day a BBQ was held for the participants at the Park entrance.

**June 1st is the big open house festival** and everyone is invited. It's still free too, celebrating Washington Park's 45th anniversary. Other open house activities include new hikes on recently opened routes, local food and beverages and of course lots of music.

owner of the Cadushy Distillery, **Eric Gietman.**

► **Water & Electricity Bonaire (WEB) in collaboration with General Electric installed a new sea water desalination plant** in Hato. The need to produce more drinking water from sea-

water is the result of a growing population, additional tourists, increased economic activity and more calls from cruise ships who also take on water during their visit. The government-owned local utility company's Chief Executive Officer (CEO) **Alfredo Koolman** said that despite

(Continued on page 17)

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# On The Island Since...February 5th, 2012 - Mariëlle van Overmeeren

"I lived in Amsterdam and I was ready for a new challenge when I read an article in a newsletter at work written by Cecile Gijsbers-Van Wijk, a psychiatrist. She was posted on Bonaire for six months to set up PAAZ, (general hospital psychiatric ward) the admission ward on Bonaire. In her article about the project she made an appeal to professionals to come and help.

I was 24 years old and a psychiatric nurse, working at a psychiatric hospital in Amsterdam. It wasn't what I had



Mariëlle van Overmeeren

planned for, because my long-time dream had been to become a pediatrician and work for Doctors Without Borders. However, the preparatory studies seemed too long and too hard, so I chose a higher professional education in nursing. During my training I was introduced to psychiatric care. After I'd done an internship a new world opened up for me, because psychiatric care involves the whole person – not just the problem. In psychiatry you guide and support the client in every way in order to increase the quality of their life. I did my internship at the Psychiatric Center Surinam in Surinam and I graduated there. Back in Holland I worked for two years at GGZ in Geest, a psychiatric hospital. Then I read the article where the psychiatrist was looking for professionals for Bonaire.

I wrote a letter to the psychiatrist who came to Holland for Christmas and she invited me for an interview. There was an instant click. Of course I was young, but my experience in psychiatry in another culture and my motivation and passion made the decision.

I came here on February 5th, 2012, for six months. My first impressions were that the people were very nice, that psychiatric care was fragmented, but there was a hospital and it looked good... I only saw challenges.

Lots of things happened that first half year, but very little considering the PAAZ project, except that the first construction stone was virtually placed in the presence of the minister, Edith Schippers.

I was mainly engaged in setting up outpatient psychiatry because the construction of the PAAZ was postponed over and over again. There were two psychiatric nurses working at the former Health and Hygiene Service, Ariola and Ruth, who were covering the whole island. There was one person, Marceline, who was manning the former Addiction Care Bonaire. These two services merged and became SVPCN – Addiction Care and Psychiatry Dutch Caribbean. This is a foundation with the board located in Holland. Mrs. Gijbers-Van Wijk, the psychiatrist, wrote a plan for all psychiatry, not only the PAAZ, but also for outpatient and ambulatory. When the PAAZ building has been built, SVPCN in cooperation with Fundashon Mariadal will be housed there and

together they will cover the psychiatric care on Bonaire. That's the plan for the future.

I really liked it here, and as the psychiatrists were coming and going, I was the constant factor and taking care of the continuity at the hospital. I'd come here alone but I was lucky to find Tanja who became my best friend and I could share everything with her. I lived in Belnem and I

**“ When you're working here at the hospital--especially in ambulatory care at the people's homes – then you see what life on Bonaire is really about”**

only went around with other temps, mostly colleagues from the hospital. However, I started taking Salsa classes immediately to get to know people outside the hospital.”

*She laughs.* “I was already a fairly good Salsa dancer, but it was a good way to make friends. Almost every Friday I went to happy hour at Divi Flamingo and sometimes on Wednesdays I'd go the movies at Caribbean Chill-Out. And I went out for dinner all the time. Boy... did I eat those first six months! Ha ha ha! But I also learned how to dive and I loved it. The underwater world is fascinating and beautiful, but as I am always on stand-by to fly, I cannot do it too often. It doesn't happen often, but because there is no clinical admission for psychiatric patients, the clients are flown to Curacao or Aruba and I always go with them.

After the first half year I decided to stay another six months, but in between I went back to Holland to work for six weeks. After only three days there I was shocked to see that because of all the government cutbacks people couldn't put their hearts into their work anymore as there was no time for it. During that period also I realized I wasn't going to leave Bonaire until

the project that I'd come for was established and... it began to dawn on me that Bonaire had already settled itself deep in my heart.

Well, after the second half year I told my superiors I would love to get the chance to be posted here for another year, so I could finish what I had in Holland in order to become a resident here. I got permission, but my house in Holland – a top-studio in Amsterdam-North right across from the Central Station (anybody?) – has not been sold. I was lucky to find tenants, so the mortgage payments are covered.

So, I was still posted and working partially for the hospital and partially for SVPCN. However, since October I only work for the hospital as the consultative psychiatric nurse. That means that when there are psychiatric problems in the different wards, I can be consulted on how to handle it or to find out where the behavior comes from. That's the present situation and I am happy with it because it makes my position clear.

In March I was hired by Mariadal and I couldn't be happier. I'm not a temp anymore. It didn't feel good anyway. I felt strange, a rich *makamba* among my local colleagues. It screws up relationships because I had a car, a good house and a great salary, while they were doing the same job for much less. Also, there is a lot of poverty on Bonaire and when you are in such a privileged position it creates a big gap between you and the local people around you. Now I'm living in Antriol; perfect!

When you're working here at the hospital- especially in ambulatory care at the people's homes – then you see what life on Bonaire is really about. Then you get to know the island and its people and the situation they are in. I think there's a very large group of Dutch people who really have no idea what's going on here.

As I said, I always wanted to work in another country for Doctors Without Borders, and now I am here. There are plenty of challenges professionally. A lot has been accomplished already, but the PAAZ is still not here. However, they did start on the construction and in about a year's time the ward will be established and that will open a whole lot of new possibilities.

Also, psychiatry on the island is still a huge taboo. It's not much different in Holland when you really come to it, but here it is also culture-bound. One should realize though, that we're talking about people who are sick, and by educating more and more people and other professionals, especially in the hospital, I hope to create



Mariëlle and Alejandro

more understanding for these care recipients.

Nowadays I work alone at the hospital. Of course there is the psychiatrist, but it is always somebody new. My colleagues of SVPCN are working at a location on Kaya Korona. Although I am 'alone,' I am confident because I am relying on my capabilities, but of course there are moments when I miss my direct colleagues and that's why I am so looking forward to the PAAZ.

Considering Bonaire: You love it or you don't. I love it! I love island life - not being lived by time and an agenda and able to enjoy the simple things. The people are friendly and they say hello to you in the street and they have respect for each other. The only reason I would leave here would be if I couldn't grow anymore – personally and professionally.

I do speak Papiamentu – it's a must to be able to do my work, but in the future I also want to learn Spanish. I'm still dancing, every Thursday, technically I might not be the best, but I'm laughing, I'm enjoying it so much... when I dance I'm free!

Also, I'm no longer alone. It's funny but I always had the feeling that once I was settled here, I would meet my man, and that's what happened. Alejandro and I are very happy!

I've learned a lot on Bonaire. I can be alone, I am very independent and passionate considering my job, and now I have someone to share it with. I don't know where life will take me, but for now I'm good.”■

Story & photos by Greta Kooistra



# Restaurants of Bonaire

"SWEET HOME ITALIANA.  
WHERE THE FARE IS FAR BETTER THAN  
FAIR.  
SWEET HOME ITALIANA.  
OH LORD, TAKE ME THERE"  
(thanks to Lynyrd Skynyrd for my  
borrowing bits from their refrain).



## Sweet Home Italiana-SONIA HOME

The first time I took notice of SONIA HOME was on my way to the tennis courts, back in January of this year. One of my tennis buddies listed the restaurant as one of her top five choices here. Somehow the spot didn't appeal to me. It's situated a bit off the beaten path, just past the Hato circle, and part of a little strip mall that all but screamed ersatz Dutch village to me.

Then, one fateful afternoon, my husband and I met up with two friends to have a "salady" lunch at SONIA HOME. The owner, Sonia, a charming woman who originates from Milan, embraced my amigos with vigor, and seated us on the outside patio. The chic, sleek and contemporary European style decor appealed definitely to my modern taste, and I folded myself comfortably in the acrylic chair. First order to go out: vino blanco Italiano. Fateful quickly turned into convivial. Our hostess, Luana, also from Italy, explained the ever-changing lunch menu. It offers a smattering of salad choices, pasta, focaccia, and pizza. My friends and I opted for the Dal Mare salad, which boasted fresh tuna, anchovies, croutons, mozzarella, and roasted tomatoes cradled by Romaine leaves. The tuna tasted heavenly with a fresh scent of ocean. Under my hubby's disdainful observation, I blended and chopped all ingredients together into some sort of salad mousse, or a "stamppot" if you will. "That's how the Dutch roll," I clarified.

He selected the Dal Campo salad, which arrived with an assemblage of asparagus, broccoli, sweet peas, pears, croutons, and the wonderful local goat cheese, in generous chunks. He swallowed the whole thing in one gulp it seemed. The goat cheese, however, had already disappeared mysteriously from his plate. He searched for it, but alas, the cheese had ended up with its rightful (Dutch) owner, a true "kaaskop."

