



COVID developments since we went to print - page 13+



Photo and story: Julie Morgan

Fresh food for a growing Bonaire

A new sustainable agricultural, venture, Bonaire DailyFresh, has just completed a prototype using Aquaponics for growing vegetables. The owners, Bob and Lauri Janssen, are ready to ramp things up and take the project to another level with cooperation of the Bonaire local government.

“We want to supply fresh food for the island that is sustainable and affordable. Last year, there was the customs strike in Curaçao and for two months we had difficulty getting produce on the island,” said Bob, “And what about the pandemic? We can’t constantly rely on other sources to survive. We need to take care of ourselves.”

But, what is Aquaponics and how does it work? Simply put it is an environmentally friendly form of agriculture that combines raising fish in tanks (recirculating aquaculture) with soilless plant culture (hydroponics.) The nutrient rich water from the fish tanks provides a natural fertilizer for the plants and the plants help to purify the water for the fish. It is totally organic as there are no chemical fertilizers needed - it all comes from the water from raising the fish.

Bob and Lauri first researched Aqua-

ponics prior to their move to Bonaire in 2018. Thinking this would be a good thing for Bonaire, they took a week-long master class at Nelson and Pade-Aquaponics Innovation Center in Montello, Wisconsin. With this new knowledge, they looked to a 20 year old Aquaponics

farm located in the British Virgin Islands to set up their 100 sq. meter backyard prototype.

For the plant growing system, DailyFresh uses WEB drinking water and the seeds come from the United States. The seeds are germinated in rock wool



Bonaire DailyFresh is growing a variety of beautiful, organic greens: Romaine, Swiss chard, butterhead, curly leaf, bok choy, Chinese cabbage and even some herbs.

and once plantings are large enough, the ‘plugs’ are transferred to growing tables. Chilled (77°F) fish water circulates through the system from fish to plants. The discharge is used in the soaking beds so nothing goes into the ground.

Approximately 400 Tilapia (Silver Nile Tilapia) are at work providing nutrients for the plants. The fish are divided into three large aerated tanks: brooding, all male and mixed. The Tilapia will be harvested for food in nine – ten months and the tanks will be cleaned and the process will begin again with a new brood from the previous fish. The tanks are constantly monitored for temperature and if there is a problem, an alarm sounds. This is a zero waste system – everything is used, including the discarded roots from the plants (food for goats) and solid fish waste for soil-based plants.

Bonaire DailyFresh is set to lease a 3000 sq. meter lot at LVV and set up a 1250 sq. meter green house. Plans and a concept agreement were submitted and are only awaiting a sign off for the lease permit through DROB.

The project with green house, transport
DailyFresh, continued on page 5



Our money, our rules, Dutch tell other islands

The Hague has turned off the money spigot to Aruba, Curaçao, and Sint Maarten until the islands account for current loans and agree to new financial management and reporting rules for future loans. State Secretary Knops (BZK) pointed out that the money received by the islands comes directly from the pockets of Dutch taxpayers and from now on must be properly accounted for. Knops assured the House of Representatives that the islands must report on what they've already received and must accept enhanced future compliance as well.

Aruba, Curaçao, and Sint Maarten will receive no further funds unless they agree to the creation of a Caribbean financial reform entity, entirely under Dutch control, that will monitor their compliance with the financial management and reporting requirements attached to those loans. They must also fulfill the reporting conditions that were attached to the second tranche, money they have largely spent already.

Past attempts by the Netherlands to require financial accountability from Aruba, Curaçao, and Sint Maarten brought accusations that the Dutch were violating the "national sovereignty" of the islands. Knops pointed out, however, that the new financial entity will have no legislative or regulatory function in the islands. It will be "an independent administrative body under Dutch law" that manages how loans granted to other entities are spent.

Curaçao, anticipating new loans from the Netherlands, had already planned ANG 540 million in new spending, 259 million of it before the end of this year. Curaçao's government debt has risen to 3.1 billion guilders. *DMR (Koninkrijk.nu)*

Administrative coercion declared for BOPEC

The danger of a serious oil leak at BOPEC increases daily. The Maduro government in Venezuela has failed to fund the critical safety upgrades ordered by the Environment and Transport Inspectorate (ILT). Therefore the ILT has imposed an order for administrative coercion. It will take action itself, then recover the costs from BOPEC later on.

Five tanks at BOPEC still contain fuel oil. The oil cannot be removed from the island by tanker because the loading jetties are no longer safe to use either. All five tanks are in bad condition. In July the roof of the largest tank was reported leaking. Rainwater sinking under the oil could cause a corrosion breach in the tank wall that would let oil escape.

BOPEC does have two empty but previously renovated tanks available. ILT will inspect and test them, then transfer the oil from the deteriorated tanks. ILT intends to discuss all actions in advance with BOPEC staff in order to benefit from their knowledge and experience.

The oil stored at BOPEC, now generating Bonaire's electricity, will eventually be used up. Conoco owns the oil, having succeeded in a legal claim against it. The U.S. blocks its sale under sanctions it has declared against Venezuela. But both Conoco and the U.S. have agreed to allow Bonaire to buy the oil from BOPEC for power generation at the Contour Global plant,

There 15 more cases of Covid-19 on Bonaire. On September 19, 2020 there are 26 active cases of Covid-19 on Bonaire. The situation is serious. During the day the Lieutenant Governor will come with more information.

Call 0800-0800 if you have any symptoms related to Covid-19.

Maintain the hygiene instructions to prevent contamination with the coronavirus. Protect yourself and the ones around you.

provided the money stays on the island and is spent on BOPEC operations. *DMR*

Bonaire solvent, but backsliding on financial management

One goal of the Administrative Agreement between Bonaire and the Hague is a sound system for timely and accurate financial

Bubble closed, new travel restrictions announced

The air bubble with Curaçao, Aruba and Sint Maarten has been suspended. No passengers may arrive from those islands except people in essential professions—doctors and judges for example. Exceptions can come to Bonaire for a short time, must strictly adhere to the hygiene instructions, and are not allowed to move freely across the island.

All passengers 13 years and older traveling to Bonaire from the safe countries in Europe must show a negative PCR test result on arrival. The test must be taken no more than 72 hours before departure. Travellers without a negative PCR test result will be quarantined at a central location for 14 days at their own expense.

Everyone arriving on Bonaire must also submit by email a health certificate at least 48 hours before departure. The health statement can be found at <https://bonairepublichealth.org/nl/form>. All data entered will be sent to the Public Health Department and will be treated confidentially.

People who want an exemption from the current restrictions may apply by email to the Island Governor (repat@bonairegov.com). *DMR*

Bonaire has updated covid rules

Interacting with police

All visitors to the police station must wear a face mask, and will be provided with a mask if necessary. Visitors should reduce the contact time at the office as much as possible. People declaring an incident should write down what happened, then complete their report by telephone or e-mail. Uniformed officers will wear masks, even when they are in the police cars.

Symptoms

People who experience covid symptoms should stay home and call 0800-0800. They will receive instructions regarding what to do.

Events

All events involving singing, dancing and music are prohibited. No more than 50 people are allowed to attend public events. A maximum of 25 guests may come to private parties. This number of 25 guests also applies to events at snacks, cafeterias, bars and restaurants, trùk di pan and on beaches.

Sports

Sports activities may continue but without an audience. Gyms can stay open but are limited to half capacity and must observe to 1.5 meters distancing.

Bars and restaurants

Patrons must register, providing their name and phone number in case tracing is necessary. (These records may be destroyed after 21 days.) Social distancing guidelines must be followed.

Stores and Supermakets

Customers must shop with a trolley. Only two people may shop together. 1.5 meters separation must be maintained.

Work sites

1.5 meters of social distancing must be maintained as far as possible, including during meetings. Workplaces should be ventilated regularly. Employees, customers, and anyone else present must follow the hygiene instructions. *DMR*

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How to Find Us:

Read us online: <https://bonairereporter.com> ● <https://www.facebook.com/TheBonaireReporter/>
Available in 80 locations
Printed every two weeks
Next edition: September 23, 2020
Contributors' Deadline: September 18, 2020
Stories, tips, questions, ideas & ads:
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Distribution: Marlene & Co. (Playa), Yuchi Molina (Rincon), Divi-Divi Airline,
Printed by: DeStad Drukkerij, Curaçao
Founders: George and Laura DeSalvo
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Covid on Bonaire as of September 19, 2020

1157 tested	36 positive
108 in quarantine	1121 negative
26 active	1 deceased
9 recovered	



Reef Glimpses

Adapting Lessons from Bad-Ways-to-Attract-Fish, to Lionfishing

On a TV show called World's Dumbest Tourists, there's a video of a diver in Thailand feeding a moray eel he'd named "Emma" *. Emma was the size and shape of our green moray, that is, big. The diver was taking photos as he held out a Vienna sausage, and his buddy was videoing. Emma moved toward the sausage, and the diver moved the food away from her. Emma's predatory instincts kicked in and she chased the fleeing food. The diver spun away, still holding the sausage. Emma caught up to him and bit off -- and swallowed -- his thumb. I couldn't tell if Emma also ate the sausage.

