



George and Julianka Clarenda of Echo; "Kultura" singing the songs of Bonairean culture during Rincon Day; George giving a tour to Princess Beatrix in 2019

Nature is my teacher

Almost everyone who has been to Bonaire's Washington Slagbaai National Park knows George "Kultura" Thode. He is pretty much the face of the park and is the go-to park guide. With his outgoing personality and knowledge he has accompanied scientists, government officials and royalty including the Netherlands' Princess Beatrix in 2019. As a man of nature he makes medicine from plants; an art he learned from his mother.

George is Washington Park's longest serving park ranger. On April 1, 2021 he celebrated 40 years of service. In reality, it's more like 51 if you count the years he spent volunteering as a kid beginning at the ripe old age of seven.

Born January 26, 1963, of Arawak Indian heritage, his whole life has been about nature. His first job was as a volunteer at the park at the park in 1970 making a display of Bonaire relics and artifacts alongside Bonaire's first park ranger Eddy Frans. George's grandfather worked and lived on the original park plantation so George spent a lot of time there. Everyday after school he would come to the park to work, learn and discover about Bonaire's nature from his grandfather. He learned that 500 years ago most all of the plant life disappeared and was replanted in the 1800s, then fell again in 1933.

George said, "No one tells us this. People don't want to hear about the damage.

All people need to do is replant to bring the trees back."

He himself has planted more than 500 trees in the park.

On August 15, 1980 George began training to work in the park and on April 1, 1981, he officially became a ranger. In May 1999, he was named head ranger for Washington Park and still is.

In 1981, George picked up the nickname "Kultura" because he sang songs about the culture of Bonaire. And he still does. Every year, prior to Covid, he

joined the celebrations of Rincon Day and Simadon belting out the songs of Bonaire aboard one of the music floats.

Over the years, scientific research teams from Europe, the United States, New Zealand and Japan have come to study the flora and fauna of Bonaire. George would go into the bush with them everyday working and learning the scientific names of the plants and other data.

George keeps a record of the plants and how they are affected by the rain and changes in climate. Each day he

catalogues the rain and wind during the dry and rainy seasons of Bonaire. He says that everything changes every 10 years and it is linked to the amount of rainfall and length of the dry season. George says Bonaire's winds cause many problems because they bring salt from the sea. The salt becomes attached to the trees so they can't breathe or grow, hence a lot of rain on Bonaire isn't always a good thing.

According to George, there are 400 different types of trees on Bonaire but we are losing some due to the salt laden rain: trees like the Divi Divi / Watapana, Goathorn / Inkberry, Cordia dentata / karawara di mondi, Bursera karsteniana / palu di sia blanku, and Casearia tremula palu di Boneiru.

Regarding policy on Bonaire's goats and donkeys, George said, "Goats don't eat the nature, but we need to hold them in balance, not kill or destroy them. I have no problem with the donkeys either, they just need to be kept in balance. We need to fix the wells so there will be water for them."

Prior to 1984 each Kunukero (land owner) had a government book with a record of land and number of livestock. This control helped evaluate Bonaire's livestock and kept everything in check.



George caring for some pelicans in 1981, his first year working for Washington Park

George "Kultura" Thode, continued
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Covid-19 on Bonaire

as of April 6, 2021

| | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 218 active/10 new 1220 recovered | 20 hospitalized 14 deceased |
| 1452 positive 6090 negative | 7542 tested 441 in quarantine |

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

Covid-19 round-up

We have a crisis in the islands and can only vaccinate our way out of it, according to Dr. Marian Luinstra-Passchier. On Bonaire we are now at the highest risk level, Level 6. Hospital admissions are high and still growing. Patients are being flown to Columbia for hospitalization because the hospitals on Aruba and Curaçao are filled with their own patients. The major outbreak of Covid-19 on Bonaire, mainly caused by the British variant of the virus, is now embedded in our society. People are infected at work, at home, and when among their friends. In March alone seven people died of the virus.

When 70% of the adult population on Bonaire has had both injections, the government believes it can start relaxing the corona restrictions. Life on the islands, including the economy, will begin to improve.

Residents 18 and older can now register for corona vaccination on-line 24 hours a day at www.bonairecrisis.com. Each person must register separately and must provide a phone number or an email address. Any registration problems can be reported to vaccinatie.info@bonairegov.com

Within five days of registering, people are notified by email regarding the dates for their first and second injections. The second injection is scheduled five weeks after the first one. The injection sites operate six days a week, Monday through Saturday.

Amidst the public health crisis, the island rumor mill is still cranking out dangerous lies. Social media and some local press are falsely reporting that Selibon N.V. requires its employees to be vaccinated against their will. The company denies the accusation absolutely. It says employee vaccination is strongly encouraged but completely voluntary. As a vital company, Selibon NV was given early priority for the vaccination of its employees.

Bonaire has imposed special requirements on passengers arriving from high risk countries. The list includes most Latin American countries, plus the United Kingdom and South Africa. People arriving from those countries, or who have been in those countries in the preceding 14 days must meet the following requirements: EITHER a negative PCR or NAAT result within 24 hours before departure; OR a negative PCR result within 72 hours before departure, plus a negative Antigen-test result within 24 hours. Arriving passengers must quarantine for ten days at a designated location at their own expense.

Travel from the Caribbean Netherlands. As per April 8th passengers arriving from Aruba, Curaçao and St. Maarten require a negative PCR and antigen test along with the online health declaration to travel to Bonaire. Passengers from both Saba and Statia are exonerated.

St. Eustatius has sent its interim Chief Medical Officer (CMO) to Bonaire to help deal with the current Covid outbreak. Dr. Nico Zuurmond will assist the Public Health Department with the vaccination program. When the vaccine first became available, Statia received enough doses to vaccinate its entire adult population immediately.

Medical volunteers are heading for Curaçao, which currently has the largest number of infections per capita in the world. Sixteen nurses and four doctors from the Netherlands have arrived on the island to support hospitals and accelerate the vaccination program, with seven more doctors and two nurses on the way. Doctors and nurses are also scheduled to come from the United States, including intensive care nurses. On Good Friday 30,000 doses of vaccine were delivered to Curaçao.

