



Box 603, Bonaire, Caribbean Netherlands, Phone/WhatsApp (+599) 796-4055,  
[www.bonairereporter.com](http://www.bonairereporter.com) email: [bonairereporter2019@gmail.com](mailto:bonairereporter2019@gmail.com)



Photo: Julie Morgan

## Restaurants return after a year of restrictions

We all eat and sometimes it's a lot more fun to go out and dine with friends, and let's be honest, allow someone else to do the cooking. Today Bonaire has many diverse choices from the very high end dining experience to just grabbing a burger or snack. For many years, the island's culinary team has literally brought home the gold in countless Caribbean cooking competitions and that speaks well for the quality and diversity of Bonaire's cuisine.

According to Bonhata, Bonaire has approximately 50 restaurants. If you add the 47 different food trucks and an undetermined number of snacks in operation around the island anyone who wants to dine out or grab some takeaway has unlimited options.

But during the Covid-19 pandemic that hit in March 2020, all dining out activities came to a screeching halt. A few of the restaurants managed to stay in operation with take-away only but the majority had to lock their doors. With the changing levels of restrictions since then, it has been difficult at times to know what restaurants were open. And if it was confusing for the diner, imagine the ups and downs the restaurants endured?

With the first lockdown, restaurants and suppliers were left with surplus food in their pantries and coolers that would go to waste unless used. Several of Bonaire's restaurants and chefs with time on their hands put their heads together and created a project to provide meals for school kids, families and elderly in need. The chefs prepared 100 meals a day for several

months and received monetary and food donations as the ingredients were used. And OLB helped out too.

When the restaurants finally were allowed to welcome guests, many struggled as some diners were wary about safety and often opted for take-away.

**King of Ribs** did not close but kept the restaurant open offering take-away.

Owner Franco Cardone's nine employees were kept on staff and made up the difference of the supplement they received from the government.

Franco said, "I think that if we had to go on like this for more months it would have ended really badly. We are dependent on visiting tourists and of course, the local people. Thank God, we survived and now we are starting to build up the restaurant again."

**Rum Runners at Captain Don's Habitat** is another restaurant that never closed. Their Pizza Temple did an amazing take-away business along with a few other menu items or daily specials. Rum Runners took advantage of the down time away as a full service restaurant and bar to renovate and upgrade. Now that they are back in business abiding level 2 rules, the main difference is the lack of live weekly entertainment from 'Moogie', a mainstay every Monday night for the last 30 years. Rum Runners' dedicated staff has remained intact.

For **Eddy's Restaurant** the opening and closing was like a seesaw, up and down throughout the last year and a half. The restaurant / bar shifted between being completely closed and then open only Thursday and Friday.

Owner Eddy Carillo said, "We shifted back and forth three or four times, I think. Our staff remained intact but it cost us more than I had hoped, but we wanted to keep everybody stable. We hit the ground running once we could reopen again."

Eddy's has been open full time since June 21.

**Beer and Burgers** closed due to the lockdown in March 2020 for a six week period, in September for another two weeks and again in March 2021 for six weeks. They are back to their regular schedule now.

With the return of Bonaire tourism and returning residents, *The Bonaire Reporter* has created a restaurant guide, (pg 9) to inform and hopefully to give a hand in rejuvenating Bonaire's diverse restaurant scene. We hope everyone will head out for a nice meal and try Bonaire's amazing cuisine. Happy Dining.

*Government restrictions regarding restaurants have returned to normal for the most part. The exceptions being a midnight closing time and no singing or dancing inside or out without a permit. The restrictions are in place to protect us until we are all vaccinated. We are all safe when we are all safe.* Julie Morgan



### This Week's Stories

Bonaire's Restaurants	1
Covid roundup	2
Stoked food truck	3
Galileo sensor station	5
Students fly away to school	5
Bikes & Flag Day	5
Green flash photo	6
Six Bonaire ambassadors	6
STCB protects turtle nests	7
Warehouse is closed; August funrace	
Youngsters star in writing competition	11
Quarterly clean up dive #3	15

### The Reporter online

Covid-19 breaking news +

### Departments

Flotsam & Jetsam: Curaçao pensions; Community kitchen; Dominican Republic pork banned; False travel documents; Beach parties banned	2
Single use plastics; More tourist rooms; Woman bitten, dog shot; EZ Air new plane; Bolivars devalued; Kiran Badloe Olympic wind surfer	7
Who's Who in The Reporter	2
Ask Kate (rent-back agreement)	4
Police Report	4
Letters/Opinions	
(Covid check cruise ship visitors)	5
Reef Glimpses: (Squid)	8
Dining guide	9
Did you know? Culture in animals	10
Live Inspired Today (Changing your view)	10
Poem: I am Woman	
What's Happening (Geology class; A Wyoming Kid)	12
Parrots and People (Release to wild; July roost count)	12
Making Bonaire "Accessible" (Vacations)	13
Creating Optimal Health (Menopause 2)	13
Ask a Geek: (DVD destroyed)	10
Sky Park (Perseids shower)	12
Business Directory	14
Pets of the Week	
(Cookie -dog; Quincy - cat)	15
A Garden? (Kunuku plantings; corn)	16

### How to Find Us:

**Read us online:** <https://bonairereporter.com>  
 ●: <https://www.Facebook.com/TheBonaireReporter/>  
 Available in 50 locations  
 Printed every two weeks  
**Next edition: August 25, 2021**  
**Contributors' Deadline August 20, 2021**  
**Stories, tips, questions, ideas & ads:**  
 Phone (+599)796 4055  
 Email: [info@bonairereporter.com](mailto:info@bonairereporter.com)  
 Address: Box 603, Bonaire, Dutch Caribbean.  
**The Bonaire Reporter Staff:**  
 Julie Morgan, Publisher  
[BonaireReporter2019@gmail.com](mailto:BonaireReporter2019@gmail.com)  
 Production: Barbara Lockwood  
**Contributors:** Angliet Baidjoe, Ria Evers-Dokter, Dee Scarr, Star Gazers: Trace Dominguez; Kate Butler, Jean Searce, Brian Niessen, Elizabeth Godsey, Jane Madden-Disko, Julianka Clarendia, Don M. Ricks, Malcolm Wilson, Ann Joesph, Alan Zale, Caren Eckrich, Roxanne-Liana Francisca, Dennis Martinus, Pam Teitel, Kaj Schut  
**Distribution:** Marlene & Co. (Playa), Yuchi Molina (Rincon), Divi-Divi Airline, Printed by: DeStad Drukkerij, Curaçao  
 Founders: George and Laura DeSalvo  
 © 2021 The Bonaire Reporter

## Covid-19 on Bonaire

totals as of August 10, 2021

<b>18 active</b>	<b>0 hospitalized</b>
<b>1703 total</b>	<b>17 deceased</b>
<b>80.5 % have had 1st vaccination</b>	
<b>Bonaire is at risk level 2.</b>	

For up to date covid news go to the online Reporter <https://bonairereporter.com> or FB Government site is <https://www.bonairecrisis.com/en/>

## Did Curaçao cut your pension?

On Friday, August 13, the Civil Affairs Department will be specially opened from 8 am to 2:30 pm to help Bonaire retirees whose AOV pensions were reduced by SVB-Curaçao. The retirees will be issued, at no charge, a Declaration of Residence that certifies they are resident on Bonaire. The Civil Affairs Department will issue the Declaration of Residence certificates on other working days as well, but for a fee.

On January 1, 2017, the Social Insurance Bank began discounting by 10% the pension benefits of people who no longer resided on Curaçao. It also canceled their annual Christmas bonuses, which amounted to a full month of AOV.

That decision was appealed, and a Curaçao court ruled the government of Curaçao must pay full benefits to people living in the BES Islands and Sint Maartin who had accrued Netherlands Antilles pensions at the time of the 10-10-'10 separation.

On the other hand, the court also ruled that Curaçao can legally reduce the benefits paid to vested pensioners who now live on Aruba or in the Netherlands. The court's reasoning was that those people chose to leave the former Netherlands Antilles of their own accord. According to the court, people in the BES Islands and Sint Maartin had not, as individuals, made that same choice. DMR

"As individuals" is an important nuance in the ruling. The people of Bonaire did choose to leave the Netherlands Antilles. But they left by majority vote, not by individual decision. DMR

## Government employee accused of traveling on false test results

According to the BES-Reporter, an employee of Bonaire's Communications Department of the Central Government (RCN) recently traveled from Bonaire to Curaçao with a falsified negative covid test result. She is in preventative isolation and both islands may press charges against her. DMR (BES-Reporter)



### Partying prohibited on Te Amo and other beaches

The Public Entity says it will mobilize KPCN, KMAR, OM and OLB to clear the beaches, even close them, if large groups of people continue to gather at night for noisy parties. Activities at Te Amo Beach have been especially troublesome. Under the current covid restrictions, private gatherings may not exceed 25 people and singing or dancing are not allowed. The partying often follows the legal closing time of the catering industry.

The partying not only draws too many people to the beaches but loud music from loudspeakers as well, along with a high volume of traffic and congested parking. The next day Selibon spends hours cleaning up the garbage left behind. Crime also seems to be occurring. Sales and use of hard drugs are rumored, and petty thefts and weapons threats have been reported.

If the nuisance continues and large groups continue to gather, the authorities will begin issuing fines. In case of serious nuisances, party-goers can be arrested. Drivers' licenses, vehicles and audio equipment can be confiscated. If absolutely necessary, beaches and areas will be closed. DMR

## Community kitchen opens



The Kushina di Bario Nort di Salinja (the North Salinja Community Kitchen) provides food cooked for neighbors by neighbors. The neighborhood worker identifies those whose pension or unemployment benefits don't stretch far enough. They qualify to collect freshly cooked meals in reusable containers at the community center. The kushina began operations June and the community response has been very positive. The kushina is providing more social interaction as well as food for a part of the population that tends to become isolated. DMR

## Dominican Republic pork products banned

African swine fever has been detected in the Dominican Republic. Therefore importation to Bonaire from the Dominican Republic of pork, and of meat products such as sausages and meat spreads that might contain pork, is temporarily banned. Customs is also watching for small quantities of meat products that might arrive at the airport.

African swine fever is very contagious and dangerous for pigs. The Bonaire Veterinary Department wants to prevent the disease from breaking out among pigs on Bonaire. Pigs can become infected through direct contact with each other or by eating contaminated meat or meat products.

