



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



Photo: Julie Morgan

A new residential area in RAMSAR?

The Reporter issue 23 of 2021 featured an article about building in RAMSAR on the front page. The reason for this article was the permit application for the construction of a house on plot number 5-G-33 (Troca Suelto). This plot is part of an allotment plan of 6 plots, of which 1 plot is built on with a wooden house (2008). The allotment plan is almost completely in the RAMSAR area (LAC 199, International protected area), except for a very small part.

The obligations arising for Bonaire from the Ramsar Treaty entail that, in principle, no buildings are allowed within 500 meters of the high-water mark. Furthermore, the obligations of Article 3 of the Ramsar Treaty, namely the obligation to “use wisely” should be carried out in light of the purpose of conservation and protection of the special ecological character of wetlands. This applies today more than ever.

Where are we now more than six months later?

At the beginning of December 2021, following the building permit application, at least six people wrote to the OLB (Openbaar Lichaam Bonaire) stating their views/objections. One of the main reasons to object against permitting the development on plot 5-G-33, the chance of building on the other plots increases, thereby considerably increasing the pressure on nature.

Each of the submitters of objections received the

same response at the end of December, namely: “We will take your view into account in the further process”. After which R&O (Ruimte en Ontwikkeling) did not inform the persons concerned any further.

After much inquiry finally at the end of May 2022 R&O answered by saying that the process for granting a nature permit has not yet started, as the EIA (Environmental Impact Assessment) has not been completed.

On 30 June last, the OLB published a list of building permit applications. On this list is an application for the construction of again a house in the allotment plan Troca Suelto now on plot number 5-G-28. The plot 5-G-28 is the only plot of the allotment plan that is located partly in the RAMSAR area and partly in the adjacent area.

When viewing the permit application, it appears that it concerns a house built entirely of concrete and that it will be built on the part of the plot that is just outside the RAMSAR area. Since it is directly adjacent to the RAMSAR area, you might expect that an EIA is required for this building (in the buffer area). The publication of the building permit application seems to ignore this.

Step by step to a residential area and thereby destruction of RAMSAR Lac.

- First step, subdivision of the area into 6 plots;
- Second step, construction of a wooden house

on plot 5-G-29 in 2008;

- Third step, (the possible) construction of a wooden house on plot 5-G-33, EIA procedure is still ongoing 2022;
- Fourth step (the possible) construction of a concrete house on plot 5-G-28, according to R&O no EIA required given the publication of the building permit application 2022;
- Fifth step

every step follows the previous one faster and suddenly there will be a residential area in the RAMSAR Lac.

The Bonaire Nature Plan states the following:

“Bonaire owns a unique product, namely its environment, complemented by the culture and the cultural monuments. This product, if protected and assured in quality, lends itself perfectly for the development of a tourism industry... with high added value for the Island Territory...”

The value of nature, including the present Ramsar area, are essential for the economy from Bonaire. These generate services such as a beautiful environment that attracts tourists and protect the island from storms.

Next step for me, ask the RAMSAR organization what they think about this use for RAMSAR Lac. We will keep you informed.

Editorial by Wilma Nijland

Immersing in Bonaire



Louis Dessau photographing Bonaire's reefs with the Hasselblad in the 1970s. Photo Dessau senior.

A life-long traveler, Louis Dessau, owner of Destination Immersion, has visited 58 countries and has lived in many of them. He has cultural knowledge others might miss.

Dessau knows Bonaire intimately. He first lived on the island with his dad in 1969. In those early days, scuba certification wasn't required. It wasn't until the late Captain Don Stewart and the late Bruce Bowker initiated it in 1972 that Dessau was certified.

Dessau said, "My father had a little pride, and he didn't want to get certified, so I did, by Bruce."

Dessau's father was a photographer who taught his son underwater photography on a Nikonos II, then a housed Hasselblad which he has since traded in for a GoPro. Dessau studied marine biology but eventually moved to business studies earning undergrad and master's degrees.

Dessau has taught business at Dayla Moore School of Business in South Carolina since 1995 but will soon be retiring. He has led international study trips for years for undergrad and graduate students to the places he knows and loves which gives the perfect background for Destination Immersion.

nation Immersion.

Dessau, accompanied by his wife Sylvie, are back on Bonaire staying at Bruce Bowker's Carib Inn. Sylvie was certified in 1993 by long time Carib Inn employee Linda Baker.

This is Dessau's Destination Immersion inauguration trip with his first customers. The participants will dive, learn about Bonaire, the island history, slavery, solar salt pans, take a trip to Rincon, Seru Langu, Terramar Museum and get a great feel for the island through Dessau.

The next trip on the Destination roster is to Chile in November, and is perfect for wine lovers. Guests will visit Santiago and stay in the different vineyards learning about the different types of wine production, the influence on life in Chile and, of course, do some wine tasting.

Dessau's birthplace Copenhagen, Denmark is scheduled for December and his familiarity with his 'home' country is expansive. Part of the itinerary includes Christmas shopping, a visit aboard a Viking ship, Danish cuisine with a local family, tour of Kronborg castle known famously as the setting for Shakespeare's Hamlet.

On the trip to Panama in March 2023, customers will visit the Panama Canal and the historic old and new Panama City. A major focus of the trip is birding. There are 11 different types of hummingbirds and a nesting area for the scarlet macaw. Dessau's parents lived in Panama and Dessau has visited frequently since 1995. Participants will receive a copy of "Winged Jewels," a hummingbird tribute written by Dessau's father Ralph Dessau.

South Carolina, Dessau's current home, is set for May 2023. This immersion trip is mostly historical with visits to a prehistoric national park in St Helena, Middleton Plantation where the United States Declaration of Independence was signed, Ft. Sumter and other Civil War



Louis Dessau today relaxing at Carib Inn. Photo Julie Morgan

sites, home of President Woodrow Wilson and more. Clients will have the opportunity to try some real southern food like grits and shrimp.

Trips are limited to a maximum of eight clients for seven days. Dessau is fluent in Danish, English, French and Spanish making him the perfect guide. For more information visit <https://www.dessauinternational.com> or if reading online, click on the Destination Immersion ad on our business page.

Julie Morgan

FOR SALE Condo with Ocean Views Villa Flamboyant Penthouse



- Location : Hato, Hamlet Oasis Resort
- Living area : approx. 170 m2 / 1830 sq. ft.
- 2 bedrooms / 2 bathrooms / storage



- Spacious covered porch with great views
- Dramatic vaulted ceilings in living room

Virtual 3D tour



Asking price \$474,900 US Dollar

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



EU gives STINAPA €79K FOR Lac Bay

The EU has promised STINAPA €792,480 to fund projects to restore critical marine habitats at Lac Bay. The grant will also provide funding to help the Marine Park enforce environmental legislation.

