



Fontein



Seru Largu



Snorkeling Klein



Thousand Steps

Keeping Bonaire natural

Although the pandemic decimated the tourist industry, it allowed Bonaire to live a year as her authentic self. It gave us an opportunity to rethink what kind of tourist destination we want our island to be.

I was pleased to see a team has been working on a plan to bring Bonaire out of lockdown and isolation by creating the Bonaire Tourism Recovery Plan. Much of the plan is a refreshing acknowledgment that Bonaire is special. Bonaire is different. She is a natural beauty.

The Bonaire Tourism Recovery Plan declares three main objectives for keeping Bonaire natural:

1. Target existing markets and increase average expenditure: Efforts geared towards getting tourists from the existing markets back to Bonaire after re-opening borders
2. Diversify the tourism product: Efforts geared towards evolving the island into a sustainable and 'premium destination', focusing on the active, adventurous, nature lover, the more affluent tourist who enjoys the 'Bonaire experience'.
3. Engage the local community: Efforts geared towards the engagement of locals and organizations in the development of 'authentic local experiences' for the more affluent tourist."

The objectives speak to the heart of

many of us who have come to Bonaire for years as tourists or who have made Bonaire our home. They are addressed to those who love nature and value the authentic experience. I applaud the team's plan to attract and retain the tourist who wants to experience a natural Bonaire; in particular, their intention to move away from mass tourism, to focus on digital nomads, and to accept smaller and fewer cruise ships. Those would be tremendous first steps.

However, when reading proposed list of suggestions of improving Bonaire's top 20 attractions, I was alarmed by the items that seemed completely counterintuitive to the three main objectives. Their impact on Bonaire tourism would be the exact opposite the one intended. They would drive long-time tourists away from Bonaire. Bonaire would lose its authenticity.

I posted a question on a Facebook group that has over 9,500 members.



Cargill Salt Company Photos Julie Morgan

What's your opinion of the proposed 20 items? The members of the group share a deep interest in Bonaire. Some are tourists and long-time lovers of the island who have made annual visits for 20 or 30 years, sometimes multiple times per year. Some are Bonaire property owners, Bonaire residents, people who visited then ended up settling here. The people in this group mirror the tourist audience we want to reach and grow.

It seems the post struck a nerve. The Tourism Recovery Committee want improvements that will attract that target market. The members of the group overwhelmingly think they have missed the mark.

To quote one response, "We don't come to Bonaire for it to be Disney, Aruba, or any place with concessions at every corner. Fix the roads, fix the stupid theft issues, reduce the cruise ships, leave flamingos and Klein alone. Very happy that there's terrific dining and grocery choices these days."

Another comment laid out a plan that expressed a consensus of the general responses:

- Preserve the reef and nature. Keep the island peaceful. That is the magic

**Keeping Bonaire natural,
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Covid-19 on Bonaire

totals as of May 3, 2021

0 active	8110 tested
1534 positive	4 hospitalized
6576 negative	16 deceased

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

Safety and hygiene certification coming for tourist businesses

Tourism related businesses will soon be inspected, then granted a 'Bonaire Friendly Safety Seal' if they meet required standards for visitor safety and hygiene. The program will be conducted by the Tourism Corporation Bonaire in collaboration with BONHATA and the Public Entity Bonaire (OLB). The certification program, intended to give visitors a sense of security regarding their personal health and safety during their stay in the island, is part of the Tourist Recovery Program.

The goal of the new certification program is to improve hygiene and safety protocols island wide, and to ensure that local tourism related businesses meet the required standards. In order to receive a BFSS gold seal, businesses will need to adhere to several protocols and policies, plus be inspected on-site by an assessor and be approved. They will be allowed to display the gold seal at their business and on online platforms.

Businesses can choose from ten categories: Accommodations, Casinos, Car Rentals, Tour Operators, Watersports Operators, Taxis, Restaurants, Food Trucks, Retail Shops, and Spa/Salons.

The BFSS program is scheduled to be launched in May 2021 when training begins for the assessors. Then a pilot program will be conducted to debug the procedures. One business from each category will be encouraged to participate in the pilot. How and where businesses can register to participate in the BFSS program will be announced next week.

The BFSS program has been created by the TCB and is accredited and recognized by Qesh Services, a firm with more than 20 years of professional experience in implementing management systems in quality, environment, safety and health. DMR



Island airports organize for future

The airline industry, faced with recovering from major losses during the covid pandemic, is also reinventing its base technologies. Airports must be ready to adapt too. Therefore the managements of the six commercial airports in the Caribbean Netherlands have signed the "Dutch Caribbean Cooperation of Airports" (DCCA), an agreement to work together in the future.

The leaders of the airports of Saba, Sint Eustatius, Sint

Covid-19 round-up

People are going to die

Everyone who doesn't get vaccinated against the covid virus will likely get sick eventually. Some won't survive. Those who do survive will have been vaccinated the hard way.

There's only one important item of covid news this issue. The vaccination rate on Bonaire has flat lined, even though the health department is vigorously promoting the program and doing everything it can, up to knocking on people's doors, needle in hand. April 24th, 62.6% of Bonaireans had received at least one shot. Only 2.8 % more have been vaccinated a week later. And many people are not showing up for their second shot.

The island cannot be considered safe until we reach the herd immunity level of 85%. We'll all continue to live under restrictions. And the island will continue to be infected, maybe permanently. Dozens of medical professionals are waiting around for people to show up to get vaccinated. They need to complete the program. They're not going to wait forever. DMR



LVV continues well restorations

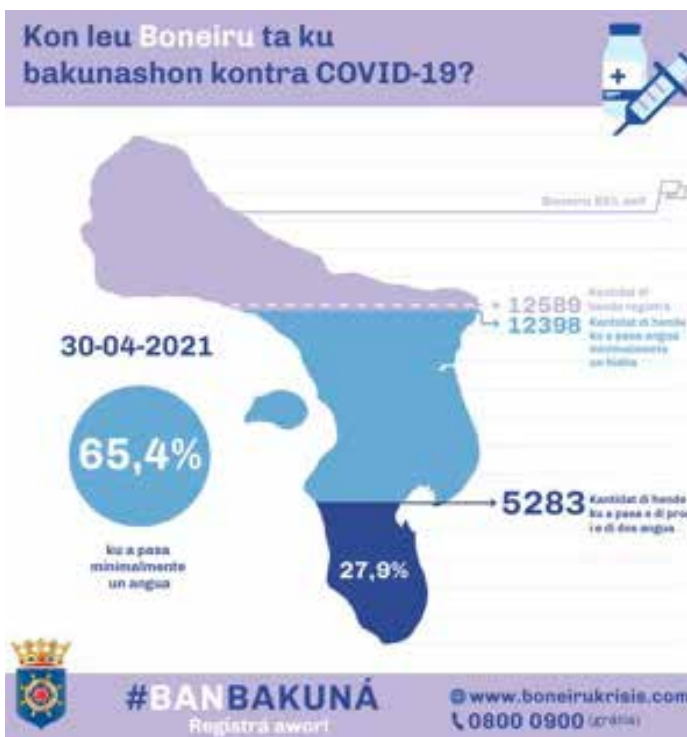
Some of Bonaire's long neglected wells must be cleaned and deepened. That's one of the priorities in the OLB's plan to develop the agricultural sector. Last year the Barra di Karta well was upgraded. Now work has started on the well of Rincon (Gruta di Lourdes). The contractor expects to complete the work within a few days. DMR

