Box 603, Bonaire, Caribbean Netherlands, Phone/WhatsApp (+599) 796-4055, <a href="https://www.bonairereporter.com">www.bonairereporter.com</a> email:bonairereporter2019@gmail.com





WEB Water-en Energie Bedrijf Bonaire (WEB) celebrated Oct 25 – 29 two extraordinary accomplishments: the opening of the new drinking water installation in Hato and the completion of the irrigation water pipeline from Belnem to Hato and the symbolic transfer of the facility.

Web shared their achievements with separate celebrations at the BSSS (Bonaire Sewage Sanitation System) and the Hato water facility for different groups. Retired WEB personnel and Hato neighbors were treated to special celebrations and stakeholders attended an inauguration evening at the water plant and BSSS The celebration ended with a big thank you party for all 142 WEB employees. (Covid measures were taken including an antigen test.)

#### The water plant

Since 1986 WEB has worked with IDE Technology using GE (General Electric) equipment. In Nov 2019 WEB entered into a new agreement with IDE ta take Bonaire to a more advanced level of water production and phase out the old GE equipment. Since 2017 WEB has been producing only 20 percent of the island's water demands and the rest was produced by GE. With Bonaire's growing population and needs WEB has incorporated IDE's DOC (direct osmosis cleaning) becoming 100% self sufficient in water

production and it is cheaper too. But it wasn't easy as WEB and IDE had to deal with the slow down and interruption of the supply chain due to Covid-19. WEB accomplished its goal by July 2021 and performed extensive testing of the system through October 1.

On October 28, WEB celebrated the official inauguration of the 'new' plant with communications advisor Rosann Jansen acting as mistress of ceremonies. The speakers were stakeholders and of-

ficials involved in the project. They included Lieut. Gov. Edison Rijna, WEB CEO Alfredo Koolman, WEB BU water manager Hans Staring, Jaap Slootmaker of the ministry of Infrastructure & Water Netherlands and IDE's Guy Sokol.

WEB CEO Alfredo Koolman applauded the team saying even through covid, meetings continued and necessary safety and health measures were taken without a single covid case.

"By March 2021, we had all the com-



Opening ceremony of WEB Drinkwater facility Hato. Lieutenant governor E. Rijna cuts the ribbon held by CEO WEB Alfredo Koolman Photo Skyview-WEB

ponents and by July it was concluded. We were able to tackle the challenge by working together. WEB is fully responsible for 100 percent of the water and we did it together," said Koolman.

Traveling from Israel to join the celebration, IDE's Guy Sokol said, "This is a love story, love of work, love of community and love of this island to make this island sustainable. The minute we started to work with you, we could feel the dedication."

#### Touring the plant

With an otherwise new high tech plant, WEB water plant manager Hans Staring is quick to point out that the intake for the water is 27 years old, the oldest part of the plant. In 2022 the old manual system will be replaced with an automated control and flow system that is better for processing the water and uses less energy.

GE is responsible for removing their old equipment and several old buildings will be demolished to make way for the future and any needed expansion. A hurricane wall is set to go up to protect the updated plant equipment. The new H<sub>2</sub>0 building houses a manned computerized control center, transformers, a workshop, clean rooms, engines and pumps, all of which are expandable to keep up with growing demands of the island.

WEB, continued on page 12

#### Foodie's Guide Bonaire page 9

## FLOTSAM and JETSAM

## Controversy, confusion, swirl over sudden decision to close BonLab

The Health Insurance Office (ZVK) has announced it no longer intends to do business with the BonLab because the lab is not officially accredited. ZVK has announced that it will terminate its contract with Bonaire Laboratorium NV at the end of December. ZVK has decided that all medical lab services should be provided by Fundashon Mariadal.

The public body Bonaire has protested the closure in a letter to State Secretary Blokhuis (Public Health, Welfare and Sport), as did the employees of BonLab. The OLB declared it was objecting both as the representative of the interests of Bonairean society and as a shareholder in BonLab. The OLB considers the termination, with only nine weeks notice, precipitous, especially given that the role of BonLab has been a subject of ongoing discussions for several years.

According to the OLB press release, "The decision is contrary to the position

that the Health Insurance Office made known to the board of BonLab in 2018, but it is also based on a report whose objectivity is under discussion." They were referring to a critical report about BonLab, written in 2018 by hired consultant Robert Wever, that BonLab and its employees have never had an opportunity to refute.

Members of the public have objected to the ZVK decision as well. They say the medical lab at Fundashon Mariadal is designed to serve the needs of the hospital, not the walk-in public. They say BonLab is much more convenient, with easy parking, a comfortable waiting area, more prompt service, and sufficient but less rigorous covid restrictions. *DMR (Bonaire.nu, BESreporter)* 



#### Government services centralized, digitized



The Working Group Digitization OLB (L-R): Kenneth Charlemagne (Communications Advisor/SEO Manager), Dennis Martinus (Digitalization Program manager), Orlando Meijer (IT Projectmanager), Denise Ellis (Chief Post Officer), Ginette-Marie Monte (Communication Trainee), Leydi T. Ortegon Rueda (Employee Data and Application Management for JOIN), Kjeld Soppe (Consultant for JOIN) Photo Julie Morgan

By 2022, people will be able to visit a Center for Services and receive all government services in person and under one roof. Alternatively, they will be able to access the Center for Services online. The OLB website 'MyGovernment' (www.miboneiru.com) has begun to function as a "digital counter" where Bonaireans can increasingly carry out their business with the island government.

The Center, characterized by service and proactivity, handles payment services, requests, permits, applications, and responds to requests for information. It will notify people in advance that documents such as sedulas, driver's licences, and other permits have to be renewed. People will be able to download and return government forms and applications, such as for building permits, then track their progress through the system. Already residents are making appointments online for various services at Census Office (Burgerzaken).

Residents and entrepreneurs will soon be able to log into the portal themselves to, among other things, track the status of their applications, view their personal data, leased land, leaseholds and vehicles registered with the OLB, and receive important notifications such as the expiry date of, for example, a passport, ID (sedula) or driver's license, and online taxes to pay.

For the elderly and people with a physical disability, the Center for Services will offer government services at home or at the care institution. The Center for Services will also launch awareness campaigns on how to use digital systems and will a provide training on how to use digital systems or how people can sign up for the services of the Public Entity Bonaire.

The Center for Services is accessible online 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and on any digital device. *DMR* 

Flotsam & Jetsam, continued on page 4

## New director of Kingdom Relations/CN appointed

On November 1, 2021 René Bagchus became director of Kingdom Relations/ Caribbean Netherlands at the Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom. He has had extensive experience



in directorships at various ministries in the central government. "I look forward to working with my colleagues from the relevant departments and with my colleagues in the Caribbean Netherlands to work on the challenges we face in the Caribbean Netherlands (CN)," Bagchus said.

"What matters to me is that the residents of CN feel a noticeable positive change in their lives. There is a lot to do and it gives me energy to work on this. An important task for which I can put my previous experiences to good use."

René Bagchus studied Public Administration at Leiden University and Erasmus University Rotterdam. *DMR (BES-reporter)* 

#### Covid-19 round-up

The OLB has approved a trial period of high covid risk events. From November 15 to January 15, sponsors can apply for a permit for gatherings of 100 to 250 people where high-risk activities such as singing and dancing are allowed. The events must end at midnight. To attend, people must show the QR code proving they are vaccinated. Unvaccinated visitors must show a negative antigen test within 24 hours before the testing event. Everyone must also show an ID at the entrance, such as a sédula, passport or driver's license. The trial period is a step toward the so-called "new normal," when people can live with corona in a safe, adapted way. It will be cancelleed early if necessary.

The Netherlands has announced that booster vaccination will begin in December for everyone age 80 and above. Beginning in January, people aged between 60 and 80 will be invited to receive a booster vaccination, with the oldest people in this group being invited first. Also in December, all adults 18 and over at care institutions that have their own medical service will be offered a booster vaccination, as will healthcare workers who have direct contact with patients.