Bailing out BOPEC

BOPEC's bankruptcy has untied many legal knots. The OLB and the central government can now begin to deal proactively with many problems created by its shutdown. The company now belongs to its creditors, and the bankruptcy trustee has broad but defined authority to dispose of the company's assets and distribute the proceeds. BOPEC's most disposable asset is the large stock of oil in its tanks worth several million dollars.

Social Affairs and Employment (SZW) has assumed BOPEC's obligation to pay severance pay to 52 employees. Severance pay or 'cessantia' is a one-off compensation for an employee whose job is terminated without fault of his or her own. Each employee received one week's salary for every ten years of employment, based on the salary the employee was receiving at the time of termination. The payout to BOPEC's ex-employees amounted to approximately a million dollars.

The Public Entity of Bonaire (OLB) has also assured the security of the BOPEC premises by issuing a \$250,000 temporary estate loan to the bankruptcy trustee. The money will be used to pay 24 staff members who will stay on to monitor the installations and to secure the site. OLB will have first claim to repayment of the loan when assets are sold.

In the longer view, the Island Council has instructed the Executive Council to make an effort, in collaboration with the National Government, to try to restore BOPEC as an operational facility with a sound economic basis. That would include upgrading the premises to meet international standards for the safety of personnel and the environment. DMR

The CAS/Netherlands relationship gets complicated

The premiers of Curacao, Aruba, and St Maarten (CAS) are celebrating. A week after outgoing State Secretary Knops announced that the Netherlands was suspending 18 million euros liquidity support to St Maarten for refusing financial reforms, his legal authority to take such action has been challenged by the Hague.

Knops has been exercising authority in the islands under the Kingdom Act on the Caribbean Body for Reform and Development (COHO). The legislation creating COHO, however, is still in draft form and has not been passed by Parliament. The Council of State reviews legislation before it is forwarded to Parliament for action.

In a ruling that was leaked to the press, the Council declared that COHO conflicts with the Statute for the Kingdom because it affects the autonomy of the islands and gives broad, insufficiently defined powers to the bureaucrats who would enforce it. The Council recommends the COHO legislation should not be passed in its present form.

Secretary Knops insists that COHO remains essentially intact and is not at odds with the Statute. He points out that Council of State's declaration supports the aim of the Kingdom Act, which is to make the economies and public finances of the countries healthy, to strengthen public administration, and to improve the conditions of the populations of Aruba, Curaçao and Sint Maarten. Knops also noted that the Council of State calls it "self-evident" that it is logical for the Netherlands to attach conditions to the granting of financial support. DMR

Daily Fresh is almost there



Lauri and Bob Janssen at the construction site of the new Daily Fresh at LVV

Bonaire's first and only aquaponics organic food grower, Daily Fresh, is moving forward with a new 1200 sq. meter (24 x 52 meter) greenhouse at LVV. The project is taking a bit more time than anticipated but progress is being made.

The September 9, 2020 Reporter featured Daily Fresh owned by Bob and Lauri Janssen and their push for sustainable agriculture through aquaponics on Bonaire. The couple was the first to be granted a space allotted for growers at

LVV. The contracts were signed in November and permits were submitted with expectations of being operational by April 2021.

The aquaponic equipment shipped from Wisconsin and greenhouse from the Netherlands arrived in late December in six large containers and awaits facilitation.

The government permit from OLB's Space and Development has caused a snag in addition to a slow-moving architect, construction and WEB.

But things are moving forward with great patience by Bob and Lauri.

Work on the LVV tract required some 1400 meters of soil (Diabase) to level the area to create a good foundation. And as of Friday, 1/3 of the concrete posts for the green house have been set.

Aquaponics requires fresh WEB water and they have surveyed the land for the best connection from the existing water source at LVV. The main aquaponics system will be 45,000 liters of water in the main system.

When finished the new Daily Fresh space will be 2/3 greenhouse, 1/3 shade house for the fish used in aquaponics, a store for product sales and eventually a small café.

Lauri said, "The project is actually a showcase of what can be done with Aquaponics... We hope to attract eco-tourism for visitors to take a tour and learn about aquaponics."

In the meantime customers can order Daily Fresh organic veggies grown from their small greenhouse. Visit on-line <https://www.dailyfresh.eco/> or phone 701-6321 to order and the fresh organic veggies will be delivered to you. The great tasting greens are also available at Bon di Gro and Terra Basket. Daily Fresh is also on Facebook.

Story and photo, Julie Morgan

Introducing Kenneth Letsoin



Fundashon Plataforma Kultural welcomes Dutch street artist Kenneth Letsoin, a.k.a. Naamlooz to Bonaire. For five weeks Kenneth will join the Street Colors Bonaire project, giving several workshops, painting with the talent group and joining forces with the local artists and coaches of Street Colors.

Kenneth's abstract and expressive art is full of energy, color and emotion. He loves working on the street, doing murals or making art out of trash.

Kenneth said, "I never expect much before I travel. I like to be surprised and see on the spot what I can do. I can make something out of nothing and always let the surroundings, the people, the culture and above all the moment, inspire me."

Kenneth Letsoin will be on Bonaire until May 10. For more information and available walls send an e-mail to: scb@plataformakultural.com *Karine di Wit*

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POLICE REPORT

Property crime

Mar. 23. A black / light blue Yamaha, ZRX scooter, license plate MF-2144 was stolen. When its driver got a flat tire driving through a hole in the road on E.E.G. Bulevar, he locked it to a post. When the driver came to pick up the scooter, it was gone.

Apr. 2-4. A gray / orange Mountainbike was taken from the yard of a house on the Kaya Breda. The bicycle was locked with a combination lock.

A black / red Giant Mountainbike was stolen from the porch of a house at Bulevar Gobernador Nicolaas Debrot.

Traffic accidents/violations

Apr. 4. A Hummer reversed into a scooter at the T-junction of the Kaya Internashional. The driver of the scooter was treated on the spot by the ambulance personnel. He also received a police report for driving without valid insurance documents.

On Kaya Nikiboko South a scooter driver crashed into the sidewalk when he tried to overtake a vehicle on the cycle path. The driver was taken to hospital by ambulance.

Fires

Mar. 24-26. In recent days, bush fires were reported on Kaya Felipi G. Clarinda, Kaya Sonmontuno and Kaya Kampana. They were put out by the fire brigade. No one was injured and there is no property damage.