Lac Bay features a wide and complex array of habitats from fringing coral reefs to expansive seagrass meadows to the largest mangrove forest in the Dutch Caribbean. According to Judith Raming, Manager of the Bonaire National Marine Park, Lac Bay is a critically important ecosystem. It is a refuge for migratory birds and a nursery for fish and turtles. It is also a major tourist attraction.

Lac Bay is threatened by increasing use by visitors, recent influxes of sargassum, deteriorating water quality, and rising sea levels resulting from global warming. The EU funded project will have five main goals: restoration of critical marine habitats, promotion of sustainable recreation, enforcement of environmental regulations, monitoring water quality, and ensuring sustainable financing.

The Reef Renewal Foundation Bonaire will collaborate with STINAPA in carrying out the project. Frances-



ca Viridis, Chief Operations Officer of the Foundation, promised that "Communication and stakeholders' engagement will be key to succeed and ultimately ensure that nature and community will both benefit in the long term."

The Lac Bay restoration project is funded through RESEMBID, the European Union agency that supports sustainable human development efforts in 12 Caribbean Overseas Countries and Territories. The project was initiated by Commissioners James Kroon, Hennyson Thielman and Governor Rijna. *DMR*

Den Heyer not running in next election



Deputy Nina den Heyer, one of the three elected commissioners who have a seat on the Executive Council, has informed MPB leader Elvis Tjin Asjoe that she will not be a candidate next March in the island council election. She will continue in office until then. Though number two on the MPB's list in the March 2019 elections, she received more votes than all the male leaders of the other parties. *(Dossier Kingdom Relations)*

Sunset Beach development dispute may be winding down

Lieutenant Governor Rijna announced at a recent press conference that the members of the Executive Council have successfully mediated among themselves their disagreement regarding the Sunset Beach building permit controversy. "We are still finishing touches when it comes to the agreements, and then we will go public with it," Rijna said.

In the meantime, in The Hague a large majority in the House of Representatives passed a motion declaring that, in the spirit of the WOL BES, when the island entities are granting permits and amendments to zoning plans, the lieutenant governors should play a neutral, non-voting role. *(Dossier Kingdom Relations)*

In an open letter, the owners and managers of other ocean front hotels have pointed out that exempting the Sunset Beach development from certain building restrictions would give that resort a competitive advantage. They say they assume the OLB would therefore grant them the same exemptions if they apply. *(See the letter on page 4.)*

Lagun video catches OLB's attention

A video showing interviews of Lagun district residents has stirred OLB promises to correct the 'hell' residents report they experience because of the smoke, stench and insect nuisance from the landfill. The interviewees report that garbage is burned in the incinerator 12 hours a day for days on end, which compounds the miseries they experience from bad odors and vermin. The OLB promises action, but emphasizes there will be no easy or immediate remedies.

Dutch won't save Bolivia

In Parliament the Party for the Animals and BIJ1 jointly presented a motion that the government buy back the Bolivia plantation to protect the area from development. The motion failed to pass by a vote of 41 to 109. *(Dossier Kingdom Relations)*

Flamingo needs major safety upgrade

Airports in the Caribbean Netherlands do not meet international safety standards. That is the conclusion of a safety analysis carried out by the Netherlands Aerospace Center on behalf of the Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management. Bringing the infrastructure of Flamingo Airport up to standard will cost E45 million the report estimates. *(Dossier Kingdom Relations)*

Warning: Heineken may not be safe

The public body Bonaire has issued a warning about the risk of glass shards in Heineken brand products from the Netherlands with an expiry date of January 31, 2023:

- Heineken beer Mono 6 x 25CL
- Heineken beer mono 12 x 25cl
- Heineken 0% FL 6 x 25 CL

People are advised not use these products. Anyone with questions can contact the Supervision and Enforcement Department at: 715-5300.

Danger of storm surge to increase on Bonaire

According to a government report, It is still unclear whether climate change will cause more and stronger tropical cyclones, and whether Bonaire will be hit more frequently. But rising sea levels are going to make relatively low lying areas of Bonaire more vulnerable to storm surge. *DMR*

POLICE REPORT

Arrests

July 7. A man, 18, was arrested on Kaya J.N.E. Crane for driving a scooter under the influence.

Public order

July 6. Police received a report of a fight at a nightlife on Kaya Grandi. When the patrol arrived, a man was lying on the ground. He was taken to hospital by ambulance for medical treatment. The case is under investigation.

July 6. At about 1 p.m. police received a report that a lifeless person had been found in an apartment complex in Belnem. The medical examiner confirmed the death of the man, 44, with the initials M.B. who was born in the Netherlands. The body was taken for further examination.

This Issue's Stories

Building in Ramsar	1
Destination Immersion (Dessau)	2
LVV Open Day Sunday	5
Real Madrid is back	5
Women's Dive Day	6
Sunfish at Dolphins with Dolphins	7
Echo's semi-annual roost count	9
Sand Dollar's Ben Anthony retires	12
Digicel is 16	12

Our facebook page and

The Reporter's Online Updates bring you news that arrives between issues

Departments

Flotsam & Jetsam: Lac restoration, Den Heyer, BIA safety updates, Sunset Beach dispute, Lagun landfill video, Parliament won't buy Bolivia. Storm surges	3
Who's Who in The Reporter	3
Police Report	3
Ask Kate & Jean (Showings)	4
Letters (Hotels want same exemptions as Sunset Beach; Bolivia)	6
Reef Glimpses: (Spearfishing lionfish)	6
A Garden? (Roses)	7
Foodies' Dining Guide	8
Optimal Health (Breathing)	9
What's Happening (Sea turtle rescue); Air flights; Cruise ships	9
Pets of the Week (Cats Vincent & Valentino; Dog Damon; Dierenlot donates needed for Markets)	10
Accessibility (Old not dead)	10
Business Directory	11

How to Find Us

Read us online:
<https://bonairereporter.com>
<https://www.Facebook.com/TheBonaireReporter/>
 Available in 70 locations
 Printed every two weeks
 Next edition: August 3, 2022
 Contributor's Deadline July 29, 2022

Stories, tips, questions, ideas & ads:

Phone (+599) 796 4055
 Email: 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 Mad-den-Disko, Don M. Ricks, Alan Zale, Malcolm Wilson, Ann Joseph, Caren Eckrich, Roxanne-Liana Francisca, Irene de Cunda Costa, Sanne Attevelt, Monique Degenaar, Kaj Schut, Daria Taiakina, Caroline Walta, Wilma Nijland, Eva van Voskuijlen, Imarisha Hagens, Sipke Stapert, Robbert Verboon
 Distribution: Marlene & Co. (Playa), Yuchi Molina (Rincon), Divi-Divi Airline, Printed by: DeStad Drukkerij, Curaçao
 Founders: George and Laura DeSalvo
 © 2022 The Bonaire Reporter

Visit us!