African swine fever is not contagious to humans. But humans can spread the disease through contaminated objects such as shoes, clothing, vehicles, knives or by handling contaminated food. DMR

## Flotsam & Jetsam, continued on page 7

## Covid-19 round-up

Travelers to the Netherlands must present a corona certificate upon arrival. The QR code for the vaccination certificate will serve, as will a paper declaration from the Public Health Department that the person was infected with Covid-19 less than 6 months previously and has recovered. The Netherlands also accepts a paper PCR test certificate within 48 hours before departure. Fully vaccinated residents of Bonaire can now upload the paper QR code in the corona check app themselves. They can contact the Public Health Department at 0800 0800 for instructions on how to do it.



**Bonaire hits the vaccination big eight O.** Of the 18-year-olds and older on Bonaire, 80.5% have now been vaccinated at least once; and almost 70%, 13,113 people, are fully vaccinated. In the 12 to 17 group, 24% have had at least one injection. The government's goal is full vaccination of 85% of Bonaireans 12 and older.

With the delta variant now on the island, vaccination has become even more urgent, both the first and followup shots. People who are fully vaccinated are less likely to become seriously ill if infected. During August, residents can get the first or second shot on Saturdays at Kompleho Deportivo Jorge Nicolaas from 9 am to 2 pm. Or they can make an appointment by calling 0800 0900 during office hours.

## Covid, continued on page 15



# Stoked about STOKED



Owner William Kalkwiek looks out the service window.

Some of the best ideas come from a few too many beers between friends. Stoked food truck is one of them.

Bartender Mitch van der Kort and graphic designer William Kalkwiek and another friend sat down for a few too many beers several years ago and came up with the idea of a food truck partnership.

"It had to be completely unique, something that no one else would come up with," said William. "And the food had to be unusual."

They landed on the idea of an English

double decker bus and started looking for one. They struck gold in Birmingham, England. The bus was shipped to Bonaire where they took two years to do a complete remodel and customization. The Stoked bus required some technical engine work. It was outfitted with a kitchen complete with gas grill and solar panels on the top of the bus for power.

"The solar works effectively with batteries ...but we can change over and hook up to WEB if we need to," said William, "No more generator using fossil fuels."

Stoked opened for business on November 19, 2019, the exact day the first Covid

outbreak appeared in China. Like everyone else hearing the news, the partners never thought it would affect Bonaire or their new business. They were partially right, as they never closed during the corona crisis.

Unlike Bonaire's regular restaurants, all food trucks work on a personal vending permit. The original 'law' for the permit was written in 1963 for locals who used to sell Le Munchi from the back of their trucks or cars. The current permit does not allow the owners to have insurance or staff and everything used to dispense food must be disposable. And food trucks can't sell alcoholic beverages, including beer.

According to William, the government is working on new, more professional, permits for food trucks.

Currently no porcelain, glass or metal are allowed and food truck owners are hoping this will change.

William said, "Forty food trucks creating trash is insane for this island. We use three full trash bags per day of trash and that's just one truck. Everything we use for serving is plant based – forks, containers, cups; but it makes it more expensive."

**Stoked**  
continued on page 4



The big red Stoked bus parked at its Te Amo location is being painted with a 'stoked' design by Sue-Art Studio.

## FOR SALE Seru Grandi Building Lots



Exclusive off-the-grid development consisting of 14 lots

Zoning Agrarisch - Kunuku, size min. 10.010 m2

**Prices start at \$ 225,225 US Dollar**



**RE/MAX**  
PARADISE HOMES  
BONAIRE

Kaya Grandi 24-A Bonaire, Dutch Caribbean Tel. +599-717-7362  
info@bonairehomes.com www.bonairehomes.com  
f http://www.facebook.com/REMAXBonaire





# POLICE REPORT

## Property crime

**July 25.** Around 4:30 am at Te Amo beach two men and a woman took the mobile phones of three people by threatening them with a machete and a knife. The suspects then got into their car. The victims also got into their car to drive away from the situation when they heard bangs against the car. The victims drove away, but were chased by the perpetrators. The victims drove directly to the police station.

**July 26.** Between 5:30 and 6 pm, a white bicycle was stolen. The bicycle was not locked and was standing next to a vacuum cleaner of a 'car wash' on Kaya Gilberto F. Croes.

**July 26 -27.** During the night a white Igloo cool box was stolen from the back of a pickup truck parked at Kaya Francia.

**July 29.** A theft was reported at the dive site 1000 steps. Thieves took two beach bags between 3:15 and 3:30 pm while the owners were snorkeling. After a short search by the owners themselves, the bags were found among the rocks, but four cell phones, a camera, three sunglasses and cash were missing.

**July 28.** At about 2 am thieves forced entry into the front door of a business on Kaya Industria and took cash from the till.

**Between August 2 - 3,** a gray Sparta bicycle was stolen from a tourist accommodation on Kaya Internashonal. The bike was locked by the bike rack.

## Burglaries at construction sites.

**Between August 5 - 6,** thieves broke the lock of a construction container belonging to a house under construction at Kaya Embira. They stole a Hilty hammer, a circular saw and a Hilton generator, among other things.

**August 6.** A tourist accommodation under construction on Kaya Fidelia was robbed. Thieves stole 10 solar panels, two batteries, two new hobs, a wheelbarrow, two gas cylinders, two air conditioners and various tools.

**August 7.** In the early morning hours the police station received a report about a burglary at a house under construction in North Salina. Thieves broke open the lock of a construction container to steal, among other things, Makita and Milwaukee drills, two with batteries and two without, and a Makita Kango.

## Arrested/held in custody.

**July 26.** Around 1 am, three men (aged 26, 38 and 36) were arrested near Kaya Flamboyen in Rincon for aggravated assault, assault with a weapon and open assault. The victim was taken to hospital by ambulance for medical treatment.

**July 25.** During the night hours a man, 29, was arrested for assaulting and threatening the landlord of his apartment at Kaminda Djabou.

**July 28.** In the late evening hours a man, 28, was arrested at Kaya Drumstek for aggravated assault.

**August 4.** A man was arrested in connection with a sexual assault case. As usual, we do not provide additional information in sex cases.

## Traffic accidents/violations

**July 24.** A scooter was stopped on Kaya Nikiboko Noord because of its pendulum movements. The driver was banned from driving for nine hours and was charged with driving without a license, and insurance and because the vehicle had no lights. The scooter was seized.

**July 24.** On Kaya Andres Emerenciana around 4 pm the driver of the motorcycle lost control. As a result of the impact, the motorcycle split in two. The driver was taken to hospital by ambulance for medical treatment.

**July 25.** The driver stated that his pickup skidded on a bend on Kaminda Yato Bako, and ran off the road. He was treated at the scene by paramedics.

**July 30.** A dirt bike and a car collided at the intersection of the Center Area and Kaya L.D. Gerharts. The driver of the car did not see the dirt bike coming from the opposite direction. The dirt bike rider was taken to hospital by ambulance.

**August 1.** Around 6 pm, on Kaminda Lac the driver of a car lost control on a bend. The car rolled over. The driver was taken to hospital by ambulance.

**August 3.** The driver of the car had a blowout on the left side on Kaminda Piedra Krus. The driver tried to brake but crashed into a rock on the left side of the road. The driver was taken to hospital by ambulance.

**August 4.** Two cars collided at Punt Vierkant resulting in significant damage to the cars. The drivers of both cars were treated on the spot by ambulance personnel, then one driver was taken to hospital for further medical check-ups and treatment.

**August 6.** At around 8 pm, the police station received a report that a two-year-old child had been hit by a car in the Nieuw Amsterdam district. When the patrol arrived, the driver of the car had already taken the child along with the child's mother to the hospital for medical treatment.

## Traffic control

**Between July 25 - 20,** fines have been issued for driving without: valid insurance documents, a driver's license, a license plate, a helmet, and a seat belt. Fines were also issued for holding a phone while driving. Fines for the above violations range from \$30 to \$225.

**July 30.** KPCN and KMar, checked 90 and wrote 40 official reports for driving without: a valid driver's license (14); valid insurance (10); a helmet (1); valid ID (1); a seat belt (11); During the checks, three people were taken to the police station for a breath analysis. A car, scooter and moped were also seized.

**August 4.** During a traffic check on

# Ask Kate

## Bonaire real estate advice



**I live on Bonaire and need to sell my current house before I buy another one. Can I sell the house with a rent-back agreement, where I can rent it from the new owners for some months until I buy another place? I don't want to move twice.**

It depends on whether the buyers want to live in the house as soon as they buy it or use it as an investment. You can certainly ask and may even make this a condition of the sale. Many investors would be pleased to have an arrangement like this, since it means they receive rental income immediately upon buying the property. The important considerations are the monthly rent you are offering, the length of time you want to rent it, and the time of year. For instance, if you want to rent it back for four months in high season at a month-

ly rate, the Buyers may refuse and want to rent to weekly vacation renters. Your real estate agent can guide you in finding the right buyer for your property. Best of luck!!

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

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

Kaya Korona in the evening hours, 11 vehicles were checked and three official reports were issued for driving without a valid driver's license, and for driving without a seat belt.

## Public order

**July 27.** In the morning hours, a woman on a bicycle was attacked by four dogs on Kaya Caribe. The victim had injuries to her right knee and hip. To ensure the safety of others, it was decided to shoot the dogs.

**July 29.** At about 1:30 pm the police station received a report that a man was missing in the mondi in the area of Onima. The man had fallen ill and had called a relative, but he could not say exactly where he was. After a search by family, KPCN and the helicopter of the Coast Guard, the man was found. The man was then taken by helicopter to the airport where he could be met by paramedics and taken to hospital for medical treatment.

**July 31.** Saturday night from midnight

until about 3 am KPCN was called in to control fights, street racing (fevering) and music nuisance. The owner of a catering facility on Kaya L.D. Gerharts received a police report for being open after closing time. A group of more than 100 people was removed from a location in Lagun. In the Center area, the driver of a car was addressed for causing music nuisance. Also on Seru Largu, a group of 20 to 30 people was removed from the location after a report of music nuisance.

**August 2.** In the afternoon hours an on-duty patrol found three bags filled with white powder which resembled cocaine. The bags were on a fire pit in the Center area. The bags were taken for examination.

**August 8,** around 1 am, an official report was issued to a catering facility in the Center area during an inspection. The owner did not meet the 12 noon closing time.

**Did you see anything suspicious? Call 911 or 717 8000 or the anonymous tip line 717 7251.**

## Stoked, continued from page 3

Stoked believes these outdated requirements will change soon.

The double decker bus has the ability for inside dining and on top of the bus. With a change in permits, the owners hope to be able to serve their menu items on nicely designed non-disposable plates to compliment their food.

Like the bus, the food is a bit different with homemade sauces and marinades for each entrée.