Mar. 30. At around 8:45 pm, the police station received a report of a house fire on Kaya Flamboyan. The fire brigade extinguished the fire. No one was injured, but the material damage is great. The house is no longer habitable. The fire brigade will investigate the cause of the fire.

Apr. 3. Palettes and grass were on fire in the mondi near Den Stashi. The fire brigade extinguished the fire and no one was injured.

Apr. 4. A car was reported on fire near a house on Kaya Mango. The resident had set fire to wasps' nest in an unused car. The fire brigade arrived; the fire was extinguished; no one was hurt.

Apr. 5. In a junkyard on Kaya Marowijne some vehicles were on fire and there was a risk of a possible forest fire. Two fire trucks put out the fire. No one was hurt.

Policing the curfew

Multidisciplinary checks on compliance with emergency regulations and curfews are carried out by the Dutch Caribbean Police Force (KPCN), the Royal Netherlands Marechaussee (KMAR) and the Supervision and Enforcement Directorate of the Public Entity.

Mar. 22-23. During curfew checks, the police had to deal with arson attacks on the Kaya Korona, the Kaya Tapajos and at the Sentro di Bario Tera Kòrà. Two young ladies 16 and 18 were arrested for cycling after the curfew. A third person,

a man, 20, was arrested for arson, resistance during arrest, disregard for police claims and for wantonness.

Mar. 24-26. Because they were open after 8 pm, some venues were fined, and ordered to remain closed until further notice. A total of 16 people received a police report for violating the curfew. A man with initials R.B. was arrested for being on the street after curfew, despite previous warnings.

Mar. 29-30. The week began quietly with all catering establishments meeting the closing time of 8 pm. One person was arrested for gathering, failing to comply with police claims and resisting arrest. Five police reports were issued for violating curfews and for consuming and possessing alcohol in public.

Easter weekend. Apr. 1-5. The team:

- issued 56 reports for violating curfew
- issued four reports for gathering
- arrested seven people, and
- closed two catering establishments.

Report a curfew violation

Supervision & Enforcement
715-5300 / 796-4850 after hours
Police: 717-800 / 717 7251



Ask Kate

Bonaire real estate advice

Question: I know I pay 5% transfer tax on the purchase price if I buy a house. If I buy a lot and build, do I still pay this? Marg

You will pay 5% transfer tax on the lot at the closing with the Notaris, but you won't pay transfer tax on the cost of new construction. You will pay ABB tax, which is a general expenditure tax that is applied to products in varying amounts. For example, when you receive an invoice from a plumber or gardener on the island who provides a service, the invoice will include a 6% ABB tax. Insurance has a 7% ABB tax added. When we import goods, we pay an 8% ABB tax. Since builders produce new goods (a building) the invoices you receive from your builder

will have 8% ABB tax added.

There are many variables in ABB tax, so for more detailed information, consult the tax office and your builder about costs. For more information go to www.belastingdienst-nl

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.

DUO continues student help online

Due to the Covid crisis in 2020, DUO, (Dienst uitvoering Onderwijs) an executive education agency organized an online public information campaign for students applying for financial help. A second campaign will be held for prospective students beginning April 15.

This is a follow-up webinar to the

November 2020 event and will provide prospective students insight into practical matters for arranging financing in the Netherlands. The webinar will be available with English and Papiamentu subtitles.

Registration can be found at duo.nl/webinar.



*A Garden?
Just Do It!
by Angliet,
Nature Lover*

All my garden friends talk about how great the harvest of fruits in their garden is this year. And while biking around, I've noticed the fruit trees are full of fruits; ripened ones, young ones or trees in full blossom. This is all because of a good rainy season. Here is an update on my garden: mango trees with bunches of mangos, mispel trees with ripened mispels, big bunches of bacocoba and plantains in my garden, small and tall papaya trees with lots of papayas, guyaba fruit, starfruit, coco, golden apple and most of all TAMARIND.

Look around you. All tamarind trees are full of bunches of this special Caribbean fruit with high vitamin C and we all need it with so much Covid around us. And tell you what, tamarind guarantees this high vitamin C more than a lot of other fruits we usually consume. And there are so many things to do with it: juices, syrups, marmalade, jam, chutney and sweet candy. One can cook with it when you want more taste in a dahl, soups, curry marinades, stews and Eastern wok vegetables. And you can even eat it fresh. In the coming months when Bonaire's high winds blow the ripe pods from the trees, you can fill buckets full of them. Within a few days of picking, the brown skin has to be removed otherwise sometimes bugs inside the pods can damage the fruit. Google the many ways to prepare this fruit. They can also be frozen and prepared later.



Tamarind pods

Tamarind has a popular history here and on the surrounding islands. Locals use it to make a kind of a marmalade which is used as a topping on the popular "papa di maishi chiki ku tamarin". Maishi chiki is sorghum which is planted in the late months of the year on Bonaire and harvested around this time.

It's part of the traditional harvest festivals on Bonaire like the national celebration of Dia di Rincon. One can buy the grained maishi chiki from locals or in some local fruit markets.

Want to try to make this Tamarind cornmeal porridge?

-Boil some water in a pan, add a few peeled tamarinds.

-Add some water to cornmeal (maishi chiki) in another bowl.

-Add the cornmeal mixture to the boiling tamarind mixture.

-Add a little bit of salt and some sugar.

-Let boil until thick and stir with a wooden spoon, so it won't stick and burn on the bottom.

Eat it warm with a little brown sugar.

Pancakes and arepas are also delicious to make with this sorghum.

With all the other fruits these days on Bonaire there is so much to do. Locals use the mispels to make "lee", a delicious kind of ice cream. Just peel the naseberry, blend it with powdered milk, sweet milk or whip cream, pour it in cups and freeze it. It is sweet by itself but if you like it even sweeter, blend it with the sweet milk.

This recipe works for mango or guyaba lee too. Give it a try and you will find out how delicious your own homemade ice cream tastes.

Of course the lorras will be part of the fruit festivals too. I see them all the time in my trees. Everyday I find some young "kalebas", green mangos, guyabas, mispels and papayas under the trees. With the green mango, I make juices by blending with water, some lemon and sugar. Unfortunately, this is not possible with other green fruits.

So it is a pity to find the young guyabas or mispels under the tree. You can tie paper bags around the fruits to save them from the birds.