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.

TO: Executive College of Bonaire
Subject: high-rise construction on ocean front hospitality properties Kralendijk, July 7th 2022

Esteemed College,
The undersigned, owners, share holders and general managers of ocean front hospitality properties on Bonaire have taken note of yesterday's press conference.

During this press conference, the Lt-Governor made mention of the mediation attempt that has taken place between the Members of your College as a result of the potential granting of a construction permit for the 'Sunset Beach Resort' project. It didn't become immediately clear whether your College has already taken a final decision on the topic.

Two important elements of discussion are the maximum allowed construction height and construction density on the lot.

It will be clear to your College that the granting of

an exemption on these points would render a considerable competitive advantage to the developers of 'Sunset Beach Resort', as compared to other, existing ocean front hospitality properties on island.

The same is true for some exemptions to the rules of the Spatial Plan Bonaire (ROB) that have already been granted to other new developments.

Therefore, should your College decide to grant these exemptions, we will assume that our operations will be granted the same, more favorable conditions, in the event one or more of us would make such a request.

We're expecting more hospitality operations to agree and accede to this open letter.

We would appreciate your prompt reply. We can be contacted through our spokesperson via director@konsiliare.com and through +5997952500.

Signed by
EDEN BEACH RESORT
Olivier F. Domingo, shareholder
BUDDY DIVE RESORT Paul Coolen
HARBOUR VILLAGE BEACH RESORT
Andres Fermin
--

Sincerely, Arjen de Wolff

Building on Plantation Bolivia not only destroys nature there

Fragmentation is the main cause of decline in natural values on Bonaire

Some nature lovers tell us that building on Plantation Bolivia will restore nature. Do not let them fool you.

Developing Plantation Bolivia would further fragment the entire island of Bonaire. This would completely ignore one of the most important principles of the United Nations with regard to the management of Small Island Developing States (SIDS). Namely the principle of caution in the development of small islands to prevent permanent social and other damage to the SIDS.

One would expect from a government that has sustainability in mind that it seriously strives to develop near/in existing residential areas where there is room for more buildings. An additional advantage of this method of development is that it also allows more people to become entrepreneurs by starting a company (in the small and medium-sized business sector) that meets the needs of the residents there. This would also fit better with the philosophy of sustainability (1), and also more with the social leg of sustainable development rather than a secluded enclave of a chosen group based on the getting rich of a small group of people.

Three important consequences for (the nature of) Bonaire as a result of building on Plantation Bolivia:

Fragmentation: The fact that the natural value of the terraced landscape in Central Bonaire is relatively high is because it is relatively less fragmented compared to many other parts of Bonaire. It should be noted, however, that disturbed areas can also be found in the terraced landscape of Central Bonaire (for example at Fontein and more towards Rincon) that are probably caused by grazing and other human activities. Building on Plantation Bolivia will actually contribute to further fragmentation and eliminate the chance of remedying that fragmentation. Fragmentation of nature is seen in international publications as the main cause of deterioration of natural values. Partly due to fragmentation, invasive species have a greater chance, which in turn leads to a reduction in nature functions and value, ultimately resulting in the disappearance of native flora and fauna. It goes without saying that fragmentation in arid regions (2) such as Bonaire, the aforementioned effects are even more problematic.

Freshwater: Also in view of the future increase in the importance of water conservation, Bonaire has a great need for more nature so that there is a better guarantee for sufficient freshwater penetration into the soil after rain. In that context, too, preserving Plantation Bolivia as a nature reserve is of great importance. It is expected that in time in the southern Caribbean it will rain less, but then in downpours. Bonaire has many areas that



suffer from the influence of saltwater (the whole area of Cargill, Goto Lake, the salinías in the WSNP, GOTO Lake, Lagun, Lac).

Trees: Finally, trees are seen as the last straw in the climate crisis. Planting trees alone will not compensate for all the trees we lose. That's because the trees we lose are decades (sometimes centuries!) old. They are large and mature. They contain large amounts of carbon in their trunk, branches, leaves and roots. They've built up that storage over decades, absorbing a little more carbon each year and growing a little more each year, further increasing their capacity. In this context, planting trees can only serve as an additional strategy for preserving contiguous natural areas in which higher vegetation can be found.

According to the British Royal Society, new forests take at least 10 years to reach their maximum storage rate — the point at which they can absorb the most amount of carbon from the atmosphere each year. They continue to do this until the trees are fully grown, which will happen after about 20 to 100 years, depending on the species. It is also relevant that tree species often grow (very) slowly in our dry climate.

According to research, as much as 30 times more land is needed for reforestation to achieve the same result of climate mitigation as leaving mature trees. For every tree felled, at least 30 must be replanted to generate the

Ask Kate & Jean *Bonaire real estate advice*



I am planning a trip in August to dive and also look at properties. Can I schedule it after my dives or on the Saturday morning before we leave? Lynn

Hi Lynn, I'm so glad you asked this question. Real estate offices here are open regular business hours Monday through Friday, so evening and weekend showings are rarely possible. These are also times when renters and owners generally do not wish to be disturbed. Since we have no lock boxes on Bonaire and must coordinate all showings with some combination of owners, renters, property managers and listing agents, prospective buyers need to be flexible about showing times. It takes one to two days notice to schedule a showing, unless the property is empty. We try to schedule showings one after another on the same day, but cannot always choose whether it is a morning or afternoon. For these reasons, we ask our clients to schedule their dives around showing appointments, not vice-versa. If you are traveling with other people and it becomes too difficult to coordinate diving and viewing property, we recommend a separate trip focused on your property search. Remember to let us know the date of your arrival at least a week in advance, so we will be ready for your visit.

Many thanks,

Jean Searce, Real Estate Agent

Re/Max Bonaire

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

same climate mitigation result as avoided deforestation in the first place. (3)

"Planting trees is a great thing to do, but [it] won't make much of a difference for the next two or three decades because small trees just don't store much carbon. Preserving and growing existing natural forests is essential to any climate goal we have." Prof. dr. William R. Moomaw (lead author for five scientific reports of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC; a body of the United Nations)

This means that it is even more important to protect the existing tropical dry forest such as on Plantation Bolivia. Moreover, these types of forests are regarded in scientific publications as one of the regionally and internationally most threatened ecosystems (4).