Another day, another menu; this time it was just my hub and I venturing out by ourselves to SONIA HOME in the late evening. Selina, the bartender, recommended we drink the house Merlot, and so we did. The amuse bouche, brought to our table by the lovely Luana, consisted of banana chips, thinly sliced zucchini and asparagus drenched in olive oil with a drizzle of poppyseed dressing. I was surprised that something this healthy could be so delicious.

Since my previous experience with the tuna worked out so well, I went for it again. The Tartara di Tonno, which consisted of that afternoon's caught tuna, avocado slivers, confit lime, arugula, and papaya, melted in my mouth, and unfortunately, in my hubby's as well. This dish was lick-your-plate-clean good.

Diving into our pasta plates -- hubster had designated the Spaghetti alla Puttanesca as his entree while I had elected the Risotto Nero, we surfaced quite merrily. The Puttanesca, a typical Southern Italian dish, means literally whore's spaghetti and while this moniker sure sounds alluring, the flavors and fragrance of this dish blew us away. Tomatoes and garlic were simmered with anchovies, capers, olives, and chili to create a perky sauce atop the noodles.

The Risotto Nero, made with squid ink, herbed bread crumbs, yellow bell pepper sauce, and sautéed squid on top, performed a happy dance on my palate. Master chef Antonio Bruni had invented an Italian "Tarantella" of opulence, creaminess, and tanginess. And if that wasn't enough, the Moscato Zabaione, an Italian sweet wine custard, whipped to incorporate bundles of air, served with a berry salad, had the two of us reeling with gluttonous pleasure. We both had to be rolled home, which we managed to do, painfully, in our wagon. I think it grunted under our weight.



Chef Antonio, left, prepares his amazing food in the spotless new kitchen

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Karen Bastiaensen-Gilmour

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# Wetlands and Waterbird Workshops



Participants in the two workshops on wetlands and water birds organized by STINAPA and DCNA .

**STINAPA and DCNA organized a successful workshop that generated a lot of interest from the community.**

Last week there was a workshop on wetlands and water birds that featured hands-on activities, information on the different types of wetlands, plus various techniques on passing the message on to children and adults in our community and also tourists.

The two-day workshop (May 5 and 6) was divided into one group of educators and others involved with children and a second group included nature conservationists, tour guides or people interested in the topic (May 7 and 8). A total of 65 people participated in the workshop.

Judging by comments from the participants the workshop was received very well and there is a lot of interest in attending more of these kinds of workshop in the future. Comments were: "Very well organized...we should get more of this type of information...the community should be proud of the variety of birds we have on this small island."

Michelle Kading, an experienced educator on wetlands and water birds from Canada, and Dr. Lisa Sorenson from Birds Caribbean were lecturers and facilitators for the workshop. Thanks to Rentofun that took care of transportation for the participants during the second part of the workshop. ■ *STINAPA Press release and photos*

## Ship Visit

The modern Dutch navy ship *Zeeland* calls at Bonaire

Recently, the newest Dutch Ocean Patrol Vessel, the *Zeeland*, arrived in Bonaire, to spend a few days getting to know the island and having the island get to know the ship via an open house. Its sleek, modern profile led many to believe it was a rich man's mega yacht.

Bonaire's military veterans' organization, consisting of eight veterans from all branches of the Dutch military service, met the ship and acted as "meeters and greeters," taking the ship personnel around the island and assisting in the open house. President of the veterans group is Theo Knevel, secretary is Robert van Dongen.

There is a warm camaraderie between the "current" and the retired servicemen. Often when they visit, these military personnel are put to work, volunteering in building, planting trees on Klein Bonaire,

cleaning roads, and more heavy work needed to be done by young, strong people.

*Zeeland's* captain, Commander M.J.M. (Giel) Van Horn, explained that the Ocean Patrol Vessels, of which the *Zeeland* is one, is not a war ship, but a patrol ship, specially built for the Caribbean to combat drug running and piracy. Six of these vessels are equivalent to one big warship. Interestingly, on larger ships like a frigate with more than 100 crew, these patrol vessels need only 50 crew; everyone has multiple functions. Enlisted men eat together with officers in the dining room.

Other Dutch ships in this class along with the *Zeeland* are the *Holland*, the *Groningen* and *Friesland*. Two were built in Holland, two in Romania.

The ship itself can go up to 22 knots. It has a cannon and machine guns (which can be operated from

inside the wheelhouse), two 12-meter long RIB auxiliary boats that can accommodate two helmsmen, and a squad of Marines and travel up to 50 knots with their 1,000 horsepower engines. No "go-fast" drug boat can escape. A helicopter on board assists in the chase.

The ship has radar in the mast, an optical system, infrared, 360 degree visibility. It has enough capacity and ability to stay at sea for up to three weeks. It's a ship of this century and the future.

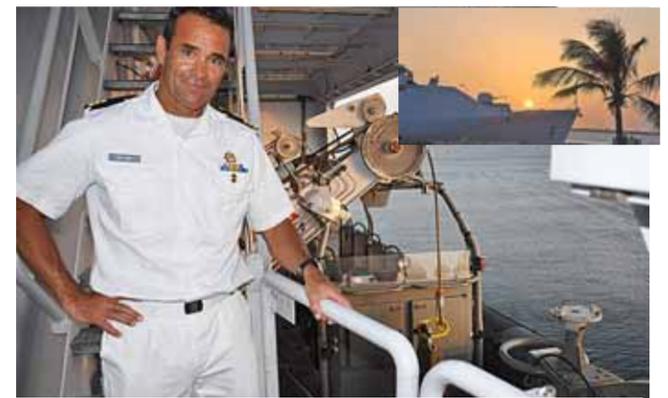
The patrol of the Caribbean is divided in thirds among the Dutch (southern Caribbean up to the Dominican Republic), the French (eastern Caribbean) and the US (northern Caribbean) and they all work together.

Commander Van Horn, previously in command of the familiar patrol vessel, *Panther*, has been with the *Zeeland* from its initial construction in 2010. He was there in the maiden voyage in 2011 as well as when it was deployed in December 2013 and sailed across the Atlantic. ■ *Story & photos by*

*Laura DeSalvo*



Bonaire military veterans and spouses with the captain



*Zeeland's* captain, Commander M.J.M. (Giel) Van Horn with the RIB. Inset: the ship at sunset



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# Word on the Street

# Jazz Festival 2014 Coming!

As usual, following the end of the busy season, **changes occur in the restaurant scene.** For example: Contents of the **Happy Ice** ice cream parlor were sold off a few weeks ago. The **La Luna** restaurant may soon be operated as a bar. And there is a "For Sale" sign on **La Barca** restaurant.

♦ Will the new building just going up a few houses south of **Pasa Bon Pizza**, across from the PWC accounting building, be another Chinese restaurant and supermarket?

♦ A **plague of flies** of almost biblical proportions afflicted parts of Bonaire for over two weeks. There is no official word of the cause, but one old-timer feels it's from the improperly buried corpses of the dozens of donkeys that were euthanized as part of the donkey control initiative

♦ Lack of **Curoil propane gas tanks continues** to be a problem for many local people and restaurants, causing temporary closures. You'd think that with competition from a new gas distribution company arriving soon Curoil would get their act together.

♦ **Shortages of propane continue despite assurances** that the problem is resolved. One of our favorite restaurants had to close last week for lack of gas for its oven.

♦ **Bula commends the local police department** for their timely press releases of break-ins, burglaries, robberies and other crimes (unfortunately, it is pretty much daily). However, rather than just give the street name of the incident, it might be helpful to also include the address or at least the block number (i.e. the 100 block of Kaya Gob. N. Debrot). That way neighbors, tourists and residents can be on guard, take precautions and be on the look out for suspicious

activity as many of these incidents seem to occur repeatedly on the same streets.

♦ **Will Bonaire be subject to the new rules the Dutch cabinet is preparing to further limit the sale and use of fireworks by the public during the New Year festivities?** In the European Netherlands the sale of fireworks will now be restricted to December 30 and 31, rather than December 29. In addition, they may only be set off from 18.00 hours on December 31, rather than 10.00 hours as at present.



♦ **The Venezuelan investigation into the goings-on at BOPEC** is raising a lot of questions. Rumor has it there are a lot of irregularities in its management. Additionally, there is a concern about the structural integrity of three of the large tanks. Any type of tank or tanker spill would be devastating to Bonaire's reef and ecosystem, as evidenced by the lasting effect of the BOPEC fire (photo above) a few years ago on Gotomeer. Can't we find 50 jobs for the current employees and just get BOPEC out of here? That is pretty much the only contribution they make to this island. ■

Bula Bonchi



The 10<sup>th</sup> edition of the Heineken Jazz Festival 2014 is coming. Last year the number of visitors almost doubled with more than 2,000 people visiting the Festival. It was Bonaire's largest musical Festival to date.

The Festival will take place on and August 1 through 3. Due to the ever increasing number of visitors all performances will take place at **Plaza Resort Bonaire**. Opening night will feature **world famous singer Oleta Adams**. This American soul, jazz and pop singer scored several top 10 hits and has appeared with more Tears For Fears. The preliminary program includes **DJ Maestro (with trumpeter Rob van de Wouw)** and from Aruba, the **Charles Brewer Band**, and the English band **Matt Bianco on stage featuring pop with a touch of jazz and Latin**. The band peaked in the mid 80s and is best known for singles like "Whose Side Are You On?" and "Do not Blame It On That Girl" and worked along with Emilio Estefan. The Saturday evening will conclude with the man who four years ago turned Bonaire upside down, **the Prince of Bachata-Frank Reyes**. The talented singer, home-grown **Anne Marie Kors with her band**, is also set to play on Saturday night.