Maarten, Bonaire, Curaçao and Aruba want to improve the general quality of each individual airport. Airports will offer each other mutual assistance, efficient information exchange, knowledge transfer and the sharing of expertise. They intend to work together to achieve economies of scale and to devise a regional response to such matters as innovation, sustainability, regulation, safety and security, airport health challenges, emergency response, economic sustainability, stable and affordable air connections and maintenance, infrastructure and project management. They also agreed to explore the goal of making the Caribbean region a front runner in driving electric flying as the next generation in aviation. DMR (bonaire.nu)

Three new goats will improve breed

Three young goat bucks from the Netherlands have been unloaded from KLM. LVV has imported them for breed improvement as part of the Professionalisation of Goat Farming program. They are studbook Boergoats three and a half months old. In November they'll be old enough to go to work. Kunukeros' will bring their best mother goats to LVV for breeding. Top quality kids will be produced which can be slaughtered within six months. The meat will be of high quality and will bring top price in the market. DMR

Flotsam & Jetsam, continued on page 8



Keeping Bonaire natural,
continued from page 1

of Bonaire.

- Fix the roads and create bike lanes/paths
- Expand parking!!
- No palm trees, they require too much water and die in a desert setting. Use desert plants and trees.
- Stop the petty crime at dive sites. If people don't feel safe they won't return.
- Keep goats and donkeys away from the public beaches
- No music unless it is live music
- Charge every cruise passenger a nature fee and ban plastic bottles
- Support 2 higher quality museums, put one in Rincon
- STINAPA needs to be more visible
- Upgrade the airport terminal, especially baggage claim area."

The group seems to be fully on-board with protecting the authenticity of Bonaire. One person even commented, "People who want all kinds of non-essential development and unnatural feeding events should find a different island. Bonaire should develop as an ecotourism island and promote wellness retreats. Do no damage meditation retreats. Learn to love the quiet and the beauty of the simplicity."

In summary, the people I polled fully support the vision of the team who developed the Tourism Recovery Plan. But they believe the plan itself is out of align-



ment with the team's own vision. We call on the government and the team executing the recovery plan to look beyond themselves. They should look to their audience. People in their target market overwhelmingly believe that a solid infrastructure (good roads, safety, parking, bicycle lanes/paths, etc.) in a natural and highly protected environment would provide an attractive and safe environment for Bonaireans and tourists.

We ask that you seek to protect nature and extensively evaluate any project that would create artificial structures that are potentially damaging to the environment. Anything that infringes upon the salt pans, mangroves, flamingo sanctuaries, sea turtle or bird nesting areas, or causes obvious permanent damage to our protected reef system, threatens the very existence of Bonaire's natural infrastructure and therefore, threatens the

very reason people have come and will continue to come to Bonaire. We have one of the few truly authentic and natural environments left on the planet. Bonaire is unique. Your tourist audience asks that you protect and keep Bonaire authentic and natural.

By Cathleen Whillock. Photos Julie Morgan

Cathleen Whillock first came to Bonaire in 2004 as leader of a dive group. To a city girl, donkeys in the road seemed rustic. Her husband David, already a frequent visitor, had long aspired to a year's sabbatical on Bonaire, but work promotions kept postponing that dream. Eventually they had to decide where to retire. After checking out other Caribbean islands, they visited Bonaire again. Like many of us, they discovered that "Bonaire gets in your blood."

Bonaire's top 20 attractions as listed with improvement suggestions in Appendix 2 of Tourism Recovery Plan:

1. Klein Bonaire
2. Coral reefs
3. Pink beach
4. Salt pans
5. Atlantis area beaches
6. Sorobon beach
7. Lac Cai
8. Donkey Beach
9. Bachelors Beach
10. Te Amo Beach
11. Mangrove forest Lac
12. Thousand steps
13. Washington Park
14. Gotomeer
15. Caves
16. Fontein
17. Seru Largu
18. Museums
19. Rincon
20. Downtown Kralendijk

To read the Tourism Recovery Plan, please visit <https://www.tourismbonaire.com/strategictourismplan> or the Bonaire Tourism Recovery Plan Facebook page.



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POLICE REPORT

Property crime
Apr. 29. At around 11.30 pm the police station was notified of a robbery on E.E.G. Bulevar at the entrance of a tourist accommodation. A man and woman were robbed of a bag by four boys. The perpetrators, wearing face masks, rode bicycles and fled towards Playa with the loot.

Apr. 29. Two locked bicycles were stolen from a terrace at a house on Kaya Nikiboko South: a gray Giant Boulder mountain bike and a dark blue/silver Trek bike.

Arrested/held in custody.
Apr. 22. Around 10:30 pm a minor, 15, was held for vandalism and wantonness. The underage boy had, among other things, pelted vehicles of the Kmar, police and a security company with stones from the roof of a building on the Kaya Gilbert to F. Croes.

Apr. 30. In the evening hours two arrests were made. A man, 36, was arrested around 9:50 pm for assaulting the owner of a snack at Kaya Korona. At around 11 pm, a man, 52, was arrested for domestic violence.

Traffic accidents/violations
Apr. 8. Around 10:50 am, a car and a cyclist collided. She was taken to hospital by ambulance.
Apr. 30. A man, 29, was arrested at Kaya Princess Marie because he did not comply with police orders. The suspect was involved in a collision and tried to drive away.

Apr. 29. At around 8:45 am three cars collided on Kaya Korona. The driver of one car lost control and collided with two cars in succession. The driver was assisted on the spot by the ambulance staff.
Apr. 28. In the afternoon hours, a man, 20, was arrested on Kaya Carlos A. Nicolaas for driving dangerously and for multiple driving violations.

Traffic checks
Apr. 19-20. During regular traffic checks a total of 27 reports were issued:

- two for driving with a mobile phone in hand
- ten for driving without a seat belt
- six for driving without valid insurance
- seven for driving without a valid driver's license
- one for driving in a prohibited direction
- one for driving without a helmet

The fines for the above violations vary between \$30 and \$225.

