



Photo by Julie Morgan

## Santa comes to town

December 25 (Christmas) is just days away and several sightings of Santa Claus and his favorite elf, Tony, have been made on Bonaire.

Santa said, "I'm just taking a little break from making toys before setting out on my magical world tour to deliver gifts to all the children. Bonaire is one of my favorite places to visit as all the kids are so good here."

Santa and Tony have been spotted this past week cruising around Kralendijk in a Christmas light decorated golf cart. They have visited a kindergarten, met a few young and old children at Wilhelmina Plaza, attended a party in their honor and even posed for photos with some of Bonaire's beautiful Christmas decorations.

"One of the reasons I love Bonaire is that everyone is so friendly. I can't walk down the street without someone saying 'bon dia' or 'bon tarde' or just driving by and saying 'hey Santa, Merry Christmas or giving me a ho, ho, ho and a thumbs up,'" said Santa. And, I really love the diving here too."

As in most places worldwide, Santa

gets a little help with gifts and distribution from local organizations holding gift drives, like Pasku Briante (Bright Christmas). (See story page 7.)

Unfortunately, there won't be anymore sightings until Dec. 24 and only then if you have been good. Santa and Tony are

on their way back to the North Pole to check the list and check it twice. As the favorite and head elf, Tony will be in charge of making final preparations for the big night, Dec. 24.

Thanks to 'NORAD (North American Aerospace Defense Command) Tracks

Santa Operations Center' anyone can track the jolly old man live on the website ([www.noradsanta.org](http://www.noradsanta.org)). The site gives a close-up look at Santa's North Pole Village, a holiday countdown, games and activities. And it is live now. The website supports Chinese, English, French, German, Italian Japanese, Portuguese and Spanish; sorry, no Papiamentu or Dutch. There is also tracking on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and Instagram. There are even Santa apps available for download on smart phones.

NORAD has been tracking Santa since 1955 when a youngster dialed a misprinted phone number. When the phone rang, US Air Force Colonel Harry Shoup of the Continental Air Defense Command Operations Center, NORAD's predecessor, answered. Shoup saw the error and assured the child he was Santa and then assigned an officer to continue answering the calls. *Julie Morgan*

**The Bonaire Reporter wishes everyone a Merry Christmas and a happy holiday. Stay safe.**



Santa Claus, otherwise known as Anthony Emerenciana, and Tony the Elf aka Anthony Angila had great fun and generated a lot of big smiles in the last few weeks. Photo: Julie Morgan



## A coalition government, finally, and it's good news for Bonaire

After nine long months, Mr. Rutte's centrist Party for Freedom and Democracy (VVD) has negotiated a coalition government with the same previous partners. Rutte's cabinet resigned earlier this year over a welfare scandal. News got out that overzealous tax authorities had accused innocent families, many of Caribbean origin, of falsely claiming child care benefits and forced them to repay huge amounts of money.

According to the New York Times, far-right parties that have been gaining ground in recent years saw the March elections as an opportunity to demand systematic changes in the Netherlands. But Rutte won by a landslide. Then the negotiations to form a new government required concessions that nudged him

more to the left. The results promise to be favorable to the BES Islands.

Rutte has declared that his government intends ensure Bonaire, Saba and Sint Eustatius are an equal part of the country. It will invest €30 million in the economy of the Caribbean Netherlands. Further, the government is reassessing the social minimum and will increase social security. It intends to strengthen the labor market and reduce poverty. It will assure that the financing of basic facilities is properly managed.

The government plans to free up more money for housing, health care, education, and subsidies for child care. It will reduce the fixed costs for utilities in the Caribbean Netherlands by accelerating the switch to fully sustainable energy,

sewerage and a better drinking water supply. The government also intends to support local agriculture projects and opportunities for ecotourism.

Rutte reaffirmed that Aruba, Curaçao and Sint Maarten are politically autonomous and are responsible for their own good governance and sound government finances. He promised the government in The Hague will continue to contribute to the economic development of the three Caribbean countries as they strengthen and improve their soundness of governance and public finances.

Rutte's coalition partners are D66, Christian Democratic Appeal (CDA), and Christen Unie (CU). *DMR (New York Times, Dossier Koninkrijksrelaties)*

## Dutch campaign against island corruption intensifies

In 2015 the Dutch government launched the Team Combating Undermining (TBO) in the Caribbean part of the Kingdom. Undermining, also called subversion, refers to the interdependence of organized crime and public administration. In addition to corruption, TBO investigates serious forms of tax fraud, embezzlement of public funds, falsification of documents and money laundering.

In a recent letter to the House of Representatives, State Secretary Knops (BZK) reported on the TBO's progress. Knops said the motion to create TBO was widely supported when introduced in the House and passed easily, although the affected island governments didn't want to talk about the problems it addressed. TBO's budget during 2016 - 2021 has been 12 million euros annually, contributed by the central government.

Knops reports that on Sint Maarten several politicians have been convicted

of corruption by the TBO. A large-scale fraud investigation in the port also resulted in a number of convictions, and a criminal settlement was reached following a money laundering investigation.

In Curaçao several convictions followed an investigation into bribery in the acquisition of an oil refinery. After investigations into suspected money laundering, a bank had to relinquish assets suspected of being criminally involved.

More subversion investigations have been undertaken as additional resources were committed to the Criminal Investigation Team, the Public Prosecutor's Office, and the Joint Court of Justice. Crimes were investigated that had a financial-economic component and involved so-called Politically Exposed Persons (PEP) - civil servants, government limited liability companies, facilitators or organizations in the collective sector.

Despite these successes, the govern-

ment wants to refocus the fight against subversion from legal action to a preventive administrative approach. Knops pointed out that criminal cases have a long lead time, may be subject to appeal, and are often financially complex and intertwined with other forms of crime. Preventing corruption is preferable to punishing it.

Knops declared that, "The approach to undermining is a matter for the autonomous countries themselves." The government is budgeting and additional 13 million euros to support the creation of structural commitment and accountability within the island governments. Discussions are underway regarding steps the local governments can take to block subversion. In the meantime, TBO will continue to spend 12 million euros per year investigating and prosecuting corruption in the island governments. *DMR (Dossier Koninkrijksrelaties)*

## Covid-19 round-up

**From CNN World: The Netherlands entered a strict new lockdown Sunday** [December 19] due to fears over the Omicron coronavirus variant, and the UK's health minister wouldn't rule out further restrictions, as Europe braces for a surge in Covid-19 infections over the usually busy festive period.

Indoor gatherings in the Netherlands will now be limited to a maximum of two guests per household until at least mid-January, Prime Minister Mark Rutte announced Saturday. That number is extended slightly around Christmas and New Year's Eve to four guests.

Non-essential shops, hospitality venues and cultural institutions will also be closed, while schools will remain shut until at least January 9.

In a televised address, Rutte said the lockdown was "unavoidable because of



Lt. Gov. Edison Rijna (far right), other members of the Executive Council, and members of the press showed up at Kompleho Deportivo Jorge Nicolaas to get their third covid vaccination the morning of December 16. It's time for the community to finish building a solid wall of immunity against the virus. The world first became aware of Covid-19 two years ago this month, and by the following March Bonaire shut down and our lives had changed. With due diligence and alert public health management, Bonaire has fared relatively well during the pandemic. But as recent surges have demonstrated, some of us will continue to be vulnerable until all of us are immune. *DMR* @ Photo Julie Morgan

### This Issue's Stories

Santa is coming	1
Covid roundup	2
MoltenWolf Glass	3
Bud Gillan - Blackwater Bonaire Part 2	4
Cruise ship ratings (Britannia)	5
Sustainable investment indirect to BBT	6
Curaçao gambling crackdown	6
Donate to a Bright Christmas	7
Water Circle meets yachties	9
TCB and windsurfers	13
DCNA conference	15
Pienter in Taal ends	19

The Reporter Online also gives you Covid-19 breaking news and more

### Departments

Flotsam & Jetsam: Coalition; Corruption; BC gets booster;	2
Chocogo; Bank reserves; Airport test; Entrepreneur class	12
Who's Who in The Reporter	2
Letters/Opinions (Old permits; Retraction; Shelter pup; Travel entry requirements; Reporter clarification)	5
Police Report	6
Electricity & water rates change	6
Parrots & people (R.I.P. Stanley; Holiday Campaign; Roost count)	7
Ask Kate & Jean (Most asked questions)	8
Creating Optimal Health (Know thyself)	9
Foodies' Dining Guide	11
Reef Glimpses: (Happy New Year)	13
Live Inspired (Looking back)	15
Poem: Self-reflection	15
A Garden? (Gifts for the gardener)	15
What's Happening (Orco donates; Oliebollenrit Funrace; Nature fee)	16
Business Directory	18
Pets of the Week (Elliot dog; Uzay cat)	19
Shelter (Tote bags)	19
Make Bonaire Accessible (Appreciation)	19

### 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: January 5, 2022  
 Contributor's Deadline December 31, 2021  
 Stories, tips, questions, ideas & ads:  
 Phone (+599) 796 4055  
 Email: [bonairereporter2019@gmail.com](mailto:bonairereporter2019@gmail.com)  
 Address: Box 603, Bonaire, Dutch Caribbean.

### The Bonaire Reporter Staff

Julie Morgan, Publisher  
 Production: Barbara Lockwood  
*Contributors:* Angliet Baidjoe, Ria Evers-Dokter, Dee Scarr, Jane Madden-Disko, Rayshantaly Coffie, Don M. Ricks, Malcolm Wilson, Ann Joseph, Caren Eckrich, Roxanne-Liana Francisca, Irene de Cunda Costa, Sanne Attevelt, Monique Degenaar  
*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 DECEMBER 21, 2021

109 active	9 hospitalized
3176 total	22 deceased
85.3% 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/>



# MoltenWolf Glass - so much to explore



Valerie and Jeff Wolf with Joel Muzo Photo Julie Morgan

Valerie and Jeff Wolf have a passion for glass. They want to chat about glass, share ideas about glass and, of course, make glass art. What began as a fun class on bead making in 2010 in their then hometown of Phoenix, Arizona, has evolved into a big love for artistic glass work. And to share their love, they recently opened a new gallery store in Bonaire, MoltenWolf Glass.

The whole glass thing began when Valerie decided she would rather make her own glass beads for her handmade necklaces than buy them. She signed up for a class at Mesa Art Center. Though not a 'bead' guy, Jeff joined in too when he heard the process included using a 'live butane flame.'

Unfortunately, Jeff had a couple of problems: his eyesight wouldn't coop-

erate with the tools involved and each project had to be completed in one class. But Mesa Art offered all types of classes including a glass fusion class, so they enrolled in that instead.