The Thai hospital did a great job, placing one of the diver's toes on the missing thumb's site. He learned to use his toe-thumb well and a year later he returned to Thailand and even visited Emma -- but he didn't bring food.

In the early 2000's, off Florida, a dive guide thought it was a great idea to carry squid guts in his BCD pocket "so the fish would like him." Eventually a moray liked him so much that it followed the scent to the guide's fingers. That was the last time the guide tried to make underwater friends using food.

Wearing Eau de Squid Guts perfume is even worse than scatter-feeding, because the critters smell good smells but never get any of the food. They conclude that everyone

else ate it before they got there, and that they should chase the smell more assertively next time, and should be faster to taste whatever they bump into. Definitely not good for fingers.

A similar issue to that of Eau de Squid Guts has been occurring on Bonaire for a while now -- with lionfish. As speared lionfish are placed in keepers, blood is released into the water and, since most keepers allow water flow, whatever is leaking out of the lionfish leaks into the surrounding water as the diver swims along. Some morays decide to follow that scent.

A few years ago, on Klein Bonaire, I was one of three divers lionfishing and two who were carrying keepers. A small spotted moray, following the scent from my keeper, came at me faster than I've ever seen a moray move. I went into moray avoidance mode (developed when scatter-feeding was having its worst consequences). First: get your fins between you and the moray, so that as you swim away, the current from your fins pushes the moray away from you. Continuously watch the moray, trying to keep it beyond your fins. Second: swim away from the reef. Just being out in blue water makes the moray feel uncomfortable; it suddenly seems to realize, "Yikes, what am I doing out here?!" and scoots back to the reef. That day I couldn't swim out over the blue water because the moray was between the reef



Photo: a different kind of underwater feeding: We were diving in Washington Park and the diver on the right hadn't had breakfast. I can't see any fish in the photo; this may confirm their indifference to hot dog...

This picture was taken in about 1983, 37 years ago, when divers rarely got close enough to the reef for dangling gauges to be a problem. Even so, the gauges of these divers are tucked through their belts and don't hang far.

slope and me, so I had to swim upwards. The moray finally turned back to the bottom just as I got to the surface.

The entire event happened so fast I completely forgot to drop my keeper.

So, Lesson #3 is to learn lionfish-updated moray avoidance mode. Don't forget to drop the keeper! Also, if you're carrying a keeper (with at least one lionfish), or diving with someone with such a keeper, be aware of morays and be ready to move away from the reef.

A good idea for preventing morays from hunting your lionfish in the first place is to

minimize water leakage from your keeper. When I squirted some food coloring into my keeper and sealed it with a plastic bag, the bag did block off the colored water but was too flimsy to trust. However, it was interesting to note that the water flow stopped even when only one end of the keeper was blocked. We need to find a way to seal our keepers, something that could easily be moved out of the way for drainage. Got any ideas?

Enough of the horror stories. Next issue: Feeding that facilitates gentle interactions.

Dee Scarr

FOR SALE Bellafonte 101 Unobstructed Ocean Views



- Location : Belnem, Oceanfront
- Living area: 145 m2 / 1560 sq. ft.
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- Spacious open floorplan
- Management onsite

3D tour



Price \$583,000 US Dollar

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 http://www.facebook.com/REMAXBonaire



reporting. According to a letter from the Financial Supervision Council (Cft) addressed to Governor Rijna, the OLB did a better job of financial reporting for 2018 than for 2019.

As it did last year, the OLB met the July 15 deadline in submitting its annual report. But like last year's report, the 2019 report is incomplete because many government entities have not yet submitted their financial reports to the OLB. The areas of most concern are tax registration and collection and the handling of receivables and other levies.

The Cft acknowledged that the OLB has turned to external groups for help and encouraged it to carefully monitor their work. In February 2020 the OLB hired the SOAB accountancy firm to improve the reporting process. Last year an external bailiff was engaged to collect tax arrears. However, the amount of overdue taxes increased during the year.

According to the Cft letter: "The annual accounts show a surplus of USD 8.2 million, while a nil balance was budgeted. The income amounts to USD 91.6 million (USD 73.6 million) and consists of the special payments from the Netherlands (USD 32.6 million), the free distribution (USD 28.6 million), the local income (USD 22.0 million) and other income (USD 8.4 million)." DMR

EU satellite station may be located on Bonaire

Bonaire may be chosen for a role in the Galileo project, a global civil satellite navigation system with dozens of satellites and ground stations. Operational since 2018, Galileo is the largest European space project of all time. A sensor station for the system may be constructed at either Barcadera or Bonaire International Airport. A survey team visited both locations with Commissioner Elvis Tjin Asjoe in August. Once constructed, the station would be operated by small staff of trained technicians resident on the island. The decision will be made before the end of the year. DMR

WEB investigates July 31 power outage

Bonaire had an hour-and-half total power blackout the morning of July 31. In a press release, WEB blamed a technical issue following a routine maintenance procedure at the Karpata Powerplant and said it wouldn't happen again. DMR

Sint Maarten is far behind in hurricane Irma reconstruction

In response to the massive destruction hurricane Irma wreaked on Sint Maarten in 2017, the Netherlands donated 550 million euros to the country for reconstruction. To date, only a small part of the money has been spent and much of the damage remains. State Secretary Knops (BZK) blames the island gov-

ernment.

Knops said the execution and implementation of reconstruction projects is slower than expected. "The main causes of this," he said, "are a lack of capacity in the government and the National Recovery Program Bureau of Sint Maarten, slow decision-making, lack of data and specific expertise and political instability."

The Netherlands chose the World Bank to manage the funds. Knops defended its stewardship. Sint Maarten politicians accused the Bank of being "too bureaucratic" about releasing the money. DMR (Source: Koninkrijk.nu)

Multidisciplinary inspections in the hospitality industry

September 4th saw a multidisciplinary check at two entertainment venues. Customs checked correct procedures for excise goods. Belastingdienst Caribisch Nederland (BCN) investigated the identity of employees, and whether the employer's obligations were met. The Labor Inspectorate reviewed compliance with labor laws. The Supervision & Enforcement Directorate (DTH/OLB) checked drinks and catering regulations. KPCN checked for human trafficking, smuggling and exploitation of (illegal) prostitution. The KMar looked at cross-border crime. Special attention was also paid to identity checks and possible false documents.

The services found the following criminal offenses:

- Unhygienic conditions were found. DTH will ensure that the operators remedy these conditions.
- the Labor Inspectorate found violations of the Workers' Aliens Act BES and the BES Labor Act 2000.

Curaçao's New Underwater Research Station

Plans for a cutting edge, underwater research station 'PROTEUS™' have recently been released. The modular design, inspired by coral polyps, will allow scientists to live and conduct research directly from the ocean floor off the coast of Curaçao. PROTEUS™ is project of the Fabien Cousteau Ocean Learning Center (FCOLC) and is Fabien Cousteau's vision, supported by Yves Béhar through design. The station is slated to be built within three years and will provide unparalleled access to the deep sea.

The original plan was to build PROTEUS™ within three years, however, due to coronavirus, the project has already experienced delays. The goal is to offer regular live streams and video content. You can follow along or get the latest updates from the PROTEUS™ website: <https://www.fabiencousteauolc.org/PROTEUS™>

Photo: Fabien Cousteau's PROTEUS™



Ask Kate

Bonaire real estate advice

Hi Kate and Jean:

How quickly can a cash sale close?

How much time for a mortgage sale? Thanks for your help, I can't wait to get back to Bonaire! Dave

Hi Dave,

A cash sale with no contingencies can generally close in 30 – 45 days if the buyer sends all funds and needed documentation on time. The specific time frame can depend on market conditions. During a busy selling season, the demand for appointments for property appraisals, home inspections and Notaris appointments increases. However, there is not an increase in the number of pro-

fessionals who provide these services, so appointments take longer to schedule during busy times.

If you require a mortgage from a Bonaire bank, plan a minimum of 90 – 120 days, since the bank will require an appraisal of the home and detailed financial information from you before the application goes to the loan committee for approval.

All the best,
Kate Butler and Jean Scearce
Re/Max Bonaire

If you have a real estate question or want to buy or sell property, email us at kate@bonairehomes.com.

POLICE REPORT

Property crime

In the morning hours of Sunday, August 23, the police station was notified that three cars had been found on a site near the well, Seru Angola. A blue Hyundai Accent with license plate B-2239 was completely stripped. This car was stolen from Kaya Kuarts on September 30, 2019. The headlights of a gray Toyota Corolla Sedan with license plate B-3433 appeared to be missing. This car was stolen during a house burglary on August 22, 2020, at a house on the Bulevar Gobernador Nicolaas Debrot. The third car, a gray Chevrolet Spark with license plate B-5797, was closed. This car was also taken from a house at the Bulevar J.A. Abraham between Saturday, August 22 and Sunday, August 23. The cars have been impounded for further investigation.

