

**Bonaire's first Hyperbaric Chamber is offloaded from Dutch Navy ship in 1986. Photo Chamber Archive**

## ***Working 24/7, Bonaire's HBOT chamber has saved lives for 35 years***

A conversation between Dr. Dick van der Vaart and a Dutch admiral in 1985 resulted in Bonaire having one of the few Hyperbaric chambers in the Caribbean. The admiral asked if van der Vaart would be interested in some old chambers that were soon to be scrap metal. The resounding answer was, 'Yes, definitely, we will accept everything!'

Van der Vaart had moved to Bonaire from the Netherlands in 1983 to serve as a doctor, but he was also a diver enjoying divers paradise.

"I thought being a diver and a doctor we could easily keep them [the divers] on Bonaire without flying them through the air and worsening their symptoms of decompression sickness," said van der Vaart.

He began learning about diving medicine and did his first theoretical training with the Dutch Navy. And in 1986 a Navy ship showed up with Bonaire's first hyperbaric chamber delivering it directly onto the pier. The second-hand chamber was well maintained, efficient and in good shape.

Van der Vaart said, "It was essentially the size of a one man submarine."

The chamber was approximately three meters long (9.84 ft) and 1.6 meters high (5.25 ft); in other words, a normal size adult could not stand up in it.

Chamber supervisor Pam Teitel, who has worked with van der Vaart since the beginning, explained that when a nurse would be inside with the patient for monitoring, she had to sit on the floor or a

small bench. The door was big enough for walking patients, but if paralyzed we built a roller similar to what a grocery store uses for boxes.

"We did have to have a few people 'suck it in' to get their belly through!," said Pam.

Bonaire's HBOT (Hyperbaric Oxygen

Therapy) chamber is not just for diving accidents. It is also used in wound treatment to enhance wound healing. Bonaire's first wound patient was back in 1989 and wound treatment has been done ever since. But it did take time for the medical community to accept hyperbaric medicine as a valid treatment.

Van der Vaart said, "The challenge was to raise the awareness about the existence of HBOT on our island, getting my colleagues to recognize that we sometimes can help their wound patients."

In 2008, after 23 years, a new facility was built and a new chamber was ordered. The new chamber's hull was made in Romania with Romanian steel and the control panels and electronics came from Holland. It arrived by ship and was lowered down into the building and then the roof was added. The chamber was fully operational late 2009.

At 4.80 meter (15.75 ft) in length x 2 meter width (6.56 ft), it was much bigger than the old one and comfortably fit a nurse plus two divers lying down or five sitting wound patients. Unfortunately the



**For 35 years, (L-R) Dr. Dick van der Vaart, Pam Teitel and Malin Kaijser have provided HBOT at Bonaire's hyperbaric chamber. Photo Julie Morgan**

***Diving chamber, continued on page 10***



## Rutte's party re-elected



Mark Rutte,  
Dutch Prime Minister

Mark Rutte, 54, is on course to become the longest serving premier in Dutch history. In the parliamentary elections Rutte's liberal-conservative People's Party (VVD) won 22% of the vote and a predicted 35 of the 150 seats, though it lost 8 seats. The Labour Party (PvdA), VVD's main ally in the outgoing coalition, was decimated, winning less than 6% of the vote and losing all but 9 of its 38 seats. The center-left Democrats-66 (D-66) won 15% for 24 seats, while the Christian Democrats (CDA) won 9.5% for 19 seats. Those two parties are likely to join VVD in a new coalition.

Leftist parties won only 25 seats, a decrease for them, while the far-right parties combined for 35 wins, a gain. However, their power has been diluted by fragmentation into smaller parties. The covid crisis was the dominant issue in the election. Turnout was high, at 82.6%. Rutte will serve his fourth consecutive term in power.

On Bonaire, 4,065 people voted of the 13,490 who were eligible. The CDA, with 1,261 votes, won the election here. D66 was second with 503, and Rutte's VVD placed third with 412.

"The voters of the Netherlands have given my party an overwhelming vote of confidence," Mr Rutte told reporters in parliament. He conceded that "not everything has gone well in the last 10 years" but said the main challenge was to rebuild the country after the Covid-19 pandemic.

Having won 35 out of 150 seats, VVD has a mandate to form a new minority government. Together the three parties—the VVD, the center-left D-66, and the CDA—claim a total of 71 of the 150 seats In the Second Chamber, or Parliament, the VVD will

need to bring at least one more party into the coalition to form a majority.

In the 75-seat First Chamber, or Senate, the incoming government will inherit a one-seat minority. The next senate election will come in 2023.

The spread of votes in the Netherlands paints a picture of a polarized nation divided over Covid, culture, and the Dutch future in Europe. Parliament will have 17 parties, the most since 1918. While the left wing parties lost heavily, the Dutch far right, though fragmented, won more seats than ever before.

However, the balance of voting indicates a country moving toward the center. Rutte's win does not seem to validate his record so much as express voters' hope that his managerial skills can navigate the country back to normal.

The most dramatic election result was the demotion of Geert Wilders' nationalist, populist, extreme right wing Party of Freedom (PVV) from the number two to the number four slot as it dropped from 20 seats to 17. The more moderate D-66 and CDA parties moved ahead to second and third. However, the extreme right wing increased its overall share of the vote with the help of other, recently formed parties.

When Sigrid Kaag, leader of D-66, learned her party would now be the second largest in parliament, she jumped on the table with happiness. "What a wonderful evening," she tweeted. "Now let's get to work, the future won't wait. It's been confirmed that the Dutch are not extremists, but are moderate." She said voters were ready for "the optimism and vision" of her party. Kaag, a multilingual former UN diplomat and ardent supporter of the European Union, challenged Geert Wilders robustly during the leaders' debates.

More than 16,000 people have died of Covid-19 in the Netherlands, and anti-lockdown protests in the country have turned violent. A night-time curfew is currently in place, as is a ban on public gatherings in the daytime, in order to try to curb the country's high infection rates.

As a result, the country conducted its first pandemic election. Most of the election campaigning occurred as television debates. People cast their votes in sanitized ballot booths, and those classed as clinically vulnerable were able to vote early.

DMR (BBC, Economist, Dutch Review, The Conversation)  
Photo: FB-Fiets naar je Werk Dag and other sources.)

*Flotsam & Jetsam, continued on page 7*

## Covid-19 round-up

*The pandemic strikes hard*

As of March 23, 2021, there are 461 active cases of Covid-19 on Bonaire, four times more than at any time before. Three of the active cases are visitors. Seventy-seven people were tested yesterday. Twenty seven were positive. Recently one person died and twenty-nine recovered. Six people are hospitalized on Bonaire, while four had to be sent to Curaçao and one person to the hospital on Aruba. Three people are in the intensive care department of Bonaire's hospital. Bonaire's fatality total is 10.

### Younger people and the new variant blamed

The social behaviors of Bonaireans in the 20 - 29 age bracket, plus the new more virulent COVID-15 strain, the British variant, together seem to account for the current massive outbreak. Governor Rijna cited those two causes when explaining why the Government has had to raise the Risk Level from 3 to 6. Public Health doctor Marian Luinstra warned that the new level 6 restrictions will be slow to take effect because the spread has already happened. Restrictions are a means of preventing the spread of infection, not solving it.

### All adults to be vaccinated, starting immediately

With sharp rise in infections threatening to overwhelm the limited care capacity on the island, the vaccination program is shifting into high gear. An additional 11,700 doses of the BioNTech / Pfizer vaccine have arrived from the Netherlands and all adults will be eligible for vaccination. The daily vaccination rate will be more than doubled.

On Thursday, March 25, the Public Health Department will start vaccinating additional risk groups and people in vital professions, such as employees in the fire brigade, Royal Netherlands Marechaussee, enforcement and the police. Beginning March 29, anyone between the ages of 18 and 59 can register for an appointment. People between the ages of 50 and 60 will be scheduled first. Of the 5000 people in the primary target group—the over-60s and the healthcare staff—about 65% have already received their first injection.

The number of injection days will be increased from five to six per week and more lines will be available. At least 500 people will be injected per day, more than double the current rate.

Rijna: "If everything goes well, by June

a large part of the community can be vaccinated. As of now, I want to make a call to every citizen over 18 to register as soon as possible for vaccination. There will be more vaccination sites. If a large number of people vaccinate, it helps break the spread of the virus that has infected so many who have become ill."

*Covid, continued on page 13*



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### How to Find Us:

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●: <https://www.facebook.com/TheBonaireReporter/>

Available in 50 locations

Printed every two weeks

Next edition: April 7, 2021

Contributors' Deadline April 2, 2021

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(Rincon), Divi-Divi Airline, Printed by: DeStad Drukkerij, Curaçao

Founders: George and Laura DeSalvo

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## Covid-19 on Bonaire as of April 1, 2021

273 active/25 new 1101 recovered	19 hospitalized 11 deceased
1385 positive 5971 negative	7356 tested 612 in quarantine

For breaking covid news go to the online Reporter <https://bonairereporter.com>



# CITES species must stay at home



are also protected under CITES and can therefore not be taken away.

## What does this mean in practice?

Exporting living and dead species included on the CITES list to another country without a CITES permit – also from the Caribbean Netherlands to the Netherlands and vice versa – is prohibited. The regulations also apply to parts of products made of or from these species, such as food products and exotic leather ware, wooden sculptures, ornaments, musical instruments, and local medicines. Violation of these regulations can lead to penalties and/or legal action.

## Check in advance: is it protected?

The mere fact that something is for sale or that you found it on the ground or in the sea, does not mean that you are allowed to take it or that you can travel with it. When in doubt as to whether you can take a species (or a part of a product made of or from this species), you can contact the local CITES authority with the National Office of the Caribbean Netherlands (Rijksdienst Caribisch Nederland, RCN), the customs authorities, the public entity, or the local management organisation of the protected nature area.

Working by order of the Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality

(ANFQ), DCNA has produced the Cites posters, signs, and brochures in four languages (Dutch, English, Papiamentu, and Spanish). Distributed in advance of the return of tourists, these materials can be found at the airports and ports, and at the government offices, customs offices, nature park management organisations, diving schools, and hotels throughout the Caribbean Netherlands.

## What is CITES?

CITES is the convention under which the international trade in endangered species of wild flora and fauna is regulated and, if necessary, prohibited.

Check the CITES information for the Caribbean Netherlands online:

<https://www.dcbd.nl/document/cites-communication-materials-bes>

Also:

[www.RijksdienstCN.com](http://www.RijksdienstCN.com)

[www.RVO.nl/CITES](http://www.RVO.nl/CITES) [www.cites.org](http://www.cites.org)



Not much is known about this resort planning to be built on Klein Bonaire other than what has appeared on the recently created website <https://kleinbonaireresort.club>. It seems to be a high-end resort with a Maldives/Seychelles/South Pacific look and feel. B.N.



