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Street artist Edoardo Trionfera (Dodici) and his contribution to the 'blue wall'.

No museum required

Perhaps more than any other art form, Street Art evokes some emotion in everyone, because, well, it is in-your-face art. No museum is required. Street art is in your neighborhood, where you shop, dine, go to school, play and recycle. When you see it you may smile, laugh, feel happy, love it or totally hate it, but, you look at it and sometimes it even makes you think. With its roots coming from illegal graffiti and tagging, street art is legal. It is sometimes political or a form of protest or just interesting and it's just fun to see.

We are seeing more and more of this contemporary art form popping up all over Bonaire. In part we can thank the Street Colors Bonaire project for these random works of colorful art.

Street Colors is headed up by Karine de Wit and initiated by Plataforma Kultural and Rewriters of Rotterdam, Netherlands. The idea is to teach Bonaire's kids about street art, but the island is reaping the rewards with the colorful art showing up on once boring vertical surfaces. Street Colors has enlisted the help of both local and guest artists from Europe for the project. Now living in Rotterdam, Italian born guest street artist Edoardo Trionfera or Dodici, has been busy teaching the kids for the last six weeks about the contemporary art form. Edoardo has taught street art workshops on drawing, painting, stenciling and even making art with spray cans for students at Pelikaan, Forsa, MBO and Hofi Kultural. He and the kids have painted flamingos at SGB and a flamingo covered with trash at Selibon. They painted street art on a yellow school bus donated by Orlando Francisco of Rentofun that will be seen traveling Bonaire streets soon.

Edoardo explained that his goal working with the kids is to make a connection and have a good influence. It's

not so much about giving them the idea of becoming an artist as a job, but more like giving them a hobby so they can have art in their lives.

Like so many street artists, Edoardo likes the connection of being out there painting on the street. Whereas a traditional artist is stuck working in a studio, the street artist is out with the people.

Street art often gives artists who don't have the resources to launch a more traditional art career a chance to express themselves in art. The diversity of mediums



Street Colors Project student from Liseo School, Cas van Dommelem, adds color to the bus with spray paint.

used in street art includes spray paint, latex paint, LED art, mosaic tiling, stencil art, sticker art, wheatpasting, recycled material and woodblocking; meaning street art is only limited by the artist's imagination. Many of the well-known artists today began as street artists.

Like all artists, Edoardo hopes to achieve that recognition at some point but his main goal is to express his lifelong love of art.

A few of the local artists involved in the Street Colors educational program joined Edouardo November 29, to paint the 'blue wall' next to the old jail in Playa. The artists brought their own style of street art to the big wall creating some excitement to an otherwise boring space. On display are works by Ghislaine Monte, Maria Clara Arboleda, Edoardo Trionfera, Robert Kramp and also by Judmar Emerenciana who is part of the coaching team and a graphic designer. All the artists, including Edoardo who works as an illustrator and graphic artist, work at other jobs and pursue their street art on the side.

Edoardo is completing one of his signature works for Bonaire in Playa before he returns to the Netherlands this weekend.

For more information visit www.streetcolorsbonaire.com or follow the project on Instagram @streetcolorsbonaire. To learn more about Edoardo Trionfera visit Dodici.art or Dodiciartproject.com.

Street art takes the 'normal' and makes it a thousand times more interesting. – Graffiti Kings

Photos and story Julie Morgan. More Street Colors photos on page 11 and our Facebook page.

The BONAIRE REPORTER online

news announced since the printed issue



Numbers December 12, 2020

One person has been tested positive for Covid-19. The source of the contamination of people who have tested positive the past week is known. Most people who tested positive are residents of Bonaire who had contact with work related visitors from Curaçao. Only one of the 22 persons who tested for Covid-19 got an positive result. On December 12th Bonaire has 8 active cases of Covid-19. 142 persons have recovered and no people are admitted in hospital.

Do you have a fever, sore throat or other complaints related to Covid-19? Stay at home and call 0800-0800.

Maintain the hygiene instructions. Eat healthy, exercise and get enough sleep.

Take care of yourself and the people around you.

#PreveniCorona #coronaBonaire #coronaBoneiru



Selibon press release December 7, 2020

2.8 million euros

Secretary of State Van Veldhoven has granted 2.8 million euros in financial support for a cleaner Bonaire. At Selibon and the Openbaar Lichaam Bonaire we are pleased with this support because it is an important step towards a more sustainable waste management on Bonaire.

This financial support enables the implementation of various projects in the



Selibon's new oil tanks

field of separate waste collection, such as:

- Developing facilities / facilities for the temporary storage of used oil and small hazardous waste (such as batteries, paint, cartridges, aerosol cans, etc.).
- Investigate the refurbishment of the Lagun waste center.
- Investigating sustainable solutions for the separate collection and processing of household waste.
- Supporting and building the capacity of several Selibon employees.

In addition, this amount also includes the financing for the purchase of a magnet and resources already purchased, such as a press machine and an excavator with a grab.

Facility for temporary storage of waste oil

In the spring of 2020, Selibon was appointed to take care of the collection, temporary storage, sea transport and processing of waste oil after Bopec could no longer provide this. For the temporary storage of waste oil, facilities still need to be built that meet international and island requirements and conditions. A tender is in progress for this. Some of the construction work has already started in 2020 and will continue until the end of 2021.

The waste oil is transported to a recognized processor outside Bonaire thanks to an agreement between Bonaire and Curaçao. The waste oil is used as fuel for some production machines in Curaçao.

Facility for temporary storage of small hazardous waste

Small hazardous or chemical waste is harmful to humans and the environment. That is why this project must ensure that all small hazardous or chemical waste is ultimately collected, temporarily stored, removed and processed by means of a specially designed structure.

Construction work is scheduled to start in early 2021.

Separation from household waste

The household waste (which is not separated) is still dumped. This is very bad for public health, nature and the environment and the capacity of the landfill is limited. This makes it necessary to investigate the possibilities for separate collection and processing of household waste, so that less residual waste ultimately needs to be dumped. A proposal and an elaborated business case will be drawn up based on the result of this research.

Refurbishment of Lagun waste center

In order to better assess future options for waste management at Lagun, it is important to conduct a preliminary investigation into the infrastructure at Lagun. A baseline measurement will be taken to determine the correct next steps.

In this way, Selibon, the public entity Bonaire and the Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management continue to work together to develop a more sustainable waste management in Bonaire.

Deputy Elvis Tjin Asjoe retires, temporarily

Deputy Elvis Tjin Asjoe of Finance, Economy and Tourism, announced his immediate retirement as deputy of Public Entity Bonaire during a directors meeting on November 25. According to his letter, the meeting agreed to the possibility of his rejoining the government sometime before the next election (March 22, 2022) either as deputy or as a member of the Island Council. He affirmed his continuing support for Public Entity Bonaire, its leadership, and his party, the Movimentu di Pueblo Boneriano (MPB).

Tjin Asjoe said, "For personal reasons I am retiring as deputy of Public Entity Bonaire beginning immediately and at the same time creating opportunity for another leader in the party to have the opportunity to carry the responsibility of governance." *DMR. & JM.*

The Hague will write Bonaire's 2021 budget

Despite several warnings, the Island Council did not submit a 2021 budget to the Financial Supervision Council (Cft) for approval by November 15, as required by the FinBES Act. Therefore, as provided under the Act, the Cft will draft the budget the OLB will operate under beginning January 1.

On October 30 the Island Council sent State Secretary Knops a letter requesting a postponement until November 30. Knops refused, pointing out that the Act does not allow postponement. He also asked the BC "to indicate which actions it is taking to structurally improve the budget process, since the Cft has already called you to do so several times this year and now that the process to arrive at a budget for 2021 is not going well either."

The Cft acknowledged the OLB's intention to deploy a "change team," paid for by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, to help it develop the legally required financial management practices. The Cft said the Executive Council must inform it monthly regarding the OLB's progress.