Protection of Plantation Bolivia, and therefore nature on all of Bonaire, can be done easily:

DON'T: build 2,100 houses, 5 ecolodges and 5 agricultural areas, etc. on Plantation Bolivia (there are plenty of other good places for this on Bonaire)

DO: drastically reduce the number of grazers and restore dams.

So that nature can restore itself.

Foundation Save Plantation Bolivia

(1) 4 pillars of sustainability: (1) economy, (2) nature and environment, (3) culture and (4) social

(2) area where (long-term) precipitation is on average less than 500 mm per year

(3) Natural climate solutions, Bronson W. Griscom et al. (2017)

(4) A global overview of the conservation status of tropical dry forests, L. Miles et al. (2006)

LVV Open Day draws crowd

On July 10 LVV's Open Day welcomed more than 500 people, one of its biggest crowds ever. LVV has traditionally held its Open Day on a Saturday, but LVV director Maurice Adriaens told us that many people approached him saying that they couldn't attend because they worked Saturdays. To draw more people to the sustainable agricultural event, LVV held an Open Day on a Sunday and extended its hours.

More vendors than ever occupied the available booth spaces. Many sold traditional Bonairean food, cakes and other sweets, homemade juices, herbal remedies and a few crafts. New to the event were handcrafted rugs, clothes, coffee vendor Bonchi Boneiru, leather goods and a unique item called the Bokashi Bucket designed to turn your food scraps into a fertilizer for your plants.

Guests attended scheduled demon-

strations on how LVV makes soil, how to make Kadushi cactus soup, growing dragon fruit in a pot, a workshop on Bokashi Microorganism, guided tours of the livestock farm and a haymaking demonstration. Local musicians provided music throughout the day.

A purchase of an LVV plant came with information on how to care for the plant from an LVV employee. Kids, young and old, had fun feeding and petting the goats and sheep.

Adriaens said LVV is hoping to hold Open Day four times a year with the next event being in October. Scheduled for the October event is the long-awaited grand opening of Bonaire Daily Fresh aquaponics. Daily Fresh is the first onsite agriculture leased space from LVV.

Photo/story Julie Morgan

More photos of Open Day on the Reporter Facebook page.



Real Madrid is back



Real Madrid clinic 2019 with coaches Julius Regault and Brian van den Bergh.
Photo Julie Morgan

In August 2019, 81 local kids from Bonaire had the opportunity to learn in training clinic from Real Madrid, one of the best football (soccer) teams in the world. Real Madrid is back again for another training clinic August 15 – 19 and 75 Bonaire youngsters, boys and girls age 7-13, can be a part of it.

Coaching team member from 2019, Brian van den Bergh is returning as assistant coach and representative/director for Real Madrid in the Dutch Antilles. Local coaches Shahairo Oleana and Julius Rigault will also be on hand along with Real Madrid coach Alejandro Rodriguez to head up the team.

Van den Bergh explained that the objective of this program is to give a fair chance to kids in life. Real Madrid uses football as a tool to educate during the Clinics, and also motivate them to keep fighting and believe in their dreams.

Day one - Meet the group and explain the week's objectives and introduce the values of Real Madrid (RM).

Day two – Ways to start the game with age/level considerations and pressure tactics in sync with (RM) values.

Day three – How to use the field, recovery and teamwork using Real Madrid values.

Day four – Finishing, playful factors and competition with RM values.

Day five - Tournament; apply everything learned, enjoy, fair play and learn to win and lose with RM values throughout the game.

On the final day of the clinic, the coaches will select a player to travel to Madrid with all costs paid. This lucky player will participate in the Second Edition of the World Challenge to be held in the Real Madrid Sport City April 2-7, 2023. In 2019, Chriss Lammers was selected as the Bonaire winner and coach Shahairo Oleana was the winning coach.

Real Madrid is once again sponsored by Digicel, Banco di Caribe along with new sponsors Dive Friends Bonaire and Caribe Car Rental. These generous sponsors are providing 70 % of the cost of the clinic to 50 of the less fortunate Bonaire kids identified by Bonaire schools. Regular cost of the camp is \$300 and that includes: FRM Adidas uniform, backpack, pin and five days of training.

To learn more about Real Madrid or to register: visit Digicel Monday – Friday from 9 a.m. -4 p.m. or by email: info@frmclinicsdutchantilles.com

Photo/story Julie Morgan



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
Email: freewieler@bonairefreewieler.com

Buena vista
Perfect Service and Quality - Our Passion!
Experienced Staff - Eye Exams on Site - Insurance Accepted-Advanced Equipment
Lens Fabrication - Over 1000 different frames and sunglasses
Ray Ban, Oakley, Maui Jim and more
Mon-Fri 9-12 / 2-6
Kaya Grandi 36 Optics Tel: +599-7179181

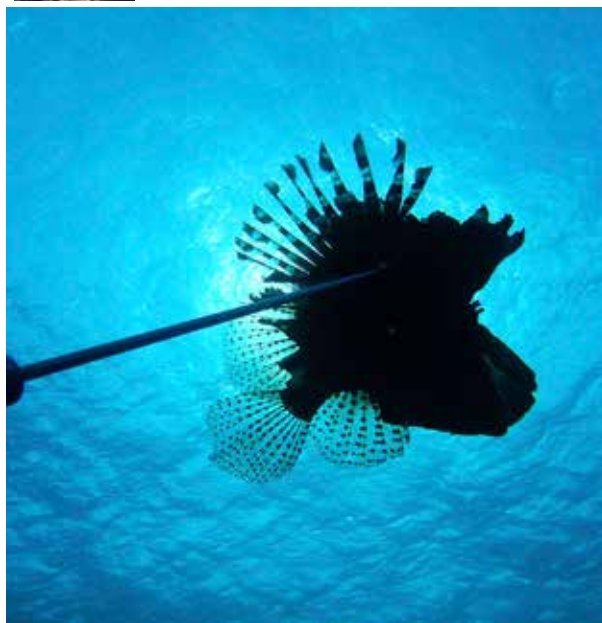
Lionfish

How They Brought Spearfishing – and a new Perspective – to Bonaire



Reef Glimpses

by Dee Scar



Lionfish the way we like to see them, on a spear. The device on the other end of the spear shaft is part of the trigger, designed by Bonaire's Bas Tol, that enables the unit to be fired with one-hand. Photo Dee Scarr

have a problem finding food – I once found seven adult brown chromis in the stomach of a medium-large lionfish. Finally, lionfish spawn often and release around 30,000 eggs per spawning. Imagine a characteristic you wouldn't want to see in an invader, and lionfish proba-

bly have it.