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# POLICE REPORT

## Property crime

**Mar. 5.** Two men aged 26 and 18 years and a boy, 14, were arrested for stealing goats. They had taken two goats in the vicinity of 1000 steps at the Kaminda Turistikto to a house in Rincon. When goats have no markings, the Public Entity (OLB) is responsible. The goats go to the Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries (LVV) department until an owner registers. If no owner signs up, the goats are slaughtered.

**Mar. 16.** An industrial blow-vac machine for blowing leaves and a Trek Navigator bicycle, were stolen from a yard of a house on Bulevar Gobernador Nicolaas Debrot. The bicycle was found a little later against the fence of the neighbors.

**Mar. 17.** A black freestyle bicycle with stickers on the frame was stolen. The owner of the bike, a 6-year-old boy and a few more children were playing outside around 6:45pm. A boy of about 13 years old asked to borrow the bike so he could show some tricks. The boy agreed. The 13-year-old boy performed some stunts and then drove off by bike.

## Arrested/held in custody.

**Mar. 12.** Around 2:30 am, a woman, 30, was arrested for disregarding police orders and for threatening officials in office. The suspect was involved in an argument between friends in which a car window was destroyed.

## Traffic accidents/violations

**Mar. 14.** Two cars collided head-on on the road to Rincon. Both drivers were treated on the spot, after which one driver was taken to hospital.

**Mar. 14.** A scooter was seized on Kaya Caracas after a short chase. The driver was given a police report for driving without a helmet, license plate, driver's license and insurance, and also for not being able to show identification.

**Mar. 18.** At around 11pm two service vehicles of the Dutch Caribbean Police Force collided at the intersection of Kaya Avelino J. Cecilia and Kaya Niki-boko Noord. The patrols were looking for a vehicle that violated the emergency ordinance. One victim was taken to the hospital for medical treatment and three other occupants were taken to the hospital for a medical check-up. The Traffic Department and CRS are responsible for further investigation.

## Traffic checks

**Mar. 9.** A patrol saw a scooter with three people on it and all three without helmets. They ordered the driver to stop and gave her a police report. She was informed that as a driver she is responsible for the passengers.

**Mar. 8-10.** During regular traffic checks, fines have been issued for driving without a helmet, without valid insurance documents, without a valid driver's license, for holding a phone while driving and for driving without a seat belt. The cost of driving without your seat belt is

\$110 and holding a cell phone while driving is \$225.

**Mar. 10-12.** Several drivers were fined during regular traffic checks for driving without valid insurance papers or driver's license. Fines were also issued for driving without a seat belt, using the phone while driving and driving without a helmet on the scooter. The fines for the above violations varies between \$30 and \$225.

**Mar. 12.** During a routine check, a vehicle was checked under the Opium Act following a strong marijuana smell coming from the car. A small amount of marijuana, fireworks and scales were found and confiscated. The vehicle's papers were in order.

## Vessel in distress

**Mar. 12.** A sailboat went on the rocks near Lac Bai. In response to the vessel's distress call the Coast Guard Rescue & Coordination Center (RCC) sent a Dash patrol plane to the location. When police and the Royal Netherlands Marechaussee (KMAR) arrived, they found one person was already on land and three people retrieving their belongings from the ship. There were no injuries, and the boat was later taken out of the water. The yacht was sailing under the Dutch flag and was on its way from Bonaire to Grenada. The captain stated that they were sailing too close to shore and hit something.

## Emergency ordinance

**Mar. 12-13.** The Dutch Caribbean Police Corps, in collaboration with the Royal Netherlands Marechaussee (KMAR) and the Supervision and Enforcement Directorate of the Public Entity, carried out a multidisciplinary check in various neighborhoods on Bonaire.

Three people were arrested for violating the emergency ordinance and for failing to obey orders from the police: a man, 48, a man, 40 and a woman, 43.

Catering establishments were checked. Some complied with the rules, but some were given warnings and / or tips on how to prevent illegal gatherings. A total of 13 reports were issued to citizens who did not comply with the rules.

On a beach nine people received a police report for non-compliance with the emergency ordinance and for lighting a campfire on a beach.

**Mar. 13.** During a multidisciplinary inspection in various neighborhoods and on the beaches four people were arrested for violating the emergency ordinance, for disobeying orders from the police and for threatening and insulting officials in office: the men were aged 25, 42, 32; the woman, 32. At some locations warnings and / or tips were given and people were asked to leave the location. The beaches were busy, but mostly small groups here and there adhered to the distance rules.

**Mar. 17.** The police received a report in the afternoon that a large group of people were present on a beach on E.E.G. Bulevar. A group of about 70 people were on land and in the water. Everyone was asked



## Ask Kate Bonaire real estate advice

Hi Kate,

*I've been watching the prices go up for the past five years and am now regretting I didn't buy something earlier. I came close three years ago, but I guess I was too picky and figured I'd wait to see if I could find something even better. Big mistake. Can I still get something for under \$250,000? Blake*

Hi Blake,

Yes, there are a limited number of properties for under \$250,000. These sell quickly, often before pictures are taken and they show up on real estate websites. Jean and I contact our clients in this price range whenever something new comes on the market and it generally sells within days. If you can act quickly, you can buy a property, even if it is not exactly what you had in mind. Many people buy what they can afford. Initially, then in a few years sell it and

upgrade to another property. In the meantime, they enjoy their property and benefit from any appreciation. Let us know if we can help you find your place!

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

**If you have a real estate question or want to buy or sell property, email us at [kate@bonairehomes.com](mailto:kate@bonairehomes.com).**

to leave the location. The coast guard was notified in case the kite surfers in the water did not heed the claims.

## Policing the curfew

**Mar. 18.** Curfew violations: 23 people were fined \$150. A few catering establishments that were selling alcoholic beverages after 8pm were ordered to close.

**Mar. 19-20.** During the day two gatherings were dispersed, one at a home, another at a snack. After curfew some catering establishments were closed until further notice for selling food and

drink after 8 pm. Police gave 13 people reports for violating the curfew of 9 pm. Two people were arrested for curfew violations.

**Mar. 21.** Beaches were also checked for gatherings and alcohol consumption after 4:30 pm. Several police reports were given and alcoholic drink was seized. A person was arrested for violation of the Aliens Act BES. A catering facility was closed by Supervision and Enforcement for serving after 8 pm. Police gave 14 people reports for violating curfews.

## Government improves social housing

**Rent measures approved.** Legislation passed in The Hague will increase transparency in rental rates on Bonaire. It will also improve rental assistance for low income families who live in social rentals, and later may apply to low income families in the private rental market as well. A housing valuation system will determine whether the requested rent for a dwelling is appropriate, and a Rent Committee will help assure rent transparency and proper support for low income tenants. The committee will also help them resolve disputes. Similar provisions will apply on St. Eustatius and Saba. *DMR*

**Assisted living.** Care and Youth Caribbean Netherlands (ZJCN) will start a two-year pilot on Assisted Living on March 15, 2021. A recent study into the problems of young adults in Caribbean Netherlands identified the importance of housing and extra guidance for vulnerable young people.

The pilot is intended for young people from 16 - 23 years old in Bonaire, Saba and St. Eustatius who cannot return to their homes. At the assisted living facility, the young people enter into an intensive training programme in three phases to learn how to live independently. The aim is to ensure young people are able to live independently in about two years.

## Breaking News

Intel coming from the Bonaire Animal Shelter is warning of a pending insurrection at the shelter organized by BALA (Bonaire Animal Liberation Army), cats and dogs united in strength and dignity.

A major escape is planned for sometime after midnight, April 1. Wire cutters are reportedly being smuggled in by a sympathetic volunteer at the Shelter.

Plans include a march to the Lt. Governor's office with a list of demands includ-

ing: Forever Homes for All, Daily Walks, Freedom from Cages and Chains, Food and Water and Treats for All, Legalization of Catnip and Unending Love for all Four-leggeds.

No violence is planned but Governor Rijna will be held under house arrest until all demands are met.

*The Reporter* will keep you updated with this serious situation as it unfolds.



# 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.

## Pam Teitel Getting Vaccinated? I think I'll Wait and See...

In most any circumstance, I hate that phrase. It's pure procrastination. If you use it, think about what you might see and how you might react to those possibilities. Is it worth waiting?

What do you expect to see?

I want to see - if I get Covid, how sick will I be? I want to see if it reacts differently on Bonaire than anywhere else? Of course, there are reasons like can I get Covid from it, will it alter my DNA, will I die from an allergic reaction, will Bill Gates track my movements... The answers to all of these are clearly spelled out in science. You do not have to wait and see. You can just look at the previous version of the Reporter or research on the internet and see clear explanations. Please do not count anything sent to you on social media as scientific facts!

Please get vaccinated as soon as it is your turn. Getting a reservation for the vaccine is a bit of a challenge particularly for the local 60+ group who are not great with computers and the phone lines are jammed. That is recognized by the health department and they are adding phone lines and setting up a solution at the Centro di barrios, (lockdown permitting). If you want to be part of the solution, ask grandma, grandpa, tante, tio, neighbor or colleague, did you manage to sign up? If not, sign them up. Try calling in the evening after everyone that wants testing is done. I have not seen much on Bonaire that was better organized than the vaccination center. They moved people through with perfect efficiency. Congratulations to all involved.

In light of the current spike in cases I hope that the Netherlands will send the vaccines much much faster!

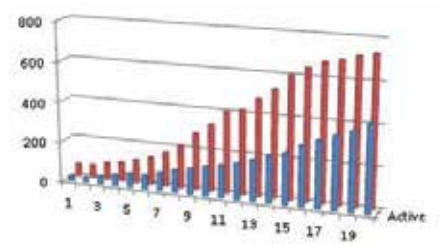
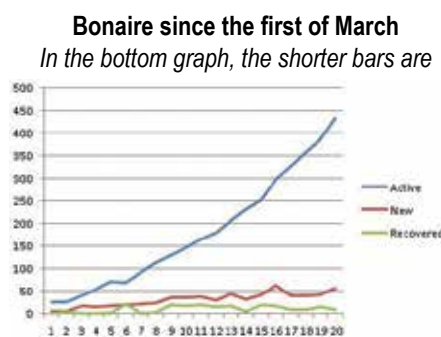
The extremely contagious British variant combined with the young and strong who feel invincible have greatly fueled the cases on Bonaire. Particularly students and young adults who may only get a mild case or not be sick at all, feel free to get together and party. Then its spread onward to their families, friends and co-workers. Sick or not, we are all suffering for it now with the surge in cases and lockdown. Personally, I think the most important measures of the current lockdown so far are no alcohol at the snacks or public places, takeaway only and curfew. Stop the parties. Many people are still not taking this seriously enough, this doesn't mean move the get togethers earlier or home. Please be careful!

People are bitching that the government didn't act correctly, while half the people are saying it's because they didn't do enough while the other half is saying we should forget about covid, get back to business. Dealing with the huge surge

and the start of the vaccinations makes for an added challenge, but I think they need to do more. For example, if we have to lock down, why are we still letting flights come and go??