The failure of government companies to report accurate and timely financial information, especially regarding personnel costs, seems to be one of the major bottlenecks in the budgeting process. *DMR (Koninkrijk.nu)*

BES transfer tax to stay higher

When a home is sold in the Caribbean Netherlands, the transfer tax is 5 percent. The rate in the European Netherlands is 2 percent. When challenged about the discrepancy in the House of Representatives, State Secretary of Finance Hans Vijlbrief said the tax would not be changed. He explained that the Caribbean Netherlands has a different package of tax measures than the European Netherlands. When the 2013 Tax Plan was written, it was decided that a lower gasoline tax would benefit more people in the Caribbean Netherlands than a lower transfer tax. *DMR (Koninkrijk.nu)*

Neighbors hear Curaçao jailbreak

Seventeen Venezuelans awaiting deportation from Curaçao escaped from the SDKK prison in Curaçao on November 15 by pounding a hole through a concrete wall. During the several days it took them to breach the wall, local residents in the adjoining Koraal Specht district noticed the sounds. But the police didn't. Nor did they investigate why the prisoners were singing loudly all day, and banging on objects. One escapee has been apprehended. The matter is being investigated. *DMR (Koninkrijk.nu)*

COVID-19, news roundup

When COVID-19 vaccine becomes available, the Health Council in the Hague has recommended that all adults in the Netherlands, including the Caribbean Netherlands, be vaccinated under the same priorities. People over the age of 60, medical risk groups and healthcare workers will be the first to be considered.

Bonaire had three positive cases of COVID-19 at press time. No patients are being treated in the hospital and 139 have recovered since the pandemic began.

Aruba's code has been changed from orange to yellow because the number of COVID-19 cases has decreased. Travelers from Aruba to the Netherlands no longer have to go into home quarantine for 10 days.

Curaçao is being hit hard by a burst of COVID-19 infections. The number of new cases increased to more than 100 on November 28 and 29. Total cases since the pandemic began are approaching 550.

A \$1,000 bonus will be paid to pandemic care professionals in the Caribbean Netherlands. It will be comparable to the 1000 euros bonus paid in the European Netherlands.

Bridging loans are available to entrepreneurs on Bonaire facing significant loss of income resulting from Covid-19 restrictions. The government has allocated \$349,135.

PCR testing is now mandatory for all travelers from the neighboring islands. People traveling back and forth from Bonaire to Curaçao in one day must now be tested too.

Empty center seats are now the norm on most major airlines, including American and Delta. Studies have shown that the danger of contacting COVID-19 while flying is extremely small because of the good ventilation and required precautions. *DMR*

Direct flights from the US

Tourist Corporation Bonaire (TCB) business manager Marjolein Oleana said they expect direct flights from the United States to begin in December but everything relies on the government decision. At this time they expect flights from American Airlines to begin December 19; Delta should resume flights to Bonaire January 16 and there is no word regarding flights on United Airlines. A PCR test is required for all travelers. *JM*

BC receives draft legislation banning disposable plastic

Department of Space and Development has submitted a draft regulation to the Executive Council of Bonaire (BC) for a ban on certain types of single use plastic. If the regulation is approved, this "plastic legislation" will be part of the local waste regulation.

If the draft regulation is adopted, within six months after adoption no one can distribute or sell disposable plastic cutlery, straws, stirrers, bags and food packaging. The ban applies not only to companies, but also to persons who earn extra money on a hobby basis, such as sellers of snacks, who use plastic packaging materials. The plastic regulation will be expanded in phases and should eventually lead to a ban of the most harmful types of disposable plastic.

OLB stresses the long term economic benefits of banning single use plastics.

OLB: In the short term, costs may increase for certain products, such as take-out meals. In the long run, however, the benefits outweigh the drawbacks. Our economy largely depends on the experience of nature, both under and above water. For many of our visitors, coming from the US, Canada and Europe, sustainable use of nature is self-evident.

OLB

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Covid on Bonaire as of December 12, 2020

8 active	0 hospitalized
142 recovered	3 deceased
153 positive	2854 tested
2701 negative	0 in quarantine

For breaking Covid news go to the online Reporter pg. 16+ <https://bonairereporter.com>

Colorful art benefits local cancer prevention



Delno Tromp stands amid his colorful Bonaire art pieces at the pop up store located in the South Pier mall. The brightly colored canvasses display subjects one might normally disavow as subject matter. Delno's humor comes through in each representation of chickens, goats, flamingos and people. He has even included some of the ancient Bonaire cave painting drawings into his work. And you will also find some 3-D art and bags.

The show began November 21 and will run through January 16. Proceeds from the show will benefit Prinses Wilhelmina Fonds that works toward prevention and support of cancer patients. For more information contact Delno at Delno33@yahoo.com or visit the store Tuesday – Saturday from 12 – 5 pm. *Story and photo Julie Morgan*



Curaçao is the winner of the Children's Rights Film Festival Caribbean 2020

On November 21st, the finale of the second edition of the UNICEF Children's Rights Film Festival Caribbean 2020 took place via a live tv-show hosted from the Netherlands, presented by Lisette Wellens.

The films presented included both scripted Children's Rights films submitted by Saba, Bonaire, Curaçao, Aruba and Sint Eustatius and films submitted by Sint Maarten and Sint Eustatius where the children explained their child rights drawings.

Nina den Heyer, a commissioner on Bonaire, the host island for 2020, announced the winners .

- best Children's Rights film
Emmanuel School, Curaçao.
- best acting
Emmanuel School, Curaçao.
- best story
Makuarima School, Aruba
- best children's rights drawing
Canadian International Acad., Sint Maarten
- best argumentation for child rights
Golden Rock School, Sint Eustatius

After the tv-show each island had their own after-party.

Only when children know their rights will they be able to stand up for them. The UNICEF Children's Rights Film Festival brings children's attention to their rights in a creative manner. *RCN communications*

FOR SALE Crown Ridge 22 Building Lot



- Location : Sabadeco
- Lot size : 818 m2 / 8805 sq. ft. owned land

- Utilities are already in place
- Close to dive site Andrea I

Price \$179,900 US Dollar

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POLICE REPORT

Property crime

On Tuesday, November 17, a 21-year-old man was arrested for skimming, a crime. The Investigation Department of the Caribbean Netherlands Police Force and the bank concerned investigated the crime which was reported on Tuesday October 13.

Skimming is the illegal copying of payment card data. The magnetic stripe is copied from your card and the pin code is obtained when you make a transaction. Police advice: *How do you prevent skimming? Pay attention to people who are too close; shield the pin code with your hand; Check your bank balance very regularly. Do you see unknown transactions? Block your bank card immediately.*

Between 3 and 3:45 pm on Friday, November 20, thieves smashed the driver's side windows with a stone and took away two backpacks with contents from a locked car parked at the dive site Karpata.

On Thursday, November 19, a number of license plates were returned to the police station. If you recognize your stolen license plate, and have proof of ownership, you can pick it up.



Arrests

In the early morning hours of Sunday, November 22, a man, 29, was arrested for suspicious behavior. The suspect had tampered with a number plate by converting a four-digit license plate to three-digits. The number plate came from a moped theft on September 24 at Kaya Klafir. The suspect could also not identify himself and no valid driver's license or insurance certificate.

The weekend of Friday, November 20 to Sunday November 22, various arrests were made at various locations: A man, 34, was held for assault; a man, 25, was arrested for violation of the Opium Act BES; a woman, 19, was arrested as she is suspected of two attacks at a bar; a man, 45, was arrested for assault.

In the afternoon hours on Tuesday, November 24, a man, 33, was arrested for vandalism at a house on Kaya Nikiboko South. The suspect had destroyed a car window with his arm on the night of 23 to 24 November and was left with a cut on his arm. He himself went to hospital for medical treatment.

In the night of Wednesday, November 25, an outboard motor was removed from a boat on a trailer parked at a company site at Kaya Industria Pariba. The thieves cut all cables and loosened four bolts to take the black Suzuki outboard motor.

On Thursday, November 27 a man, 28 was arrested for threats. He first threw a bottle at the owner of the minimarket at Kaya C.D. Crestian in Rincon, then later returned with a machete.

On Saturday, November 28, around 2 am, an on-duty patrol spotted two cars parked at the Playa Church. The cars drove off at high speed. One car drove in the wrong direction into the roundabout at Sabana and lost control of the car. A man, 25, and a lady, 18, were arrested.