A man was arrested during one of the checks who could not show a valid passport. He was been handed over to the Immigration Department.

Fires
Apr. 22. At around 8:30 pm the police station received two fire reports in mondis; one at Kaya Mendelsson and one at Kaya Brida. The fire brigade extinguished both fires. They used a bobcat at Kaya Mendelsson because the fire was located in the middle of the mondi and was difficult to reach. There were no injuries. The



Ask Kate Bonaire real estate advice

What are market conditions for real estate sales in Bonaire right now, is it a buyers' or sellers' market? Greg
Hi Greg,
The Bonaire real estate market is very active right now. Rather than buyers or sellers market, I would call it a stratified market. This is when there are varying degrees of demand in different price points. For example, there are many buyers looking in the under \$350,000 range and competing for properties, so properties in that price range tend to sell quickly. There are not as many qualified buyers in the million dollar and up range, so these properties may

cause of the fires is unknown.

Policing the curfew and emergency ordinance
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.

Apr. 19. Twelve police reports were issued for violating curfews. During the curfew check, three men aged 23, 31 and 28 were arrested after a short chase for violating curfews, for disregarding police claims and for displaying highly

dangerous driving behavior. The car was impounded.
Apr. 21. Two police reports were issued. One for violation of the emergency ordinance (drinking alcohol on the street) and one for violation of the curfew.
Apr. 22. On the Kaya Korona during a vehicle check, a wooden box containing a marijuana-like herb was confiscated. The driver was also given a police report for violating the curfew.

Public service
Apr. 29. The police and medical examiner investigated the natural death of a man, 83, who was found lying in a garden.

Police statistics 2020

The Dutch Caribbean Police Force (KPCN) has published their 2020 statistics. The overview:

Property crimes:
↓ All property crimes on Bonaire saw a decrease of 20% in 2020 compared to 2019, continuing a downward trend from 2017.
↓ Burglary tourist accommodation shows an 80% decrease.
↓ Theft from cars has decreased by 32%.

Violent Crimes:
↑ Total violent crimes in Bonaire re-

ported a 4% increase in 2020.
↓ In 2019, all eight robberies were registered (-43%).
↑ There were three attempted murders.

Traffic:
↓ Vehicle damage decreased from 1071 to 911 in 2020 (15%).
↓ There was a small decrease in collisions with injuries.
↑ In 2020 there were three collisions with fatalities.

Traffic	2020	2019	2018
Collision with vehicle damage	911	1071	898
Collision with injured people	182	186	169
Collision deadly ending	3	1	4
	1096	1258	1071

Two police officers suspended

Two police officers were suspended, reportedly for "undesirable behavior during an arrest" conducted on Saturday April 17, 2021 on Bonaire. An internal investigation has been started, so KPCN cannot release any further information until it is completed. *DMR*

Contact the police
911 (rush or red-handed)
717 8000 or 715 8000
(no emergency)
717 7251
(anonymous tip line)

Property Crimes	2020	2019	2018
Home burglary	88	100	89
Theft from yard	19)*)*
Burglary tourist accommodation	9	41	39
Business burglary	21	47	48
Theft other	105	118	176
Theft motor vehicle auto/bus/trucks	6	8	19
Theft motor vehicle scooter/motor/quad	17	24	22
Theft out of car at dive site	35	44	13
Theft from dive site other than car	14	0	1
Theft from / out vehicle	63	92	86
Theft from tourist accommodation	0	3	4
Embezzlement	3	8	8
Destruction (vandalism)	99	91	112
	479	600	617

Violent crimes	2020	2019	2018
Robbery at or in your home	0	1	6
Holdup at or in commercial organizations	4	6	4
Street robbery	4	7	10
Abuse	56	68	94
Assault with a weapon	9	14	16
Threat	110	94	91
Domestic violence	59	48	47
Murder / manslaughter	1	0	1
Murder / manslaughter (attempted)	3	3	5
Public violence	6	1	0
Human trafficking	1	0	0
Morals	6	8	10
	259	250	284

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.

Two fuel facilities to be built. How about one for now? Don Ricks

According to stories appearing in the media, "Despite reservations in the House of Representatives, the establishment of Bonaire Fuel Terminals (BBT) is now a fact." BBT will build two new fuel storage facilities: "a small modern terminal at the power plant" and "modern floating storage of diesel, petrol and kerosene at the airport." The general understanding on the island is that the fuel stored at the power plant will be unloaded from a pier that will be built in the Willem Alexander Marine Reserve, but government sources prefer not to mention that.

The government makes an absolutely convincing case for creating a permanent and secure fuel supply for Bonaire—but not for building it day after tomorrow.

Open letter to all residents of Bonaire

Dear reader,

In recent weeks we have been through a lot together. Due to the high number of infections Bonaire went into lockdown on 18 March. We were at risk level six but have now scaled down to risk level four. The number of infections has gone down significantly because we, as a society, have adhered to the rules. The good news is that we have shown that if everyone commits, we can indeed make a difference. We have demonstrated that we are willing to make sacrifices for ourselves and for others.

In recent weeks we had to forgo meeting friends and family. We were not able to meet up with others to practice sports or go to the gym together. Also we were unable to grab a beer with friends at a snack or go out for a nice dinner with a group of friends at a restaurant. The churchgoers among us could not attend their masses or services in person. We learned to stay indoors from 9 o'clock in the evening and we got used to our streets being deserted. At times we were quiet and we grieved because the coronavirus had taken someone from our midst.

Since the start of the coronavirus crisis many people have become unemployed and many families struggle to make ends meet. Fortunately, in these difficult times there were also people who came

Before construction starts, we should ponder this question: why build a small modern fuel pier on the reef at the power plant when a big, old, dirty, fuel pier is rusting away in bankruptcy less than a kilometer away? Why not float a large capacity fuel storage vessel at the Bopec pier while exploring the possibility of upgrading that dock into a permanent fuel landing point for the power plant?

Bopec is not likely to resume business someday, though many dream it will. Someone would have to fix Venezuela first. Then someone would have to find a niche for Bopec in the rapidly changing world energy market. Bopec's bankruptcy may have created an economic and political opportunity to upgrade its facilities and give them a useful future. Bonaire already has a strip of ruined shoreline and dead reef in the area. Let's not rush to create another near by. *DMR*

through for our society. For example, the volunteers who cooked food for people who would have otherwise missed a hot meal. In addition, there were companies and individuals who donated food parcels to school children and families in need.