William makes most of dishes. Over the years he picked up his culinary skills from some talented chefs.

"They taught me about cooking and I did the graphic design and food photography for their dishes- a fair trade," said William.

Stoked serves four types of burgers; three types of wraps; sandwiches or salad; two vegetarian items - a veggie

burger or falafel; fresh local tuna when available and a very different side order of potato wedges with a pesto mayo and black sesame. The steak and chicken are imported from Canada.

With a change in food truck permits, William and Mitch are working on the idea of a food truck festival season with music and different types of food and drink.

And later this week you will see a change in the big red bus. William and Sue-Art Studio put their heads to together and designed a totally new look for the bus. Sue is painting divers, windsurfers, kite surfers, marine life and more on the big red bus, everything that says STOKED.

The Stoked food truck is parked daily at Te Amo beach outlook. Open from 1-8pm. Visit our new restaurant guide online for a direct link. *Story and photos Julie Morgan*



# Bikers ready for 23rd Annual Bonaire Day Bike Week



**Scuba Bikers clubhouse is open from 4pm – midnight during bike week. And if you're still around after bike week, the club is open Fridays at 6pm. The club does a Sunday ride every Sunday at 1pm.**

**Scuba Bikers and Iron Rockets at home: L-R Vampire, Basboll, Sparrow, Bongo, Mr Cool, Chillen Nice, Iron Lady and Braceman**

This will be the 23rd year local and inter-island motorcycle clubs have taken part in a celebration ride for Bonaire Flag Day. Bikers know it as Bonaire Day Biker's Week and it is only three weeks away, September 3 – 7th. This annual biker event is one of a kind on Bonaire and promises to be high energy with local and neighboring island bike clubs coming to reunite with friends and enjoy some great rides.

Last year, Bonaire's local clubs joined together for the ride in limited capacity due to covid. Neighboring island bikers were not allowed due to the coronavirus restrictions. But the 2021 ride looks promising and who knows the number of bikes that will be rumbling along the roads with the return of Aruba and Curaçao's clubs.

Orlando Francisco of the Caribbean Pirates chapter of the Iron Order, reports the numbers this year could possibly rival the 2011 bike week when 13 containers full of bikes were unloaded on Bonaire. This year registered attendees to date are 42 from Aruba and 78 from Curaçao. In addition Bonaire's five local bike clubs will join the celebration: Scuba Bikers, Caribbean Rockets, Iron Order, Nomad Tribes and Island Bikers.

Iron Rocket president "Vampire" Eugene Emers said, "I hope there won't be a problem. The whole event depends on everyone coming together and following the covid rules."

Orlando, owner of Rento-Fun, is in charge of the permits and organizing the rides. He has set up areas at Rento-Fun and MCB for bike parking. Ride departure times have been laid out for individuals so as not to allow people to gather which could possibly pose a problem with covid. All the rides begin at Rento-Fun

Registration for local bikers begins on Thursday, Sept. 2. Registration and unloading the containers full of bikes from Aruba and Curacao will follow on Sept. 3.

Three organized rides are scheduled: Saturday, Sunday and the final Flag Day ride on Monday, September 6.

The Scuba Bikers and Iron Rockets have joined forces for bike week to provide BBQ, food and drinks along with musical entertainment at their clubhouse located at 8 Kaya Princes Marie. Everyone, male and female, is welcome to come by and kick back, talk bikes and enjoy during bike week from 4pm to midnight. And if you're still around after bike week, the club is open Fridays at 6pm and you can enjoy a Sunday ride every Sunday at 1pm.

The Saturday ride to Tres Montaña will end with a celebration organized by Nomad Tribes Bonaire and Curaçao chapters. Bikers can enjoy music from Foyan Boys and Grupo Timon. The bands will play from a movable trailer set up as a stage for safe covid distancing from the crowd. Local families are invited to come enjoy the music and the food trucks.

On Sunday, the Island Bikers are having a soup festival at Rento-Fun after the ride with every kind of soup imaginable for a reasonable price.

The official Bonaire Day ride is Sept 6. It ends in Rincon at the famous Rose Inn where food will be provided. Bikers will be recognized for their participation and plaques will be awarded.

September 7 is the final day and also when everyone packs up, cleans up and loads up the bikes.

For hotel information and sponsors of the 23rd Anniversary Bonaire Day Biker's Week contact Caribbean Pirates or visit their website at <https://ironorder-mc.com>.

Actual schedule for Bonaire Day Biker's Week will be published in the next Reporter or Facebook page when available. *Story and photo Julie Morgan.*

## 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.*

### Checking cruise ship visitors

To the editor:

So far nothing has been heard from the government as to how cruise ship visitors will be checked for Covid. Airline passengers are required to show proof that they are negative within 24 to 48 hours prior to arrival. Will cruise ship passengers be tested on board by cruise ship nurses? If so, will someone from the government meet them on the dock and check their test paperwork as is done at the airport? Or will a Bonarian testing center be arranged to do our own testing before the passengers and crew are allowed to disembark and visit the island?

The US is in crisis regarding the Alpha virus (Covid) and Delta virus as are other countries who's citizens may want to cruise to Bonaire. Bonaire residents should be given assurance that they will be protected from potential infection from the thousands of cruise ship tourists about to descend upon us.

What are the government's plans to make sure we aren't forced yet again into lockdown courtesy of the cruise ship tourists? With the impending invasion of these visitors the residents of Bonaire are entitled to know how they will be protected. So ..... what's the plan?

*Dabney Lassiter*



### Kids fly off to school.

**Excitement and anticipation reigned at Flamingo Airport August 3 as 16 Bonaire young adults headed off to university in the Netherlands. Friends and family said their good-byes and wished the students the best in the next chapter of their lives. The students who we talked to plan to study law, social work and psychiatric care. A total of 25 students from Bonaire, Statia and Saba will be beginning their studies in the Netherlands this year.**

## Galileo sensor station to be built on Bonaire

A Galileo sensor station will be constructed on Bonaire. Galileo, Europe's own global navigation satellite system, provides a highly accurate, guaranteed positioning system under civilian control.

Galileo began operation in 2016 and has continued to expand since. When completed it will consist of 24 operational satellites and six in-orbit spares. The satellites will be positioned in three circular medium earth orbits at an altitude of 23,222 km.

Galileo can operate in conjunction with GPS and Glonass, the US and Russian military global satellite navigation systems. It provides one-meter accuracy. It also incorporates an innovative global Search and Rescue (SAR) function that not only receives emergency location data but sends a response signal

as well. The person who broadcasts the emergency signal is informed that his location is known and help is on the way.

The Bonaire sensor station will be built on the WEB property along the Queen's Highway. It will consist of three 2.5 meter satellite dishes and an unmanned building with rooms for computers and receivers, storage, office space and a guardhouse for security personnel. Construction will start in mid-2022.

The Public Entity also hopes to secure the Galileo Telemetry Tracking and Command (TT&C) facility for Bonaire. The facility will provide the connection between the satellites and the facilities on the ground. It will monitor the status and controls of the satellites and determine their locations. *DMR*



# Poyck captures a rare photo



Bert Poyck, long time resident of Bonaire, captured a rare photo of the green flash on the island. People see the green when the sun is almost entirely below the horizon, with the barest edge visible. For a second or two, that upper rim of the sun appears green.

According to Earthsky.org, in order to capture the green flash Poyck would have needed a clear day with no haze or cloud on the horizon and a distant horizon with a distinct edge, conditions most often found over water.

Poyck also needed a quick finger. The green flash lasts only about a second at our latitude.

According to John Lindsey, marine meteorologist: "The green flash is an optical phenomenon, a byproduct of a mirage appearing slightly above the horizon. The cause of this green-colored mirage is mostly due to atmospheric dispersion. The shorter wavelengths of blue and violet light are scattered to a much greater extent than the red and yellow hues by the air we breathe — that's why the sky is blue.

"As the sun sets, the longer wavelengths of the reds and yellows disappear first, leaving behind the greens. In other words, the red image of the sun sets or disappears first, followed by yellow and then finally the green."

Lindsey tells us that the green flash can last much longer at the Arctic and Antarctic latitudes. During the equinox, the sun moves along the horizon for an extended period of time. Admiral Byrd reported seeing the green flash off and on for over half an hour during his expedition to the South Pole during the September equinox.

Photography was always one of Poyck's hobbies. While living in Europe he did some work for a country magazine in Holland and went to concerts in Holland and England.

Poyck said, "Great times, didn't get paid for the photos but I always had a backstage pass and free entrance, super memories. In those days I had to carry a case with a camera, several lenses, rolls of film, light filters etc. The Canon camera I use now is small, light, has a 50x optical lens and 20.3 megapixels."

In August 1999 Poyck and his wife moved from Holland to Bonaire. He had a photo exhibition here on Bonaire in Hotel Rochaline in 2003, and for many years had a booth at the Cruise market where he sold photographs to tourists. Over the years on Bonaire he has played with the band Back On Track. *BLL/DMR*

(Green flash sources: Santa Ynez Valley News / syvnews.com earthsky.org.)



## Comfortable banking

Orco Bank is your personal banker in Curaçao, Bonaire and St. Martin. Entrust all your banking needs to us and be sure to receive the most courteous and competent of services available. With ample experience operating in the international arena, we offer expert advice and the perfect platform to design a mortgage tailor-made to your needs.

At Orco Bank, it's all about your comfort: knowing that your finances are well taken care of, so you can enjoy a carefree lifestyle!

## Orco Majestic: the ultimate feeling of freedom and comfort

Orco Majestic is our private banking service for select customers only. No other bank in Curaçao, Bonaire or St. Martin will offer you more personal attention or privileges. We provide a complete package of extraordinary banking products featuring attractive conditions and lots of extras. Your freedom, comfort and flexibility are our first priority.

*Majestic Current Account | Majestic Savings Account | Majestic Mortgage | Majestic Car Loan*

*The Majestic Lifestyle: you deserve it!*

Kaya Grandi #48, Bonaire  
Tel: (599) 717-2000 Fax: (599) 717-2035  
www.orcobank.com  
email: john.soliano@orcobank.com



Your Personal Banker

## TCB Recognizes Six Bonaire Ambassadors



Bonaire Ambassadors Lori and Daniel Kinkade with TCB's Helen Mercera-Thodé

Recently Tourism Corporation Bonaire (TCB) recognized six visitors as Bonaire Ambassadors.

Gold medals were given to Daniel and Lori Kinkade who have visited for 27 years, Douglas Grawe ( a 20 year visitor) and Cees Luckhardt (a 21 year visitor). Paul and Marsha Stamatakis, who have visited Bonaire for 14 years, were honored with bronze medals.