Once positive, contact tracing and quarantine need to be stepped up. The published number has never reached 3 quarantined per sick person in this outbreak and I think it should be at least that or more. Hopefully people are acting responsibly themselves by alerting their contacts who can self-quarantine, but there should be more guidance.

We have more active cases now than the total cases since the start of Covid and half of the deaths have been in this month. The hospital is getting overrun. We cannot count on Curacao and Aruba as they also have a lot of cases. We need to be sure to import the expertise and equipment we need to handle this now.



*active cases, the higher bars show those who have been quarantined*

Even if you do not believe in the rules, please wear your mask correctly, distance, wash and Vaccinate! it will not hurt you. Be proactive don't wait for someone to tell you how to act, be smart and help out! *Pam Teitel*

## Slow vaccination rate Peter McNiff

Dear Governor Rijna,

Maybe it's me, maybe I'm the only person on Bonaire frustrated by the vaccination program's progress? Maybe this virus is not that serious, but we're in lockdown so it must be, right? Then why is the vaccination program lacking any sense of urgency? Why are you not pushing them to work seven days a week, why? Why are they working office worker hours? Why?

At the current rate of vaccinations it will take until the middle of October to be done with the 14,000 (28,000 doses)

vaccinations. Meanwhile the UK variant, that you allowed to get on the island, is tearing through the population and the vaccination program is averaging ~196 shots per working day and apparently oblivious to the urgency.

The vaccination program must be active seven days a week, just like the virus. By working weekends from the start we would have administered an additional ~955 shots, but we didn't and I can't understand why? If it is a matter of able bodies, I think you have enough volunteers on the island willing to help in anyway they can.

Working seven days a week, even at the current leisurely vaccination rate, will end the program two months ahead of the current schedule. The island could be done in the middle of August instead of the middle of October.

The risk you run is the UK variant will kill more and more people on the island, and your inaction at this juncture, will be the cause.

If there are reasons why you can't go any faster, now would be a good time to explain. *Sincerely, Peter McNiff*

## Sports Restrictions Charles M. Baltayan

To the Committee and All It Concerns:

The recent addition of restrictions specifically aimed at sporting activities can only be called 'Misguided', at best.

It is understood:

1. Healthy people suffer less and are better able to withstand disease;
2. Exercise and sports are an important part of staying healthy;
3. UV radiation from the sun from being outdoors and our salty air are not conducive to disease transmission;
4. Sick people should stay away from others;
5. One should wash their hands before eating.

These items seem to be ignored by the committee that makes the restriction recommendations.

## New Subspecies of Conch Found on Bonaire Commercial Value Immeasurable Environmental Positives and Negatives

All this rain has had some exciting consequences!

First the super rains filled the area between Breezes 'n Bites and the new construction south of them. Next, we got an exceptionally high tide along with a wind reversal strong enough to push sea water into the rainwater.

Shortly after that, the instructors of the Limited Visibility Diving courses, which were held in the Seaside Puddle since all Bonaire's marine waters are too clear to qualify, began to notice snails living in the Puddle. The snails were soon identifiable as queen conchs, and they were growing very quickly.

It is clear from anyone involved in staying healthy that the likelihood of disease transmission from healthy people sporting or exercising is minimal to none.

Certain activities are so socially distant that banning them defies rational thought: How can a solo sailor on a small boat in the middle of the sea do any harm to anyone, themselves included????

Certain activities are socially distant by nature: Tennis, beach tennis, table tennis, volleyball, sailing, soccer, baseball, bicycling, swimming. One does not want to get hit with a bat, racquet or paddle and one wants to cover as much space as possible, meaning it does not make sense to crowd each other, ever. When two healthy people converge in a sport, so what? They are healthy and trying to stay that way. The chance of infection or disease is again minimal.

The restriction notice that is most disturbing: Indoor soccer: must play indoor soccer outdoors only.... nothing further need be said.

If the government wants to eliminate socializing and maintain social distancing, make rules for spectators and require appropriate distancing in stadiums, dug-outs and benches. Make gym cleanliness mandatory.

In the year plus that we have been plagued with this issue less than ten percent of the population has tested positive out of the 25% of the population claiming to be sick that have been tested. We have been given no information on the severity of the infections save the minimal hospital admissions and the fact that 6 people have died while being infected with COVID19. No one wishes anyone ill but I know personally that one of the deaths had many other deadly complications and my guess is the others that died were not healthy to begin with.

Sick people should stay away from others and at risk people should take any precautions they deem necessary.

PLEASE rescind these restrictions immediately to let people play and stay healthy. *Charles M. Baltayan*





# Uncle Albert needs a motor

If all goes well, this 1987 Black London cab will be traveling the streets of Bonaire later this year. Owner Steve Hall is hoping to get this beauty running on the road with a fully electric motor. The problem is he can't find one.

Steve first saw the black beauty sitting on top of a container at a wrecking yard and felt he had to have it.

"I felt sorry for it, something inside me called out from the British in me," said Steve.

He asked his wife Jane to buy it for him for his 60th birthday and she did, paying \$500 bucks.

Originally from Manchester, England, the couple first came to Bonaire in 2007. They had been living in St Maartin for 10 years and decided the island wasn't where they wanted to be. They began a search for the ultimate island home in the Caribbean.

Steve told us, Bonaire was the last island we visited. He said there was just

something about the place and the people were so friendly. They gave it a try by first renting a place for three months in Belnem, then bought a house at Lagoen Hill and finally a home in Santa Barbara which is their forever home.

Steve said, "I just celebrated my 64th birthday and I want to get it on the road."

He calls the 34 year old car "Uncle Albert" and researched the registration as E955KYM. Steve has no idea how it found its way to Bonaire but at one time, it was owned by someone at Jibe City.

Steve has done the research and thanks to YouTube he pretty much knows what needs to be done to make it electric. According to the informative video channel, an electric motor from an old forklift will get the car moving. He is hoping someone on Bonaire can point him in the direction of such a motor, and it doesn't even have to be running. Steve says his very skilled mechanic Raymond can take care of that. Batteries will store the energy created just like on all electric vehicles.



"Uncle Albert" will hopefully be on the road by Steve Hall's 65th birthday this year.

He also needs the headlights that amazingly are the exact same as a Land Rover.

"Uncle Albert" will be totally refurbished inside and out and the dash will be wired accordingly.

Steve said he hopes to get it working and fitted before his 65th birthday this

year.

If anyone can help Steve get the car on the road with a forklift motor or other parts, please contact him at 782-8199 or email [groovygoulding@hotmail.com](mailto:groovygoulding@hotmail.com).

Once it is finished, perhaps he'll take you for a ride. *Story and photos, Julie Morgan*

## Protecting Bonaire's caves: Honoring Year of the Caves, 2021



CARIBBS certified cave tour guide Hans Voorman of Outdoor Bonaire leads a tour in one of Bonaire's caves

International Union of Speleology, designated 2021 as the International Year of Caves and Karst, therefore, CARIBSS

(Caribbean Speleological Society) is taking this opportunity to raise attention to Bonaire's Caves & Karst Nature Reserve.

On December 13, 2019, the caves and park were officially inaugurated by deputy Elvis. Tijn Asjoe. The pilot project is an area about 30 hectares located around Barcadera and was established with the support of LNV, Openbaar Lichaam Bonaire, WILDCONSCIENCE BV, CARIBSS, DierenLot, and Nos ta biba di naturalesa.

The park helps to ensure that residents and visitors to Bonaire receive quality education and information about the ecological importance, value and protection of caves. It further ensures that the resources in these cave systems are used sustainably and that human safety is a high priority in all cave activities.

Visitors can access the park under the supervision and leadership of CARIBSS certified cave tour guides that are allowed to conduct park tours.

The park has enough caves to avoid overcrowded visits. Additionally, the geology, flora and fauna of the Bonaire

limestone terraces is showcased in the more than four kilometers of hiking trails. It has multiple caves with several chambers. Only two of these chambers are closed to protect the reproduction and maternity activities of native bat species. One cave, Kueba di awa, is known for its access to underground water.

The majority of the area is fenced off to protect the delicate flora in the park from goats. Three entrances with gates allow park access. To maintain the original state, there are no built-in walkways or signage. The paths are rocky, rough and not easy to follow without a cave tour guide.

Unfortunately, a number of people are entering the park without certified cave guides supervision. This has resulted in littering and gates left unclosed enabling goats to enter causing physical damage to

*Year of the Cave, continued on page 7*



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## St. Maarten asks UN to protect it from Dutch

The St. Maarten Parliament has appealed to the United Nations for protection from Dutch racism and neo-colonization. It complained that the Netherlands is using the pandemic and past hurricanes to “neo-colonially” force St. Maarten to give up its sovereignty. Lawyer Peter Choharis pointed out that over the centuries the Netherlands created the governing culture on St. Maarten. “If corruption and mismanagement are such big problems, whose fault is that?” (Writer’s note. This is not an April Fool’s story.)

Dutch Undersecretary of Home Affairs and Kingdom Relations Raymond Knops said he was unpleasantly surprised by the petition. He said it contradicts St. Maarten’s earlier acceptance of the conditions, including the implementation of reforms, that are attached to the Dutch liquidity support for the duration of the coronavirus crisis.

Knops said that since the start of the coronavirus crisis, the Netherlands has assisted St. Maarten, as well as the other Dutch Caribbean countries Aruba and Curaçao, with a broad support package, consisting of, among other things, medical assistance, food aid for the most vulnerable residents, and budget support to cope with the financial adversity. He noted that only one condition was attached to continuing the support: that the local governments agree to financial reforms.

Knops acknowledged the island’s right to autonomy and explained, “I have come to the conclusion that St. Maarten at this time cannot carry its autonomy. I repeat: I don’t want to take away St. Maarten’s own autonomy. To the contrary: I want to help them so they can fully carry that autonomy in a couple of years.” Knops said that the Dutch government will fully assist St. Maarten with the implementation of the necessary reforms.

The St. Maarten parliament submitted its petition to the UN Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance Tendayi Achiume, and to the Working Group of experts on people of African descent. *DMR (the St. Maarten Daily Herald, the Curaçao Chronicle)*

## Post pandemic planning underway

The covid pandemic has erased several years of financial gains by Bonaire’s people and businesses. As a first step in planning a recovery, the Public Entity of Bonaire (OLB) and Chamber of Commerce (CoC) are conducting a March 16 to March 26 survey of business owners to help quantify the adverse impacts of the COVID-19 crisis on the island’s businesses. A second survey will be conducted later to determine the pandemic impacts on the general public. All survey responses will be private and confidential.