From there the Wolfs took most every glass class offered at the center and then moved on to classes with specialized glass artists in the U.S. Valerie and Jeff took classes in glass painting, large glass art, how to make their own glass and basics on glass chemistry for manipulation. The Wolfs purchased a kiln, glass and the necessary tools to work at home rather than in a class.

When they moved to Bonaire in July 2019, they decided it would be fun to take everything they learned and take their glass skills to a new level by open-

ing a business, MoltenWolf Glass.

To enhance the artistic level of the venture, the Wolfs hired sketch artist Joel Muzo of Curaçao through Peoples Choice Consultancy and Recruitment. Since October Joel has been working along side the Wolfs learning all about making glass. And his drawing skills are evident in many of the glass art projects including the marine and sea life pieces.

"We want to create an atmosphere of art. Even the jewelry, every piece has something about it that makes me say, 'Oh, that's cool'," said Jeff.

Though neither Jeff or Valerie come from an art background, they both love

**MoltenWolf Glass**  
**continued on page 14**



## FOR SALE New Development 10 Caribbean Style Homes at Yellow Mountain



Located in Antriol (Kaya Adela/Kaya Rafaela). Lot sizes vary from 400 m2 till 612 m2 of owned land. Lay-out: 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, vaulted ceilings on the top floor, tiles throughout the home, covered carport, kitchen including electric stove, double sink and hood, fenced garden with sliding gate.

**GREAT INVESTMENT!**

**Prices start at \$319,000 US Dollar**

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





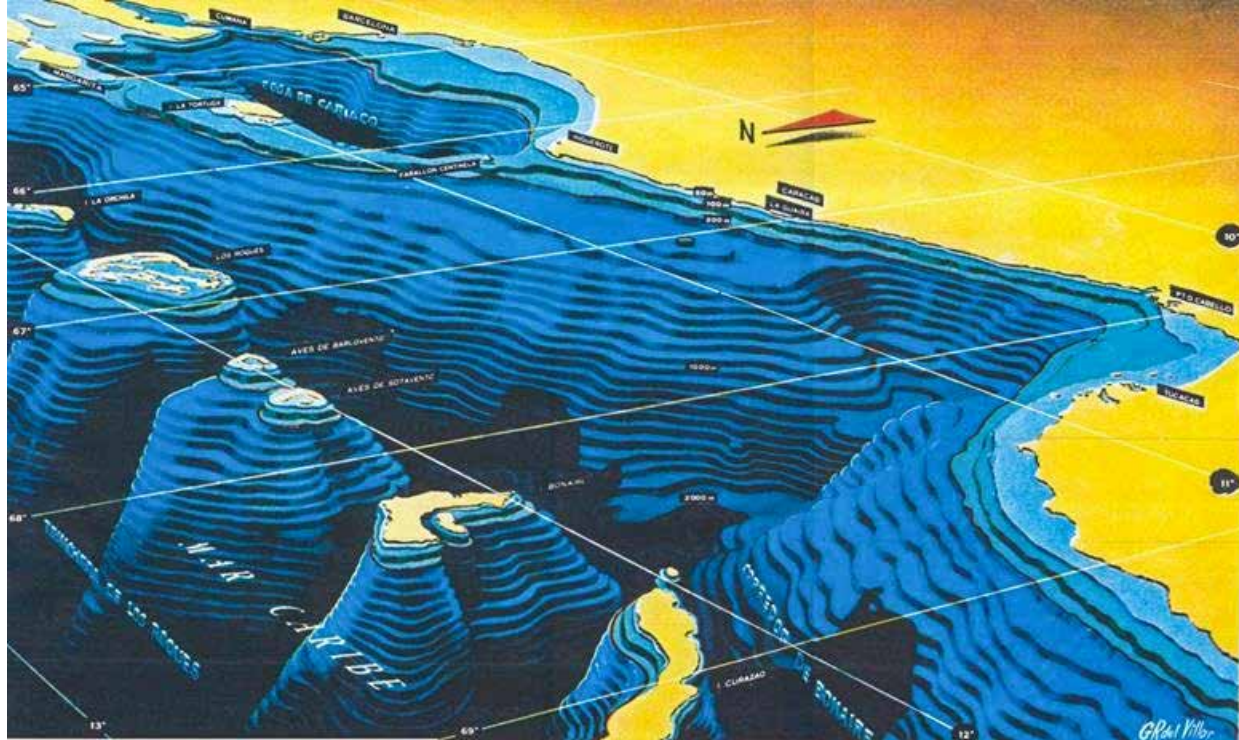
## Blackwater Bonaire, Part 2: *Creatures Here Below!*

by Bud Gillan, Educator & Researcher  
bud.gillan@gmail.com

# Tiny Things Lead to Big Ideas

Bonaire sits in deep water...very deep. On a latitudinal (12 degrees) line with Curaçao, Los Aves, Los Roques, et al, the topography of these islands sit along the Bonaire Trench. Check out this map.

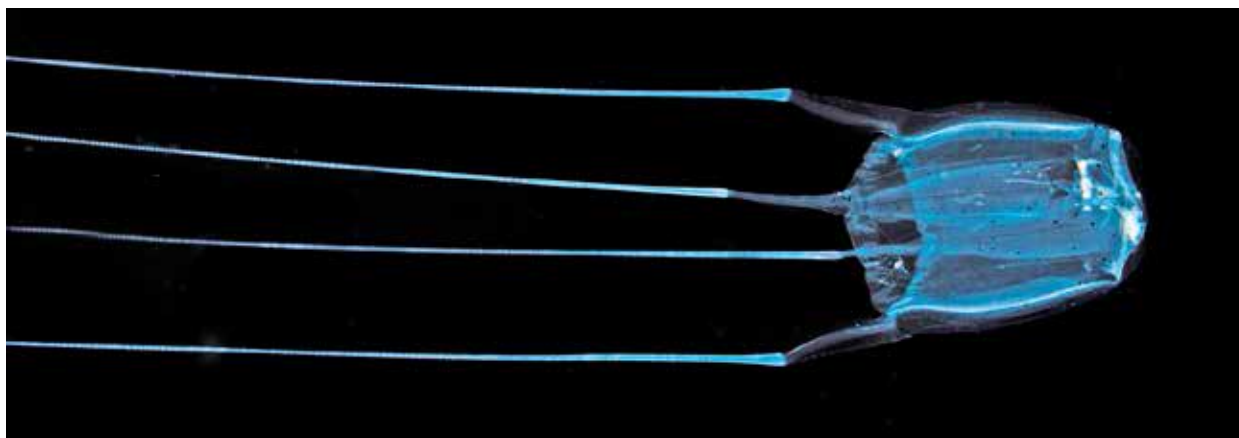
Find Bonaire and Klein Bonaire. Blackwater Bonaire starts here in these deepwater profiles going down over 1000 meters deep. Look at the vast structures adjacent to the island of Bonaire. Here is a view of the Bonaire Trench between the string of islands, including Bonaire, facing South America. Even between the coast of Bonaire and Klein Bonaire there is a deep cut that provides a cradle for organisms and pathway for nightly migration to places like Oil Slick Leap, Bruce's Rappel and Karpata.



Deep water profiles around Bonaire, Curaçao and other islands of the Leeward Antilles ridge off the coast of Venezuela. (From: Smith et al. 2002). <https://images.app.goo.gl/mNCxNgmENPovgFv46>

## Biotic Blizzards

These birthing sites are part of the Southern Caribbean Marine Eco-region and feeds the entire Gulfstream that starts along the coast of South America. This macro view of the region's topography is very instructional. The teacher in me looks for clues and reasons things are the way they are. Blackwater's tiny things lead to big ideas about the ocean. The uber-deep topography hosts a dazzling array of organisms from tiny zooplankton, larval, and post-larval stages to vast schools of pelagics. The biotic blizzards can be so dense some nights that it is difficult to see individuals. While Bonaire's vast underwater profiles and topography help explain why, but what is even more impressive.



**Box jelly** Copyright Ned Deloach. Blennywatchers.com

# Blackwater Buddies

Blackwater Bonaire has a mind-numbing array of biological stories. A nightly migration of organisms having shapes, colors, geometrics, iridescence, transparency, minutia, and morphologies create the “what’s that?” factor. It is such an adventure.

Here's what my keen-eyed Blackwater buddy, Leanne Pinkerton, says. "Every night is an enlightening experience of spectacular findings!"

Many nights the findings are right under the surface in a snow globe-like blizzard. There are always surprises like on Anna and Ned Deloach's picture showing hydroids living on a larval sea butterfly. These hi-res images are fundamentally changing our knowledge and understanding of embryology and morphology in the sea. Anna agreed while there are many places in the world to Blackwater dive and snorkel, Oil Slick Leap is one of the premier places and you only need to climb a ladder to get there. In fact, many nights I sit at the bottom of the ladder and watch the creatures from the deep rise in staggering diversity and numbers. Many are still new to me. That is about as exciting as it gets...seeing something I've never seen before. Our dive lights are a great attraction to those that live in the dark much of their lives. As we found out at Pink Beach in 1988, nighttime snorkeling over the drop-off is interesting, bizarre, and immensely fun. Yet there is so much more to discover from the shallows to the Bonaire Trench.

## What's the Big Idea?

Worldwide, Blackwater is exploding with popularity attracting the curious to new realms. Amateur bird-watchers are the citizen scientists that changed ornithology. The same is happening in marine biology. Nightly,

eager explorers and clever photographers are capturing pictures of the unknown near the surface of the water. Currents passing by Bonaire and its neighbor islands feed their coral reefs and the Gulfstream with a myriad of new larval and post-larval that grow into adults. Further north, off the coast of West Palm Beach, Black-water divers are filling dive boats in record numbers recording new larvae and post-larval organisms that were previously unknown. On Bonaire this happens mere feet from the shore. A new story is unfolding before our eyes.

Last week, a Blackwater Bonaire buddy, Dr. Johnny Larsen, an ER doctor from N.J. and long-time Bonaire lover, answered the “What’s the Big Idea?” question this way. “I find Blackwater diving and snorkeling off Oil Slick Leap in Bonaire to be totally fascinating. The array of creatures that come up from the depths, such as larval eels, fish, shrimp, octopus and other things I don’t recognize. There are box jellyfish that are 1 mm size with creatures ingested within them. These are things I have never seen before in my 50 years of scuba diving. It’s a whole new world of frantic animal activity and I want to know more...”

Yup, that's me, after my first snorkel on Bonaire in 1966 and 50+ return trips and countless nights in black-water watching the known and unknown...I want to know more!

**William (Bud) Gillan** is a science guy. He taught AP and Honors Biology and Ocean Ecology at the CIEE Bonaire Research Station. He is a collector and consultant to The Smithsonian Institute. His current research includes: box jellies and their stings, the impact of chemical sunscreens on coral reefs, and finding effective, natural insect repellents.