On Sunday, August 23, a burglary was reported in a house in Punt Vierkant. Thieves went through an open window to take an iPad that was on the counter.

On August 30, around 2 pm, a burglary and destruction of a kunuku on Seru Angola was reported. Strangers destroyed a bathroom.

In the night of August 31, a burglary was reported in a house on Kaya Imelda around 3 am. The residents of the house were startled by the light of a burglar's flashlight. The burglar ran away.

Arrests

At around 4:30 am on Saturday, September 5, a woman, 37, was arrested at a house on Kaya Nikiboko South for assault and insult to a police officer.

Traffic accidents & violations

On Saturday, August 22, on the Kaya Internashonal around 4:40am a car overturned for an unknown reason. The four occupants had no visible injuries but were nevertheless checked on the spot by ambulance.

On August 28, around 10:30 in the evening, a unilateral accident was reported at Kaya Randolph Statius van Eps. The driver of a scooter slipped. After the man had recovered, he indicated that he had been drinking. The driver was transported by ambulance to the hospital.

On Friday, September 4, a scooter slipped on the sand on Bulevar J.A. Abraham. The sand was on the road because trucks with sand were driving from the port to a location nearby. The driver's helmet prevented more serious head injuries. The driver was taken to hospital by ambulance.

During the day on Sunday, September 6, police checked vehicles at various locations. Fines were issued for, among other things, driving without: a helmet, a driver's license, a seat belt, valid insurance papers and a number plate.

Bonaire and two Dutch municipalities to cooperate

A roads project manager from the municipality of Rotterdam will soon arrive for a six month assignment to help the municipality of Bonaire meet its road improvement goals. Other help is expected later from the municipality of Alphen an den Rijn. The three municipalities have signed an agreement to help each other plan and execute traffic, transport, water management, and civil projects. DMR

Flamingo Airport adapts opening hours

The Flamingo Airport of Bonaire continues to operate on an adapted schedule due to Covid 19. Effective September 1 up to and including October 31, BIA will open from 6 am to 9 pm. Only aircraft for medical and crisis assistance and cargo flights are exempted. Then the after-hours Operation agent on duty can be reached at 599-701-0477 from 5 pm to 9 am the following morning. At least one hour notice is required. (Source BES reporter)



National ombudsman Reineir van Zuphen holds a copy of his report, "A poor beginning."

National ombudsman Reineir van Zuphen discussed the new report "A poor beginning" which outlines the vicious cycle of poverty for young adults in the Caribbean Netherlands.

The report discusses the poverty that traps Bonaire's youth from poor families, a trap with little or no way out. Domestic violence and child abuse are often found in families that are unable to provide good housing and food. The kids lack learning and social skills. They are often left behind even on their first day of school. As they are unable to get ahead, the poverty cycle is passed on from one generation to the next.

The report recommends spearheading: Housing and support facilities; Training opportunities and activities; Vocational education, internships and work placement, and a buddy/confidant system.

Van Zuphen said that to make these spearheads happen, The Hague and local governments must trust each other so the two systems can work together as an integral system. Integration between The Hague and the islands is a must. According to van Zuphen there has to be the right balance between education and health. The only way is to start with the people themselves.

Van Zuphen met with 20 teenagers. He asked them their personal stories and what would help them break out of the poverty cycle. Amazingly the kids spoke up and told their stories. He said this type of exchange happens in a safe atmosphere where the kids feel secure enough to express themselves.

According to van Zuphen, government officials' interest is triggered by the stories of the people, not by numbers or statistics. He continued: "We have to tell the story of the people themselves, and be a good example of a state that treats everybody the same way."

To read the full report visit:
https://www.nationaleombudsman.nl/system/files/bijlage/Report%20A%20poor%20beginning_0.pdf

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of equipment and training for employees is expected to cost \$300,000. But rewards for Bonaire are immeasurable.

Bob said, in the beginning five jobs will be available for individuals with the right mindset for the training. Bob expects the showcase at LVV to be up and running by March. To complete the necessary paperwork, they have worked closely with LVV manager Maurice Adriaens and received visits and positive nods from executive council deputies James Kroon and Elvis Tijn Asjoe.

Maurice said, "I don't think anyone is against this, so we need to sit down and solve the issues and get it done. And if it goes successfully we can build three more."

LVV is on 50 hectares of government land for promotion of agricultural products. They provide education on how to grow plants on Bonaire and currently grow food for farm animals. Maurice said we could do so much more as there is plenty of room for other ventures like this.

Tijn Asjoe said, "Step by step every year we should try to create as much as possible of our own local foods and have a vision that in a couple of years we can pro-



Bob and Lauri Janssen with a bouquet of organic greens



Silver Nile Tilapia provide the nutrient filled water for the plants



Live Successfully Today!

by Malcolm Wilson

In *Live Successfully Today*, I will regularly be sharing three success triggers to help ignite your success.

A *Reflection For Today* to inspire you, a *Tip For Today* to equip you and an *Affirmation For Today* to empower you.

Reflection For Today

Are they Bonaireans?
 Are you Bonairean?
 Am I Bonairean?

Tip For Today

Every year on September 6th we celebrate Dia di Bonèiru (Bonaire Day)! On this day in 1499, our island was discovered by the Spanish explorers Alonso de Ojeda and Amerigo Vespucci.

Pabien ku dia di nos pais awe! (Congratulations with our country's day today!) is how I greeted an American friend the other day.

She uncomfortably accepted my cheerful greeting yet her facial expression was clear...I don't think I'm Bonairean!

So, when are you Bonairean?

She of course went on to explain to me how many years she lives here, that she doesn't have a Dutch passport, that none of her official documentation qualify her as a Bonairean, etc.

As I was listening to her, I was already thinking on the three defining questions that clarify whether a person is

duce 20-40 percent of the foods and maybe we can export."

He added that the government is working in this direction with plans to bring water to kunukus at a reduced price. This would make growing fruits and vegetables cost effective for Bonaire rather than importing.

"I am applauding this initiative and I hope that this will be bigger on Bonaire and we will have more of these initiatives to produce local vegetables and fruits," said Tijn Asjoe.

Bonaire DailyFresh veggies are 100% organic and use 1/6 of the water to grow eight times more food per acre. Bob and Lauri harvest their organic greens on a daily basis. For a list of the daily fresh greens or to purchase contact them through their Facebook page @ BonaireDailyFresh, WhatsApp 599-701-6321 or visit their website at <https://www.dailyfresh.eco/> and email, info@dailyfresh.eco.

Bob Janssen is a digital nomad from the Netherlands and Lauri Janssen is a technical systems analyst from the United States. They met through a work project and have four children. *Julie Morgan*

Bonairean or not (according to me)...

- 1) Do you love Bonaire and its community?
- 2) Are you currently living or have you ever lived in Bonaire?
- 3) Are you adding value or have you added value to Bonaire and or its community?

When it was my turn to speak, I shared my thoughts on the matter and that brought a smile to her face.

Of course she passed the three question test with flying colors and she ended our conversation with *Felisdia di Bonèiru pa bo tambe!* (Happy Bonaire Day to you too!).

Being Bonairean is a *Head, Heart and Hands* thing. At least, that's the way we live it here in Paradise (also known as Bonaire)...

Affirmation For Today

Today I am displaying my love for Bonaire and its community through my thoughts, my language and my behavior.

I am Bonairean.

Malcolm Wilson is an inspirational speaker, success coach and certified John Maxwell speaker, coach and teacher. Born and raised in Bonaire, his purpose in life is to inspire, equip and empower students and adults to be successful in school, at work and in life. Malcolm defines success as "Living your purpose, growing into your potential and serving people."

Picture Yourself in Portsmouth, VA, USA



Having just completed his first assignment with the United States Coast Guard, aboard the USCGC Legare (WMEC 912), the last thing on Lt. Jg. Anthony Baker's to do list was to take a picture with a copy of *The Bonaire Reporter* in Portsmouth, VA, the Legare's home port on August 27, 2020.

During his first deployment about the USCGC Legare, then, Ensign Baker, had the opportunity to visit Bonaire in March 2019. When friends and neighbors heard that one of his ports of call would be Bonaire they couldn't believe his luck. "His first assignment with the US Coast Guard and they're sending Anthony to Bonaire, he has friends there!" was one comment.

Sure enough, while on Bonaire, Anthony had the opportunity to visit with his friends (Joan and Alan Zale, if you want to use our names) from back home in Hartsdale, NY. They took Anthony on a tour around the island from Gotomeer Lake on the northern side of the island, to Rincon, to the Salt Flats and Lac Bay on the south. Anthony also had the chance to enjoy the beautiful waters of Bonaire snorkeling Bari Reef.

The USCGC Legare is a medium endurance cutter who mission is Search and Rescue, Drug Interdiction and Law Enforcement. Lt. Jg. Baker's next assignment for the Coast Guard is Cape May, NJ where he will be a port engineer. *Story by Alan Zale*

WIN A PRIZE! Are you elsewhere? We'd love to see you in *The Reporter*. Hold up the printed cover, or go digital and pose with *The Reporter* on your tablet, computer, or phone. Please identify everybody in your photo, and tell us about yourselves. All the 2019 submissions that we were unable to run will be published in 2020. All photos run in 2020 photos are eligible for the annual prize.