At around 3:30 am Saturday, November 28, the police station was notified of a man who had threatened at least one person with a firearm. When the police arrived, bystanders prevented the police from carrying out their work. During the arrests officers were forced to fire several warning shots. Another suspect tried to escape with the main suspect's car but was followed and arrested. The car and a firearm were seized. A house was searched in Tera Kòrà with no further seizures. Three men aged 18, 19 and 24 were detained.

Traffic accidents and violations

Traffic controls were held on November 16, and on November 22nd to 25th. Police reports were issued for driving without a valid driver's license, without valid insurance, without a seat belt, without a helmet (scooter drivers and passengers). Reports were also issued for talking on the phone while driving, and for parking incorrectly (on the roadside). The fines for these violations range between \$85 and \$225. Further seat belt checks were held November 25 to 27. The fine for driving without a seatbelt is \$110.

On Monday, November 16 a car overturned for unknown reasons on Kaminda Sabana Piedra Krus. The driver was taken to hospital by ambulance.

On Saturday, November 21, a pick-up and a scooter collided at around 8 pm on the Hanchi Amboina near the Mosque. The pick-up drove to avoid the potholes when he slammed his left mirror against the driver of the scooter. The driver of the scooter lost control and fell. He was treated on the spot by the ambulance staff.

On Tuesday, November 24, the driver of a scooter finally stopped after first ignoring a stop signal several times. He had no helmet, expired insurance and no driver's license and was fined for all violations.

Around 7 pm on Thursday, November 26, a collision occurred on the Bulevar Gobernador Nicolaas Debrot. The driver of a scooter heading towards Hato lost control and fell when he overtook a stationary car that stopped on the road to give way to another car reversing from a parking lot. The driver of the scooter was taken to hospital by ambulance.



Ask Kate Bonaire real estate advice

Question: Do I need to be on the island for the closing if I buy a home there? I'm not sure I could be there with travel restrictions so if I made an offer, I wouldn't know what closing date I could agree to. Selina

Hi Selina,

Buyers and Sellers do not need to be here in person at the closing/deed transfer of a property. You can sign an authorization for the Notaris to transfer the deed on your behalf. Even if buyers and sellers expect to be here on the island for the closing, I recommend they send this form to the Notaris anyway, in the event that their travel is changed or cancelled.

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.

In loving memory of Paul Hoetjes, a legend in nature conservation and co-founder of the Dutch Caribbean Nature Alliance (DCNA) who passed away on November 13, 2020.

Paul was known as a gentle, kindhearted gentleman who provided great contributions to many regional nature conservation initiatives, particularly in the field of coral reefs, sea turtles and marine mammals. He was a mentor to many, who greatly benefited from his insights, advice and support over the years.

Paul moved to Curaçao from Indonesia with his family as a young child. He gained a biology degree at University of Amsterdam (UvA) and became active in coral reef conservation after returning to Curaçao to work in the island's sea aquarium.

Paul retired in the beginning of 2020 after a twenty-year career as nature policy coordinator in the Dutch Caribbean, working for the Central Government of the Netherlands Antilles out of Curaçao from 1998 to 2010 and from 2010 to 2020 for the Dutch Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality (LNV), stationed on Bonaire, working for the Caribbean Netherlands. During these years he was responsible for the formulation and implementation of national nature policy for the islands. And, lastly the Nature and Environment Policy Plan for the Caribbean Netherlands 2020-2030.

He was amongst others central in creation of the DCNA in 2005. Paul contributed to environmental policy, educa-



tion, management and establishment of protected areas in the Dutch Caribbean. His is responsible for the formation of the Marine Mammal Protected Areas Network and the designation of Saba Bank as an internationally recognized marine protected area, establishment of the Yarari Sanctuary for marine mammals and sharks in the waters of the Caribbean Netherlands and the Mount Scenery National Park.

Paul was actively involved in regional and international multilateral environmental agreements: Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPA) Protocol, the Inter-American Convention for the protection of Sea Turtles (IAC), the International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI) and Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network Caribbean Initiative (GCRMN Caribbean).

"Paul Hoetjes will be remembered and sorely missed. We sincerely thank him for his kindness and valuable contribution in safeguarding nature for generations to come within the Dutch Caribbean." *Tadzio Bervoets, Director DCNA*

Police notices

In the Corona era the KPCN asks you to comply with the measures taken by the Public Body of Bonaire for the safety of everyone.

KPCN: For prevention we will ask all visitors to the police station to wear a mouth mask; if the visitor does not have it with him, we can provide it. • We try to reduce the contact moments at the office as much as possible. For the citizen, this means that a declarant must in the first instance write down on paper what happened. The police will

then respond to the report by telephone or email. • The uniformed officers on the street wear a mask for prevention, even when they are in the police cars.

If something has been stolen from you, the police can help you if you report the crime. Your report also gives the police more insight into where and when thieves are active. With this information, thieves can be detected more quickly.

Letters & Opinions

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

Letter to the Editor

I continue to read articles in various new media regarding separating items for recycling on Bonaire. Slogans, new deposit sites near the downtown Kralendijk along the water's edge, a main drop off for recycle items in downtown Kralendijk and other methods are used to encourage each household to participate, including drop off bins in grocery store lots across the island. I've read that a glass crushing machine is supposedly planned for recycling bottles. When does this become reality or does it remain a pie in the sky idea someone thought up?

I hear from people that this is misleading, that they have seen trucks hauling most of the items to the landfill. Rumors are a powerful misinformation tool. What am I to believe? Are my efforts separating various recycle items a waste of my and others time? We need some clarity as to what the truth is. Is this an ideal to be realized or is it being practiced now? I'm sure others would like to know also.

Thank you, Earline Wasser, Kralendijk

The Reporter received this answer:

"For the glass crushing machine; it was planned for this year indeed, but due to some changes in our planning (the purchase of two big tanks for the collection of waste oil), we had to move it to next year. The waste oil situation was a priority this year and we needed to make some changes in the planning, but next year it will be on the island. So that the process of recycling glass can start."

Shanelca Martha - Selibon marketing and communications coordinator

Conservationists Seek Legal Protection for Bonaire's Freshwater Wetlands



Photo: Susan Davis

Bonaire has a number of important nature reserves and the majority of them enjoy legal protection. However, this does not apply to the one area of Bonaire, the LVV environs, which hosts the highest amount of observed bird species.

Bonaire's only freshwater wetlands are at the LVV site and its adjacent surrounding areas of the wastewater treatment plant, south of Kaminda Lagun. The permanent presence of freshwater makes this location a magnet for birds, either residential or migratory.

A memorandum on the importance of the LVV and its environs was recently presented to the relevant department of the OLB. The memorandum also discussed the possibilities of the area as a tourism nature area for birdwatching. Conservationists hope that this memorandum will result in the LVV environs being preserved as a valuable freshwater wetland, that the area will remain suitable as a nesting site for the rare Grasshopper Sparrow, and that it will receive the legal protection it deserves. According to them, nature protection can be combined with the development of small scale nature tourism activities.

Due to the great importance of this area for birds, it is necessary to grant this area legal protected status.

Over 60% of Bonaire's recorded bird species have been found at the freshwater wetlands.

So far, 238 species of birds have been observed, identified, and officially recorded on Bonaire. Despite the limited size of the freshwater wetlands at the LVV environs, more than 130 different bird species (over 60%) have been identified at the LVV just since 2015 (when wastewater treatment commenced), many more than in any other area of Bonaire.

The freshwater wetlands are imperative for local breeding species, as well as for birds which are migrating or spending the winter.

There are approximately fifty species of birds which breed on Bonaire. Of these, nine species breed exclusively, or nearly exclusively, in the freshwater wetlands.

These are birds like American Coots, Common and Purple Gallinules and Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks. In addition, the freshwater wetlands are an important stop for many species that travel from their breeding grounds in North America to their wintering grounds in South America, and vice versa. These birds, especially all kinds of songbirds, find enough food and rest at the

freshwater wetlands to gain strength for the continuation of their long migrations. For instance, in October one can find large flocks of Bobolinks which feed in this area.