The BNMP knew the lionfish invasion would get here and had planned for it; that first invader was netted and removed the same day. New legislation allowed trained volunteers to remove lionfish. Everything seemed under control until, in only a few months, our lionfish grew too big and too crafty to be captured in nets. Another method of removal needed to be found.

That's why, after 50 years of the best protection in the world against spearfishing, the unthinkable came to pass: spearfishing was allowed in the BNMP. Only lionfish spearfishing, only with the speargun-like device called ELF (acronym for "Eliminate LionFish"), only by volunteers with permits, and with a bunch of other limitations.

So, how has that worked out for us?

Pretty well, actually. Thanks to the BNMP's planning and a dedicated group of lionfishing volunteers, I've had occasional dives with no lionfish sightings at all, and others have told me the same. More importantly, the populations of local reef inhabitants in the areas we dive seem the same.

Unfortunately, lionfish are flourishing in places outside the reach of sport divers. Several years ago, a submarine explored an area between Bonaire and Klein Bonaire, and found a high density of large lionfish at 400' (120m) or so. (Find their video on YouTube under Bonaire Deep Reef Exploration | Bonaire Expedition 2017.) Those fish are definitely of breeding size.

When they're not making baby lionfish, though, what are all those deep lionfish eating? We don't know enough about what's going on at 400' (120m) to know what fishes normally live there – there are small fishes

Reef Glimpses: Lionfish and spearfishing continued on page 10

Freedom | Comfort | Royal Treatment

Majestic

Comfortable banking

Comfortable banking

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

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

Orco Majestic: the ultimate feeling of freedom and comfort

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

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

The Majestic Lifestyle: you deserve it!

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

Your Personal Banker



Women's Dive Day, July 17 was celebrated by 20 of Bonaire's scuba loving women at Dive Friends Hamlet. The ladies got into the spirit with yoga led by Gwen of Zest for Life Yoga before heading out for a group shore dive at Hamlet. Participants enjoyed juices from Smooth Operators, a raffle, snorkel and a presentation in the evening by Nicole Pelletier of Caribbean Islands Manta Conservation Program. JM

Reach 1000s of customers

Advertise in The Bonaire Reporter

(+599)796 4055

info@bonairereporter.com

Dolphins at Delphins



Niels Roseboom of Delphins welcomes the Sunfish team represented by Sipke Stapert

Seven sailors from Bonaire will participate in the Sunfish World championships that will be held from September 4 to 11 at Lake Garda Italy. The Bonaire Sailing Team consists of Ton Nuijten, Sipke Stapert, George (Kabes) Soliana, Hans de Waard, Alex Tromp, Ralf

Theyse and Robbert Verboon. Garda is a beautiful lake south of the alps. Because of its predictable winds, it is a very popular venue for international regattas. The organization will provide 100 brand new boats for the participants. The Sunfish is a very popular one-person sailboat that

can often be seen sailing on the waters around Bonaire.

Niels Roseboom of Delfins Beach Resort welcomed the Bonaire sailing team as represented by team member Sipke Stappert for a sailing event on July 16. The event was a part of their preparations, in readying for the World Championship. Eleven short races of about 10 minutes

each were sailed to practice starts, buoy roundings and sailing in close proximity of each other. In large fleets a good start is a must to perform finish at the front of the fleet. Robbert won the event, with George coming second and Hans in third place.

Robbert Verboon

- More photos of our Sunfish team at Delphins on our Facebook page



The Sunfish team were joined by a pod of dolphins during the race. Photos Julie Morgan



A Garden? Just Do It!

by Angliet, Nature Lover

Roses

Many people on Bonaire buy small pots of roses to decorate their porch and garden. But I had never thought to write about roses until I received some beautiful pics of awesome roses growing in a garden of a rose lover in Europe. I was impressed and in the same time wondered why roses are not like that on Bonaire. So I looked for some information and went to one of my neighbors for her personal experience on growing her roses.

My neighbor Patsy has roses in small containers which she buys imported from Holland. When they are bigger, she sells them at the farmer's market and at her home. She keeps them in small pot containers because rose plants cannot stand the salt in the Bonairean soil. She uses only black dirt "Potgrond" which is also imported from Holland. In the containers the plants can become rather large but the flowers never get as big as we see in Europe. The hard sunlight and dry air inhibits the flower growth. It's very important to keep the plants in the shade with a limit of direct sun to six hours.

Patsy said there is a sickness that makes the undeveloped flowers turn brown. So when you notice this, prune the plant. In addition, the rose plants should be pruned after every flowering. The pruning will give you more stems and more roses. Roses need watering on a regular basis and rainwater is the best. Patsy waters her plants early in the morning so they can stand the rest of the hot day. Patsy said that on Curaçao rose plants become big with nice full roses. She thinks that they must come from countries like Peru or Ecuador in South America. Maybe



Photo: Irina Kostsova

they are more adjusted to our climate than the ones from Europe.

Here some guidelines to start with roses.

- roses potted in soil or as dormant bare-roots plants. (on Curaçao)
- make your choice wisely
- choose the right side of your garden to plant properly
- fertilize regularly with BLOOM BOOSTER VITAMIN (This is what Patsy uses to get a lot of flowers)
- water often to keep soil moist (Patsy prefers the morning) but make sure there is good drainage.
- to fight fungus use Daconil Fungicide Concentration

Patsy said there are two diseases on roses to watch for, mildew and black spot. The signs include leaves that curl and twist and a white powder on the leaves. The black spot disease is a water borne fungal disease which can also be fought by a simple mixture of baking soda and neem tea. There are disease resistant rose varieties that are much easier to grow.

Types of roses range from micro-miniatures to grandi floras and from ground covers to climbing.

How to plant roses in your garden.

The planting hole needs to be deep enough and wide enough for the plant roots. Space the rose bushes at least 3 feet apart from each other.

- Allow for good drainage because roses do not like wet feet.
- Mix garden compost, other compost and black dirt; add some in the hole and place the rose plant.
- Fill with the rest of the soil mixture, add fertilizer and water.
- Remember on Bonaire, the hot, dry and windy conditions are rough for these plants so water wisely and frequently.

Did you know that rose leaves are very good for our health?

Rose tonic, rose tea and rose oil can all be made from dried rose leaves.

A tonic of dried rose leaves is one of the most popular beauty tonics these days. It's very good against acne and it calms skin problems because it hydrates better than any toner does. It balances

the PH value of the skin, and is also very good for hair and fights hair loss.