Mrs. Helen Mercera-Thodé of TCB thanked the ambassadors and presented them with their certificates and medals.

For more photographs, visit our online pages: [Breaking News](#).





## Bonaire to ban single-use plastics maybe, or something

In April Statia passed a law prohibiting business from distributing single-use plastic items after October 1, 2021. Judging from an August 2 press release issued by the Public Entity Bonaire, some thought has been given to a ban on single use plastics here too.

According to the press release, on October 30, 2018 the Island Council passed a motion to ban single-use plastics. The press release goes on to report that the 2018 Council motion led to a March 29, 2021 decision by the Executive Council to approve the proposal to eliminate single-use plastic by means of a regulation. The intention to pass a regulation was confirmed in a letter of intent signed by the Public Entity Bonaire and the Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management.

“The declaration of intent and the single-use plastic directive form an important basis for the Action Plan,” according to the press release, which concludes, “This regulation is part of the current governance program and provides scope to dispose of single-use plastic products in an orderly manner. The Executive Council has chosen to regulate this in the regulation for disposable products, in order to find a better connection and thus to implement the ban on single-use plastic products as quickly as possible.”

The press release also says that banning disposable plastics is a good idea for Bonaire. *DMR*

## TCB says Bonaire needs more rooms

According to the Tourist Council (TCB) Bonaire will need more than 700 additional rooms to accommodate the increase in overnight visitors expected in 2022. With more airlift coming from the U.S., the island's present capacity, almost 2200 tourists, will not meet the predicted demand.

During 2020 more than 400 rooms were added. All immediate growth must come in the form of new additions or expansion projects within existing hotels and accommodations, such as at Delfins Beach Resort, Plaza Resort Bonaire and Captain Don's Habitat. The projected growth will create more than 1000 direct jobs in the tourism sector next year, according to the TCB. *DMR (Bonaire.nu)*

## Woman bitten, dogs shot

The police report that a woman on a bicycle was attacked by four dogs on Kaya Caribe on Tuesday morning, July 27. The victim was injured in her right knee and hip. Deeming the dogs to be a hazard to public safety, the police elected to shoot them. The police proceeded carefully to assure the safety of people in the area.

The police say reports of aggressive stray dogs are increasing, especially accounts of people being bitten and needing medical treatment. The reports range from dogs killing chickens and goats to attacking people. People riding bicycles and scooters seem to be favorite targets. They are not only in danger of being bitten, they are vulnerable to traffic accidents as well.

The KPCN warns people that the owner of a dog is responsible its behavior. Dogs should be kept home by good fencing or other restraints. They also should be well socialized and trained. There are people on the island who can help. *DMR*

## EZ Air gets new plane

EZ Air is working on building an expanded market for its new, more spacious Saab aircraft. It considers perfect for flying between lower traffic destinations. EZ Air recently performed a demonstration flight between Bonaire and St. Eustatius. Given burgeoning tourism on the island, EZ Air director René Winkel hopes the government or the private sector will subsidize service to

Statia. The new aircraft will mainly be used on routes between the ABC islands and to Colombia. EZ Air already flies twice a week to Barranquilla and plans to add service to Medellin. *DMR (Bonaire.nu)*

## “Bolies” devaluated again

What do Venezuelans get if they delete six 0s from one million Bolivars? They get a Bolivar. But they still need two shopping bags, one to carry their purchases and the other to carry their money.

The corrupt government of President Nicolás Maduro has badly mismanaged the Venezuelan economy. Hyperinflation has rendered the Bolivar worthless. The government has printed new bills with fewer zeros, but all serious business is done in \$US, a fact of life the Maduro government has finally accepted. People and businesses can now open \$US accounts. *DMR (Koninkrijk)*

## Kiran Badloe, Olympic gold medalist, visits Bonaire

Kiran Badloe, who learned to wind surf as a child on Bonaire, won a gold medal at the Summer Olympics in Tokyo. Badloe, 26, lived on Bonaire between the ages of seven and ten and started windsurfing lessons at Sorobon as a 9-year-old in 2003, competing the first time at Regatta. Elvis Martinus, who taught him, remembers him as a promising newcomer who took to the sport quickly.

Badloe recently travelled to Bonaire as the guest of the TCB. Badloe indicated he will train on Bonaire for the Paris Olympics in 2024. “A training location with constant wind and good weather conditions is literally worth gold,” he said. While he was here he traded memories with Bonaire's Constantino “Patun” Saragoza, a gold medalist who competed in the Olympic Games in Barcelona ('92) and Atlanta ('96). *DMR*

## STCB protects sea turtle nests

Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire (STCB) has had a busy turtle week! It started Sunday with a daytime hatching at Plaza Resort. Around 3:30 pm, STCB was informed of hatchlings emerging from the first nest laid at Plaza. Due to the location of the nest at a busy beach with artificial lights, STCB had placed a barrier around the nest and a cage on top of it to prevent hatchlings from wandering inland. It was very important to leave the cage on the nest until STCB staff arrived, to protect the hatchlings and give them the biggest chance at survival. On Sunday afternoon, 118 hatchlings emerged from the nest and were released later that day in the south of Bonaire, where they safely made their way to the sea.

On Tuesday morning, STCB staff and volunteers built a fence at Playa Chikitu, Bonaire's main green turtle nesting site. The fence was built to prevent nesting sea turtles from entering the cliff area just north of Playa Chikitu where they might get lost or injure themselves. Not only was the Playa Chikitu fence successful, but STCB also recorded a new nest laid just the night before.

And that was not all. On Tuesday night, staff was informed that the nest at Harbour Village was hatching. Similar to the nest at Plaza Resort, STCB had placed a cage on this nest to prevent hatchlings from wandering inland where they could die of dehydration. STCB staff collected 98 loggerhead hatchlings and safely released them in the south where there are no artificial lights.

Most likely around the same time that these hatchlings emerged from their nest, a hawksbill turtle came ashore at Donkey Beach and laid the first nest of 2021 on this beach. Since Te Amo and Donkey Beach attract a lot of visitors and are located opposite the Airport with artificial lights, STCB will protect this nest with a barrier and a cage. The cage will be placed close to the expected hatching date.

***Nesting season is a critical time for sea turtles on Bonaire's beaches. Nesting and hatching most often occur at night. When a nest needs additional protection, for example due to light pollution, STCB places a barrier to inform the public and a cage to keep hatchlings safe when they emerge from their nest. When you see a nesting turtle, a hatching event or a turtle in trouble, please contact STCB at +599 780 0433 and wait for further instructions. Please do not remove the cage or interfere in any other way. Thank you for respecting our nature!***

*Kaj Schut, Manager*

*Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire*

*<http://www.bonaireturtles.org>*

*STCB is starting public presentations again next week, after 1.5 years! It will be at Yellow Sub, every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month, at 8:00pm. For now, we ask people to register by email ([stcb@bonaireturtles.org](mailto:stcb@bonaireturtles.org)) because of the covid regulations.*







# Reef Glimpses

by Dee Scarr



**This glorious photo of Caribbean reef squid was taken by Julie Morgan. Happily, she could make the photo without worrying about being attacked by the squid. I didn't have to worry when I photographed Caribbean reef squid, either, but my photo is definitely not glorious. We're delighted to present Julie's.**

boat, and a colleague was fishing. When the fisherman hooked a large thresher shark, it was followed to the surface by one squid, and soon others joined the party.

Howard had enjoyed filming a squid who paid no attention to him at all; it was fully concentrating on ripping bite-sized chunks from one of the hanging fish. Emboldened, Howard reached out to touch the squid – and an arm grabbed the back of his hand. Luckily, he was able to yank his hand away from the squid, but not before its sucker “teeth” drew blood.

Meanwhile, three more squid ascended, following the scent trail of the bait –

but they found Alex first. One moment he was hovering, and the next moment he was being dragged backwards and down. He was able to break free – I'm betting a huge adrenaline rush helped – but the squids escaped with his dive computer (which had been attached to his pressure gauge), his dive light (which had been attached to his wrist), and the gold chain he had worn around his neck. In exchange, the squid left him with torn skin (one disadvantage of a strong chain), a disinterest in diving for the rest of the night, and a question we're all glad didn't get answered: what would have happened if Alex hadn't broken free?

Some sources estimate there are more than 500 species of squid – so it's not surprising that squid live everywhere in the marine world (but, for the record, nowhere in the freshwater world). Some live in ocean depths down to almost 5000' (1500 m), some in the shallows; there are warm-water squid and cold-water squid; some live near the bottom, others near the surface, others in mid-water; some squid travel from the depths to the surface daily (or, more accurately, nightly). The largest invertebrate on Earth is the Giant Squid; individuals up to 60' (18 m) long have been found. Other types

of squid barely reach an inch and a half (4 cm).

One thing most squid have in common is the short lifespan of one to three years, although the Giant Squid is believed to live much longer.

One other thing most squid have in common is that they don't live around Bonaire, so my daydream of diving with a (living) 3' (1m) squid will probably never happen. On the other hand, after reading about Alex's experience with toothy-suckered squid, I think I can handle my disappointment. Heh heh.

And the exception to squid not living around Bonaire is our Caribbean Reef Squid, so much more than a consolation prize! They spend a lot of time hovering, so hovering with them is a functional and entertaining way for us to practice buoyancy control. Plus, the more motionlessly we hover, the more comfortable these squid are with our presence. The ultimate challenge would be to get the squid interested in us, so that they move closer to see what's going on. I've had some success with positioning my body and holding my arms out the same way theirs are at the time. I'm looking forward to their reactions to air rings.

Much about squid couldn't be included here due to space restrictions. One of my most interesting sources is Mark Norman's *Cephalopods: A World Guide*, Conch Books, 2003. It contains, in addition to the usual ID information, more than 30 “picture stories” that give fascinating insights into these animals. Irresistible titles include *Glowing Little Squids*, *Mythology of the Kraken*, and *The Night of Love and Death*.