Each winter, numerous birds visiting from North America, especially ducks and waders, are also observed at the freshwater wetlands where they spend the winter. In the 2019/2020 winter season, a female Ring-necked Duck passed the winter on Bonaire at the freshwater wetlands. This is a very rare bird on the ABC-islands.

Since 2016, fourteen "new" species have been identified on Bonaire. Half of these species were observed in this area of just one square kilometer. Some of these, like Crowned Slaty Flycatcher and White-winged Tern, were even new for the ABC's. Relatively many of the other wanderers--nomadic or vagrant species that are only occasionally observed on Bonaire--have been found to be present in the LVV area.

Bonaire's population of the Grasshopper Sparrow

The area of the LVV environs is of special significance for the survival of a unique bird, the subspecies *caribaeus* of the Grasshopper Sparrow (*Ammodramus savannarum*). This subspecies only occurs on Curaçao (where it is nearly extirpated) and in a very few locations on Bonaire. The largest population by far is located at the LVV site where it was estimated in a 2018 study that approximately 20 birds remained.

If for no other reason, the LVV area deserves adequate legal protection to ensure the continuation of this subspecies of the Grasshopper Sparrow.

For further information

Appendices to the memorandum included a report of the findings of American scientists from their 2018 research on the Grasshopper Sparrow subspecies *caribaeus* on Bonaire and Curaçao, as well as an overview of all bird species identified to date in the LVV area. For further information about the content of the memorandum, please contact:

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Here is the link to the online petition asking for a Captain Don Day.

https://www.petitions.net/captain_don_day_may_21_in_bonaire_na

The petition is also on *The Bonaire Reporter's* facebook page. If in favor, please sign it and share it. JM



Online petition for Captain Don Day – May 21.



In July 2019 a formal proposal was sent to Bonaire's Lt. Governor Rijna to establish May 21 as Captain Don Day. The proposal was sent in response to a speech Rijna gave celebrating the day the Captain first arrived. This online petition is in support of the formal proposal.

Captain Don Stewart, known as the father of Bonaire diving, was one of the world's first ocean conservationists. Captain Don created Bonaire's permanent dive boat mooring system, which eliminated the need for boats to drop anchors on our reefs; dive destinations worldwide have installed permanent moorings but Bonaire's were the first. Captain Don led the campaign to ban spear-

fishing on Bonaire, founded the Council of Underwater Resort Operators, instituted the procedure of dive orientations, and worked with Karel Steensma to establish the Bonaire Marine Park. He received many awards throughout the years, one of which was the prestigious Netherlands Order of the Orange.

The petition reads: *We the undersigned request that Bonaire establish May 21 as Captain Don Day. By establishing a day honoring Captain Don, we hope to encourage both visitors and residents to show the island's ocean, animals and nature the same respect he demonstrated.*

Nature quiz scores big with kids



Team members participating at Jong Bonaire in the DCNA quiz on November 25 along with the assisting adults: Jong Bonaire's GM Nimrod Pieters, DCNA's Tineke van Bussell and Jong Bonaire employee William Evertsz.

DCNA (Dutch Caribbean Nature Alliance) held their first Big Live Nature Quiz for kids from Aruba, Bonaire, Curaçao, Saba, Sint Marten and Sint Eustatius on November 25. The 11-14 year old kids were tested in a live online quiz covering four topics: Flora and Fauna, Ecosystems, Climate Adaptation and Sustainability and the National Parks of the Dutch Caribbean.

In total 23 teams of one to four kids took on the chal-

lenge via Zoom as online moderator Sander Teeuwisse led the kids through the questions. The kids responded with their answers via their phones. The competing teams were able to see the other teams as they reacted to the questions and tally of the votes for a more exciting experience.

At Jong Bonaire almost 30 kids from Bonaire's junior rangers and Jong Bonaire gathered to participate in

their individual teams led by DCNA's research communication liaison Tineke van Bussell. Other Bonaire teams joined in at home. After an hour of questions the winners were revealed. First place went to a team on Saba, second place to Sint Maarten and third place to an individual team on Bonaire.

"We are very proud of the kids who participated. It was great to watch the enthusiastic kids from all over the Dutch Caribbean, but most important this was a great learning opportunity to learn about the other islands and its nature. We look forward to doing this event in the future!" said organizers Bussell and Dahlia Hassell.

The winning team on Saba is awarded top prize of a snorkeling and diving trip. Other winners will receive a t-shirt with the logo.

DCNA plans to make this a yearly event and possibly include adults. *Story and photos Julie Morgan*



When you get the answers right it is so much fun. Quiz team members L-R: Genafthaly Kroon, Naydjelly Sumter, Rajiv Kroon and Junrick Wout.



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DIVE FRIENDS BONAIRE

Quarterly Clean Up Dives 2021

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Live Inspired Today!

by Malcolm Wilson

In *Live Inspired Today!*, I will regularly be sharing three inspirational triggers to ignite your daily success!

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

Clarifying Your How...

Reflection For Today

Plan A? Plan B? Plan C?

The alphabet has 26 letters, so which plan should you choose?

Tip For Today

Before starting to meeting up with Swinda three times a week for their Malecon Sunset Walk, Chichi created a plan.

She read the *Tips For Today* from our previous columns so she clarified her *What* (lose 10kg before Christmas) and her *Why* (to be healthy and fit, and to feel confident in her clothing). Swinda did not.

Chichi exercised discipline and consistency. Swinda did not. Remember how she stopped showing up after a few weeks?

Here's how clarifying her How helped Chichi...

1. Success leaves clues.

She did some research to find successful strategies, strategies applied in situations similar to hers.

2. Common sense makes sense.

An early morning workout has its advantages, but Chichi has to get her young kids ready for school, drop them off and be at work on time. So an after-work session works best for her.

3. What matters to you, matters for you.

Chichi could walk around the block in her neighborhood or take a hike up Seru Largu, but she knew that the seaside view would enhance her workout.

Remember...

Applying proven strategies, using common sense and considering what matters to you personally will help you formulate an effective plan of action.

Successful people are crystal clear on *how* they will achieve *what* they want!

Chichi loves her Malecon Sunset Walk here in Paradise (also known as Bonaire), but she does miss her friend.

By clarifying her *What*, *Why*, and *How*, Chichi is losing weight and enjoying her journey - every step of the way!

Now if only Swinda would do the same...

Affirmation For Today

Today I am defining in clear and compelling detail *how* I will do *what* I want.

So...

Think, be equipped, be empowered, and... **Live Inspired Today!**

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."

Visit us!



Got 10 minutes? Accept the Sushi òf Dushi Challenge

On November 21st Boneiru Duradero launched the Sushi* òf Dushi Challenge.

The challenge is a call to action. All inhabitants of Bonaire are asked to participate in a 10-minute clean-up and then post their BEFORE and AFTER pictures on INSTAGRAM or Facebook.

Here is how the Sushi òf Dushi Challenge is different from normal clean ups

1...We ask for only 10 minutes of your time or less.

2...You can choose your own clean-up location. For example: in your own neighborhood, around your school, your workplace or maybe along walking route

3...Your before and after pictures will show everyone what a difference a short clean up makes to your own surroundings.

4...You can motivate others to contribute to a cleaner Bonaire, by sharing your experience

5...It is COVID proof, because you can do this short clean up with your own family or by yourself.

The Kaya Amsterdam is a bit cleaner again. The em-



ployees of the Bonaire Government Spatial Development Department (Ruimtelijke Ordening) have participated in the "Sushi òf Dushi Challenge."

So, if you want a Bonaire that is MORE Dushi and LESS Sushi... #join the movement! More information can be found on Boneiru Duradero Portal on Facebook or Instagram sushiofdushi.

Over the past eight years Boneiru Duradero has organized numerous clean ups on Bonaire, often in collaboration with Selibon. One of the remarkable quirks, when observing people participating in clean ups, is that they often don't want to stop. Because once you start paying attention... you start to spot litter everywhere. However, not everyone has time to participate in an organized clean up on a specific day at a specific location. *Boneiru Duradero*

**And before we go into an online spelling quarrel: the word garbage in Papiamentu, sushi can also be spelled as: shushi.*

Kiwanis Club of Kralendijk announces new Board of Directors



Kiwanis Club of Kralendijk Bonaire celebrated the official installation of the board for the year 2020-2021 with a dinner on Saturday, November 21. During this event, modest due to Covid-19, six new members were also officially installed.

