

BUURTKRANT 'KIJK OP DE WIJK'

MEI 2025

English version online: www.maredijkbuurt.nl

VERENIGING MAREDIJKBUURT

NEIGHBORHOOD FESTIVAL: CALL FOR CREATIVE NEIGHBORHOOD RESIDENTS



On September 13, 2025, according to tradition, the annual neighborhood festival will be held. Each year there are certain components: activities for children in conjunction with the playground, the neighborhood meal, the legendary pub quiz as well as music and theater by local residents. In addition, this year we would like to hold a "fair" where residents can sell their homemade creations. Next to these self-made creations, there will also be space for the sale of 2 hand toys and clothes etc. Only private sales are allowed (so no commercial sales). The fair will be held from 12:30 pm to 3 pm.

Are you creative or do you know creative neighbors? And would you like to sell your own creations during the day in one of the booths? You can participate in the fair by signing up through e-mail to: maredijkbuurtmarkt@gmail.com. Please indicate whether you want to sell your creations or participate in the second hand market.

NEIGHBORHOOD PARTY ----- PIE BAKING CONTEST

The whole Maredijk neighborhood bakes!

A premiere at the neighborhood party: a pie baking contest! Let your imagination run wild, put your taste buds on edge and bake a delicious cake. A carefully composed jury will taste the cakes and will crown a winner for the best cake. After the neighborhood meal, we will display the pies so that all can enjoy the cakes. Sign up before Sept. 1 at: lfafie@hotmail.com. Bakers ready, bake away!



NEIGHBORHOOD FESTIVAL ----- PERFORMERS WANTED!

FOR YOUNG AND OLD!

We would like to make a show with great neighborhood party on September 13. We and anyone who has no experience but like to participate?

A directing club of 6 fellow members of will work with you to create the show

Are you interested in joining? And are gemburstjens@gmail.com.

We can email the exact dates to you after on Sundays in June, July and September, September 13, we will plan a final rehearsal.



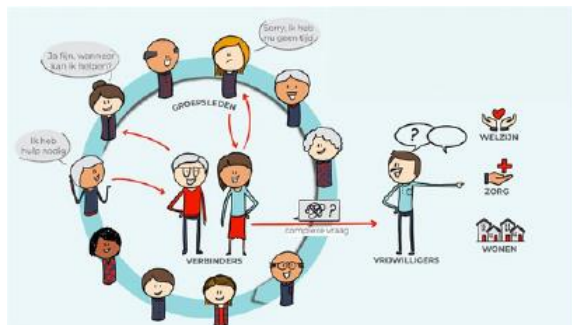
enthusiasts from the neighborhood, to perform at the are looking for actors, acrobats, dancers, musical singers would really like to play in a show. in a show. Would you

the neighborhood with experience in theater and dance around the theme 'space'!

you six years old or older? Sign up you via

registration. As an indication: we wish to rehears 5 times from 17-18 and 18-19 o'clock. In the week before

WHAT ARE VOORZORGCIRKELS AND WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?



Voorzorgcirkels (literally: “pre-care circles” or “precaution circles”) are groups of 10 to 15 people who support each other in a variety of ways. They agree to be at each other’s beck and call, and discuss how they can best help one another. They do this voluntarily, but with a great dedication.

The word ‘care’ should be understood to mean ‘to look after each other’—it does not mean professional health care. *Voorzorgcirkels* are formed—as the word indicates—as a precaution. People help one another and, if necessary, take care of each other. It means giving help, but also asking it from others.

It doesn’t concern medical care, which is what professionals are for. In a *voorzorgcirkel*, help comes in the form of, for example, going shopping, walking the dog, or even sewing a button. Are you interested or do you have questions regarding the organisation in the *Maredijkbuurt* (or at a walking distance from the neighbourhood)? Please contact Christa de Boer,

christadeboer@gmail.com or 06 52649828. We’re scheduling a meeting in the *Maredijkhuis* soon, where we’ll discuss how we can organise this.

FALL PREVENTION: STAYING STEADY ON YOUR FEET!

Is it increasingly important for you to prevent falls? Do you have trouble walking, keeping balance or exercise? Then join the course *Leiden Blijft Staàn*—intended for those aged 65 and up who want to increase their strength, balance and confidence.

Over the course of 13 weeks, you will work on exercising safely, both in and around the house, under the guidance of an expert coach. The classes are weekly, one hour long and will often conclude with a coffee break.

The Fall Prevention course by Incluzio and the *Maredijkbuurt* will begin on Friday September 5 in the *Maredijkhuis*, starting at 10 AM.

Participation is free of charge, but signing up is mandatory. You can sign up via e-mail: maredijkbuurt@gmail.com. Please give your name and phone number. We will send your contact details to the trainers, who will get in touch with you to confirm your participation.