The surveys will feed data into a comprehensive Post-Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) that will guide the government’s response and recovery planning. The World Bank is directing the survey, using funding provided by a European Union technical assistance program for Caribbean Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs) which has a 42.67 million EUR budget for 2018- 2023. *DMR*

## WEB’s road work continues

Despite the lockdown WEB will continue its excavation work to renew the irrigation water pipeline in Kaya Grandi. During March 22 – 29 they will work from Littman’s towards Kaya Princess Marie (Donna & Giorgio). During work hours from 7 am to 4 pm sidewalks will remain accessible to pedestrians. Car and freight traffic will be diverted.

## BOPEC in receivership

BOPEC (Bonaire Oil Petroleum Corporation), which has not paid its employees since January 1, has been put in Chapter-11 receivership, and the receiver has asked the court to declare the company bankrupt. As well, the employees and their union have won a suit that requires BOPEC to pay all outstanding salaries, which it cannot do because it is insolvent.

The receiver may find that BOPEC, owned by Venezuela’s national oil company PDVSA, has few disposable assets. Unless BOPEC can be sold as an operable business—a highly unlikely prospect given the present circumstances—Bonaire may end up stuck with an ugly collection of scrap metal rusting away in a beautiful location on the island. *DMR*

## Guess who bought BOPEC

Bonaire’s relative isolation, plus the already existing tanks at BOPEC, are two of the factors that interested the space programs of the Netherlands and the United States in Bonaire.

“That the tanks are here is a huge benefit for us,” said Jan Kies, Netherlands Project Manager. “Astronaut trainees can repair the tanks themselves, and the tanks can then be used for zero-gravity training.”

The Joint Space Program (JSP) will also utilize the ocean off BOPEC, both to provide water for the tanks and, of course, for splashdown practice. Their contract with the Bonaire Government prohibits them from rocket launches or any other activities that would disturb local wildlife.

BOPEC will soon be bustling again! *D.S.*



## Admin agreement will protect Papiamentu

The OLB and the central government have signed an administrative agreement to protect and promote Papiamentu on Bonaire. The intention is to assure that the language is not only spoken on the island, but that people leave school able to read and write it as well. A joint organization will be created to preserve and develop both the language and the associated culture. Aruba and Curaçao, where Papiamentu is also spoken, will be invited to participate.

In addition, the OLB, the SPLIKA Foundation, and the DMR Fundashon Akademia Papiamentu will jointly apply to have Papiamentu recognized under the European Charter for regional or minority languages. *DMR (Bonaire.nu)*

## Projector donated for elderly

Victims of Alzheimer and dementia in residential care on Bonaire now have a projector that can create for them experience of meeting with their family in person and in private, despite the isolation imposed by the corona crisis. As the patient lies in bed, the projector will project life-size images of the family on the ceiling, making it seem as if the family is visiting the resident.

The projector will improve the quality of life for ADL residents and clients, relaxing them and reducing their need for psychiatric drugs. Care providers will benefit as well, because the residents will be calmer and more accommodating. The brand new “Qwiek up” projector cost Euro 5,553 and was donated to Fundashon Alzheimer Bonaire by the Brentano’s Steun des Ouderdoms Foundation in Amsterdam. *DMR (Bonaire.nu)*

## Year of the Cave, continued from page 6

cave structures. Uncontrolled visitors have held loud parties in the caves, leaving candle wax and other types of trash like cigarettes, beer bottles, fireworks, candles, plastic bags, used diapers etc.

People have entered the water caves stirring up the sediments creating a negative impact on the unique underwater fauna. Another major concern is untrained and uncertified people have led cave tours resulting in accidents. This is a major risk for both human safety and the natural and cultural values found in these caves.

CARIBSS is eager and happy to, continue protecting, maintain and managing the park with the help of our partner organizations. But, for optimal management and protection of the caves and karst environment, we need formal agreements with Bonaire’s public entity (OLB).

In the meantime, in order to improve the protection of the Bonaire Caves & Karst Park, some trails and/or entries may be changed. This way badly prepared and poorly equipped visitors and unofficial tour guides are discouraged to enter on their own. We are proactive in educating Group 8 Bonairean students about the special environment of the Caves and Karst to encourage future nature advocates.

Certified guides can be found at <http://caribss.org/certified-guides>

[www.bonairecaves.org](http://www.bonairecaves.org).

[www.caribss.org](http://www.caribss.org).

*Photo by Julie Morgan*

## A few dedicated citizens clean Te Amo beach



In accordance with covid regulations, Clean Coast Bonaire cancelled their March 14th group clean-up of Te Amo beach (the public beach opposite the airport). But the clean-up went ahead thanks to the two people from the same household who volunteered to help. It took two separate cleaning visits, and a lot of bending, but the small group collected 4086 waste items including cigarette butts, bottle caps, fireworks and plastic waste.

## Seaside Movie Theater Opens at WEB Sail- and Drive-In Theater Provides More Than Entertainment

WEB is proud to announce, as part of their current renovations, the addition of an outdoor theater along their coastline in Hato. The movie screen is huge. Amphibious Theatre is unique in another way, too: nowhere else in the world can viewers attend theater from vehicles or vessels; yacht residents will watch from their own homes!

A moderate admission fee is charged. All profits will go to WEB – enabling a reduction in our water bills!

For reservations, more information, or detailed Amphibious Theatre Coronavirus-19 precautions, please visit our Facebook page. *D.S.*







## *A Garden? Just Do It!*

*by Angliet, Nature Lover*

### *Getting rid of pests*

Since the covid storm hit Bonaire, we have no other choice than to stay home. I always thought, what a nightmare to be locked up in a house and a yard for weeks, especially when you live alone as I do. I enjoy my free life, doing things like criss-crossing the island on the bike, socializing with friends at the Kaya Grandi markets and admiring the sunset on beaches. There is no time to get bored. When the small lock down came, I found myself more and more in the garden. I'm surprised that I can fill most of the day being busy there. I find so much to do and discover that I feel happy.

First thing I did was a big clean up. I follow the 'use to recycle and reuse' idea.

With so much time, I gave my garden and yard a face lift. First I trimmed all the trees into a heap and then raked all the leaves.

A neighbor told me to do this at least three times a year to rid the yard of roaches, ants, rats, mice, scorpions, spiders, centipedes and woodlice. Rotten leaves and wood are perfect habitats for them but I use it for compost. I turn the heap up side down so it gets light and fresh air and the bugs' habitat is disturbed.

When fruits drop like papaya, and mango, the rats, mice and roaches attack. They love fruit and once they are in your yard, it's hard to get rid of them and they can end up in your house. So don't let fruits rot in the yard.

Lately there have been a lot of wasps around and they make their nests behind things, terrible. A few weeks ago I moved a table to the back porch, and underneath



**Papaya tree with delicious papayas**

was a big nest. I got nine stings on my arm. I rubbed fresh lemon juice on the stings to eliminate the poison. I also got a thorn of a jatu cactus in my thumb. I carefully took it out, with a sterilized needle but in the evening it started to hurt, swell and throb. I ended up at the doctor and received antibiotics for the inflammation.

Safeguard your surrounding from bugs and animals by cleaning your yard. If you have old wood and other things, remove them once in a while and wear garden gloves. Always keep lemons and fresh aloe as aloe is one of the best remedies to rub over a wound.

When I raked the garden, I disturbed the ants and they

moved under the plant containers. To get rid of them, pour hot water over them. If they are in a potted plant, soak the container in a bucket with warm water and you will get rid of the whole nest at one time. I don't use chemicals and sprays because it's bad for the environment and everyone else.

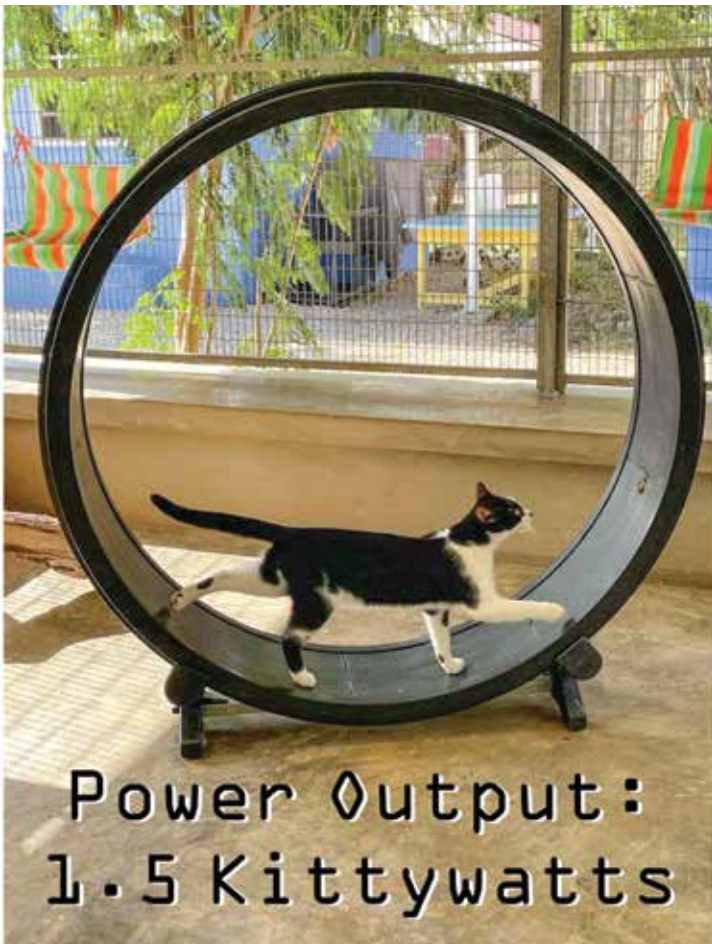
I have a lot of birds in my yard. They drink in the hanging baskets on the porch and also make nests there and I love it. What I don't like is the poop they drop everywhere, including on one specific wall. One day I asked a painter to clean and repaint the wall. And since then they don't poop there anymore, but started on another wall. I washed that wall clean and no more pooping. So I'm wondering, do they smell or see the poop there and make that spot their toilet and use it every time? Anyway, if you have that problem too, you know to clean the area and they will look for another pooping place.

Iguanas also come to the same spot to poop. I mix vinegar with a liquid cleaner and spray it where they poop. And I have to say it works! I guess, they don't like the sharp smell and find another place for their toilet. One time is not enough, so keep on spraying the vinegar. This works for wild cats and dogs too. Household vinegar is cheap and they don't like the smell. I used a whole bottle where they used to pee / poop against my fence and no more cat and dog poop or pee.

Last but not least, I told a local kunukero that my papaya tree is lazy; she does not bear fruit. He said to tie a red ribbon around the tree and hit a nail in the trunk. I could not believe it was so simple, but I tried it. And, no joke, one day I saw a lot of little papayas in the top of the tree that turned into big, super delicious papayas. No one can explain what the red ribbon has to do with a lazy papaya tree, but it works, or maybe it was just luck.

So these are some of my garden experiences.

If any of the remedies fits you, just do it. You never know. *Angliet, Nature lover*



With all of the problems that WEB has been having keeping the power on out on the road to Lagun, the Animal Shelter which is located there has taken matters into their own paws, and is now generating electricity using their two-catpower generating wheels.