BONAIRE SKY PARK Fall and winter wonder sky

As September begins I'm here to help you find our seasonal wintertime constellations -- and a bonus: if you check throughout the week, the moon is going to fly through them!

If you hit the skies around five am and face South East, Orion the Hunter is easy to spot with his three bright belt stars. By drawing a line through Orion's belt you can go UP to find Aldebaran, the brightest star in Taurus the Bull, or go down toward the horizon and find Sirius the Dog Star in Canis Major. Catch the moon moving around too. Constellations are seasonal because of the movement of the Earth around the

sun. In the summer months, Orion, Taurus and Canis Major are too close to the sun North America so they're invisible to us night-watchers. Put simply, we're on the other side of the sun from them in space.

To find the celestial princess Andromeda, face east after sunset. There, you'll find the Great Square of Pegasus. Starting at the upper-right, counter-clockwise we have Markab, She-ott, Alpheratz and Algenib! That's the body of ol' Peggy.

Draw a line to the left from ALPHERATZ and you'll find Andromeda's hip MIRACH, and ALMACH, her foot! If it's dark enough where you are, up and to the left of Mirach is the furthest object we can see with the naked eye -- the incredible Andromeda Galaxy, M31! It's a barred-spiral galaxy just like ours.

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Did You Know that in the wild, Orcas, also known as Killer Whales, have never killed a person?

Did You Know that in the wild, Orcas, also known as Killer Whales, have never killed a person? It's important to read that first before you read the next fun fact: Orcas do not always stay in cold waters; they sometimes visit the Caribbean...even Bonaire! Until now, seeing a whale shark was at the top of my bucket list, but now I've decided that seeing an Orca would trump even a whale shark.

Orcas are marine mammals: they breathe air and their young are dependent on milk from their mother, just like humans. Orcas are actually considered to be dolphins, not whales, because they have cone-shaped teeth and a single blowhole. They are the largest dolphin species with a few individuals reaching lengths of almost 10 meters and weighing ten tons!

The reason Orcas are sometimes referred to as Killer Whales is because they sometimes hunt, kill and eat whales! Depending on where they live, Orcas may eat sharks, rays, fish, sea lions, seals, dolphins and whales. The manner in which these highly intelligent mammals hunt depends on their prey and the knowledge or 'culture' of their pod or family group. Orcas sometimes ram their prey with their heads, whack prey with their tails, often coordinate attacks with other members of their pod, and sometimes even beach themselves to reach prey. Some Orcas use 'bubble nets' to hunt, where they swim in spirals around a group of fish while making bubbles. The spirals get tighter and tighter until the fish are concentrated at the top of the column and are easier to eat! Orcas are apex predators, meaning they are at the very top of the food web and have no known predators



(besides humans).

Of all mammals, Orcas are the most widespread (besides humans) and are divided into communities depending on their territories. Communities consist of several clans that each has their own language of clicks, whistles and body language. If individuals of two different clans were brought together, they would probably not understand each other, just like humans that speak two different languages. Clans are comprised of several pods, or family groups, that each has their own dialect, accent and even culture.

In 1995, two Orcas were spotted near Spelonk and in 1996 two Orcas were spotted outside of Lac Bay. In 2008, one Orca was spotted midway between Bonaire and Curacao. There were 173 records of Orcas in the Caribbean between 1866 and 2012, with one pod having 25 Orcas! You can look up these sighting on Duke University's OBIS seimap site. Since 2012 there have been

many more sightings – confirmed with photos and/or videos. In 2016, two Orcas were killed by local fishermen in St. Vincent while a whale watching expedition looked on. Although it was allowed by law for local fishermen to harvest up to four whales a year, the local government pledged to protect Orcas in the future after seeing the negative consequences on tourism (and international criticism) that the incident caused.

The conservation status of Orcas with the IUCN is Data Deficient, meaning that there is so little known about these incredible animals that we don't even know if they are endangered with extinction or not. Because they are apex predators, they are very susceptible to pollution and chemicals and suffer from diseases and reproductive problems as a result.

So, although very rare, there are Orcas in our waters. It's pretty amazing to think that one day you or I may be lucky enough to see them!

Written by Caren Eckrich, Biologist, STINAPA Bonaire. Connecting People With Nature. Images: Robert Pittman NOAA/Wikimedia Commons

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Public input invited for emergency response plans

The Island Governor of Bonaire is obliged by law and regulations to establish a disaster control plan for a number of establishments and the aerodrome. The following disaster response plans are published in draft versions:

1. General disaster control plan
2. ABC plan BOPEC
3. ABC plan CUROIL Hato
4. CUROIL Flamingo Airport ABC plan
5. ABC plan BIA

The plans are available for public inspection in the conference room of the Administrative office of the public body Bonaire (OLB) in Plasa Reina Wilhelmina 1.

The population of Bonaire has the opportunity to respond to the plans for six weeks after publication. The public body of Bonaire will receive the responses via: ebt.bonaire@gmail.com and general@cuijpersconsultancy.nl

stating: Response sub-plan. The draft

plans are also available online:

- 1 Algemeen deel rampbestrijdingsplan https://issuu.com/openbaarlichaambonaire/docs/olb_rampbestrijdingsplan_bonaire__algemeen_deel_v
- 2 ABC-plan BOPEC https://issuu.com/openbaarlichaambonaire/docs/olb_rampbestrijdingsplan_abc-plan_bopec_versie_pub
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Dive Friends Dushi Style has moved

Following the relocation of the Dive Friends Retail store to the Gooddive site, Dushi Style has moved from Playa to the building the retail store previously occupied at Hato roundabout at 52 Kaya Gob. N. Debrot.

In 2015, Dushi Style opened its doors offering sportswear, fashionable beachwear and sporting equipment for men and women. Today, the new store is even better with an expanded selection of the

latest merchandise from brands Nike, Adidas, DC, Speedo, Eastern Skateboard Supply, Body Glove, Under Armour, Asics, RVCA, just to name a few!

Visit the store and have a look around at our great, new location. Opening hours are Monday to Saturday from 10am to 1pm and 2 to 4pm. Or call +599 717 4070 for more information.

Sarah Roskilly.

Send us your photo with The Reporter in print, iphone, ipad or computer - Picture Yourself!



A Garden? Just Do It! Baby iguanas and wood ash

It looks like there are a lot of baby iguanas these days. I keep seeing the little ones in my yard. They have such a protective green color that if I turn my eyes one moment away from them, I cannot find them again. They have eaten a lot of my young bitter gourd plants, my kouseband plants and the leaves of the sweet potato. But I have a secret; I have planted so much of everything that there is still some left for me. I plant a lot of the Mexican Mint herb in between and around certain plants in the yard. I heard from locals that the female iguanas don't want to mate if the male has the strong smell of this plant. I don't know if it's true, but it does seem to be working. In the photo you see the Mexican Mint crawling around a young mandarin tree. And for the present it works perfectly with no damaged leaves from iguana bites.

Try this when iguanas drive you crazy and plant more green than you need so there is always some left for you.

Another hint for your plants is the use of wood ash in your garden. It's an excellent source of lime and potassium. Not only that, using ashes in the garden also



Mexican mint herb protects the young mandarin tree against iguanas.

provides many of the trace elements that plants need to thrive. Wood ash is best used lightly scattered or composted along with the rest of your compost. In small quantities, the lye and salt will not cause problems, but in larger amounts it may burn your plants. Also, ashes from natural untreated wood are very different from ashes from charcoal briquettes. Once the carbon has burned away, the leftover ashes are high in minerals like potassium, an

Ask a Geek by Brian Niessen

What is cryptocurrency?



There are lots of definitions of cryptocurrencies, but the main thing that sets them apart from what are called "fiat" currencies is that they are NOT created NOR controlled by a government in most cases (Venezuela tried to create the PETRO but it flopped.)

So, what is a cryptocurrency and how do I use it? The most famous of course is Bitcoin, but it is only one of about 250,000 cryptocurrencies in the world. A cryptocurrency is usually mined, where a program looks for the right codes, similar to mining for minerals; or they are minted, whereby they are just created out of thin air. What they have in common is that they are digital, online and have nothing backing them (not that fiat currencies have any gold backing them anymore since about the 1970's).

Cryptocurrencies are kind of like a barter system. Using fiat currencies like US Dollars, you could buy some Bitcoin, transfer it to someone on the other side of the world and in only a few moments, it is done, all without any banks or governments and on the other end, the recipient could sell the Bitcoin in exchange for Euros. While this sounds very cool, remember that there is nobody you can call

to complain to if it doesn't work right, or if you sent it to the wrong account. This is called the Blockchain and it has no office, no servers, no licenses and no telephone number.