Entrepreneurs, cafés, hotels and restaurants have also experienced hard times. Many of them are struggling to survive and some have been forced to close their businesses down. Despite the crisis others have succeeded in offering their services and products in new and creative ways, such as introducing take-out meals.

In recent months we have learned one thing - we need each other to defeat this crisis. Together we can ensure that Bonaire is better protected against the coronavirus. This is only possible if we get vaccinated. In this way you will not only protect yourself, but also your family, your friends and the vulnerable people in our society. Healthcare will face less taxing demands and people from outside will be able to visit Bonaire again. Our economy is largely based on tourism, which is why we would like to be able to welcome tourists again.

Our patience has often been tested in recent months, but pasenshi ta gana gloria i union ta hasi forsa! (patience is a virtue and unity makes us strong!)

Stay safe! On behalf of the following organizations:

The condition of Bonaire's roads Ron Sewell

Having had a recent tyre burst which left me in somewhat of a helpless situation and without help, I have to think about so many other older people who may encounter similar problems due to the disgraceful conditions of many of Bonaire's roads.

Once I had recovered from my ordeal it was necessary to visit a Car Tyre Stockist and I was amazed at the number of other damaged tyres there were laying around the supplier's yard.

Having been able to navigate around some of the more serious holes that I have encountered, I have to say that from a visual point of view, it seems that even newly repaired holes have very little structure to them, to prevent them breaking up again.

To make the road hole situation even more ludicrous, a patch of our main road close to Harbour Village (Just outside the new Spice building) has a nice Tarmac stripe over the top of the channel that they re-dug to correct, (what I am

told is) the original pipe laying mistake, going past a nasty hole not more than 12" away.

In most civilized countries a responsible person overseeing the work, would have told the repair gang to fill it in while passing.

Does that mean that Bonaire is not a civilised island? Or does that mean that they had nobody overseeing the work? Or that people on the work gang are not allowed to think for themselves?

It seems clear to me, that from certain newish roads, that we do have the capability on the island of producing good roads that don't break up, so I have to ask myself, why aren't the authorities able to keep up with the road repair and manufacturing requirements?

Would there be such a position in the Bonaire Government as "Minister for Roads"?

Or somebody with a similar position to whom we can place questions about government policy and activity with respect to roads?

Perhaps an article in your paper might provoke a wide degree of interest?

Best wishes, Ron Sewell

Octopus OLIVIA Buckley, George D.



LONG before there was the Academy Award winning film "My Octopus Teacher", DECADES actually, there was Dee Scarr interacting with octopus

OLIVIA in the blue, shallow waters of Bonaire and enthralled audiences the globe over with their story. It was really, the story of Olivia interacting with Dee! Legions of my students and Bonaire Expedition participants got to meet Dee at her programs at Captain Don's Habitat, the Boston Sea Rovers and Beneath the Sea. Dee opened the world of octopus interactions to us.

If the 'My Octopus Teacher' film has inspired people whom you know, do encourage them to read Sy Montgomery's masterful "Soul of an Octopus" and Daana Staff's "Monarchs of the Sea" ...as Jacques Cousteau called the cephalopods.

Cheers, George Buckley



Cruisers interviewed for waste water survey

The crews of about 70 yachts, visitors and locals, were contacted during a recent waste water survey. They were asked about their vessel's holding tanks and the quality and quantity of the waste water they discharge into the anchorage. They have to pump their wastewater directly into the ocean because the island has no pump-out facility. A goal of the OLB is to provide a means of collecting wastewater from boats and transporting it to the sewage disposal plant. *DMR Photo ©WWF Casper Douma.*



Street Colors Bonaire



Just a portion of the 40 meter wall painted by artist Kenneth Letsoin (pictured) and the talent group from Street Colors project. The abstract wall is in Bolivia on the property of Nicole and Manuel Brinkhuis. Photo Kenny Rankin

When driving the streets of Bonaire slow enough to avoid all the pot holes, you've most likely seen some whimsical art that makes you smile. The colorful little bird type abstractions are the signature handiwork of the Street Colors project latest visiting artist Kenneth Letsoin.

Kenneth is the second artist this year visiting from the Netherlands as a part of Hofi Kultural, an initiative of Fundashon Plataforma Kultural.

He has definitely left his mark on abandoned wall spaces but also with the 15 kids and local artists of Bonaire. Together they have completed: an abstract wall at Flamingo gym, Hofi Kultural buildings, a Hofi mixed media collage, entrances at FORSA and a 40 meter wall in Bolivia. And there have been numerous 'practice' abstracts done on abandoned buildings across the island.

Kenneth, now 48, studied at the Aki School in Holland but has been doing hip hop graffiti and tagging since the age of 12.

"I didn't care about the academics. All I wanted to do was draw," said Kenneth, "I drew a lot of birds, just like I do now. It was an escape for me. It was like a medicine or drug."

He has traveled to Mexico, Guatemala, Greece, Slovakia and Spain and always paints something, leaving his mark everywhere he goes. His work reflects the influences of his

travels. There is always the occasional house exterior abstract painting he does for no pay and the home owners let him paint whatever he wants. His commission jobs are usually representational art that he enjoys too. Kenneth has had public art commissions depicting historical or cityscape themes.

Kenneth said, "I'm not the typical guy that only does one thing."

He was excited about Bonaire's cave drawings saying the symbols were beautiful. They reminded him somewhat of his own 'bird' drawings expressing something different from what is actually depicted. Kenneth has painted the same type of birds all over Rotterdam. He says they create a sense of freedom and a splash of color in contrast to the grey skies of Holland making people happy.

Kenneth said, "Here [on Bonaire] there are the beautiful colors of nature, flowers, the sea and birds and also the colorful houses. In Holland, there are no colorful houses; the colors here are like Wow!"

Kenneth has done residencies in Spain and Slovakia with children age 5-18. He works with the elderly and disabled and finds their energy of making art very rewarding.

"They are always so happy at the end saying, 'I never knew that I could draw like this, when are you coming back'." said Kenneth.

Kenneth has left a mark on Bonaire and with the children. He has planted the joy and

freedom of art in them. In his instruction, he told them, 'I am not your teacher, I am an artist'. Kenneth's first solo and final project is painting wall art on a container on Playa Lechi before heading back to Holland on May 10.

Although there are no visiting artists scheduled in the next few months, Street Colors Bonaire hopes to continue this wonderful project and we do too. By Julie Morgan

Al reaches 50 years at PADI

Bonaire's Al Catalfumo was recognized by PADI (Professional Association of Diving Instructors) in the Undersea Journal as a 50 year member in 2021.