# Call for vaccinating COVID-19



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# Coming Soon!



A permit has been issued for the construction of a McDonald's 24 Hour Drive-Thru at the corner of Julio A. Abraham Boulevard and Kaya Gilberto F. Croes on the site of the old prison.

It is estimated to be operational by Christmas, 2021 barring any issues due to COVID.

Like the Curacao McDonalds, it will

have menu items unique to Bonaire such as the McLionFish Filet, and the McDon-key burger. The restaurant will also include a McCafe™ serving high-end coffee and desserts.

More information available on the company's website at: <https://mcdonaldsbonaire.store>. *B.N.*



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# Parrots and People!

by Megan Hill

*Lora, friend or foe?* Luca Lo Scavo, a second time Echo volunteer, has been researching human-parrot conflict on the island of Bonaire for the past year. Based on extensive interviews with local citizens, community representatives and business owners, Luca's work reveals a deep understanding of the perception of the loras (Yellow-shouldered Amazon parrots) on the island.

Luca presented his findings during a public presentation in February and afterwards everybody was invited to share their opinions and questions in an open discussion.

This research project aims to open discussions rather than take any sides and aims to be unbiased in its approach. The work Luca and many other social scientists have done on the Island of Bonaire, is vital to working towards a common goal.

During his interviews, many people raised their concerns about the loras, one of which was that they are fruit pests; they flock to eat ripe fruit trees in people's private property. This means the land owners cannot eat or sell the fruits themselves. Another issue raised was that locals feel isolated/alienated from the parrots: they can no longer have parrots as pets and therefore they hold no economic value to them as individuals.

This information is invaluable to Echo. Understanding the problem is the first step to creating a solution. During the interviews many of the concerned citizens had positive recommendations on



**Luca Lo Scavo has been researching human-parrot conflict**

how to help address the issues. Some of those long-term solutions included offering parrot scholarships and creating new economic opportunities from the parrots through eco tours.

The results of Luca's research are not the end but rather the beginning. Echo will be using the research to continue community engagement and to work with nature stakeholders on the island to develop a future where parrots and people can live in harmony. For more information about Echo visit Echo's website [echobonaire.org](http://echobonaire.org).





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current Covid regulations limit use to two patients max.

Diving accident treatments usually take five to six hours, one or two times, but they can be over a dozen. The number of treatments is based on the patient's improvement after the first one.

Pam said, "If the patient can't walk, then we keep going till there is no improvement. If their pinky finger is a little numb, then it's likely they are done."

Divers are generally treated with 100% Oxygen at 60 feet (18 meters). In more severe diving accidents the treatment gas can be Nitrox 50/50, beginning the treatment at deeper depths (100-165 feet).

Wound patients generally receive a 30-40 treatment protocol at a depth of 45 ft.

Over the past 35 years, there have been some interesting patients including a guy that denied he had DCS, (decompression sickness). even though he had come in crawling and crying. After treatment and he was okay, the patient said it was his sciatic nerve and refused to pay.

Pam remembers a girl who couldn't walk and had to be wheeled in for treatment. Towards the end of her treatment, she asked, "Will I be done in time for the night dive?"

Four people are needed for any treatment: a nurse inside the chamber, q supervisor, an operator outside and the doctor who can go in or out through an airlock.

"When a diver is not feeling well, they go to the hospital ER and they will consult the diving medical doctor on call. This doctor will examine the patient and determine if recompression therapy is necessary," said van der Vaart.

The cost is \$800 per hour. So DAN insurance is highly recommended.

"And it's good for the diver to know,"



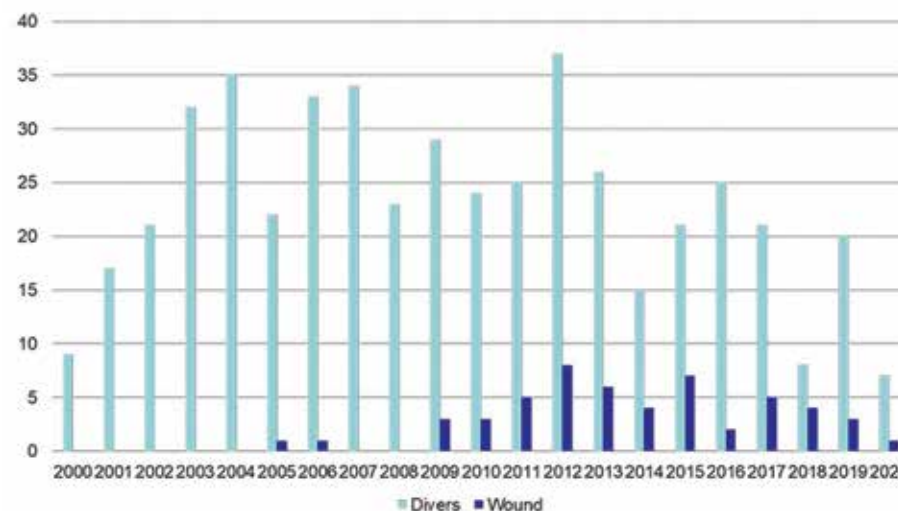
**Dr. van der Vaart watches as the new chamber is lowered into the new facility through the open roof in 2009.** Photo Chamber Archive

said Pam, "that if I take one or five treatments, I'm not going to have to sell my car."

Bonaire's hyperbaric team receives initial training from van de Vaart and the supervisors. Further education is done

with International ATMO Inc, formerly the Jefferson C Davis Wound Care and Hyperbaric medicine Center of San Antonio, TX.

The HBOT team is made up of: one doctor, four supervisors, three doctors in

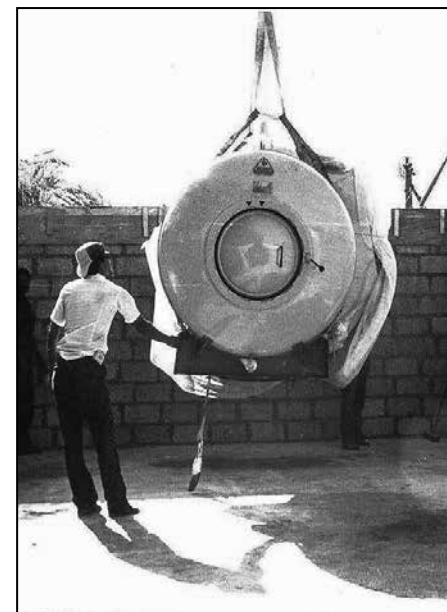


**Numbers of diving patients and wound patients treated from 2000 to 2020.**

training, eight operators and 13 nurses. This dedicated and well-trained team include supervisors Pam Teitel and Malin Kaijser, who have been with Dr. van der Vaart since the beginning, and Linda Baker and Francey Allee who have been with them for approximately 25 years.

Over the past 35 years, lives have been saved and changed with Bonaire's HBOT. Records have been lost prior to 2000, but in 2010 we know 38,791 people dived Bonaire with 23 divers treated. In 2019, 33,780 diver park tags were sold, indicating the number of divers, and there were a mere 20 dive accidents.

Van der Vaart commented, these statistics are interesting to know. The comparison means it is really safe to dive on Bonaire. *Julie Morgan*



**Dutch Navy hyperbaric chamber finds a new home in Bonaire in 1986.**

Photo Chamber Archive



## Creating optimal health

by Irene da Cunda Costa

### Learning from our emotions

Emotions are vital to our lives and have been key to our survival as species. For example, fear has alerted us to life dangers and anger has given us energy to face them.

It is necessary to transcend the idea that there are good (acceptable) emotions and bad (rejectable) emotions or good and bad impulses. Every emotion can be an opportunity for growth and every emotion can be an opportunity for disaster. It is essential to accept emotions and impulses without judging them, since what is rejected or judged, is usually repressed. And what is strongly repressed becomes a source of chronic stress.

Emotions result from the integration of sensations from the outer and inner world, generating changes at the somatic level. Six primary emotions have been described: fear, anger, sadness, joy, surprise and aversion. There are also secondary emotions such as love, contempt, shame, jealousy, guilt and pride. The primary ones are basic and common to all humans and other animals. Secondary emotions are based on cognitive assessment and social and cultural factors.

According to the Harvard Business Review, emotional intelligence is twice as important as technical skills or

IQ in determining top management performance. Daniel Goleman ensures that people are hired for their technical skills and fired for their lack of emotional skills. He states that Emotional Intelligence is "the ability to recognize our own emotions, to self-motivate and manage emotions within us and in our relationships."

According to this author, Emotional Intelligence is based on five skills:

1. Self-awareness: be aware of the emergence of emotions. It is important to look at them with a certain perspective, to detach from them. Self-knowledge is key in recognizing the minor changes that announce an incoming emotion.

2. Self-acceptance: it is important to avoid judgments and understand that the appearance of emotions cannot be controlled. Suppressing emotions can create chronic stress and a dangerous imbalance for the body.

3. Self-regulation: this means channeling and directing emotional energy in a constructive way. At the same time implies the ability to subordinate immediate gratification and favor more transcendental goals and values. It implies taking responsibility for your own life as you are in charge. Different techniques can be learned to achieve

this goal.

4. Self-analysis: involves understanding the thoughts underlying the emotion and analyzing their validity as they may or may not be based on reality.

5. Expression: once we understand the emotions and the underlying thoughts, we can consciously decide how to channel the energy that has been generated, either by working on internal changes, generating dialogues or other actions.

These same skills can be applied to others:

1. Recognition (empathy): noticing what happens to the others.

2. Acceptance (compassion): avoid value judgments and allow expression.

3. Influence (containment): respond appropriately.

4. Inquiry (rationality): showing genuine interest in others and jointly seeking channels of understanding.

5. Listen (respect): act honestly and facilitate its integral and effective expression.

In short, when you act with complete honesty, expressing your true emotions to the person who needs to hear them the most (perhaps, yourself), you will be at peace with yourself, you will feel liberated and healthier and you will accept yourself as you are.

*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.*

*The Bonaire Reporter Mar 24 - Apr 10, 2021*





### Residents of Kas di Kuido in Playa vaccinated.

More than two-thirds of the residents of Kas di Kuido nursing home have received their first Covid 19 vaccine from Fundashon Mariadal care staff. Authorized family members and contacts of the elderly were contacted by doctors for consent. Results of vaccine distribution in nursing homes worldwide has decreased the number of covid infections. Other elderly Bonaire citizens may need help too. If you know someone in this target group, please reach out to help them. Many may assistance in navigating the internet or phone system registration. J.M.