Even though it sounds easy, cryptocurrencies are not yet user friendly and not easy to deal with. One mistyped digit and you can lose a lot of value in an instant and for eternity. There is a story of one guy who threw out the hard disk with \$12 million worth of Bitcoin on it, and then tried to bribe the garbage dump to let him go look for it. They didn't. Unfortunately, just like cash - when it's gone, it's gone.

If you are interested in discussing cryptocurrencies more, I am putting together a small informal group that can meet. up, have coffee or beer and discuss. Just email me at Crypto@BonaireTechSupport.com for the time and place. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/656508321916261/> Cheers!

**Need help?
See the Geek's business ad
on page 10.**

essential nutrient and one of the primary minerals in balanced fertilizer. This nutrient is good for your plants in healthful quantities, but causes problems like fertilizer burn and nutrient deficiencies in plants if provided excessively. Charcoal briquettes are made of carbon residue that has been manipulated and contains additives and chemicals making them dangerous as a fertilizer for your plants in the garden.

Wood ashes are to be used sparingly when needed as an amendment for your garden and landscape plants. Charcoal ashes, on the other hand, should never be used as a nutrient supplement or fertilizer material in the garden. Do not dispose of charcoal briquette ashes in a compost pile, because the toxins may taint the compost and the plants that will later grow in it. Charcoal briquettes containing lighter fluid are especially toxic and should never be thrown into compost or worked into soil.

Horticultural grade charcoal is a type of fine charcoal, which is suitable for use in the garden. It's used to improve drainage and retain moisture in the soil. It also assists fertilizing agents, such as compost, by preventing nutrients from leaving the soil when it rains. As a fertilizer, alkaline ashes are useful as a soil amendment to raise the pH of acidic soils and reduce the

need for liming.

- In summary,
- Keep ash dry before use.
- Test your soil before spreading large amounts around.
- Use it in particular around root vegetables such as carrots, peas and beans, kouseband, trees and fruit bushes.

Locals in Rincon sell Bonaire wood charcoal. When burned, it is pure wood ash and very good for your garden. When used for BBQ it creates a fine dusty charcoal that can be used in the garden. The potassium in the charcoal also called potash, regulates a plant's water balance (so tissue is firm and juicy), and plays a part in transporting food within the plant in creating sugars and starches. Without enough, plants are more vulnerable to drought, pests and diseases. Especially on Bonaire, potassium is much needed for plants because of the extreme drought for months during the year. In this dry climate, potash regulates the plants water balance and is a must for our plants. And since we do a lot of BBQ here, we don't need to waste the ashes. Just add it to your garden or give it away to your garden friends. Give plants all they need to grow better so they can give you all you need to stay healthy.

Just do it now. *Angliet, Nature lover*

What's Happening

Saturday Sept. 13	Clean Coast Bonaire 4pm Te Amo Beach
Saturday Sept. 19	One-hour Clean up 9 to 10 am between Willemstoren and Sorobon beach. See story this page.
Saturday Sept. 26	One-hour Clean up 9 to 10 am between Willemstoren and Sorobon beach. See story this page.
Upcoming Events	Oct. 17th Quarterly Clean Up Dive Nov. 20th Instructor Development Course



48hourfilm project is October 30
Sign up at: <http://www.48hourfilm.com/bonaire>

Every Saturday

Pakus di Pruga- Flea Market store sponsored by the Animal Shelter from 8am till 4pm
Open but with "social distancing" requirements

Weekdays+

Washington Slagbaai Park will be open Monday to Friday from 8am to 5pm.
Bonaire Public Library: Mon. 1-5pm; Tues - Thurs. 8am -5pm; Fri 8am-4:30pm; Sat. 8am-12 noon.



Lend a hand on World Cleanup Day

To commemorate World Clean-up Day, the Tourism Corporation Bonaire (TCB) is organizing a "one-hour clean-up" for the hotels/resorts and guests who would like to participate. The cleanup is scheduled for two days: September 19th and 26th, 9am till 10am between Willemstoren and Sorobon Beach. Social distancing will be easy to practice as this is a large area.

The health of everyone must come first so we have a few basic rules:

- maximum 10 people from each hotel/resort
- spread out and avoid aggregation

during the cleanup

- no plastic or rubber gloves (we are trying to eliminate plastic – cloth is better)

- Follow Covid 19 prevention

TCB is providing the trash bags for all the participating hotels/resorts. And every participant will receive a thank you goody bag from TCB.

If you are interested in lending a hand cleaning up Bonaire, email TCB: marketing@tourismbonaire.com.

Let's work together towards a more sustainable Bonaire!



Making Bonaire "Accessible"

Do not forget about the elderly ...

Insecure, lonely and afraid, very afraid. That is how many elderly feel on Bonaire. Especially the elderly that are not indigen-ous.

For years people have come to live on Bonaire, because of the beauty, tranquility and nature. And when they grew older, they preferred to stay and not to move away.

There is another group of elderly who came to Bonaire with their children who got a job here. Pop and Mom stayed home with the children so the parents could work.

And then there are those elderly who moved to Bonaire from elsewhere, to enjoy the autumn of their life.

Bonaire's indigenous elderly mostly formed part of the families. That is how it has been done for ages.

Now, with the COVID 19 threats, they

are afraid. They feel alone and are insecure. Not very many elderly listen to the radio and hear about the news of the fight to keep the virus away. They watch TV, but not the national channels, because they do not understand nor speak Papiamentu or Dutch. Some do not even have a TV or internet.

And because they do not form part of an organization that watches out for the elderly, they miss out on a lot. Many don't even know of the organizations available for help.

They are alone. Some are alone because the children moved away or out of the home. Some are alone because their partner passed away.

But elderly need attention. They need to form part of a group and need to feel they belong as they did in the past. Now they are off the grid.



Let's go back into Bonaire's History and Culture...

Foundation History and Culture of Bonaire (FuHiKuBo) is offering a fascinating, not to be missed 'journey' into the History and Culture of Bonaire. The presentations will be taught in English by André Nahr and Boi Antoin over six days beginning September 14 through September 26.

Nahr and Antoin will explore Bonaire's history from the arrival of the first inhabitants 3600 years ago to the arrival of the first Europeans, like the Spanish in 1499 and then 100 years later the Dutch. The history presentation will include the arrival of African slaves in 1640, abolition of slavery in 1863, the British period in the early 1800's up to the post WWII period and the start of Bonaire's Modern Times.....

For thousands of years, the Caribbean Sea has connected the different people and their cultures from the mainland

countries of the Americas, Europe and the Caribbean islands. This international historical melting pot eventually formed the Bonairean culture that still lives on today.

Planned dates:

Tue 14 September	7 - 9 pm
Thu 16 September	7 - 9 pm
Sat 19 September	2 - 5 pm
Tue 22 September	7 - 9 pm
Thu 24 September	7 - 9 pm
Sat 26 September	2 - 5pm

This historical and cultural exploration of Bonaire will be held at FuHiKuBo, Kaya Irlandia 12, next to the Extra office.

To sign up for this fascinating event, call 717-8482 (Extra) till Friday, September 11 by 4.00 pm or email: shirleymartis2001@hotmail.com.

Price is \$ 80 per person.

Clubs & meetings

Open Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting. Every Thursday, 7 - 8 pm. International Bible Church, Kaya Papago 104 in Hato (Behind Bon Bida Spa & Gym and Bon Bida apartments). All are welcome to attend.

12 Step Meeting Wednesdays at Bonaire Basics, Kaya Korona 47. Meeting starts at 7:15pm. Info: 12stepsbonaire@gmail.com

It happens a lot now that they go see the doctor or start calling others by phone, just to see and talk to people. This is to break their loneliness, because it has been too long since they saw or talked to somebody.

They need company, people to talk to and people that organize nice outings for them. This is what helps them thrive.

Most elderly do not ask for help. So help should be offered.

Bonaire offers: assisted living, memory care and homecare for them, but many elderly do not prefer these options.

We should offer something else to them with more personal attention. Get a team of volunteers together who function as steady buddies. These buddies take them on outings, to the doctor or a pedicure or haircut.

They can organize tea parties or dinner

parties or just take them for a ride.

And the volunteers should offer specific help for the elderly. The buddies could sit with them to make a list of things that they could do for or with them.

The list could include: grocery-shopping, washing the windows, cooking something special, sitting at the boulevard and having an ice cream, shopping for clothes or doing a bit of gardening, etc.

Create a card with photos of all the possible suggestions for the list. Use as few words as possible because of the language barrier. The elderly person only has to point to the things they would like and the buddy knows how he can help.


This does not take much time and doing it is fun because you do it together and it makes some lonely elderly person very happy.

Ria Evers-Dokter.

At Your Service


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Good Dog, BAD FOOD



HUMAN FOODS YOU SHOULD NOT GIVE YOUR PET

The Toxic List:

These foods can be very harmful even in small amounts and are considered poisonous to both dogs and cats for various chemical and biological reasons:

Onions, Garlic and Chives- These can lead to red blood cell damage quickly and affects cats more seriously but can also be dangerous to dogs.