*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.” Dee's books are available for purchase at the Carib Inn on Bonaire or through touch-thesea.com.*

**DIVE FRIENDS BONAIRE**

**QUARTERLY CLEAN UP DIVES 2021**

JANUARY 23<sup>RD</sup> - APRIL 24<sup>TH</sup> - JULY 24<sup>TH</sup> - OCTOBER 23<sup>RD</sup>

**DE FREEWIELER**

**Sales & Repair:**  
**Road, Mountain & Dutch Bikes.**  
Giant, Specialized, Bikkell  
& Golden Lion Bikes  
Parts and accessories for all brands of bikes  
Beautiful bike clothes, shoes, helmets  
House and car keys duplicated  
Kaya Grandi #61 “The blue building”  
Open 8:30-12:30, 14:00-17:00  
Owner Operated Call 717-8545

Website: [www.freewielerbonaire.com](http://www.freewielerbonaire.com)  
Email: [freewieler@bonairefreewieler.com](mailto:freewieler@bonairefreewieler.com)

**Buena vista**

**Perfect service and Quality. Our Passion!**  
Experienced Staff • Eye Exams on Site • Insurance Accepted • Advanced Equipment  
Lens Fabrication • Over 1000 different frames and sunglasses:  
Ray Ban, Oakley, Maui Jim and more. Mon-Fri 9-12; 2-6

Kaya Grandi 36 **Optics** Tel: +599-7179181

**Reach 1000s of customers**  
**Advertise in The Bonaire Reporter**  
(+599)796 4055 [info@bonairereporter.com](mailto:info@bonairereporter.com)



**Yhannis Arepas**  
Venezuelan "fresh food"  
DINE- IN GARDEN  
TAKE-AWAY  
Mon-Thursday 2-7pm  
Fri 12am -10pm Sat-Sun Closed  
+599-788-0035  
Kaya Neerlandia 21-behind Budget Marine

**STOKED**  
BURGERS  
SANDWICHES  
WRAPS  
FRESH TUNA  
SALADS  
VEGETARIAN  
786-6613

**OSCAR Lighthouse**  
Open 8am-12pm  
599-717-2009  
www.oscarlighthouse.com-info@oscarlighthouse.com  
International/French/Local/ Breakfast Lunch Dinner  
Waterfront Seating - Lounge w/ Full Bar  
Dinner Reservations -Dinner Guide \$\$

**Breeze n' Bites**  
Seaside Lunch n' Dinner  
Thurs-Sun 11:30-3 / 5-9 & Mon 5-9  
Thursday Burger Night  
Two hour Happy Hour  
Next to Den Laman 599-717-3003

**TURKISH FASTFOOD**  
KAYA GOVERNADOR N. DEBROT 66  
7874100 HATO  
MON/SAT 11AM/10PM  
SUN 12PM/8PM  
KAYA INDUSTRIA 29  
7828106  
MON/FRI 11AM/7PM  
SAT 11AM/4PM  
Takeout and seating outside  
tripadvisor rating 5

**DONER STATION**  
BY FRESH MARKET  
LIFE IS SHORT.  
EAT SOMEWHERE  
AWESOME!

**Bonaire Rum Runners**  
restaurant & cocktailbar  
Open 7 Days a Week  
Breakfast-Lunch-Dinner  
Great Custom Made Cocktails  
Spectacular Sea View  
Captain Don's Habitat +599-717-8290

South American Cuisine with a Caribbean Twist  
Monday-Friday 6-10 pm  
LIVE Music Tuesday & Friday  
599-717-6731  
Gov. Debrot 79 - Reservations - www.EddysBonaire.com

**STADSCHAPE HET CONSULAAT**  
Open for Lunch and Dinner  
Tues - Sat 11am - 12am  
Kaya LD Gerharts 9 599-700-5820

**Beer and Burgers**  
Tues-Thurs 5-10pm  
Kaya Simon Bolivar 21 / 599-777-2907  
https://www.facebook.com/beerburgersbonaire

RIBS-STEAK-VEGGIE-SEAFOOD  
Interior Seaview - Harbourside Mall  
Dinner 6-9:30pm - Closed Weds  
Reservations 717-4600  
**The King of Ribs**

**Umbrella**  
International Menu  
Lounge-Cocktails  
Waterfront  
Weds - Mon 5-10pm  
Closed Tuesday  
717-3313  
Reservations on https://umbrellabonaire.com

**Diver's Diner**  
Max All You Can Eat Paella  
Dinner- Tex Mex  
Thurs-Burger Night  
Weds-CLOSED  
Fri-BBQ  
Sat-Mix & Match  
HAPPY HOUR 5:30-7:30  
Kaya Korsou #1 +599-788-3679

**Maya's Corner Cafe**  
DAILY FRESH FOOD  
The best flavors in the flamingo!!!  
Kaya Grandi 34 (parkeerplaats Belastingkantoor) (across parking lot taxoffice)  
Phone: +599 7859191  
mayascornercafe

**Bobbejan's**  
717-4783  
BBQ  
WEEKENDS & TAKE AWAY ONLY  
Friday Saturday Sunday 6-10 PM

**12 Flavors of REAL Ice Cream**  
Made in Curacao  
Shakes  
Banana Split  
Hotdogs  
Lovers Juice  
Tues-Sat 2-9pm  
Sun 3-9pm  
Closed Mon  
701-6700  
Kaya Caracas 26

Still available

Coming next issue

Still available



# Did You Know?

*that culture, once thought to be something only humans were capable of, has been documented in a variety of other animals including orangutans, chimpanzees, dolphins and even some fish?*

Before we continue a caveat: culture, in this context, is defined as information that can't be inherited, but is being passed down from one generation to the next through a process called social learning. Social learning is when an animal learns a new behavior by observing other members, usually older and more experienced, of the same species. This new behaviour then spreads within the group until a majority of the group members exhibit it; sometimes with minor modifications to make it more "their own". Traditionally culture had been defined as "the arts and other manifestations of human intellectual achievement regarded collectively". The problem with this definition is that it rules out not only any behaviors, values, or expressions not deemed to be "art", but also any displays of behaviour that has been learned and passed on by other species. A more nuanced way to think about culture is to look at it as "the ideas, customs, and social behaviour[s] of a society". This expanded definition lets us not only include the often marginalized and overlooked social norms and practices of black, indigenous, and other people of color (BIPOC) as expressions of culture, as we should, but also those funny and interesting behaviors we observe in animals that are clearly much more than just instinct.

Some behaviors are hard-wired in; these are things we often refer to as instinct. An animal knows how to react without having to be taught how to do it. But, one can imagine that a response that makes sense in one environment, could be the completely wrong reaction in a different environment. Or, sometimes, there's just a more efficient way to achieve the same result. This is where learning comes in. There are many examples in the animal kingdom of different animals learning "new tricks". For instance: there are birds who have learned to fish using pieces of bread to lure fish, making them easier to catch. But the ability to discover something beneficial alone isn't enough. It is not that effective if

only one member of the group can engage in this behaviour; ideally you want some useful piece of information that makes your life easier, to be shared with, and then adopted by, other members of your group for generations to come. Considering there are many ways to get to Rome, it is entirely possible that two populations of the same species will come up with different ways of achieving the same outcome. One example of this, and also a good example of what cultural knowledge in animals looks like, is that of Forest Chimpanzees. Two groups in the same environment and with the same problem, i.e. needing to get honey out of a fallen log, came up with different solutions: while one group would use sticks to get the honey, the other group used chewed up leaves acting like a sponge. In both groups the techniques have stuck around for multiple generations.

Besides in chimpanzees and other great apes, cultural knowledge has also been observed in many bird species and, of course, in fishes. Social learning in fishes has now been observed in many fish species and for different behaviors like avoiding predators, finding foraging grounds, selecting mates and mating sites, and migration and navigation just to mention a few. One striking example is that of African tigerfish. In the Shroda Dam, South Africa, the resident population has started preying on swallows chasing insects just above the surface water. This behaviour, learned by the youngsters from the more experienced members, has spread throughout the group and can be observed quite regularly.

Unfortunately, cultural knowledge acquired by social learning, part of the shared consciousness of the group, just like happens with many human traditions, is lost when the older and more informed, usually the bigger fish, are removed from the group. This is certainly one of the tragedies of fish populations that have declined



**Bonaire's large midnight parrotfish have become the target of fishing and their populations are dwindling.**

due to overfishing or other human pressures. Fisheries preferentially target bigger and older individuals. Once they disappear the knowledge of migratory routes and their destinations disappears with them. Since culture, once lost, is near impossible to get back, this might play a role in why some fish populations aren't rebounding even when the outside factors threatening the population are taken away; their group memory, also important for the wellbeing of the population, has disappeared.

*Roxanne-Liana Francisca. STINAPA Biologist. Connecting People With Nature. Photo Julie Morgan*



## 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.

### When you change the way you see things...

#### Reflection For Today

*"Change the way you look at things and the things you look at change." - Wayne Dyer*

#### Tip For Today

"Are you a pessimist or an optimist, Swinda?"

"Oh, boy...here comes another one of her philosophy lectures!", Swinda was thinking as she rolled her eyes.

"Chichi, can't we just stretch and start our Malecon Sunset Powerwalk?"

"Let me help you to figure it out through this example, Swinda! A pessimist sees the glass as half empty, and an optimist sees the glass as half full..."

"We all encounter obstacles in our lives, Swinda, pretty much on a daily basis. And how we see things, as a pessimist or as an optimist, matters!"

Swinda thought that her best friend was on to something, and she began to reflect on the Covid-19 pandemic...

"Does the pandemic only provide us with obstacles, frustration, and heartache, or does it also provide us with new opportunities for success?", she thought.

When you are confronted with obstacles in your life, here's what you should remember...

#### 1. We give meaning to everything.

What meaning are you giving to that situation, that conversation, that action, that ...?

#### 2. The meaning we give to things impacts our feelings and actions.

Are you impacting your feelings and actions in a negative or in a positive and constructive way?

#### 3. Every cloud has a silver lining.

Remember...

When we change the way we see things, the things we see change.

Successful people choose to see things in a way that sets them up for success!

"So, Swinda...are you a pessimist, or an optimist?", Chichi asked her bestie, referring to the glass-half-empty or glass-half-full example.

"Chichi, I am Swinda, and I see the glass as refillable!"

"I'm ready to start our Malecon Sunset Powerwalk...try to keep up!"

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."*

## Poem for Today

### I Am Woman

*I am all womanly as can be  
I am the strength of my mother  
The perseverance of my grandmother  
The will power of my female ancestors*

*In me lives the beauty of possibility  
thinking  
The protective spirit of a mother  
The seeds of unconditional love  
And the tenderness of gods*

*I am my picture of feminism  
The embodiment of purpose  
The courage to succeed  
Embracing vulnerability as the source of my creativity*

*I am woman  
I am the woman I need me to be*

*Nifa Ansano, Creative Talent Coordinator  
Curaçao*

*I love that poetry portrays a perception of reality that might trigger change and I thrive to connect with others through my poems.*



## Bonaire Warehouse is closed



A look at the latest expansion of Bonaire Warehouse. The store will re-open on August 19th.

Shoppers who ventured into Bonaire Warehouse to shop last week were surprised to see empty shelves and no one restocking products. Some were reminded of strikes in Curacao a few years back, and when the cruise ships monopolized the piers preventing delivery of food stuffs and other much needed products.