Relating his favorite thoughts, Al said, "As I look back over the past 50 years as a PADI instructor, it's transforming uncomfortable divers into properly trained divers with a good comfort level. It still is the most self-satisfying part of teaching here on Bonaire at the Black Durgon Inn. It's more important to me than any monetary gain. I fondly remember teaching thousands of divers through courses for both Rutgers and Monmouth colleges. And four different YMCA's in Central New Jersey, USA." Photo by Olaf



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Kenneth Letsoin at Hofi Kultural
Photo Julie Morgan
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Reef Glimpses

by Dee Scarr

“I’m Ready for My Close-up”

Last January I had an almost-interaction with a spotted eagle ray: the ray was trailing about 100 yards (more than 100 m) of fishing line, I grabbed the line and cut it to less than a yard (less than a meter) away from the ray’s mouth. The ray wasn’t exactly overjoyed for me to be attached, but it was an almost-interaction because the ray made no aggressive moves at all. It was an amazing experience and I didn’t stop grinning for weeks.

Last week off Pink Beach, Julie Morgan and Malin Kaijser had a different, but also amazing, experience involving a spotted eagle ray.

But first: One thing you may not know about Julie and Malin is that their control of their positioning in the water is darn near perfect. Underwater, Julie always looks graceful and weightless, even with

the relatively large two-strobe housed camera system she carries. Malin looks equally weightless and graceful, regardless of how Julie asks her to pose in relation to the current.

Good control in the water protects the reef, but it has other benefits to divers. Marine animals, especially fish, are very sensitive to water movement and water pressure. Divers who move awkwardly send out pressure messages and nearby fish take cover or depart. Divers who control their positioning get much closer to the critters.

And so it happened with Julie and Malin and this eagle ray.

The ray cruised over the sand, and they watched. Since they were very still in the water, the ray ignored them and continued its foraging.

What is foraging for a spotted eagle ray? Swimming close to a sand or sand and rubble bottom, extending its lower jaw, and digging. Spotted eagle rays seek mollusks and crustaceans, which they crush with pavement-like teeth; I think on Bonaire they probably also munch an occasional heart urchin or even a razorfish.

So the ray foraged. “I expected it to go right past us,” Julie told me, “but its route took it toward us!” The ray was much more interested in foraging than it was in Julie and Malin. There are (at least) two reasons for that, by the way. The first is the consistent respect divers around Bonaire show to marine animals. This was a young ray (about 1m across, with spots. Older eagle rays have white rings) who had probably spent its entire life around Bonaire, and had never had a negative experience with divers. Cool, huh?

The second reason is, of course, Julie’s and Malin’s stillness in the water; nothing they did was the tiniest bit alarming to the already comfortable eagle ray.

So they got a close look at the ray’s head, more pronounced in spotted eagle rays than other rays. They got to watch

the ray’s protruded lower jaw shovel through the bottom sand for prey. They may also have seen the ray crunching a critter – but it would have been tough to see through the ray’s sand cloud!

After Julie and Malin watched motionlessly for a while, Julie took some photos. The ray was unfazed. Malin moved closer. The ray was unfazed. One photographic result accompanies this story.

“I’m ready for my closeup, Mr. DeMille,” underwater version.

You’ll recognize Julie and Malin these days by their big grins!

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.



It looks like this spotted eagle ray is mouthing a flat rock, but the “rock” is its extended lower jaw as it forages between Julie and Malin. In their Guide to Marine Life, Marty Snyderman and Clay Wiseman provide information about spotted eagle rays, which includes the following:

- “As a general rule spotted eagle rays are difficult to approach...”
- “Because spotted eagle rays are so difficult to get close to ...”
- “Their wariness makes spotted eagle rays a challenging subject.”

I guess Snyderman and Wiseman never got to see Morgan and Kaijser with spotted eagle rays! Photo Julie Morgan

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Aruba repatriates Venezuelans

Aruba has been sending humanitarian flights to Venezuela to repatriate about a thousand Venezuelans who have been stranded there for more than two years. The flights are also returning Arubans stranded in Venezuela.

Two years ago the government in Caracas closed its border to Aruba, claiming that Aruba was doing too little to combat smuggling from Venezuela. When Caracas wanted to reopen the borders later, Aruba refused because too many refugees were trying to get out of Venezuela.

The most recent flight returned 93 people who were convicted of crimes or were on the island illegally. A group of Venezuelan citizens returned voluntarily as well. The flights began in January. Seven have been completed so far. *DMR (Koninkrijk.nu)*

The business page is now interactive.

The *Bonaire Reporter's* business page is now interactive. We are offering advertisers the opportunity to link their ad on our "At Your Service" page directly to their email, website or Facebook page. Online readers can click on an ad and go directly to the business's site. The cost is just a few dollars more per issue than the regular price. For more information check out the page.

Vast online resources for slavery research created


The Hague has digitized and restored nearly two million archive documents from the Dutch slavery past. The documents come from, among other sources, the West India Company, the slave trader company Middelburgse Commercie Compagnie, the Suriname Society, and the archives of the administration of the Dutch Possessions on the coast of Guinea. They are mainly ships' logs, plantation lists, cargo overviews, invoices, and business letters. But many are personal letters.

The documents record, often in vivid and shocking language, the excesses of the slave trade. In 1733 on the slave ship *De Rusthof*, for instance, more than half of the approximately 700 slaves aboard died between the West African coast and Paramaribo, including all 100 of the children. After the ship arrived more slaves were so weak they died before they could be sold.

Researchers unexpectedly found, in the National Archive in London, extremely detailed documents about 10 years of trade via Fort Elmina's headquarters in Ghana. The papers had been sent to the Netherlands by the Dutch governor but were hijacked by an English ship.

What's Happening	
Dive Friends:	Two locations open for tank pickup and drop off, Sand Dollar & Port Bonaire 9-5
Washington Slagbaai park:	Wed. to Sun. open 8 to 5. Entry up to 1 pm..
STINAPA headquarters:	Closed to public. Available by phone +599 717 8444.
Apr. 23+	Bonaire goes to Level 4. No curfew.
Sunday, May 9	Clean Coast Bonaire. 4-6pm <i>Piedra Pretu.</i> Collect marine litter & data by donating your time working as a citizen scientist. .
May 28 - 29	BonDoet weekend. Sign up www.bondoet.com

Learn about Bonaire's history



Andre Nahr will explore Bonaire's history from the arrival of the first inhabitants 3600 years ago to the start of Bonaire's modern times. The six presentations will be taught in English over six evenings on Tuesday and Thursdays from 7-9pm. The dates are May 20th, 25th, 27th June 1st, 3rd and 10th. The classes will be held at FuHiKu-Bo, Kaya Irlandia 12, located next door to the Extra newspaper office.