This little fella shown in the picture is quite special. It is one of two sea slug species that can pop its head off and regrow its entire body. Researchers in Japan discovered that *Elysia marginate* and *Elysia atroviridis* are both capable of undergoing extreme regeneration. These sea slugs can detach their heads on purpose, and they regrow their bodies in just a couple of weeks. The head can live for weeks without the need of a functioning body. These slugs feed on algae. Like plants, algae make their own food out of sunlight and CO2 (photosynthesis). When the slug eats the algae, it is then able to photosynthesize, ie make its own food and stay alive. I already think this is very special, but there is even more. This very special slug's body can live for days to months after it is detached from its head!

Sayaka Mitoh from the University of Japan was the one who discovered the abilities of this sea slug. In 2018 she saw an individual of *Elysia marginate* crawling without a head. At first, she thought the poor creature was going to die soon. However, nothing was farther from the truth; the sea slug healed in several days and its entire body started to regrow. After three weeks, 80% of the slug's body had regenerated and it was almost an exact replica of the previous one. The vital organs of the lost body still functioned for weeks. Unfortunately, it was not able to regrow its head. So why do these slugs go to such extremes? Sayaka's lab conducted research that suggests that the slugs regenerate when they get too many parasites. If you want to know more about this special species there is a lot of information and some cool videos online.

The scientists who discovered this phenomenon think that this species has the most extreme form of regeneration and autonomy seen in nature.

Written by Kelly Bulsink, STINAPA intern. (Image credit: Sayaka Mitoh) STINAPA. Connecting People With Nature.



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### Congratulations to Tymon

Every month Street Art Cities selects the best street murals worldwide. The piece "Leilana" by street artist Tymon de Laat, won for February! Tymon recently worked on Bonaire with Street Colors Bonaire. The winning artwork is on the wall of a soon-to-be-opened cocktail bar on the Kaya Bonaire.

In his Facebook post, Tymon thanked everyone on Bonaire for their support during the voting rounds.




































You can see more of Tymon's work at <https://www.instagram.com/tymon-delaat/?hl=en>



Visit our business directory on page 14 for new products and services.



# COVID-19 SPORTS Lockdown RISK LEVEL 6

	Risk level 6 Lockdown
Athletics	  yes, individually
Baseball	 no
Basketball	 no
Beach tennis	 no
Beach volley-ball	 no
Billiards	 no
Body building	 no
Bolas	 no
Boxing	 no
Checkers	 no
Chess	 no
Cycling	  yes, individually
Dominoes	 no
Fitness	 no
Free diving	  yes, individually
Indoor soccer	 no
Judo	 no
Karate	 no
Kayaking	 no
Kickboxing	 no
Kite surfing	 no
MMA	 no
Optimist	 no
Scuba diving	  yes, individually
Shooting	 no
Soccer	 no
Softball	 no
Sunfish	 no
Swimming	  yes, individually
Table tennis	 no
Tennis	no
Volleyball	no
Water polo	no
Windsurfing	yes, individually

What's Happening	
<b>Dive Friends:</b> <i>Two locations open for tank pickup and drop off, Sand Dollar &amp; Port Bonaire 9-5</i> <b>Washington Slagbaai park:</b> <i>Closed until April 1. All reservations for camping at Slagbaai have also been canceled.</i> <b>STINAPA headquarters:</b> <i>Closed to public. Available by phone +599 717 8444.</i>	
Thursday, March <b>18</b>	<b>Beginning March 18, Bonaire goes into Lockdown for two weeks. Curfew from 9pm to 4am</b>
April <b>2 - 5</b>	<b>Easter weekend.</b> <i>Good Friday, April 2, Sunday, April 4</i> <i>Easter Monday, April 5. Dive Friends Easter egg hunts are cancelled.</i>
May <b>28 - 29</b>	<b>BonDoet weekend.</b>

## Bonaire History and Culture course on hold

André Nahr and Boi Antoin’s Bonaire’s history course will be rescheduled after the covid restrictions lift.

The course will be taught in English on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. To sign

up, call 717-8482 (Extra) between 11am and 4pm or email:

shirleymartis2001@hotmail.com.

Price is \$ 95. per person. Only 14 spots are available for the class.

## Doing business during lockdown

**Fundashon Mariadal.** Visitors to the hospital must wear a medical mouth mask. A fabric-mouth mask is not allowed. A visit to Kas di Kuido is NOT possible. Visiting Sentebibu patients is not allowed. Outpatient clinics: regular care will continue, as much as possible via telephone consultation (715 8900). Patients with an appointment are not allowed to bring a companion.

**WEB’s offices are closed.** WEB services will resolve disruptions in the distribution of water, sewage water and electricity. Other activities will be postponed.

Payments can be done online or for more information customers can contact our customer service department through [info@webbonaire.com](mailto:info@webbonaire.com). Pay online one invoice at a time. A combined payment of water and electricity is not possible. See: [www.webbonaire.com](http://www.webbonaire.com) and the WEB Facebook page.

Contact us at [info@webbonaire.com](mailto:info@webbonaire.com) +5997158244.

**The Chamber of Commerce office is closed.** Email to [customerservice@kvkbonaire.com](mailto:customerservice@kvkbonaire.com) to request: an appointment (available only 10 to 12:00 noon); an extract; or to report a change in your registration.

We ask you to postpone registrations of new companies. If not possible, send us an email. First download the correct registration form yourself from our website: <https://bonairechamber.com/downloads/>.

Please pay the annual contribution by

bank to MCB account 102.822.07 or RBC account 84000000 23.06.271, stating the invoice number or Chamber of Commerce number. We request that you email us the receipt to [administration@kvkbonaire.com](mailto:administration@kvkbonaire.com).

**Belastingdienst/Douane (Customs)**  
The office is closed from March 8 till March 29. The port Customs office on Bonaire will remain open. For changes, questions, requests, and customs questions use: [Balie@belastingdienst-cn.nl](mailto:Balie@belastingdienst-cn.nl)  
Residents and companies can easily, safely and quickly submit their tax returns for ABB, LH and the Verzamelloonstaat (Collective Wage Sheet) online to the Belastingdienst.

For help with online returns use [helpdesk@belastingdienst-cn.nl](mailto:helpdesk@belastingdienst-cn.nl)  
You can deposit documents in the letterbox next to the main entrance of the office of the Belastingdienst.

You can also scan the tax return and email it to [Balie@belastingdienst-cn.nl](mailto:Balie@belastingdienst-cn.nl). Submitting tax returns online via the website <https://www.belastingdienst-cn.nl/> is much faster.

**Space and development department.** Open Mon. to Fri. 9-11 am for building and establishment permits. A mouth mask is mandatory. Application forms for building and settlement permits must be applied for and submitted by email [\\_ro@bonairegov.com](mailto:_ro@bonairegov.com) . Phone 715-5381.

Report a violation of COVID-19 measures


**Supervision and Enforcement Directorate**

**717 5300**

**796 4850**  
outside of office hours or for urgent matters

**Email:**  
[bisami\\_T&H@bonairegov.com](mailto:bisami_T&H@bonairegov.com)


**Dutch Caribbean Police Force (KPCN)**

**717 8000**

**717 7251**  
anonymously

The police and the Supervision and Enforcement Directorate cannot simultaneously check all places at once.

**Reports, therefore, are welcomed.**

COVID-19 Lockdown RISK LEVEL 6	
Private meetings (e.g. home, beach, or park)	 Stay home as much as possible. Only go out with roommates
Prof. organized events see also 'clarification sports'	 No grouping together
Funeral service and wedding ceremony	 Max. 10 pers
Restaurants and cafes (incl. water tours/-restaurants)	 Closed
Hotels	 Bar/restaurant only open for hotel guests
Essential shops	 Max: 1 pers. per household. Mandatory cart/ basket
Non-essential shops	 Closed
Churches	 No physical services
Sports activities (also see 'clarification sports')	 Facilities closed. See 'explanation sports'
Work	 Work from home is mandatory where possible
Contact professions	 Closed, unless medical indication
Nightclubs	 Closed
Adult Entertainment	 Closed
Gambling halls, casinos and cinemas	 Closed
Saunas	 Closed
Daytime activities elderly	 Only emergency shelter
Primary education and after-school care	 Only emergency shelter
Secondary education and after-school care	 Only emergency shelter
Child care	 Only emergency child care



#### Curfew in force

Lt. Governor Edison Rijna has imposed a curfew from 9 pm - 4 am, the first on Bonaire. Citizens are not allowed to leave their house during those hours. But there are exceptions. People are allowed on the streets in an emergency or if they or someone else need urgent medical help. People who work at night can be out, but they must carry a completed employer's statement. This statement can be downloaded from [www.bonairecrisis.com/functions](http://www.bonairecrisis.com/functions).

Individuals may walk their dog during curfew hours, but only alone.

#### Enforcing the curfew

A team of multidisciplinary agencies is enforcing the curfew by patrolling the roads, which must be clear nonessential traffic by 9 pm and inspecting catering establishments, which must shut down by 8 pm.

Most catering establishments were found to be abiding by the rules, but a few were caught selling alcoholic beverages after hours. They were ordered to close. Twenty three people were caught out beyond 9 and will be fined \$150. Repeat violations will bring increased fines. The team found there were quite a few people in their cars on the street after 9 who did have their employer's statements confirming they worked at night.

The Dutch Caribbean Police Corps, the Royal Netherlands Marechaussee (KMAR), and the Supervision and

Enforcement Directorate of the Public Entity, are teaming up to enforce the curfew on Bonaire. Significant numbers of violations are occurring on Curaçao too.

#### Airport to remain open

Despite the lockdown, Flamingo Airport will remain open for essential travel and cargo. As Bonaire's infection rate climbs, overflow patients need to be flown to hospitals on other islands. Individual passengers can still fly to Bonaire, depending on airline schedules. A negative PCR test plus a negative antigen test or a negative NAAT test result are required for entry, plus a health certificate upon. These requirements will be strictly monitored. The European Netherlands has also imposed strict testing and quarantine requirements for arriving passengers, as have other islands in the Caribbean Netherlands.

#### Hospitals respond to the surge

Fundashon Mariadal is expanding the Special Care department to deal with the surge in covid patients. General practitioners and specialists have been asked to postpone day treatments and non-urgent operations. Arrangements have been made with Curacao and Aruba for hospitalization of overflow patients. People who have been tested positive for the Covid-19 virus and have increasing complaints should come to the hospital only after consultation with their GP. The hospital is urgently asking people to get vaccinated.

Curaçao Medical Center has cancelled all non-emergency

operations. Clinical appointments will continue as usual.

#### School closures are flexible

During the lockdown, the schools can continue to provide live instruction in special needs courses, examination courses, and courses requiring practical application. Lessons are taught at school for vulnerable children and children of parents with critical functions. Otherwise, teachers are encouraged to provide as much distance learning as possible and nag the children to practice corona precautions. Schools reopen on April 1.

#### Customer covid registration must be private

Many businesses are required by corona rules to register their customers by name, phone number, date and time. That data can aid the Health Department personnel when they trace infection sources and contacts. However, businesses must also keep the personal information private. Each customer or table must be registered on a separate form, the form must be secured so that neither other customers nor employees can see it, and the data cannot be retained longer than 14 days.