After a brief introduction by President Ricard Nicholson, the previous board members were called forward and thanked for their efforts by special guest Past Lieutenant Governor of District 26 Marlon der Meer, who also delivered a motivational speech via Zoom. In the speech Mr. Der Meer emphasized the duties and obligations of the new board members.

Past Lieutenant Governor Marlon der Meer installed President Ricard Nicholson, Vice President Kenly Servania, Secretary Derchlien Vrolijk, Treasurer Debby Rauwers, Director of Community Service Emily Kocks, Director of Fundraising Tania Obersi, Director of PR Perla Nicholson and Director Membership Mimi Dongen.

President Ricard Nicholson thanked the board and

members for their hard work and dedication. Despite the fact that several projects could not be executed due to Covid-19, the members still managed to persevere and work together to help the children of Bonaire and their community. He added that the collaboration with the Lions and Rotary clubs during the radiothon Together We Can went well and was certainly worth repeating. Nicholson also expressed his gratitude to the sponsors for their continued support, and special guests Past Lieutenant Governor Der Meer for his contribution via Zoom, Lions Club president Mrs. Edelmira Carolina and Rotary club president elect Mr. John Flipse for their presence.

Special guests Lions Club president Mrs. Edelmira Carolina and Rotary president elect Mr. John Flipse concluded the presentation with motivating words: "It is precisely in these difficult times that the collaboration between our three service clubs has proved to be of great importance. We look forward to further intensifying the cooperation in the future!"

40 Slip Harbour Coming Spring 2021!



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- Battery Solutions**
- VSC Sail and**
- Cushion Repair**

A Few Customer Comments

Marianna Koljukakin

The best boat yard we have been at. Very professional and accommodating.

Eddy Schipper

Geweldig!!!!!!

Stephen Lloyd

This would be so great for the island!

Rick van den Wildenberg

Jesu wat goed van harte en heel veel succes

Carel de Jong

Great, finally a boatyard that has everything in house, storage, nice berths, repair service and sale of boat supplies. The floating docks in particular are an asset to Bonaire.

Charlene Mercera

Wow super masha pabien, hopi blij voor jullie

Jorge Gomez

After being in Boatyard Bonaire for 6 weeks I highly recommend this boatyard. The operation is very professional. This guys know what they are doing and they go out of their way to help and they do it with a smile. I do recommend this yard without hesitation.

Filip Coussement

Awesome. Just in time for my boat.





Reef Glimpses

Buddying with Tarpon

Have you ever been accompanied by a tarpon on a night dive?

Unforgettable dive moment: I was guiding a buddy team on a night dive off Playa. It was a calm night, very tranquil. We had found a sleeping hawksbill turtle, and had not disturbed it. I was basking in the warm fuzzy feeling of having seen the turtle, when a silver ... something ... flashed through my light beam, turned on its side, sucked down a fish my light had illuminated, and disappeared into the darkness.

Just describing that moment has my heart beating faster!

On night dives off San Salvador (in the Bahamas), we were often accompanied by black jacks, fish we rarely saw in the daytime. They would appear after dark, swooping in and out of our light beams, gobbling down crabs and other small critters. They were jacks, so we expected them to be fast-moving, chase-'em-down predators – and they were.

But tarpon! Who would have expected tarpon to hunt by dive light!

In fact, tarpon hunt more obviously when they're hunting by dive light than at any other time. When we see them in the daytime weaving through schools of silversides, they appear to be innocently hanging around with fellow silvers, although they're always on the alert for a distracted fish. When not hunting they'll often hover with perfect – reeeeeeally perfect -- buoyancy control. Hovering tarpon along the reef slope look like royalty surveying their kingdom, don't they?

Then they swim off, trailing bubbles. Definitely not something that brings royalty to mind!

Trailing bubbles?

Who would have thought that tarpon could use actual



All royalty has hangers-on; this tarpon surveying its domain is hosting a whitefin sharksucker, visible on its underside. The angle of the tarpon's mouth makes it clear why they turn on their sides to suck down a fish that's below them!

air, as in from-above-the-water's-surface! It turns out that their swim bladders are connected to their gullets and modified to breathe air, enabling them to use every-day, run of the mill, actual air! That's one reason tarpon adapt astonishingly well to a variety of habitats, including stagnant ponds and even fresh water, not just to warmish ocean waters on both sides of the Atlantic.

Excess gas leaves the tarpon; the bubbles are easy to see because the tarpon themselves are so big. In fact, tarpon can grow to 8' (2.5m); they're the biggest fish we see on Bonaire, and only a few other bony fish reach their size anywhere in the Caribbean. Tarpon also have huge scales; I've found tarpon scales that were bigger than the circle I make with my thumb and forefinger. That's the basis of their scientific name, *Megalops atlanticus* (mega=great, lops=shell [expand "shell" to include scales], atlanticus=of the Atlantic).

Tarpon are believed to spawn offshore, and their huge egg quantities support a no-parental-care system: scientists recorded about 12 million eggs in one 6'8" (about 2m) tarpon! Some of the larvae get back to the reef, where they're easy to see in our light beams on those nights we collect planktonic light enthusiasts. Larval tarpon are among the biggest larval critters we see, up to an inch and a half (3.8 cm) or so. They're flat and flexible and look like they should grow up to be eels. Actually, some of them are larval eels, those with rounded tails. The other large, flat, flexible things are larval tarpon; their forked tails are already visible.

Today's puzzle: do tarpon hunt by dive light because

they learned to do so as larvae, or do they figure it out after they grow up?

Dee Scarr

Dee has been guiding divers on Bonaire since 1982. She's written about her undersea experiences in her books, *Touch the Sea*, *The Gentle Sea*, and *Coral's Reef (for children)*; in *Dive Training Magazine* from 1990 to 2000, Dee's books are available for purchase at the *Carib Inn on Bonaire* or through *touchthesea.com*.



This scale measures two and a quarter inches (almost 8 cm) by almost two inches (just under 5 cm) -- much bigger than the actual photo! The white-ish part of the scale is the silvery part when it's on the tarpon.



A Garden? Just Do It! So much rain ...

Who expected that we would receive so much rain this season? Since living on Bonaire for decades, I have never seen so much water coming down than in the last few weeks. Everything is soaked, my yard, my street, my porch andall my plants. Yes, life needs water to stay alive and most plants have a hard life to survive during the droughts on Bonaire. But for most plants there has been too much rain in a short time. If the water drains quickly, it's not a problem. But, the water has stayed too long and the soil is constantly soaked producing the beginning of rotten roots.

A lot of my plants, like the banana trees, tuturutu flower plant, young papaya trees, morenga tree and vegetables like the bitter gourd and yuca, have yellow leaves and they look unhealthy. It's the first time I have noticed this on Bonaire and it surprised me. I had never expected such a reaction from my plants to rain water. Another sad thing is that a lot of blossoms and young fruit came off. For certain plants the heavy rain was too hard and

they bent down or broke off some stems. And also certain cacti plants suffer from so much water. So I had to remove potted plants to a protected spot like on my porch and in the barn, to keep them away from water for a while until the soil was dry again.

For most big trees like mango trees, knips trees, tamarind, and naseberry trees, these heavy rains are fantastic. This big amount of water penetrates deep in the soil and reaches the roots that grow deep. And I see certain fruit blossoms and young fruits coming up already. My starfruit tree is full of blossoms and has a lot of young fruit, Two big bunches of banana showed up and the cherry tree blossomed and has ripened cherries already. My eggplant has three nice looking fruits and all the herb plants look so fresh and taste really great in teas and salads. So the rain is great for the plants but when there is too much water in the soil it can give certain plants hard times too.

Another thing I notice are ants. There is a plague of ants these days. My yard and porch are full of them and I saw some in



Guyaba fruits

my house.