The bad news is Bonaire Warehouse closed on August 7. The good news is that closure is only temporary. When Warehouse reopens on August 19, the store will be twice as big with more products at the best prices on island. And that is not an empty claim.

According to Unkoban, the Bonaire consumer association, Warehouse delivered the cheapest prices of 15 Bonaire super markets month after month in 2019.

And in March 2020, Statista, price index for the Caribbean said, "Warehouse Bonaire was by far the most low-priced supermarket on the island of Bonaire."

For the last two years, Warehouse has been undergoing major remodeling changes. Its behind the scenes expansion is finally nearing completion.

A year ago shoppers saw welcome changes to the fruit, vegetable, dairy and bakery areas. The expanded areas allowed more products and variety.

Sander van Amstel, Warehouse manager for the last two and a half years, said, "We will have 500 new frozen food products from the Jumbo brand. And next week, I expect to hear information regarding new contracts with U.S. vendors for more products."

In addition to the new frozen food area, shoppers can expect more toys, kitchen utensils, housewares, cleaning products, gardening products and even clothing.

In the meantime, a lot of work remains: redoing the old concrete floor, painting and stocking of course. Warehouse is also adding 18 new parking spaces in the rear of the building.

Warehouse currently employs 19 people but could be hiring more with the expansion. Amstel explained that the company wants to help people make a living. One employee has been with the company for 25 years and another for 10.

"We are for the people on Bonaire. We do a lot of things for the island...we aren't just a company, we want to help the island. I think it's important to not only take, but give back," said Amstel.

During Covid-19, Warehouse donated products close to expiration to different charities, sponsored cooking events and contributed food in the barrios. The super-

market also supports the beach cleanups with various products and donations.

The grand re-opening is Thursday, August 19 at 8 am. Warehouse will feature specially priced items throughout the store and many in the new frozen foods department, so come prepared. In celebration of the new expansion, Warehouse will continue weekly specials till the end of the year. *Story and photos Julie Morgan*



Manager Sander van Amstel and Bonaire Warehouse employee of 10 years, Aldrin Cicilia, working to get the new freezer and cooler area space set up.

## August Funrace scheduled



### Attention bikers.

The second funrace of 2021 is scheduled for Sunday, August 29 in Barcadera. Two alternate routes are planned. Bikers can choose to ride the Fun race (four 5-kilometer laps) or the Elite route (three 9-kilometer laps).

The start and finish of the race is on the dirt road at the north end of Sabadeco. The race starts at 8 am; the location will be open at 7 am. Frank Bohm of De Freewieler suggests that riders can see this race as a training for the Duo Xtreme in September.

The funrace is sponsored by Pink Coral iT. The registration fee is \$10. Riders can register at De Freewieler or on location. Sports drinks and water will be available.



## Young Bonaireans star in writing competition

A delegation from Arte di Palabra Bonaire took eight young writers to Aruba for a literary competition between the ABC Islands.

Bonaire's eight competitors read a total of ten works, won ten of twenty-one prizes, and won first place in four of the six categories. In the original poetry category they won all the prizes.

First prize winners were Ramso Coffy, Irlenska Martinus, and Jeaniro Dorothea. Other members of the team were Lygaira Pieters, Maria-Luisa Troncon, Juriella Josephia, Akeesha Cicilia and Radinka Alberto. Their literary supervisor was Jonathan de Wind. *DMR*





# What's Happening

**Washington Slagbaai:** Wed-Sun. 8-5 (entry up to 1 pm)  
**STINAPA headquarters:** Mon-Fri 8-2. +599 717 8444.  
+599 777 8444.

**Animal Shelter:** Open fully. Mon-Fri 10-1; 2-3:30. Sat. 10-2:30. phone/whatsapp: 7014989 or 7174989. Email: animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com

**Pakus di Pruga (Shelter flea market store):** Saturdays from 8 - 4. Masks required.

Wednesdays Aug <b>11 &amp; 25</b>	<b>Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire (STCB)</b> Free Public presentation 8 pm at Yellow Submarine. Please register by email (stcb@bonaireturtles.org) because of the covid regulations.
Thursday Aug <b>12</b>	<b>Information session on the University of Curaçao's bachelor program: International Hospitality &amp; Tourism Management.</b> 10-11 am. Captain Don's Habitat (Aquarius Room). Register by email ....sef.office@uoc.cw
Sunday Aug <b>29</b>	<b>Pink Coral iT bike race</b> Race start 8 am. \$10. At Barcadera. Fun race: 5 km. Elite race: 9 km. See page 11 & 16.
September <b>3 - 6</b>	<b>23rd Annual Flag Day Rally</b> See page 5.

**Open meeting Alcoholics Anonymous**  
Every Thursday, 7 - 8 pm. International Bible Church Kaya Papago 104 in Hato (Behind Bon Bida Spa and Gym and Bon Bida apartments) All welcome, regardless of primary addition or no addition at all.

**Free public presentations**  
**Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire (STCB).** Public presentations begin again this August, after 1.5 years. They will be at Yellow Submarine, every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month, at 8pm. For now, STCB asks people to register by email (stcb@bonaireturtles.org) because of the covid regulations.

**Free Seniors Seminar.** 9-11am Mondays. Bonaire Botanical Garden. The seminars are about getting people together to exchange ideas and points of view. Learn about healthy nutrition, exercises, mental fitness, manufacturing local products and more. To participate please call the management: +599 777 0508 or +599 770 8853.



**The Bonaire Reporter's own "DMR" has published A Wyoming Kid on Amazon, with cover design by Julie Morgan. When Don was coming of age, boys and young men in the Mountain West could engage challenges, risks, and freedoms unknown to today's urban youth. The book is a collection of memoirs but not an autobiography. Don is a raconteur. His first person accounts are not the story of his life but stories from his life.**

# Interested in Bonaire's geology?

Everyone who loves Bonaire has questions about the island's geology.

How was the island formed and when? What is the actual composition of the island's topographical structures?

All your questions will be answered in a three-part fun class on the geology of Bonaire by Andre Nahr.

Session one and two are scheduled for Tuesday, August 24 and Thursday, August 26 from 7pm -9pm in Captain Don's Habitat Buckley Room. Session three brings everything together in a fun field trip on Saturday, August 28 from 9am to 1 pm.

Cost for the class is \$95, payable in cash at the class or by bank transfer. For more information call 786-2227 or sign up by email – geology.andrenahr@gmail.com.



## Parrots and People

by The Echo Team

### Returning Loras to the wild

Friday, July 30th Echo released five Yellow-Shouldered Amazon Parrots (Loras) into the wild. The success of this "soft release" proved that our parrots belong in the wild, and if the chance is given to them, they will thrive and continue to fly free.

The five birds were released at 10 am to give them a chance to fill their tummies before leaving to settle in Bonaire's dry forest. They were released after being rehabilitated for more than a year. While the first two flew out in less than a half hour, the other three took their time and made us wait till 10:55 am for their departure.

Two of the liberated parrots have been at Echo Conservation Center for a long time and were lucky enough to form a pair. (Echo does have several breeding pairs at our conservation center. Some pairs are not able to survive in the wild because of their injuries. They are part of our captive breeding program.) But this pair was in good condition to thrive and make their family in the wild, so we gave them that chance.



The breeding pair kiss (allofeed) before flying to freedom.

Before leaving Echo behind, the breeding pair kissed (allofeed) each other right in the door to freedom and then flew away in search of a better life.

On the next day the breeding pair came back to say hi to the team and secure an early morning snack. This routine is changing each day as they seem to be settling in the wild forest around Dos Pos.

While we waved five parrots goodbye, we have also welcomed three Brown-throated parakeets, (Prikichis) and three Yellow Shouldered Amazons to the center. For them we hope to be able to give great care, so they can also return to the wild.

### Breeding season roost count 2021

Our aim is to see more parrots fly free, and we can monitor the wild flocks by estimating and tracking the population. Saturday, July 31st we had our breeding season roost count 2021.

The sunrise count means an early start, and we truly appreciate the volunteers' efforts and willingness to join Echo to track the Loras. We registered 46 volunteers, who covered 22 sites on the island, including sites in Washington Slagbaai National Park.

From the collected data sheets we have received, the total number of Loras counted is 920. This count includes six sites in the National Park. In July we observed fewer sites than in January of this year, but we cover those with the biggest groups of parrots roosting.

The groups may have grown because new fledglings have joined the roost. But it is also possible that the Loras gather in bigger groups around the most suitable areas. The Echo team will continue to double-check the results and analyze the numbers. If you are interested in helping, mark the next roost count event in your agenda: January 29, 2022.



## Bonaire's sky park

### August Meteor Shower

Thanks to timeanddate.com

The Perseids, one of the brighter meteor showers, occur every year between July 17 and August 24, usually peaking August 9-13.

The website, timeanddate.com, provides star watchers with a sky map and table to help them find the radiant (shower origin) from specific locations around the world. Kralendijk is one of the locations offered. The table is updated daily when the Perseids are active and shows the position of the radiant in the sky for the upcoming night.

Their advice to sky watchers:

- Find a secluded viewing spot, away from city lights. Your eyes may take 15 to 20 minutes to get used to the dark.
- Once you have found your viewing spot, lie down on the ground and look up in the direction of the radiant. The table will give you the azimuth (direction, based on true north) and altitude (height in degrees over horizon).

Named after the constellation Perseus, the Perseids are made of tiny space debris from the comet Swift-Tuttle. Most years, at its peak, one can see 60 to 100 meteors in an hour.

For the complete article go to: .

<https://www.timeanddate.com/astronomy/meteor-shower/perseid.html>





# Making Bonaire Accessible

by Ria Evers-Dokter

## Vacationtime!

While living in Holland I was a mentor for five years to a young woman with mental retardation. She had no family left and had by then, lived in institutions from the day she was five years old. She was pretty smart and witty, but also suffered from anxieties.

Since Holland staff members are not allowed to be a mentor and I did a mentorship course, I was asked to guide her. When I agreed, I was appointed by the family judge.

Every time we met, we went somewhere for lunch and a good conversation. From the moment she knew I have lived

in the Caribbean, she was always bragging that she went on a vacation there. This was not really true, but she always wanted to.

But every year, sometimes twice, she went on a guided vacation to another country. No staff from where she lived accompanied her. She made use of a traveling agency specializing in travel for people with limitations. Together with me and the agency's staff member we looked through travel magazines and picked a vacation that she wished for. The only thing she had to do was pay and leave. And the home staff prepared the

details, helped her pack and then let her go. She was picked up in a special transport, together with a small group of other persons with mental retardation. The traveling guides were all volunteers and paid a reasonable fee for their job.