**Sea butterfly with colony of hydroids**  
Copyright Ned DeLoach. Blennywatchers.com

***Ned and Ann DeLoach** along with **Paul Humann** are best known as the authors and photographers of the most used fish, creature and coral ID books available for the average diver and snorkeler, the Reef series, by New World Publications. The first Reef ID book came out in 1989 after DeLoach and Humann became frustrated with the current books available, as they were too technical. The Reef books were designed by divers with the normal diver/snorkeler in mind. To date there are nine books and the list continues to grow with new or updated versions.*



# 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.



## Clean up the skeletons in the closet: Revoke the old unused permits.

The Executive Council (BC) is working on preparations for a comprehensive review of the Bonaire Spatial Development Plan (revision ROB).

The BC intends to include in the revision of the ROB rules:

- leading to the construction of high-quality hotels, resorts and other high-quality recreational accommodation facilities and

- leading to a balanced composition of housing construction and use of housing for all target group.

Protection of nature is not mentioned at all; “nature” the most important source of income for Bonaire.

In anticipation of this revision, the BC took a Preparatory Decree for accommodation recreation and housing construction (VB) (P&A2021005980) on 2 December 2021 to be able to put developments, that do not fit in the ROB revision, ‘on hold’. An almost unreadable piece that again contains enough possibilities to apply arbitrariness.

According to the BC, this VB is to achieve an overall increase in the quality of the recreational facilities and a balanced composition of housing.

The VB only applies to new permit applications. But what will happen to the ‘skeletons in the closet’, issued, unused permits, which thwart the BC’s purpose described above?

The law provides for the possibility for the BC to respond to this, namely by withdrawing the building permit (Article 2.12 sub b. BES Housing, Spatial Planning and Environmental Management Act): if construction work has not started within one year after the permit’s issuance, the permit may be revoked. A crystal-clear article without ifs and buts!

A good reason to revoke unused permits and to clean the closet. It also could be an action that shows BC really cares about nature and not “just issues texts for folders”.

This month, the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) announced that for the first time, more than 40,000 plants and animals are threatened with extinction, including 1,000 species of dragonflies and damselflies. The destruction of the wetlands is the main cause of the decline of these species. The IUCN reiterates the need to protect the wetlands and the diversity they harbor as they increasingly give way to urbanization and agriculture.

An example in this context. Would a building permit (issued in 2018, unused for more than a year) for the construction of a house on a plot largely located in the RAMSAR area still be issued today? No!

The next twenty or thirty years are crucial, as far as biodiversity is concerned only ten years are left... How to act, maybe we are too late, maybe it will fail but at least we must have made the effort. Withdraw those unused ‘speculative’ permits! Don’t let it be just vague words. Remove the skeletons now!

*Wilma Nijland.*

## Retraction

In a strongly worded opinion piece that occupied this space in the last issue of *The Bonaire Reporter* (December 8 – December 22, 2021) I made several statements regarding the laws and rules governing kunukus on Bonaire. I hereby retract everything I said about kunukus in that opinion piece. I have been informed that my basic premise—that all kunukus are parcels of public land that are leased from the government short term strictly for agricultural use—is no longer accurate. My wife and I held a kunuku short term lease for 20 years, dating from the mid 1990s. Apparently major changes have been made since then that I was unaware of. I’m now in the process of learning what they are.

I also apologize for a serious lapse in journalistic ethics. I should not have declared the development “Illegal.” I should have used a term like “perhaps illegal.”  
*Don M. Ricks*

## Updated travel entry requirements

In reference to the recently updated travel entry requirements released by the government I have a few comments

**All travelers from high-risk and very high-risk countries will be required to undergo a PCR test on the fifth day after arrival at their own expense at a commercial testing center and not at the Public Health Department. Unvaccinated travelers are obligated to self-quarantine for five days. Subsequently, they must undergo a PCR test at their own expense at a commercial testing center and not at the Public Health Department. Travelers may only leave quarantine once they have a negative test result.**

While I understand the need for this, I think this is getting a little crazy. The only reason we are willing to go through this is due to the fact that we stay for 2 months. Do they really think dive travelers are going to do this for a 7-10 day stay?

It really gets expensive. For example: Due to the 48 hour (not 72) hour requirement they instituted, my wife and I must go to a rapid PCR test center and pay \$190 each. Upon arrival it’s another \$125 each for the 5 day PCR...then another \$35 each when we leave to go home. That’s \$700 for the two of us before travel costs which have also skyrocketed. Some American airfares approach \$1000 RT.

If the policies were implemented for ALL traveler’s fine and good, but there is a major glaring hole in all of this. THOUSANDS of cruise ship passengers coming weekly that are NOT subject to these same rules. Even ships with fully vaccinated people are having major Covid outbreaks! By allowing all of these transient visitors they are going to start a major outbreak. It will not due to people like us. Dive visitors are the ones who pump thousands of dollars into the local economy, not the cruise ship visitors who spend practically nothing. Are they going to require all cruisers to take another PCR test 24 hours prior to arrival? Bonaire better get its priorities straight or they will kill the golden goose that supports most of the island. *Brad Louth*

## A Reporter clarification

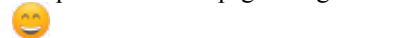
The front page story in our Nov. 24 - Dec. 8 issue has been misunderstood. Our story was written as a celebration of the boat pump out facilities recently installed at Harbour Village Marina. We feel the pump out facility is an important step forward in helping preserve Bonaire’s reefs. We did not intend to imply any criticism of the yachting community. We now recognize that some of our word choices at the beginning of the story were, well, unwise. We apologize.

# Shelter pup now at home in Rotterdam

Good afternoon,

Our adopted puppy was very nice on the front page of your newspaper. She is now 6 months old and lives with us in Rotterdam. She is a fantastic dog and we couldn’t do without her anymore.

We called her “Jibe”. A dog from Bonaire needed a name from there we thought. She is absolutely great and sweet, although she is getting really big. Today 6 months exactly and more then 20 kilos already. I hope she will stop growing soon.



Our last day on the island I heard about the paper so I went to get some. It is always great to keep them and see that she was in there.

Thank you.



**Jibe’s puppy photo from *The Bonaire Reporter*.**



By the way, if you like it, you can follow her on Instagram doggy\_jibe

*Danielle van Gemert*



## CRUISE SHIP RATING

*Britannia* of the P&O Cruise line was in Bonaire’s port on Dec. 15 along with Friends of the Earth environmental “F” rated *Aida Sol*. The *Britannia* was not listed on the normal schedule. P&O ships have the lowest ratings in each category by Friends of the Earth for sewage treatment, air pollution reduction, water compliance and criminal violations. They did receive an “A” for transparency but an “F” overall. The *Britannia* had 1,248 passengers on board with a capacity for 3,647.

# POLICE REPORT

## Property crime

**Dec. 19.** Between 3:10 and 3:15 pm, thieves smashed the right rear window of a car parked at the 1000 steps dive site taking a backpack containing, among other things, four passports, an E-reader, a black wallet and some medicines.

**Dec. 17.** In the early afternoon, lady sitting on the beach at the Bulevar Gobernador Nicolaas Debrot was robbed. She was surprised by an unknown man who pushed her off her chair and then ran off with some items including: two backpacks, clothes, two wallets with different cards and cash, a Lorus watch, some keys and a camera bag containing a black Panasonic Lumix camera, Sandisk SD cards and an extra camera battery.

**Dec. 14.** Between 11:30 am and 12:15 pm, thieves took a black iPhone 12 plus, an iPhone 10 plus and cash from an unlocked car at the dive site ‘Weber’s Joy’ while the owners were diving.

**Dec. 10.** Thieves gained access to a house on Kaya C.E.B. Hellmund through the bathroom window between 6:15 pm and 10:15 pm. They took, among other things, a gray Apple MacBook, a black Acer laptop, a gray HP laptop with charger, black Zeiss binoculars and cash.

**Dec. 10.** In the afternoon victims were surprised at Alta Mira in Rincon by a man armed with a knife, who asked them to surrender their goods. The suspect took a backpack containing two telephones and a wallet.

**Dec. 6.** Between 7:30 and 10:45 pm, thieves gained access to a tourist accommodation in Punt Vierkant through a window. Among other things, a television, a PlayStation, clothing, a safe and various valuables were taken. The perpetrators also took a white Nissan pick-up, model Frontier, with registration number V-5181.

## Arrested/held in custody.

**Dec. 19.** A man, 59, was arrested for assault at a tourist accommodation in Point Vierkant. Staff confronted him for harassing others at the bar. He then assaulted the security guard who was called in.

**Dec. 18.** A 54-year-old man and his 24-year-old son were arrested for insult, assault and public assault. After the duo got into a fight at an apartment complex, they drove off, ignoring police orders. They also failed to stop when another patrol ordered them to do so. Finally, when the police blocked their car, they insulted the police as they got out of the car.

**Dec. 12.** During the night hours, a man, 55, was arrested for threats, assault with a weapon and attempted manslaughter. The suspect assaulted another man with a harpoon at a house on Kaya Blenchi. He then took a Hummer car but was stopped on Kaya Linda. The harpoon was seized for further investigation. The victim was taken to hospital by ambulance for medical treatment.

## Traffic accidents/violations

**Dec. 13.** In the morning hours, the police station received a report about a woman who had been hit by a truck in Sabade-co. The driver of the pickup said he probably fell asleep briefly behind the wheel, causing him to hit the woman who was running. The woman was treated at the scene by paramedics.

**Dec. 12/13?** In the evening around 9:35 pm, the driver of a moped flew out of the bend on Kaminda Sorobon and ended up in the mondi. He was taken to hospital by ambulance.

**Dec. 12.** At about 8 pm a pickup truck approaching from Julio A. Abraham Bulevar took a large bend at the T-junction connecting the two roads to enter the Kaya Internashonal. The driver of a scooter swerved but fell when he was hit by the pickup. The pickup drove away. The scooter driver was taken to hospital by ambulance for a check-up.

**Dec. 11.** At about 10:50 pm a moving bus hit something sta-

tionary on Kaminda La Union. The bus driver was taken to hospital by ambulance.

**Dec. 11.** In the night hours police stopped the driver of a quad. He was found to be under the influence of alcohol and was arrested. A breath analysis was performed at the police station. Following the result of the breath analysis, he was banned from driving for 11 hours and his driver’s license was revoked.

**Dec. 7.** Around 5:35 pm at E.E.G. Bulevar a driver fell from his scooter. The driver was taken to hospital by ambulance.

## Traffic controls

**Dec 8-10.** Traffic checks were carried out at various locations and several vehicles were seized.

During a check on Kaminda Turistiko, a driver received a police report for driving without a driver’s license and insurance. The car was seized until valid documents could be presented.

At another location, a moped was seized because it was not insured. The driver was charged for failing to comply with a police demand and for driving without a driver’s license and insurance.