The festival will conclude on Sunday with a performance of **The Original Wailers led by Al Anderson (photo at upper right)** featuring the biggest reggae hits by Bob Marley. Sundays will start with a beach BBQ and a **jam session with local musicians and stars of the festival**. And, last but not least, for Bonaire young people have a special role to play this year. Every night they will can have their own jam session.



The Bonaire Heineken Jazz Festival is organized annually by the Bonaire Jazz Foundation. The foundation has only two sources of income: entrance fees and sponsorship. Sponsorship still plays a major role.

In order to achieve their ambitious plans again this year they lean heavily on the cooperation of business. **Heineken is again this year the title sponsor** of the Festival. The other sponsors will be added over the next few weeks. Joining a company name to the Festival, both for the company and for Bonaire has added value. Promotion for the Festival will be on the website, social media, newspapers, 4-sale, radio, TV, press conferences and through posters and flyers. For more information go to [facebook.com/bonairejazz](http://facebook.com/bonairejazz) or call Ron at +599 717 7220 or +599 701 7594.

Press release

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**I**rwin Spector, left, a frequent visitor to Bonaire for more than 30 years, explains his Bonaire inspired woodcarvings to his surgeon, Dr. Steven Falowski. Mr. Spector was asked to exhibit his artwork by Dr. Falowski at the Polka for Parkinson event at the ArtsQuest Center located at Steel Stack in Bethlehem, PA on April 27. The theme of the event was "The Art of Living with Parkinson's Disease" and featured artists who were dealing with the disease. Mr. Spector was diagnosed with Parkinson's more than 20 years ago.

Mr. Spector was introduced to wood carving about six years ago. Over the past few years his tremors increased and, along with the stiffening of his hands, made it difficult to use his chisels, gouges and knives for his woodcarvings. These problems were a major factor in his decision to go through with a Deep Brain Stimulator (DBS) operation last spring. During the operation Dr. Falowski inserted a stimulator, similar to a pacemaker, that sends electronic signals to an area in the brain that controls movement. Since the operation Mr. Spector's tremors are either very minimal or non-existent. Prior to the operation he was required to take up to 20 pills a day. He is now down to one pill a day.

The operation has allowed Mr. Spector to continue depicting the underwater beauty of Bonaire in his woodcarvings without the limitations Parkinson's was imposing. In 2012 he donated one of his lionfish carvings (inset) to the CIEE Research Station here in Bonaire. ■ *Story & Photo by Alan Zale*

## Picture Yourself In Pikes Peak, Colorado, USA



**J**udy and Jim Kewley, standing, rear, of Colorado Springs, CO, hosted their Bonaire neighbors, Alan and Joan Zale of Hartsdale, NY, and brought them to the top of Pikes Peak located just west of Colorado Springs. Pikes Peak is the easternmost 14,000-foot peak in the US with an altitude of 14,110 feet. It has a 19-mile road with several switchbacks that you drive to get to the top. Alan described the ride up as the most unnerving ride he has ever had as a passenger. There is also the 8.9-mile Pikes Peak Cog Railway that can take you to the top and back. The first ascent of Pikes Peak was in 1820 and in July 1893 inspired Katharine Lee Bates to write the song, "America the Beautiful," after admiring the view from the top. Naturally Joan and Alan just happened to have a copy of *The Bonaire Reporter* with them. Though 14,110 feet is an impressive height for *The Bonaire Reporter* it is not even half the record height achieved by Bonaire resident Dennis Kellner who brought *The Reporter* to the top of Mt. Everest at 29,029 feet. ■

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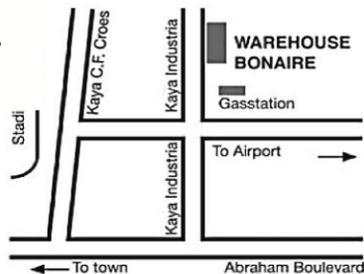


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# The Three-Minute Stop

PART 13 OF THE SERIES,  
DOWN IN THE LAND OF BON BINI

For those of you who do not scuba dive, there is a common procedure that most divers do after ascending at the end of their time underwater. It is called the three-minute stop. In short, divers are recommended to remain at five meters/15 feet for three minutes. This allows nitrogen that builds up in the tissue during a dive to dissipate through the skin. It is also called off gassing, and three minutes of this underwater wait does the trick.

When I first started diving, I found the three-minute stop very boring. I was done, usually a bit cold after an hour or more below, and looked forward to eating my chicken pastiche on the beach. But that soon changed. By hovering in one spot, I finally realized the wonders of the reefs opened up to me. I have seen amazing marine wildlife waiting five meters under—a blushing octopus changing color like a Manhattan stop light, a stingray cruising the bottom in search of food, and a squadron of squid propelling their pink bodies in forward and reverse with fluid ease.

These days I look forward to my three-minute stop. It is a time of wonderment, of contemplation of aquatic beauty, of simply limin' underwater. More than not my stops become four or five minutes long. I lose track of time and that in itself is a good thing.

But back on land no one is off gassing. Life goes on at its normal pace, and recently on Bonaire that is rapidly changing. We have more than 18,000 people living on the island now, and on a double cruise ship day, add 6,000 more to that number. Sometimes *pocopoco* seems like a quaint, nostalgic memory. What is actually happening to the *dushi* Bonaire that we all know and love?

Perhaps the change is most evident on our roads. I have seen more bad behavior behind the wheel lately than I ever witnessed at a New Orleans Mardi Gras. For example, the other day I was cruising along Bulevar Gobernador Debrot at a respectable 30 km/hr clip. I looked back to see an intimidating black Humvee filling my rear view mirror. The oversized SUV, designed for war in Middle East deserts, was tailgating me like a trumpet-fish shadowing a bar jack, like a caracara on a dead iguana, like the BelastingDienst—the tax office, on April 15<sup>th</sup>. Or how about the kids who pop motorcycle-wheelies on Kaya Grandi on a Friday night or day? I understand their need for cheap thrills, but these testosterone tricksters are bound to injure themselves or possibly even a policeman if one can ever be found patrolling the street.

But the most flagrant foul on wheels that I have seen happened last Tuesday at the rotonda near the stadium. A lady was rounding the curve at great speed while texting on her 'smart' phone. I could not see her face since she was looking downward to the cell on her lap. I marveled at the woman's gyroscopic orbiting abilities while simultaneously trembling at the thought of the inevitable crash. To my

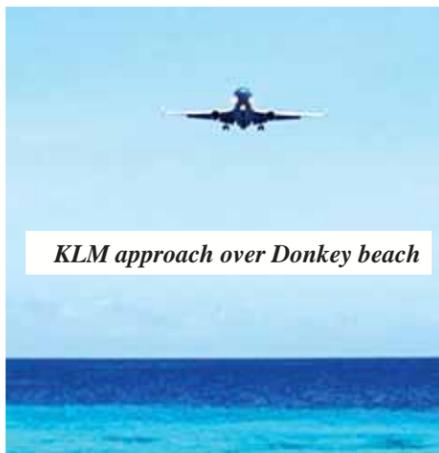


Traffic!

amazement, she looked up just at the time of her exit and sped off down Kaya Industria. Death rides the highways.

Enough of this craziness. I say it is time to stop the carnival and smell the roses, or better yet, the frangipani. Let's indulge in that time tested island concept of *hopi tranquilo* on a regular basis. Here are three, three-minute terrestrial stops that I highly recommend for those who still believe in the powers of chillin'. And they don't cost anything other than spending some time.

Travel north along the Queen's Highway, more commonly called the 'tourist road', to a place called Pos 'I Pia, an old well along the coral escarpment. Walk past the well, head to the base of the cliff and stop and listen. The wind rattles the leaves here, but on most days, you will also hear Pearly-eyed thrashers making their hauntingly beautiful call. The bird's song can transfer you easily back in time if you let your mind wander. It is an enticing three-minute stop that, for me, easily becomes a half hour.



KLM approach over Donkey beach

Closer to town is the ever-popular Donkey Beach. This is a great place to stop in the middle of a busy day to watch the ballyhoo break the water, or if you are lucky, catch a pod of dolphins cruising by. Then there is the adrenalin rush provided by KLM daily. Having an Airbus 330 scream overhead at palm treetop level always makes for an exciting time. OK, this might only be a 30-second stop but whose counting? Game on.

For a nighttime chill, I sometimes go to Gio's for a mango gelato and then walk immediately seaside. My favorite spot is a small bench just south of Karl's Beach Bar. On Friday nights, mariachis often serenade the crowd. But the real payoff is watching the small waves converge at different angles near pier's end under the streetlight glow. It is mesmerizing to

watch the ebb and flow. Add the mango gelato to the mix and this could be the evening's best three-minute stop.

I must confess that I, too, sometimes take the island's natural beauty for granted. That was obvious to me this past January. I had just tied up my sailboat to a mooring so that I could easily stow everything away. I urged my friend Katt, who had just escaped a Montana winter, to take a swim while I got my boat ready to return to the dock. She dove over the side only to come up immediately yelling, "Blue fish! Blue fish! Blue fish!" I looked below five meters. There was a school of blue tang making their way slowly along the sandy bottom. It is something that one can see nearly every day along Bonaire's coast. But Katt made me realize again what a beautiful sight this is. I stopped flaking the sail and watched the tang until they disappeared



"Blue Fish!"

from sight. Thinking back, that probably took about three minutes.