Chocolate, Coffee and Caffeine- It is common knowledge that chocolate is harmful to dogs, but can also be a danger to cats. Coffee and caffeinated sodas and energy drinks can also be toxic to pets and may also contain large amounts of sugar or artificial sweeteners posing a double threat.

Xyletol (and Other Artificial Sweeteners)- Xyletol is very toxic to cats and dogs and we must be sure to keep any products that contain this out of reach of our pets. Some peanut butters, toothpaste, diet sodas and chewing gum/mints can cause seizures and liver failure.

Grapes and Raisins- It is still unknown the exact toxin from grapes and raisins that causes problems, but cats and dogs both can suffer kidney failure if they eat these.

Alcohol (especially beer with hops)-Alcohol can have the same affect in our pets as it does in us, but the big problem is the dosage. Our pets are much smaller than us and cannot metabolize what we consider a "normal" amount of alcohol and they can suffer poisoning as a result of ingesting even a small amount.

Human Medications/Vitamins/Supplements-Never give animals medications intended for humans. Not only are the dosages incorrect, but many common drugs (like ibuprofen, acetaminophen) are poisonous to your dog or cat. Vitamins and supplements can also cause toxicity and must not be given to animals.

Animal Medications not Intended for the Animal- Dog medicine is for dogs only and cat medicine is for cats only unless specifically directed by your veterinarian. Mixing medications can have very dangerous consequences since different species react and metabolize medicines differently.

The Bad for Health List:

These foods are not immediately toxic or poisonous to your pet, but should be avoided or given in very small infrequent amounts to prevent complicated health issues that can worsen over time.

Dog/Cat Food- Make sure you feed your animal species specific food. Cat food for dogs can cause sickness if they eat enough, and dog food for cats over time will cause malnutrition and health issues.

Milk and Dairy-Dogs and Cats both do not actually process dairy very well and can also be lactose intolerant just like us. It is a myth to give milk to cats or kittens since it is hard for them to digest!

Raw Meats, Fish, Eggs, Etc.-The same dangers that we face with raw meat can also affect your pet. They can also get a salmonella or e-coli infection causing serious illness. Raw fish can also contain a parasite that can make your pup or kitty very sick.

Yeast (raw bread dough)-This can cause overexpansion in your animal's stomach (from the fermentation of the yeast) and cause blockages in the intestines. Avoid giving your animal even a little bit of raw dough.

Tuna (Cats)-Even cooked tuna can be bad for your cat if you are giving too much and too frequently. Tuna is an apex ocean predator and is loaded with mercury. Consuming too much of this fish is harmful to your cat. Plus, have you ever seen a housecat catch a tuna? It is not really a natural food source for your feline friend!

These lists might sound very picky to us as human omnivores, but in reality we must always remember that as much a part of our family they become, our pets are still a completely different species than we are! And so, they have much different dietary requirements and limitations. Even when we have the best intentions, we must stop and think about what we give our four-legged friends to eat. With this educated approach to loving our pets, we can ensure they stay healthy and live the longest and happiest life with us! *Story and graphic by Amy Weir*

We love our pets like they are family and are always doing whatever we can to keep them happy. From fancy pet beds and designer collars, to simply letting them sleep on the sofa, we all love spoiling our fur babies. One of the most common ways to show our pets we love them is to share what we ourselves enjoy, like our people foods. Who can resist a juicy perfectly cooked steak anyway? Even though we may have the best intentions, we must keep in mind that our animal friends are NOT human and may not react well to normal foods that we can eat. Read further to learn about some common foods to avoid with pets. Keep in mind that this is not a comprehensive list, and you should definitely consult your veterinarian with specific concerns regarding human food for pets.

Please help us continue to operate. Donate in person at the shelter (cash, credit or debit card), via our website <http://www.animalshelterbonaire.com> with PayPal or European credit card, or you can make a bank transfer:

Maduro & Curiel's Bank, Bonaire Branch

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Rabobank (Dongen, Netherlands)

IBAN Number: NL40 RABO • Beneficiary Acct: 0137 7487 44



Top L-R: Sanne Attevelt & Amy Weir
Bottom: L-R: Travis Sullins & Jane Madden-Disko

Pet of the Week: Rosie



Dear dog lovers, My name is Rosie, I'm around four years old and one year of that time has been spent at Animal Shelter Bonaire. I'm a very attractive, healthy and sterilized lady. Your first impression of me might be that I am shy, but actually I'm really not. I just like to figure out whom I am dealing with first and to see if you have the best intentions with me. Because what I have to offer all humans is a big kind heart that is ready to share my love if they give me theirs.

I love to go for walks and really like one-on-one attention. Sometimes I have my silly moods and I like to run...actually more like "race" around and feel the breeze going through my fur. I'm very good with other dogs of all ages and sizes, I'm just that easy. I hope through this message it will be a bit easier for me to find a forever home. I'm waiting for you to come and visit me at the Animal Shelter Bonaire at Kaminda lagoen 26, Mon.-Fri. 9 am-12 pm and 3-5 pm, Saturday 9 am-3 pm nonstop. Or call to make an appointment at 717-4989 or 701-4989, or by whatsapp. Hopefully I will see you soon. *Story & photo, Sanne Attevelt*

Ban Traha offers hospitality course

A practical professional hospitality course will be available for eight participants through the "Ban Traha" project in mid September.

"Ban Traha" exists to help jobseekers find a job. The hospitality course is offered by the practical trainer Education Institute Caribbean Netherlands (OICN) and held at Divi Flamingo Beach Resort.

Participants will learn telephoning, reception and operating a cash register. The telephonist and receptionist are concluded with a recognized diploma.

The vocational course is for people seeking a job and registered with the labor unit; seeking a job and having work experience in these services and people who would like to work in services.

On completion, participants will have a basis to find positions with customer contact such as a hostess/host, operator/receptionist, shop assistant or cashier. The course does not guarantee a job.

Interested participants or employers interested in a trained candidate can call or send an app before September 9 to 599-777-2246.

This course is offered through the Labor unit of the Society and Care Directorate with Plenchi di Trabou.



Ban Traha is een campagne van de directie Samenleving & Zorg

L-Junny Vos, Education Institute Dutch Caribbean and R- Mia Tweed, coordinator job market projects

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THE BONAIRE REPORTER ONLINE

news that has broken since the printed issue



26 active Covid-19 cases on Bonaire

Sept 18, 2020 Press release

There 15 more cases of Covid-19 on Bonaire. On September 19, 2020 there are 26 active cases of Covid-19 on Bonaire. The situation is serious. During the day the Lieutenant Governor will come with more information.

Call 0800-0800 if you have any symptoms related to Covid-19. Maintain the hygiene instructions to prevent contamination with the coronavirus. Protect yourself and the ones around you.



Tax Office Bonaire closed due to Covid infection

Sept 15, 2020 Press release

The office of the tax authority and customs is temporarily closed to the public due to a positive corona test.

You can reach us by phone at + 599 8585 715, or by email via helpdesk@belastingdienst-cn.nl



Questions about coronavirus call 0800-0800

More information
f Openbaar Lichaam Bonaire

New Covid-19 case on Bonaire

Sept 12, 2020 Press release

Kralendijk - Bonaire has a new positive case of COVID-19. It is one of the island's general practitioners. Dr. Hermelijn has been tested due to minor complaints and the result appears to be positive. Source and contact investigation has started.

All persons who have been in contact with Dr. Hermelijn from Saturday 5 September 2020 onwards will be identified and called. Public Health employees will contact these people. Persons who have been in close contact will be quarantined. In case of complaints, they are tested. All persons who have had recent contact but do not receive a call should monitor their health and call in case of complaints. In consultation with the person concerned, it has been decided to deviate from the privacy rule because it concerns a general practitioner.

If you have any questions or complaints and would like to register for a test, please call 0800-0800. Testing

if there are no complaints is pointless. Keep an eye on your health and call in case of complaints.

If you would like to provide your name because you have recently had contact with Dr. Hermelijn, you can report this to the call center on 0800-0800. You will then be called back to see how and when the contact took place and whether it was a risk contact. Later information will follow for the patients of Dr. Hermelijn's practice.

Prevent the coronavirus from spreading on the island. Everyone is called upon to adhere to the hygiene instructions. Wash your hands regularly with soap and water, keep 1.5 meters away and do not touch your eyes, mouth and nose. Keep moving, get enough sleep and increase your resistance by eating and living healthily. If you have complaints that indicate Covid-19, stay at home and call 0800-0800. Protect yourself and the people around you.

Message for all patients of Dr. Hermelijn.

Sept 13, 2020 Press release

All patients who have been to Dr. Hermelijn in the week of 5 to 11 September will receive a call one of these days by an employee of the Public Health department. Sometimes it is not possible to reach these persons by telephone. If you have had personal contact with Doctor Hermelijn last week and you do not receive a call, please contact 0800 0800 yourself. If you have only had contact with the assistants and not with Doctor Hermelijn himself, it is not necessary to worry, to make.