In the European Netherlands coronavirus infections and ICU admissions have spiked rapidly. The National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM) does not expect them to peak until this winter. Previous covid protocols have been reinstated or reemphasized and new ones added, including

Covid-19 round-up, continued on page 10

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#### How to Find Us

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#### Covid-19 on Bonaire

totals as of NOVEMBER 9, 2021

116 active 2506 total 5 hospitalized 20 deceased

84% have had 1st vaccination Bonaire is at risk level 2.

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



RESERVATIONS ARE HIGHLY

RECOMMENDED

eservations@rumrunnersbonaire.com

PM SEATING OR 8 PM SEATING

PRESENTS

November 25th - Thanksgiving 2021

Butternut squash soup
Seafood chowder
Homemade cornbread
Homemade assorted breads
Marinated sweet potato, corn, apple & walnut salad
Mixed salad - Crudites mix

Whole roasted turkey
served with three kinds of stuffing:
Classic American
Classic ground beef
Rum Runners style

Oven roasted ham with a maple, garlic & bourbon glaze

Sauteed broccoflower, broccoli and carrots

Green veggie casserole with bacon bits and red onions

Spicy cranberry & apple relish

Cranberry sauce - House style gravy

Mashed potatoes with garlic and parsley

Bourbon candied yams

The holiday's favorite desserts with a RR twist

\$36.50

AT RUM RUNNERS WE DO OUR UTMOST BEST TO WORK WITH FRESH INGREDIENTS ONLY. HOWEVER, BEING ON A SMALL REMOTE ISLAND MEANS THAT THEY AREN'T ALWAYS AVAILABLE. IF THIS IS THE CASE OUR CHEF WILL ADJUST THE DISH ACCORDINGLY. FOR THIS WE ASK YOUR UNDERSTANDING.

## FOR SALE Office Building Kaya Almirante Piedro Luis Brion 7



• Location : Downtown Kralendijk

Lot size : 404 m2 / 4348 sq. ft.

Living area: 120 m2 / 1292 sq. ft.



Traditional historic building

· Zoning: Commercial - protected

3D tour



#### Asking price \$915,000 US Dollar

Kaya Grandi 24-A Bonaire, Dutch Caribbean Tel. +599-717-7362 info@bonairehomes.com www.bonairehomes.com

| http://www.facebook.com/REMAXBonaire



#### **POLICE REPORT**

#### Property crime

**Nov. 8,.** Thieves smashed a wooden door of house on Kaya Baralt to steal, among other things, a laptop and a Playstation.

**Nov. 3.** A black Kymco Agility scooter with registration plate MF-1018 was reported stolen at the end of October. The scooter was brought to the police station on October 31, when two underage boys (14 years old) were arrested for theft of several scooters.

**Oct. 29.** At the beach of the dive site '1000 steps' thieves took an iPhone 11 pro, a Go pro camera, an Apple watch and cash from bags that were on the beach. The stolen bags were then left in the bushes near the beach.

**Oct. 29.** A blue Peugeot scooter, model V-Click, registration number MF-1265 was stolen in the night. The scooter was on a steering wheel lock at the front of a house on J.A. Abraham Bulevar.

**Oct. 27.** In the night, thieves forced entry through a window of a house on Kaya Dayenne and took several pieces of jewelry, among other things.

#### Arrested/held in custody.

**Nov. 6.** A man, 43, was arrested at a home on Kaya Amazona for vandalism, insulting, threatening and resisting an official on duty. Later in the evening, a woman, 41, who disturbed public peace and who ignored a police demand was arrested.

**Nov. 1.** A 31-year-old woman was arrested at a house on Kaya Ancela. She was caught when she smashed the left mirror of the resident's car which was parked in the yard of the house.

**Nov. 3-5.** The Caribbean Netherlands Police Force, in collaboration with the Public Prosecution Service BES, is investigating the robbery with a firearm at a house on Kaya Platina Sunday, October 10, 2021. One of the suspects, a 45-year-

old man has been arrested. There may be more arrests in this case.

#### Traffic accidents/violations

**Nov. 6.** In the afternoon, a driver drove into the mondi on Kaminda Onima when her steering failed. She was pulled through the car by bystanders and checked on the spot by the ambulance staff.

**Nov. 3-5.** Two cars collided on Kaminda di Lac. The drivers of both cars and the occupant of one were all taken to hospital by ambulance. Speeding was likely the cause of the collision.

**Nov. 2.** Two scooters collided on Kaya C.E.B. Hellmund. The driver of the first scooter stated that she was going to brake, slipped and fell due to the wet road surface. The second driver stated that when she saw the other driver fall, she also braked and fell. Both drivers were taken to hospital by ambulance.

**Oct. 29.** Two cars collided on Kaya Korona. The road was closed for a while so that the services could carry out their work quietly. The passenger of one of the cars was taken by ambulance to hospital.

**Oct. 31.** A car and a motorcycle collided on Kaya Andres A. Emerenciana at approximately 8 pm. The driver of the motorcycle was taken to hospital by a unknown person. The motorcycle has been seized for further investigation.

#### **Traffic controls**

**Oct. 26.** Morning and afternoon controls were held on Kaya Internashonal. A total of 32 vehicles were checked and 12 official reports were issued. Fines were given for driving without a driver's license, insurance or a seat belt; also for defective rear lamps.

**Oct. 25 and 26.** Traffic checks were held at E.E.G. Bulevar and Kaya Internashonal. A total of 33 vehicles were checked. Nine received a ticket for driving without a driver's license, insurance or a seat belt.



## Ask Kate Bonaire real estate advice

If I buy a property while I am on Bonaire, do I have to come back to the island at the time of closing?
Rick

Hi Rick,

If you will not be on Bonaire at the time of closing (when the deed is transferred from the Seller to you and you own the property) the Notaris who handles the closing can close the property on your behalf. You can sign a form that gives the Notaris temporary power of attorney to do this. Some people choose to sign this form even if they plan to be on the island for the closing, so that if

travel is delayed or plans change unexpectedly, the property will still transfer as scheduled.

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

If you have a real estate question or want to buy or sell property, email us at kate@bonairehomes.com.

#### **Fires**

**Nov. 7.** The fire brigade extinguished a fire in a container at a football field on the Kaminda Lac. No one was injured but the material damage was enormous.

**Oct. 27.** When the fire brigade and the patrol arrived at a house on Kaya Rita, they found no fire but the electrical box was completely black and smelled of smoke. After WEB cut the power, the brigade sprayed water on the electrical box.

**Oct. 26.** In the afternoon, a house on Kaya Mercedes was reported on fire. The resident was not at home. The fire brigade extinguished the fire. The material damage was enormous.

#### Public order

**Nov. 7.** An official report was issued to the owner of a catering facility on Kaya Nikiboko Noord that was open after midnight, violating the corona restrictions.

Oct 30-31. Last weekend checks were carried out at various locations for compliance with the corona restrictions. A large crowd was found at Pink Beach. Alcoholic drinks and food were sold from a bus. There were also two large speakers

near the bus from which loud music was played. The bus and the speakers were confiscated. Two nightspots, one on Hanchi Amboina and one on Kaya Grandi, were charged for failing to meet the closing time. A large crowd was also found at Seru Largu; they were ordered to leave the site. A speaker was seized to stop the noise pollution and to break up the crowd. An inspection under the Opium Act was carried out at a bar in Tera Kòrá. One person probably had Ecstasy. The pill was destroyed. The Center area was closed to keep the crowds under control.

Bario directors have complained of nuisance from motor vehicles in residential areas. As a result, more intensive checks will be made in the residential areas. The neighborhoods of Nort Saliña, Hato, Nawati and Santa Barbara, (bario registrar Claudette Raphaela), will be first.

The neighborhoods Playa Pariba/ Playa Pabou and the Center Area (Eugene Granviel), Belnem, Punt Vierkant, Sabal Palm, La Palma, Tera Kòrá (Ronald Schleper), Rincon, Tras di Montaña, Sabadeco (Victoriano Statie), Amboina, Bario Mexico and Den Stashi (Lee Anthony) will be discussed next.

### FLOTSAM and JETSAM continued

#### Step one of plastics ban coming in March

The Island Council has agreed to an ordinance to ban certain types of disposable plastics, also known as single-use plastics, in six months. Beginning in March 2022, plastic carrier bags, straws, stirrers and cutlery may no longer be sold or provided on Bonaire. Two months after that, styrofoam meat packaging will also be prohibited. During the transition period companies can use up their stock of disposable plastic.