Our growth and subsequent busyness will no doubt continue on the island. But the power of *poco poco* is best not forgotten. There is real personal reward for slowing down the day. Perhaps a bumper sticker that I saw on a car parked on Kaya Proud last week sums it up best. It read, "Don't Hurry. Be Happy." I think singer Bobby McFerrin would agree. ■ Story & photos by Patrick Holian



Taking a three-minute stop



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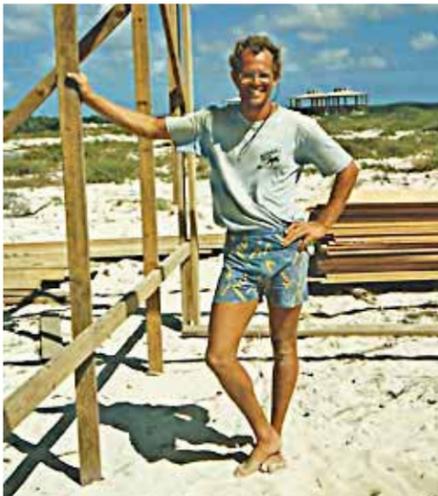
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# JibeCity Serving Windsurfers For 25 Years



In 1989 a young man named **Ernst Van Vliet** (above), originally from Holland, started Jibe City out of the trunk of his car.

Ernst could often be seen windsurfing in Kralendijk, or cruising around Bonaire with surfboards strapped to his car. He did the water sports at the Bonaire Beach Hotel but it was clear to him that Lac Bay had great conditions.

In those days there was only one sailor at Sorobon, **Martin van Beckum**, who built the Sorobon Beach Naturist Resort for **Carl Voght** in the mid 80s. He sailed, all alone, on his Fanatic rat.

In January 1989 Ernst started building his shack: 20 Mistrals and 4 Warriors with North Sails. At first, Jibe City was called "Windsurfing Bonaire." But as the wind



The original Jibe City—electricity came from the windmills, not WEB

conditions are so good to jibe he called it "Jibe City" after "Swell City" in the Gorge in the US.

It was the time of no internet, Facebook or any other social media. There were not many sailors, little money, just some articles in a US magazine, *The Windrider*.

Then Ernst met **Andrew Reppeto** who had a travel agency which also featured diving in Bonaire. That worked well and the windsurfers slowly discovered the amazing conditions of Lac Bay.

In 1994 **Andy Brandt** came to Jibe City. That was a big improvement because through the years his windsurf clinics brought many windsurfers to Bonaire. A lot of guests keep coming back year after year.

In 1998 the first World Cup (PWA) free-

style came to Bonaire and **Tonky Frans** won the event. That was fantastic.

The top of the world Bonaire freestylers still inspire a lot of kids nowadays, the same way as Tonky inspired **Kiri Thode** who won the World Cup last year.

That shack has been transformed over these two decades since Ernst first arrived. But still the true Bonairean dream survives. In recent years there have been even more enhancements, but no matter what you do to it, Jibe City still remains the same laid back, best place in the world to windsurf!

## 25 Year Celebration Program

The weekend of **June 7 and 8** is the main event of the 25-year celebration of Jibe City with races, a fashion show, live

music and much more fun. There will be races with the grown-up oldies at 3 pm on the following days listed below. If you think you cannot do this because it is too long ago...

**Fridays May 23 and 30 - Training with the pros**, 3pm. Pick up Party Bus at 2:30 pm at the Stadium.

**Saturdays May 24, June 1 - Training** at 3 pm with Hang Out's Happy Hour afterwards. Of course everybody is welcome to see old friends and share memories.

**Saturday, June 7 - Morning Race with the kids and the pros**. All kids who windsurf can join. Pick up at the stadium at 8:30 am

Sign up at the Jibe City shop. (No cost) **Saturday, June 7 - Race with the grown up oldies**. Starts 3 pm.

Around 6 pm ceremony followed by BBQ and live music. Cover band "Plane" from Curacao,

Jeroen and friends, like Steve, Eduard and anyone else who wants to join.

**Sunday, June 8- Jibe City's fashion show** - 4:30 pm. With hopefully a presentation of the Windsurf Team and World Champion Kiri if they are on the island.

DJ until around 8 pm.

**Two weeks later** Bonaire will host for the 2014 PWA Free Style World Cup.

More information: Monique van Gorp mo@jibecity.com ■ Story & photos from Monique van Gorp

Continued on next page

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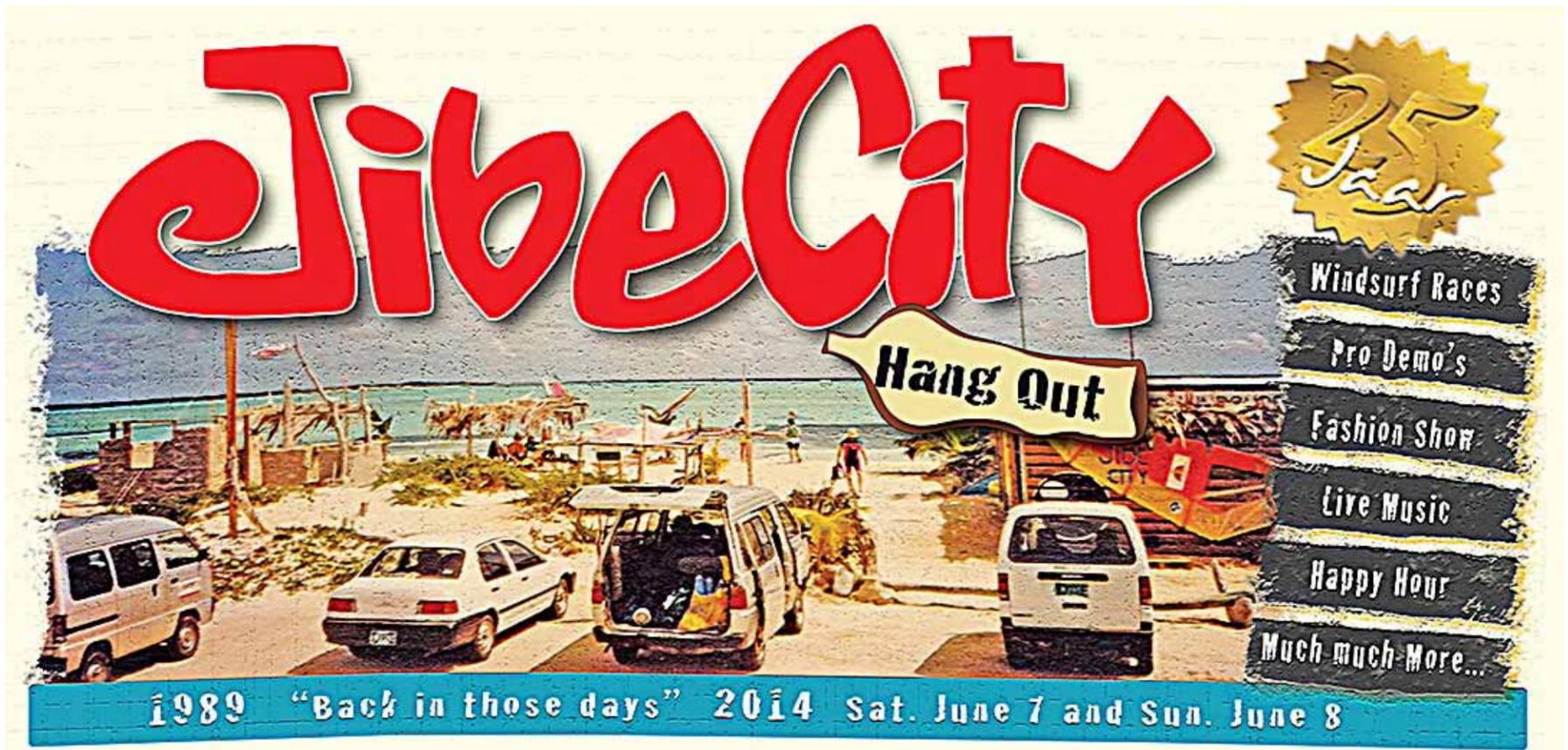
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# Farmers' Market



Get your big fat chickens at the Kriabon Farmers Market on Saturday, May 7. Jonathan Pourier of Rincon sells them and fresh eggs



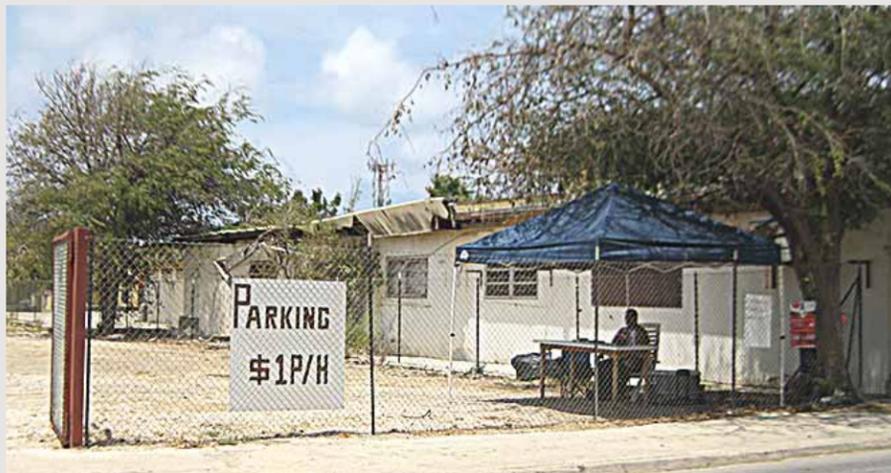
Marcello Emerciana with a cart full of plants for sale

Every first Saturday of the month there is an outdoor Farmers' Market at Kriabon, the farmers' cooperative. The next one will be Saturday, June 7 from 8 am to 1 pm. Buy local, eat local! Be sure and get there early as things sell out quickly. You can find local products, local produce, ornamental plants, crafts, local food and more. Kriabon is at Kaminda Yatu Baku #55, next to the Aquamarin School (up the road from More for less). ■ Story & photos by Laura DeSalvo



Fresh-off-the-plant vegetables for sale from Krusada

## It's NOT Still Free



Paid parking across from the retirement home in Playa. Can parking meters be far behind?