A scooter was seized when the driver who had been questioned several times could not show a driver’s license and insurance. Upon closer inspection the chassis number turned out to be incorrect for the insurance certificate.

The driver of a car was given a police report for driving without a valid driver’s license and without a license plate. A small amount of hemp was also found and seized.

In addition, official reports were issued for driving without valid number plates, without a helmet and without a seat belt.

## Fire

**Dec. 14.** At around 12:30 pm the police station received a report about a fire in the vicinity of Jato Bako. The fire brigade extinguished a fire in several car wrecks. Residents were asked to close windows and doors because of the smoke. No one was injured.

**Dec. 6.** In the late afternoon, the police received a report about smoke in the vicinity of Kaya Grandi. A resident burning garbage was asked to extinguish the fire and received a warning.

**Dec. 6.** At around 3:40 pm the police received a report of a fire in a mondi near Kaya Pueblo. The fire brigade extinguished the grass fire.

## Public service

**Dec. 19.** During nighttime surveillance, a patrol came across a catering facility still serving alcoholic beverages to customers at 1:15 a.m. The employee received an official report for violating COVID-19 measures.

**Dec. 14.** The pathologist has concluded a natural death after an autopsy on the body of Benjamina Neuman. She had been missing for 11 days when she was found dead near Bolivia. The pathologist has determined a natural death. The woman probably died of dehydration due to disorientation. There are no indications of violence.

**Dec. 15.** An 86-year-old man who had been attacked and bitten by stray dogs in Lagun Hill was taken to hospital by ambulance for medical treatment. The owner of the dogs said he would approach the vet to have the dogs put to sleep.

**Dec. 10-12.** Several reports of aggressive dogs and stray dogs that cause nuisance to local residents came in last weekend. Police talked to the dogs’ owners. In one case, an aggressive dog was seized by animal control for attacking people.

# Curaçao promises gambling crackdown

According to a written question submitted by the parliamentary opposition, approximately 12,000 thousand illegal gambling websites are located in Curaçao, and 40% of the worldwide unregulated gambling traffic goes through Curaçao. In responding, Minister Dekker (Legal Protection) and State Secretary Knops (BZK) announced that this month the Curaçao government will adopt a plan to tackle the gambling mafia.

Knops and Dekker explained the problem. “Curaçao has its own gambling laws and regulations. The licensing, supervision and enforcement of the offer of offshore games of chance have therefore come within the autonomy of the country of Curaçao since 10-10-10. Based on local laws and regulations, a small number of master licenses were issued by the authorities of Curaçao that allowed the economic exploitation of the license to be transferred to other parties without the intervention of a government body. This has resulted in a large number of sub-licences, which explains the offer of online games of chance from Curaçao.”

Because the online casinos are allowed to operate under legislation governing economic zones, their income is exempt from taxation on Curaçao. Curaçao and the Netherlands agreed in the Curaçao national package that online gambling would be reformed. That action apparently is now being taken. *DMR (Dossier Koninkrijksrelaties)*

# Netherlands makes indirect investment in sustainable energy

The Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate (EZK) has released 10 million euros to expedite the transition to sustainable energy on Bonaire. Some people are puzzled, however. Why is the money going to Bonaire Fuel Terminals (BBT) instead of Water and Energy Company Bonaire (WEB)?

WEB’s goal is to raise electricity production from 25% sustainable to at least 80% sustainable and eventually cut costs in half. BBT, on the other hand, was founded in April and tasked with the immediate goal of constructing a fuel terminal near the airport to help ensure the safety and reliability of the island’s existing fuel infrastructure.

Dossier Koninkrijks Relaties reports that the motion directing the 10 million euros to BBT contained a provision to extend BBT’s mandate to include stimulating sustainable power production on the island, perhaps to appease members of the House of Representatives who are critical of investing in fossil fuels.

According to Marcelino de Lannoy, recently appointed Project Director at BBT, “Our ambition is to initially but progressively reach between 70 to 80% of sustainable energy production. At the same time, we recognize that fossil fuels will still be required on the long run, for air traffic and traffic on land.” Apparently WEB and BBT will both be working to achieve the same goal, but separately and each at its own pace.

The 10 million Euros will contribute indirectly to the island’s energy needs. EZK is using it to buy additional shares in the state-owned BBT. The money will increase the value of the company and thereby enable it to attract additional capital for whatever projects it undertakes. *DMR (Dossier Koninkrijks Relaties)*

# Rates for electricity and drinking water change

The maximum rates for the production and distribution of electricity and drinking water on Bonaire, Saba, and St. Eustatius will change effective January 1, 2022.

For Bonaire, the maximum usage rate for electricity increases from approximately 0.29 USD/kWh to approximately USD 0.33/ kWh. The maximum limit for the pagabon rate (prepaid) increases from approximately USD 0.50/ kWh to approximately USD 0.53/ kWh. An average household can expect an increase of approxi-

mately USD 8.00 per month on the electricity bill.

The maximum rate for the consumption of drinking water decreases from approximately USD 3.81/ m3 to approximately USD 3.74/ m3. For an average household, this means a drop of approximately USD 0.75 per month on the bill.

The price has increased mainly because the price of oil needed to produce electricity has risen sharply.



## 2021 has been a wild year.

This time we have really sad news. We end the year with a great loss of color at our conservation center. With heavy hearts, we announce that Stanley, one of our residential adopted macaws, has passed away. Stanley was originally owned by Jack Chalk from Captain Don's Habitat and surely is one of the most well-known parrots on Bonaire and afar. When Jack passed away, his two Macaws, Stanley and Baby moved to Echo to reside at their own retirement resort as was designated in Jack's last will.

Everyone who has visited us on a tour is likely to have met Stanley and Baby and know a little bit of their history. Stanley has truly brought colors to the center since 2015 but is now reunited with his beloved owner. Baby remains in the retirement resort at Echo; he is well taken care of by our team and awaits your visit. Please visit [www.echobonaire.org](http://www.echobonaire.org) to book a tour or donate.

### We are launching our Holiday Campaign!

We need donations to help us improve existing aviaries, build several new ones and continue our conservation efforts. Progress has been great, but we need more materials, which can get expensive. We are planning a new "hospital" aviary to house parrots found injured by cars, window collisions or other animals. Your support will also help cover the cost of Echo's yearly education programs and Wild Monitoring projects.

### Our roost count of 2022 is coming up.

It is very important to preserve the biodi-



versity of our island and that's why we do an annual count of the yellow shouldered Amazon parrots, an endangered species on the island. There are multiple observation points for conducting the parrot count and each one needs two volunteers to observe.

***Do you want to join us? Help us count the parrots on the January 29, 2022. Contact us at [info@echobonaire.org](mailto:info@echobonaire.org).***

Lastly we want to wish everyone a happy holiday. We hope the new year and upcoming years will reward us all with more beautiful colors in the wild.

May this holiday fill your heart with love and your home with joy and your life with laughter. We wish you a colorful and prosperous 2022!

# Give the kids a Christmas gift

We are counting down the days to Christmas and Bonaire Youth Outreach Foundation (BYOF) and other volunteers have wrapped over 200 gifts for their Pasku Briante (Bright Christmas) project. They want to make sure every child on Bonaire age 2- 12 receives something special for Christmas. Their goal is to distribute at least 410 gifts to the less fortunate children of Bonaire and they are half way there.

**And it's not too late to help out.** Sun Rentals is accepting gifts through Friday, Dec. 24. And Delphins Beach Resort is doing a two-day gift event where anyone can drop off a gift or buy one.

What should you buy? The volunteers are filling the boxes with toys, school supplies

and hygiene products. Monetary gifts are also accepted through the Bonaire Youth Outreach Foundation bank account.

The volunteers will be delivering the gifts and a snack box and drink in three different neighborhoods Dec. 23 and 24.

Make Christmas a little brighter for Bonaire's kids and for yourself too. There is nothing like the feeling of giving at Christmas.

Bank information for donations:

Banknumber: 01.0608.909

Bank: MCB (Bonaire) N.V.

Address: Kaya Gob. N. Debrot 64

Name: Bonaire Youth Outreach Foundation

SWIFT: MCBKBQBN



**Project Pasku Briante (Bright Christmas) volunteers L-R: Angelo Alberto, Mary Ramada, Courthlina Martis, Jetzenia Martines, Merainy Bomba, Gianni Thomas, Rose-Marie Mercelina and Rulian Emerenciana.**

**bottles**  
WINE ■ ■ ■ ■ ■  
BEER & SPIRITS

**THE BEST WINES FROM AROUND THE WORLD...**

**bottles**  
WINE ■ ■ ■ ■ ■  
BEER & SPIRITS

Kaya Industria 43  
Kralendijk | Bonaire  
+599 7179470  
[bonaire@bottles.online](mailto:bonaire@bottles.online)

[www.bottles.online](https://www.bottles.online)



# Christmas menu

MAKE THIS YEAR DIFFERENT... AT OSCAR LIGHTHOUSE!

**December 24, 25 and 26, 2021**

**\$85,- P.P.**

**AMUSE**

**MONEYBACK**  
Wonton Crabmeat | Citrus Dressing

**DUCK CARPACCIO**  
Duck Breast | Mango Compote | Marinated Bundle Fungus | Red Wine Syrup

**OSSOBUCO** OR **PUMPKIN SOUP**  
Risotto | Parsley Truffle cream

**SPOON**  
Sgroppino

**BEEF WELLINGTON AND LOBSTER** OR **FISH DUO PAPILLOT** OR **VEGETARIAN MOUSSAKA**  
Pepper sauce | Beurre noisette  
Pineapple Citrus | Pernod | White Wine Sauce  
Lentils | Sauce Vierge

**VANILLA ICE CREAM BOMBE**  
Red Fruit Coulis

**WINE PARING 1/2 GLASS \$35,- WINE PARING FULL GLASS \$49,-**

PHONE (+599) 7172009  
WHATSAPP(+599) 7772009

OSCAR LIGHTHOUSE  
MARINA HARBOUR VILLAGE  
BLVD GOB. N. DEBROT 67

## Ask Kate & Jean

### Bonaire real estate advice

Thank you for your questions this past year.

Often we receive the same question a number of times, so in this last column of 2021, we are answering the three most frequently asked questions we received this year.



Jean and Kate

**1. Are there any special restrictions for foreign buyers buying in Bonaire?** No, anyone may buy a home on Bonaire. However, there are rules about how long a non-resident can stay on the island each year. Depending on what country your passport is issued in, this can range from 3 months to 6 months. If you are interested in a longer stay, you can explore becoming a legal resident of Bonaire.

**2. What are the costs to purchase a property?** Plan on an additional 7 to 8% of the purchase price for costs to transfer the deed. This includes the 5% transfer tax payable to the government that all buyers (both resident and non-resident) pay, and 2 to 2.5% in buyer closing costs, depending on whether you are paying cash or mortgaging with a Bonaire bank. Items such as taxes, long leases

and HOA/VVE costs (if applicable) are pro-rated at the time of closing.