I received a lot of picture postcards scribbled with best wishes for me from many different countries. When the vacation was over, she went home again and told us all about the trip.

Thinking about all that traveling made me think that Bonaire would also be an excellent island to be included in the agencies' catalogs. There are more than enough hotels. And should special adaptations to rooms, bathrooms, swimming pool, etc. be a necessary, this could easily be fixed. Why not make Bonaire a special destination for those with limitations?

We could put the shoe on the other foot as well and make it possible for Bo-

nairean citizens with limitation to go on guided special vacations. I know for sure that there is a market. They would also like to leave Bonaire once in a while and see other countries.

Since Bonaire is an island that is surrounded by the sea, there are also possibilities for boat trips, like those on the famous "Henry Dunant" in Holland. The Red Cross Organization makes vacations possible for persons with limitations together with a family member. Specialized staff is available for any kind of help and assistance.

A nice yacht could be transformed into another "Henry Dunant" and staff could be trained to make Caribbean vacations possible.

I know for sure that this would make many dreams come true and another way to promote our awesome island.

Happy vacationing everyone.

# Ask a Geek:

by Brian Niessen

## How I lost \$110 million by saving \$1.50

Strange title, eh? To make sense of it, we have to go back to about the year 2012 when ReWritable (sic) DVDs were a popular way to store files for backup and Bitcoin mining was easy, fast and cheap.

During that time, I had set up a nice little bitcoin mining system, and over about a year, generated 2,500 BTC. Being the geek I am, I set up the system to back up the wallet and all passwords, pass codes, etc. to a DVD-RW every 24 hours.

At that point, BTC wasn't worth too much, so I just let the system run in the background and got on with other work.

Then in January 2013, the server had a total meltdown and actually caught fire, just about burning down my apartment in the process. The hard drive was toast, literally, and the DVD was melted like a soggy tortilla.

I was upset because my 2,500 BTC

was worth about \$33,700 at the time, but it wasn't anything to make me suicidal, and there was no way to recover either the hard drive nor the DVD.

So, I forgot about it... until last March, 2021. Not that I was tracking Bitcoin, since I had none, but it was hard not to dream of what 2,500 BTC would be worth nowadays.

On a weekend with nothing to do, I started cleaning up my office and found a spindle of blank DVD's with no markings. I took them all off, and at the bottom was a DVD with a label on it that said "Miner Backup - Dec 28, 2012".

Well, I was bouncing off the ceiling.... There must be at least 2,000 BTC on that DVD. I laughed, I cried, I vomited. It was like winning the lottery. Let's see, 2,000 BTC times \$55,000 per BTC is \$110 million. I was rich!

I took a deep breath and picked up the

DVD and held it like a newborn baby. I gently placed it in the DVD player on my laptop and pushed in the tray.

The laptop chugged and churned trying to read the DVD, and then a "Bong" noise and an error message "Your disc is unreadable."

OMG!!! I took out the disk and looked carefully for scratches. And I was unprepared for what I saw. There were little



worm-like trails like you would see on a piece of wood that was eaten by termites.

WHAT was eating my disc, and WHAT were they eating?

Discs used to be made with gold, but somewhere along the line they were replaced with an organic material and cost about \$1.50 less.

Well, I cheaped out back then, not knowing what the ramifications would be.

Now, by saving \$1.50 I effectively lost \$110 million because bugs don't eat gold!

So, lesson to be learned, check your backups on DVD's or CD's and make sure that they are not being eaten by some little bug or virus.

*\* NOTE: This is a work of fiction. All I lost was some music files.*

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



# Creating optimal health

by Irene da Cunda Costa

## Thriving through menopause (2)

Last issue I wrote about this life stage and today I want to go a bit deeper. How one goes through menopause depends on many factors. Among them are personal biological differences, but perhaps more important are lifestyle and cultural context.

In Asian cultures, reports of discomfort caused in this period are significantly lower than in the West. Studies show that while 55% of women in the United States report discomfort from hot flashes, in Japan only 7% seem to be affected by them. Although to a large extent the cause of this difference seems to be due to nutritional and lifestyle differences in general, cultural positions in relation to the passage to adulthood also influence. While in the West we worship youth and

physical beauty, in the East the wisdom that life experience brings is worshiped. While we cannot do much to introduce rapid changes in the cultural patterns in which we live, knowing how they influence our behavior helps us better understand their effect and therefore limit their power. Determining what is cultural and what is personal is a task that involves questioning our own beliefs. Then we can modify them if necessary in favor of a more fulfilling existence and an enriching journey through this period.

Regarding our lifestyle, we have many tools to determine causal relationships that link diet and physical activity with the symptoms of this stage. Japanese and Mayan women (who also report few symptoms) include abundant vegetables

and moderate amounts of high-quality animal protein in their diets. Fats and proteins in their diets come mainly from fish. Japanese women consume a lot of fermented soybeans, but these are not the soy products that are abundant in the West. Diet modifications should not aim to copy a diet practiced on the other side of the planet. The correct way is to modify our eating habits towards a healthy diet consuming locally produced foods.

In terms of metabolism, hormones, mood swings, bone density and pelvic changes, the ideal path should be to compliment the best of Western medical knowledge with the holistic Eastern approach.

Menopause can be the ideal time to build the healthy being that will accompany us until the end of our days. It is the moment where we can focus on the prevention of health problems that, although not directly linked to menopause, seem to intensify at this age.

Undoubtedly, we can improve going through this stage of life by attending to our diet and physical activity, identi-

fying cultural patterns that generate beliefs playing against us and updating our priorities from the perspective that life experience gives us.

All women will benefit if information is shared at the beginning of this journey through menopause. Many times, taboos and shame prevents us from disclosing both our struggles as well as our greatest breakthroughs to deal with the challenges of this life stage. This is the moment in life to discover or reaffirm that what is left behind is not as valuable as what the future brings. We just need to find our own voice and the courage to clearly speak our truth.

*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.*



# At Your Service

To advertise on this page: ad spaces are \$22 per issue for a minimum of six issues at \$132.  
Or for an INTERACTIVE AD linked to your email, website or Facebook the cost is \$25 per week or \$150 for a minimum of six issues.  
Contact us at [bonairereporter2019@gmail.com](mailto:bonairereporter2019@gmail.com) or 796-4055 (cell/Whatsapp).

**Bruce Bowker's  
CARIB  
INN**



Shop Open  
M-F 8-5  
Boat Dives  
on Request

**SHEARWATER** [www.caribinn.com](http://www.caribinn.com)

JA Abraham Blvd 46  
770-7879/caribinnpr@gmail.com



**Yoga  
Sensibile**

Eden Beach Resort  
Mon. 8am & 5.30pm; Tue. Wed. Thu. 8am  
Fri. & Sat. 8.30am; Private class on request  
Elisabetta +599 7807362 [betta@web.de](mailto:betta@web.de)  
[www.elisabettamaccari.com](http://www.elisabettamaccari.com)



**BEST CELLARS**  
WINE & SPIRITS

Wines & Bubbles    Liquors & Tobacco  
Kaya Industrial, Mon.-Sat. 9am-6pm

**Advertise  
Here!**



**MULTISHOP**  
Local Arts and Crafts - Souvenirs

Handmade One of a Kind Items  
locally crafted - paintings, drawings,  
photography, jewelry, clothing, cards & more  
Located at Hato roundabout  
Mon-Fri 9am-5pm / Sat 9am-2pm  
599-796-1715

**island time**  
vacation rentals bonaire

indulgent ocean view vacation rentals

+599 700 1660  
[info@islandtimebonaire.com](mailto:info@islandtimebonaire.com)  
[www.islandtimebonaire.com](http://www.islandtimebonaire.com)  
[www.facebook.com/islandtimerentals](https://www.facebook.com/islandtimerentals)

**GARAGE  
RE RA**

**+599 782 9730**

Imports - Car Sales  
Repairs - Towing  
Kaya Industria 36-5

**Denture Prosthetist**

Full or Partial Dentures  
New and Repairs

Call for an Appointment - 717-2248

E.M. Rijswijk - Denturist  
Kaya Dr. J.G. Hernandez (near Botica Korona)

tandprothetische praktijk  
**BONAIRE**  
tandprothetische praktijk

For all your **MARINE & residential SEWING**

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

**CUSTOM CANVAS**  
cushions - covers - roofs - shades  
**SAIL & KITE REPAIR**  
repairs - alterations  
and much more...

**780 9124 / located at kaya Beni 6A**  
near the vdt supermarket / project pickup and dropoff available

**ezone**

Easy, Affordable, Fast  
Shop on-line & we will ship to you  
<https://www.getezone.com>



**Reef Renewal  
Bonaire**

**\$45**  
unlimited fitness

lowest prices  
on  
Bonaire

**FLAMINGO FITNESS**  
STRENGTH AND CONDITIONING BONAIRE  
Flamingo Fitness Bonaire  
[info@crossfitflamingobonaire](mailto:info@crossfitflamingobonaire)



Everything for your home  
[www.bonairecoastalliving.com](http://www.bonairecoastalliving.com)  
599-700-9082  
South Beach Plaza  
Kaya Industria 17  
Closed Sunday and Monday

**OUTDOOR  
BONAIRE**  
DO SOMETHING DIFFERENT!

KAYAKING • CAVING • CLIMBING • RAPPELLING  
ABSEIL • ISLAND TOURS • BIRDWATCHING  
+(599) 785-6272  
[hansoutdoor@hotmail.com](mailto:hansoutdoor@hotmail.com)  
[www.outdoorbonaire.com](http://www.outdoorbonaire.com)

**THE STOREHOUSE  
MANGASINA**

Call 700-1753  
[www.bonaireselfstorage.com](http://www.bonaireselfstorage.com)  
[info@bonaireselfstorage.com](mailto:info@bonaireselfstorage.com)

**HISTORIC**  
Stop catching our Donkeys



**Bonaire**

**Donkey Protection League**  
[BDPLF@hotmail.com](mailto:BDPLF@hotmail.com)/785-2205

The brands you want

**Xprodiver**  
Bonaire

The service you need

Atomic    Zeagle  
Hollis    Oceanic

[BONAIRE@XPRODIVER.COM](mailto:BONAIRE@XPRODIVER.COM)  
777-7333 (REEF)



**BonaireForSale.com**  
Consignment Furniture and Home Decor

Frequent Daily Flights  
Between Bonaire, Curaçao & Aruba

**Divi Divi Air**

Reservations  
24 hours a day  
Call (+5999 839-1515)  
Or (+5999 563-1913)  
Now Non-stop to AUA



**DIVI DIVI AIR**



**Advertise  
Here!**



**Echo**  
PARROTS AND PEOPLE



# Pets of the Week

## Cookie



### Hello fur friends!!

My name is Cookie! I'm a healthy male almost a year old. I have lived at the shelter for almost 8 months now since I was a young pup. My fur is very different than most dogs on Bonaire; it's like that of a wire haired terrier. Here at the shelter they all call me beautiful. I am very playful and love to interact with a human playing fetch or cuddling. I'm healthy, fully vaccinated and neutered, and ready to move in with you! If you would like to meet me, don't wait any longer and come visit me at the Animal Shelter, Kaminda lagun 26A or please call 7174989 or 7014989 also available on whatsapp, Facebook messenger and by email animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com. Or just pass by and ask for me. See you soon! *Story and Photo: Sanne Attevelt*

## Quinty



### Hello cat lovers,

May I introduce myself? I'm Quinty. And, if I may say so myself, I am a very beautiful girl of four months old. When I was only one day old a good Samaritan found me and brought me to the Shelter. They couldn't find my real mommy but the Shelter took me to a nice human mommy who fostered me for 11 weeks. In the meantime, I got both my vaccinations and medicine against worms and fleas. I'm very healthy and will get my microchip when you come to pick me up.