## DID YOU KNOW?



David Fleetham photo

### Lionfish and moray eels are known to associate to feed

That lionfish and moray eels have been found hunting together in the wild? Hunting relationships between organisms of different species like this one can help protect both species from predators as well as increase their chances of finding prey.

Scientists observed the lionfish and moray eels in shallow sea grass meadows in the Gulf of Aqaba, Red Sea, close to Dahab, Egypt. The lionfish wait until they see a moray hunting in the sea grass and then begin to follow them, displaying their spines as they would when hunting on their own. When hunting together, the moray eels are able to startle smaller organisms than the lionfish. Who would have thought, even lionfish can work in teams! ■ Alice Vejins Vejins is an Ecology and Environmental Biology major at the University of Colorado Boulder, currently studying at the CIEE Research Station on Bonaire.



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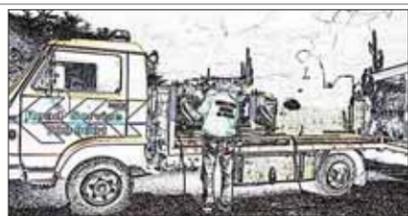
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MISCELLANEOUS



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**For sale: Aluminum lady's bike, Trek Multitrack 7200,** full suspension, Shimano, SRAM grip shifts, Tektro V-brakes, \$400.

**Men's mountain bike, Fuji Appalachian,** Shimano Acera shifts and gears, V-brakes, \$150. +599-796-3637.

[digitalis1956@hotmail.com](mailto:digitalis1956@hotmail.com)

**I For sale: Black Jeep Grand Cherokee,** 2007, 3.7 6-cylinder, fully loaded, 60K miles, \$10,000 +599-796-3637.

[digitalis1956@hotmail.com](mailto:digitalis1956@hotmail.com)

**For Sale: Bera motorcycle, 200cc** single cylinder four stroke, electric start, street legal, black/blue, 1500 km, \$2500, +599 786 7393,

[homicooling@hotmail.com](mailto:homicooling@hotmail.com)



**Pip and Evy...Inseparable lovely couple** well behaved and alert dogs (both female, sterilized, 1.5 and 3 years old) are looking for a new home. Good with kids and used to cats. They love to run and walk with their boss! Do you want to know them better? Please call: 795-0618

**Bonaire-Sun Rise/Set, Moon Phase and Tides**

Day	High	Low	High	Low	High	Sunrise	Sunset
Mon 19	04:10 0.91 ft	12:33 -0.39 ft	18:30 0.38 ft	23:26 0.18 ft		6:10	18:53
Tue 20	05:03 0.84 ft	13:09 -0.38 ft	19:08 0.50 ft			6:10	18:54
Wed 21	L Quarter	00:47 0.16 ft	05:57 0.74 ft	13:44 -0.35 ft	19:48 0.62 ft	6:10	18:54
Thu 22		02:05 0.12 ft	06:52 0.61 ft	14:19 -0.30 ft	20:31 0.73 ft	6:10	18:54
Fri 23		03:22 0.07 ft	07:50 0.47 ft	14:53 -0.24 ft	21:14 0.83 ft	6:10	18:54
Sat 24		04:41 0.01 ft	08:54 0.33 ft	15:26 -0.17 ft	21:59 0.90 ft	6:10	18:55
Sun 25		05:58 -0.06 ft	10:06 0.21 ft	15:57 -0.10 ft	22:44 0.94 ft	6:10	18:55
Mon 26		07:13 -0.13 ft	11:33 0.12 ft	16:26 -0.02 ft	23:30 0.96 ft	6:10	18:55
Tue 27		08:22 -0.20 ft	13:21 0.09 ft	16:48 0.05 ft		6:09	18:56
Wed 28	00:16 0.95 ft	09:23 -0.24 ft	New Moon			6:09	18:56
Thu 29	01:02 0.93 ft	10:15 -0.28 ft				6:09	18:56
Fri 30	01:47 0.89 ft	10:59 -0.29 ft				6:09	18:57
Sat 31	02:30 0.84 ft	11:37 -0.28 ft				6:09	18:57
June Sun 01	03:11 0.79 ft	12:09 -0.27 ft	19:15 0.32 ft	21:28 0.31 ft		6:09	18:57
Mon 02	03:50 0.73 ft	12:36 -0.25 ft	19:18 0.37 ft	22:58 0.32 ft		6:09	18:57
Tue 03	04:29 0.67 ft	12:59 -0.23 ft	19:31 0.42 ft			6:09	18:57
Wed 04		00:14 0.31 ft	05:07 0.60 ft	13:20 -0.20 ft	19:47 0.49 ft	6:09	18:58
Thu 05	First Quarter	01:24 0.29 ft	05:45 0.51 ft	13:39 -0.17 ft	20:07 0.57 ft	6:10	18:58
Fri 06		02:32 0.25 ft	06:26 0.43 ft	13:56 -0.14 ft	20:30 0.65 ft	6:10	18:58
Sat 07		03:39 0.19 ft	07:11 0.33 ft	14:14 -0.12 ft	20:57 0.74 ft	6:10	18:59
Sun 08		04:46 0.12 ft	08:01 0.23 ft	14:31 -0.10 ft	21:28 0.82 ft	6:10	18:59
Mon 09		05:51 0.04 ft	08:59 0.14 ft	14:50 -0.08 ft	22:03 0.90 ft	6:10	18:59

REAL ESTATE AND RENTALS

**Guesthouse for rent in Belnem.** Spacious bathroom, kitchenette, bedroom, and outside gazebo "living room." Looking for mature, single woman who loves dogs and gardens. \$550 a month includes power, water, internet, and cable television. Contact Pauline at [pkayes@diversityworksinc.net](mailto:pkayes@diversityworksinc.net)

**For rent: new furnished home, Sabadeco.** Ocean view terrace, excellent breeze, 2 bedr / 1 study / 2 bath / Guesthouse / laundry / screens / solar boiler s / TV internet Excl. WEB en TELBO: Price USD 2180 tel: 701-9632, email: [sar.delange@gmail.com](mailto:sar.delange@gmail.com)

**For Rent: 4 Bedrooms/4 Bathrooms Un-Furnished Spanish Colonial Style house for rent in Belnem.**

Big open space kitchen and 2 living rooms. Big garden with a nice porch. Appliances include: Dishwasher, Oven, Stove, Microwave, double Door Fridge, Water-Heater, Aircos in all bedrooms. USD 1700- per month

Please call +599-796-9559 for more info or send email to [kjonsdot@sscinc.com](mailto:kjonsdot@sscinc.com)

**Studio Apt. For Rent in Hato:** 35 m<sup>2</sup> studio, recently renovated and furnished, including refrigerator, stove, hot water boilers

**The Only Place on Bonaire for Vegetarian Ayurvedic food GoGreen at Bonaire Basics**  
Kaya Korona 47 Lunch served Tue. to Fri 12pm to 2pm Reservations 700-5488

and split unit Aircos. \$575/month, excl. Electricity. Water, TV, Wifi are included. Available May 1. No smoking, no pets. Bob: 786-7362

**For sale: Private property located North of Rincon,** 22.500 square meters, \$7,50 per meter, Kadaster # 533, [digitalis1956@hotmail.com](mailto:digitalis1956@hotmail.com), 795- 4342, 795-5726, 717-3696.

**For sale: cozy and comfortable apartment** for two persons in the South of the center of Amsterdam, the Netherlands. Euro 100.000. Contact: [daantjew33@hotmail.com](mailto:daantjew33@hotmail.com).

**GRATIS/FREE!**

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STERILIZED**

**LIFE COACH LEAH, LIFE GUIDANCE COUNSELOR—Are You Feeling Lost, Confused, In Love ? Searching For Answers ? I Can Help. 1-239-440-0606**

# SHOPPING and SERVICE GUIDE

## AIRLINES

**Divi Divi Air-** Bonaire's "on time airline" with 16 flights a day between Bonaire and Curaçao. Your first choice for inter-island travel. Now flying to Aruba.

## APPLIANCES /TV/ ELECTRONICS/ COMPUTERS

**City Shop**, the mega store, has the island's widest selection of large and small home appliances, furniture, TV, computers, cell phones and more. In-store financing too.



## AUTOMOBILE DEALER

Check out **Auto City Bonaire** for the widest selection of new car brands on Bonaire including Chevrolet, Honda, Isuzu, Suzuki, Subaru. Used cars too. Complete service department. Hertz rentals.

## BANK

**ORCO Bank** offers one-on-one attention, personal banking. Each client is a person, not a number. Their office is in the historic building at Kaya Grandi 48.

## BARS

**Zazu Bar at the Marina at Harbour Village** is all you expect in a great bar. Super bartender, quality drinks and friendly service. Plus Bonaire's only Rum Bar— over 50 types! Great hangout spot for divers and sailors.