To sign up for this fascinating event, call 717-8482 (Extra) between 11am and 4pm or email: ShirleyMartis2001@hotmail.com.

The price is \$95. per person. Only 14 spots are available for the class, so sign up early.

The collection of documents results from years of collaboration between the National Archives and KB, the national library, along with nine heritage institutions from the Netherlands, England, Guyana and Suriname. The documents can be explored at nationalearchief.nl/slavernijverleden. *DMR (Koninkrijk.nu)*

Four business associations federate

After long negotiations, a Business Federation Bonaire (BFB) has been created. It is an umbrella organization that will represent the collective employer-related issues of four organizations: Bonaire Hotel and Tourism Association (BONHATA), Bonaire Business and Employers Association (BBE), Bonaire Hospitality Group (BHG) and the Bonaire Innovation and Commerce Council (BICC). The intention of the new federation is to support the business community and contribute to a sustainably prosperous Bonaire. The four member associations will continue to operate independently in other matters, retaining their own identities and defending the interests of their membership. *DMR*

Six Bonaireans receive Royal decorations

Following the recommendations of the committee that decides on royal awards,




















His Majesty King Willem-Alexander has awarded the Knight of the Order of Oranje Nassau to six Bonaireans: Mrs. Maria Johanna (Riet) Sealy-Clappers, Mr. Edwin (Win) Pablo Andres Emerenciana, Mr. Reynolds (Nolly) Amable Oleana, Mrs. Henna Ignacia Winklaar, Mr. Oswin Ciprianus Cristina, and Mrs. Janice Baillie-Huckaby. Lieutenant Governor Edison Rijna has postponed the official presentation of the Royal decorations because of the pandemic. *DMR*

KPCN linked up to INTERPOL

The Dutch Caribbean Police Force (KPCN) is now working in direct contact with the INTERPOL and its police colleagues almost all over the world. KPCN police are now connected with the INTERPOL databases and can securely exchange information worldwide. "With this INTERPOL connection, we can identify criminals, terrorists and other unwanted persons or criminal groups more quickly and tackle them more effectively, making both the Caribbean part of the Kingdom and the European Netherlands even safer," said Jose Rosales, Chief of Police of KPCN. *DMR*

Visit us!



Risk level 4 Serious	
Private meetings (e.g. home, beach, or park)	 Max: 2 households with max 10 pers (> 13 year). Advice: stay home for vulnerable groups
Prof. organized events see also 'clarification sports'	 Inside not allowed. Outside: max. 50% capacity and 25 pers. Registration obligation. No singing/dancing.
Funeral service and wedding ceremony	 Max. 50 pers
Restaurants and cafes (incl. water tours/-restaurants)	 Max: 4 pers. per group (excl. kids <13 years). Closing time 22:00
Hotels	 Bar/restaurant for hotel guests: open regularly. Non-guests: 'level 4 Restaurants and cafes'
Essential shops	 Max: 2 pers. per group (excl. kids <13 years). Mandatory cart/basket
Non-essential shops	 Max: 2 pers. per group (excl. kids <13 years)
Churches	 Max: 50% of the capacity. Go home directly after service. No singing
Sports activities (also see 'clarification sports')	 Max: 50% capacity inside, 100% outside (for >18 years). Go home immediately after exercise
Work	 Work from home as much as possible
Contact professions	 Face mask
Nightclubs	 Closed
Adult Entertainment	 Closed
Gambling halls, casinos and cinemas	 Max: 50% of the capacity. Closing time 00:00
Saunas	 Max: 50% of the capacity
Daytime activities elderly	 25% capacity
Primary education and after-school care	 Basic rules. 1,5m distance between adults
Secondary education and after-school care	 Basic rules. Adults to maintain 1,5m distance from each other and students
Child care	 Basic rules. 1,5m distance between adults



Making Bonaire Accessible

by Ria Evers-Dokter

Social dilemmas

Yesterday was "World Wishing Day."

This special day is meant to give more attention to children. It all began April 29, 1980 when police-officers fulfilled the wish of a 7 year old boy who wanted to be a police-officer for one day. A group of people took the idea and made it come true. The day became a day celebrated worldwide and the organization behind it helps make wishes come true for children who suffer from life-threatening diseases. Today 48 countries participate in this special wish program.

I also have a wish. I wish that dreams of people with disabilities and elderly can come true. And I do not mean for them to wish not to be disabled or old anymore, but just wishes that can be executed for them to have an unforgettable day.

I want to tell you about Billy. I did so before, but his dream is still a dream and he deserves to have his dream fulfilled. Billy lives in Holland and wants to come to Bonaire to spend time with his family and see the island where he was born. There is a fundraising program going on, but it is going very slowly. That is why I decided to join the fundraising plans.

Billy paints with his mouth! And that is a very hard thing to do. But Billy is a fighter and he just completed another beautiful painting of a sea turtle. He wants to sell his paintings in order to get the money in his vacation plan.

For those interested in making this wish come true, Billy is on Facebook. <https://www.facebook.com/billy.valentijn>

You can befriend him and learn about this very special wish.

I know there are more children and adults with disabilities and elderly who have special wishes. So I would like to wish for them that on Bonaire an organization picks up this idea and sets up "Make a Wish Bonaire". Their wishes are simple and easy to execute. For example: being able to get together with family again and spend some quality time together, visit and hug and cuddle. For that we need to be free of the virus and vaccinated, because it is important to be safe.

For that wish to come true, we all need to stick to the rules and behave in a social manner. Because when groups get together and party, this affects the other Bonaireans who have to stay inside, stay home, and who can't have visitors or go visit relatives and family. This group has rights and do not get them because of the rule breakers.

Please, make their wishes come true and we can ALL be happy.

Will you join and be a good citizen? There are a lot of special people that will be very thankful.

Bonaire's sky park

The Da Vinci glow

According to timeanddate.com, the waxing and waning crescent moon phases in April and May are the best time to see earthshine (also known as Da Vinci glow), when the unlit part of the Moon becomes visible.

Generally the waxing crescent moon rises in the daytime before noon and becomes visible in the day sky. It gets more visible around sunset but typically sets before midnight.

The Waxing Crescent Moon starts as the Moon becomes visible again after the new moon conjunction, when the Sun and Earth are on opposite sides of the Moon, making it impossible to see the Moon from Earth. During this phase, the lit-up part of the Moon increases from 0.1% to 49.9%.

Source

<https://www.timeanddate.com/astronomy/moon/waxing-crescent.html>

Ask a Geek

by Brian Niessen

Spring is in the air... SPAM is in the mailbox...

For some reason, spring seems to bring out all the scammers.