**3. Can I buy a property if I am not on the island?** Yes. You can sign a limited power of attorney for the Notaris to transfer the deed on your behalf if you are not on the island at the time of closing.

Please keep asking your questions, we will always email you the answer and will put some in our column.

We wish you all a happy and healthy New Year, and look forward to answering your questions and seeing you in

*Kate and Jean, your Bonaire team  
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).



**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)





# Water Circles meets with yachting community

The Bonaire Water Circles project, a collaboration between several stakeholder organizations that protect Bonaire's marine environment, organized a Zoom meeting with Bonaire's yachting community on Dec. 16. The purpose was to discuss decisions made so far, and the decisions still pending, in addressing a critical problem on Bonaire. An estimated 95% of the boats surveyed - having been provided no other alternative - have been emptying their sewage holding tanks in Bonaire's waters.

The solution to the problem is straightforward. Bonaire has to provide a system for sewage to be removed from the holding tanks of visiting boats, transported to the island's sewage treatment plant, and treated. The yachties have to cooperate by using the system and helping pay for the service. The ways and means issues are more complicated.

The Water Circles spokespersons proposed four key recommendations: Provide a mobile pump out boat that also provides services such as fresh water delivery, trash pickup and environmental products. Attach seals to the Y valves on yacht holding tanks and fine boats that break them. Refuse entry to boats without a holding tank. And help the island cover the costs of providing these services by increasing the daily mooring fee to \$45. The present fee, \$10, was set sixteen years ago and provides only a secure place to tie up.

More peripheral possibilities were also discussed during the Zoom meeting. Require boats to reserve moorings in advance, for instance, and limit the time they can stay. Deny mooring privileges to long time users, those with sedulas. Educate prospective visiting yachts in advance regarding the island's rules and regulations.

Regarding the key issue of pump out facilities, representatives of island organizations reported that a dock-side pump out station has been available to all boats at Harbour Village Marina since mid November. The meeting participants recommended any expansions to Bonaire's marinas must include sewage pump out facilities.

WEB addressed another major issue, the fact that the

island's sewage treatment place cannot process salt water, by proposing three options to the meeting: 1. Deliver the waste by truck to the small treatment plant; 2. Use a controlled discharge into the big treatment plant to keep the salt content within acceptable limits; 3. construct a desalination plant that was dedicated to processing sewage with a high salt content. Water Circles agreed to the second choice.

The meeting set a timeline for achieving the proposed recommendations:

January 1 - All new visiting yachts be granted overnight mooring privileges for a maximum of three months.

March 31 - An online mooring reservation system will be in operation. Boats with holding tanks are no longer be allowed to empty within 12 miles from shore. Their Y valves will be sealed, or dye tablets will be put in tanks without Y valve.

July 1 - STINAPA wants to begin charging a \$45 overnight mooring per night. Owners of private moorings will be charged \$1,000 per year; Resident sedula holders will no longer be able to use the 51 overnight moorings. They will be reserved for visiting yachts.

Water Circles will organize information sessions between these deadlines.

Water Circles also said they hope to add additional amenities like a dingy dock so the cruisers can spend money on shore, laundry facilities and showers.

During the freewheeling meeting, many questions were asked, answers given, and opinions expressed. Considerable traffic showed up on Facebook following the meeting. Many of the yachties reported they felt that their voices were not being heard, that the meeting was designed to manipulate the discussion, and that they were not being treated fairly.

The organizations that are collaborating in the Bonaire Water Circles project are the World Wildlife Fund Netherlands (WWF-NL), the Water-EnergieBedrijf Bonaire (WEB), Openbaar Lichtum (OLB), STINAPA, Fundashon Mariadal and the Water Alliance. *DMR, Photo Julie Morgan*



## Other places, other overnight fees

**A cruiser who spoke with *The Reporter* contacted a few places he had moored in to check his memory of mooring fees**

- St. John, USVI is \$13/n (Senior rate) in the National Park Bays.
- Druif Bay, USVI is free.
- Dakity in Culebra, PR is free.
- Norman Island, The Bight, BVI is \$25/n.
- Jost van Dyke, BVI, \$30/n.

**A mooring allows you to "park" your boat. A marina, in addition, provides amenities and security: water, electricity, trash bins, showers, toilets, laundry, etc. In Curaçao the Sera Boca Marina charges a monthly rental and utility fee that works out to about \$15.50 a night.**



## Creating optimal health

by Irene da Cunda Costa

### *Know thyself*

### The many paths of self-knowledge and self-development

Each new year is always full of purposes and objectives. The beginning of 2022 can be a good time to deepen the path of self-knowledge.

"Know thyself" is a phrase that refers to the importance of self-knowledge for the human being. It was written at the entrance of the Greek Temple of Apollo at Delphi. "Know thyself" sets the path of acquiring knowledge about our own nature and our limitations and becoming better.

There are many different paths to acquire this knowledge. Our early ancestors used the guide of spiritual shamans who, through rituals and substances, tried to help those who resorted to them. Later in the Western Hemisphere the role of the guide came to be fulfilled by the local priest. People found cathartic relief from confessing their sins, discussing their conflicts and tribulations and receiving counsel. In the eastern hemisphere, this path has been traveled through disciplines like yoga, Zen Buddhism and martial arts, where a guru or teacher represents knowledge and spiritual guidance.

In the late XIX century psychotherapy took the place of confession for some. A professional in the health

area interacts with a patient to create an environment that promotes self-knowledge, self-understanding and active change. Psychotherapy aims to alleviate the suffering caused by personal conflicts and by certain pathologies. At the end of the 20th century, another discipline emerged, which is life coaching, not belonging to the health area, but rather to the area of personal development and well-being. Coaching uses some tools common to psychotherapy derived from cognitive and positive psychology, such as education in emotional intelligence, Socratic dialogue and cognitive restructuring, among others. Coaching does not work with pathologies and basically aims to achieve objectives. Both psychotherapy and coaching are great contributors to self-knowledge.

It is not only through the help of a professional that we gain self-knowledge. Some people practice journaling, recording periodically their experiences and emotions. This is a beautiful path to gain self-knowledge and you can go as deep as you desire. There are multiple ways of journaling, from a simple blank notebook, to the ones that come with inspirational thoughts or awareness creating questions. Some journals come with tips to learn how to observe yourself and your reactions. You can also combine other methods with journaling.

The practice of meditation or mindfulness develops

the internal observer, allowing a deeper knowledge of our own nature. The combination of meditation and journaling creates a synergistic path to self-knowledge, magnifying the results.

Yoga also offers a magnificent opportunity for self-knowledge and self-exploration combining the observations of respiration, bodily sensations, emotions, and thoughts. During postures, while being aware of your breath, you also experience a full array of emotions like tiredness, sense of achievement, boredom, rebellion, surrender and more. Recognizing and accepting these emotions becomes part of the yoga practice. Recording afterwards the thoughts and emotions you had during the practice will surely throw light into your inner world.

"Know yourself" is our most important mission in life: understand ourselves, accept ourselves, study our own essence, because that way we can intentionally guide our lives and actions to better serve and help others.

Of course, there are other methods of self-knowledge and I would love to hear about them if you want to share. Feel free to send me your thoughts and comments if you wish to [iredacunda@gmail.com](mailto:iredacunda@gmail.com). I wish to all my readers a 2022 filled with sunshine, wisdom, courage, serenity and awareness.

*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.*





# MORE WAYS TO WIN THIS CHRISTMAS

**\$5000 cash & many more gifts**

**Buy a Prime Bundle Today for Your Chance to Win!**



**Better Together This Christmas**



**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. Debot 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 RESTAURANT**  
www.umbrellabonaire.com  
Open from 5-11PM  
Happy Hours: 5-7PM

**Diver's Diner**  
Max All You Can Eat Paella  
OPEN 5:30-10 pm  
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

**BLUE GARDEN**  
brazilian grill & pizza gourmet  
You will LOVE our Brazilian taste!  
Open Tues. - Sat. 5-10 pm  
JA Abraham Boulevard 6  
+599-717-2600 / +599-795-0101  
www.bluegardenpizza.com

**Still available**

**BAGEL**  
NOW OPEN  
Visit us on Kaya Grandi 30 / www.bforbagel.com

**Still available**



## Chogogo Resort opens

Chogogo Resort opened on the former site of the Sunset Beach Hotel on December 1, as scheduled. About 100 guests are registered in the south part of the resort that has been completed, with another 100 or so expected by Christmas. When finished, Chogogo will have some 200 rooms and five luxury villas.

Although the landscapers are still at work, all the primary facilities and services are in operation. Presently the resort has 35 employees and expects to have 120-130 soon. The owners report that applicants are coming to the gate looking for jobs, despite reports that workers are hard to find on the island. They say they have a good mix of employees: Dutch people, people from Bonaire and Curaçao, and resident Latin Americans.

The new resort cost nearly \$40 million to build. It is owned by Hans and Gertrude Schellevis, who operate a resort of the same name on Curaçao. Their two adult sons will manage the resort here.

*DMR (Besreporter, Bonaire.nu)*

## Banks test deposit guarantee

On December 17 several customers entered their bank with required documents in hand and asked that the money they had on deposit be paid back to them. The bank supposedly had failed. Fortunately the people were just pretending. They were helping the Dutch Central Bank (DNB) rehearse the claim procedure for its Deposit Guarantee Scheme.

Customer deposits in banks in the Caribbean Netherlands that are affiliated with the DNB are insured up to USD 10,000.00 per person, per bank, should anything happen to their bank. The DNB used the rehearsal to ensure that this process runs smoothly should one day a bank actually “collapse.” *DMR*

## Marechaussee conducts fire test at airport

The Royal Netherlands Marechaussee (KMar) tested the new kerosene storage installation at Bonaire International Airport on December 10. Both water and foam were tested and all tests were successful. *DMR (BESreporter)*

## Entrepreneur class graduates

Twenty-two people received certificates on December 9 for completing the Chamber of Commerce Academy’s 2021 entrepreneurship course. The course strengthens Bonaire’s economy by teaching entrepreneurs additional skills that can make them more successful.

As a final assignment, a ‘Shark Tank’ (Tanki di Tribon) was introduced for the first time this year. Each participant had five minutes to demonstrate their business knowledge and skills by presenting their company to a five-member jury in a creative way.

Reksel Engelhart, who pitched his ‘Best in Burgers,’ was declared the winner. He was awarded \$1,000 by Maduro & Curiels Bank, \$750 in fitness training from the Bon Bida Health Center, and three months of business internet from Telbo. Flora Wijnand of Smart Choices Bonaire promised Englehart coaching sessions, and Rignald Wout of and Ohana Consultancy promised to help him write a business plan.