If you have complaints of a cold, cough, sore throat, fever or sudden loss of smell or taste, call 0800 0800 to make an appointment for a test. You can also sign up for a test with minor complaints. On Monday and Tuesday morning 14 and 15 September, there is extra space in the Drive-Thru test at Public Health at Kaya G.F. Betico Croes 24. Testing is only possible by appointment via telephone number 0800 0800. If there are no complaints, a test is pointless.

Once you have gotten an appointment for a test, you should stay at home and isolate yourself from your housemates as much as possible. If the result of the

test is known and it is negative, you can get out of self-isolation again. In another message you will find information about who you can turn to for general practitioner care in the coming weeks.

Patients Dr. Hermelijn will be cared for by other GPs

On behalf of the Bonaire General Practitioners Association Bonaire, the Bonaire General Practitioner Post and the Public Health Department, we inform you:

Since Doctor Hermelijn has tested positive for Covid-19, the Public Health Department has imposed mandatory isolation and quarantine for all of his staff. His practice will be closed for 14 days. As a result, Dokter Hermelijn's patients are cared for by fellow GPs for a period of 14 days

General Practices:

Centro Medico Central
Kaya Soeur Bartola 7, Kralendijk
Tel. 717 7140/7141

Doctor's clinic Antriol
Kaya Erica 1, Antriol
Tel. 717 5238.

Doctor's clinic Nort Saliña
Kaya Caribe z / n, Nort Saliña
Tel. 717 2246

Bonaire Medical Center
Kaya Soeur Bartola 17, Kralendijk
Tel. 717 7151

Medical Practice Miranda
Kaya Monsignor Niewindt 3, Kralendijk
Tel. 717-8661

Castro de Castro General practice
Kaya E.B. Sint Jago 7, Rincon
Tel. 717 6250

GP post (HAP):
Monday to Friday from 6:00 pm to 12:00 pm
Saturday and Sunday from 08:00 am to 12:00 pm
Kaya Soeur Bartola 7, Kralendijk
Tel. 717 0111

Patients are asked to consider the following:

- Emergencies can be seen by a doctor of your choice, call ahead if possible.
- Don't wait until 6:00 in the evening to get help. Please contact one of the other GPs if you think you need to be seen during office hours so that the GP station is not overloaded.
- Existing measures are maintained in all practices. These are: Do not come to the practice or the HAP if you have the following complaints such as: cough, runny nose, flu, sore throat. fever, even if the symptoms are mild.
- Call and contact a GP practice or HAP. All contact details can be found below.
- You can also contact the other GPs for repeat prescriptions. Please call on time so that you can find out which medicines you need and you will not run out of medicines. When you call, have your medicine boxes at hand so that you can give the name and details of the medicine.



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COVID-19 UPDATE SEPTEMBER 2020

WEB BONAIRE OFFICE VISIT CHANGES

The WEB office in Rincon is only open the first week of the month. At the WEB office in Playa, the Customer Service Department is at your service as usual. Our hygiene measures are extensive. We use stronger disinfectant products. Our teams work according to the hygiene practices recommended by the Cabinet of the Lieutenant Governor.

Nevertheless, WEB strongly discourages its customers from visiting the offices. This certainly applies to vulnerable groups and those with preexisting medical conditions, such as the elderly and the sick. WEB wants to minimize the risk of COVID-19 spreading.

Do your business with WEB preferably digitally or by telephone. Avoid physical contact as much as possible!

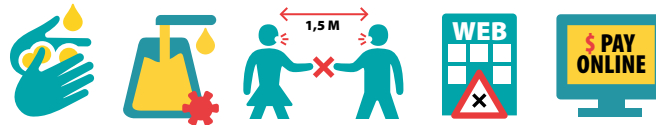
- Pay online! With online banking you can pay save from home 24/7.
Important!: Please state the invoice number per each invoice!
It takes approximately 2 business days to process your payment
- Pay your WEB invoice via the ATM of MCB; or
- instruct WEB for a direct debit.

Would you rather pay at the WEB office?

- Keep in mind that 1 cash register is open.
- WEB only allows a limited number of customers at a time.
- Preferably use your debit card, not cash.

Is it necessary to visit the information desk?

- This is only possible by making an appointment via e-mail: info@webbonaire.com
- **Important!:** no cash payments can be made at the information desk.



WEB Customer Service can be reached via
INFO@WEBBONAIRE.COM or **+599 7158244**

let's do it
together

Curaçao Chronicle

Curaçao now has 107 active corona infections Prime Minister announces: "Curaçao is now in phase 3" Sept 15, 2020

MAIN | By Correspondent Sept. 14, 2020

WILLEMSTAD - Prime Minister Rhuggenaath has announced this morning that Curaçao is entering a new phase in the fight against the coronavirus. Phase 3 is necessary to protect the population and prevent further escalation. This will apply for the next 3 weeks.

The government is looking as much as possible for a balanced way of making the measures more stringent and at the same time protecting the economy as much as possible.

At the end of last week, there was an increase in the number of cases. Now Curaçao must scale up to phase 3 to protect the most vulnerable, care capacity must be monitored and the pressure on public order must be taken into account.

Agglomeration in public places of more than 4 people is no longer allowed. Restaurants and bars can stay open until 10 pm. Truk

di pan (BBQ stands) may be open from 5 to 10 pm.

The government will impose a curfew starting September 17. No one is allowed on the street after 11 pm until 5 am. Authorities can again apply for an exemption. That application takes 72 hours to apply.

The government is asking people to stay in after 11 pm now. "That will affect the economy, but I want to remind you that we are in a crisis".

Rhuggenaath makes a serious appeal to the population to comply with the measures. "If we look at the numbers, we are not done with the virus yet. If you must go somewhere, do it and return home as quickly as possible."



In its meeting last night, (Tuesday, September 8) the Island Council did NOT ratify the new COVID-19 emergency order from the Lieutenant Governor: the votes were tied.

This has the following legal consequences: When the Island Governor exercises his authority under article 179.1 WOLBES and issues a so-called “emergency ordinance”, this will only remain valid if the Island Council ratifies the regulations at its next meeting. The last emergency ordinance was from September 7; the council met yesterday, September 8. Now that the emergency ordinance has not been ratified by the Island Council, it is EXPIRED. However: the Island Governor can lodge an

administrative appeal against the decision of the Island Council with the Kingdom Representative (RV). The RV must make a decision within 2 days.

If the Island Governor lodges this administrative appeal, the emergency ordinance will in principle remain valid until the RV has made a decision, UNLESS the RV itself decides to suspend the operation of the emergency ordinance until its decision.

The council had several points of criticism, including the retroactive effect of criminality; restrictions on outdoor sports; the 14-day period abroad; and the unequal treatment of the same negative COVID-19 test which, when administered in the Netherlands, saves compul-

sory quarantine on Bonaire; but when purchased in Curaçao still required to quarantine. The three members of the Demokrat (PDB) group and one member of the MPB group voted against the emergency ordinance partly because of these objections. Two MPB members and the two members of the UPB group voted in favor. One member of the nine-seat Island Council was not present and could therefore not participate in the vote. The result of the vote was therefore four-four. In parliamentary procedure, a tie is equal to the rejection of a proposal. Yesterday evening the Island Governor announced that he would file an administrative appeal with the RV.

State of Affairs and brief travel report from RW Knop in regard to Bonaire.

This was a part of a larger document in regard to the Kingdom Act Caribbean Reform

I visited Bonaire from 30 of August to 1 of September. This visit was dominated by the progress of the Administrative Agreement, the effects of the Covid-19 crisis (medical and economic) and the developments in the field of tourism (nature and blue destination).

I spoke with the individual members of the Executive Council as well as with the entire Executive Council in particular about the progress of the administrative agreement. Although progress is being made in certain areas, such as in the field of social housing and Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries (LVV), the implementation of the administrative agreement is slowing down. I am still just as optimistic about the possibilities of the administrative agreement, but I am not satisfied with the pace at which it is being implemented. In any case, the greatest urgency must be exercised in getting the supporting civil service in order, the positions of island secretary for example and other key positions are essential for reinforcing governing powers. Progress in financial management is also insufficient and must be taken up vigorously. In that context, I have agreed with the Executive Council to implement the Plan of Action as soon as possible in the context of an unqualified auditor's report. I will also ask the BES Financial Supervision Board to keep me regularly informed about this. While resources are available, progress in road improvements has been insufficient. During my visit, I signed a cooperation agreement between the municipalities of Alphen aan de Rijn, the municipality of Rotterdam, the Public Entity Bonaire and the Kingdom. This will perpetuate the existing cooperation and continue support for road repairs, among other things. It now comes down to the decisive

implementation of the various road projects that are in the pipeline. I also discussed the collaboration between the Public Entity Bonaire and the Kingdom in the social domain and other subjects from the administrative agreement. I also discussed the progress of the administrative agreement with the programme manager. The Executive Council and the programme manager share my conclusion that progress is insufficient. The Executive Council has promised me that the efforts and control of progress will be improved and that where necessary help will be requested.