With all the water they have lost their habitat in the soil. They crawl around, looking for a safe place, but please, not in my house. I spread coffee grounds around the house. I don't know if it will help but I read somewhere it might.

And then mosquitoes, there are all kinds and types. While grass is growing so fast now, it's a perfect place for them to live. So pay attention to all kinds of containers

in your yard where water can stay. These are the perfect places for mosquitoes to breed. With covid these days, we can not have other plagues like dengue, zika, and chikungunya. So clean your yard and empty pot plants that collect water.

With this type of weather, we can easily get a cold, fever, flu and all that stuff. Remember that nature gives us what we need. So there are a lot of herbs growing now to use as prevention or for healing.

Lemon grass for fever, Mexican mint, yerbi hole (Bonarian basil), lipia alba (locals call it oregano), morenga, all are very good to use in teas. There is a lot of guyaba now and all over the place there are guayaba trees. This is a fruit high in Vitamin C, all the Vitamin B's (except B12) and a lot of fiber. With guyaba fruit one can make delicious juices, marmalade and jam, guyaba cake, guayaba mix fruit salads and guyaba just to eat alone.

Guyaba tree is small and grows easily here and iguanas are not interested in the leaves. After two-three years it bears fruit and you will can enjoy these healthy fruits year round. This rain is perfect for a young guyaba tree to grow. So make use of the opportunity and plant a guyaba tree. Just do it now.

Angliet, Nature lover

Street Colors



Street Colors Selibon artists: L-R-Chazz Laurens, Ishmaellita Martijn, Edoardo Trionfera, Shanelca Martha and Karine de Wit.

Ghislaine Monte



Maria Clara Arboleda



Judmar Emerenciana



Robert Kramp

TCB has a new look



After two months of work, Tourism Corporation Bonaire (TCB) has a bright new look. The building renovation of 15k by Shariwen BV resulted in new roof, structural repairs and, of course, a bright pinkish flamingo coat of paint. According to director Adely Susana-Jansen of Bonaire Holding Maatschappij, (BHM), landlord for TCB, the government spruces up the old building every five years.

THE BRUNCH
Dec 6th 2020

Eggs benedict "Carib"
& Brioche
Spreads & salads
With assorted breads

Barracuda & Wahoo.
Mango, avocado,
red onion, cilantro relish.
Green vegetables.
Sweet potato.



BONAIRE RUM RUNNERS
restaurant & cocktailbar

El Mimosa Verde

Caribbean Bouillabaisse
Lobster, rouille, aioli,
parmesan
Or
Chefs' favourite chicken
Local style soup with a RR
twist

Or

Assorted Caribbean and international desserts
\$ 3250

ON THE CLIP
Dec 6th 2020

Crostini's,
Whipped cream cheese
with Smoked Salmon &
Pico di Gallo.
Sushi & Summer roll
rolled with a Latin twist

BGE Beef tenderloin
Thyme sage "jus"
Roasted garlic & Pumpkin
Creamy herb & bacon
Arborio rice

What's Happening

Tuesday December 1	World AIDS Day. <i>The Public Health Department calls on everyone to show their compassion for HIV / AIDS patients by wearing a red ribbon on December 1. About 75 people with HIV are registered on Bonaire, most between 30 and 60 years old. Care is well organized on Bonaire and all people with HIV are offered medical treatment. Treatment is given with the utmost discretion to ensure the privacy of the patient.</i>
Sunday December 13	Clean Coast Bonaire. <i>4pm Te Amo Beach. Clean Coast Bonaire recruits volunteers and trains local residents and visiting eco-tourists to complete monthly surveys of marine litter.</i>
Tuesday December 15	Kingdom Day Holiday. <i>Government offices and some businesses closed</i>
Fri. & Sat. December 25/26	Christmas Day holiday and Boxing Day holiday. <i>Government offices and most businesses closed</i>

Every Saturday

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

Open

TCB (Tourist Corporation Bonaire) front office is open: Monday - Thursday, 8-12; 1:30-5; Friday, 8-12; 1:30-4:30;

Washington Slagbaai Park is back to regular opening hours from Monday to Sunday as of October 26th. Hours: 8 – 5 (entry up to 2:30) (Some days closed because of bad weather--check STINAPA's FB page.)

Animal Shelter is open to the public by appointment only during our regular business hours (Mon.-Fri. 9-12 and 3-5, Sat. 9-3 nonstop. Please call or Whatsapp 701-4989)

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



Making Bonaire Accessible

My wish list for Santa

Dear Santa. As you know 2020 has been a very challenging year.

And I really am confident to think that 2021 will be much more interesting, less frightening and promising.

Like so many of us, I have been naughty: I have been neglecting myself. So the first thing on my list is perseverance and will-power to treat myself better.

The virus has us all in its grip and for 2021 I hope there is a bright light on the horizon. Better and faster testing, inoculation, and anything that is needed to heal the world.

Our island has suffered from neglect in many ways. Every attention went out to the virus and that has not been a wise decision. The people, inhabitants will have to be prioritized. Because nature will always find a way to make us clear, we as people need to change. We need the earth and the earth does not need us.

Our island needs attention in many ways. Management has to be focused on people and nature and their development. We all need a safe island to live on, where nature stays protected and where tourism is handled in a responsible way. Where we can enjoy our lives and can be sure there is food on the tables. We need to ensure children get good education. And, where there are jobs available for those who need to bring food to those tables and where everybody respects each other and handles accordingly.

Where nobody feels lonely and where

healthcare really cares. Where family means something again, like it used to be.

Where the elderly, the handicapped and the sick are provided for and in every sense of the word, where they do not have to make do with the end of the stick. Where they can count on people that really care for them.

Where we can look into each other's eyes and greet each other in a pleasant and decent way. Where goodness and comfort is not only provided for by churches but by families and citizens.

Where children do not need a telephone, because their parents and families care for them and are always there for them. Where families, not teachers teach their children morals in how to be a good human being. Where little children are being read to, so they can learn to love to read and learn about our big and beautiful world. Where children learn to look out for others and each other and not only drown in self-love and egoism.

Where interesting inventions are being made to help human kind to get better.

Where loving is easy, because one has been taught to love unconditionally. To learn only that we all need each other.

I know this is a huge list, dear Santa. But I feel that we all need these things now. Maybe you can break up all these wishes, write them on beautiful cards and give a personal to everybody. That would be a good start.

Happy holidays everyone!

Ria Evers-Dokter

Too many cooks spoil the broth? Never at Jong Bonaire!



One of the many fun and life enriching classes taught at Jong Bonaire is cooking. Many of the kids find this is their calling and go on to pursue the culinary arts. All the meals prepared are served to anyone that needs a good meal including the students and elder members of the Bonaire community.

Students L-R: Kayleigh Salsbach, Daniela Wout, Marianella Cicilia, Marianela Reenis, Jeaniro Dorothea, Silvana Wout, Najur Alberto and Jerdaini Muscus

Prevent Dengue, Chikungunya and Zika

Mosquitoes can reproduce very quickly in stagnant rainwater and cause diseases such as Dengue, Chikungunya and Zika. There are currently no confirmed cases of these diseases known to the Public Health Department but it is important to prevent an outbreak. Preventing mosquito breeding grounds is the best way to prevent the spread of these diseases.

There was a lot of rain on Bonaire last week. The Public Health Department therefore calls on everyone to empty and tidy up all objects in the home, garden and environment that (may) contain water such as plastic containers, car tires, bottles, food bowls, caps, vases and dishes under planters.

Different types of mosquitoes are found on Bonaire. There is only one type of mosquito, the Aedes aegypti mosquito, also called the dengue mosquito that can transmit Dengue, Chikungunya and Zika. This mosquito mainly stings during the day and can be recognized by its white striped legs.

The dengue mosquito lives near people and is mainly found in houses and gardens. The female mosquito stings people in order to be able to suck up the blood she needs to feed her eggs in her body. Then she looks for objects in gardens and neighborhoods where clear water can deposit her eggs. The dengue mosquito prefers to lay its eggs in artificial objects with smooth walls such as plastic objects and car tires. By ensuring that there are no objects in your garden and surroundings where water can accumulate, you prevent the mosquito from breeding in your garden and surroundings.