Rose tea detoxifies the body, reduces stress and fights depression because of its calming effect. It is good for a good night's rest. It has a high in Vitamin C and etheric oil which is very healthy for the skin. It improves digestion, is anti-inflammatory, high in antioxidants and contains antimicrobial properties.

There is way more to say about these beautiful flowers., so go for the roses, just do it now.

Angliet grew up in the Surinam jungle, moved to the Netherlands as a teen, where she trained as a teacher; then in Alternative Healing. She has traveled the world - north to Russia and Alaska, south to Tierra del Fuego and Africa and all points in between. Returning to the Caribbean with her young family, she taught in St Eustatius and Bonaire. Everywhere she has lived, she has planted a garden and grown her own food.



Quarterly Clean Up Dive

Join us on July 23rd at Dive Inn at 9:30am

We will be cleaning up South Pier!



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

ST KED
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!

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 x 100

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

STADSCAFE
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

Still available

EL PESCADO FISHBAR
LUNCH & DINNER
TUESDAY - SATURDAY
12:00PM - 2:30:00PM
KAYA ISLA RIBA
500 7013547
INFO@ELPESCADOBONAIRE.COM

Diver's Diner
GREAT DAILY SPECIALS / SEASIDE
LUNCH 11:30 - 3 / DINNER 5:30-10
Music Jam every Tues 6-10
Happy Hour EVERYDAY 5:30 - 7:30
Open Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri & Sat
Weds Lunch only & Sun Lunch first & last of month
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

LUCIVNO
ICE CREAM
Kaya Isla Riba
(centrum Kralendijk)
DAILY 07:30-23:00
New 2
Bonaire District
Shopping Center - Hato
MON-SAT 9:00-22:00
KRALENDIJK - BONAIRE

GRANDI
WINE & FOOD
info@restaurantgrandi.com - 786-7777

What's Happening

Bonaire Arts & Crafts Market in Wilhelmina Plaza. Weekly schedule can be found at:

<https://www.facebook.com/BonaireArtsandCraftsCruiseMarket/>

Bonaire Library: Mon. 12-5; Tues. to Thurs. 8-5; Fri. 8-4:30; Sat. 8-12. Kaya Gramel 715 5344. Anyone can become a member. Free for residents between 0 and 18 years. Adults \$6 a year. Members can borrow ebooks online. www.onlinebibliotheek.nl

Cultural Park Mangazina di Rei in Rincon: Tuesday - Friday 9-4

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

STINAPA headquarters: Mon-Fri 8-4. +599 717 8444. +599 777 8444.

Animal Shelter: Open fully. Mon-Fri 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; 2-3:30 p.m. Sat. 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m. phone/whatsapp: 701 4989 or 717 4989. Email: animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com

Pakus di Pruga (Shelter flea market. Central Kralendijk): Pakus is back open, regular hours 8 a.m.-4 p.m. on Saturdays. Masks required indoors, social distancing.

Until July 29	The exhibition of '85 Colors' by Steve Francees is at Terramar Museum. Steve presents a combination of paintings and photographs of Bonaire. www.terrarmuseum.com
Saturday, July 23	Quarterly Cleanup Dive. Dive Inn 9:30 a.m. Divers will be cleaning up the South Pier.
Saturday, July 30	Echo's semi-annual roost count 6-8 a.m. Last day to sign up is July 27. See below Nos Zjilea Festival 10 a.m.- 3 p.m. Cultural Park Mangazina di Rei, Rincon. Enjoy the music, dancing, crafts, amazing food and drink. Bario Festival Tera Kora - Tourists can get acquainted with Bonaireans, the island's culture and its products.
Sunday, August 6	Taste of Bonaire 2022 (Summer Edition) Starts at 6 p.m. @ Wilhelmina Park. Food, culture, local handicrafts. Signature dishes of well-known restaurants offered at special prices.

Early risers needed



With half of the viewpoints assigned to volunteers who signed up early, Echo is urgently looking for more community members willing to help estimate the population of parrots on July 30, 2022.

Do you know of anyone who can help? We are looking for at least 30 nature enthusiasts and early risers. Volunteers can sign up by sending an email to

echobonaire@gmail.com by July 27.

The counts allow Echo to track parrots' behavior and roosts during the breeding and dry seasons and to compare the data with previous counts.

If you are a first time counter, you can view the introductory meeting of July 20 on Echo's Facebook page. *Echo team*

International Flights to Bonaire

Amsterdam (AMS)	KLM Daily flights connecting through Aruba TUI Daily
Brussels (BRU)	Air Belgium will fly to and from Bonaire on Dec. 23 & 25 and on Jan 6 & 8, 2023. Will also connect through Curacao.
Atlanta (ATL)	Delta July: Tu. & Sat. August: Sat.
Miami (MIA)	American M. W. Sat. July and August
Houston (IAH) & New York (EWR)	United Houston: Sat. July and August: New York Newark Liberty International: Sat. July to August 13.

Tentative cruise ship schedule Summer

DAY & DATE:	DD/MM	CRUISE SHIP	TIME	CAPACITY	LINE
Wednesday	27-07	Horizon	0700-1500	3954	Carnival USA
Thursday	18-08	Mariner of the Seas	0700-1400	3115	RCCL/CEL
Wednesday	24-08	Horizon	0700-1500	3954	Carnival USA

Activities, Events & Meetings

12 steps meeting: Every Wednesday evening 7:15 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. As of 6 July the group will be meeting at a new location. Address: 30 Kaya Den Haag, Hato (enter through gate at right side)

Alcoholics Anonymous open meeting Every Thursday, 7 - 8 p.m. International Bible Church Kaya Papago 104 in Hato (Behind Bon Bida Spa and Gym and Bon Bida apartments). All welcome, regardless of primary addiction or no addiction 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 p.m. People can play for free or register for training and tournaments for a fee.

Bridgeclub Bonaire organizes a bridge evening Wednesdays from 7:15 p.m. You are welcome, whatever level you play. Contact us via phone 796 2819 or email peejeese@gmail.com. See <https://www.facebook.com/BridgeclubBonaire>.



Echo Conservation Tours - weekdays at 8 a.m. or 5 p.m. and Saturday 8 a.m. To reserve email at info@echobonaire.org



Manta Monday - Nicole Pelletier of the Caribbean Islands Manta Conservation Program gives a presentation at Yellow Submarine every Monday 7:30 p.m.



Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire (STCB). Free public presentations are held at Yellow Submarine, every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month, at 8 p.m.