Over the last few weeks, everyone has been receiving emails saying "Your payment is completed, click on the attachment to see the invoice." or "If you don't pay this immediately, we will take you to court." etc, etc.

Each of them is just trying to get you to open the attached file, which in turn installs a virus or trojan or worse on your computer.

Some of the programs that are installed may send copies of your screen and your keystrokes to hackers in Timbuktu (Sorry to the people of Mali) or other strange cities far, far away. With this information, they can in turn access your bank accounts, PayPal accounts, Email accounts, or whatever else you are using.

You can only imagine what happens next... Poof, there goes your access to everything because they changed the passwords... and since they control your

Email, you can't request a password reset.

Or, it is a program that locks up and encrypts your computer, putting up a message "Send 1 Bitcoin to ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ" to unlock your computer (Most of the time you don't get it unlocked anyway since sending Bitcoin is anonymous and they have no way to give you a decrypting code.)

Or, it is a program that just erases your computer just for fun.

Regardless, the panic and anguish this causes is not worth the risk of opening any file you are not expecting from a known person. But even that is a pos-

sible problem. Emails can be faked, so if you get an email from someone you know, but with an attachment you are not expecting, ask them if it is real.

And just like our new way of life, make sure you have an anti-virus installed and that you have frequent backups.

And for those Apple Mac owners, don't believe the fake news - Macs get viruses too!!!

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



Creating optimal health

by Irene da Cunda Costa

Breathworks.

It is impossible to separate breathing from life. Our existence outside the womb begins with the first breath of air and we finish it with the last exhalation. We are all born knowing how to breathe naturally, different circumstances of life eventually modify this natural capacity and in some cases they undermine its original design.

Thousands of papers could be written on breathing, its mechanisms, the benefits of managing it, etc. and in fact there are thousands of books about breathing. But the most important thing is to practice, experiment for yourself and find which of the different practices are of benefit to you. Just as there are many books written about bodybuilding, different theories on how much to exhaust the muscle, different recovery times, what time of day is most beneficial to practice, etc. But no matter how many books you read about bodybuilding and understand

its principles, you will generate little muscle if you do not commit to a regular and sustained practice over time. Swami Sivananda said, "An ounce of practice is worth a ton of theory!"

That is why I will be brief and invite you to participate on May 12 in a workshop that I will offer for free on "Stress, Evolution and Breathwork", giving you the opportunity to practice some of these methods and understand their usefulness.

Breathing properly provides energy, promotes clear thinking, calmness, improves performance and endurance. It also increases the quality of sleep, brings happiness and eases access to relaxation and meditation states.

Learning to use the different types of breath as needed improves the results of whatever you are looking for. The daily practice of breathing exercises will allow you to lower levels of distress, improve energy levels and sleep better.

Improving your respiratory efficiency also involves stretching the thoracic muscles in order to increase flexibility and allow more room in which the lungs can expand. This will allow you to improve your performance whether it's to practice sports, dance, act or sing. Also spiritual development practices will be benefited with a better respiratory performance. These mind-body integration techniques involve pranayama techniques, the Wim Hoff breathing method, holotropic breathing, rebirthing and meditative techniques such as those of Osho, among others.

In a respiratory re-education process, the assessment begins by determining what would need to be modified in order to improve respiratory efficiency. We start by identifying the type of respiration that you mainly perform; your basic vital lung capacity and your tolerance to the accumulation of CO2. Then a custom made program is developed to improve specific areas. As the practice progresses, improvements are recorded and results are evaluated.

At the same time that you improve your breathing capacity, you can learn different techniques such as respirato-

ry control and awareness, which has a strong relaxing power and also trains concentration and focus, which are the basis for the practice of mindfulness. There are breathing techniques that will help you to activate, either when you just wake up or in those moments after lunch when your energy seems to disappear. There are breathing exercises to induce sleep, to generate mental clarity, for anger management, to boost courage, decrease anxiety, increase creativity, improve decision making, increase physical performance, induce meditative state and others.

If you are interested in participating in the workshop, please contact me through messenger, Facebook or WhatsApp (7875588), limited space available. "Stress, Evolution and Breathwork" will be held in an open air to favor a safe environment. Contact Irene for details.

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.

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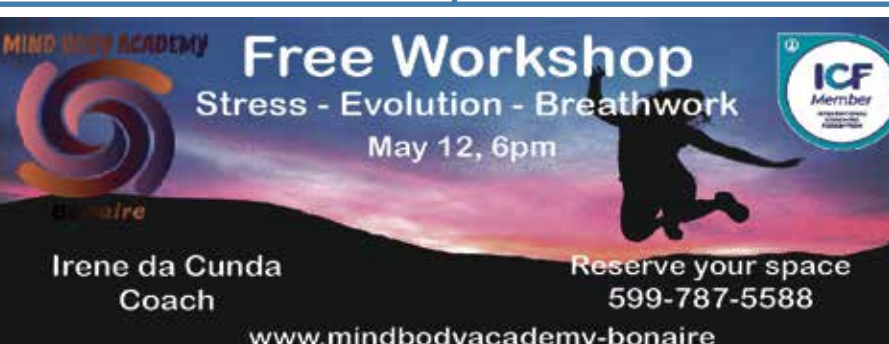
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Pets of the Week

Uma



Meet our dearest friend, Uma...also known as "Meat-loaf"! She owes her nickname to the fact that she is a cute, chubby cat that wouldn't mind getting treats everyday if possible (like most cats).

Uma came to the shelter as a one year old cat. She has been with us for almost three years now. Uma is a very friendly and loving cat. Once she gets used to you, she wouldn't mind getting her belly rubbed 24/7.

Does Uma match your profile and would you like to know more about her? If that's the case, please make an appointment to come and meet her at the Animal Shelter, Kaminda Lagun 26A. Call 717 4989 or 701 4989 (cell/WhatsApp), Facebook messenger and by email animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com

Story by: Thamar Cachemir Photo by: Sanne Attevelt

Buster



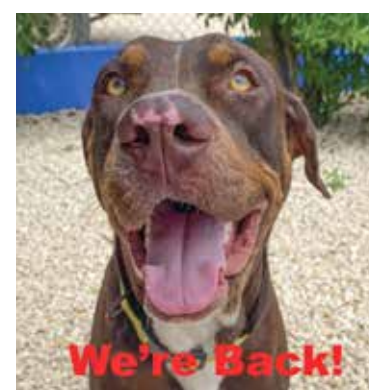
Hello all animal friends! My name is Buster! I'm a male dog, a year and a half old, sterilized and fully vaccinated. I was born at the shelter on Christmas day 2019 along with my other brothers and sisters. They all found their perfect home including my mommy, so nobody from my family is left at the shelter. I really want to have my own new family. I'm friendly with everybody young or old, boy or girl I don't mind. I like to play and run and sit in the water bowl. Do you want to give me a home and a new family? Then please make an appointment to come and meet me at the Animal Shelter, Kaminda Lagun 26A. Please call 7014989 or 7174989 (cell/WhatsApp), Facebook messenger and by email animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com