The dengue mosquito also lives indoors. Therefore, make sure that your house is mosquito-free by spraying reg-



ularly and making sure that your house is mosquito-proof by, for example, using screens in the windows. Cisterns, barrels and buckets to collect water are ideal breeding grounds for the dengue mosquito. People who collect rainwater for their plants or animals are therefore requested to seal it well against mosquitoes with, for example, a cloth or mosquito net with an elastic band around it and to check it regularly. You can contact the Vector Control Section for advice and treating cisterns and barrels. For more information about what you can do yourself and what the government does, read our leaflet "Protect yourself against mosquitoes and prevent mosquito breeding grounds". You can read the brochure on the OLB website www.bonairegov.com

OLB Communications

Ask a Geek by Brian Niessen

The knee bone connects to the foot bone...

Remember the good old days when stuff just worked. You picked up the phone and if it gave a ring tone, you dialed - if not, you hit the button a few times until you got one. You opened the fridge and it worked. You turned on the TV and it worked. Well, them days are gone!

Now, to watch TV, you need to have the Smart TV connected to Roku, connected to the WiFi Router, which is connected to the VPN, which is connected to the Cable/ADSL/Fibre Modem.

All that just to watch TV. Heaven forbid you want to watch local TV... then you need another Set-Top Box from Telbo/Flamingo - and where do you plug that in?

Now let's assume you just bought that new TV at Superstore/OMNI/Cityshop this Thanksgiving weekend and need to set it up.

Who do you call? Telbo/Flamingo? Nope, they only support the wires/cable/fibre to your house. What you do inside your house is your own problem. You try to muddle through it all, on with customer service for the Router, the VPN, the TV - usually a long distance call back to the USA because you can't use Skype

or MagicJack because your internet connection is not working because you did something wrong. In the end, you hire a local geek/nerd/techie to help.

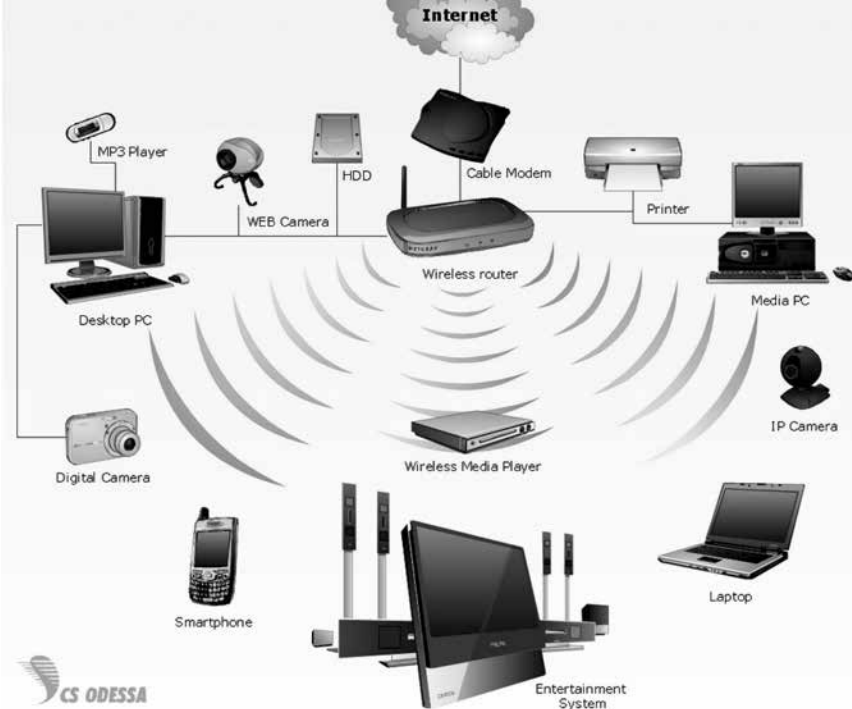
Now that it is all set up and sorted out it works great, until the power goes out. The electricity comes back on - nothing works... and you are back to square 2. What to do?

Here's the answer... Every device needs to get an IP address (like a phone number) from the device ahead of it on the connection, so always power up at the end closest to the outside and work your way back.

Turn off everything, then turn on the Cable/ADSL/Fibre modem. It needs to boot up, test itself, test the connection, ask the company "Is my bill paid? What speed am I allowed to work at? May I have an IP address?" Once it has an IP address, a light might turn green to indicate that it's working.

Now turn on the next item in the line, which is most likely a WiFi router with VPN. It goes through a similar process - Boot up, test itself, ask for an IP, and then ask the VPN company "Is my bill paid?" If so, the WiFi/VPN router is working.

Now turn on all devices (or off for 10



seconds then on) that are connected to the WiFi/VPN/Router so each of them can request their own IP addresses.

If you follow these steps, it should all "come to the party". If not, you may have other issues.

Why do I need to do it this way? Because when it is all turned on via a power bar or electricity being restored, everything is asking "Who am I?" at the same time, and it's the equivalent of a digital

shouting match. Maybe it works, maybe not.

I hope this helps... Oh, and remember, you will probably get more things to connect during the holidays!!! Cheers!

Need help? See the Geek's Business ad on page 14



Creating optimal health

by Irene da Cunda Costa

Sleeping is your way to optimal health

Studies seem to indicate that although the general recommendation for adults is to sleep eight hours a day, very few people manage to do so. This does not mean that all people need the same number of hours, individual differences indicate that this figure varies within certain margins.

It is not only the number of hours that matters, but also the quality. How can you know if you have not slept well or enough? Here are some indicators: constant need of coffee or other stimulants to keep working, falling asleep against your will, the need to regain sleep at the weekend, being irritable, waking up with a headache, a dry mouth or a sore throat (can be an indicator of sleep apnea), getting up many times to go to the bathroom, gaining weight with no apparent reason, or showing certain propensity to have accidents.

Insomnia can manifest by having a hard time either to fall asleep or to stay asleep, causing you to wake up too early, and can have multiple causes. Everyday stress and unresolved problems can prevent or delay falling asleep. Sleep apnea prevents adequate rest and oxygenation during sleep. Lack of exercise can also cause insomnia as the body releases stress hormones during physical activity. Magnesium deficiency is linked to insomnia, restless leg syndrome, anxiety, cramps and muscle tension in general. If we take medications it is important to check with the doctor in case any of them interfere with sleeping. Hormonal imbalances, PMS, thyroid problems, metabolic syndrome, chronic fatigue, or depression can cause insomnia. Excessive intake of alcohol, caffeine, or other stimulants can also disrupt our sleep. Excessive exposure to blue light from notebook and cell phone screens is a main cause of insomnia among children and teenagers. Any of these factors, once identified, can be changed as needed to improve your sleep.

What is the best time to sleep? Most people function best when sleeping hours are spent between 10 pm and 7 am. About 20% are considered night owls, that means they perform better late at night and have lousy performances in the early morning. This can also change throughout life as teenagers tend to be night owls. Others have a lot of energy and perform their best very early at dawn. You can try some fun quizzes on the web to find out where you fit. By knowing your type you will be able to adjust your schedule for better performance and wellbeing.

What can be done to favor a good night's sleep? Try to reset yourself with nature to synchronize your biological clock. Expose yourself to daylight for 15 and 30 minutes every morning and at noon. Keep your bedroom in order and make the bed. Exercise, preferably in the morning or at least two hours before bedtime. Reduce your intake of stimulants such as coffee and avoid consuming them in the evening. If you nap, make it early afternoon and for less than 20 minutes. Eat an early and easy to digest dinner about three hours before going to sleep. Take 15 minutes to relax after dinner, practice meditation, relaxation or mindfulness to disconnect from daily stress. Acquire a ritual to go to bed (brush your teeth, meditate, read). As the sun goes down, dim the ambient lights and turn down the volume on your electronics. A warm bath an hour and a half before bedtime can also be helpful. Adjust the temperature of your room. Drink a chamomile, linden, or passion fruit herbal tea. But do not drink any other liquids two hours before going to bed so you don't have to get up to go to the bathroom. Make sure your room is dark to sleep. Avoid electronics in your bedroom.