Last idea, I have half cut barrels with sweet potato, tomato plants and spinach planted in them. Because of the hot sun, I put an old drying frame over the half cut barrels and lay coconut and dry banana leaves on top of it. So there is a still some sunlight coming in but there is shade which protects the plant against the dry wind and hot sun. So don't throw away your drying frame, it can be very useful in your garden. There are so many things that you can re-use in your garden.

Rain is still in the air, keep on gardening and just do it.

Lock'em up, Tjin Asjoe says

According to island councilor Elvis Tjin Asjoe, people who arrive at Flamingo Airport with a falsified PCR test should be arrested and detained. Now these people are denied entry and put back on the plane. That, Asjoe says, creates a further risk they will contaminate other people. *DMR (Bonaire.nu)*

Government declared slow to pay

E. Domacassé, representing the Movement di Pueblo Boneriano (MPB), has accused the island government in Council of being consistently late in paying contractors and others who have performed services for OLB. *DMR*

Aruba cabinet resigns

The cabinet of Evelyn Wever-Croes resigned last week because its coalition party POR has been accused of embezzling public money. The integrity of the government is one of its most important goals, according to the outgoing government.

Outgoing Undersecretary Raymond Knops of Kingdom Relations announced that Cooperation between the Netherlands and Aruba on income support and other issues for the island will not change now that the government has resigned. He said talks about aid packages are continuing with the outgoing Aruban cabinet, because it can still deal with current affairs. He also says there is still broad political support for the economic packages and the reforms that accompany them. According to Knops, new agreements are therefore not endangered. Last week it was announced that Aruba will again receive more than 100 million euros in corona support. *DMR (Curaçao Chronicle)*

Childcare payments to continue during lockdown

If childcare organizations and host parents have to close due to Covid-19 between now and July 1, they will still receive financial compensation during the lockdown, and an additional compensation for the parental contribution as well. They should not charge parents for their contribution during the lockdown period. *DMR*

New child protection legislation coming

A bill submitted to the House of Representatives will align the child protection provisions of the BES Civil Code with the European Dutch Civil Code. It will affirm

that parents are responsible for the safety of the child and that no mental or physical violence or humiliation may be used in the upbringing, nor in the education, of a child.

The child protection laws apply not only to parents and teachers, but also to other people who take care of and raise a child, such as guardians or foster parents, grandparents or uncles and aunts. However, the care for a child still remains the responsibility of the parents even outside the home. If parents notice that their children are being mistreated and abused by others, they must take action to stop it. *DMR*

Consumer price comparisons suspended

For years price comparisons of a basket of basic groceries have been published every month on Bonaire. Those comparisons have now been discontinued, according to Unkobon, the consumer association on Bonaire. The comparisons were compiled from information provided voluntarily by fifteen supermarkets. In recent months, however, fewer and fewer supermarkets participated. Unkobon hopes to come up with an alternative method. *DMR (besreporter)*

A care hotel started

Fundashon Mariadal and Delfins Resort are experimenting with a new health care model. Delfins has dedicated six of its hotel suites for patients, or care guests as it prefers to call them, who need immediate medical care and close medical supervision, but do not have to be hospitalized.

The hospital selects the patients or nursing home residents who qualify for accommodation in the care hotel, and the hospital staff provides them with medical care. No covid patients will stay there, although the arrangement will relieve the hospital of some of its covid burden. Another six units can be added later.

The studios Delfins has designated for guest care are located on the ground floor and are equipped with a refrigerator, microwave, TV, WiFi, air conditioning and telephone. The studios can be further equipped with oxygen and other medical equipment if needed. The care guests have a button to call nurses.

Mariadal and Delfins have been in contact for some time regarding the longer term possibility of creating a care hotel that would promote medical tourism. People with disabilities could come to Bonaire on holiday. The facilities could provide for dialysis patients, for example, or people with a physical disability or wheelchair users. *DMR (Bonaire.nu)*

Covid round-up, continued from page 2

Ten respirators have been sent from Bonaire to Curaçao to relieve the worst emergency at the Curaçao Medical Center (CMC). Curaçao is dealing with an enormous increase in the number of people hospitalized by the covid infection.

The respirators have been stored on Bonaire for some time, having been sent here from the Netherlands as a precaution.

Netherlands has told the Dutch visitors on Curaçao to go home if possible in order to relieve pressure on the hospitals, which are filling up with local covid patients. Those returning must follow the current test obligations before departure and self-quarantine for 10 days after arrival. *DMR (Koninkrijk.nu, Besreporter)*

For more information:

- Call 0800-0800 (TOLL-FREE) to ask questions about your health and Coronavirus. This number is available from Monday to Saturday from 8 am to 8 pm and on Sundays from 8 am to 4 pm.
- Go to www.bonairecrisis.com or call 0800 0900 (TOLL-FREE) for more information about vaccinating against COVID-19 or to register for vaccination.
- Go to Bonaire's crisis website: <https://www.bonairecrisis.com/en/> for up-to-date covid information.

What are NFTs?

Everyone is probably familiar with cryptocurrency thanks to the Bitcoin and Ethereum craze. A cryptocurrency is exactly what it says it is - a currency based on cryptography. With a currency you can buy other things, or convert to another currency - whether crypto or fiat (US dollars, etc).

An NFT (Non-Fungible Token) is like a concert ticket. You buy it with currency, and then it has a single purpose - entry into the concert. You cannot go to Amazon and buy something with it, nor can you convert it to another currency. But, you can sell it for currency and when you sell it, you no longer own it.

Simply, an NFT is a way to represent something digitally and provide proof of ownership. Eventually car "pink sheets", real estate deeds, and other real-world items will become NFTs as the world goes digital.

Right now, there is a bubble forming around the use of NFTs for digital artwork. An NFT representing a jpg image that was composed of 5,000 smaller images created by an artist has sold for \$69 MILLION DOLLARS. Now, that doesn't mean there is only one copy of the image, but it means there is only one real owner and at any time the owner of the NFT can sell it to someone else (Like when the Beatles sold their song collection to Sony).

Another example is physical artwork. While there are millions of copies of the Mona Lisa, there is only one legal owner. Right now, famous artists are jumping on the bandwagon, as are musicians releasing music, or even Twitter selling the first tweet. Anyone with an idea is able to create and sell NFTs.