Mangazina de Rei walking tours will resume September 2022.



Creating optimal health by Irene da Cunda Costa Breathing

Once out of our mother's womb our life begins with our first inhalation, and we leave this world with our last exhalation. We breathe between 17,000 and 19,000 times a day, roughly six to 10 million times a year. But do we breathe well? To evaluate our breathing, we can observe some key aspects: our effort, our frequency, how and where we hold the inhaled air and whether we breathe through the nose or through the mouth. Respiration is functional. Its best performance is achieved when we expend the least effort while we fulfill our metabolic needs.

The way we breathe varies in relation to the degree of effort we make. At rest our breath should be almost imperceptible, soft, slow, silent with a slight movement in the region below the diaphragm. If at rest our breathing is forced, noisy and if we move our chest up and down when we inhale and exhale, our breathing might not be functional. Another indicator of non functional breathing is the frequency. Normal breath at rest varies between eight and 16 cycles per minute. It is also important to use the nose to breathe when both inhaling and exhaling. Chronically congested people who breathe through their mouths develop several health problems ranging from crooked teeth to chronic inflammation.

The main muscles for breathing are the diaphragm and the intercostals. Using auxiliary muscles not only implies a greater effort, since these muscles are used when we need extra air either to fight or to flee in the face of a threat, but this also alerts the brain of a possible threat or emergency. Those who breathe regularly using auxiliary muscles recreate a situation of chronic stress, in the absence of real threats, chronic stress is at the root of numerous health problems.

Human needs for sleep, food and water are well known, as well as the consequences of deficiencies or excess. The same thing happens with the air. On average every minute we exchange between 6 and 8 liters of air. During exercise it can be much more as both the volume of each breath and the frequency increase. Those people who at rest exchange more than 18 liters per minute are generally asthmatic or have some other respiratory disorder or suffer from an anxiety disorder. This is why the right advice to improve breathing is not always to breathe more. Many times, the key is to breathe less.

Doctor Konstantin Buteyko (1923-2003) designed a method to treat patients with asthma. As a student, he was diagnosed with malignant hypertension, an incurable and progressive condition. As his health worsened, Buteyko wondered if his deep breathing might be a factor in his disorder. He observed that if he limited his breathing, his headaches, chest and right kidney pains faded until they disappeared. If he took another deep breath, the pains would reappear. The theory that explains this has to do with the fact that hyperventilation causes a decrease in CO2 levels in the blood, producing spasms and reducing the availability of oxygen to the organs.

The Buteyko method involves smooth, relaxed nasal breathing aimed at increasing CO2 tolerance. The physiological benefits of this are that CO2 dilates and relaxes the blood vessels and facilitates the passage of O2 to the tissues. It also helps manage anxiety and activates the parasympathetic branch of the nervous system, which is responsible for rest, digestion, and reproduction.

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.

Pets of the Week



Vincent

Valentino

What is better than adopting one cat at The Animal Shelter Bonaire? Of course..... adopting two!

Take a look at these two big boys. They are brothers named Vincent and Valentino.

The boys are about one and a half years old and have been at the shelter for more than a year. They are interested in everything that's happening around them and always ready for a big hug.

Vincent and Valentino can be lap cats but they also like to sit next to you on the couch. They are really quite handsome with their sleek black and white fur, white whiskers and eyebrows.

Vincent and Valentino are looking for a home and a job. As soon they are comfortable in their new home they will hunt for mice or other little creatures to help you keep your house clean.

Both boys are vaccinated, neutered and will be chipped as soon as you decide to adopt them.

Photos/story Monique Degenaar



Damon

Hello big dog lovers, I would like your attention please.

My name is Damon and I'm around 1.5 years old. I'm a huge cuddle bug. I'm also a very good sleeper and my favorite position is on my back with my paws in the air.

They call me a gentle giant and I'm very good with kids of all ages. I also like all other dogs, male or female no problem. I even like those other kind, what are they again, ooh yeah, cats, that is the name. I do like them too.

I'm very good on a leash and love to go for walks. I have even been in town twice and I must say the coffee bar at the boulevard was very nice.

Do you wanna be my new friend? I'm sure I want to be yours. Come and visit me.

Story/photo: Sanne Attevelt

If you would like to meet our cats and dogs, please come to Animal Shelter Bonaire, Kaminda Lagun 26A. Open Monday - Friday 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and 2-3:30 p.m. Saturday 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m. nonstop. You can also call 7014989 or 7174989 to make an appointment, via whatsapp, facebook messenger, or email animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com

Shelter News DierenLot donates € 44.400

Animal Shelter Bonaire is very grateful to Stichting DierenLot, the Dutch animal aid organization, for their tremendous support of the Shelter's upcoming renovation projects. Their generosity will help defray a significant part of the costs of the renovation of dog kennels, the cat quarantine area and a new cleaning station.

On 11 July Leo Dijkgraaf, DierenLot's ambassador on Bonaire, presented Shelter Manager Sanne Attevelt with a symbolic check for 44.400 Euros (over \$45,000 USD), the amount of their contribution to the Shelter renovation projects. (Photo by Ton Crull).

In addition to financial support, DierenLot also continues to provide Bonaire's animal welfare agencies with regular shipments of animal food and supplies and transport vehicles.

Masha danki, DierenLot!!!



Reef Glimpses: Lionfish and spearfishing continued from page 6

in the video, but everything recognizable was lionfish --what their pre-lionfish populations were, and what effect lionfish predation has had on those populations. Isolated reefs from which lionfish were not removed have shown huge increases in lionfish populations and huge decreases in native fishes. Will the lionfish begin to eat each other? Will they leave the area to seek prey elsewhere?

Lionfish have only been around Bonaire for 13 years, and in the Caribbean/Atlantic about 25 years longer. Their treatment has ranged from vigorous removal, as we have on Bonaire, to no removal activities at all.

We won't see some of the consequences of their presence for years.

Meanwhile, what about our own fish predators figuring out the joys of eating lionfish? We've learned

that divers feeding lionfish to predators doesn't teach the predators to eat lionfish, it teaches them to expect food from divers, definitely not a good thing. But most fish, including lionfish, spend their early lives drifting as plankton. Perhaps familiarity will breed appetites; perhaps plankton-eaters and fish predators, having drifted with lionfish, might be perceiving them as tasty rather than abnormal.

Imagine our lionfish control being led by unlikely heroes such as blue tangs, trunkfish, and chromis!