## BEAUTY

**Hair Affair.** Expert hair cutting, styling, facials and facial waxing. Great new shop on Kaya Grandi. Walk-in service too.

**If you are a regular Reporter advertiser your listing will go here-FREE**

## CARS AND BIKES

**De Freewieler** sells bikes and all kinds of bike accessories. They do professional repairs on almost anything on two wheels. **Have your keys made here too.**

## DENTURE REPAIR

**All Denture Lab**—for the best denture care by an experienced professional. Repairs while you wait. Next to Botika Korona on Kaya J. G. Hernandez.

## ON and IN the WATER

**BHM Bonaire Hydro-test & Maintenance** offers repair of Scuba Equipment, dive tank hydro testing pressure tests with computerized accuracy. Pickup and delivery too.

**Budget Marine** has what anyone with a boat needs, and if it's not in stock they can order it quickly. You can also find special hardware for general use and components for solar and wind electric systems.

**Dive Friends** has four dive schools and three retail shops so you always get the best deals and can be assured of top notch training. Remodeled shop, Dushi Shoes on Kaya Grandi, open now.

## GARDEN SUPPLIES AND SERVICES

**Green Label** has everything you need to start or maintain your garden. They can design, install and maintain it and offer plants, irrigation supplies and garden chemicals. Off Kaya Industria, behind Lucky Supermarket.

## HOME CARE

**VanEps Property Management B.V./Bonaire Second Home Care** can handle all the needs of second home owners on Bonaire including inspection, management and cleaning.

## OPTICIAN

**Buena Vista Optics** is Bonaire's most up-to-date place to get eyeglasses or contact lenses. The combination of experienced personnel and advanced equipment and technology make it a top value

## PHOTOGRAPHER

**Bonaire's creative above or underwater video and still photographer for the wedding or other important events in your life.** ScubaVision, Kaya Grandi 6. See website scubavision.info or ScubaVision on YouTube

## REAL ESTATE /RENTAL AGENTS

**Sunbelt Realty** offers full real estate, rental, and insurance services. If you want a home or to invest in Bonaire, stop in and visit.



## RESTAURANTS

**Bistro de Paris**— Waterfront location at the Harbour Village Marina. Superb menu, genuine French dishes in a waterfront ambiance. Airco if you want it. Its Zazu Bar is a very popular hangout for divers too.

**La Balandra at The Harbour Village Resort** offers Bonaire's most spectacular setting. Superb cuisine, top notch service. Eat on the deck or with your feet in the sand.

**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.

**The Salt Shop at La Placita** on Kaya Grandi has many salt related products for sale which make authentic souvenirs and mementos of Bonaire. Other things there will interest everyone.

## 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/HEALTH

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

## SUPERMARKETS

**BonDiGro**— Cooperative discount super market offering low prices and friendly service. Just opened.

## TOP Supermarket—

Conveniently located **downtown** at the old Culti-mara location. Featuring a complete selection including liquors, 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 for it in the markets. Lovingly handmade. Souvenir mugs available.

## VARIETY STORE

**The Tung Fong Store** is a great asset to everyone on Bonaire because it stocks so many thing 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 at Bonaire Nautico (It Rains Fishes Restaurant)



Kingdom Youth Parliament  
Parlamento Hubenil di Reino  
Koninkrijksjeugdparlement

**O**n the eve of their departure to Sint Maarten to participate in the first Kingdom Youth Parliament, Julia Martinus, speaking for the Bonaire team said, "The Bonaire team hopes to shine bright and to show everyone what Bonaire's made of."

This Youth Parliament is the first in the 200-year history of the Kingdom of the Netherlands. It is organized in honor of the celebration of that anniversary. The Parliament will take place in Sint Maarten from May 20-22. Five teams of 10 youngsters will engage in debates on various issues that affect them now and in the future, such as: education, culture, sustainable development and children's rights. In the past months, the teams have prepared themselves by practicing the art of debating.

**The Teams**

The teams come from the Netherlands, Curaçao, Aruba, Sint Maarten and there is a mixed team from Bonaire, Sint Eustatius and Saba (BES islands). The youngsters have been selected on the basis of short video clips in which they explain why they want to participate in the Youth Parliament. Each team has a coach with extensive expertise and experience in politics and government.

**Background and Objective**

The youth debate arose from the need to approach the Kingdom from a different angle and perspective. Or as Minister of State and Member of the Committee Kingdom Relations Herman Tjeenk-Willink remarked, "The Kingdom is too important to be left to politicians, administrators and government officials."

What do young people think about the actual binding factor within the Kingdom? Why do we learn so little about the Caribbean islands in the Dutch secondary schools? How can we shape the future in a sustainable manner so that all citizens of the Kingdom can benefit from it? And what can we as young people contribute to shape our future? At the end of the meeting in St. Maarten, a final statement will be presented together with the answers to these questions in addition to action points that each KYP member can work out in their respective countries.

**Ceremonial Opening**

Her Royal Highness Princess Beatrix will open the Kingdom Youth Parliament (KYP) on Tuesday morning, May 20, at the University of St. Martin. She will deliver the opening statement and will frequent the sessions during the days. She will also meet with the youth members informally. "We are honored by her presence!" project manager KYP, Ron van der Veer, from St. Maarten stated. "In her



Representing Bonaire in the Kingdom Youth Parliament: Dayron Mackay, Melani van Arnhem Julia Martinus and Yavis Chirino

capacity as Queen, since 1980 she has opened the *Prinsjesdag* (Prince's Day) session of the States General as many as 33 times, and it is wonderful that no one other than the Royal Princess will be there to open this first KYP session!"

**Program**

**Monday, May 19**– The "getting acquainted" of the youngsters with each other.

At 5pm an extensive press conference with, amongst others, the President of the National Committee, Ank Bijleveld-Schouten, KYP- Project Manager Ron van

der Veer, several KYP participants and the RVD. This press conference will be streamed live via the website <http://kingdomyouthparliament.org/>

**Schedule**

**Tuesday, May 20:** Opening and start of debates

**Wednesday, May 21:** Workshops, debates and dinner

**Thursday, May 22:** Establishing of the final statement

**Friday, May 23:** Farewell and departure

■ G.D./Press release & KYP photos



**TUNG FONG STORE N.V.**

**"The Store With Almost Everything"**

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

Opening hours: 8.30 am - 12.30 pm, 2.30 pm - 6.30 pm  
Open from Monday till Saturday. Sundays closed.

**MiVaB** 

Disabled People Bonaire

Salute to Surinam Fundraiser

May 24th



May 24th

PREPARED BY LISA

"THE BEST SURINAM FOOD ON BONAIRE"

Proceeds to go AVIRAMP 2015

ROTI or BAMI - YOUR CHOICE

PICK UP BETWEEN 10:30 AND 14:30

AT THE GROCERY AT HATO

Tickets available here! Donation \$12.00

Info 717 4781  
or 795 1574



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**BonDiGro**

BONAIRE'S ONLY COOPERATIVE DISCOUNT SUPERMARKET

Added Afternoon Hours-  
**Thursday 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.**  
New items arriving every week. Pass by,

BonDiGro is in the blue building on Kaya Industria Pariba diagonally across from BHM and the BFG wholesaler. For more information email [info@bondigro.com](mailto:info@bondigro.com), Phone +599 780 2121.

Open Monday-Saturday: 08:30-13:00 + Tuesday and Friday: 16:00-19:00  
Closed Sunday

# WHAT'S HAPPENING

## CLOSE-IN EVENTS

**Friday-Saturday, May 23-24—**  
Meteor Showers midnight-2am, more on page 19.

**Saturday, May 24**  
—MiVaBo Fundraiser—Fantastic Surinam food, \$12 donation. Roti or Bami. 717-4781 or 795-1574. More on page 15

-- Comedian Richard Groenendijk from Rotterdam at Spice Beach Club

**Sunday, May 25**  
—DuoXtreme Fun Race sponsored by Bonaire Basics, Fun Trail, Elite Trail. Info DeFreewieler, 717-8545. See page 8

—Hike to Mt. Brandaris at sunset. Sponsored by Stinapa. Only 20 places. Call 786-5229 or email washingtonpark@stinapa.org. More on page 3 Fully Booked— waiting list possible.

**Saturday, May 31**  
—Mangazina di Rei Cultural Market, 8am-2pm music, crafts, local food and products, dancing. On the Rincon road at the eastern entrance to Rincon. See details on Facebook  
-Sustainable Market sponsored by Boneiru Duradero, at Buraku Johchi (across from Progresso Supermarket), farmers' market and local food, kids' activities, 10am-2pm. More on page 12  
-- Angelika Winsberg Art Exhibition and Sale at GoGreen at Bonaire Basics, Kaya Korona 47, 5pm. All invited

**Sunday, June 1 -Washington**  
Slagbaai National Park Open House and celebration of its 45 years of existence. Free admission. The park was established in 1969 and covers an area of 5643 hectares.

A variety of food and beverages, kids' corner. A kids' trail will be inaugurated on this day. Guided hiking trip for adults, a mountain bike race. Local bands will be making music for anyone who just wants to dance. 786-5229 or email washingtonpark@stinapa.org.

**Sunday, June 1 -Xtreme Bonaire**  
mountain bike race, start at 07:30 am. Registration for the mountain bike race via [freewieler@bonairefreewieler.com](mailto:freewieler@bonairefreewieler.com) (or [washingtonpark@stinapa.org](mailto:washingtonpark@stinapa.org)).