Another purpose for NFTs, which I like, is to prove the authenticity of a piece of information. For example, in these trying times of COVID panic, it is becoming more important to be able to prove you are either immune, tested negative, or vaccinated. Right now, your only method is to show the piece of paper you received from the doctor or testing center which can be easily counterfeited.

In the near future, you will be able to voluntarily upload a scan or photo of that document to an International Covid Registry and will be provided with a QR code (that square bar-code thing you see popping up everywhere). Now instead of carrying that important piece of paper with you, you just provide the QR code on a plastic ID card, on your wristband, on a piece of paper or on your phone screen so it can be scanned by whomever needs to know your COVID status and instantly they are able to see the results via the internet.

Hopefully the website for the International COVID Registry will be operational by the time this issue comes out. It is at www.InternationalCovidRegistry.com

Good luck and be safe.

If you need help with your computer you can contact me at: geek@bonairetechsupport.com or +599 700 9094 (Phone/Whatsapp)



DCNA launches new website



The Dutch Caribbean Nature Alliance (DCNA), the non profit nature conservation network, has launched a new website for members and the general public.

The new site features various interactive information portals on nature conservation, management, research, monitoring and educational projects in the Dutch Caribbean

Readers will find the latest nature news with a focus on research and monitoring projects coming out of the Dutch Caribbean through a fully interactive news platform named (Bio)News (<https://dcnanature.org/news/>). The site is even optimized for viewing on mobile platforms. While the website itself will be in English the various nature news items will be translated into Papiamentu and Dutch. BioNews is supported by the Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality.

An interactive overview of active research and monitoring projects in the Dutch Caribbean will be featured

and readers can learn about the members of the DCNA Network and the DCNA Secretariat. An overview of the various Nature and Conservation legislation and educational projects for all six islands of the Dutch Caribbean is accessible. Visitors can access nature and conservation data through the regional databases links, including the Dutch Caribbean Biodiversity Database (DCBD), and websites from DCNA members and partners. Documents specific to DCNA such as the Management Success Reports for the Protected Area Management Organizations for all six islands are available. There are even ways for residents and tourists to become involved in conservation on their respective islands through job vacancies, volunteering, recording nature sightings and potential partnerships.

The new DCNA Website www.dcnanature.org, has been made possible through the continued support of the Dutch Postcode Lottery.

Parrots and People!

by Rayshantaly Coffie

Breeding season is coming up!



The breeding season for the yellow shouldered amazon parrot, locally called a Lora on Bonaire, starts in March and ends by August.

A Lora becomes reproductive at an age of three years.

During the breeding season, the parents do not allow other birds within the immediate vicinity of their nest. The nests are often found in large boulders, in cliffs and in mature trees. During incubation and while she cares for the young chicks, the female relies totally on the male to provide her and their chicks with food. Then both parents will search for food to feed the nestlings.

The female will lay on average three eggs that will be incubated for 28 days. When the chicks first hatch, they are tiny and helpless. Within two months they will

have grown dramatically and look almost like adult birds. Even after they leave the nest, young birds are dependent upon their parents and will stay in family groups for several months.

Echo was founded in 2010 after our founder Sam Williams came to the island for his PHD on the breeding behavior of yellow shouldered amazon parrots in the year 2005 to 2009. Because of these initial efforts the Echo team continues to monitor nests through the breeding season and to estimate population growth. This year Echo is going again in the field with a new team member who is trained to find known nests and detect new ones. The team's field trips through the breeding season are also intended to detect poaching.



As early as March the team goes out to see the parents' activities. Then hopefully in May when the eggs are laid, the team can look into these nests with a camera and check how many eggs are laid. Echo team will continue to monitor weekly to record hatching. We hope the most vulnerable nests will have a camera so we can tell if the

babies will fledge or if they have been poached.

At the moment Echo is familiar with nests on the northern part of the island. We noticed that there are some that don't exist anymore because the trees have been felled, including nests in the Park and Wasao. Luckily the known nests are in a combination of tree holes and cavities in cliffs around Tolo, Roi Sango and Bolivia.

In addition to adding a new local person to our team to assist in the field, Echo would like to engage with the community. We have launched an application that not only makes monitoring known nests easier, but also identifies new nests. We ask the community to help us to identify those nests that our team might have missed. The more nests we know, the better we can monitor parents' activities and the fledging of new babies. Then at the end of the breeding season we can better say how the population is growing. *Photos: Zest for Life*



The Reporter enjoyed bringing you some April Fool's Day funnies and hoaxes in our last issue. Hope at least one of the stories gave you a laugh or perhaps made you wonder if it was really true. In case you are curious, the Bonaire McDonald's website was visited 1,158 times and the Klein Resort had 738 hits as of last Saturday. We want to thank the writers who brought us some much needed humor: Brian Niesson, Dee Scarr and Pahle Hausman. Hope to see some great funnies from our readers on April 1, 2022.



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Reef Glimpses

by Dee Scarr

Hermit Crabs

Not really hermits, and not really crabs...

The only hermit crab I ever knew as an individual was Shermy the Hermy, who was unusual in two ways: first, he (or she) carried anemones on his snail shell, and, second, I thought he lived in the tire by choice.

Shermy was the first hermit crab with anemones that I'd ever seen in the Caribbean, so I enjoyed keeping track of him -- he was always in his tire -- and showing him to my dive buddies. Then on one night dive, focusing on what was in my light beam, I noticed several empty snail shells and a few hermit crab legs on the sand in the tire. There were no living hermit crabs except for Shermy. My light caught the inside of the tire, which was coated with algae -- from mid-tire on up. From mid-tire down, the inside of the tire was free of algae and everything else.

It suddenly became clear: The tire wasn't Shermy's home, it was his prison! Hermit crab adults can't swim and they can't climb up a smooth surface, such as inside of the tire. Once a hermit crab enters a tire on the sand, it can't get out. In Shermy's tire, the hermit crabs ate all the algae they could reach, and maybe each other, and that was all the food there was.

Since then I check tires for hermit crabs. The least obtrusive way to help the hermits is (after making sure that a moray isn't also living in the tire) to create a debris ramp from inside the tire to its top. Trapped crabs can climb the ramp to freedom.

Finding hermit crabs trapped in tires and other items (plastic cups, jars, cans, and, once, a refrigerator) only happens with smooth-sided, human-made debris, which is, happily, rare on Bonaire's reefs.