Dee has been guiding divers on Bonaire since 1982. She's written about her undersea experiences in her books, Touch the Sea, The Gentle Sea, and Coral's Reef (for children); in Dive Training Magazine from 1990 to 2000, with "Coral Glimpses" in the Bonaire Reporter; and now with "Reef Glimpses." The Bonaire Reporter is delighted to bring "Reef Glimpses" to you free of charge through touchthesea.com.



Making Bonaire Accessible

by Ria Evers-Dokter

Old, but not dead.

It was about 10 years ago that I reacted to a post on Facebook by Hendrik Groen, a writer who had recently published his first book. He was looking for people to read and react to his book.

It was called, "The secret diary of Hendrik Groen". And it was all about an elderly gentleman who, due to circumstances, came to live in a care facility for the elderly. He did not like it at all and everything he disliked; he wrote in his diary.

Activities such as bingo, boring meals for the holidays, tea/coffee hours, etc. he found boring.

But he also had very interesting ideas on how to manage and deal with a care facility and the resident elderly.

He looked for co-inhabitants who were feeling the same way and he found them. They made a pact and named their group O-Bu-No-De (Old But Not Dead).

They got together regularly and thought up amazing activities: start a cooking club, visit a casino, go to a museum, visit an amusement park and many more.

The group was watched with Argus eyes by the management and the staff, but they just went on and did their thing.

All decisions in the facility were made by the management. This is what OBUNODE also disliked. They were the inhabitants, so they should be actively involved in the decision making.

At this time my mom was living in a care facility as well and she did not like it either. She had always led an active life and now she was treated like an 80-year-old toddler. She said, "I am 80 years old and now they take me to daycare. That is not right." I loved it when she asked me what to do and I helped out a bit. When at the yearly BBQ she was told where to sit, I answered that we did not like that place and went to sit somewhere else. The staff did not know how to react.

She loved to watch TV at night, but now she was taken to her room at 7 p.m. I told her to talk to the staff and tell them that she wanted to watch till 9 p.m. The staff had always handled things this way and now they were being questioned.

Shortly after that I took a seat in the client board and addressed these issues.

When elderly people live in a care facility and take part in group activities, they should be respected and treated with dignity. Programs should be discussed with them and executed after that. Not every person is the same and everybody has different interests.

When setting up or changing a program, the elderly should be involved and have a say. And if there is not enough staff available, volunteers can be asked to help.

I just watched a re-run of that sitcom, made after the book I just told you about I still love it. Power to the 65+!

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.

The Bonaire Reporter July 20 - August 3, 2022

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 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
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.bonaireclub.com
+599-777-3483 (777DIVE)



MANGROVE MANIACS
LAC RESTORATION PROJECT



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
www.islandtimebonaire.com
www.facebook.com/islandtimerentals



GREENBIKES BONAIRE
ZERO EMISSION. A SPARK TO RIDE
Electric scooter rental shop
599-7950211
www.greenbikesbonaire.com



Denture Prosthetist
Full or Partial Dentures
New and Repairs
Call for an Appointment - 717-2248
Thijs van Zijl - Denturist
Kaya Dr. J.G. Hernandez (near Botica Korona)
tandprothetische praktijk
BONAIRE
tandprothetische praktijk



For all your MARINE and residential SEWING needs
CUSTOM CANVAS
cushions - covers - roofs - shades
SAIL & KITE REPAIR
LOCATED AT: KAYA BENI 6A
Near the VSB supermarket / project pick up and drop off available
TEL: 780 9124
www.phishphactory.com



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




CrossFit
Flamingo
HEALTH - FITNESS - COMMUNITY
+599 795 1407



DI
www.dessauinternational.com
louis@dessauinternational.com



OUTDOOR BONAIRE
DO SOMETHING DIFFERENT!
KAYAKING • CAVING • CLIMBING • RAPPELLING
ABSEIL • ISLAND TOURS • BIRDWATCHING
+(599) 785-6272
hansoutdoor@hotmail.com
www.outdoorbonaire.com



THE STOREHOUSE MANGASINA
Call 700-1753
www.bonaireselfstorage.com
info@bonaireselfstorage.com



HISTORIC
Stop catching our Donkeys
Bonaire
Donkey Protection League
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)



JEWELRY DÉCOR ART HOUSEWARE
Opening Hours:
Mon - Fri, 9AM - 6PM
Kaya J.N.E. Craane
Terramar 8
moltenwolfglass.com
+599-7011880



DIVI DIVI AIR
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



Bonaire Landsailing Adventures
Open daily for bookings
Reserve online
www.landsailingadventures.com



del mar
books, art & office supplies
For all your educational games
& books, local books, art supplies,
office supplies and much more!
+599 717 6618 +599 701 6618
info@delmar-bonaire.com
Kaya Soeur Bartola 13A | Kralendijk, Bonaire CN



Sandollar's superman retires



Ben Anthony, Maintenance Supervisor at Sand Dollar Condominium Resort for the past 30 years, was honored at a retirement party held on July 15.

Family, friends, co-workers both past and present, and Sand Dollar owners gathered on the grounds by the waterfront to pay tribute and thank Ben for his years of service to Sand Dollar. Current Sand Dollar Hotel Manager Ilsa Bancroft presented Ben with a plaque thanking him for his service. Former Sand Dollar General Manager Raphaël O. Benitho, who hired Ben thirty years ago, presented Ben with the plaque as well. Everyone at Sand Dollar views Ben as Superman for all he did and so he was presented with a Superman cape by former condo coordinator Brenda Holling. Photo by Alan Zale.

Digicel Bonaire is 16

Digicel Bonaire celebrated their 16-year anniversary on July 16 with some great deals.

Customers who dropped by on Saturday were able to pop a balloon for a prize, take advantage of some great phone deals and get their photo taken with some of Digicel's staff.

- Phone deals that will last till the end of the month are:
- the DL3 Plus Pro, 32gb for \$89 and
- the Samsung A13, 32gb for only \$209.
- And customers who buy one of the devices receive a three-day Prime Bundle for free until July 31.

Radio station Alpha FM provided the background music live.

Pictured are L-R:

Shantelle Paredes, Candy Rasmijn, Ashanty Toppenberg and Andre Mackenzie.

Photo Julie Morgan



ROCARGO

LOGISTICS SERVICES B.V.



IFC | Experts in Expediting

For all your shipping needs to or from Bonaire



WEEKLY CONSOLIDATED CONTAINER SHIPMENT FROM U.S. AND EUROPE
CUSTOMS SPECIALIST - LOGISTICS PAPERWORK INBOUND AND OUTBOUND
MOVING AND RELOCATION
WAREHOUSING STORAGE - AIRFREIGHT

WWW.ROCARGO.COM - INFO@ROCARGO.COM