I'm a very unusual black cat with a beautiful silver tabby tail and half-long hair. I like other cats just fine but most of all I like I to be cuddled by people. Will you be my forever human?

You can come to see me at Animal Shelter Bonaire, Kaminda Lagun 26, Monday through Friday 10 am - 1 pm and 2 - 3:30 pm or Saturday 10 am-3:30 pm nonstop.

*Story and photo: Monique Degenaar*



## Covid round up, continued from page 2

**The ABC bubble is closed.** Aruba has declared Bonaire and Curaçao to be high-risk countries. Travelers from Bonaire to Aruba are now obliged to do a PCR test regardless of vaccination status. Travelers from Aruba who come to Bonaire are not obliged to do the PCR test, but they must be vaccinated. Fully vaccinated residents of Bonaire and Curaçao can travel back and forth without a PCR test, for now at least.

**The Netherlands has been redesignated from very high-risk to high-risk** now that the number of Covid-19 infections in the country has fallen. Therefore travelers from the Netherlands no longer need to be retested on the fifth day after arrival. However, travelers from very high-risk countries still must be tested on the 5th day after arrival. The PCR test for travelers to Bonaire must now be done 48 hours before departure rather than 72 hours before arrival. Unvaccinated and not fully vaccinated travelers from high or very high risk countries still have to take an antigen test immediately upon arrival on Bonaire. Travelers who take a NAAT(PCR) test 24 hours before departure do not need to take an antigen test on arrival. [I just write down what they tell me to say folks.]

**Hospitals on the other Dutch islands are scrambling.** At press time no one on Bonaire was hospitalized with covid. The Horacio Oduber Hospital (HOH) in Aruba is transferring some non-covid patients to a hospital in Colombia to ease the load in its intensive care unit. The HOH has enough beds and equip-

ment to care for the recent increase in the covid caseload, but not enough doctors and nurses. Of the 23 hospitalized covid patients, 21 appear to be unvaccinated.

The Curaçao Medical Center (CMC) cannot handle any more covid patients. It has run out of doctors, nurses, and money. Yesterday, 28 patients with Covid-19 were hospitalized, nine of whom required intensive care and another patient died.

Sint Maarten has had to impose an 11 pm curfew and close nightlife. In one week the number of people infected grew from 49 to 81, then to 187 in the following week. Relatively few people on Sint Maarten are vaccinated.

The government has clarified the restrictions imposed on musical performances. At risk level 2 musicians can perform before an audience, indoors or outdoors. Indoor performances must take place in a catering facility, not in private homes. Musicians performing outdoors in public spaces must have a permit. The audience is not allowed to sing or dance during a performance. Social distancing and hygiene practices must be maintained.

**Fixed-cost compensation is being extended to entrepreneurs** in the Caribbean Netherlands for the sixth time. The amount of support can range from \$500 to \$400,000 and is calculated based on turnover figures. An application can be submitted to the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate (EZK) beginning in August 2021. *DMR*



## Quarterly Clean Up Dive #3

It's Saturday July 24th 6:30 am, rise and shine Dive Friends Bonaire quarterly clean up time.

It's always a pleasure to be involved in the quarterly cleanup and although the COVID measures are stirring things up again, our staff has been looking forward to it.

We were hoping to have an old-fashioned quarterly cleanup, but unfortunately Bonaire changed from risk level 1 to risk level 2 yesterday, so we needed to make some last minute changes and even had to cancel the potluck BBQ.

Volunteers registered in three shifts to avoid big groups. The first group was there at 9:30 am so staff gathered at 7:30 am at Dive Friends Bonaire @ Dive Inn to get everything ready for all the divers and beach cleaners.

We really wanted to clean along the north or south pier, but there were boats docked, and we can't dive anywhere near them. So our cleanup took place at Cha Cha Cha beach. As there haven't been any cruise ships since March 2020, we were curious to see any difference in the

debris we would find.

By 9:15 am the Dive Friends Bonaire crew had set everything up and the first group slowly arrived in pairs. After they registered, our divemaster in training, Owen, gave the first briefing of the day. He starts with thanking our sponsors: Dive Friends Bonaire for the tanks and mesh bags; Selibon for the trash containers; Scubapro, Reef, Tropical Nature, Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire, Bonaire Automations, Deepsea Freediving School, At Sea restaurant and Caribbean Dive Trading for raffle prizes. Owen then continued outlining the safety procedures. Buddy teams were formed and off went the first group. Meanwhile the next group slowly came in and the process repeated itself.

At 10:45 am the first divers came out of the water. The repeat volunteers were astonished by how different the reef looks, how many fish they saw and how they could hardly find trash. Our crew and volunteers started separating and counting the trash, but there isn't much to count. It's heartwarming to see how little



was brought from the sea. At the end of the count, we concluded that we counted less than one eighth of the trash we collected on former cleanup dives at this dive site. The comparison clearly shows the negative effect cruise ships have on our reefs. We mainly found empty glass beer bottles, fishing line and fireworks. No sun hats, sunglasses, plastics cups, life jackets and fire extinguishers this time.

The beach cleaners found cigarette butts and pieces of glass, very disturbing as we know that local children get swimming classes here. We had a total of 59 volunteers which included 47 divers at Cha Cha Cha beach. Due to the last minute changes a total of 22 volunteers picked up a mesh bag at one of our other seven dive locations and did a cleanup dive at a dive site of choice. It was nice to see that the higher risk level didn't do too much damage to the willingness of volunteers to make our reefs more beautiful.

As mentioned, we couldn't end the day with a big thank you shout out to our volunteers, sponsors, and crew with our famous potluck BBQ. We still had amazing prizes to give away, so we aired the live raffle for all our volunteers on Facebook the next day. The prizes included a Scubapro regulator, Scubapro mask, vouchers for Reef slippers, memory cards, a free dive workshop for two, Tropical Nature vouchers, dive friends mask straps, STCB gift bags and much more.

We would like to thank all the volunteers and sponsors for helping. We look forward to our next quarterly cleanup on October 23rd, 2021!





# A Garden? Just Do It!

by Angliet, Nature Lover

## Who grew what back when

Gardening on the Kunuku had a structure. In conversations with locals that became clear to me. Almost all plants and vegetables that grow on the kunuku were introduced by people bringing them to the islands. Some plants were brought to the island by Indians 2000 years ago, Others came from Africa, Europe, and Asia.

The structure for gardening and growing plants on the kunuku was: Maishi chiki, corn, beans, peanuts and konkomber chiki.

On an irrigated kunuku, pumpkin and watermelon were grown.

The little "hofi" (fruit garden) was filled with: mango, plantain, papaya, lemon, pomegranate, sour-sop, mispel, tamarin, knep and guy-aba.

Outside the kunuku the cherries, coconut and kalebas were grown.

Vegetable gardens contained okra, eggplant, paprika, Spanish peppers, warmoes (chard), tomato, kouseband (long beans), yucca, sweet potato, spinach, kalaloe and bembe.

With all these vegetables and fruits growing, the Bonaireans created a lot of delicious local food.

One recipe from the old days is



Food from the garden

mangusa. It's a mix of different beans that grow on the kunuku after the rainy season. This recipe contains "bonchi kunuku", maishi chiki, maishi grandi, bonchi wandu and peanuts. The ingredients are cooked in water together until they are soft. Then the beans are removed and served dry. This dish dates from slavery times and is only possible after a good rainy season and a good harvest.

The bonchi kunuku and bonchi wandu belong to the Fabaceae family and are a high source of protein, oil, food and forage.

## Growing corn

As I listed earlier, corn was and is a product on the kunukus. There were three types: sweet corn, corn for the cattle and chickens and maishi chiki. The sweet corn is also known as Zea mais. It's a delicious vegetable that is expensive to buy at the grocery stores but with some extra effort, it's possible to grow on Bonaire. Seeds can go directly into the soil. Place two seeds in one hole, three to five cm deep with a distance of 15 cm between the plants and 50 cm between the rows. Make sure the soil does not get dry when the seeds start growing. Compost and manure are a must for the corn plants. If possible add compost and manure twice; first time before sowing and a second time when the corn is producing. Extreme care is necessary with the young plants. Make sure your plants are protected against iguanas and lizards, and the birds that are crazy for the young corn. Keep the soil free from grass so you can see what crawls around the plants. Too much water can rot the corn. Also butterflies lay their eggs on the leaves and the larva eat the young leaves and corn.

There are even more bugs interested in these corn plants, so always keep an eye on it. It's a sensitive plant and lack of certain elements can quickly lead to failure.

To have the best taste it's important to consume the mais (corn) shortly after harvesting. It's possi-

ble to dry the sweet corn and eat it later, but let it stay a while in water to get soft again. Corn is ready to harvest when one can push a little bit in the corn with the finger top.

A while ago I planted myself sweet corn too. It was a special type and I was successful in growing some very nice corn. So try it yourself and enjoy the best sweet corn in the world. Just do it.

**Pink Coral iT Funrace**  
**Sunday August 29**

**Helmet required**      **Registration fee \$10**

**Start: 8 am**  
**Place: Barcadera**

**Sports drink and cold water available**

**2 categories:**  
**Funrace: 5km 4 rounds**  
**Elite: 9km 3 rounds**

**Information from De Freewieler and on Facebook Xtreme Sports Bonaire**



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