On an early night dive last week, Julie witnessed an event that is also rare, at least to witness: hermit crab eggs hatching! What first caught her attention was the position of the crab's snail shell. As we know, and to the frustration of photographers, the snail shell's opening is

usually facing mostly down, and only the very front of the hermit's body is visible. On this evening, Julie immediately noticed that the crab was stretched 'way out of her snail shell, and the shell's opening was angled more up than down. "Aha," I'll bet she thought, "Now I can finally get a hermit crab portrait." And she moved gently toward this creature, disturbing it not at all. As she looked through the viewfinder, she realized the water seemed to be silting up. Then the makeup of the "silt" registered on her: it was hermit crab hatchlings!

A close look at Julie's portraits revealed that this little hermit had a cluster of hundreds of eggs, mostly on her left side, around where her carapace and tail meet. The eggs are transparent and the dark eyes of the future hatchlings are visible, clues that the eggs are mature. In fact, hatching had already begun, and after just a few minutes, the hatchlings were everywhere, with dozens more ready to go. Unlike adult hermit crabs, their hatchlings can swim. They drift around for up to two months, eating other planktonic animals and plants, and undergoing a molt or three. Eventually, they settle to the bottom to find their first shell.

So now I can say I've known a second hermit crab as an individual. Although I didn't know Mrs. Hermit Crab as long as I knew Shermy, I appreciate her allowing us to witness such a personal event.

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.



Shermy with his anemones. When he changes his shell, he can transfer the anemones to the new shell.. Photo Dee Scarr



Mrs. Hermit Crab's eggs are hatching! All those tiny pairs of black dots are the eyes of the babies: some babies are still unhatched and some, including the light spots in the dark background, are already free-swimming. Photo Julie Morgan

Kids get their breakfasts



Thanks to the "Food at School" foundation 700 school kids are enjoying a breakfast to start their day. Due to the closure of schools, many of Bonaire's less fortunate school children have been going without the most important meal of the day -- breakfast. Thanks to the efforts of civil servants and volunteers the kids have enjoyed their 'school breakfast' at home. The packages contained fruit, brinta, bread and spreads. For more information contact OLB (Openbaar Lichaam Bonaire).



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Live Inspired Today!

by Malcolm Wilson

Ignite your daily success with a *Reflection For Today* to stimulate your thinking, a *Tip For Today* to equip you and an *Affirmation For Today* to empower you.

Turn “It” Around...

Reflection For Today

“No matter how far you have traveled in the wrong direction, you can always turn around.” - Unknown

Tip For Today

Swinda couldn't wait to share something important with her best friend. “Chichi, life can take you by surprise sometimes...”

Before Swinda could share her predicament, Chichi jumped in.

“I know exactly what you mean, Swinda! We all experience twists and turns in life. Some are good, some are bad, and sometimes things escalate and become worse. The results then can be devastating!”

Do you remember the last time you or a loved one were in a situation, that escalated from bad to worse?

Here's how, according to Chichi, you can turn “it” around...

1. Assess the situation. Awareness is key. Stop and ask yourself: What's going on here? What's the challenge? How bad is it? And what's the impact?

2. Focus on the solution. Yes, it's important to figure out the problem but it's best to invest most of your time and energy in figuring out the

solution!

3. Move towards the solution. You're either moving towards the solution or away from it. Consistently taking a (small) step towards the solution, creates momentum and before you know it, you've solved it!

Remember...

To turn around a bad situation, assess the challenge, focus on the solution, and then move towards it, one step at a time. That's how successful people do it!

Chichi still didn't give her bestie a chance to finish speaking.

“Swinda, did you know that we can use this strategy in all areas of life? Now, if only we could get everyone to apply these three steps to eradicate the Covid-19 pandemic...can you imagine what living here in Paradise (also known as Bonaire) would then feel like?”

“My thoughts exactly, Chichi, my thoughts exactly...”

Affirmation For Today

No matter how bad “it” gets, I trust that I can always turn “it” around. Today I am assessing the situation, focusing on the solution, and moving effortless towards it, one step at a time.

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

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

Plenchi di Trabou trains Bonaireans for real jobs



Ban Traha ta un kampaña di Plenchi di Trabou
Ban Traha is een campagne van Plenchi di Trabou

One of the goals of Plenchi di Trabou is to strengthen the labor market position of jobseekers and this year they have offered two courses. In February the “driver Skidsteer” course (a skid steer loader) and in March the “Klinkerlegger” course.

In collaboration with Bonaire Sweeping & Recycling B.V. the “Skidsteer driver” course was successfully completed by six people and they have received a driver pass. Student Eslitienne Coffy said the course was very educational with easy to follow lessons and if someone needed further explanation it was explained further. Coffy received a job

immediately after the course completion.

In March, the vocational course “Klinkerlegger” was offered to in collaboration with Artes Piedras. Six students learned the process of vowel laying in a practical way and received a certificate.

Plenchi di Trabou organizes the courses based on the interest or experience of the registered jobseekers. Are you looking for work? To register as a job seeker, please call Plenchi di Trabou on +599 715 8346. If you are an employer interested in one of our trained “Klinkerleggers” or “Skidsteer drivers” contact us. J.M.



Creating optimal health

by Irene da Cunda Costa

Laugh more and live longer

Humor is a tool to increase our wellbeing and boost our immune system.

A sense of humor is crucial in order to lead a balanced life as it puts ego in place. A sense of humor shows us we are not so important, after all we are a speck of stardust, our influence in the universe is non-relevant, unless you are the guy who had that serving of bat soup for dinner in Wuhan a bit more than a year ago. Fortunately, most of the time we can choose to be either a happy speck or a miserable one.

“When you laugh, your mind, body, and spirit change”, Mark Twain. Laughter changes brain chemistry and may boost the immune system. Humor allows people to release fears, anger and stress, all of which can harm the body over time. In general, humor improves the quality of life and may allow a person to feel in control of a situation, providing a new and fresh perspective, making it seem more manageable.

There is even humor therapy, which is a type of complementary therapy. It is also called laughter therapy. The aim is to reduce the negative effects of feeling unhealthy, out of control, afraid, or helpless. These are common problems for those with cancer or chronic diseases. Humor therapy includes laughter exercises, clowns, and comedy movies, books, games and puzzles.