Story and Photo: Sanne Attevelt

Shelter News

Animal Shelter Bonaire is overflowing with wonderful cats and dogs that are more than ready for their "fur-ever" homes. The lockdown prevented these lovely animals from being able to meet and greet their potential new families. And many animals were newly surrendered/abandoned to us during the lockdown. We have all sizes, ages, shapes, colors and personalities of cats/kittens and dogs/puppies to choose from. Uma and Buster, this issue's Pets of the Week, are just a sampling. We are open by appointment only from 10 am to 12:30 pm and from 2 - 3:30 pm Monday through Friday and from 10 am to 2:30 pm nonstop on Saturday. Please make your appointment to meet your future companion by calling 7174989, 7014989 (cell/Whatsapp) Facebook messenger or email animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com. We are all waiting for you!

Pakus di Pruga (Shelter flea market store) is back open on Saturdays from 8 am to 4 pm. Lots of great deals on many new items that have been brought in during lockdown. All shoppers must wear masks, social distance and a limited number of customers will be permitted inside at any one time. Happy to be back with some great shopping for you!!



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.

Who Should You Take Advice From?

Reflection For Today

"Many receive advice, only the wise profit from it." - Harper Lee

Tip For Today

It's been on her mind for days. She's been overwhelmed with information about it and everyone seems to be talking about it. She's even done her own research about it, but Swinda just couldn't make up her mind about it yet.

Chichi knew about her best friend's indecision of course and has been wondering for days now, "Why on earth hasn't Swinda asked ME for advice?!"

One day she couldn't take it any longer and at the beginning of their Malecon Sunset Power Walk, she brought it up. She didn't want to seem like a desperate advice giver so she gave Swinda four key questions to help her choose who she should take advice from...

1. Do you trust them?
2. Do they know what they are talking about?
3. Do they have your best interest at heart?
4. What would they do, given your circumstance?

The dynamic duo enjoyed the rest of their walk together in silence and as Swinda was pondering these key questions. Chichi was enthusiastically preparing her advice speech for her best friend: what to say, how to say it, which examples to use, etc. At the end of their cardio session and after careful consideration, Swinda turned to her bestie and said "Chichi, I've made up my mind. Thank you so much for those clarity questions. I now know whose advice I should take, I'm gonna reach out to them right away!" She then gave Chichi an air hug, wished her a nice day, and walked away.

Remember...

Not all advice is good advice for you so consider the source. Successful people carefully select their advisers.

Affirmation For Today

When in doubt, I know I can ask for help. Today I am carefully selecting my advisors and confidently making wise decisions.

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."



PRINS BERNHARD
CULTUURFONDS

Local artists asked to submit work for an art video

As of Wednesday May 5, 2021 the PBCCG the Fund is calling on all artists of the Dutch Caribbean to submit a COVID-inspired creation via the various PBCCG online communication channels (website, email, social media). The entry deadline is Wednesday May 19th 2021.

The submitted creations will be compiled in an art video. They will be shown daily through June via PBCCG's online communication channels.

With this project, Prins Bernhard Cultuurfonds Caribisch Gebied wants to underline its appreciation and recognition for artists, and highlight the power and importance of the connection through art and culture!

Local artists who have developed a beautiful creation despite this difficult period can send their entry to: info@pbccaribbean.com or visit the website for more information: www.pbccaribbean.com

Some cats are testing positive for FELV/FIV so please make sure your cats are vaccinated for this horrible disease. And, vaccination is especially important if you plan to bring a new cat or kitten into your home.





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

It's really a good tamarind year. Not only because the trees are overloaded with tamarind fruit but the pods are a good quality - thick, long and juicy with fewer bugs. I have gathered buckets full of tamarind. Now is the best time, because later in the year the pods get old and bugs like to penetrate the seeds and lay their eggs. The pods are a safe spot for young bugs to start their life and at the same time food from the seeds are a good kind of plant protein for them. I advise you not to peel any type of pod inside your house because the bugs and their eggs can drop in your house. Just imagine what these bugs could do in your house. The same story applies to fresh vegetables from the earth. No matter if you bought it or if it comes from your garden, there are often ants, bugs and eggs on or between the leaves.

I have a pipe on my back porch where I fill two buckets half full of water, add some salt and rinse the fresh vegetables twice and then let them sit in the salty water for a few minutes. Bugs don't like salt, so they fall off the veggies. For the tamarind, I remove the shell outside the house and leave it for a day in the sun. The bugs cannot stand the hot sun and they leave. I then rinse the dry pods for a moment and they are ready to use.

All this knowledge I have from my grandma. As a kid, I would help her by doing little jobs in the garden which I often didn't like to do because I wanted to play. But now I'm so happy with all this knowledge and experiences because look what I do. I make the tamarind syrup, marmalade, chutney and more the same way she used to. When reading this, it looks like a lot of work and yes, it is, but the other side of the story is that you know for sure you get good healthy stuff in your body. And what is more important than a healthy body? The more you are aware of how precious health



My friend used aloe to protect her fence against the dogs

is, the more you understand that no food can be better than one which is unsprayed and comes straight from the land or from the trees. As my grandma used to say: It's simple: healthy food, good rest and moving daily gives you a strong body. She proved this by reaching a very old age.

A friend asked me for some of my aloe plants of which I have a lot. She wanted to plant them along the sides of her fences. Her dogs get totally upset when other dogs pass along the fence on the street and jump against the fence damaging it. Planting a lot of aloe against the fence makes the dogs stay away from the fence because the aloe thorns hurt them. It also adds some green to the yard. I thought, that is a great idea, so I'm sharing it with you. So protect your fence with aloe, just do it now.

For covid information:

- Call 0800-0800 (TOLL-FREE) to ask questions about your health and Coronavirus. Mon to Sat from 8 am to 8 pm and on Sun. from 8 am to 4 pm.
- Go to www.bonairecrisis.com or call 0800 0900 (TOLL-FREE) for information about vaccinating or to register.



New recycling jobs created

Selibon has created five jobs for people with a physical disability. The new workers have been employed to sort household waste for recycling, for export, and for reuse. Plenchi di Trabou is financing the project. The work is performed standing and sitting. Selibon NV is transitioning from a company that focuses on the collection of waste to one that also ensures waste is stored and processed in a responsible manner. DMR



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)