The Public Entity Bonaire and the Chamber of Commerce intend to offer the course again during 2022. The Ministry of Economic Affairs & Climate subsidized the development of the curriculum. *DMR (Bonaire.nu)*

## Governments organize to help young people succeed

The Public Entities in the Caribbean Netherlands and five departments of the Central Government have signed a cooperation agreement to work together in supporting

the development of adolescents and young adults of the three Caribbean islands. The targeted group is young people between the ages of 13 and 23 in the Caribbean Netherlands. The parties to the agreement will focus on housing for teenagers and young adults, leisure and development activities, poverty alleviation, youth participation, domestic violence, child abuse, education and employment.

In addition to the Public Entities of Bonaire, Saba and St. Eustatius, the cooperation agreement was signed by the Ministries of Social Affairs and Employment; Interior and Kingdom Relations; Education, Culture and Science; Justice and Security; and Health, Welfare and Sport.

Agencies are also organizing to address problems revealed by “Head worries of Caribbean students,” a report prepared by national ombudsman Reinier van Zutphen. Van Zutphen met with almost 40 representatives of educational and government institutions, students and counselors to explore the many practical bottlenecks Caribbean students still encounter when studying in the European Netherlands. Special attention was given to the MBO students, who often come to the Netherlands unaccompanied, are not organized and are younger than HBO and WO students.

In the report, the ombudsman noted that Caribbean students can get stuck during their studies in the Netherlands for various reasons. As a result, they incur study delay or even drop out prematurely. The ombudsman called on the government and in particular the Minister of Education, Culture and Science, the State Secretary for the Interior and Kingdom Relations in the Netherlands and their colleagues on the islands to do everything they can to make studying in the Netherlands as easy as possible for these students. *DMR (Dossier Koninkrijksrelaties)*

*Educational levels: MBO vocational training courses • HBO higher applied education • WO a bachelor’s degree*

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

the fifth wave that is coming at us with the Omicron variant,” Reuters reported. Failure to act now would likely lead to “an unmanageable situation in hospitals.”

**Bonaire has declared new entry restrictions** in response to the rapid spread of the highly infectious Omicron variant in other countries. All travelers aged 12 years and older from the Netherlands and the US must take a PCR test within forty-eight hours before departure to Bonaire. They must also take a self-test on arrival at their holiday accommodation and a PCR test at their own expense on the fifth day after arrival.

Travelers who self-test positive on arrival at their holiday accommodation must remain in isolation and make an appointment with the Public Health Department for a retest.

Bonaire now treats passengers from high-risk countries and from very high-risk countries the same, the Netherlands and the US included.

**The travel bubble for travelers from the CAS islands and Bonaire will end Thursday, December 23, 2021.** Aruba, Curaçao and St. Maarten will be high risk islands. All travelers must do a PCR test 48 hours before departure to Bonaire. They must also complete the health declaration from the Public Health Department online 12 to 24 hours before departure. On arrival, all travelers from the CAS islands are required to take a free self-test, on the fifth day after arrival they must take a PCR test at their own expense at a commercial testing company.

Travelers who are not fully vaccinated are also required to quarantine at their place of residence for five days upon arrival.

**On Bonaire positive tests decreased significantly** the week of December 2- 8, from 742 per 100,000 inhabitants to 483. The incidence increased slightly on Curaçao and remained about the same on Aruba and Sint Maarten. No new infections were reported on Saba or Sint Eustatius.

**The Omicron variant has not shown up on Bonaire yet,** but it is spreading faster than expected and will inevitably arrive soon. It seems to spread two to three times faster than the Delta variant. The Health Department wants those still not fully vaccinated to get their corona jabs and booster jab now. When the Omicron variant arrives it will impose major burden on the hospital and the rest of the healthcare sector on Bonaire.

**People should get the third shot for added protection.** Those 18 and older can make an appointment for the booster jab by calling 0800 0900. People can get the booster shot six months after their second vaccination. Those who need either their first or second vaccinations can also call 0800 0900.

**COVID-19 vaccination continues to prove very effective,** according to hospital records. Since July 11, 92% of the people who tested positive even though vaccinated did not require hospitalization, and 92% avoided ICU admission. Of the infected COVID patients presently in the hospital, 73% percent are not vaccinated. In the in-

tensive Care Unit, 83% have not been vaccinated. Vaccinated people who become infected average three days in the hospital, while the non-vaccinated average eight days. About 33% of the unvaccinated patients who are hospitalized for COVID stay longer than 14 days.

**If you are fully vaccinated but have had close contact with an infected person, you must go into quarantine.** There is a risk that you yourself have been infected with the coronavirus and could pass the virus on to others. Quarantine lasts 10 days. On the fifth day you may undergo a PCR test at the Public Health Department. If you test negative, you may leave quarantine.

**Colombia is now admitting only fully vaccinated travelers.**

**Victims can still join the Long COVID research program.** The Public Health Department is making follow-up contact to find out how many people on Bonaire still have complaints such as fatigue, shortness of breath and problems concentrating long after being treated for the infection. From November 15 to December 3, more than 500 citizens on Bonaire were questioned about the complaints they had, and interviews will continue until December 31. People who want to participate in the study can register by calling 0800 0800. The interviewers want to talk with people who have no complaints as well as those who have symptoms. All information regarding individual patients is kept private.

**The first cases of Omicron** have turned up on Aruba and Sint Maarten. *DMR*





# Reef Glimpses

by Dee Scarr

## Happy New Year!

Here it is, the end of 2021. Our terrestrial world has changed quite a bit in the last year or two, but isn't it wonderful that underwater the issue of COVID-19 isn't an issue at all? No COVID-19 changes underwater; each dive takes us right back to BC (Before Covid) times. Hooray!

It's fun to look at the bright side for a change.

Another thing I am oh so grateful for is that, for us here on Bonaire, the disruption of diving was minimal. I know that's not true for our dive operators, and I'm especially grateful to them for continuing to provide the services that we needed to keep on diving. I know that at least one Caribbean island, probably more than one, shut down all its dive operations as part of its COVID protocols. I don't think they had shore diving, though.

Our shore diving made a huge difference. Everyone could dive regardless of boats. No wonder people on Bonaire were calmer than at so many other places!

Once the mask is on and the face is underwater, there's no COVID.

On any dive or snorkel here nowadays, we're likely to see a marine turtle or two.

This was not true when I first came to Bonaire in 1980; we saw fewer turtles then. (When I began working on San Salvador a few years earlier, sea turtle had just been taken off the Wednesday's lunch menu – not because turtles were endangered, but because the providers couldn't find any turtles.) The world of unprotected turtles is shrinking, thanks in part to the great work being done here by STCB.

In the 1980's, fish traps were common and (I think) legal on Bonaire's reefs. It's difficult for divers to see fish in traps, and visiting divers destroyed many fish traps. The reactions of our fishermen contrasted strongly from those on a nearby island. Bonaire's fishermen reacted by placing their traps away from dive sites. Our neighbor island's fishermen threatened to sink the dive boats. Doncha love Bonaire?

Yesterday, on a shore dive, I saw a magnificent green moray who wasn't much smaller than Klein Bonaire. Since I had just added a little lionfish to my keeper, and the moray was about six feet (2m) away from me when I first saw it, and greens have a growing reputation for getting assertive around lionfishers, I didn't stick around to examine the moray. My feeling is that morays, and any of our other critters, are welcome to all the lionfish they find, as long as they don't mug a diver to get them.

You know that lionfish, natives of the tropical Pacific, have invaded the entire Caribbean, right? On Bonaire, volunteer residents must take a course about lionfish and how to remove them before receiving a Bonaire National Marine Park permit to hunt lionfish. Visitors may take

a course and go after lionfish only when accompanied by a Bonaire lionfishing instructor.

Unfortunately, Caribbean undersea predators who would like to eat lionfish don't have any instincts (or training) telling them how to catch lionfish. Clearly, what is needed is an underwater predator education program for morays. Just a simple sign would do it, one circle showing an eel eating a lionfish headfirst, the other circle – crossed with a slash – showing an eel eating a lionfish tail first. Divers could carry the sign and hold it for morays to read. Now Bonaire is not only the first to teach divers to remove lionfish; we will also be the first to teach morays to remove lionfish!

Although that would be an amazing start for 2022, so is what we have now: our protected marine environment, our dedicated residents who work on keeping our island and its reefs and mangroves healthy and clean, and at least one green moray who's almost as big as Klein Bonaire. Doncha just love Bonaire?

*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 touchthesea.com.*



The top arrow crab is new and bright like the new year; it has just shed the shell beneath it.



Perfect coral, like this brain coral, is wonderfully common on Bonaire.



This young turtle is curious and unafraid.



## TCB notes



Tourism Corporation Bonaire (TCB) toasts its long-term joint partnership and marketing agreement with local award-winning windsurfers Amado Vrieswijk, Elton 'Taty' Frans, and Youp Schmit.

On Friday December 17th, 2021 the TCB sealed the deal with the three professional athletes, who are recognized as Bonaire Ambassadors at The Frans Paradise. On behalf of TCB, CEO, Miles Mercera announced the intention and vision in the execution of this marketing agreement with each windsurfer.

L-R Miles Mercera, Marjolein Oleana, in the back Rolando Marin, Youp Schmit, Taty Frans, Amado Vrieswijk and Elesier Angel.

Trouble finding a printed copy of The Reporter?  
Read us online! <https://bonairereporter.com>

*You'll love this boat*



*For Sale*

L 27ft x W 9ft

Solediesel SN104 Engine - 336 hrs

Double Berth - Head with Toilet and Sink

Two Pit Stove and Sink - GPS, VHF, Trailer

Bow Screw for Easy Docking

15 HP Yamaha Outboard for Emergencies

Very Stable in Rough Seas - \$59,800

*Contact Sol for more information 795-3280*



# Christmas SHOPPING NIGHT

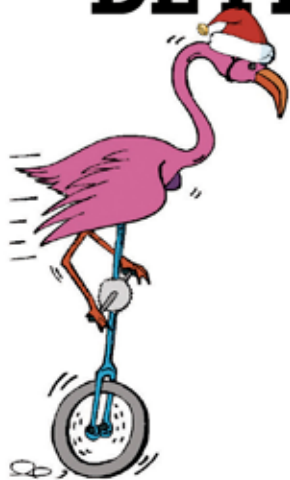


**DUSHI**  
SHOES & ACCESSORIES

**DUSHI**  
STYLE & SPORTSWEAR

WWW.DIVEFRIENDSBONAIRE.COM | INFO@DIVEFRIENDSBONAIRE.COM

## 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)

## MoltenWolf Glass, continued from page 3

and appreciate art.

Jeff said, "We want it to be gallery work and every time someone comes in, they see pieces that are a little different."