BOOK CLUB



On Sunday May 18 at 2 p.m. the book club gathers at Christa de Boer’s home, Aloëlaan 41A. This time, we read *De Stamhouder* by Alexander Münninghoff. Would you like to join us? Send an email to Peter Cambier: p.cambier@planet.nl.

Summary

“I was born on April 13, 1944, in Posen, an old Polish city that for centuries had been called Poznań. But when I was born, during a bombardment that seemed to herald the end of time, Posen was a German city, a logistical junction from which Hitler had sent his Nazi troops into the Soviet Union in three waves of attack just one year before. It was a miserable adventure, and Posen paid dearly. ...

“My family was part of that drama. And that is what this book is about. It’s about the consequences of the war. It’s about a sly grandfather who became—in the most remarkable ways—one of the richest people in Latvia, but who, two days before the war broke out, was forced to leave everything behind and flee to the Netherlands with his Russian wife and four children. It’s about a naive father who, out of idealism against the Soviets, went to the eastern front wearing the

uniform of the SS, only to be destroyed when he returned to the Netherlands. It’s about a mother who, after getting divorced, fled to Germany and was no longer allowed to be my mother. And it’s about me, the grandson, the son, and heir.”

(From the book’s translation, *The Son and Heir* (2020), by Kristen Gehrman.)

Alexander Münninghoff (Poznań, 1944) was a journalist and expert on Russia. He won the prize for newspaper journalism, and was the author of *Tropical Years in Moscow* (1991), about his time as a correspondent in the Soviet Union. *De Stamhouder* is autobiographical and based on facts and stories told in the family. Alexander Münninghoff was a guest in the *Maredijkhuis*: *Aan tafel bij Ruud*; Youtube March 25, 2018.

Maredijks' KidsKorner

From the running reporter



Maredijkbuurt Leiden – the children in de Maredijkbuurt have their very own reporter. For this edition we'll again be going through the neighbourhood, looking for the best spots. This week we're meeting with Nikkie and Huub.

"Do we look like each other?" asks Nikkie. She looks at me questioningly. If I hadn't known that Nikkie and Huub are sister and brother, I wouldn't have noticed right away. "You have the same color eyes. Just a different shape." When they were little, they looked very much alike, they tell me. Coincidentally, just before I arrived, they had found pictures of their mother when she was a lot younger. And it was just as if Nikkie was the one in the picture, she says. Huub agrees.

I notice that they get along very well. "Do you often play together?" I ask. "Yes," they both say. They have arguments sometimes, too, but they also really enjoy doing things with the two of them. They are about 2.5 years apart.

One of the places they like to play together – and with friends – is the pirate island. So we walk to the island. "We play tag," says Nikkie. "And we go over the bridge and then sometimes we walk on that path, there," Huub continues, pointing. "In the summer we also go and catch animals here and then we study them." "Yes," adds Nikkie. "We have a bin with all kinds of stuff and a magnifying glass." And so they look at the color and feelers and more things, and then they're going to figure out what they're called. "My dad has one of those apps. You can look up names of plants and insects with that." "Or we play hide-and-seek in the reeds. In the summer it is full of reeds here." Clearly, they are already looking forward to that.

There is one other thing they both really really enjoy when they are on the island. "The dogs! If there are dogs then we go and play with them." They both look genuinely happy. "Then we throw a ball, for example," Huub explains. Huub also immediately knows who his favorite dog is: Lotte. Nikkie thinks about her favorite dog. "She is red with brown and has little short legs." She doesn't remember the name. "I can't remember names very well." "Does the dog live in the house with the Lego on the windowsill?" I ask. "Yes!" "That's Saartje," I know, because my kids love her too. And who do I run into, when I've brought Huub and Nikkie back home and am walking home? Saartje! "You will be in the neighborhood newspaper," I tell her. With Nikkie and Huub.

Are you attending primary school and would you also like to show me the best spots in the neighbourhood? Send an email to the running reporter: gemkurstjens@gmail.com. Your mum and dad are more than welcome to join us on our walk through the neighbourhood.

Short news

Dinner at the Maredijk

On the 16th of May we will be having dinner at the Maredijk again. This time the theme is Street food; think of hotdogs, wraps, dolmas and brownies. We're going around the whole world. Would you like to contribute street food from your own culture? Let us know in your sign up!

Everybody is welcome from 18:00 hours/6pm. For adults it will cost €5 and for children it will cost €2,50. Please let us know you'll be coming to dinner by sending an e-mail to: etenopdemaredijk@gmail.com



Playground day and eating pancakes

Saturday the 28th of June is the Playground Day (speeltuindag). The playground is open the entire day and there will be special attractions. Pancakes, both sweet and savory, will be served from 18:00 hours/6pm. The pancakes are free, you don't have to sign up. Do bring your own plate and cutlery.