Humor and laughter can cause a domino effect of joy and amusement. When we experience humor, we talk more, make more eye contact with others, touch others (not recommended at this moment unless within your safe bubble), etc. Marriages and relationships can tremendously benefit from humor and laughter, as long as they laugh at the same things. When people laugh together, they feel bonded and can better go through hardship together.

Researchers say children laugh about 300 times a day and adults perhaps 15 times a day. This shows we need to work on increasing our chances for laughing. A healthy sense of humor is related to being able to laugh at oneself as a way of accepting oneself.

But humor can also be hurtful, demeaning, sexist and racist and a way to dominate. It can also be self-deprecating in unhealthy ways. While laughing with others is an icebreaker, laughing at others is an icemaker.

Goethe said: “People show their characters in nothing more clearly than in what they think laughable.” The kind of humor people use often shows the kind of people they are.

What type of humor do you mostly use in your life?

“BONDING HUMOR” characterizes people who are fun to have around; they tell jokes and amusing things,

they laugh at their own faults and generally lighten the mood. These people are perceived as warm, down-to-earth and kind. This type of humor is good at reducing the tension in uncomfortable situations.

Another type is “LAUGHING AT LIFE HUMOR”, depicting the person who “doesn't take himself or life events too seriously. This person deploys humor to cope with challenges and takes a step back laughing at the absurdities of everyday life.

Then we have the “PUT-DOWN HUMOR”. This aggressive type of humor is used to criticize and manipulate others through teasing, sarcasm and ridicule. This is when you laugh at people and not with people.






































The “HATE-ME HUMOR”, is when the person voluntarily becomes the butt of his own jokes in an extremely ironic and sarcastic way, depreciating himself. A small dose of it is charming, but routinely offering yourself up to be humiliated erodes your self-respect, fostering depression and anxiety.

Do you recognize yourself or your close ones in any of these kinds of humor?

Laughter, like a smile, is the shortest distance between two people. It makes people feel closer to each other. In future issues I will write some hints on how to increase your chances of generating humorous moments in your lives.

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.

COVID-19 SPORTS Lockdown RISK LEVEL 6

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| 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 |  no |
| Shooting |   yes, individually |
| Soccer |  no |
| Softball |  no |
| Sunfish |  no |
| Swimming |  no |
| Table tennis |   yes, individually |
| Tennis |  no |
| Volleyball |  no |
| Water polo | no |
| Windsurfing | no |

What's Happening

Dive Friends: *Two locations open for tank pickup and drop off, Sand Dollar & Port Bonaire 9-5*
Washington Slagbaai park: *Closed. All reservations for camping at Slagbaai have also been canceled.*
STINAPA headquarters: *Closed to public. Available by phone +599 717 8444.*

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| to mid-April | Level 6 lockdown <i>was extended for another two weeks on April 1.</i> |
| May 28 - 29 | BonDoet weekend. |

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 on-line or for more information customers can contact our customer service department through info@webbonaire.com. Pay on-line one invoice at a time. A combined payment of water and electricity is not possible. See: www.webbonaire.com and the WEB Facebook page. Contact us at info@webbonaire.com +5997158244.

The Chamber of Commerce office is closed. Email to 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.

Belastingdienst/Douane (Customs)
The office is closed. The port Customs office on Bonaire will remain open. For changes, questions, requests, and customs questions use: 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) on-line to the Belastingdienst.
For help with on-line returns use 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. Submitting tax returns on-line 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 %@bonairegov.com . Phone 715-5381.



Smooth Operators recently donated \$890 to Bonaire's Kralendijk Kiwanis Club from a fund drive campaign and on-line auction last December. Thanks to the generous public donations and Smooth Operators, underprivileged families will receive packages of baby food. A symbolic check was presented to Kiwanis president Ricard Nicholson and treasurer Debby Rauwers by Smooth Operator owner Bas van den Hee and chef Lisanne Eiklenboom.

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 |

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Shelter News



| How OLD is your cat? | |
|----------------------|------------|
| Cat Age | Human Age |
| 1 year | 14.5 years |
| 2 years | 25 years |
| 3 years | 29 years |
| 4 years | 33 years |
| 5 years | 37 years |
| 6 years | 41 years |
| 7 years | 45 years |
| 8 years | 49 years |
| 9 years | 53 years |
| 10 years | 57 years |
| 11 years | 61 years |
| 12 years | 65 years |
| 13 years | 69 years |
| 14 years | 73 years |
| 15 years | 77 years |
| 16 years | 81 years |
| 17 years | 85 years |

Data source: NationalKitty.com, photos: Getty images, graphic ©TaylorC

Shelter and Pakus di Pruga still closed

Due to the extension of risk Level 6 measures, the Shelter and Pakus di Pruga will remain closed to the public until April 16 or further notice. You can still drop off your donations for the Pakus di Pruga on Saturdays from 8 am-3 pm. They can be left outside the door of Pakus and someone will pass by frequently during the day to put them inside. We look forward to seeing you very soon! In the meantime, stay safe, wear your mask and GET VACCINATED!

Vaccinate your animals to protect them – do it for yourself and others as well.

Free sterilization

Don't forget about Animal Shelter Bonaire's ongoing free sterilization program. Sterilizing your companion animals is the only way to solve the overpopulation of dogs and cats on the island. Make an appointment with your veterinarian and let them know you want to take advantage of the Shelter's program. If your animals are already sterilized, Animal Shelter Bonaire would greatly appreciate donations to help support the program. We do not receive independent assistance for this program and raise the money ourselves to fund it. Please contribute whatever you can. Our MCB bank information is: Stichting Diernasiel Bonaire, MCB Bonaire Acct.#10237800.



George "Kultura" Thode,

continued from page 1

Unfortunately, this is no longer in practice.

George believes that new generations can research information about nature, but they don't have contact with it. In the schools they don't teach about nature because they don't know about it and only concentrate on teaching computers.

He strongly believes that more organizations like Echo and his own organization "Kadimo" – need to involve people who will protect nature.

"Nature is my teacher. I learn everything from the nature," said George, "Nature has feeling and a soul."

Congratulations and thank you to George "Kultura" Thode for 40 plus years of service to Washington Park and Bonaire's nature. *Julie Morgan*



George on the 50th Anniversary of Park with a poster celebrating his contribution to Washington Park



Making Bonaire Accessible

by Ria Evers-Dokter

Animals in care...