The official ban of these selected products is a first step and has broad support among the parties consulted, including wholesalers, supermarkets, and restaurants as well as TCB, Customs and Selibon. A cleaner island will be a better place for tourists to visit and residents to live. A campaign will soon start in which the OLB will share more information with entrepreneurs and residents. *DMR* 

#### New Rincon Medical Center opens

Thanks to the husband-and-wife medical team of MD's Castro, Rincon has a new, handsome and much enlarged Medical Center that provides the people living

in Rincon a wider range of services, including op Optica Class, dentist Hagens, and BonLab. *DMR (Besreporter)* 

#### Bonaire road upgrades continue

The Management Society and Care and Citizen Affairs building can be reached by car again, the rebuilding of the east end of Kaya Neerlandia having been completed. Work has now commenced at the other of Kaya Neerlandia at the intersection with Bulevar Gobernador Debrot.

The section of Bulevar Gobernador Debrot going past the marina that floods regularly has been raised, and a sidewalk is being built that will also help prevent sea water from flowing onto the road. *DMR* 

#### Job seekers, employers, can "speed meet"

Plenchi di Trabou has been organizing successful "speed meets" for various work sectors on the island. Speed meets bring job seekers and employers together at one place and time where they can search for a match. The first speed meet for the tourism sector will take place on November 11.

As the high season approaches, hotels, restaurants, and other tourist businesses are struggling with staff shortages. Employers need to fill housekeeping, kitchen, bar, service, and other positions in. Plenchi di Trabou, the Tourism Corporation Bonaire (TCB), and the Bonaire Hotel and Tourism Association (BONHATA) are joining forces to sponsor the gathering.

The speed meet will take place at Jong Bonaire, Kaya Simon Bolivar 16, from 10 am to 2 pm on November 11. Employers and job seekers can register by sending an email to speedmeet@plenchiditrabou.com. For questions or more information, the Plenchi di Trabou team can also be contacted at: +599-7158346. *DMR* 

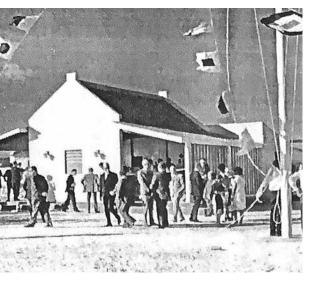
## Bonaire's 2020 financial accounting not good, but better

The Public Entity Bonaire is making some progress in improving its financial management, according to the Financial Supervision Board (Cft). While the accountant still cannot approve the 2020 accounts, they contained fewer shortcomings than the 2019 annual accounts. The Cft continues to encourage Bonaire to strengthen financial management by filling three important positions—the Director of Operations and Support, the Head of Finance and the Group Controller. *DMR (Koninkrijk.nu)* 

The Bonaire Reporter Nov. 10 - Nov. 24, 2021

## 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.



#### Dr Hart pioneered Bonaire's ecotourism

Munich, Germany, October 29th 2021 To whom it may concern:

Lately I was searching for an article in Facebook and I found your article in *The Bonaire Reporter* regarding Captain Dons' Habitat.

And, as I am the sister of Dr. Adhemar Hart, My name is Berta Schultze-Brocksien Hart

I am requesting you please publish my attached article which explains a tiny bit of the Hotels' history and a correction I believe is the appropriate way to set the record straight.

Thank you for your kind attention.

Berta Schultze-Brocksien Hart

#### SUMMARY

On February 24th, 1968, Debonair Bungalows Hotel was officially opened by Governor Nicolas Debrot of the Netherlands Antilles. We were pioneering in the area of ecology tourism, and while the following years were years of hardship, after 5 years, we saw the hotel grow into an attractive accommodation for scuba divers.

In 1973 we applied to expand the hotel facilities. The Central Government turned down our application because the hotel was 2 years behind in its reimbursement of a government guaranteed loan.

The government put the hotel up for public sale. As there were no buyers, the government confiscated the property and attached it to the now named Sunset Beach Hotel. The bungalow project would be managed by Mr. Don Stewart, at that time manager of Sunset's scuba divers department.

Through this transition, the manager Mr. Lesly Maylath and his family were fired. All investors lost their money, and in a fake trial à la Franz Kafka, developer and director Dr. Hart was fired and lost all he had invested to keep the hotel running.

The Central Government's decision for public sale was shocking because officials had received a promising feasibility report based on the hotel's last year of operation and a projection of its future growth. They had also received the pledge of two shareholders to reduce the delay in the loan reimbursement.

Although Mr. Don Stewart deserves all credit for the continued successful operation of the hotel, it should be remembered that the innovative concept of a diver's hotel was initiated in the tourist industry by Dr. Hart, who built Debonair as the forerunner of the now familiar Captain Don's Habitat.

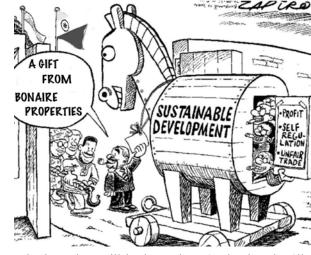
#### Dear members of the Island Council: Bolivia is not a 'barren eaten mess' anymore

In January 2020, shortly after the purchase of plantation Bolivia, the new owner Meine Breemhaar called the area a 'barren eaten mess'. A year later, Mieke Breemhaar said that she wanted to develop a Davos at Sea on the plantation. Both publications appeared in De Telegraaf [Dutch newspaper], the newspaper that always lends itself for a new example of trade that resembles the old WIC [West Indian Company] mentality: "We Dutch people know what is good for our (former) colonies".

Between then and now something has happened in the minds of the Breemhaar couple. Not much, but still. The barren eaten mess is now called an estate (which sounds more dignified and less colonial than a plantation) and the Davos at Sea's delusions of grandeur are no longer discussed. In the latest presentation that recently appeared online and was shown and explained to you as members of the Island Council, the couple talks about nature restoration and 'creating value with respect for the origin'. Apparently the Breemharen are sensitive to the criticism expressed in the past two years.

As always, however, it is not about what you see and hear, but about what you do not see or hear and also not told. Likewise in this case. What is striking in the presentation, for example, is that with a few exceptions, the couple is nowhere specific. The few exceptions are that 95 homes will be built per year and that no more than 20% of the surface (about 600 hectares) will be developed. Just for the record: that's about 1,200 (!!!) football fields! But even now, pay attention to what is not being said. The entire plantation is 3,000 hectares. About 1,100 ha of this is stony, rugged, undeveloped coastal strip. Only the remaining, richly vegetated part, about 1,900 hectares, is suitable for project development. So about 600 hectares of this will be developed. That is not 20% but more than 31%!

What exactly will be built on those 1,200 football fields they do not mention, except that 'affordable owned and rental homes will also be realized in the middle segment'. Pay close attention to the word 'also'. We never read how much. 10, 20, 100, 200, 1000? Who will say? At least not the Breemharen. They also do not comment on the number of homes in the 'more expensive segment'. They also do not say what they mean by that (should we think of Sabadeco, for example?) and they also do not say how many homes this will involve



and where they will be located. We're betting they'll get on top of the cliff. What do you think?

What the Breemharen also do not say is that the construction of those houses will most likely be done by Dutch companies, with workmen from Peru. They also omit to mention that it is very likely that no Bonaireans will work in the agricultural projects and that only makambas will probably live in that more expensive housing segment. And that in the present time, in which the resistance against the import of makambas under Yu di Tera is only increasing. Now there are 1,400 Dutch people living on Bonaire, in any case there will be many more. The Breemharen fail to say how all this contributes to the development of Bonaire.

The couple is also silent about all the new traffic that the development of the estate will cause. 95 houses per year, that is almost 1,000 houses in 10 years with an estimated 1,500 to 2,000 cars that will find their way to Playa while the Kaya Korana is already one long traffic jam in rush hours, from Mentoor to the roundabout at the church. Finally, the couple is also silent about the question of the water and energy supply and they do not say anything about the processing of the waste water and the disposal of the garbage to the already overloaded landfill.