The art pieces will be made in limited numbers. Possibly 10 per design and each one will be done in batches with different combinations and varieties. So if you see something you like, it might be best to buy it now as it might not be there on your next visit to the store.

Valerie said, "Glass is very forgiving. I don't have to be as precise as a painter. There are so many techniques in fused glass, I can't find enough time to do it all."

She especially loves making the practical and functional glass items: vinegar bottles, bowls, plates, platters, soap dishes, etc.

They both decided it was a good idea to make the jewelry. It's fun and economical and sells faster than other items.

The Wolfs want to engage other glass artists on Bonaire to be involved in the gallery store. They've found other glass loving local artists who are working in Murano glass, recycled and stained glass. Valerie and Jeff are open to share their space, to see what everyone is doing with glass and to expand the knowledge and appreciation of glass art making. They want to talk to people who want to know what glass does.

Jeff said, "One night a month we'll talk about art and how it was done. We

aren't keeping any secrets. We want people to see how we do things. There is still so much to explore with what can be done with glass. We want to grow the glass community on the island."

MoltenWolf Glass beautiful art pieces range from functional to fashionable. You can put the work on your walls, on a table or you can wear it.

The Wolfs try to keep the prices reasonable: jewelry is \$30-\$35; functional pieces \$30-\$50 and fused art from \$175-\$250.

Valerie and Jeff Wolf first came to Bonaire on their honeymoon in 1995 as divers. They kept coming back because they could just walk in to the sea and dive. They love the island, want to enjoy their time on Bonaire and be a part of the community.

MoltenWolf Glass is scheduled to open full time January 4, 2022 from Tues. - Sat. 9 am - 6 pm. But for a sneak peak and possibly pick up a Christmas gift, the doors will be open Thurs, Dec. 23, Tues, Dec. 28 and Thurs. Dec. 30.

For more information visit: <https://moltenwolfglass.com> or visit their Facebook page. *Story & photos Julie Morgan*



# Merry Christmas!

from the Sunbelt Realty Bonaire team







# 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.

## Looking Back...

### Reflection For Today

*"Reflective thinking turns experience into insight."* - John Maxwell

### Tip For Today

"Another year is coming to an end, Swinda."

Swinda was looking at the beautiful sunset while she and her best friend were enjoying their *Malecon Sunset Power Walk*.

"Yeah, Chichi, I can hardly believe it. This year went by so quickly. Have you taken some time already to look back at your year?"

Here are some helpful tips for our dynamic duo (and you) to review 2021...

**Reflect.** Did you reach your goals? If not, why not? What valuable lessons did you learn?

**Celebrate.** Did you celebrate your achievements, big or small? How can rewarding your wins help you with future goals?

**Share.** Did you share your achievements with someone? How can what you've accomplished and learned help others?

Remember...

Successful people look back to move forward. They celebrate their achievements to reinforce their behavior. And they share their lessons learned to help others grow.

"You know, Swinda, I think you are right! I've been so busy lately. I haven't taken time yet to look back and review my year."

## Nature - use it but don't lose it

On Bonaire we face a dilemma as we plan for sustainable economic growth, as do the other islands. The unique biodiversity that we have in the Dutch Caribbean - that is, nature - is both our most valuable economic resource and our most fragile one. Nature is big business. It attracts tourists. But unwise tourism development destroys nature.

The recently concluded Dutch Caribbean Nature Alliance (DCNA) convention on Curaçao reminded participants that while nature provides opportunities for considerable economic growth, such growth should not be attained at the expense of natural assets. The Dutch Caribbean islands need to integrate sustainable development practices into policies and long-term plans. Nature must be the point of departure in decision-making and in the creation of strategic plans.

DCNA's board renewed its commitment

"No worries, Chichi, I haven't either", Swinda said with a smile.

"How about we do it together? You know what they say...sharing is caring!"

### Affirmation For Today

Today I am looking back to reflect, celebrating my achievements, and sharing my lessons learned.

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."*

## Self Reflection

By Lawrence S. Pertillar

*What you may find acceptable,  
With expectations from others...*

*To agree,*

*May bring to you a degree...*

*Of psychological comfort.*

*And this may appease your limited,*

*Philosophy based upon outdated perceptions.*

*If you just stepped away from yourself,  
With an examination that has depth...*

*Of a self reflection,*

*You 'may' still have some time left...*

*To regain some respect,*

*You 'believe' is owed and deserving.*

*There is nothing like awakening,  
From one's overslept delusions.*

ment to raising awareness of nature's economic value among Dutch Caribbean governments and to engaging the next generation in nature conservation discussions.

Global warming was also an important issue discussed at the conference. Director of DCNA, Tadzio Bervoets, said another goal of organization is to help the islands increase their resiliency against the myriad external shocks that are heading our way due to global warming. *DMR*



# A Garden? Just Do It!

by Angliet, Nature Lover

It's such a great time

The Christmas season is such a great time. People come together; there are nice things to do and great recipes to make. We write personal sweet words in Christmas cards, wrap gifts in special paper with red and green ribbons and enjoy the smell of Christmas trees.

Are you ready for Christmas 2021? Still looking for Christmas gifts? If you have a gardener home, or you want to surprise a gardener friend, I have some Christmas ideas. Let me start by saying this: any gardener or horticulturalist will tell you that tending a garden can quickly grow from a hobby into a lifelong passion. While such gardeners own tools, they also need a lot of different tools. As a gardener, myself, I know how nice gardening can be with the right garden tools in your hand.

You can make a gardener happy this Christmas with garden tools gifts. Even if he or she has it already, a second one is never too much because its handy to have tools close by in different spots in the garden.

Even if you have done all your Christmas shopping, get one more gift, a garden tool, for your home gardener. It is sure to be a success.

### Here are some ideas that would make great holiday gifts:

- Classic bypass hand pruner and a good one is from Swiss company Felco. If the gardener is left-handed, left-handed shears are perfect.
- Trimming scissors for pruning and snipping that requires a finer touch.
- A garden rake or a folding garden rake is good for squeezing into narrow spaces between rows of plants.
- Gardener's tool seat with bags on the side to keep tools. The seat is ideal for those with back pain so they can still garden.
- Garden gloves come in many types, sizes and different materials depending on what the garden job is.
- A wide-brimmed sun hat will protect the face against the sun is a necessity on Bonaire.
- Comfortable light flexible boots or clogs.
- Sunglasses to protect against the sun but also to protect against dirt that can enter the eyes during gardening.
- Outdoor blanket for a picnic in the garden or kunuku.
- Hoe and cultivator.
- Citronella based insect repellent is highly effective and smells so good.
- For bird lovers a hanging bird bath and feeder.
- Vegetable and flower seeds, bulbs and cuttings.
- Watering cans and spray bottles in nice designs.



- Garden hoses come in a variety of styles and lengths and are always needed.
- Ceramic pots and glass vases.
- Garden gift certificate.
- A book about gardening or subscription to a garden magazine.
- Garden decorations.
- Vegetable trug (a shallow oblong basket made of strips of wood).

Be creative and make garden gifts yourself. Bonaire offers a lot of raw material to feed your creative mind. Think of driftwood for garden decorations. Pallets make nice garden chairs and tables and shelves. Paint stones to put in the garden for decorations. Wild, dry flower bouquet made from bougainvillea. Make a wall decoration or collage of dry seeds from tamarind, Flamboyant tree, tuturutu and papaya along with dried leaves and flowers. Recycle old pots and cans by painting and planting a nice plant in it. Make hanging baskets from rope with macrame techniques. Write plant names on painted stones for garden labels.

And last, but not least, an overall, a gardening suit with long sleeves as protection against the bugs.

I hope this list gives you some great ideas for Christmas gifts for more gardening in 2022.

And so this is Christmas 2021 and I wish everybody on Bonaire, garden friends, nature lovers, tourists, The Bonaire Reporter staff, the writers and readers a Merry Christmas and a cool fantastic Old Years Eve.

Visit us!





# 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](mailto: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 canceled** Given the increase in the number of Covid-19 infections and the fact that schools are in mandatory quarantine, Indebon has decided to cancel primary school competitions until 2022

## Del Mar Oliebollenrit

### Friday 31 December

**Location: Te Amo Beach**  
**Start: 15:30 h**

Afterwards we have oliebollen, appelflappen, beer & wine!

More information at the Freewieler and on Facebook Bonaire Xtreme MTB

**HELMET REQUIRED!**

**del mar**  
books, art & office supplies

2 routes 'Rondje Zuid':  
Fun 25 km | Elite 40 km

Sport drinks and cold water on site!

## Orco Bank donates 165 Christmas gifts

Orco Bank donated 165 Christmas presents for less privileged children to the initiative "Ieder kind een kerst cadeau" (Every child a Christmas gift), a non-profit organization in Curaçao.

Orco Bank's employees spent the week of December 6th gathering the donations from their colleagues. Subsequently Orco Bank doubled the total amount of donations made by its employees, allowing the bank to provide double the presents and spread double the joy this Holiday Season.

Orco Bank wishes all children on Curaçao, Bonaire and St. Maarten Happy Holidays, and May your greatest wish ring true in 2022!



Direct flights to Bonaire	
<b>KLM -Amsterdam</b>	Dec. 15, 2021 to Jan. 14, 2022: Daily with 1 extra flight Mon. Wed. Fri. Dec. 26, 2021 extra flight Sunday
<b>TUI -Amsterdam</b>	Current: 4 weekly flights; Tues. Wed. Thurs. Sat.
<b>Delta - Atlanta</b>	Dec. 18, 2021 to Jan. 4, 2022: Daily flights except Tuesday Jan. 4 to April 9, 2022: 4 weekly flights: Mon. Wed. Fri.
<b>American -Miami</b>	Dec 16, 2021 to Jan 3, 2022: Daily flights
<b>United - Houston, &amp; Newark</b>	Beginning Nov. 6, 2021 Saturday flights from both Houston and Newark. Arriving at 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](http://www.onlinebibliotheek.nl)

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

**Washington Slagbaai:** Open every day. 8-5 (entry up to 1 pm)

**STINAPA headquarters:** Mon-Fri 8-4. +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](mailto:animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com)

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

Thursday December 23	<b>Christmas shopping night at Dushi shoes and Dushi sportswear.</b> Open until 9pm
Saturday December 25	<b>Christmas Day.</b> Public Holiday. Government offices and businesses are closed
Sunday December 26	<b>Boxing Day.</b> Public Holiday. Government offices and businesses are closed
December 31 - January 1	<b>Fireworks bring in the New Year.</b>
Saturday January 1	<b>New Years Day.</b> Public Holiday. Government offices and businesses are closed
Sunday January 9	<b>Clean Coast Bonaire.</b> 4-6 pm Piedra Pretu Beach. Collect marine litter & data by donating your time working as a citizen scientist.
Saturday January 29	<b>Annual Lora Roost Count</b> 6-8 am. To volunteer phone Echo +599 701 1188.