During my visit I also spoke with the MPB and UPB parties from the Island Council. The Friday before my visit, I spoke with the DP party chairman. I also spoke with ten young Bonaireans about the relationship with the government and the developments on Bonaire.

I had talks in the context of the effects of the Covid-19 crisis with employees of the food bank, public health care, social affairs and the board of the Fundashon Mariadal hospital. I also expressed my appreciation for the efforts of all those involved. In the context of the economy, I also held talks with entrepreneurs and the Chamber of Commerce. These talks were mostly focused on ideas to ‘get the economy back on track’ and the support measures. These talks show me that the entrepreneurs greatly appreciate the support they receive, but at the same time are concerned about the future. Thanks to the support from the Netherlands, the worst blows can be absorbed. It is clear that continued efforts are needed in the near future in relation to the impact of the Covid-19 crisis and its economic and social consequences for the island. At the same time, this crisis offers the Bonaire board the

opportunity and necessity to make choices for the future.

An important topic for the future of Bonaire is nature conservation. I have spoken about the interpretation of the Blue Destination concept and the opportunities that this offers for a sustainable development of tourism on Bonaire. This does require choices and decisions by the Public Entity, for example how to deal with the unstructured growth of the number of inhabitants and what kind of tourism is desirable on Bonaire. In the context of nature conservation and the management of free-roaming cattle, I spoke with the new manager of Stinapa. There are signs that marine life is developing positively due to the greatly reduced cruise and other tourism. For example, there are more and larger fish to be seen. No statement can be made about the impact of reduced tourism on water quality. Stinapa is looking for ways to measure the quality of the water on a structural basis, also in order to make the effects of erosion measurable. Erosion that incidentally can be reduced by better drainage and collection of rainwater, which can also be used for agriculture. Better management of stray goats and donkeys also contributes to the prevention of erosion. I spoke about the donkey situation with the manager of the Donkey Sanctuary Bonaire. All this requires choices and decisions by the island government. I am convinced that with good choices a sustainable future for Bonaire lies ahead.

The State Secretary of the Interior and Kingdom Relations

R.W. Knops

April, May, & June Corals

Latin name	Common Name	Spawning Window	DAYS AFM				DAYS AFM				DAYS AFM			
			CALENDAR DATE				CALENDAR DATE				CALENDAR DATE			
			SUNSET TIME				SUNSET TIME				SUNSET TIME			
<i>Diploria labyrinthiformis</i> *	Grooved Brain Coral	70 min BS-10 min AS	10	11	12	13	10	11	12	13	10	11	12	13
			17-Apr	18-Apr	19-Apr	20-Apr	17-May	18-May	19-May	20-May	15-Jun	16-Jun	17-Jun	18-Jun
			18:48	18:48	18:48	18:48	18:53	18:53	18:53	18:54	19:01	19:01	19:01	19:02

*Monthly "DLAB" spawning has been observed from April to October in Curaçao, Bonaire, the Dominican Republic, and Mexico. We don't yet know if this occurs across the entire region. New observations are highly encouraged!

July Corals

Latin name	Common Name	Spawning Window	DAYS AFM													
			CALENDAR DATE													
			SUNSET TIME													
<i>Diploria labyrinthiformis</i> *	Grooved Brain Coral	70 min BS-10 min AS	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<i>Montastraea cavernosa</i>	Great Star Coral	15-165 min AS	4-Jul	5-Jul	6-Jul	7-Jul	8-Jul	9-Jul	10-Jul	11-Jul	12-Jul	13-Jul	14-Jul	15-Jul	16-Jul	17-Jul
<i>Colpophyllia natans</i>	Boulder Brain Coral	35-110 min AS	19:04	19:04	19:04	19:04	19:04	19:04	19:04	19:04	19:04	19:04	19:04	19:04	19:04	19:04

August Corals

Latin name	Common Name	Spawning Window	DAYS AFM													
			CALENDAR DATE													
			SUNSET TIME													
<i>Diploria labyrinthiformis</i> *	Grooved Brain Coral	70 min BS-10 min AS	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<i>Montastraea cavernosa</i>	Great Star Coral	15-165 min AS	3-Aug	4-Aug	5-Aug	6-Aug	7-Aug	8-Aug	9-Aug	10-Aug	11-Aug	12-Aug	13-Aug	14-Aug	15-Aug	16-Aug
<i>Colpophyllia natans</i>	Boulder Brain Coral	35-110 min AS	19:00	19:00	18:59	18:59	18:59	18:58	18:58	18:57	18:57	18:56	18:56	18:55	18:55	18:54

September Corals

Latin name	Common name	Spawning Window	DAYS AFM													
			CALENDAR DATE													
			SUNSET TIME													
<i>Diploria labyrinthiformis</i> *	Grooved Brain Coral	70 min BS-10 min AS	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<i>Meandrina meandrites</i>	Maze Coral	10-70 min AS	1-Sep	2-Sep	3-Sep	4-Sep	5-Sep	6-Sep	7-Sep	8-Sep	9-Sep	10-Sep	11-Sep	12-Sep	13-Sep	14-Sep
<i>Montastraea cavernosa</i>	Great Star Coral	15-165 min AS	18:45	18:44	18:44	18:43	18:43	18:42	18:41	18:40	18:40	18:39	18:38	18:38	18:37	18:36

October Corals

Latin name	Common Name	Spawning Window	DAYS AFM													
			CALENDAR DATE													
			SUNSET TIME													
<i>Diploria labyrinthiformis</i> *	Grooved Brain Coral	70 min BS-10 min AS	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<i>Meandrina meandrites</i>	Maze Coral	10-70 min AS	1-Oct	2-Oct	3-Oct	4-Oct	5-Oct	6-Oct	7-Oct	8-Oct	9-Oct	10-Oct	11-Oct	12-Oct	13-Oct	14-Oct
<i>Montastraea cavernosa</i>	Great Star Coral	15-165 min AS	18:25	18:24	18:24	18:23	18:22	18:22	18:21	18:20	18:20	18:19	18:19	18:18	18:18	18:17

November Corals

Latin name	Common name	Spawning Window	DAYS AFM													
			CALENDAR DATE													
			SUNSET TIME													
<i>Diploria labyrinthiformis</i> *	Grooved Brain Coral	70 min BS-10 min AS	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<i>Meandrina meandrites</i>	Maze Coral	10-70 min AS	31-Oct	1-Nov	2-Nov	3-Nov	4-Nov	5-Nov	6-Nov	7-Nov	8-Nov	9-Nov	10-Nov	11-Nov	12-Nov	13-Nov
<i>Eusmilia fastigiata</i>	Smooth Flower Coral	75-270 min AS	18:10	18:09	18:09	18:09	18:09	18:08	18:08	18:08	18:08	18:07	18:07	18:07	18:07	18:07

August/September/October Sponges, Gorgonians, & Others

Latin name	Common Name	DAYS AFM													
		CALENDAR DATE													
		SUNSET TIME													
<i>Holothuria mexicana</i>	Donkeydung Sea Cucumber	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<i>Hermodice carunculata</i>	Fire Worm	3-Aug	4-Aug	5-Aug	6-Aug	7-Aug	8-Aug	9-Aug	10-Aug	11-Aug	12-Aug	13-Aug	14-Aug	15-Aug	16-Aug
<i>Diadema antillarum</i>	Long-Spined Sea Urchin	1-Sep	2-Sep	3-Sep	4-Sep	5-Sep	6-Sep	7-Sep	8-Sep	9-Sep	10-Sep	11-Sep	12-Sep	13-Sep	14-Sep

Legend

Days AFM: Days After the Full Moon
min BS = Minutes Before Sunset
min AS = Minutes After Sunset

Pale Blue: Spawning may be possible but more data are needed! This species is understudied on these dates and times. Please help us make new discoveries by diving these windows!

Pale Yellow: Spawning is possible - has been observed on these dates

Bright Orange: Spawning is likely - often observed on these dates

Red: Spawning is very likely - reliably observed on these dates

To Observe Spawning

- Make multiple dives on multiple nights
- Dive in a place with high coral cover
- Enter the water before predicted times
- Dive shallower than 50 feet to maximize bottom time
- Use a moderately bright dive light
- Scan the water column for clouds of spawn



Notes

- Predictions are based on observations from previous years but this does not guarantee spawning will occur. When in doubt, go for a dive!
- Spawning times vary based on local sunset times. To look up your local sunset times, visit www.sunandmoon.com.
- Your discoveries help coral research. Please report your spawning observations (species, date, time, location, and pictures if possible) to carmabilog@gmail.com. To contribute to the CRC spawning database, contact v.chamberland@secore.org
- Special thanks to everyone who contributed their spawning observations over the past 25+ years! We wish you a safe and productive spawning season!
- Citation: Vermeij, M.J.A., Chamberland, V.F., and Marhaver, K.L. "Coral Spawning Predictions, Southern Caribbean 2007–2020." CARMABI, Curaçao.