**Saturday, June 7—Kriabon Farmers' Market**—local produce, ornamental plants, crafts, local food. 8am-1pm. Kaminda Jatu Bako #55, next to Aquamarin School, up the road from More for Less. More on page 12

**Weekend of June 7 and 8 - Main event of the 25-year celebration of Jibe City** with windsurf races, a fashion show, live music and much more fun. See pages 10 and 11 for more details.

## REGULAR EVENTS

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

**Parke di Libertat -Park-playground and canteen (formerly Dare to Care Park)** Behind the hospital. Open Monday-Saturday 8am-7pm. Free entrance.

### Saturdays

•**Last Saturday of the month** – donate foods and household items to Food Bank (*Stichting voedselbank Bonaire*) from 10 am-4 pm, in front of Van den Tweel Supermarket

•**Parke di Libertat Bazaar.** Flea market tables to rent \$5. Used items for sale, 9am-2pm.

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

•**Monthly Cultural Market at Mangazina di Rei—every last Saturday of the month.** 8am-2pm. See the real Bonaire: traditional music, crafts, local produce, creole kitchen, educational presentations. Mangazina di Rei is on the Rincon Road, at the eastern entrance to Rincon.

•**Bonaire Animal Shelter's "Garage Sale" Pakus di Pruga—every Saturday,** 8am-5pm. At Kaminda Liberador Simon Bolivar, across from Brandaris Café. Tel. 717-4989. Drop off cast offs on Saturdays or at the Shelter on the Lagoen Road weekdays. 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. +5999-560-7539.*) Snacks and tasting of six wines for \$10 per person.

•**Petanque- Jeu de Boules,** 2:30pm, 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

•**Landhuis DeTuin- Real Jamaican BBQ on the terrace** of the land house in the quiet countryside. Jerk Chicken, BBQ Chicken, Seafood Curry, Veggie Dish, Child's plate, Bread Pudding. On the road to Lac Bai – Kaminda Lac #101. Follow the signs, 12 noon to 6 pm. Tel. +599-786-6816, +599-701-1982. A Forsa training school.

### Mondays

• **Bonaire Goat Cheese Farm Tour—9 am.** Meet the goats, see milking, cheese making and more. \$10 includes cheese tasting and tea, Kids \$5. 786-6950- Also on Wednesdays & Fridays

• **Happy Hour at Captain Don's Habitat Bar.** The books of Bonaire's dive pioneer, Captain Don, will be available: [Island Adrift](#), [Shangri-la](#), [Sea](#)

[Trauma](#) and his newest book [Reef Windows](#). 5:30-7pm. Tel. 717-8290

### Wednesdays

•**Bonaire Goat Cheese Farm Tour—9am.** See Monday for more information

• **30-minute Meditation at Yoga Bonaire,** 12 noon, Bonaire Basics. Donation. Call 786-6416, email: [info@bonaireyoga.coim](mailto:info@bonaireyoga.coim)

•**Divemaster's Night at Bistro de Paris Restaurant at Harbour Village Marina.** Free house rum when you buy a coke.

### Fridays

•**Bonaire Goat Cheese Farm Tour—9am.** See Monday for more information

•**Happy Hour party at Bistro De Paris.** Ricky Thomas performs Reggae, Soul, Latin and more 6- 9pm.

## 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

**Museo Sentro Chichi'Tan,** historical home, behind Rose Inn, Rincon, open 10am-4pm daily. Tel. 786-6420

**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

**Bridge Club -** Every Wednesday, Bridge Club on Bonaire. 19:15, contact Jeroen Seegers for information tel. 717-4200 or 788-2819 or [jeroen@telbonet.an](mailto:jeroen@telbonet.an)

**Lions Club** meets every **2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 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. Call Gregory Obersi 785-9446.

**Toastmasters Club** meets every **two weeks.** For more information call Crusita de Palm at 786-3827 or Lucia Mar-

tinez Beck, at 786-2953.

## CHURCH SERVICES

**Protestant Congregation of Bonaire:** ( VPGB ), Kralendijk, Plaza Wilhelmina; Sunday service-10 am in Dutch. Rincon, Kaya C.D. Crestian; Sunday service-8:30 am in Papiamentu/ Dutch.

Children's club-every Saturday from 4:30-6 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 9am-Worship service in English; 10:45am-Sunday school for all ages. Tuesday 7:30 pm-Adult Bible study class. 717-8377 for more info or ride [bonaireibc@yahoo.com](mailto: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. Wed. 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-11:30am. Bible studies in English on Monday nights from 7-8 pm. Contact: 717-3322

**The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints:** Kaya Sabana #26, Sundays: 9 am Sacrament Services (Translation to English and Papiamentu upon request) 10:20am- Sunday School, 11:15 RS/YM/YW/PH Primary held from 10:20-12 noon Visitors welcome: Information: Call 701-9522 .

**Foundation Fountain of Living Waters, Centro Fuente,** Service Sunday at Kaya Aruaco 4 at 6 pm, in Papiamentu and Spanish. For Marriage Counseling, contact 717-2161.

**Iglesia di Cristo (Church of Christ)** Sunday: 10:30am & 7pm; Wednesday: 7pm. Services in Papiamentu (English also if needed) Address: Kaya Msgr. ndt 25 (same street as Dr. Dorvil) Cell: 796-0721. email: [iglesiadicristobonaire@gmail.com](mailto:iglesiadicristobonaire@gmail.com)

**Call The Reporter at 786-6518 or email reporter@bonairenews.com if you have something HAPPENING**



### DONKEY SOLUTIONS NEEDED NOW

Dear Editor

Recently, representatives from Citizens for a Better, Safer and Animal Friendly Bonaire met with Deputy James Kroon to discuss solutions to keep the people safer on the roads and get the donkeys away from the streets immediately. Deputy Kroon agreed and asked the Citizens Group and the Zoning and Planning Department (DRO) to meet and work together. On 11 April 2014, the representatives of the Citizens Group, accompanied by Raymundo Saleh of Bonaire Management Center, met with DRO and presented items needing urgent attention.

The plan for street safety and donkey conservation is a balanced plan and the two most urgent and effective items that can be done are:

(1) Encouraging the wild donkeys back to the wild land by repairing wells in the *mondi* and

(2) Enforcing traffic speed limits by the use of speed bumps, and signage.

Firstly, encouraging donkeys back to the wild by repairing wells is an urgent priority; controlling water will help control the animals' habitat and location.

Cutting off the animals' water supplies is a sure way to drive them into town and residential areas in search of water. Fixing the wells and reservoirs goes hand-in-hand with a street safety plan for the people and the good treatment of our farmers and all of Bonaire's animals. A representative from DRO stated that fixing wells will cause all the animals, even the pigs and goats, to overpopulate.

However, the goal is to provide water supplies in the *mondi* similar to what donkeys and wildlife had access to for decades before the encroachment of people into their habitat and fencing or damming of their natural watering holes. As the dry season is upon us, we all know giving animals access to the water they once had is important to keep them from going in search of water near town. All the living things on Bonaire

(donkeys, bird species, lizards, crabs, snails, etc.) will benefit from regaining fresh water access. It goes without saying that the farmers are especially in great

need of working wells for their crops and their animals, too.

The second item that needs addressing is roadway safety. Road safety is a major concern here on our island. Installing speed bumps in known high speed and accident areas will help provide safer roads for people (vehicles, bicycles, pedestrians) as well as for all animals (domestic and wild). Placing "wildlife crossing zone" signs in known crossing areas will alert tourists and remind locals to be extra vigilant in certain areas. Slowing down speed on our roads is urgent not just for animals but most importantly for the safety of our people.

An education plan, including signage, is a necessary and proactive safety measure for teaching the importance of respecting and not disturbing all of our wild life including not to feed them. The Citizens for a Better, Safer and Animal Friendly Bonaire are aware of the urgency of the situation and we wait for an opening in DRO's schedule with hopes that the upcoming meeting will make progress toward safety for all the citizens of Bonaire - including the wild donkeys.

Repairing wells and reservoirs and slowing of traffic will go a long way to help the safety situation and the needs of the whole island. For more information go to [https://www.youtube.com/watch?list=UUHY2EVR6B8ogaN\\_Z9epuEYw&feature=share](https://www.youtube.com/watch?list=UUHY2EVR6B8ogaN_Z9epuEYw&feature=share) ■ *Rona Aguilar*



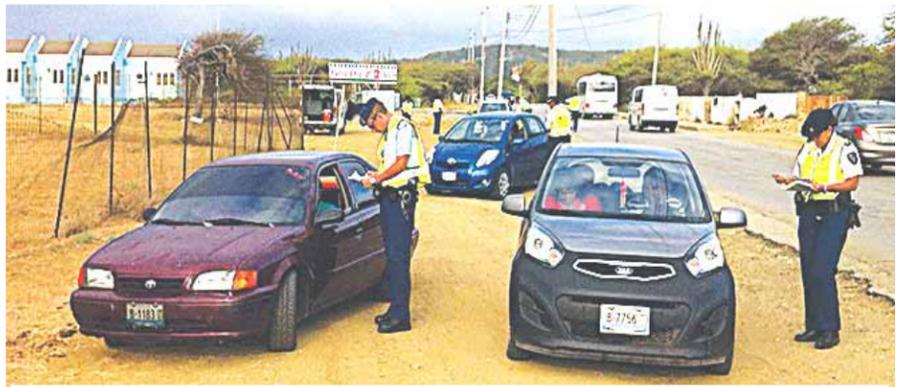
**Bonaire's donkeys were important for transport**

*Flotsam and Jetsam (Continued from page 3)* the high cost of the process involved, the rates for consumers will not go up as a result of this capacity expansion from between 4,300 and 4,400 to 4,800 cubic meters per day.