So something has happened in the minds of the Breemharen, but it is not very much yet. They come up again with a slick brochure, written by people who do nothing but trying to pull the wool over your eyes every day. The one thing they really have in mind but they leave unmentioned is how they can grow their own wealth, if necessary at the expense of the island. Since the Second World War, dozens of projects on Bonaire have been presented by adventurers and, with a few exceptions, have stalled and failed. Mostly because they only served one purpose: to increase their own wallet. And that the island will subsequently end up with financial and landscape misery: they could not care less.

Members of the Island Council: Look before you leap!

Foundation Save Plantation Bolivia Wilma Nijland



#### Selibon news

**❖Sale on rental price of rubble bins.** From Nov. 5 to Dec. 17, 2021, you can rent a rubble bin at an attractive price for the weekends. *Use the bins for:* 

- Bulky waste (such as old chairs, tables, cabinets, beds and mattresses).
- Garden waste (such as leaves, branches and wood). **Selibon will collect** electrical appliances (such as references and wood).

frigerators, washing machines, TV sets), and material containing asbestos must be reported to Selibon NV so that they can be collected separately.

\*October clean-up Tera Kòrá. The Bonaire Clean and Beautiful Foundation (Fundashon Boneiru Limpi i Bunita) and Selibon collected a total of 16,160 kilos of waste in the bins set up in various places in Tera Kòrá.

## ❖ Landfill protocols negotiated with Selibon. The Pro Lagun Committee, a group of residents of the area of the landfill, have negotiated eight "protocols" with Selibon NV. The two parties have signed off on a list of objectives, complaints, demands, and specific commitments for the amelioration of "the pollution and nuisance problems" created by the Landfill. The list emphasizes that Selibon will achieve "scientific and technical solutions" within "a reasonable time," and with "assistance from local government and at kingdom and international level," and with the support and assistance of the Pro Lagun Committee. *DMR*

❖Selibon passes audits. Selibon has successfully undergone ISO 9001 audit for quality of service and ISO 14001 audit for environmental standards and thanks all its employees and the management team for this success.



#### A Garden? Just Do It!

by Angliet, Nature Lover

#### Open day at LVV



The open day at LVV on Saturday, October 30th was a great exposition. I was surprised to see so many plants and vegetables. I arrived at 9:15 am on the spot, thinking that I was on time. I was surprised to see so many people already there, busy buying, looking and eating.

There were two groups of sellers: locals with plants, vegetables, fruit and snacks and LVV staff selling vegetables. People at the booths were mostly selling flowers and decorative plants. Local kunukeros were there with their vegetables like the local cucumbers, cuttings from yucca, Chinese cabbage, spinach, watermelons and some papaya tree plants. There were marmalades, jams and chutneys made from fruit and pickles made from vegetables. Of course, there were herb plants like Mexican mint, lemon grass, basil and oregano.

LVV had a big assortment of

vegetables and vegetable plants for sale. There were string bean plants, paprika plants, spinach, tajerblad, warmoes, peppers, mint, yambo, kalaloe, and more. Most vegetables are grown in huge containers in green houses. The vegetables looked so healthy and green and there were a lot.

Prepared foods including roasted chicken and stews/stobas along with juices, snacks and cookies were sold. Last but not least, there was a horse named Cappuccino that 'kids' could ride, and a miniature donkey named Helena. Who dares to take a ride on a horse?

It was all very well organized. LVV divided the event into three areas and there was a constant coming and going of people. I was amazed to see how many vegetables LVV produces. Besides all the different types of vegetable plants in containers there were also plant beds with good black compost dirt

Julia Julsing and other kids enjoyed a ride on 5 year old Capuccino. The horse came from Curaçao via boat along with her handler Richard for LVV open day. Photo Julie Morgan Page 6

in the green house growing paprika and pepper plants. In pots palm trees were growing. And in a container with water old dry coconuts were sprouting.

#### So who says that nothing grows on Bonaire?

With some effort, patience, care and love it is possible to eat from your garden. Sometimes it can go wrong: an iguana might eat it all, the weather may be too dry or loras might damage the fruit. Yes, all that can happen and more. But if you don't give up and you are creative in fighting these struggles, one day you succeed in having your own grown fruit and veggies on your table.

Today I had that success feeling when I saw a passion fruit on my passion plant. For years iguanas ate and damaged my passion plant as they are crazy for the leaves. I needed to find a way to fool the iguana, so one day I planted the plant in a huge pot under a young mango tree. The vine crawls in the tree and became a huge passion plant hanging all over the tree. For the iguana it's hard to eat the whole vine since its leaves are mixed with the mango leaves that he does not like. So I got a huge passion vine with a lot of beautiful passion flowers. This morning I was totally surprised to see a passion fruit growing. I got the happy feeling that I won the fight against the iguana and I now have at least one passion fruit to consume. Besides the fruit, tea from passion leaves and/or flowers is very good for a goodnight rest and it calms the

nerves. The tea is tasteful with some ginger or lemon juice and honey.

At the LVV market people were leaving with handfuls and boxes full of plants. Since the rainy season has started people are more in the mood for gardening. Let's keep on going to green our garden and plant our own food. Just do it now. Photos Julie Morgan





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## Arthur Sealy writes history At first glance one might think STINA-

At first glance one might think STINA-PA's Washington Slagbaai National Park 50 year commemorative book is a lovely coffee table book full of beautiful photos. And, yes, the photos are amazing, but the text is the heart of the book telling a small history of the park for the last 50 years and before. Not just of the park itself but the people involved, the owners and the workers. Bonairean, former teacher, historian and writer, E.A Sealy was commissioned to write the book.

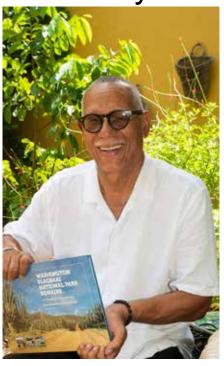
Sealy said, "I didn't say yes immediately. I had to think about what kind of book it should be; a history of the park or just a book to commemorate the 50 years?"

The STINAPA board wanted a book about what has happened in the park since the opening in1969. But a basic timeline didn't say enough about how the park came to be.

Sealy agreed to do the book but said he couldn't do it alone. He would rely on relatives and colleagues in Curaçao for information of the plantation's history. There were many questions: What was the economy of the plantation on the island, and who were the laborers and the workers? Who owned and sold the plantation and what was it before it was owned and what happened afterwards?

Sealy said, "We had our guideline. I got help from Ivy [Lo Tam Soen]. She was a great help to me."

The book is divided into several parts. It begins with the first inhabitants of Bonaire, plantation development, slavery, the owners, economic activities, and



trade. It ends with the park's accomplishments to November 2020.

The entire park was originally known as Slagbaai and didn't receive the name Washington until 1920. Slagbaai translated from Dutch is 'battle bay.' It was the main harbour in Bonaire for exporting the island's goods: salted goat and fish, charcoal, salt and various agricultural products.

"'Cultura' [George Thode, now Washington Slagbaai chief ranger] rescued many documents during the restoration of Slagbaai. All those old papers they [restoration workers] just wanted to throw them away. He rescued a part of the history," said Sealy.

In part, that history traces the supervision of the plantation to ownership in 1816 by the Neuman, Debrot and Herrera families until 1968 when it was sold to the Netherlands Antilles.

The book itself took two years to complete. Much of that time was spent researching and scouring old documents.

"I enjoyed reading most parts but I had some problems so Ivy helped me out... There was a time when I told her I can't go further. I can't read any more of the documents. Ivy told me that I had to take distance from it and keep writing. Ivy told me that I was at the starting point. You must take the middle way and not let them see your emotions. But I was emotional when I wrote the book," said Sealy.

He had learned the connections between the families: Debrot, Herrera, Hart and Helmund. They were upper class, white people with money and influence in the economy and trade of Bonaire, not just the park.

Coming from a mother of a Rincon slave family and a father from Barbados, it was difficult for Sealy to read the accounts. He thought he could distance himself from it, but after learning about the hierarchy of the families he became a bit angry and emotional. The families controlled not only the park but the workers. Their influence was not only in the work but also in the education and even religion of the laborers.

In the end, Sealy authored the book and presented the factual information concisely but not without experiencing some personal trials.