The BES commission that supervises the protection of personal data (CPB) is especially concerned about the practice in many food and drinking establishments of registering customers on a single list that then gets passed around. Other customers and employees can view the names and phone numbers recorded on those lists. *DMR*



## Making Bonaire Accessible

by Ria Evers-Dokter

### Wellness, health & safety

When watching American channels on TV, one often hears and reads these words:

- Keep spaces clean and sanitized
- Provide essential health benefits and services
- Communicate your health and safety efforts
- Help everyone prepare for an emergency
- Access air and water quality

This caught my interest right away because that means that these companies interested in health and accessibility took things seriously.

On Bonaire we are also fighting the virus and we could use some extra safety. But only at press conferences do we get to know what kind of safety measures have been taken.

And as always, my heart goes out to the elderly and the impaired. Again they are banned from a social life and have to stay inside and be even more afraid. No visitors, or only at a distance.

Right now it is more important than ever that persons with limitations cannot be comforted in the way they understand best: hugged and feeling loved. There are a few more things that could be done for all those who need attention. The five rules above are only a few.

All the volunteers who are available could be assigned to the people with limitations. Drive-by birthday parties could be organized for everybody who is celebrating their birthday. Fundraisers can be organized to get every person with limitations a notebook, smartphone or iPad and then chat sessions could be organized.

Every social need that is expressed should be met while still respecting social distance. A choir could be set up with regular training sessions on Zoom. And art classes too, with exhibits of the work on social media.

For people who have problems expressing themselves one could find volunteers to send little care packages or cards every week with paper hugs. Clothing rallies

could be organized, followed by a fitting session online with the volunteers. There are many, more ideas that we could come up with to make life a lot more enjoyable right now.

For the lonely elderly, a buddy-program was set up successfully. This program has a lot of room to grow during these covid days. Zoom sessions on ipads or iphones would be a big help if regular daily talking sessions were organized. Donations could be packed in a very attractive way, divided, then delivered at a distance. Birthdays should be celebrated in a drive-by style.

A choir could train and work on a session with songs for the elderly that they still remember. Those concerts could be available on Zoom or other media for easy watching and listening.

All radio stations should have special programs for the elderly and the television providers should show many old movies.

All these wonderful, special people should not feel left alone and afraid. They should know that there are many people out there who love them and are willing to make life a lot easier and more agreeable for them.

And everybody could share a nice recipe from their youth. All those recipes could be formed into a Corona-cookbook. Let's make the best of it.

## Ask a Geek

by Brian Niessen

Dear Geek. I have a computer which I bought online from a company in China. It was shipped to me here and arrived OK but when I opened the box there was a bit of a WHOOSH sound, but I paid no attention to it. When I turned on the computer, it told me I had a virus. Now I feel sick. Can you help? *Thank You, Homer J Simpson*

Dear Mr. Simpson. I contacted the company, and they sent me this security camera photo with their apologies. *Wishing you a speedy recovery, The Geek.*



If you need help with your virus problems (Computers only) you can contact me at: [geek@bonairetechsupport.com](mailto:geek@bonairetechsupport.com) or +599 700 9094 (Phone/Whatsapp)



Sign up for the covid vaccine online (<https://www.bonairecrisis.com>) or call 0800 0800. All adults 18+ beginning Monday March 29.



# LOCKDOWN

MEASURES WEB AND CUSTOMERS

**PAYMENTS?**  
ONLINE OR DIRECT DEBIT  
**CONTACT?**  
E-MAIL OR TELEFOON

**THANK YOU!**



Our customer service can be reached at  
[INFO@WEBBONAIRE.COM](mailto:INFO@WEBBONAIRE.COM) or +599 7158244



Let's do it together



# At Your Service


The following businesses have been recommended by Bonaire residents.  
Introductory rate - call or email for availability - 796-4055 - BonaireReporter2019@gmail.com

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M-W-F  
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CALL FOR REPAIRS  
  
www.caribinn.com  
JA Abraham Blvd 46  
770-7879/caribinnpr@gmail.com

  
**Yoga Sensible**  
Eden Beach Resort  
Mon. 8am & 5.30pm; Tue. Wed. Thu. 8am  
Fri. & Sat. 8.30am; Private class on request  
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**SORRY**

**WE'RE TEMPORARILY**

**CLOSED**

**UNTIL 1 APRIL**  
**DUE TO COVID-19**  
**RESTRICTIONS**

## Shelter and Pakus di Pruga temporarily closed due to regulations

Animal Shelter Bonaire will remain closed to the public until at least April 1st, in line with the new Level 6 lockdown regulations. Staff will continue to care for our residents and assist you by phone/WhatsApp as much as possible.

PLEASE NOTE: Due to the lockdown, staffing hours have been adjusted and staff will only be available for phone/messages/WhatsApp from 9 am-3 pm nonstop. (717-4989/701-4989).

The Pakus di Pruga (the Shelter's second-hand store) will also remain closed until further notice. Please DO NOT bring donations to the Shelter until further notice. You can leave your donations outside the Pakus on Saturdays until 3 pm. Someone will pass by to put them inside during the day.

**STAY SAFE, WEAR YOUR MASKS!**  
**WE HOPE TO SEE YOU VERY SOON!**



Kenoffel Cat Palace Cam  
Thanks to Lourae, Randy and Bandit

Bonaire Animal Shelter, CN 03/19/21 09:43:28

All feline fans round the world can watch the adoptable cats in the Bonaire shelter on the Bonaire Cat Cam. The Bonaire Cat Cam is called the *Kenoffel Cat Cam* because the cam was donated by Bonaire residents and cat lovers, Lourae and Randy Kenoffel and their cat Bandit.

## Walking your dog at night during curfew

The Bonaire government has made it clear that you are still permitted to walk your dog at night during the curfew hours (9 pm - 4 am). However, there are restrictions, during curfew hours a dog on a leash may be walked by only one person. Dog walkers are not permitted to have contact with each other when walking. Keep your dog active, but stay safe and follow the rules.

## Visit us virtually

Despite the lockdown you can still visit some of our residents "virtually". Our cat-cams are up and running again and you can watch the antics (or naps!) of the cats in the Cat Palace and the kittens in the Kitty Kresh.

Just go to <https://animalshelterbonaire.com/cat-cam/> and get your kitty! Perhaps you'll find the purr-fect fit to adopt once we are open again.

. Jane Disko

## Picture Yourself Getting the vaccine



Since Covid-19 struck last year, one of our favorite features Picture Yourself, has taken a vacation because you, the reader can't hit the highways or airways. With everyone getting the vaccine, and doing their part to make the world covid free, we thought it would be fun to feature YOU doing your part. We will post the photos on our Facebook page. **So take your selfie** and let us know who you are, where you are and any other interesting details. Everyone is welcome! Hey, you could win a prize! Stay safe!

**Mark Jamieson** of Kingston, Ontario, Canada received his first of the Astra Zeneca (two dose) Covid-19 vaccine on March 15. Mark said,

*"I don't want to risk getting Covid and then not being able to SCUBA dive afterwards."*



## Bonaire's sky park

### It's a matter of degrees

How far apart are the stars of Orion's Belt? The sky is always moving, so astronomers need a way to measure distance in the sky -- and for that they use DEGREES.

Go outside and imagine you're standing sideways! If you look at the horizon, that's ZERO -- then straight up is 90!

360 degrees of sky exist all around you! This is how astronomers divide the sky.

If you stick out your arm, your pinky is about ONE degree three fingers is FIVE

A fist is TEN

And a Hawaiian Shaka is 25! Let's try it.

Hit the skies at 9pm this week and look southwest. You'll see Orion's belt stars are almost three degrees across. From Betelgeuse in Orion you can hop to Procyon in Canis Minor with one 25-degree shaka, and then to Cancer with a 10 degree hand- width! Easy!

Try out your new skills, and Keep Lookin' up!

Trace Dominguez : <https://www.stargazersonline.org>

### A waning gibbous moon near Antares

On the mornings of April 1 and 2, 2021, watch for the waning gibbous moon. In its waning gibbous phase the moon will appear less than full but more than half-lighted. A full moon rises just at sunset. A waning gibbous moon rises later at night, somewhere between your local sunset and midnight. A waning gibbous moon can surprise you if you happen to be out late in the evening and you catch it rising eerily, some hours after sunset, glowing red like a misshapen full moon when it's near the horizon.

Deborah Byrd, Bruce McClure , <https://earthsky.org>



Dr. Carmen Barba Classens and patient

## Flamingo Island Veterinary Center opens March 22

Traveling Animal Doctors has taken over the practice of Dr. Jan Laarakker and officially opens on March 22. Dr. Carmen Barba Classens will be the veterinarian on duty. Clinic hours will be Mon/Wed/Fri from 9am - 2:30 pm and Tue/Thu 9 am to 5:30 pm by appointment only. Phone number remains the same 717-3338. Be sure to check out their Facebook page at Flamingo Island Veterinary Center, where you can find more information about Dr. Carmen and the new center. Welcome, Dr. Carmen! Best wishes to Dr. Jan Laarakker in his new life in Portugal!





# Reef Glimpses

by Dee Scarr

## Siphonophores

### Second only to sea wasps for painful stings

You're gliding along, enjoying the action on the reef, and suddenly – ZZAP! – something stings you. It HURTS, especially since the sting often ends up on our lips.

This is not a pleasurable event.

So maybe you rub the site – which doesn't help much and possibly triggers more stings – and wonder: What the heck was that? You'd been looking in the direction it had come from, and seen nothing. You do a slow 360-degree spin, and (most of the time) still see nothing. So you let your buddy know you've been stung, and that you're okay, and you continue the dive – moving more cautiously and looking more carefully at the water right in front of your face. And then you finally see the culprit: a jellyfish-type creature with transparent leaf-shaped appendages, or red dots, or a little bubble, with trailing tentacles thinner than hairs. The type in the photo releases a red dye that looks like diluted blood.

These creatures are related to jellyfish but classified in a separate group called siphonophores (sie-FONN-uh-fores, "tube-bearers"). The world's best-known siphonophore is the Portuguese Man O'War, which is well-studied because they occasionally "invade" (the word used by Brevard Times) Florida's

east coast beaches. One of the PMO'W's outstanding features is a gas-filled bubble that can get up to 12" (30 cm) long and more than 5" (13 cm) high, buoyant enough to float, with a sail-like shape that helps it be pushed along by the wind, and which makes those beach "invasion" fleets impossible to miss. Each of those beautiful bluish bubbles conceals a dangerous underwater cargo: stinger-filled tentacles, which trail 10-15'/3-5m behind and beneath the critter, but occasionally stretch to as long as 50'/15m! The PMO'W drifts along, and when a tentacle makes contact with anything, two things happen: the tentacle shoots venomous stingers into the prey, and the tentacle shrinks up. This pulls the prey toward the other tentacles, which begin stinging as soon as they make contact. The prey is held at the underside of the float for consumption.