When you have a good night's sleep you feel alert and energetic during the day and at night you fall asleep in about 15 to 30 minutes once in bed. If you do wake up during the night you should fall back to sleep in less than 20 minutes and sleep at least 85% of the time you are in bed.

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

Send a photo, get immediate medical care at home

People should try to avoid waiting rooms during the pandemic. And sometimes it's difficult to decide whether to go for emergency care. So Bonaire GP Service (HAP Bonaire) has introduced an online medical service called Medi-link. During weekends and evening hours, people with urgent and visible medical problems can send a photo online, then talk with a doctor or triagist from home.

Suppose you have a wound, a skin rash, or a complicated insect bite. You can call 717-0111. A doctor or triagist at the Urgent Care Clinic (Huisartsenpost) will talk with you. If they decide a photo might help diagnose your condition, they will send you a text message that contains a link. When you click on the link, you will be invited to take and send photos of your condition. Or you can send photos taken with your phone. Medi-link will accept up to four photos.

After examining your photos, a doctor or health care worker will call you and explain your condition. They may prescribe medication or suggest you come to the clinic in person. In urgent cases, like anaphylactic shock, they will send an ambulance.

Photos sent to Medi-link are deleted after 24 hours unless the doctor has a medical reason to save them. Then they will be uploaded to the cloud in accordance with the General Data Protections Regulation (GDPR).

Eventually all GPs and specialists on the island may offer Medi-link consulting. HAP Bonaire's next innovative step will be video calling, which will allow the triagists and GPs to meet with the patient face to face online. *DMR*

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Did You Know? Bonaire's reefs are on the brink of dying...or recovering?

Bonaire's reefs are on the brink of dying...or recovering? This year, climate change is obvious, with global temperatures the second hottest on record. This means more droughts, more floods, more severe storms and, for corals, more bleaching.

For the past two months, Bonaire's reefs have been suffering: slowly losing their symbiotic algae because the water temperature was too hot. As they turned pale and then white, they began starving to death. This year's coral bleaching was looking VERY bad – at some sites, almost all of the corals were affected in the deeper reef and many in the shallows.

Currently, the reefs still look bad, but there is reason for careful optimism. Last week, after two weeks of clouds and rain, NOAA (National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration) registered a drop in the sea surface temperature around Bonaire. Our reefs went from more than eight weeks at Alert Level 2 (the most severe rating – significant mortality likely) to coral bleaching watch (the least severe rating). Divers noticed it too. In the past few years when Bonaire's corals were bleaching, this drop in temperature signaled a turn-around point for our reefs. Once the temperature began to drop, our corals, the ones that hadn't died from bleaching, began to recover, or 're-brown'.

During years with coral bleaching, STI-

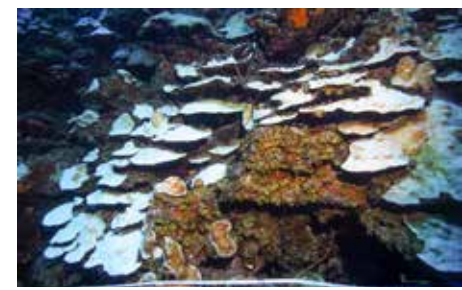
NAPA surveys the reefs in order to record the severity of the bleaching around the island in order to inform our residents, our visitors and also local and international policy makers. STINAPA biologists and some amazing volunteers went out last week and completed the surveys. Every reef had a high percent of bleaching, especially on the deeper reef, BUT not one coral was dead yet. If we continue to see a drop in temperature, our corals have a high chance at recovery. STINAPA will post the results on our Facebook page and website once they are analyzed.

What can we do to safeguard our reefs, Bonaire's number one economic driver, in the future? On the global scale, governments and individuals need to take climate change seriously and invest in renewable energy. On the local scale, the better stewards we are of our reefs, the better chance they will have of 'weathering the storm'. Nutrients from runoff and untreated wastewater are killing reefs around the world. Although Bonaire recently installed a wastewater treatment facility, only a small percent of the wastewater is treated. Although dams have been repaired in some areas, erosion is a problem and much of our soil is lost and runs off into the sea during heavy rains – bringing deadly nutrients to the coral reef. Although Bonaire is small, our population is growing and, once Covid restrictions are lifted, tourism will grow as well. Sustainable growth, with careful



planning and regulations, so that development doesn't harm our main economic driver – the coral reefs – is possible. It takes more time and sometimes costs more in the short term, but will repay itself many times over.

Consider Bonaire's reef like the Goose that Laid the Golden Eggs by Aesop. If they ate the goose, it would have fed them once. If they took care of the goose, it would lay a golden egg every day and keep them fed, clothed and housed for a very long time. Our coral reefs are Bonaire's golden goose. If we take care of our reefs, we have a steady stream of income from tourism. If we smother our



coral reefs with unsustainable growth, our short-term gains will mean nothing when tourists decide to go elsewhere.

Photo Credit: Alcides Falanghe/Ocean Eyes Productions. Written by STINAPA Biologist Caren Eckrich. Connecting People With Nature.

Shelter News

Holiday boarding for your dog or cat

The holidays are almost here, which means possible travel plans and of course, fireworks. Animal Shelter Bonaire has a very limited number of spaces available for boarding dogs and cats over the holidays. If you will need boarding facilities, please contact the Shelter as soon as possible to make your reservation. Boarding fees for dogs: One dog \$9.50 per day; Two dogs in one kennel \$14.00 per day; Three dogs in one kennel \$16.00 per day. Boarding fees for cats: One cat \$5.50 per day; Two cats in one kennel \$10.00 per day; Three cats in one kennel \$12.00 per day. Each boarding animal must be fully vaccinated before entering the Animal Shelter boarding kennels. Proof of vaccinations is mandatory in order to protect your pet, as well as the other animals living in the facility. We require dogs and



cats to be flea/tick treated with a product such as Frontline/Advantage/Simparica, etc. prior to arrival, otherwise, they will be treated upon arrival and the cost will be added to the boarding fees. If your pet requires a special diet or medication please bring enough of each to last for the duration of the boarding time. *JD*

Pet of the Week: Eros

Dear dog lovers,

My name is Eros, God of Love, or Mister Charming is also fine! I am neutered, healthy and fully vaccinated and about three years old with a very sweet personality. A couple months ago I was brought to the shelter in the middle of the night, I think because I was badly hurt on my front paw. I don't really know what happened but the people at the Shelter told me that I was run over by a car. Some pieces of skin and flesh were gone and I could not put any weight on my paw. But the wonderful people here fixed me and now I am able to walk perfectly fine again, like the real gentleman I am.

So that being said, I am looking for a family to love and hug and walk with and just be the perfect companion. I also enjoy the company of other dogs, both male and female, if they are younger than me so I can teach them my charms. Are you the one true love for me? Then please contact the Animal Shelter Bonaire to schedule a visit with me at Kaminda lagun 26A, 701-4989 or 717-4989, or send us a message on Facebook or Whatsapp. See you soon !!

Story: Sanne Attevelt. Photo: Glenn Doeze



Holidays on the way...it's almost fireworks season!

Fireworks season is only a few weeks away and pet owners need to start thinking about the stress it can cause dogs and cats. You may want to obtain some calming aids such as Rescue Remedy which will be available soon at the Shelter, pet store and other locations. If your pet is extremely sensitive to fireworks or other loud noises, you may also want to consult with a veterinarian about prescription tranquilizers for your dog or cat. Other than the natural Rescue Remedy, DO NOT give your cat or dog any drug that has not been specifically prescribed for your pet by a veterinarian. You could cause them serious harm or even death.

Due to their fright and stress, many pets go missing during that time. Animal Shelter Bonaire, both Bonaire's veterinarians and all the local animal welfare groups recommend that all pets be micro-chipped as an aid to reunite with their owners if they become lost. Please have your pet microchipped as soon as possible before fireworks season begins. If your pet is already microchipped please be sure their chip number is registered with the island veterinarians and the Shelter so we can locate owners of dogs/cats that are found and brought to us. *By : Jane Disko*

COVID-19 MEASURES & TO MINIMIZE VISITS & INTERACTION:

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