"Know your past and try to realize it

but it is important to not make a division between colored people and not colored people. We are all created equal." said Sealy.

Of his youth Sealy said, "I had to

fight my way through if I wanted to be something in the community. I went to Curaçao to further my studies and I got a message. I have to look into history so I studied history."

In 1973, Sealy was the very first Bonairean to study history in Holland. When he returned to Bonaire in 1982 he began teaching school at SVB.

"I thought I wanted to write something about the history of Bonaire, but I couldn't do it. I didn't have the financial support. But, now I think we can make a start," said Sealy. "The problem with the history of Bonaire is no one has written one."

Sealy thinks you must know where you come from to explore your capacity.

Regarding the book itself, Sealy is very happy with it but said when he finished it, he hasn't opened it again, but will reread it in a year or so.

Sealy said, "It's a nice book. Ivy made the layout and gathered all the pictures. I'm very glad I had Ivy and she had a lot of patience with me."

Sealy's goal for the book: to have it brought into the schools for a Bonaire history class.

The Washington Slagbaai National Park Bonaire book is available for purchase at STINAPA headquarters, Washington Park, Multi Shop, Bruno and Del Mar for \$25.

Story & photo, Julie Morgan

#### Daily Fresh gives tours at LVV Open Day

Daily Fresh, Bonaire's first aquaponics farm and the first lease of land by LVV is moving right along with the construction of the building. Owners Bob And Lauri Jenssen gave tours of the new facility explaining the unusual roof structure is for air flow and cooling. The  $52 \times 24$  meter building is divided into two parts, one for the plants and one for the six tanks for growing fish. The water is circulated to the plants providing nutrient rich aquaculture water.

January is the projected day for operation to begin. The systems should be stabilized by March and Daily Fresh will be fully open. Fresh aquaponics vegetables are available to order from their original facility by contacting Lauri and Bob on Daily Fresh Facebook page or for purchase at the Saturday market by Selibon and at Bon di Gro. Photo and story: Julie Morgan



#### New book preserves Bonaire's heritage



Monument Bonaire, a new book by Wilna Groenenboom was released on October 27 to a small gathering at Habitat. The author showed a timeline progression of how this book came about. She emphasized the role played by previous Reporter owners, George and Laura DeSalvo.

The book illustrates the various styles and characteristics of the old buildings of Bonaire that still stand today. There are over 600 photographs and drawings explaining the styles and how the buildings were built.

Wilna said that the purpose of the book is to make Bonaire aware of its past culture through the old buildings before they are replaced with newer buildings. Pictured with Wilna are George and Laura DeSalvo. Photo and story: Julie Morgan

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## Reef Glimpses by Dee Scarr

## Underwater Fire Who'd Expect It from a Worm?

When I was a new diver, my experienced buddy pointed out a bearded fireworm, vigorously signaling, "Don't touch it!" Then he poked it (this was in the early 1970's, when divers did a lot of poking), so the bristles flared out.

Back on the boat, he explained that the bristles could detach from the worm, and when they penetrated our skin, they hurt a lot

Our most common fireworm is now called the bearded fireworm. It was always *Hermodice carunculata*, which means "bearded two-horned worm". There wasn't much information available on marine creatures at the time, though, so I treasured my copy of Tropical Marine Invertebrates of Southern Florida and the Bahama Islands — and checked up on worms as soon as I got home. In the listing about a close relative of the fireworm, I read, "They are listed in the U.S. Air Force Survival at Sea manual as a potential hazard."

Yikes!

So I kept my distance from fireworms.



"The bump in this fireworm is the end of the gorgonian coral branch; the coral tissue is being digested by the fireworm. The worm isn't backing off, but its flared bristles indicate it felt the photographer was too close. The photographer is too smart to get too close!"

Actually, everything seems to keep its distance from fireworms, except for the creatures who can't. Have you ever noticed a staghorn coral with white tips? Fireworms climb up, engulf as much as they can of a staghorn tip, secrete enzymes to digest the polyps, then absorb them and travel on to the next tip. They

Reef Glimpses, continued on page 10



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

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#### Foodie's guide to Bonaire

online - click on the ad for more info































Still available



Still available

Reef Glimpses, from page 8 do the same with gorgonian corals, leaving only what looks like a skinny stick. They're especially active at

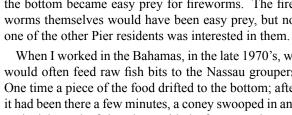
In 1988, when growth was scraped from fifty pilings of our North Pier, many clumps of orange cup coral on the bottom became easy prey for fireworms. The fireworms themselves would have been easy prey, but not

When I worked in the Bahamas, in the late 1970's, we would often feed raw fish bits to the Nassau groupers. One time a piece of the food drifted to the bottom; after it had been there a few minutes, a coney swooped in and sucked down the fish – along with the fireworm that was already feeding on it. The coney violently spit out its mouthful and swam off open-mouthed, frantically shak-

That would explain why no one uses fireworms for

Eventually it registered on me that fireworms only flared their bristles when they were disturbed. next time I saw one crawling along the bottom, I put my hand in its path (but not too close). The fireworm stayed on course, crawled over my hand, and continued

I'd accidentally jiggle my hand and they'd flare, but I would just brush the bristles off with my fingers.



ing its head from side to side.

its journey without ever using its bristles. After that experience I would often offer my detour to fireworms, and they took it casually. Once in a while

Until one day a fireworm traveled to the inside of my



#### 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.

#### How Will You Be Kind Today?

#### **Reflection For Today**

"How do we change the world? One random act of kindness at a time." - Morgan Freeman

#### **Tip For Today**

"So why are you being so kind to me today, Chichi?", Swinda asked with a surprised look on her face.

"Why, do you ask, Swinda? I'm always kind to you, aren't I?", Chichi answered with a big smile.

Swinda rolled her eyes and kept staring at her best friend.

"Okee, okee, Swinda. Here's the thing, I was reading about World Kindness Day..."

On November 13, 1997, the World Kindness Movement was formed as an international platform.

Their goal was to start a day that would raise the awareness of the importance of kindness to as many people across the world as possible, uniting people across the globe.

World Kindness Day (November 13th) was launched in 1998 with the intention of inspiring people around the world to commit acts of kindness.

By 2019 the World Kindness Movement has reached 27 countries, including Thailand, the UK, Australia, the US, Singapore, France, South Korea, Nigeria, India, the Netherlands, and China.

The movement is hoping that the day will one day be officialized by the United Nations as a holiday.

Be part of the World Kindness Day celebration by participating in the #IamKindChallenge!

Here's what you can do...

Do it. Be creative with your act of kindness. Smile at strangers passing by, give a sincere complement, or pay for the person's groceries in line next to you.

wrist. Its trip was uneventful until it unexpectedly ran into the cuff of my wetsuit - and it flared on the inside of my wrist. Those bristles hurt a lot. (Yeah, I know, just as I'd been told.) But what surprised me was that brushing them off didn't make any difference.

Why did those bristles hurt so much when the others didn't hurt at all?

It turns out that the bristles themselves don't cause the pain, but when the bristles break, a toxin is released, and that is painful. Reeeally painful. Like (here's a surprise) a burn. Happily for me, the pain was gone by the next morning.

Happily for the fireworm, it trundled off my hand and back onto the rock where I'd found it, even before I brushed the bristles away.

Fireworms are voracious predators who are themselves well-protected against predation, two characteristics that may sound familiar because they are also characteristics of lionfish. One big difference between them is that the lionfish are invaders and the fireworms are locals who don't upset the balance of the ecosystem.

Which might be a good thing, considering one alternative: menus promoting fireworm pizza or coconut-fried fireworm or ...

Dee has been guiding divers on Bonaire since 1982. She's written about her undersea experiences in her books, available for purchase at the Carib Inn on Bonaire or through touchthesea.com.

- Post about it. Write about your act of kindness and post in on your favorite social media platform using #IamKindChallenge. Got a picture or video to add? Even better!
- Invite others to join in on it. Acts of kindness benefits everyone, the giver and receiver. Together we can create a ripple effect spreading kindness around the world.

Remember...

Successful people know that being kind is contagious and they are proactively seeking out opportunities to be kind to others, on act of kindness at a time.