Animals have been playing an important role in the care for the vision impaired and veterans with PTSD (Post-traumatic stress disorder) for many years.

On Bonaire we do not encounter dogs that are of great help to those who need them. It is not embedded in our culture. But, it is amazing if you think about it and see them at work.

We could use other animals to make caring for the elderly and the persons with physical and/or mental challenges.

Having an animal in the house, a cat, a dog or a bird brings great joy, helps in fighting loneliness and provides a feeling of being needed.

Knowing that your dog is there for you, guards your house and you are good and makes you feel safe. Caring for a dog or cat makes you feel needed and caressing

them lowers the blood pressure significantly. Having a certain sense of responsibility is good for the self-esteem.

Personally I have amazing experiences with our cat. This wonderful animal sensed when my husband was going to have a seizure. He came and called for me and stayed with my husband until everything was fine again. The cat also keeps my agenda 😊. He calls me when it is time to get up, time to eat and enjoys his cuddles as a token of my appreciation.

I remember the time when my Mom came to live in a home. She used to live on an island where there were a lot of farmers keeping sheep. Sometimes the mother sheep would not accept the lamb as being hers and the lamb had to be hand fed. Some farmers took a lamb and a bottle to the home and had the elderly

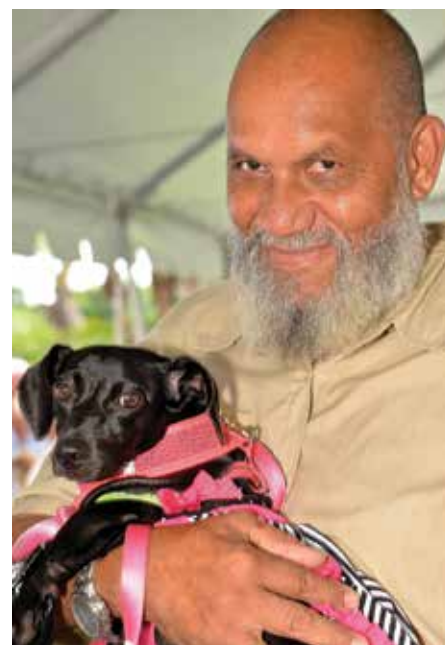
living there help them feed the little animal. They all loved it, the elderly and the young sheep.

As soon as I finished teachers college, I went to work at one of the biggest psychiatric hospitals in Germany. The "children's ward" was the place where the mentally retarded lived. They received only care. There were no activities provided and that caused a lot of anxiety attacks. One of the boys was small, cute and very overweight. He had Down-syndrome and did not speak. I applied for an aquarium, so there would be something attractive for the children. It was denied at first but after a lot of begging the aquarium was installed. The boy saw it, opened his eyes very wide and went to stand by the aquarium very closely. We were all kind of afraid he would destroy it in an anxiety fit. But no... he took a chair, sat on it very close to the aquarium and started watching. He never had an attack again, but we had to let him be at the aquarium all day long.

Nowadays it is still good for those who live in care to take care of animals. Loving an animal is good for the soul and

self-esteem and makes you a better person, whether you have a handicap or not.

By Ria Evers-Dokter. Photo Julie Morgan



Picture Yourself

Getting the vaccine



Since Covid-19 struck last year, one of our favorite features, Picture Yourself, took a vacation because you, the reader, can't hit the highways or airways. With everyone getting the vaccine, 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!

Ken Kinoshita joined the "I care about Bonaire" club when he received his second Covid 19 vaccine on March 26 at Kompleho Deportivo.

Ken said, "The operation was efficient and friendly and the person administering the injection, Anne de Konink, was very nice and put me at ease right away."

My daughter recognized Anne from my picture, which is why I know her name. I have to compliment everyone involved with the effort for an excellent job!"

Call for vaccinating COVID-19



People 18 and older

Register now:



www.bonairecrisis.com

0800 0900

This is a message from the department of Public Health



ROCARGO
LOGISTICS SERVICES B.V.

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 and 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
- Pickup & Deliveries are on appointment, for arrangements please call or e-mail us at warehouse@rocargo.com and 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

| | Risk level 1 Alert | Risk level 2 Worrisome | Risk level 3 Menacing | Risk level 4 Serious | Risk level 5 Very Serious | Risk level 6 Lockdown |
|---|--|--|---|--|--|---|
| Private meetings (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 |
| Prof. organized events (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 |
| Funeral service and wedding ceremony | Basic rules | Max. 100 pers | Max. 100 pers | Max. 50 pers | Max. 30 pers | Max. 10 pers |
| Restaurants en cafes (incl. watertours/ - restaurants) | 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 |
| Hotels | 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 |
| Essential shops | 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 |
| Non-essential shops | Basic rules | Basic rules | Max: 2 pers. per group (excl. kids <13 years) | Max: 2 pers. per group (excl. kids <13 years) | Closed | Closed |
| Churches | 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 |
| Sports activities (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' |
| Work | 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 |
| Contact professions | Basic rules | Basic rules | Face mask | Face mask | Closed, unless medical indication | Closed, unless medical indication |
| Nightclubs | Basic rules | Closed | Closed | Closed | Closed | Closed |
| Adult Entertainment | Basic rules | Basic rules | Closed | Closed | Closed | Closed |
| Gambling halls, casinos and cinemas | 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 |
| Saunas | 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 |
| Daytime activities elderly | Basic rules | Basic rules and 50% capacity | Basic rules and 50% capacity | 25% capacity | Only emergency shelter | Only emergency shelter |
| Primary education and after-school care | 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 |
| Secondary education and after-school care | 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 |
| Child care | 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 |
| Always comply with the basic rules Complaints Stay at home and call 0800-0800 1.5 meters Keep at least 1,5 meters away from others Avoid crowds Avoid forming large groups with other people Wash hands Wash your hands regularly with soap and water for at least 20 seconds Do not touch Do not touch your eyes, nose or mouth Cover Cough or sneeze into your elbow or a handkerchief Ventilation Provide good ventilation indoors Cleaning Frequent cleaning of premises | | | | | | |





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 Alert | Risk level 2 Worrisome | Risk level 3 Menacing | Risk level 4 Serious | Risk level 5 Very Serious | Risk level 6 Lockdown |
|------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 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