► **There is some innovative building going on at The Courtyard project on Kaya Djabou.** The Veerhuis system claims to be eco-friendly, low-cost, energy saving, healthy, safe and strong.

It uses EPS and steel as building material and can replace the present use of bricks, stones, cement, steel,



► On Wednesday, May 14, a traffic checkpoint was set up in Rincon near the old police station between 06.30 and 08.00. There were a total of 77 vehicles checked. Three drivers were fined for not being able to show or were not in possession of valid insurance for their vehicle. Six drivers were fined because they could not show or had a valid driver's license, and six more got a ticket for not having a 2014 road tax sticker. The next day more checks were done between 10.30 and 12.00 in Playa on Kaya Industria and Kaya Nikiboko North. There 60 vehicles were checked. Eleven drivers were fined for not paying the road tax, eight for not showing a valid insurance for their vehicle, two for no license plate on the vehicle and three could not show a valid driver's license.

concrete and wood. More in upcoming issues of *The Reporter*.



*The Aviramp makes boarding access to aircraft considerable easier for handicapped people*

► **Support MIVABO's fund raising for the purchase of an Aviramp** to make access to aircraft more accessible. Aviramp is for the entire population of Bonaire. Get the best Surinamese food on Bonaire for only \$12. See poster on page 15 for details. Tickets available from **Oswald Melcherts. Tel: 786 -1739, Iris Semeleer at her Bookstore on Kaya Grandi, Rob Boutmy Tel: 786 4967.** For more info go to **Info @ Mivabo.Org** ■ *G./L.D.*

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# Pet of the Week

## URSULA

You couldn't ask for a prettier, patchwork calico cat than "Ursula." She has all the colors, all the spots and even a few stripes. Calico cats tend to have one of two personalities: either they are extremely loveable with everyone or they are definitely a "one person" cat. Ursula is DEFINITELY the former. She loves everyone. She is talkative, playful and happy to be the center of your attention. Pick her up, put her down, roll her over, rub her belly...whatever you want to do with this cat she is happy to oblige. But if you have other things to do, Ursula is perfectly willing to take long naps, play with a stuffed mouse, a feather or whatever. She is the ultimate huntress. She also "plays well with others," so she would fit in just fine in a multi-cat household. Ursula is about one and half to two years old, the perfect age for adoption.

Worldwide statistics show that about nine out of 10 feline shelter adoptions are kittens, rather than adult cats. Everyone loves adorable kittens. That is one reason why so many shelters, like Bonaire's, are usually filled with wonderful adult cats.



"Ursula" poses for the camera

But for all practical purposes, the older ones actually make much better companions. They have a lot of love to give and they already have an established, developed personality. You already know what they are going to be like and if they are a good fit for your home, rather than guessing at what kind of personality they will develop. You know how big they will get, how much they need to eat and

they are more mellow than mischievous. With an adult cat you don't have to worry about them ingesting string or foreign objects or suffering from a trauma....or destroying your curtains! With an adult cat, what you see is what you get....and with Ursula you get a wonderful, loving companion. Ursula is healthy, vaccinated, sterilized and

# Shelter News

## HELP FROM HOLLAND

Joy Breedveld is on holiday on Bonaire and she brought the Bonaire Animal Shelter a big gift. She raised about \$2,000 in Holland for the Shelter on Bonaire. In the vet clinic where Joy works (*Dierenkliniek Stormpolder*) and the pet shop (*Dierenwinkel Het Schuurtje*) there were money houses where customers could donate money.

Joy also sold towels with the Shelter logo and driftwood signs—all to help the Bonaire Animal Shelter.

A big thank you to Joy for a marvelous gift.



Joy Breedveld with one of her favorite Shelter pups

## PHOTO CONTEST

The Animal Shelter is organizing a photo contest. Everyone who has adopted a pet from the Bonaire Animal Shelter can send in their favorite, funny or sweet picture of their cat, dog or other animal by e-mail ([animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com](mailto:animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com)) or via Facebook. Each week, a winner will be

chosen by the Shelter staff and he/she gets a nice prize. So please send us your picture (s) and give us a short story about your pet. ■ *Story & photo by Marlies Tiepel*

ready to brighten up your life with calico caresses and companionship.

You can visit her and all the other Bonaire Animal Shelter residents on the Lagoon Road, Monday through Saturday, 9 am to 1 pm and 3 to 5 pm. Tel. 717-4989. Check them out on Facebook at Animal Shelter Bonaire. ■ *Jane Madden-Disko*

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# THE STARS HAVE IT

By Astrologer Michael Thiessen  
May 2014

**ARIES** (Mar. 21- April 20) A change is as good as a rest. Don't go looking for change. You will be a bit of a spend-thrift this week. Don't make financial contributions in order to impress others. Joint ventures might prove to be unfavorable. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

**TAURUS** (Apr. 21- May 21) Don't overspend on luxury items. Romantic opportunities will flourish through travel or communication. Look into ways that you can make extra cash. Don't let your emotions take over. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

**GEMINI** (May 22-June 21) Relatives may not be telling you the whole truth about a family situation. Accept the inevitable. You will accomplish the most through or. Romantic encounters will develop through group activity. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22) Anger may cause you grief; control your temper and try to sit back and calm down. Plan some family outings. You will be full of energy and you need to find something constructive to do. Don't point your finger unjustly at others. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug 22) Family talks may get a little combative. You will enjoy lavish forms of entertainment and should consider making arrangements early. Don't evade issues or twist the truth around. An older member of your family may have left you with a pressing situation. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) Your talent will be recognized. Involvement in fitness clubs will be conducive to engaging romantic connections. Talk to someone you trust if you need advice about broaching the subject. Hassles with in-laws could put a damper on your day. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) You've been a little down and you need a lift. Losses are likely if you get involved with uncertain individuals. You should expect to have changes in your home. You will be able to talk to your lover about future goals and perhaps make plans for the two of you to take a vacation. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) Don't bother retaliating, just walk away. Romance will come through involvement with fundraising organizations. The information that you gain can be used in every aspect of your life. You will easily capture the interest of those you talk to. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) Reciprocate by offering helpful hints. Money problems will be difficult to deal with if you have a partner. You need an outlet. Generosity will put you in the poorhouse. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) You will also encounter individuals who can help you further your goals. Tempers will mount if you're too pushy at work or at home. Your ability to visualize will help you convince others of the possibilities. Mishaps due to preoccupation will be upsetting. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) Don't be afraid of opposition; your suggestions are valid. Upgrading at this point is not a bad plan. Take time to listen to the problems of family members. Don't overspend on luxury items. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) Try to visit a country that excites you. Try to stay calm, and whatever you do, don't nag. Unrealistic promises will only get you in trouble. You're in the mood to party. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday. ■



## BONAIRE SKY PARK\*

\*to find it... just look up

SEE THE BIRTH OF A METEOR SHOWER ?



**M**eteor showers occur when the Earth passes through a cloud of dust left behind by a comet. These clouds hang in space in the same place, and so meteor showers occur at the same time every year as the Earth revisits them.

But every so often a new comet comes along and creates a cloud of dust where none existed before. In the case of this anticipated shower the comet that left the cloud behind goes by the name of **209P/Linear**. It was discovered in 2004 and passed near the sun in 2009 and will do so again this year.

**Current predictions are that the Earth will pass through the cloud of dust left by 209P/Linear on May 23-24, 2014. Peak time should be midnight to 2 am.** Quite how many shooting stars will be visible is unknown, but given that this is a fresh cloud of dust that hasn't been "used up" before in previous meteor showers, we might expect a good display.

And where to look in the sky? As with all meteor showers it doesn't matter where you look; the shooting stars streak across the sky in all directions. However, if you trace the trails back they will all converge at the same part of the sky, called the **radiant**. Meteor showers are named after their radiants (e.g. the **Perseids** emerge from **Perseus**, and the **Geminids** from **Gemini**) and this new shower will appear to emanate from the dim constellation of **Camelopardalis\***, so they'll be known as the **Camelopardalids!** Just flows off the tongue...

**What is a meteor shower anyway?**  
A meteor shower is a spike in the number

of meteors or "shooting stars" that streak through the night sky.

Most meteor showers are spawned by comets. As a comet orbits the Sun it sheds an icy, dusty debris stream along its orbit. If Earth travels through this stream, we will see a meteor shower. Although the meteors can appear anywhere in the sky, if you trace their paths, the meteors in each shower appear to "rain" into the sky from the same region.

Meteor showers are named for the **constellation** that coincides with this region in the sky, a spot known as the radiant. For instance, the radiant for the **Leonid meteor shower is in the constellation Leo**. For example: the Perseid meteor shower is so named because meteors appear to fall from a point in the constellation Perseus.

What are shooting stars?  
"Shooting stars" and "falling stars" are both names that describe meteors -- streaks of light across the night sky caused by small bits of interplanetary rock and debris called **meteoroids** vaporizing high in Earth's upper atmosphere. Traveling at tens of thousands of miles an hour, meteoroids quickly ignite from the searing friction with the atmosphere, 30 to 80 miles above the ground. Almost all are destroyed in this process; the rare few that survive and hit the ground are known as **meteorites**.

\* Camelopard comes from the Romanized Greek words for "camel" and "leopard," and is the name for a giraffe, which the Greeks thought were part camel, part leopard. ■

Bob Berman

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