Swinda was very impressed with her best friend's research about kindness and her enthusiasm for being kind with others, since Chichi sometimes can be a bit rough around the edges.

"So are you up for the #IamKindChallenge, Chichi?" "I was already kind to you today, Swinda! Now I just need to post about it on Facebook, attach our selfie, use the #IamKindChallenge, and I'm done! How will you be kind today?"

#### Affirmation For Today

Being kind to others matters. Today I am making a difference, one act of kindness at a time.

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

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

#### Covid-19 round-up, from pg 2

widespread requirements for coronavirus entry passes. The passes are issued to people who have recovered from COVID-19, have been vaccinated, or have tested negative.

Bonaire's hospital occupancy remains stable, and its infection rate dropped in one week from 181 positive tests per 100,000 inhabitants compared to 324 positive tests. But Bonaire still has the highest infection rate per capita among the Dutch islands, and this November more people on Bonaire are infected than on Curação. Fifty four percent of young people aged 12-17 have received at least one injection.

OLB Deputy Nina den Heyer was infected with the Covid-19 virus. She has been vaccinated and is an active proponent of vaccination.

Bonaire has reclassified the United States from a very high-risk country to high-risk. Travelers from high-risk countries do not need to be tested on the fifth day after their arrival. However, fully vaccinated travelers from those countries must still complete the health declaration and have a PCR test within 48 hours before departure. Unvaccinated travelers must meet those requirements and get an antigen test on arrival as well.

Canada and several European countries have been reclassified as low-risk countries. Fully vaccinated travelers are required only to complete the health declaration before departing. Non-vaccinated travelers must complete the health declaration and have a PCR test within 48 hours before departure. DMR

A new outbreak in Bonaire's schools has been reported. An employer told us that people aren't coming into work because they have to stay home with their kids. DMR

#### Poem for Today Return to Kindness

To stare into the innocent eyes of a newborn Swearing a silent allegiance to give "it" your eternity Through thick, through thin and even when under your skin That's the unspoken law of love

To adore the hands that made you And cherish the eyes that loved you Is a rarity that we often seem to ignore

As adults, we don the vest of busyness Our faces forget to upturn our lips Our ribs miss the crackling sound erupted by laughter Yet our souls yearn to heal

Our souls yearn to speak the language of kindness To reset humanity back to its child-like purity To give, to love, to touch the soul of another

We were born to love

And at the heart of every kind act is a fulfillment of our purpose - to

Everyday our souls beckon to us: "My dear, if not today then when?"

Sapphire

Physiotherapist Port Harcourt, Nigeria

Poetry teaches me how to see the world and through poetry I want to inspire others to appreciate life's beauty.

#### Where's the Geek?

Brian Niessen, our Reporter tech writer for the last couple of years, is so busy enjoying his retirement that he no longer has time for his "Ask a Geek" column. We want to thank Brian for all his humorous columns. They taught us more about nagging tech and computer problems than any one else could answer. Thank you, Brian!

#### Bonaire hosts fifth International Waterpolo Tournament

Waterpolo participants from Bonaire, Curaçao, Aruba and the Netherlands competed in the 5th International Waterpolo Tournament October 27th – 31st.

Games were held at the Bonaire Aquatics Bond and the North Pier.

Teams competing in the men's were: Bonaire Barracudas I; Bonaire Barracudas II (combined team with Aruba waterpolo men); Aquapoldro; Walvisch I; Walvsich II; De Breuly and ZPB.

Ladies/Mix category: Bonaire Barracudas (combined team with Curaçao ladies); De Linge; Polar Bears; WSG DraGor and Willpower

The Bonaire Barracudas I (men's) took first place for the tournament with second going to Aquapoldro and third to Walvisch I.

The Polar Bears from the Netherlands were awarded first place in the women's with second place for De Linge and third to WSG DraGor.

Winning teams were awarded drift wood hand painted signs from Pink Flamingo.

The tournament was organized by Riemkje Dijkstra, Max van Drongelen, Henk Olij and Malou van Drongelen.

Julie Morgan photos.



Men Baracudas - Standing L-R: Michael Wildwoods, Max van Drongelen, Malou van Drongelen (coach), Arno Havenga (guest clinics coach), Henk Olij, Melle Evers, Carlos Ribalta, Rene Evers. Sitting: Paul Berezinski, Mark Volmerink, Erik Brakke, Lard Verburg and Koert Heidergott



Women Baracudas - L-R: Simone Sweers, Daniela , Dee Pedersen, Aljantha Emerenciana, Floortje van Asperen Vervenne, Solange, Karin Voogel, Nienke Ingenhoven, Britt van Yperen, Merel Evers, Patricia Vos, Malou can Drongelen

#### This is the Flaminix



Wannika Games donated this painting to the "Het Gazen Huis" initiative, they will auction it and the funds go to alleviate poverty on Bonaire. The painting is called "The Flaminix", and is inspired by the Bonairean spirit to overcome the COVID crisis.

The flamingo in the painting is represented as a phoenix emerging from the ashes, re-born, now stronger, like Bonaire after Covid – 19. A few lines from the Bonaire National anthem are painted in the languages of the people of Bonaire: Papiamentu, Spanish, English and Dutch.

Fernando Nava Bravo wrote a poem about this that will be included with the painting.

The profits from the auction will be donated to the food bank of Bonaire to help them. #hetgazenhuis2021

The auction site is: https:// www.32auctions.com/hetgazenhuis?fbclid=IwAR1Y0zvOB8ICE-MkmEYWDMIGgXTIY7XShh8JGgWj729p0yNhc0xR5qmkTKFQ



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#### Activities, Events & Meetings



#### Free public presentations

Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire (STCB). Free public presentations are held 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.

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.

Beach Tennis Bonaire can now be found at its new location, the Kaminda Djabou (direct left from Kaya Neerlandia --behind Budget Marine). It is open daily until 10 pm. People can play for free or register for training and tournaments for a fee.

Primary school football games Matches in the Kralendijk stadium and on the ATC site in Tera Kòrá Tuesdays and Thursdays 3 to 5 pm. The final is on December 16, 2021 in the stadium of Kralendijk..

#### Ezone prepares customers for new rules



Ezone has informed their customers of new Custom's regulations. Customs is now requiring that people importing items to Bonaire fill in their Customs Tax number (Crib number), submit their identification and sign the documentation. Customs also requires invoices that state the: • Invoice number and date; • Name of the supplier/seller and buyer's name; • Description of the merchandise,

and • the total of the purchase. Customs will accept only invoices, not an order confirmation, or a screenshot of half an invoice.

To help their customers comply with these new regulations, Ezone is holding an information course on Nov. 20th at Habitat (Aquarius room). The course will be split into 4 timeslots. People are asked to register for their preferred language timeslot. English 2 – 3 pm; Spanish 3 – 4 pm; Dutch 4-5 pm and Papiamentu 5 to 6 pm. The registration link is BIT.LY/3JN0V6W (if the link doesn't work, call +5997176161 or email bonaire@getezone.com.

#### **WEB**, continued from page 1

#### The way it works

United - Houston,

& Newark

Reverse osmosis is the key to the desalination. The incoming water from the sea is forced through banks of cylinder shaped membranes that remove salt, viruses, organic matter, microorganisms and any pharmaceutical matter. The membrane has 1000 layers, approximately one mm thick, that allows the water to pass through while preventing other compounds related to their size and shape to pass. Contaminants larger than water molecules can't go through. The clear water or permeate water goes out one end of the cylinder and the concentrate water with the foreign material flows out another outlet into other cylinders to repeat that process recovering most of the water. Approximately 82 percent of the seawater taken in is purified. IDE's DOC system uses the os-

KLM -Amsterdam | Current to Dec. 15, 2021: Daily flights

motic pressure of the brine to "wash" the membranes and clean them reducing energy consumption and prolonging the membrane's life.

Calcium carbonate is added as a final touch to the cleaned water as it is too pure to drink. Nothing else is added.

#### Wastewater plant celebrated too

A separate celebration for BSSS (Bonaire Sewage Sanitation System was held October 27. Eleven kilometers of irrigation pipe has been completed making it possible for hotels along the coast to use BSSS's grey water for greening their landscaped property. The line runs from Lighthouse Beach to WEB water in Hato and then to the wastewater plant. Tapping into this irrigation can save energy and money for Bonaire's hotels.

In our next issue, November 22, the Reporter will report on the workings of BSSS. Julie Morgan

#### Direct flights to Bonaire

	Dec. 15, 2021 to Jan. 14, 2022:Daily with 1 extra flight Mon. Wed. Fri.				
	Dec. 26, 2021 extra flight Sunday				
TUI -Amsterdam	Current: 4 weekly flights; Tues. Wed. Thurs. Sat.				
Delta - Atlanta	Current to Nov. 20, 2021:1 weekly Saturday flight				
	Nov. 24 to Dec. 15, 2021: 2 weekly flights: Wed. & Sat.				
	Dec. 18, 2021 to Jan. 4, 2022: Daily flights except Tuesday				
	Jan. 4 to April 9, 2022: 4 weekly flights: Mon. Wed Fri.				
American -Miami	Current to Nov. 20, 2021: 2 weekly flights: Wed. & Sat				
	Nov 8 to Dec 15, 2021: 3 weekly flights: Mon. Wed. Sat				

Beginning Nov. 6, 2021 Saturday flights from both Houston and Newark. Arriving at

Dec 16, 2021 to Jan 3, 2022: Daily flights

1:30 pm and 5:30 pm. Return flight on Sunday

What's Happening

Bonaire Library: Mon. 12-5; Tues. to Thurs. 8-5; Fri. 8-4:30; Sat. 8-12. With a subscription from the library, members can also find books online outside opening hours and request information. More than 20,000 Dutch and English novels and informative books can be found on www.onlinebibliotheek.nl

Mangazina di Rei in Rincon: Tuesday - Friday 9-4 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.

I amas an i raga (	and are raga (enough not market etero). Cataraayo nom o n. macke required.				
Mon. to Thurs. November 8-11	<b>Book week on Bonaire.</b> The Public Library workshop for primary school students from groups 5 to 8 on how to write a poem or story.				
Sun. to Sun. November 7-14	Global Entrepreneur Week. A free virtual and local social distanced event. Contact Amilia Pieternelli at +599-782-0911.				
Fri. Nov. 12 Sat. Nov 13	At Chamber of Commerce: Friday Art Seminar for Bonaire's artists & Saturday Art Exhibition . 10 am to 3 pm at KvK				
Fri. Nov. 19	Partial Lunar Eclipse. Begins 2:02 am. Max View 5:02 am. Ends 6:39 am				
Sunday November 14	Clean Coast Bonaire. 4-6pm Piedra Pretu. Collect marine litter & data by donating your time working as a citizen scientist.				
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Tentative cruise snip schedule 7								
DAY & DATE:M	M/DD	CRUISESHIP	TIME	PIER	CAPACITY & LINE			
Wednesday	11-10	Carnival Magic	0800-1600	S.pier	3675 Carnival CL			
Thursday	11-11	Nieuw Amsterdam	0800-2300	S.pier	2106 HAL			
Friday	11-12	Royal Clipper	1300-1900	N.pier	227 Star Clippers			
Sunday	11-14	Enchanted Princess	0700-1300	S.pier	3668 PCL			
Monday	11-15	Aida Perla	0800-1800	S.pier	3286 Aida Cruises			
Wednesday	11-24	MSC Meravigilia	0600-1800	S.pier	4500 MSC Cruises			
Wednesday	11-24	Carnival Freedom	0900-2300	N.pier	2980 Carnival CL			
Thursday	11-25	Equinox	0700-1600	S.pier	2850 CEL			
Friday	11-26	MS Seven Seas Explorer	0800-1800	N.pier	750 Regen Seven Seas			
Friday	11-26	Celebrity Silhouette	0700-2000	S.pier	2886 CEL			
Saturday	11-27	Constellation	0700- 2100	S.pier	2170 CEL			
Sunday	11-28	Rotterdam	0800-2300	S.pier	1396 HAL			
Sunday	11-28	Wind Star PENDING	0700-1300	N.pier	148 Windstar Cruises			
Monday	11-29	Royal Clipper	0800-1500	N.pier	227 Star Clippers			
Monday	11-29	AidaPerla	0800-1800	S.pier	3286 Aida Cruises			
Tuesday	11-30	Nieuw Amsterdam	0700-1800	S.pier	2106 HAL			

#### TCB launches its documentary "Taste of Bonaire"



On November 1, Tourism Corporation Bonaire (TCB) premiered its documentary of Bonaire's culinary festival,"Taste of Bonaire."

Taste of Bonaire started about 10 years ago. Throughout the years the culinary festival became a great night out portantly, amazing culinary delights.

for locals and visitors. It showcased arts & crafts, entertainment and, most im-

lo Domacasse, Helen Mercera-Thode, Evelain Marchena and Rolando Marin who played a vital role in the development and growth of our signature culinary event but also the launch of this great documentary."

#### How to see the documentary

The documentary can be watched on Dutch Caribbean TV on Monday November 8th and 28th at 7:30pm and on Nos TV Saturday November 6th, at 8:20pm and Sunday November 7th, at 3:30pm. It can also be watched on TCB's YouTube channel 'Bonaire Tourism' and the Facebook page 'Bonaire Tourism' & 'Tourism Corporation Bo-

TCB's CEO, Miles Mercera, says: "I am proud of my colleagues Ange-

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#### Making Bonaire Accessible by Ria Evers-Dokter Dinner in the dark

When you sit on your porch, watching the sun come

up in all its splendor...when you see the new bus of the Tuturutu open up and show their glorious color combinations you are a very lucky person. Because you can

There is a large group of people who do not have that ability. They are vision impaired. And for the people who have no idea of how that is in reality, the K.B.O department of the Zorg & Welzijn Group organized a special dinner, a dinner in the dark.

Only a small group of guests could attend, in order to prepare well and guide all the participants. Because you needed a guide for sure.

We were seated in the garden where we got a tasty cocktail and important information first. When you are visually impaired, nothing is the same anymore. And you need help with everything. But help is not always available. We were to experience how life can be when one cannot see.

Our instructions were very clear, no glasses and no telephones. We were told how we would get into the eating area and how we would be guided inside. In the doorway they put a blindfold on us and immediately the world turned into a dark, black nothing. You could only hear and feel. We would be treated to a three-course din-

A drink was served as we sat down. Our place mat was a tray, fixed to the table and we could feel that there were a knife, a fork and a spoon on that tray, accompanied by a folded napkin.

When the first course was served, we were told it was put before us. And here we went. I started feeling with both hands and felt the plate. Then I stuck one index-finger in it very carefully and had absolutely no idea what it was. I decided to feel where the food was, keep my finger there and try to get it with my fork. That seemed

like a better idea, because a spoon would have made a lot of mess (I think). I tried to smell the food, but could not recognize it. When in my mouth, I could detect certain ingredients, or so I thought. In between I had to lick my fingers, because I used them a lot. I thought we had salmon, but later it appeared to be tuna-rolls. The next course I suspected to be a stew, but it was not. And then came the dessert. A small cup filled with heavenly tasty sweetness and fruit.

I talked with my table neighbors about what we felt, experienced and tasted.

When the meal was over we were all guided out of the room again and were told about the menu. We were introduced to the staff and asked how we had enjoyed

Everybody was very impressed, loved the event, the experience, the food and had become very aware how life can be for someone with a visual impairment. And it made us realize

Inclusion and accessibility stays important! Always!

Ria Dokter is living happily on Bonaire, where she also used to work as a director at the FKPD and started Special Olympics Bonaire. She took care of her husband (R.I.P) for many years and feels that accessibility is the most important issue on our island.



## Creating optimal health by Irene da Cunda Costa

Mindful traveling during pandemic times.

#### What better than a challenge to practice mindfulness?

Slowly initially but now at an accelerated rate, traveling has become part of our lives again.

The health emergency does not seem to be over, but its most acute stage is. While the world never stopped turning, many activities like travelling stopped or, at least, were significantly reduced.

And now those who travel face new challenges. Most who love to travel for pleasure do so to reach different destinations (although some people do enjoy the airports and airplanes). For those of us who view airplanes and airports as a necessary evil to satisfy our desire to visit diverse destinations, there are now added challenges. In this case, mindfulness practice can be of great help.

Before you travel, it is important to be up-to-date regarding the latest protocols, indications, procedures and restrictions of the destination country and also of the intermediate stopovers. Therefore, be mindful of all updates and all documents.

Mindfulness also implies practicing detachment, in this case we must let go any drive to find the logic in the current recommendations and let go of any attempt to search for rationality. Practice the state of mind that allows balanced reflection and emotional stability even when facing an extreme situation that can generate emotional imbalance. So follow the rules without judgment. An airport is not a good place to claim revindications or to start a revolution.

Keep in mind that once or twice a month the indications change. Let go of the past and accept the present as it is. As prophet Muhammad said: "Trust in Allah, but tie up your camel." Take a printed copy of the latest version of regulations and the corresponding URL in your phone in case you must show it when entering your destination country. To err is human. The staff of the destination airport who must handle so many updates and differences between risk categories can make mistakes. If we meet an official who is not up to date,

we must practice compassion towards that human being who faces a very difficult task.

Practicing patience and tolerance is also a good exercise. Each procedure takes longer than before and each line is slower since more documents must be shown and the possibilities of error and confusion multiply.

Among the many teachings of the health emergency, understanding that travel is a privilege is one of them. Let's practice gratitude then.

And finally, it is essential to keep the focus on the objective of our trip. Do not lose sight of it and do not allow small setbacks to cloud our initial objective.

In previous articles we shared that mindfulness practice improves some personality traits as well as executive functions, namely: attention and concentration, presence, flexibility, detachment, serenity, equanimity, kindness, acceptance and patience. I am sure we can all use some of these during traveling in airports, checkpoints and airplanes.

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

#### Bonaire's sky park Lunar Eclipse

The night of Nov 18-19, 2021 will see an "almost" total lunar eclipse. Lunar eclipses happen when the Moon passes through the Earth's shadow. The shadow has two parts: umbra, and penumbra.

Time and date.com gives us the times: In Kralendijk the Earth's penumbra will start touching the Moon's face at 2:02 am Friday, November 19. At 3:18 am the partial Moon eclipse starts and the Moon is getting red. The maximum eclipse is at 5:02 am when the Moon is closest to the center of the shadow.

Aparna Kher of Time and date.com: The Moon does not have any light of its own—it shines because its surface reflects sunlight. When the Earth moves between the Sun and the Moon and cuts off the Moon's light supply, the surface of the Moon takes on a reddish glow



instead of going completely dark.

The phenomenon is called Rayleigh scattering. It is the same mechanism responsible for causing colorful sunrises and sunsets, and for the sky to look blue. Even though sunlight may look white to human eyes, it is actually composed of different colors. These colors are visible through a prism or in a rainbow. Colors towards the red part of the spectrum have longer wavelengths and lower frequencies compared to colors towards the violet part of the spectrum which have shorter wavelengths and higher frequencies.

The next piece of the puzzle of why a totally eclipsed Moon turns red is the Earth's atmosphere. The layer of air surrounding our planet is made up of different gases, water droplets, and dust particles.

When sunlight entering the Earth's atmosphere strikes the particles that are smaller than the light's wavelengths, it gets scattered into different directions. Not all colors in the light spectrum, however, are equally scattered. Colors with shorter wavelengths, especially the violet and blue colors, are scattered more strongly, so they are removed from the sunlight before it hits the surface of the Moon during a lunar eclipse. Those with longer wavelengths, like red and orange, pass through the atmosphere. This red-orange light is then bent or refracted around Earth, hitting the surface of the Moon and giving it the reddish-orange glow that total lunar eclipses are famous for.

The red color of a totally eclipsed Moon has prompted many people in recent years to refer to total lunar eclipses as Blood Moons.

Thanks to: https://www.timeanddate.com/eclipse/ why-does-moon-look-red-lunar-eclipse.html

Graphic: https://c.tadst.com/gfx/pdf/infographic--total-lunar-eclipses.pdf

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#### Rasta

#### Meet our Rasta!

Rasta is a beautiful girl about one and a half years old. She is very sweet and affectionate and loves to play with toys. She is healthy, sterilized, fully vaccinated and will be chipped once adopted. Rasta is a tortoiseshell cat. Contrary to

#### Pets of the Week

what people think, tortoiseshell cats are not a breed. They are named for their distinctive coloring, a combination of patches of black, brown, amber, red, cinnamon and chocolate. The size of the patches can range from a speckled pattern to large splotches of color. Tortoiseshell cats have very few or no white markings, as opposed to calicos, who are tri-colored with large areas of white fur. The vast majority of tortoiseshell cats are female because two X chromosomes are required to produce black, gold and orange coloring. The occasional and very rare male tortoiseshell cat is the result of a genetic mutation (roughly 1 in 3000). If you are interested in adopting lovely Rasta, you can contact the Animal Shelter Bonaire, Kaminda Lagoen 26A, or give us a call at 717 4989 or WhatsApp us on +599-701-4989. Story and photo: Monique Degenaar

#### Dear future family,

My name is Oreo. I'm a sweet loving lady about two and a half years old, and I've been a shelter resident for over a year and a half of my short life. I like to hug and snuggle, but I also like a nice walk. I'm good with other dogs, male or female I don't mind, but being an only dog would also be just fine with me. To live with kids would be fun, I have plenty of energy to play with them and I will be a great friend. If you think you are my new family then don't wait any longer and come and meet me at the Animal Shelter, Kaminda lagun 26A you can also call 7014989 or 7174989 also available on WhatsApp, Facebook messenger and by email animalshelterbonaire@ gmail.com.

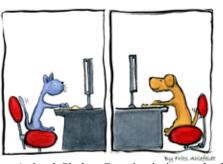
Story: Sanne Attevelt Photo: Melody Cordero



Oreo

#### **Shelter News**

#### Print and Social Media Volunteer Wanted



Animal Shelter Bonaire is in need of a volunteer to help with our print and social media affairs. We are looking for someone willing to assist us with updating our website, posting website articles, help with press releases, Facebook posts, Shelter news for *The Bonaire Reporter*; etc. Good English writing skills are required and proficiency in Papiamentu and Dutch would be a huge bonus for us. A good eye for taking photos would also be a big help. This volunteer work can be primarily done from your home, but we would ask that you visit the Shelter once in a while to meet and familiarize yourself with our residents, staff and any events we may be planning. If you are interested in helping us out or have questions, please email us at animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com.



On October 30, downtown Kralendijk was invaded with skeletons, pirates, witches, ghosts, superheroes and beautiful princesses all led by a scary witch. They traipsed through the street going shop to shop chanting musical threats that harm would come to the storekeepers unless they received candy.

It all ended well for the store owners and the 125 candy seekers. This of course was Corinne Gerharts Tapiero's 24th Annual Halloween Trick or Treating event. Twelve store owners played along with the costumed kids and adults. Tons of fun for everyone. The Reporter published the photos on our Facebook page, if you haven't seen them please scroll back to have a look.

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Save the date Sunday, December 19
A special Christmas Book Fair and Flea Market
Animal Shelter Bonaire More details to come!



"Let's move Gymnastics" taught by Hielkje Van Der velde Meijer, a former gymnast from the Netherlands, awarded 30 of her young students the Movement Diploma in a little ceremony on November 1. The diplomas were handed out by Arviene Vis.

During the lessons toddlers and preschoolers learn to play with their parents balancing, jumping, crawling, climbing and swinging. They roll, develop ball skills and dance to music. Hielkje said, "The kids practiced a lot for 15 weeks. It helps them learn how to move and develop self confidence. I think it really makes a difference in the children, not only for learning gymnastics but to develop a physical base."

Hielkje teaches classes Monday – Thursday at Kolegio Kristu Bon Wardador. Find Let's Move Gymnastics on Facebook.



Aida Sol visited Bonaire on Nov. 6 with 900 passengers (capacity 3135). According to the Friends of the Earth environmental report card, the ship received a C+ overall. The Sol is one of 13 ships of the cruise line that has an advance sewage treatment system for a C grade with a B- for air pollution reduction. The ship is one of 11 that has plug-in capability for ports with shore-side power. Overall the cruise line of 15 ships earned an F.

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