## STINAPA Nature Fee

The 2021 Nature Fee expires on Jan 1, 2022. However, a grace period makes your nature fee valid until January 14, 2022. The 2022 Nature Fee became available for purchase on December 16, 2021. It will be valid through the rest of 2021 and 2022. Pay at <https://stinapa.bonairenaturefee.org>

Commemorative tags for 2022 are available at Stinapa, Washington Park and participating dive shops.

## Tentative cruise ship schedule from TCB & Harbour Office

DAY & DATE:MM/DD	CRUISESHIP	TIME	PIER	CAPACITY	& LINE
Wednesday	12-22	<i>Carnival Freedom</i>	0900-2300	N.pier	2980 Carnival
Wednesday	12-22	<i>Marella Discovery</i>	1300-2000	S.pier	1830 Marella
Thursday	12-23	<i>Nieuw Amsterdam</i>	0800-2300	N.pier	2106 HAL
Friday	12-24	<i>Enchanted Princess</i>	0700-1800	S.pier	3668 PCL
Friday	12-24	<i>Seabourn Odyssey</i>	0800-1800	N.pier	450 Seabourn
Saturday	12-25	<i>AidaPerla</i>	0800-1800	S.pier	3286 Aida Cruises
Saturday	12-25	<i>Seven Seas Explorer</i>	0700- 1400	N.pier	750 Norwegian
Sunday	12-26	<i>Regal Princess</i>	1200-2000	N.pier	3560 PCL
Monday	12-27	<i>Costa Deliziosa</i>	0800- 1800	S.pier	2826 Aida Cruises
Monday	12-27	<i>MS Riviera</i>	0800-1900	N.pier	1250 Oceania
Tuesday	12-28	<i>Explorer of the Seas</i>	0800-1700	S.pier	3114 RCCL
Wednesday	12-29	<i>Celebrity Silhouette</i>	0700-2200	S.pier	2886 CEL
Thursday	12-30	<i>Mein Schiff 1</i>	0730-1600	S.pier	TUI
Friday	12-31	<i>Norwegian Getaway</i>	0700-1900	S.pier	3961 Norwegian

## Tentative cruise ship schedule from crew-center.com

DAY & DATE:MM/DD	CRUISESHIP	TIME	PIER	CAPACITY	& LINE
Monday	01-03	<i>Britannia</i>			4406 P&O
Tuesday	01-04	<i>Grandeur of the Seas</i>	1200-2100		2393 RCCL
Wednesday	01-05	<i>ms Nieuw Statendam</i>	0800-1700		3218 Holland American
Wednesday	01-05	<i>Marella Discovery</i>	1300-2000		2074 Marella





CARIBBEAN HOMES  
**+YACHTS**  
BONAIRE



We wish you  
**HAPPY**  
HOLIDAYS  
&  
a **HEALTHY**  
**2022**



Interested in buying or selling property on Bonaire?

Plasa Reina Juliana 6  
[www.caribbeanhomesbonaire.com](http://www.caribbeanhomesbonaire.com)

Contact us for all your real estate & cookin' needs

**T: +599 717 4686**  
[info@caribbeanhomesbonaire.com](mailto:info@caribbeanhomesbonaire.com)



# 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**



**OPEN DAILY  
8am to 5pm**

**Boat Diving  
Great Dive Shop**

**SHEARWATER**

**JA Abraham Blvd 46  
717-8819 • BB@Caribinn.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



**Bonaire Scuba**

**PRIVATE PADI COURSES  
CUSTOM GUIDED DIVES  
EQUIPMENT RENTALS**

[www.bonairecuba.com](http://www.bonairecuba.com)  
**+599-777-3483 (777DIVE)**  

**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>

**Pink Coral IT**



Your reliable partner for:

- Managed Wi-Fi Solutions
- Structured Network Cabling
- Hikvision Security Camera's
- Apple support

Kaya Soeur Bartola 13A | Kralendijk, Bonaire  
M +599 777 47 49 | [info@pinkcoral-it.com](mailto:info@pinkcoral-it.com)

**CrossFit**



**Flamingo**

**HEALTH - FITNESS - COMMUNITY**

**+599 795 1407**

**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**  
**777-7333 (REEF)**

**MOLTENWOLF GLASS**



**JEWELRY • FUNCTIONAL PIECES • DÉCOR**

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

Kaya J.N.E. Craane    Opening Hours:  
+599-7011880    Tue - Sat, 9AM-6PM

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**




**SMILING BUDDHA  
YOGA STUDIO**



For those ready to invest in their  
health and well-being to reawaken  
their enthusiasm for self-care

(English - Dutch - Papiamentu)

**+599-787-7667 • PLAZA RESORT**  
[SmilingBuddhaYogaBonaire@gmail.com](mailto:SmilingBuddhaYogaBonaire@gmail.com)

**CLEAN COAST**







**Elliot**

**Dear people,**

My name is Elliot. I'm a male doggy about 10 months old. My stay at the Shelter is already six months, and I would love to find my family. I was kind of on my own when I came to the Shelter and I only made one very close friend, but she was adopted. And so I was on my own again, but after a few months I found my way and have three very nice roommates now, but I would still like to have my own family and maybe a brother or sister.

I love to play and to cuddle. I'm very laid back and everybody's friend. Cats I have never met up close, only through the fence and I must say they are very fun to watch. Are you the one that will love me and care for me? Then don't wait any longer and come and visit me at the Animal Shelter Bonaire. See you soon!

*Story and photo: Sanne Attevelt*

**Once upon a time** there were three little brother kittens brought to the Shelter by a sweet lady. She told us the kittens were wandering in someone's garden, no mother to be seen. The kittens were about seven weeks old by then. We called the boys Uziah, Unique and Uzey.

Uziah and Unique are already adopted but this sweet and handsome boy is still living at the Shelter.

He is really handsome with his white whiskers and eyebrows. He even has a little white moustache! But most importantly, he's been at the shelter for eight months. And now it's time to move on and find a family of his own. So....are you looking for a sweet, handsome and playful furry friend? You can stop looking because here he is!

He has had all his vaccination and is healthy and neutered so.....ready to go!

Hope to see you soon!

*Story Monique DeGenaar*

*Photo Yolanda van den Nieuwenhof*



**Uzey**

**If you would like to meet Uzey or Elliot,** please come to Animal Shelter Bonaire, Kaminda Lagun 26A. The Shelter is open Monday till Friday 10 am to 1 pm and 2-3:30 pm, Saturday 10 am till 3 pm nonstop. You can also call 7014989 or 7174989 to make an appointment to see me, via whatsapp, facebook messenger and email animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com

## Shelter News

### ANIMAL SHELTER BONAIRE TOTE BAGS

Need a last minute Christmas gift? Something to "carry" you into the New Year? Animal Shelter Bonaire 100% cotton canvas tote bags made from recycled cotton are now available for sale. The Eco Choice totes measure 15.5"x11"x6", with reinforced edges and woven straps....perfect for shopping or just "toting" stuff. Supplies are limited so be sure to get yours soon. Available at Animal Shelter Bonaire and Antillean Wine Company for \$20.00. Shelter open hours are Mon.-Fri. 10:00 am -1 pm and 2-3:30 pm. Sat. 10 am-2:30 pm nonstop. Antillean Wine Company Mon.-Sat. 9 am-1 pm. PLEASE NOTE: Regrettably we cannot accommodate requests to ship these off the island. *Jane Disko*



## Pienter in Taal stops after four successful years.

Thursday, December 16, the fourth year of Pienter in Taal (Smart in Language) concluded. Over the past four years, more than 500 students from various primary schools have been given the opportunity to prepare well for secondary education by improving their command of the Dutch language. The Dutch government funded the program.

More than 120 students have followed the program this year. They started in January at primary schools in group 8. After the holidays they continued at VMBO and Liseo. In total, they took more than 100 hours of extra Dutch language lessons after school.

In the last two years, due to the cancellation or online delivery of classes

as a result of corona, the level of Dutch has fallen sharply again. Many students speak and hear too little Dutch in their environment. Unfortunately, the scores of the students on the tests have dropped again.

It is unknown whether the schools will now offer additional language lessons.

*For more information contact: Paul Ruijs, Tel. 782 4569 Stichting Lezen en Schrijven / Reading and Writing Foundation*



## Making Bonaire Accessible by Ria Evers-Dokter

*This is not the year...*

This is not the year to get everything you want. This is the year to appreciate everything you have. This is what I opened my eyes to this morning and I realized that it is very true.

Since living on my own for two years now I have noticed that a lot of changes have happened in my life. And it is people that made this happen.

When I realized I was a lonely elderly and shared this, immediately it was picked up on. Before I knew it Fundashon Hofi Kultural started a buddy program. And a lot of lonely elderly now have a buddy and they are very happy and grateful.

Because I need assistance I contacted the Zorg and Welzijn group. Now I get help to go grocery shopping, visit my doctor or specialists and get my medicine. I noticed this kind of assistance is used by many elderly and persons with limitations.

The Hofi Kultural offers all kinds of activities. On Fridays there is a crafting group and I decided to join them. I am not a big crafter, but being together with a group of active women is fun and they teach me a lot. We craft, we talk, have great coffee and we look forward to the next week we are together.

And when I feel like it, I can join the quarta, the guitar or the sinfonia groups. You don't have to learn and play, but simply go and enjoy the music, sing along and be in great company.

Many old friends come by every now and then and we simply visit, talk and enjoy the company. Sometimes they bring treats, which I highly appreciate as much

as the visits. When I need something special, they bring it. Sometimes I don't even have to ask. Mostly I don't dare to ask because I don't want to be a bother. But everybody wants to help and that is a great thing and highly appreciated.

They call me regularly to ask how I am doing and to make sure I am okay.

I joined the board of MiVaBo, because they reach out and work very hard for those with limitations. I feel proud being a part of that special group of people. Accessibility stays an important issue and we do what we can.

This morning I slipped in the bathroom and needed help desperately. I made a call and right away two neighbors came running, assisted me and called for more specific medical help. When I was finished in the E.R. I just had to call and they came and picked me up. Me and my poor wrist were very grateful.

So.... I learned I am not alone. There is a large group of people who take me and my well-being to heart and that is an awesome feeling. And I really hope that I am not the only lucky one.

I want to extend my warmest wishes for the holidays, good company and a special 2022.

*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.*



# See THE Good

AT OMNI



**SPIN THE WHEEL AND WIN  
EVERY WEEK WITH OMNI**



**20% OFF  
MATTRESSES**

**10% OFF  
ALL AC BRANDS**

Address: Kaya Amsterdam 25B-Bonaire

Tel: +599 717 7576 +599 785 7410 and +599 782 2203

Email: [omni\\_bonaire@unicomer.com](mailto:omni_bonaire@unicomer.com)

**omni**