We are still looking for pancake bakers! Sign up to come and help by sending an e-mail to: etenopdemaredijk@gmail.com



General member meeting and summer drinks

On the 4th of July there will be a general members meeting (ALV). The agenda and documents will be sent by e-mail well in advance.

After the general membership meeting there will be drinks (zomerborrel) for all the neighbors.

Come all!

Mini library in front of the entrance



On the 18th of April 2025 a beautiful new mini library was placed just before the playground entrance, instead of mini library inside the Maredijkhuis.

It is white, has a red slanted roof and is made by people with a mental disability in Assen. Employees of this day centre have attached the cabinet on long polls and anchored them deep in the ground. Our volunteers have added books of all genres, but especially for adults.

Of course, everybody can take or leave books. The Speeltuinvereniging (playground association) hopes that it will be put to good use. There is also a mini library for children inside the playground. This one hangs on the wall of the playground building (the Maredijkhuis). There is also a new special volunteer who will keep the library orderly.

ACTIVITY AGENDA

- **Weekly activities in/from the Maredijkhuis**

Sunday	Basketball in the cage	Dik Toet, 06 23348489
Monday	11:00 Sing-In' (neighborhood choir) 14:00 Walking with neighbors (Gathering for the playground)	Joke Spannenburg, 071 5222509
Tuesday	10:30 Coffee drinking (walk-in) Handicrafts Get more out of your iPad	Christa de Boer, 06 52649828
Wednesday	10:00 Toy Library Klapstuk	06 24211018, www.sot-klapstuk.nl
Thursday	10:30 Fit with Kit, exercise 20:00 Card games	Sigrid Jansen, 06 11524565 Gé van Vliet, 06 22258969
Saturday	10:00 Toy Library Klapstuk 11:00 Neighborhood Cleanup (Gathering for the playground)	

Scheduled activities in the neighborhood

May 16	18:00	Eating on the Maredijk	etenopdemaredijk@gmail.com
May 18	14:00	Reading Club	Peter Cambier, p.cambier@planet.nl
June 28	18:00	Pancake eating	etenopdemaredijk@gmail.com
July 4	20:00	General Meeting and Summer Drink	maredijkbuurt@gmail.com

- **Other Contacts**
- **Neighborhood Garden Tamboerpad**, Bert van Sprundel, 06 13681169
- **Workshops Sunday**, Sigrid Jansen, sigridmcjansen@gmail.com
- **Facade Gardens**, Marian Smit, mariansmit@casema.nl

Neighborhood Cleanup, Bert van Sprundel, 06 13681169

- **Playground**, Open Mon-Fri 10 - 17 hours, usually also Sat and Sun, www.svmaredijk.nl
 - **Community Police Officer**, Lakhdar ben Taieb, 0900 8844, Langegracht 11, 071 5258865
 - Reports on living environment 14071

We need your support! The neighborhood association has about 225 members, people who feel connected with each other and the neighborhood. And we are an active neighborhood association that organizes many activities for and by neighborhood residents. If you are not yet a member of the neighborhood association, fill out the registration form on our website www.maredijkbuurt.nl. It only costs € 7.50 per year. You can also pick up the form from Sigrid Jansen, Marislaan 59.

JOIN AND BECOME A MEMBER! BECOME A MEMBER!

CHERISH COMMUNITY SPIRIT!



The factions in the city council are currently working on drafting their election programs for the municipal elections in March 2026. Our working group on Livability is trying to feed the factions. As a neighborhood, we want to preserve social cohesion and community spirit. Therefore, we call for maintaining a healthy balance between permanent and temporary residents. This community spirit is the foundation for all initiatives that make the Maredijk neighborhood a pleasant place to live: choirs singing, cozy coffee mornings, better movement, communal meals, the puzzle contest, plant exchange market, and the big Maredijk festival! Making the Virulypad grass field, the neighborhood garden, and the gardens along the facades and around the trees more biodiverse. And let's not forget the weekly litter pickers and bicycle wreck spotters. Many, many, many volunteers who want to create something beautiful together. The municipality should be proud and careful with this. Hence the call: Cherish community spirit!

THE NEIGHBORHOOD BEE

Every neighborhood in South Holland has had its own neighborhood bee since last year.

And for our neighborhood, it is the ivy bee. It is 8.5 to 15 mm in size and has a brown-haired chest. On the abdomen, you can see striking yellow hair bands. Together with other insects, it pollinates about 75% of all flowers, vegetables, and fruits. Without the bee, there would be no strawberries, apples, beans, or pumpkins. But as more nature disappears, the bees are not doing well. The ivy bee loves ivy, especially the flowers, but also autumn asters and reseda. Plant these in the garden, on the street, or on the balcony where it likes them, simple right? And don't be afraid, wild bees are not scary, they don't sting. More information: <https://www.bijenlandschap.nl/wijkbij/klimopzijdebij>