The value of intense and multiple stings is simple: the sooner the prey animal is immobilized, the less damage it can do to the predator.

This correlation is true for the other siphonophores too, such as the ones who find us in Bonaire's waters. Their tentacles are fragile, but their stings pack a wallop. When they're disturbed, the creatures can shrink down to a size smaller



Luckily, I saw this (probably) red-spotted siphonophore before I got within stinging distance. It was already leaking the reddish dye, which shows that it was a bit disturbed when I saw it. Actually, it was the color which helped me to see the critter. Photo Julie Morgan

than your fist.

The challenge is to find them undisturbed. To appreciate the details of their intricate structures without causing them to shrink up (and without getting yourself stung).

Notes:

1. Usually, the pain from a sting doesn't last more than a few minutes (though it feels like longer). If you have any difficulty breathing or other problems, though, go to the Emergency Room!

2. The biology of siphonophores is complicated – they're actually colonies rather than individuals -- and doesn't re-

late to our underwater experiences; Wikipedia is a good place to begin learning more.

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, with "Coral Glimpses" in the *Bonaire Reporter*, and now with "Reef Glimpses." The *Bonaire Reporter* is delighted to bring "Reef Glimpses" to you free of charge. Dee's books are available for purchase at the Carib Inn on Bonaire or through [touchthesea.com](http://touchthesea.com).



## COVID-19 MEASURES & TO MINIMIZE VISITS & INTERACTION:

- For any inquiries of your Cargo(arrival / invoices / payments), please call or e-mail us at 717-8922 / [info@rocargo.com](mailto:info@rocargo.com) and [frontdesk@rocargo.com](mailto:frontdesk@rocargo.com) and avoid visiting our offices unnecessarily.
- Kindly pay your invoices through online banking and please e-mail proof of remittance to [frontdesk@rocargo.com](mailto:frontdesk@rocargo.com)
- Pickup & Deliveries are on appointment, for arrangements please call or e-mail us at [warehouse@rocargo.com](mailto:warehouse@rocargo.com) and [frontdesk@rocargo.com](mailto:frontdesk@rocargo.com) (use both e-mails)





# COVID-19 measures per risk level



This overview indicates which measures (at least) apply per risk level on Bonaire. In each subsequent risk level, the other measures of the previous levels remain in effect. Depending on the situation, it can be decided to deviate.

More information: [www.bonairecrisis.com](http://www.bonairecrisis.com)

	Risk level 1 <b>Alert</b>	Risk level 2 <b>Worrisome</b>	Risk level 3 <b>Menacing</b>	Risk level 4 <b>Serious</b>	Risk level 5 <b>Very Serious</b>	Risk level 6 <b>Lockdown</b>
<b>Private meetings</b> (e.g. home, beach or park)	Basic rules	Max: 25 pers	Max: 10 pers. (excl. kids <13 years) <i>Advice: stay home for vulnerable groups</i>	Max: 2 households with max 10 pers (> 13 year). <i>Advice: stay home for vulnerable groups</i>	Max: 1 pers. from outside the household	Stay home as much as possible. Only go out with roommates
<b>Prof. organized events</b> (See 'clarification sports' for sports events)	Basic rules	Max: 50% capacity and 50 pers. Registration obligation. No singing/dancing	Max: 50% capacity. Inside: max 25 pers. Outside: max 50 pers. Registration obligation. No singing/dancing	Inside not allowed. Outside: max. 50% capacity and 25 pers. Registration obligation. No singing/dancing.	No grouping together	No grouping together
<b>Funeral service and wedding ceremony</b>	Basic rules	Max. 100 pers	Max. 100 pers	Max. 50 pers	Max. 30 pers	Max. 10 pers
<b>Restaurants en cafes (incl. watertours/-restaurants)</b>	Basic rules	Registration obligation and health check. No singing/dancing	Max: 50% capacity. Fixed seats. Closing time 00:00	Max: 4 pers. per group (excl. kids <13 years). Closing time 22:00	Take-out only	Closed
<b>Hotels</b>	Basic rules. 1,5m distance from other guests	Basic rules. 1,5m distance from other guests	Basic rules. 1,5m distance from other guests	Bar/restaurant for hotel guests: open regularly. Non-guests: 'level 4 Restaurants and cafes'	Bar/restaurant for hotel guests: open regularly. Non-guests: take-out only	Bar/restaurant only open for hotel guests
<b>Essential shops</b>	Basic rules	Max: 2 pers. per group (excl. kids <13 years). Mandatory cart/basket	Max: 2 pers. per group (excl. kids <13 years). Mandatory cart/basket	Max: 2 pers. per group (excl. kids <13 years). Mandatory cart/basket	Max: 1 pers. per household (excl. kids <13 years). Mandatory cart/basket	Max: 1 pers. per household. Mandatory cart/basket
<b>Non-essential shops</b>	Basic rules	Basic rules	Max: 2 pers. per group (excl. kids <13 years)	Max: 2 pers. per group (excl. kids <13 years)	Closed	Closed
<b>Churches</b>	Basic rules	Registration obligation and health check	Max: 50% of the capacity. Go home directly after service. Sing softly with windows open	Max: 50% of the capacity. Go home directly after service. No singing	No physical services	No physical services
<b>Sports activities</b> (also see 'clarification sports')	Basic rules	Registration obligation, health check and no audience	Max: 50% capacity inside, 100% outside (for >18 years). Go home immediately after exercise	Max: 50% capacity inside, 100% outside (for >18 years). Go home immediately after exercise	Facilities closed. Limited sports allowed. See 'clarification sports'	Facilities closed. See 'explanation sports'
<b>Work</b>	Basic rules	Basic rules	Work from home as much as possible	Work from home as much as possible	Work from home is mandatory where possible	Work from home is mandatory where possible
<b>Contact professions</b>	Basic rules	Basic rules	Face mask	Face mask	Closed, unless medical indication	Closed, unless medical indication
<b>Nightclubs</b>	Basic rules	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
<b>Adult Entertainment</b>	Basic rules	Basic rules	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
<b>Gambling halls, casinos and cinemas</b>	Basic rules	Registration obligation and health check	Max: 50% of the capacity. Closing time 02:00	Max: 50% of the capacity. Closing time 00:00	Closed	Closed
<b>Saunas</b>	Basic rules. 1,5m distance between adults	Registration obligation and health check	Max: 50% of the capacity. Closing time 02:00	Max: 50% of the capacity	Closed	Closed
<b>Daytime activities elderly</b>	Basic rules	Basic rules and 50% capacity	Basic rules and 50% capacity	25% capacity	Only emergency shelter	Only emergency shelter
<b>Primary education and after-school care</b>	Basic rules. Adults to maintain 1,5m distance from each other and students	Basic rules. Adults to maintain 1,5m distance from each other and students	Basic rules. 1,5m distance between adults	Basic rules. 1,5m distance between adults	Basic rules. 1,5m distance between adults	Only emergency shelter
<b>Secondary education and after-school care</b>	Basic rules. 1,5m distance between adults	Basic rules. 1,5m distance between adults	Basic rules. Adults to maintain 1,5m distance from each other and students	Basic rules. Adults to maintain 1,5m distance from each other and students	Reduce number of students per day	Only emergency shelter
<b>Child care</b>	Basic rules. 1,5m distance between adults	Basic rules. 1,5m distance between adults	Basic rules. 1,5m distance between adult	Basic rules. 1,5m distance between adults	Basic rules. 1,5m distance between adults	Only emergency child care
<b>Complaints</b> Stay at home and call 0800-0800	<b>1,5 meters</b> Keep at least 1,5 meters away from others	<b>Avoid crowds</b> Avoid forming large groups with other people	<b>Always comply with the basic rules</b>			<b>Cleaning</b> Frequent cleaning of premises
			<b>Wash hands</b> Wash your hands regularly with soap and water for at least 20 seconds	<b>Do not touch</b> Do not touch your eyes, nose or mouth	<b>Cover</b> Cough or sneeze into your elbow or a handkerchief	<b>Ventilation</b> Provide good ventilation indoors







## Sports activities

Sports activities are understood to mean engaging in a sport. In the list below you can see which sports may be practiced at each risk level, provided the general risk-level measures are adhered to. Children under the age of 18 may continue to play sports regardless of the level. From level five onwards they are no longer allowed to exercise indoors.

	Risk level 1 <b>Alert</b>	Risk level 2 <b>Worrisome</b>	Risk level 3 <b>Menacing</b>	Risk level 4 <b>Serious</b>	Risk level 5 <b>Very Serious</b>	Risk level 6 <b>Lockdown</b>
Athletics	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes, individually	✓ yes, individually
Baseball	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	🏠 yes, if outdoors	🏠 yes, if outdoors	✗ no
Basketball	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	🏠 yes, if outdoors	🏠 yes, if outdoors	✗ no
Beach tennis	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✗ no
Beach volleyball	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✗ no
Billiards	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	👤 max 2 pers.	✗ no
Bodybuilding	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	🏠 yes, if outdoors	🏠 yes, if outdoors	✗ no
Bolas	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✗ no
Boxing	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	🏠 yes, if outdoors	✗ no	✗ no
Checkers	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	🏠 yes, if outdoors	🏠 yes, if outdoors	✗ no
Chess	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	🏠 yes, if outdoors	🏠 yes, if outdoors	✗ no
Cycling	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes, individually
Dominoes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	🏠 yes, if outdoors	🏠 yes, if outdoors	✗ no
Fitness	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	🏠 yes, if outdoors	🏠 yes, if outdoors	✗ no
Free diving	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes, individually
Indoor soccer	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	🏠 yes, if outdoors	🏠 yes, if outdoors	✗ no
Judo	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	👤 max 2 pers.	✗ no	✗ no
Karate	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	👤 max 2 pers.	✗ no	✗ no
Kayaking	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	👤 max 2 pers.	✓ yes, individually	✗ no
Kickboxing	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	👤 max 2 pers.	✗ no	✗ no
Kite surfing	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✗ no
MMA	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	👤 max 2 pers.	✗ no	✗ no
Optimist	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	👤 max 2 pers.	✓ yes, individually	✗ no
Scuba diving	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes, individually
Shooting	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	🏠 yes, if outdoors	✗ no
Soccer	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	🏠 yes, if outdoors	🏠 yes, if outdoors	✗ no
Softball	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	🏠 yes, if outdoors	🏠 yes, if outdoors	✗ no
Sunfish	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	👤 max 2 pers.	✓ yes, individually	✗ no
Swimming	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes, individually
Table tennis	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	🏠 yes, if outdoors	🏠 yes, if outdoors	✗ no
Tennis	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	👤 max 2 pers.	✗ no
Volleyball	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	🏠 yes, if outdoors	🏠 yes, if outdoors	✗ no
Water polo	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✗ no
Windsurfing	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes, individually





## Examples of CITES-listed species of Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba

