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Going green for a blue Bonaire

Bonaire's growing population is bringing more gas guzzling vehicles polluting the environment. More vehicles mean more fuel and oil shipped to the island unless a change is made by going green with electric cars.

The government says there are 16,626 vehicles tagged on island and 57 are electric. That means that 16,569 gas fueled vehicles are adding more CO2 to the atmosphere and making a big impact in the owners' wallet for the purchase of fuel.

Going green with electric cars and solar energy could be the solutions. This would fit right in with the government's Blue Destination campaign, but will require a major change in the minds of Bonaire residents.

According to Pieter Breel of Blue Store Bonaire, "Change is scary for a lot of people. You ask them if they would buy an electric car and they say, it's not for me and they have never even looked at one and don't know anything about them."

Car dealerships will be required to make some changes too. Not only in their floor room stock but vehicle service.

KIA director/owner Ismael Max Cicilia said, "They are too expensive... there is very little maintenance and we can't make any money on service. Right now I don't see this for Bonaire."

Bonaire's Toyota dealership carries hybrid cars. They've sold one and has one in stock.

Employee Marwin Canneyieter said, "A lot of people don't know about them on the island here, but in Curacao they sell a lot...They [the cars] are more economical and it's important for the island and the world."

Akkerman's managing director Edwin Vrieswijk said they order, stock and sell hybrid and electric cars from Hyundai, Ford and Mitsubishi.

"Government asked me years ago to look into the opportunity of hybrid/electric cars because Bonaire needs to go 'green'. After studies, I ordered them, but they never bought them. I put these cars in rental and lease," Vrieswijk said, "For the 'normal' public hybrids and electric cars are way too expensive."

Blue Store Bonaire sells, stocks and orders a total electric Fiat 500. The cars sell for \$32,000 or \$16,000-\$12,000 used with less than 30,000km. Like all electric cars they require very little engine maintenance, no fuel and no oil. Chassis maintenance is required and use 'normal' car body parts. The battery will last up to 300,000km. Drivers can go approximately 220 miles on a full charge that cost four dollars on either 110 or 220, that takes seven or three and a half hours respectively. Maximum speed is 130 km.

"Incentive to buy an electric car as opposed to gas is no road tax and the import tax is zero," said Breel, "In Holland, they [the government] gives you 4000 EU off the cost and 2500 EU if it is used." Most every country in the world offers a government subsidy or incentive for an electric or hybrid car purchase

Fundashon Mariadal, Bonaire's hospital, is considering a purchase of 70 electric vehicles according to Breel. The vehicles will be used by physicians, home health care and maintenance

Since 2014, Mike and Carol Solbach have cruised around Bonaire in an electric Zap truck and 40 ft. sailboat named Grace. Both are powered with solar panels

Electric cars, continued on page 5



Pieter Breel of Blue Store Bonaire sells electric cars, solar panels and inverters.

FLOTSAM and JETSAM

Two returnees tested positive for COVID-19

Two people who returned to Bonaire from Peru have tested positive for COVID-19. They were quarantined upon arrival because they were coming from an at-risk country. Subsequently they showed symptoms and were tested Sunday, July 12. The positive results were received Monday. The Public Health Service team immediately started source and contact investigations. Information on how the two arrived on Bonaire had not been released as of press time. *DMR*

WEB celebrates 5 years without a blackout

Early in July 2020 Water en Energie Bedrijf Bonaire (WEB) commemorated five years without a blackout on Bonaire. WEB thanks the people whose dedication, hard work and professionalism made this record attainable.

WEB and Contour Global Bonaire together are responsible for the electricity supply on Bonaire. In the period 2016 – 2019, while Contour Global Bonaire was working on their plans to introduce more renewable and reliable energy, WEB assumed its responsibility for Bonaire by re-introducing Aggreko, a supplier of temporary power generation. As part of this commemoration WEB also recognizes the contribution and cooperation of several local companies and partners that supported WEB through difficult times.

Notaris seeking heirs

The Notaris is seeking heirs of Cornelis Sipriano Martis.

The property on Kaya Korona next to Peking Supermarket has been purchased by the owner of the supermarket for \$350,000. At the order of the General Court, Notaris Schouten will distribute the proceeds among the known heirs. Cornelis Sipriano Martis, the last registered owner of the site, died in 1903. So far 93 heirs have been identified and more are expected to turn up.

Every person already known to be an heir of Martis must contact the notary to provide her with their details, including the number of their bank account. Everyone who believes they can prove to be an heir should also contact the Notaris. People can email her, aniek@bonairenotaris.com, or go to her office.

Notary Schouten will reserve an amount of \$50,000 for five years to pay heirs who turn up later. After five years, no further heirs will be recognized. *DMR*

Who is flying into the ABCs

TUI joins KLM in flying again to the ABCs. On July 2, Flag Day for Curaçao, TUI flew again into Curaçao, piloting a full Boeing 787 departing from Amsterdam. TUI's first flight to Bonaire was on July 9, their first flight to Aruba followed on July 11, 2020.

KLM's July schedule shows the airline flying daily to Curaçao and five times a week to Bonaire and Aruba. Some of the KLM flights between Bonaire and Amsterdam are direct, some connect through Curaçao. Go to https://www.skyscanner.net/ for a fairly easy look at what KLM and TUI flights are available.

As for inter-island travel, on July 14 Winair declared that it was no longer flying to Curação and Aruba, citing too few passengers due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Arubans are welcome - Americans not

On July 10, Aruba opened its borders to travelers from the USA. In response, the OLB issued a new emergency ordinance on July 14 just as The Reporter was going to press. According to the OLB, Aruba's opening "makes it possible for travelers from a high-risk country to travel to Bonaire" with only a brief stopover on Aruba. Therefore, the emergency ordinance decrees that anyone who was in a high risk country within the previous two weeks is barred from entering Bonaire.

Countries deemed to be low-risk departure points have been protecting each other by requiring travellers to be in their country for at least 14 days prior to departure. Now that Aruba is accepting travelers from high-risk countries, passengers would be able to board a plane in a high-risk country, change planes on Aruba, and proceed directly to Bonaire. In effect, the OLB's emergency ordinance creates a new 14-day shield for the island.

The airlines are expected to assure passengers meet Bonaire's entry requirements. Any who fails to do so must be returned to their departure point, the costs to be borne by the traveller and the airline. If a passenger manages to get onto the island anyway, they are subject to legally enforced quarantine, and will be prosecuted if they break quarantine.

The OLB had previously said that if Aruba let Americans in, Bonaire would withdraw from "the bubble" agreement that allows travel between Aruba, Curaçao, and Bonaire. Apparently that bubble will remain open, however, in order to permit islanders to continue traveling between the three islands.

Mrs. Chris de Vogel, MPH, crisis manager and Public Health Director of OLB, explained that Aruba does large-scale testing of visitors. All non-bubble visitors are tested on arrival and are allowed to stay freely on the island only if they test negative. Should they test positive, they must quarantine immediately.

Bonaire has had to drop its requirement that visitors test negative within 72 hours of their departure. Vogel explained that the requirement violates privacy laws on Bonaire which are more strict than those on the other islands. *DMR*



Taxi drivers tour with kids. June 30th a group of

school children from San Luis Beltran went on the first taxi tour sponsored by the Public Entity Bonaire. The tours provide an opportunity for school children to learn about tourism attractions on their own island. They also provide some extra income for taxi drivers who are currently without income from normal tourism.

Commissioners Tjin Asjoe and James Kroon were present to see the pupils off.

"Our Strategic Tourism Plan talks about the involvement of our residents in the tourism experience. Residents need to know what the island has to offer," said Tjin Asjoe.

The Public Entity Bonaire also paid for a recent training program for taxi drivers to enhance their knowledge as guides and drivers.

The REPORTER

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Dive Friends Bonaire donates masks

Dive Friends Bonaire donated 24 OCEAN REEF, INC. Full Face Masks and 100 filters to the Huisartsenpost Bonaire (Urgent Health Clinic). These masks and filters can be used to treat potential cases of COVID-19 on the island.

We are in this together and we will get through this together! Pictured L-R: A member of the Covid

task force and General Manager Bart Linders of Dive Friends.





Kroon baptizes mill.

Deputy James Kroon recently christened a new LVV water mill. Under the leadership of Maurice Adriaens, the new director of the Agriculture and Livestock Department, LVV, has started planting vegetables. The new mill will pump and circulate water to the gardens. The deputy took the opportunity to thank the employees of LVV for their work over the years. Pictured L-R James Kroon and Maurice Adriaens.

APNA site trashed

One of the first sites Selibon and volunteers cleaned was the APNA site on July 2. The cleanup is a part of the new clean up project initiated by Selibon, Blue Destination and OLB. Its goal: to remove waste from the neighborhoods of Bonaire. Truckloads of trash were removed from the APNA site. But less than a week later, Selibon reported the area was full of trash consisting of chil-

dren's drawings, craft materials and even a turtle shell.

Selibon is requesting assistance in locating the litterers who are responsible for this latest trash dumping. If anyone has knowledge of this incident, they should report it to the police.

Selibon said, "Let us be responsible citizens and stop dumping waste in the mondi!" *Julie Morgan*



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Government responds to conflict of interest accusations



Conflicts of interest between government and business are a danger when, as on Bonaire, the community leaders who occupy many of the political offices also own many of the primary businesses. Improved transparency is one of the declared goals of the new government of Bonaire (OLB).

The potential for conflicts of interest became a public issue recently when Ben Oleana, temporary chairman of Bonaire Holding Maatschappij N.V. (BHM), went public in a widely distributed letter that claimed the legal provisions for protecting the island from business/government conflicts of interest were inadequate. BHM is the holding company through which the government is a partial owner of several of the core businesses on Bonaire, including TCB, TELBO, and Selibon.

Oleana emphasized that he was not making accusations of "corruption or wrongful behavior." He was just pointing out that--prior to the transition to the present governance of the island--a National Ordinance existed which limited "the manner in which the Country can exercise its powers as a shareholder in an N.V. or as a stakeholder in a foundation." The ordinance stipulated "that before the Country can take a decision, the relevant government must obtain advice from an independent corporate governance adviser."

Oleana also said that, "The dismantling of the Netherlands Antilles did not incorporate the then National Ordinance in the new Bonairean legal order. . .. This leaves large parts of possible political influence on government-affiliated entities on Bonaire untouched."

Oleana acknowledged that the govern-

ment had recognized the problem and appointed a "quartermaster" to guard against conflicts of interest.

However, Oleana charged, "The quartermaster has shown in recent months and has proven that he cannot act or be able to act independently and neutrally, nor can he be held open to this. What has become especially clear is that the quartermaster is in fact an extended hand of politics."

Lieutenant Governor Edison Rijna objected to both the content of Oleana's letter and the fact that Oleana raised issues publicly that first should have been discussed with the government as a function of BHM. Rijna said that, "as guardian of the administrative and administrative integrity on Bonaire, he would carefully examine allegations made against the organization." He wanted to assure "that signals from the community are taken seriously, but at the same time . . . to guard against allegations against civil servants and administrators."

Rijna commissioned an agency, Governance & Integrity International (G&I), to analyze reports in the transfer file of Bonaire Holding Maatschappij. G&I has reported its findings and recommended that the Bureau Integrity Dutch Municipalities (BING) be asked to further investigate two of the points made in Oleana's letter. The Island Governor has adopted this advice.

Karel Frielink, a lawyer who has been practicing on Curaçao for more than 29 years, has been named Chairman of the Supervisory Board of BHM, superseding Oleana's temporary appointment.

DMR



Ask Kate Bonaire real estate advice

Dear Friends,

We hope you all stay healthy during this crisis, and we look forward to seeing you again on Bonaire. Please send your real estate questions to Kate and Jean at kate@bonairehomes.com

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.

Dear editor,

In your last published edition you covered the short film presented by Bonaire Youth Outreach Foundation (BYOF) and Mangazina di Rei on 'the abolition of slavery'. Firstly, we would like to thank you for covering this event. Secondly, we would like to acknowledge the effort of BYOF for shining light on the dark history that continuously haunts our community.

However, we must bring attention to the callous effects of this production. The presented film elaborates on the slogan that 'Bonairian slaves were seen as humans after the abolition in 1863'. This slogan and the message being depicted within the context of our current constitutional and social structure creates a message that is simply wrong.

In 2010 the once autonomous country to which Bonaire was part of was dismantled and annexed into the national constitution of a foreign nation that was the colonizer (by law) prior to 1953. Today, 67 years later, the island of Bonaire has taken a leap backwards to what it once was a 'colony'.

As a result, the Bonairean people are faced with numerous social and political disparities. The local people of the island are categorized as second class to their fellow European citizens. Therefore, there is an inequality regarding social benefits such as unequal pensions and unequal wages. Furthermore, the mechanisms to create any formal laws have been commandeered by the foreign law makers nestled in the Hague, Netherlands. As one result, taxation is completely controlled and executed by a foreign nation.

With this background information, we would like to empathize on the following question: 'How can a Bonairean be free if his or her human rights are being violated in present day 2020?'

This question will spark many more questions and initiatives, such as:

-Why is the education system being selective with what is being taught in schools? What are the first steps necessary to achieve objective education in history that reflect the past from an honest perspective?

-Why was our local revolutionist - Mar-

tis Catalina Janga - not celebrated within this production? Or why isn't he ever celebrated? On that note, why isn't there any statue or recollection of his heroic efforts for freedom?

-Why is the degenerating tradition of black face still being celebrated, whereas it is already forbidden in many Dutch municipalities?

-Lastly and most importantly, what can be done to eliminate the 'whitewashing' of our history and social structures that is pillaging our community?

We hope that you can understand the context of which the above mentioned production was created. This film was sponsored by the Dutch government to showcase a perspective of slavery on Bonaire. Regardless, of the fact that the film was produced by BYOF, it is not healthy to commercially approach a youth group to create productions of such delicate issues. To better explain this matter, take the example of a big mean polluting oil corporation that is financially sponsoring a small powerless youth group to make films on the effects of greenhouse gases on the environment. This example very much simplifies the unequal and unfair playing field and whitewashing via the media. In addition it is definitely not acceptable for a youth group to accept such a funded offer from the foreign govern-

As a conscious organisation that is completely independent by all means, it is our moral obligation to create an impact of caution to our younger generations. It is paramount that this generation and the general public be aware of its complete history. As a result of this, the local community can make healthy decisions by simply not repeating segments of our unfortunate history. It is essential for human development in any jurisdiction to know and apprehend your roots and history. This basic knowledge is vital for the evolution of a community and is quite frankly something that no one should be ashamed of.

Thank you for reading this letter. Appreciatively,

Davika Bissessar - Bonaire Human Right Organization (BHRO)

James S. Finies - Nos Kier Boneiru Bek

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Going green for a blue Bonaire, continued from page 1

and batteries

The Solbachs said electric is perfect for Bonaire and we could never go back to gas vehicles.

Robert Cruz Jr. of Rocargo said they are bringing in about one electric car a month, but he expects that to increase.

After watching the changing technology for the last five years, Cruz ordered a Tesla SUV last January and is waiting delivery. He plans to link the car with a dedicated solar panel for charging which will make the car even more efficient and greener.

According to CNN Business, huge de-

clines in the price of batteries will allow leading automakers to sell fully electric vehicles for less than cars powered by gasoline and diesel as soon as 2022. Worldwide, car manufacturers seem to be competing to win the race for the best electric vehicles. They aren't just little 'smart car' bodies anymore. They are making all electric sedans, pickup trucks, SUV, vans, motorcycles and work trucks.

Al Bedwell, a director at LMC Automotive, said, "I've been looking at this industry for 20 years, and my real gut feeling is that it's kind of unstoppable now." *Julie Morgan*

Plate	Benzine	Diesel	Electrisch	
AB-*	2	19	0	21
B-*	9961	465	53	10479
D-*	100	14	0	114
DMF-*	4	0	0	4
MF-*	1494	0	2	1496
TX-*	13	22	0	35
V-*	3048	1369	1	4418
Z-*	0	58	1	59
	14622	1947	57	16626

AB-Bus; B-Passenger Car; D-Official Car; DMF-Official Motorcycle MF-Motorcycle; TX-Taxi; V-Truck; Z-Heavy Truck

From STINAPA

Washington Slagbaai Park reopened full time as of July 1st 2020. It will be open Monday to Friday from 8am to 5pm. Two of the houses, Mangasina and Kas di Noord will be available for rent as well, after having received a facelift. You can email info@stinapa.org for camping reservations/information

Protecting Klein. Nature Park Manager STINAPA has recently instigated maintenance work on Klein Bonaire. Workers have found a worrying amount of sand contaminated by charcoal. STINAPA must now brainstorm on how to reduce the amount of charcoal that ends up in the sand. Once the charcoal is mixed in, it is extremely hard to separate it from the white sand.

Members of the nature unit and Marine Park Rangers are also looking for ways to reduce pressure from users at No Name Beach. They will be working with historian Boi Antoin to explore options for historical walking trails that would go past historical buildings such as the quarantine building, the old limestone ovens, and the "Kas di Vito."

Four young adults convicted of dive site theft

Police figures earlier this year showed that theft at dive sites had doubled in 2019 compared to 2018. On July 8, four young suspects were tried in the court of Bonaire. They were caught stealing from a car near the Weber's Joy dive site. Because the suspects had never previously come into contact with the judiciary, they were sentenced to two weeks imprisonment on parole and 40 hours of community service with two years probation. *Source: Bonaire now.*

Customs / CN intercepts drugs at Bonaire airport

Wednesday, July 1st, Customs / CN discovered narcotics during a routine check on passengers and baggage at arrivals in Flamingo International Airport. The narcotics dog reacted positively with the suspect's suitcase. During a search, an amount of cannabis was found on the suspect's body, a man 28 years old, who was on a flight from Curação.

After the arrest, the suspect and the cannabis were transferred to the Kmar for further investigation.

POLICE REPORT

Property crime

On Monday, July 6, a black Specialized bicycle parked in the garden of a house on Kaya Saturn was stolen between Sunday, July 5, around 9:30 pm and Monday, July 6, around 7 am.

Arrests

In the morning hours of Monday, June 29, a man, 20, was detained for failing to pay a police fine and resisting arrest. On Kaya Nieuw Amsterdam the suspect ignored police stop signs because he rode a scooter without a helmet. The police finally managed to stop him on the Kaya A.A. Emerenciana. Here the driver made several attempts to start again. He strongly opposed the arrest. He had no driving license and no insurance documents with him. The scooter has been seized pending valid documents.

On the same day, around 4:20 pm, the police reported that a brawl involving a man badly assaulted in Rincon. On arrival of the patrol, the victim was unconscious and bleeding very much. He was taken to hospital by ambulance. A man, 29, was detained for abuse. Also, a man, 34, was arrested for insulting and threatening an official in office and hindering the activities of the police.

At around 3:30 am on Friday, July 3, a man, 25, was detained for insulting a civil servant in office. The suspect was with his car on Kaya L.D. Gerharts was "supplying." Police stopped the driver at the roundabout of Plasa Surnan di Roosendaal. His alcohol level was checked and he was taken to the office for a further alcohol check-up. During the check, he insulted a police officer. The car

was confiscated for delivery and public drunkenness. In the same night, a man, 56, was held for public intoxication.

In the afternoon hours of Saturday, July 4, a man, 53, was arrested for assault.

In the evening of Saturday July 4, a man was arrested after a patrol saw the driver of a car firing shots from a car on Kaya J.N.E. Craane. After a short chase police arrested the car's passenger. The driver of the car, the shooter, whose identity is known to the police, managed to escape. The car was seized and a house search was carried out in the house of one of the suspects. Investigation is ongoing.

At about 6:45 am Sunday July 5, a man, 29, was detained for abuse.

Around 1 pm Monday, July 6, a man, 30, was held for violating his suspension terms.

On Saturday, July 11, a man, 46, was arrested for violent theft. The suspect was caught red-handed by the resident when he tried to take things from a house on Kaya Rosaura. The burglar threatened the resident and then fled with only some change.

Traffic accidents & violations

At around 00:05 am on Thursday, July 2, a one-sided collision took place on Kaya Internashonal. A scooter hit a large stone on the side of the road. The driver had multiple wounds in her face and was taken to hospital by ambulance.

Around 1:20 am Sunday, July 5, a one-sided collision took place on Kaminda Djabou. The driver fell off the scooter for an unknown reason and had injuries to her chin and bled from her nose. She did have a helmet on. She was taken to hos-

pital by ambulance for medical treatment.

Around 5:30 pm Sunday, July 5, two cars crashed head-on at Kaya Pos di Amor. Both occupants of car one had facial injuries. The driver of this car received an official report for drunk driving. The driver of car two is pregnant, but had no visible injuries. All three were taken to the hospital for further medical monitoring and treatment.

On Tuesday, July 7, two cars collided at Kaya Industria at around 12:30 pm. Car one, which wanted to turn left from a parking lot, overlooked car two, which approached Kaya Industria from the left, causing a semi-frontal collision. The driver of one of the cars complained of dizziness and was taken to the hospital by ambulance. Both cars suffered serious damage. However, the consequences for those involved in this collision were limited because both had their seat belts on.

In the late afternoon hours on Saturday, July 11, the central police reported that there was a collision on the Kaminda Lac. When the patrol arrived, a pick-up was found on the left side of the road, against a tree trunk. The driver was lying on the ground complaining of chest and back pain. He was taken to hospital by ambulance.

Traffic checks and fines

Traffic checks were held July 1, 2, 7, and 9 at various locations. Vehicles were checked for driver's license, registration number, valid insurance documents, seat belts, use of mobile phone while driving, helmets, and tinted car windows.

On July 1, three vehicles did not comply with the light transmittance of the car windows and the drivers had to remove the film on the spot to avoid a fine.

On Thursday July 9, the KPCN con-

ducted a traffic control on the Kaya Internashonal. 42 cars were checked and 37 fines were issued: 23 for driving without a seat belt, nine for dark-tinted car windows, three for using the mobile phone while driving and two for not having valid insurance documents.

In the morning hours of Saturday, July 11, using a seat belt was checked at various locations. A total of 13 fines were issued for this, two fines were issued for driving without valid insurance and one fine for driving without a driving license. On Friday, July 10, a ticket was also issued for driving without insurance and driving license. During this check, the car was taken to the police station, since the driver was underage.

The traffic fines are:

- Using a mobile phone in the car \$225. (It is prohibited to hold and use a mobile phone or tablet while driving.)
- Not wearing seat belts \$115. (The driver of a car or truck and all pas-

sengers must wear a seat belt.)

- Not wearing a helmet \$85. (Riders and passengers of a moped, motorcycle or quad must wear a helmet that
- Not using a child seat \$115. (Children under four years of age may only ride in a car if they are in a child seat or booster seat)

Fire

fits well.)

At around 12:30pm on Friday, July 3, the police reported a fire on the grounds of the waste processing company on Kaya Industria. The fire was in the section where one can throw empty boxes. The fire brigade came to the scene and put out the fire. Nobody was injured.

Coloring contest winner announced

Wanika Games coloring page contest began June 15 and ends today with the announcement of the first winner on Wanika Facebook/Instagram and The Bonaire Reporter. More than 100 entries were received. The Wanika games developers, Vanessa Peralta and Fernando Nava were so impressed with the creativity of the little artists that they are giving away even more prizes. The 10 best entries will receive Wanika puzzles. All prizes will be awarded at Van den Tweel supermarket on Saturday, July 18 at 5:30 pm.

The overall winner is 12 year old Mickie du Mee. The artist was selected for adding her own artisitic interpretations of animals to the coloring page. Mickee wins the board game Rincon ta On. The game is a discovery game of the history and landmarks of Rincon, the oldest town of the Dutch Caribbean.

The developers of the Wanika Games, Vanessa Peralta and Fernando Nava said they created the pages so everyone could create their own colored drawing of one of the beautiful places on Bonaire.

Wanika Games distributed 1500 coloring pages to Pelikaan School, Papa Cornes, Cristu bon Wardador, San Bernardo, Aquamarine and the

St. Louis Bertrand school in Rincon. And even more pages were distributed at Van den Tweel, warehouse, Top Toys and Addo's books. The pages were available to download online on the Wanika Games website.

Designed by Fernando, the games are in English and Papiamentu. They are not only fun, but educational, as the games feature marine life, Bonaire's nature and historical landmarks. The games are kid tested as Fernando and Vanessa's kids Mafer, Agata and Amanda verified the games are truly fun.

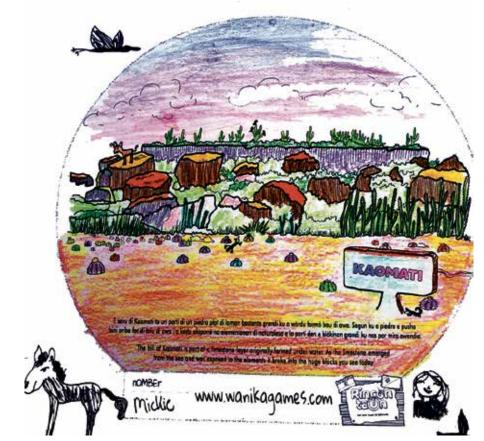
Wanika Games hosts free game sessions either private or group at various locations. Check the Wanika Game Facebook page for the next game day.

They are currently working on a new board game about the entire island, "Navita Bonaire".

"There are more adventures and new places yet to be discovered by the players. We are doing our best to have it ready this year," said Fernando.

To see the full product line for Wanika Games and more information visit their website https://www.wanikagames.com/rincon or Facebook page.

By Julie Morgan



Twelve year old Mickie du Mee wins Wanika Games coloring contest. She will be awarded the game Rincon ta On.

Picture Yourself in The Reporter Cristy Fields Beach, San Francisco, California, USA



Kristen Disse writes: Wow, this pic feels like a lifetime ago! Probably taken a week or so before we went into full lockdown mode. I've been sheltering-in-place with my seven yr old and his father (my ex-husband) since mid-March. We're all from New Zealand, and don't have family or extended networks here so that's been a bit challenging.

Like most of us I'm sure, Corona has had many seasons for me - fear, reflection, hope, despair, resignation, bewilderment sometimes all at once. I've enjoyed some things I never felt I had time for before - cooking, sourdough bread making, playing the ukulele and connecting with old friends, all deeply worried for our safety here in the US, and who can blame them for that. Homeschooling has been particularly chaotic alongside everything else and now we're trying to figure out what to do for the Fall.

I hope this finds your readers well & thriving in your beautiful paradise and that you're able to safely welcome visiting cruisers and tourists again soon. I've visited Bonaire twice by cruising yacht 'Libertine' and I have such fond memories of your stunning island & crystal waters.

WIN A PRIZE! Are you elsewhere? We'd love to see you in *The Reporter*. Hold up the printed cover, or go digital and pose with *The Reporter* on your tablet, computer, or phone. Please identify everybody in your photo, and tell us about yourselves. All the 2019 submissions that we were unable to run will be published in 2020. All photos run in 2020 photos are eligible for the annual prize.



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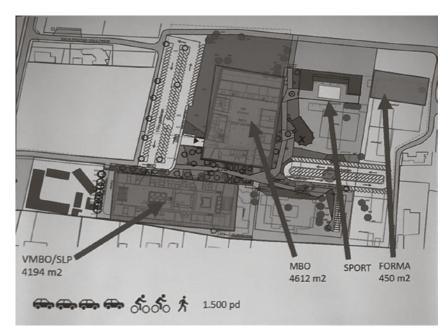
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MBO offers new training



MBO floor plan design for new classes

Subsidized MBO courses for 2020-2021 are being offered to students and adults to further their training or change their career. Due to the coronavirus many people lost their jobs or are only working part time. Last January Minister Slob and Commissioner Nina den Heyer signed an education covenant to subsidize secondary vocational education courses. New buildings are planned in the MBO section to create a more professional learning environment for students.

This new vocational education is for students of all ages with a recognized MBO diploma that meets the requirements of Dutch Education Inspection. A working knowledge of Dutch is required, as all the classes will be taught in Dutch.

Most of the classes are two-part. They involve classroom education and an internship experience or on the job training in their chosen education course plan several days a week. The businesses involved in the students training can receive wage cost subsidies for the students who learn and work with them.

The OCW* Caribbean team is welcoming students from Bonaire, Saba, St. Eustatius, Aruba, Curação and St. Maarten.

There is no tuition, but depending on the courses, students are required to pay between \$270-\$485 per year for their books.

The new courses are: IT systems and devices in various levels up to supervisor; Personal coach; Sports and exercise leader; Lifestyle, sport and movement coordinator; Employee in tourism and hospitality and Tourism manager and hospitality.

Other MBO courses available are: Catering and tourism; Construction and infrastructure; Engineering and process industry; Care and welfare; Economy and administration; ICT; Safety and sport and Media.

For more information visit www. mbobonaire.com.

* RCN / OCW is the outpost of the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science in the Caribbean Netherlands.





Kids star in tourism video

In the week of June 29 to July 2, Bonaire's island government conducted a program to introduce to school children the value that tourism has for our island. As part of the schools program, a video was recorded at various sites on Bonaire. In the video primary school children invite tourists to visit Bonaire again and to experience all the unique things that only Bonaire has to offer.

Provincial Executive Elvis Tjin Asjoe, in charge of tourism, said he was particularly proud to see that Bonaire's children had mastered English from an early age, and how well they showed it in the video.

The video can be viewed on the Facebook page of the TCB and the Facebook page of the Public Body Bonaire. It will also be published by the international partners of the TCB in Europe and the USA. TCB and OLB also encourage everyone to share the video with their friends and acquaintances.

On July 2, Bonaire started to receive tourists from Europe again, after almost 4 months when neither tourists from Europe nor the USA were able to visit.

WEB replaces irrigation pipes

On July 6th, Water —en Energiebedrijf Bonaire N.V (WEB) started to renew the pipelines that deliver treated wastewater back to hotels.

This project starts in Belnem and ends at the drinking water plant in Hato. At the same time, and in close consultation with DRO (Space and Development department) both Kaya Grandi and Kaya Gobernador N. Debrot will be renovated. The project should be completed late April, 2021.

In the week of July 13th, the excavation work will start in Belnem and will take place from Monday to Friday from

8am to 4pm and occasionally on Saturdays, if there are no other options.

The work will inevitably bring some inconvenience to the local residents. As a project supervisor WEB will make every effort to minimize the inconvenience. The Bonariaanse Wegenbouw Maatschappij (BWM) will be the contractor responsible for the execution of the work

WEB will periodically keep residents informed of the developments of the project through the official communication channels.

Preparing for Bonaire Day



Register for "Un kanto pa Boneiru"

The Bonaire Day Committee is organizing the song festival, "Un kanto pa Boneiru - A chanson for Bonaire." The festival will take place on August 22, 2020 at 8 pm via the "live streaming" system." Everyone who wants to participate in this festival can register now. The closing date for registration is July 31, 2020.

The circumstances surrounding Covid-19 have influenced the preparations for Bonaire Day and the festival "Un kanto pa Boneiru." Both activities will take place in a different way than usual. This year, the Bonairean island government has placed the organization in the hands of the Bonaire Day committee, and has changed the name of the festival to "Un kanto pa Boneiru." The committee recently met and both activities will take place via the 'live streaming' system, taking into account the applicable rules of the Covid-19 The place will be announced later.

Nominate a citizen of honor

Do you know someone who you think deserves honorary citizenship from the government? Thank this person for their commitment to Bonaire by nominating them. The annual Honorary Citizenship is awarded on Bonaire day, traditionally held September 6th.

Conditions

- Honorary citizenship is awarded as the highest token of appreciation to natural persons.
- Their personal, exceptional achievements or special talents should have a real impact on the well-being, prosperity or reputation of the island of Bonaire. Achievements can extend to administrative, social, sporting, cultural, charitable, economic or scientific fields.
- Honorary citizenship can be granted to residents, former residents or non-res-

idents of Bonaire who meet the above conditions.

Procedure

To nominate someone for honorary citizenship, fill in the proposal form digitally or manually. A form can be requested from Seferina Saragoza of the SKAL department, by e-mail to seferina.saragoza@bonairegov.com, or by phone at 715-5323. The completed proposal form must be submitted to the SKAL department no later than August 1, 2020.

You can mail or deliver your nomination to the SKAL department for the attention of Rina Saragoza, Kaya Kachi Craane # 34. You can also send it as an e-mail to seferina.saragoza@bonairegov.

Your nomination will be treated confidentially.

FPK celebrates 10 years of creativity

Fundashon Plataforma Kultural (FPK) celebrated its 10th anniversary on June 30. In the past decade, the foundation initiated many cultural projects and built the cultural meeting place Hòfi Kultural in Antriol Pabou. The foundation contributes to a creative, inclusive and more social society through its activities by allowing local residents and artists to meet, inspire and learn from each other. Here are some highlights of the last 10 years.

1. Archivo Boneiru opens up about the past

In 2010, in collaboration with FuHi-KuBo, the fundashon started the project Archivo Boneiru in which Boi Antoin's collection of books, photographs and magazines was digitized and made available to the public through www.archivo-

In 2013, FPK trained Bonaire music teachers. The instruction was given by Carlo Balemans, affiliated with the Brassband School and Codarts. We were excited to offer the 22 participants of the BES Islands the cultural education training to boost the education in primary education. This was in collaboration with the LKCA in March 2020.

2. Cultural education for children

In 2014 and 2015, FPK, together with Jong Bonaire and Fesbo, taught music to 150 children as part of the program Kinderen Maken Muziek. The children played drumband, kwarta and barí. Two final presentations were held at Wilhelmina Square together with the boomwhack-

In 2014, Pone Barí Ronka project, along with Mangazina di Rei, children learned from older citizens, about the cultural history of the Bari' instrument, how to make and play it. A beautiful documentary was made and presented at Dia di Barí in December 2014. These projects were followed up by music lessons for the children in 2016. The more structured weekly music lessons at Kolegio San Bernardo reached 60 children. This led to participation in the Impuls Muziekonderwijs program for 2018 - 2021, in three primary schools: Kolegio San



Bernardo and de Pelikaan at Bonaire and Sacred Heart Primary School on Saba. Beginning and final presentations in the schools and training courses for expertise promotion to teachers of three schools was organized.

In 2017 and 2018, at Hòfi Kultural, the children's activities Kindermuziekspeeltuin and Rugzak vol Talent, took place, as part of Kansen voor alle kinderen. Children learned to play an instrument, make kites, make and perform music and theater. Under the name Bonaire Vibes, young people wrote their own rap lyrics and made video clips with Bon Irie.

3. Construction of Hòfi Kultural

In February 2016, the construction of Hòfi Kultural and BonAIResidence began with the first stone laid by Louis Posner and Hyacinta Mercelina under the guidance of contractor Javier Boezem. With the help of Bonaire Logistics, Sabal palm leaves were imported from the Dominican Republic to cover the roof of the palapa. In the autumn of 2017, contractor

BonNed helped sponsor and complete the construction. Hòfi Kultural inspires creativity and is a beautiful place. BonAIResidence is a residence where artists can stay who want to work in a creative and inspiring environment.

4. Princess Beatrix visits Hòfi Kultural

The highlight of 2018 was the visit of Princess Beatrix to Hòfi Kultural. Fifty participating elders, children and young people gave various presentations for the Princess and more than 100 visitors. Prior to her visit, participants practiced dance and music presentations for weeks. There was a music trio with the sinfonia (a kind of accordion) and the children gave a Maskarada presentation. A bus painted by the kids was presented, they painted kalebas and performed their self-written rap for the Princess. Princess Beatrix unveiled a work of art created by Gibi Bomba.

At Villa Antonia we began dance and music activities in 2016. Older people told stories using old photographs from Archivo Boneiru's archive. Since 2017 activities have taken place at Hòfi Kultural attracting many older residents to enjoy creative activities, compose their own songs and learn to play instruments. Regular presentations are given, at Hòfi Kultural, the primary schools and elderly daycare. Free music lessons are still available for Bonaire residents on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Participants can even borrow an instrument to practice at

FPK celebrates 10 years, continued on page 13



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The Bonaire Reporter July 15 - July 29, 2020

Did You Know?

high noon in the Bonaire National Marine Park is a great time for "Peeping Toms"?

Like flamingos, parrotfish take your breath away the first time you see them. They are so unbelievably colorful and approachable. It's easy to lose that initial awe and fascination, until you show someone else who is seeing them for the first time. Then you remember how gorgeous they are and how very lucky we are to be able to enjoy seeing them on a daily basis.

After their first year enjoying the coral reefs of Bonaire, most nature enthusiasts are aware of the strange life phases of parrotfish, but are they aware of their very open and uninhibited sexual conduct? A parrotfish starts off as a small mini parrotfish and then it matures into an adult initial phase parrotfish (usually a female with dull colors). And then, if she lives long enough, she becomes a vivid, multi-colored adult male – called a terminal phase parrotfish. The best of both worlds!

For some parrotfish species, namely Stoplight parrotfish, as the sun rises to its apex, they have a one-track mind. The colorful males begin staking out their territories. The females start to notice but act like they don't have a care in the world. The male rises high up in the water column and starts his courtship, flapping his pectoral fins, rising up and down, posturing and showing off like a typical male. Before you know it, several dull-colored females start to rise up and right when you think something is going to happen, all of the females head back down to the reef and start to feed on algae. At this point, the determined male either keeps courting or stops for a minute to chase off another colorful male that has



Female stoplight parrotfish. Image: reefguide.org



Male stoplight parrotfish. Image: reefguide.org

NATIONAL PARKS FOUNDATION

come too close to what he considers his mating area. If you're patient, which in my experience most divers and snorkelers are not, the entire scenario will replay itself. Eventually, the male will swim down to the female that is highest in the water column and the two will rise up quickly towards the surface of the water, circling one another like expert dancers, and release eggs and sperm at the same moment. Then they race back down towards the reef. The female continues to feed and the male starts showing off for the next female.

This incredible mating ritual will continue for a while, with males spread out over the reef, each male spawning with several females each day, every day. Talk about the good life! The fertilized eggs will drift with the currents until they hatch into larval parrotfish and will continue to drift for a month or two until they are ready to settle onto the reef.

I get a kick out of stalking fish and observing them, especially when they are courting and mating (yes – shameful – kind of like a Peeping Tom). I especially enjoy showing people what to look for so that the reef isn't just pretty fish and corals, but that it really comes alive. Hopefully these tips will help you recognize parrotfish courtship and mating when it's right before you're very eyes.

Written by Caren Eckrich, Biologist, STINAPA Bonaire. Connecting People With Nature.

Coral spawning 2020 calendar available

Caribbean Research and Management of Biodiversity (CARMABI) has released its annual coral spawning prediction calendar for the south Caribbean. This calendar plays a central role in studying the reproductive biology of Caribbean corals and guiding coral restoration efforts for the southern Dutch Caribbean islands. Based off these predictions, researchers are able to harvest coral gametes that are reared to larvae that can be used to cultivate future coral colonies.

Coral spawning is a miraculous event where entire coral colonies, prompted by the lunar cycle, sunset time and water temperature, release gametes (eggs and sperm) simultaneously. Gametes of one species fertilize another to become fertilized embryos that settle on the ocean floor after days to weeks. Being able to witness a spawning event is a unique opportunity for scuba divers to enjoy the breathtaking scene as the entire reef becomes engulfed in a blizzard of future corals.

Each year, Caribbean Research and Management of Biodiversity (CARMABI) releases a calendar to predict when each species of coral is expected to spawn. During these events, researchers from CARMABI and Reef Restoration Foundation Bonaire (RRFB) also collect gametes to be used to grow new corals in a laboratory setting.

One such project, which has been very successful, has been the restoration efforts centered around the elkhorn (*Acropora palmata*) corals. Historically, elkhorn coral could be found throughout the shallow waters of the Caribbean, however, this species is now listed on the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List as critically endangered. Starting in 2010, CARMABI together with SECORE International initiated a project to study the reproduction of these corals leading to the first outplant of lab raised Acropora corals in 2011 that grew rapidly and spawned themselves "in the wild" in 2015.

The benefit of this approach using gametes rather than fragments harvested from existing colonies, is that colonies reared from larvae represent a large variety of new genetic combinations, including some that allow corals to survive despite changing (worsening) environmental conditions on reefs. Fragmented corals represent existing genetic varieties that have not experienced the selective pressures operating on reefs at present.

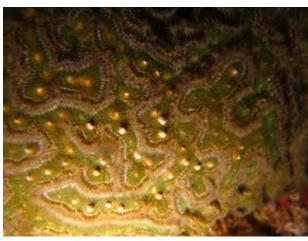
The approaches developed by CARMABI have been extended to other coral species and at present 12 coral species that release gametes (i.e., in contrast to brooding species that release larvae) are successfully grown at CARMABI. Similar projects have started by Reef Renewal Foundation Bonaire.

There are a variety of other species which are also of great importance but have been a bit more challenging to cultivate within the lab. These species include important reef-building corals, which have separate male and female colonies, and thus require different techniques for harvesting their gametes. Examples of these types of corals include the great star coral, *Montastraea cavernosa* and the round starlet coral, *Siderastraea sidereal* but in recent years CARMABI has also developed the methods to harvest and rear gametes of these species and all of them are currently grown in the CARMABI labs on Curação.

Link to the coral spawning prediction calendar can be found here: e34http://www.researchstationcarmabi.org/predictions-for-coral-spawning-events-in-the-southern-caribbean-for-2020/

You can find the complete calendar on our online version of this issue, page 17.





Release of gamete bundles by C, natans (c) M Vermeij-all rights reserved.



Researcher harvesting coral gametes (c) PaulSelvaggio-all rights reserved.

DCNA empowers

The 2019 Junior Ranger Exchange held October 2019 was a pilot program over a time span of four months from idea to execution.

For the 2019 DCNA annual convention, 12-13 year old youth participants from the six Dutch Caribbean islands were invited to join the Junior Ranger Exchange with the special theme: Marine and Coastal Conservation. Four teenagers were selected per island and brought together at the convention.

They represented Fundacion Parke Nacional Aruba (FPNA), STINAPA Bonaire, CARMABI on Curaçao, Curaçao Sea Aquarium, Saba Conservation Foundation, Saba Nature Education and St. Maarten Nature Foundation.

The teenagers enjoyed two overnight stays in Washington Slagbaai National Park with field excursions and workshops. In total, 20 Youth Nature Ambassadors, five adult leaders and three coordinators were part of the event. There were also three more experienced STI-NAPA Junior Rangers, 15-18 years old serving as peer leaders.

The 2019 Junior Ranger Exchange proved to be a unique experience in which the youth participants had the opportunity to learn about each other's nature and conservation challenges, as well as create memorable experiences together.

The 'camp' ended with a 'high profile' presentation of the youth's acquired knowledge, lessons learned and how they wanted to initiate further action together with the respective local organizations on their home islands.

The principle of youth participation begins with the

kids at 2019 event

notion that children are not passive or helpless and without ability. Rather, this principle recognizes children as capable and active communicators who participate and are involved in activities that affect the improvement of their general welfare, including their environment. This type of participation occurs vertically between children and the organization/institution and horizontally between the children themselves through processes focused on child-to-child interaction. Children's relationship with nature is key to a sustainable future for the Dutch Caribbean islands.

On behalf of the DCNA team, we would also like thank the event coordinators. We owe our success to the efforts from Sietske van der Wal and Natasha Silva (Fundacion Parke Nacional Aruba (FPNA)), Roxanne Liana Francisca, Xenah Cicilia, and Maria-Guanela Sluis (STINAPA Bonaire) and Emeray Neuman-Martha (DCNA). Thank you for all that you do for the youth in nature education. For more information see the evaluations report, https://www.dcnanature.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/JRE-Report-Online.pdf

DCNA's activities are generously supported by the Dutch Postcode Lottery and co-financed by Rabobank, World Wildlife Fund for Nature (WWF-NL), STINAPA Bonaire and support from Warehouse Supermarket.



Government buys from Bonaire businesses

The Rijksdienst Caribisch Nederland (RCN) spent \$15 million in the islands during the first half of 2020. It filled 91 percent of its procurements from businesses on Aruba, Curaçao, Bonaire, St. Maarten, St. Eustatius and Saba, up from 88 percent last year. The total spent in 2019 was approximately \$33 million. The RCN buys from local businesses whenever possible, and as a matter of policy tries to enter into longer-term purchase agreements of four to six years to provide local entrepreneurs certainty that encourages them to invest and expand their firms.

The RCN uses two purchase procedures. For smaller purchases--those involving an expenditure of less than \$30,000 over a period of four years--three suppliers are invited to submit direct offers and the most suitable is selected.

A more rigorous purchasing protocol is followed when \$30,000 or more will be spent over a four-year period. Then the RCN conducts a rigorous tendering procedure. That happens about 50 times a year on average. An invitation to tender is advertised. When local entrepreneurs respond they are registered and receive the documents needed for submitting a quotation. They are also assigned a procurement adviser who helps them prepare their bid. All bids pass through an independent and anonymous evaluation process designed to select the one offering the best price/quality ratio. The results are shared with all bidders, who may file an objection if they want.

Long-term agreements with suppliers in the Netherlands, mainly in the field of ICT (information communications technology) account for the nine percent of the expenditures not made locally. Some of those contracts may become available to bids from local firms as time goes by. *DMR*



Reef Glimpses

Sea turtles over the years

From 1972 to 1978, my first six years of diving, I dived from Fort Lauderdale down to Pennekamp Park in the Florida Keys, made short trips to Bimini, and spent a week diving in Grand Cayman. I saw a hammerhead shark on my first open water dive (my also just-certified buddy and I levitated back to the boat), found a pin from a wooden shipwreck, watched Rick Frehsee free-dive to 80+ feet, and marveled at the size and grace of green morays. In all that time, however, I never saw a sea turtle.

When I began working at Riding Rock Inn, on Sal Salvador in the Bahamas, the first I heard about sea turtles was that turtle steak was on the menu for our weekly beach picnic. As it turned out, although turtle was on the menu, it was never available the entire time I worked there -- not for conservation reasons but because they couldn't find any turtles. It was there, though, off San Sal, that I saw my first sea turtle underwater, resting on the bottom. Everyone on the dive wanted to see the little turtle because they were so rare; everyone got to see the turtle because each diver moved smoothly and didn't try to get too close. When we all left, the turtle was still resting in the same spot. (We didn't mention it to the people who catered the beach lunch...)

In 1993 one of the best places in the world to see sea turtles was Sipadan Island, then part of Indonesia, and a major nesting site for green turtles. At night the female greens would crawl onto the beaches to deposit eggs. On dives we commonly saw large green turtles resting in reef crevices, often being cleaned by multiple cleaner fish.

In his orientation, our guide cautioned us not to touch the turtles. "When we first began diving here, we'd grab onto the shells of the turtles and let them take us for a ride," he explained, "After a while, though, they'd swim away when they saw us coming," – he actually seemed surprised by this -- "so now we don't let anyone touch them."

I'll bet they'd have made an exception for Norine Rouse, the "Turtle Lady of Palm Beach", who had a special relationship with loggerhead turtles who spent time in the waters off Palm Beach every year. Instead of asking the turtles to give her a ride, Norine gave the turtles a bath. Okay, not an actual bath, but she was definitely their cleaner. Older loggerhead turtles often have barnacles living on their carapaces (shells) and even on the skin of their necks. The turtles can't seem to get rid of them, and they cause problems: the barnacles add mass, and change the turtles' carapace profile from hydrodynamically-efficient smooth to inefficient bumpy. Just as encrusted hulls cause boats to use more fuel, barnacle-hosting turtles need more energy for the same tasks than they would without their hitchhikers.

Norine probably began by approaching turtles cautiously and rubbing her hand along their shells. Since they remained comfortable, she progressed to using a scrub-sponge and tiny knife and really tackling the barnacles and other growth on her clients' necks and carapaces. One very special friend of Norine's was Rajah, who sought out her attentions and her company for several years.

If what Norine was doing seems obvious, this is a good time to mention that no one had even thought of doing it before Norine, certainly no one had ever helped turtles in that way. By the way, if scrubbing turtles seems boring to you, think about this: a human head is about the same size, or smaller, than a fully-grown queen conch – and loggerhead turtles eat queen conchs by biting their shells to pieces! I saw this on a video once and I'll never forget it – crunch crunch, gulp.



Portrait of Heather: For a few months in the mid-1980's, this turtle we named "Heather" found us on every single night dive we made off Dr. Welvaart's house (now the park in town), but we never once saw her in the daytime!

Sea turtles have been around for millions of years. Thanks to worldwide concern, their threatened populations are slowly recovering, something we definitely see on Bonaire. It took me more than five years to see my first sea turtle; last week I snorkeled off Bonaire for less than five hours and saw three turtles!

One reason our turtles are happy is STCB, Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire. Learn more about Bonaire's sea turtles by checking out the STCB website (bonaireturtles. org) or their Facebook page (Bonaire Turtles).

Dee Scarr

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. Dee's books are available for purchase at Bonaire's Carib Inn or through touchthesea.com.

Living on a beautiful Caribbean island like Bonaire we are blessed with kilometers of beautiful shoreline. It is very important to know where around Bonaire's coast dogs are legally permitted to avoid penalties, injuries, and damage to nature. For the complete list and map of prohibited areas for dogs, visit www.stinapabonaire.org. Some of the dog-friendly areas include between Punt Vierkant and Salt Pier (south), and also from Willenstoren Lighthouse up to (but not including) Sorobon.

Summertime is a wonderful time for people and their pets to enjoy the outdoors. With Bonaire's strong sunshine and hot weather, many of us head straight to the beach for a cooler way to enjoy the Caribbean summer. As with any activity, it is always better sharing it with friends and family, and in many cases this includes our beloved animal companions. While it is fun when he comes along for a swim with us, we always need to keep our pet's safety in mind when it comes to being in or near the sea. Here are some tips to keep you and your furry friend safely splashing around all summer long.

Should Your Pet Go Swimming?

The first thing to consider is whether or not your dog can or even should swim. Some types of dogs are less adapted to water activity than others. For example, breeds and mixes with short legs (ex. Corgis), short/cropped tails, and short snouts (pugs, bully breeds) tend to be poor natural swimmers. Despite this, they may still love and want to swim. This makes it even more important to maintain constant supervision and be prepared provide assistance or even invest in a dog appropriate float jacket for your canine to wear.

Other factors to consider when deciding to take your dog swimming are pre-existing health conditions and older age. Issues with the skin, ears, joints, or heart can be made worse with swimming.

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SPLASH
Pet Safety Tips
at the Beach



Even as hot as it gets on Bonaire, the cool water can quickly absorb heat (20 times faster than air) resulting in many smaller dogs (toy breeds) getting too cold quickly.

Some dogs who are capable swimmers, might just not like going in the water. You should never force your pet to swim or enter the water if he is uncomfortable. Allow your dog to approach the water at his own pace, and be prepared to accept if he does not want to enter. Some dogs prefer to splash and run in shallow water, while others might swim for hours if given the chance. It is important to recognize when your dog has had enough and make sure he rests and drinks clean fresh water. Over-exertion and even dehydration can be a danger for water-loving pups.

Your Pet and the Sea

Before your pet enters the water, make sure you keep an eye out for dangers along the shore that he might get in to. Some hazards to consider are: discarded lionfish spines, fishing lines and hooks, sharp fish bones that can be swallowed, broken glass, sea urchins, and in some areas there are sharp, jagged rocks that could cause damage to paws.

Make sure you bring fresh drinking water for your best fur friend so that he stays hydrated and does not try to accidentally drink seawater, which can make him sick. Dogs with short or white fur are also sensitive to sun, so apply reef-safe sunscreen to susceptible areas on your dog (ears, snout, belly). Providing a shady resting spot for him and limiting time in the sun will also help prevent sunburn and overheating. On the topic of physical needs, make sure you bring poo bags to pick up your dog's waste if he does his business on shore. Nobody wants a poopy beach!

When assessing the water, watch out for rough conditions (large waves, strong current, high winds) that can put even a good swimmer (dog or human) in danger. Do not leave your dog alone in the water,

and supervise him even when he's out of the water. Keep in mind any busy roads nearby where a dog off-leash could accidentally wander into traffic.

We love our pets, but not everyone loves and knows your dog like you do. Keep him near you and when possible, on a leash. This will ease the minds of other beachgoers and help prevent any unplanned or unpleasant confrontations with others (and other dogs who may not be so well behaved). Not to mention he won't get that chance to sneak a bite of your beach snack!

After a Good Day at the Beach

Following any dip in the salty sea water, your doggy pal will need to be washed with fresh water. Make sure you clean and dry the ears well since left over moisture is an invitation for infection. A great day of sun, sand, and sea can be quite tiring for both you and your dog. Give him plenty of fresh water at home to drink as he rests. It is not unusual for your companion to end up sleeping for much of the rest of the day. He's just recharging his energy for another fun-filled beach day with his favorite human tomorrow!

Adopt a swimming buddy

Here at the Shelter, many of our dogs love water and have a blast playing in their provided splash tubs. It would be wonderful to see how many of them might love to swim in the sea as well!

If you are interested in adopting a water-loving pup, stop by or contact the Animal Shelter Bonaire. Tel. 701-4989, animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com or visit (Kaminda Lagoen 26) during open hours Mon-Fri 9am-12pm and 3pm-5pm and Saturdays 9am-3pm nonstop.

Story by Amy Weir Photos by Sanne Attevelt, Aimee Young, and Amy Weir





Pet of the Week: Cindy

Dear animal friends,

My name is Cindy, I'm a young lady a little over one year old. My former family did not like me anymore because my fur was going bald and ugly and I had to move into the shelter. When I got here I was diagnosed with neglected puppy mange and I got all the help and treatment I needed. I had three months of skin treatment, with daily special creams and baths...and a lot of love and attention! After two months the nice people here took me out for swims in the sea and long walks. I now really enjoy everything life has to offer.

I not only grew my beautiful brindle fur back, I also got a lot more confidence and trust and learned the joy of getting petted. Now I'm fully recovered and ready to find my forever home. I am good with other dogs, and I like children, but most of all I just want a home. Are you the one that will give me a forever home? Then please come and visit me at the Animal



Shelter Bonaire at Kaminda Lagoen 26, Mon.-Fri. 9-12 and 3-5, Sat. 9-3 non-stop, or call to make an appointment at 717-4989 or 701-4989, also reachable by WhatsApp. I will hopefully see you soon.

Story and Photo: Sanne Attevelt

What's Happening

Saturday July 18	PADI Women's Dive Day 2020 8:30 am check-in at Bruce Bowker's Carib Inn. Cash \$25 for dive (+ \$15 to rent a tank) See story on this page.
Saturday July 25	Mid-Year Lora Count Mid-Year Lora (Parrot) Roost Count 6 - 8:00 am. Help Echo Foundation with a special mid-year parrot count. Echo wants to check changes in roosting behaviour between rainy and dry season as well as the effects of the breeding season. +599 701 1188 Website: https://www.bonairebirdtours.com/event/parrotroost-count-july-2020/
	Nos Zjilea Cultural Event from 8am till 2pm at Mangazina di Rei located at the east-entrance of Rincon. Enjoy delicious food, live music, local arts & crafts, plants & vegetables, educational presentations and an exhibition about Rincon. Fun, relaxed and entertaining for kids and adults alike. Donations are welcome. SEE, FEEL AND TASTE THE CULTURE OF BONAIRE. For a complete schedule of events check Mangazina di Rei Cultural Park on Facebook. Last Saturday of every month.
Saturday August 1	Taste of Bonaire , 6pm-11pm,Wilhelmina Park. Sample local and international food from fine restaurants, meet Bonaire's artisans, buy local souvenirs, enjoy live music and dancing.
Sunday August 9	Clean Coast Bonaire Clean-up Survey. Piedra Pretu 4pm Clean Coast Bonaire recruits volunteers and trains local residents and visiting eco-tourists to complete monthly surveys of marine litter.

Every Saturday

Pakus di Pruga- Flea Market store sponsored by the Animal Shelter from 8am till 4pm Open but with "social distancing" requirements

Every Weekday
Washington Slagbaai Park will be open Monday to Friday from 8am to 5pm.

Clubs & meetings

Open Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting. Every Thursday, 7 - 8 pm.International Bible Church, Kaya Papago 104 in Hato (Behind Bon Bida Spa & Gym and Bon Bida apartments). All are welcome to attend.

Ask a Geek

By Brian Niessen

What happens to all my computer information when I die?

Periodically, as people have passed away, I have been given their computers to "hack into" so the family can get

While this used to be an easy feat, with modern day computer systems being encrypted, it is nearly impossible without a lot of computing power to crack the encryption.

So, what I would recommend, as part of your will, is to keep a sealed envelope for your executor that contains all of the logins and passwords for everything you do in your daily life. And keep it updated when you change passwords. The reason you seal it, with your signature across the seal, is that you will be able to see if it has been tampered with

While there are methods on Facebook and other social media sites to declare someone "dead", it isn't that simple. So even though the deceased cannot type,

people can still try to communicate with them and post to their Facebook page, which creates a weird interaction.

In a lot of cases, important information such as bank statements, credit card statements, life insurance information, etc, is sent ONLY via email to save on postal costs, trees and garbage.

But when there is no way to access the deceased's email, all of that information is basically lost forever.

I had a uncle who passed away as he was writing an email to his daughter but it hadn't been sent. As part of the process, the executor shut down the computer and packed it up. A year later, it was turned on, and the email was sent, scaring my cousin into thinking she received an email from her Dad "from the great beyond."

If you are the executor, it is best to have the computer hard disk professionally erased, or take a hammer to it and smash it. You never know what information will end up at the flea market.

So, save your heirs a lot of grief by providing this list. They will love you

Visit our business directory/services on page 15 Check out our business directory page for some great deals

Celebrate Women's Dive Day

PADI Women's Dive Day 2020 will be celebrated with a dive and get together by Bonaire women divers at Bruce Bowker's Carib Inn this Saturday, July

There will be two boats, with a maximum of 10 divers per boat or total of 20 divers. After the dive, there will snacks, drinks and a chat on how Bonaire's women divers can help our reefs and marine life.

This is the sixth year women worldwide will join together to celebrate the ocean environment and consider how we can help.

Cost for the dive is \$25 with your own tank or add \$15 to rent one, cash only please. Arrive at 8:30 am to fill out a liability form and show dive certification. Book by July 17 by phone or WhatsApp 770-7879 due to limited space.

Come, celebrate being a woman diver on Bonaire. Photo and story by Julie Morgan





Women can try diving for FREE!

Dive Friends Bonaire is hosting a Free mer-mazing opportunity for all women on Bonaire (especially locals) on Women's Dive Day July 18, 11am-2pm. Any female is welcome to join us and in this introductory scuba class. The class will be held in the safe confines of the new Resort Bonaire swimming pool with Dive Friends certified staff. Minimum age for participants is 12 and

anyone under 18 requires a guardian's signature. After the class you can join us for lunch, (not included), and celebrate the Sixth Annual PADI Women's Dive Day

If you are a woman or know someone who would like to try scuba, please contact us by email at info@divefriendsbonaire.com. Or contact us by phone 780-2572 by July 17.

Dive Friends

Upcoming Events

July 18th, 2020 August 1st August 7th October 17th November 20th **PADI Women's Dive Day Quarterly Clean Up Dive Instructor Development Course Quarterly Clean Up Dive Instructor Development Course**

Check out the cultural calendar

Prins Bernhard Cultuurfonds Caribisch Gebied (PBCCG) has been working on an online cultural calender. As of Wednesday July 8th, the calendar came online via the website:

pbccaribbean.com/cultuuragenda/

The foundation aims to list all cultural activities on Curação, Aruba, Bonaire, St. Maarten, Saba, and St. Eustatius: exhibitions, shows, concerts, workshops, nature experiences, book presentations and other events of art and culture.

PBCCG will list not only the activi-

ties that are sponsored by them, but all events with a cultural impact.

"It's all about experiencing art and culture throughout the six islands in the broadest sense of the word. More and more activities will be added to the calendar as we go. Also some digital, as our islands artists have been forced to look into such options due to Covid-19."

When The Reporter visited the culture calendar, it viewed activities from Curação, St. Maarten and Aruba. Bonaire has yet to contribute.



Making Bonaire "Accessible" A little help and improvisation go a long way

At this moment accessibility in our neighborhood is very bad. But, there is a huge shining light on the horizon. Inside our compound, the concrete-way is being replaced by a beautiful brick road. Accomplishing this, however, is, due to various circumstances, horrifying. There are dust, sand and holes everywhere.

But I must say that everybody working on this project is very helpful to me, as are the neighbors. No need to worry if I get the trash bin to the required place, because without being asked, our neigh-

If I walk to and from the pool, a few workers assist me and even call me " tante" (aunty) now. Our wheelchair board was used to make a bridge, so I do not fall into a ditch. So, as you can see, I am well taken care of.

And starting this week the Kaya Carlos A. Nicolaas is getting fixed. This is such wonderful news. And I do hope they consider putting in good sidewalks, so we can walk safely into town.

And another good thing is that MiVaBo is working with supermarkets, etc. on a "parking for handicapped management."

So, because I get so much help, I thought it would be a good idea to help others. The thing I can give away for free is advice. I will keep you posted on that!

There are so many little things in a household that make it hard for the elderly, persons with a chronic disease or the handicapped. Everybody could do with a few "life-hacks" that make everyday living a bit better. But to buy these things is hard. Either the items are very expensive or unavailable. So here we go.

Improvising some "life-hacks":

- use a walker to transport all the things you need to carry or move through the house. You can put a tray on top for more room. Plus you can sit on it and rest in
- get some large kitchen-tongs. They are great for reaching and picking up things. Ask for them as a birthday gift.
- put all your dirty dishes in a large bowl in the sink. Fill it with water and throw in a dishwasher tablet. Let stand and soak for one hour and discharge the water. Spread a towel on the counter top and put the dishes on it to dry.
- get a yard or two of thick foam piping and cut it into pieces that fit on cutlery, the faucet, and toothbrush. That way you get a good grip and the utensils can be handled easier.
- no shower chair available? Just use an old plastic garden chair and always use a towel for anti-slip to sit on.
- put a bar of soap in a panty sock and tie it to the faucet in the shower.
- · hook a large key ring through every zipper on your clothes.

No need to buy expensive utensils. Use your imagination or ask your ergo-therapist. And, please let me know if they work for you. Happy summer everyone.

Ria Evers-Dokter.

A Garden? Just Do It!

Gardening challenges and benefits

Ultimately rain is needed for plants.

With Bonaire's extreme drought, the soil is tough soil these days. We also have iguanas, loras and lizards which always hunt the best greens and fruit in the garden. And last but not least, the white fly, which locals call "piespies." I have to admit as a gardener that it's not easy to garden under these circumstances.

But still, I experience gardening as a worthwhile activity because of other values. I like being busy in the fresh air, and keeping the body active is good for muscles and the bloodstream. Gardening eases the mind and gives positive energy through enjoying nature and creating a garden. I can socialize with friends by sharing ideas and experiences, and we enjoy each others fruits, vegetables and plants. If you feel lonesome on Bonaire



Young tomato plants

and you love to make friends, start gardening. Visit places where plants are sold like Kreabon market, Rincon markets, Green Label and so on. Share your knowledge and before you know it people will be coming over. This is my personal experience, so I know it works.

I see a lot more inspiring aspects to gardening other than the fruit and vegetables. It's not "quantity" but "quality" that is my magic word.

Unsprayed fruit and vegetables planted in clean soil, ripened by the sun with natural stuff like manure, pure compost, and then picked fresh from my garden just when it's ready to eat. I know it is 100 percent the best food I can treat my body to, even when it is only a little.

There is so much pure, healthy goodness that you can only get from your own garden. You don't know where all the other food comes from or what was done to it during the growing process. Or, how long it took to reach Bonaire and what kind of chemical stuff was sprayed on it to keep it good during its travels. We cannot answer all these questions, but the body experiences a lot of stress because of all the strange things it gets from these

other foods and then has to process.

So one of the main things plants need is rainwater, because of the minerals. They look fresh and vital; to me it looks like they are happy. Local plants are used to dealing with less rain, so don't underestimate the short showers that come once a while. The plants absorb the moisture quickly and use it efficiently and store the minerals for a while. I also catch rainwater and store it in a large closed container. When it has not rained for a while, I use the stored water. This is a good idea during a drought on Bonaire. And when you plant a lot of different vegetables there will still be plenty for you and your garden friends. One idea is to plant a little vegetable patch in the corner of your garden for your friends.

So, go ahead, take advantage of the little rain these days and try out ideas with your garden friends. But don't give up and start now. Happy planting, just do it now. Angliet, Nature lover

FPK celebrates 10 years, continued from page 8

5.Maskarada

In 2016, together with Fundashon Nawati and Forma, a group of children learned about the New Year tradition Maskarada and performed three presentations in schools. The kids made their own masks, dressed up and went out to perform a Maskarada accompanied by professional musicians. Since then, along with Annette 'Magaly' Sumter, we have organized the children Maskarada activities every year. With these activities the elderly can pass on the tradition to the younger generation.

6. Walk-in for everyone

In 2018, we started a Friday afternoon walk-in, at Hofi Kultural, where anyone can come together to practice and make music or paint. An elderly band also played music. In 2020, the walk-in afternoon will begin in September on every Wednesday afternoon from 3-5 p.m. Tourists visiting Bonaire are also welcome to meet Bonairean residents.

7. Street art in collaboration with Curação and Rotterdam

In 2018, the project 'Passantenkunstenaars in de Cariben: Dolf Henkes

uitgelicht' took place. Our foundation developed teaching materials and an educational program for students in Curação and Bonaire. In November, street artist Vinz100 stayed in BonAIResidence and created four murals on Bonaire with 110 school children.

In 2020, we initiated 'Street Colors Bonaire', in collaboration with Rewriters Rotterdam. This project acquaints youngsters and MBO students with street art and helps develop their talent. Planned for one and half years, 15 youngsters, will be coached by local artists/coaches who will help them develop their talents. There will be four international artists at Hòfi Kultural in BonAIResidence joining us. More information is available on the website www.streetcolorsbonaire.com.

This initiative is a broad cooperation within the Kingdom with support from the European Netherlands and Bonaire. The Netherlands, DOEN Foundation, has been of major support from the very beginning for Hòfi Kultural. Samenwerkende Fondsen, Fonds voor Cultuurparticipatie and Fonds 21 support many of the activities. From Bonaire, the Openbaar Lichaam Bonaire, entrepreneurs, individuals and volunteers supports the initiative with resources, equipment or their time every year. We would like to thank everyone wholeheartedly.

For more information about Fundashon Plataforma Kultural, please visit www. hofikultural.com

At Your Service

The following businesses have been recommended by Bonaire residents. Introductory rate - call or email for availability - 796-4055 - BonaireReporter2019@gmail.com

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How to nominate someone for a royal award



. The request comes in to the Royal Awards Committee, which consists of Lucia Anthony, Jeaninne Wong Loi Sing, Mary Tjin Asjoe and Meralda de Palm.

The Royal Distinction Commission is collecting nominations for residents who would be eligible for a Royal Distinction for the year 2021.

An award from the empire is a symbol of recognition given to a person for their personal contribution or extraordinary achievement to the community. Do you know such a person and do you think he / she deserves public recognition? It is important to submit your proposal no later than the end of July 2020.

Anyone can nominate a candidate for a royal award. To submit a proposal, you must completed a form saying why that person should be eligible for an award. In addition to the reason, the details of the person and references must also be entered. The request comes in to the Royal Awards Committee, which consists of Lucia Anthony, Jeaninne Wong Loi Sing, Mary Tjin Asjoe and Meralda de Palm. They prepare the documents further and carry out an initial investigation to see whether the nomination meets the criteria

The path taken by the nomination. The committee must hand their vetted nominations over to the lieutenant governor by September 1. If his advice is positive, a proposal can be made for the degree of the award. Finally, the Kingdom Representative gives a ruling. The nominations received by the Kingdom Representative

go to an independent committee of five persons (the Chapter for Civil Orders) who check whether the nomination complies with the rules of procedure. The chapter committee then advises the minister. As you can see, the person making a nomination must be patient. It may take several months before everything is ready.

When is someone eligible for an award?

When someone does voluntary or paid work that makes a personal or special contribution to society can receive an award. So can volunteers who make a tireless contribution to an organization in the field of sports, culture, art, religion, nature or public order for 15 years or more. Someone who delivers an exceptional job performance can also qualify for an award. It is important that the work the person has done has benefited the community as well as the organization for which the person works.

Do you know someone who would like to nominate you for an award? For more information, please contact Ms. Jeaninne Wong Loi Sing at 786 8549, Ms. Mary Tjin Asjoe at 527 3292, Ms. Meralda de Palm at 511 1029 or Ms. Lucia Anthony at 786 1956. You can also send an email to members: jwongloising@gmail.com, lucia.anthony@bonairegov.com, maryt-jindirectie.sz@gmail.com and meralda. depalm@bonairegov.com.

OLB looking for expert to write masterplan

The OLB (Public Body Bonaire) is inviting applications for someone with the expertise needed to compile and write Masterplan 2030. According to their press release:

"The objective is to identify and select the right expert to review and analyze the collected information and other policy processes in order to write the integral Masterplan Bonaire 2030. This plan should provide the public entity of Bonaire with a broadly supported strategic vision and execution plan that is described in understandable language in the following areas: Good governance,

Socio-Economic, Sustainable economy, sustainable tourism, education, culture, standards and values, Infrastructure, Nature & Environment, Sports, Sustainable energy and technology, Creative industry, healthcare and welfare."

The Masterplan is scheduled to be published on October 10, 2020.

For information on the ToR (Terms of Reference) please visit https://masterplanbonaire.com/pages/en/tor/ or send your mail to masterplan2030@bonairegov.com.

R&O tackles a tough intersection

Work has started on the complex intersection at the cross roads of Kaya Carlos Nicolaas and Kaya J.B. Vitte and their junction with Kaya Gobernador Debrot. The intersection is made more complex because the entrance to Napa's parking lot is located directly off it.

Work began the second week in June when Kaya J.B. Vitte was closed. As

part of the project a new (and hopefully less confusing) new intersection will be constructed. The reconstruction of Kaya Carlos Nicolaas is part of R&O's (Space and Development Department) broader plan to improve the road network on the island. The work will be executed by BWM (Bonairiaanse Wegenbouw Mij).





Pluto, Pluto, poor Pluto. We miss you. Hey Pluto truthers, I'm Trace, curiosity explorer, youtube creator, and astro-enthusiast and I hear you. I see you. You are heard, my friend.

Pluto is no longer a planet, and I'm sure that still makes some of you steam hotter than a cup of tea on the surface of Jupiter's lava-moon Io. Others are probably more off-kilter than the rings of Uranus. So lemme explain why Pluto isn't a planet, and also why making it a planet again won't make us a nine planet system, but perhaps a system of thirteen!

Percival Lowell theorized Pluto's existence in the early 20th century by calculating a little bit of wobble in the orbits of Neptune and Uranus. That wobble might indicate a planet X out there -- he thought.

He'd built an observatory in 1894 to spy on the canals on Mars -- which he incorrectly believed were built by an intelligent race. And though he didn't live to see Pluto discovered, it was found at his namesake observatory in 1930 by Clyde W. Tombaugh on Valentine's Day eve.

Once the finding was confirmed, we had a ninth planet! And so it would be for a little over seventy years, until in 2006, the International Astronomical Union -- the governing body for all of astronomy worldwide -- decided to redefine what it meant to be a planet. Pluto no longer passed muster.

The definition now reads that a planet must: be round, be able to clear its orbital path, and orbit the sun. This means round moons aren't planets, but neither are potato-shaped asteroids. But while Pluto is round, and in orbit around our sun, its gravity isn't sufficient enough to clear its orbit.

I know what you're thinking, that's silly!

But it's not... Entirely. See, Pluto is not the only round, sun-orbiting thing out there to consider. Ceres, Eris, Haumea, and Makemake are all dwarf planets too! And we're discovering more all the time

Pluto is the king of the Kuiper belt. Ceres is the queen of the asteroid belt! Eris, Huamea and Makemake are out in the Kuiper belt too along with -- and if we reclassified to make Pluto a planet, we'd have to really stack the deck to keep other dwarf planets out of the planet-club.

Planets are wonderful things, but so are other celestial bodies!

As we discover more and more things flying around out there in the solar system, and the galaxy, definitions have to shift to accommodate them. The problem wasn't that we mistakenly cut out Pluto, it was that we were thinking too small. Planets are just one type of body, Pluto was just the first of the dwarf planets, and the closer we look the more we'll find.

Lowell was a mathematician, maybe you'll find a planet too if you -- keep lookin' up!

Source: https://www.stargazersonline. org. Hosts: Trace Dominguez & Ata Sarajedini.

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Coral Spawning Predictions for the Southern Caribbean

April, May, & J	une Corals	DAYS AFM CALENDAR DATE SUNSET TIME		11 18-Apr 18:48	12 19-Apr 18:48	13 20-Apr 18:48		10 17-May 18:53	11 18-May 18:53	12 19-May 18:53	13 20-May 18:54		10 15-Jun 19:01	11 16-Jun 19:01	12 17-Jun 19:01	13 18-Jun 19:02
Latin name	Common Name	Spawning Window														
Diploria labyrinthiformis*	Grooved Brain Coral	70 min BS-10 min AS		17:40	-19:00				17:45	-19:05				17:50-	19:10	
*Monthly "DLAB" spawning has be	een observed from April to October in Curaça	ao, Bonaire, the Dominican Republic, and	d Mexico. V	Ve don't yet	know if thi	s occurs ac	cross the	entire region	. New obse	ervations ar	e highly end	ouraged!				

		DAYS AFM	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
uly Corals		CALENDAR DATE	4-Jul	5-Jul	6-Jul	7-Jul	8-Jul	9-Jul	10-Jul	11-Jul	12-Jul	13-Jul	14-Jul	15-Jul	16-Jul	17-Jul
		SUNSET TIME	19:04	19:04	19:04	19:04	19:04	19:04	19:04	19:04	19:04	19:04	19:04	19:04	19:04	19:04
Latin name	Common Name	Spawning Window														
Diploria labyrinthiformis*	Grooved Brain Coral	70 min BS-10 min AS												17:55	-19:15	
Montastraea cavernosa	Great Star Coral	15-165 min AS							19:20	-21:50						
Colpophyllia natans	Boulder Brain Coral	35-110 min AS							1	19:40-20:5	5					
Pseudodiplora strigosa (Early group)	Symmetrical Brain Coral	40-60 min AS								19:45-20:0	15					
Dendrogyra cylindrus	Pillar Coral	90-155 min AS			20:35	-21:40										
Pseudodiplora strigosa (Late group)	Symmetrical Brain Coral	220-270 min AS							2	22:45-23:3	5					
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		DAYS AFM	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
August Corals		CALENDAR DATE	3-Aug	4-Aug	5-Aug	6-Aug	7-Aug	8-Aug	9-Aug	10-Aug	11-Aug	12-Aug	13-Aug	14-Aug	15-Aug	16-Aug
0		SUNSET TIME	19:00	19:00	18:59	18:59	18:59	18:58	18:58	18:57	18:57	18:56	18:56	18:55	18:55	18:54
Latin name	Common Name	Spawning Window														
Diploria labyrinthiformis*	Grooved Brain Coral	70 min BS-10 min AS												17:45	-19:05	
Montastraea cavernosa	Great Star Coral	15-165 min AS							19:15	-21:45						
Colpophyllia natans	Boulder Brain Coral	35-110 min AS								19:35-20:50	0					
Pseudodiploria strigosa (Early group)	Symmetrical Brain Coral	30-70 min AS								19:30-20:1	0					
Dendrogyra cylindrus	Pillar Coral	90-155 min AS			20:30)-21:35										
Dichocoenia stokesii	Pineapple Coral	100-160 min AS					20:40-21	:40 (Spawn:	s more than	20 nights i	n Septembe	er - help us	discover wh	at they do i	n August)	
Acropora palmata	Elkhorn Coral	140-190 min AS		21:20-22	2:10 (Spaw	ning could o	occur any o	f these days	: This speci	ies is not hi	ghly predict	able in the S	Southern Ca	aribbean)		
Acropora cervicornis	Staghorn Coral	150-190 min AS				21:30-22:10)									
Montastraea/Orbicella annularis	Lobed/Boulder Star Coral	185-250 min AS							22:05	-23:10						
Montastraea/Orbicella faveolata	Mountainous Star Coral	185-250 min AS							22:05	-23:10						
Pseudodiploria strigosa (Late group)	Symmetrical Brain Coral	220-270 min AS								22:40-23:30	0					

		DAYS AFM	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
September Corals	S	CALENDAR DATE	1-Sep	2-Sep	3-Sep	4-Sep	5-Sep	6-Sep	7-Sep	8-Sep	9-Sep	10-Sep	11-Sep	12-Sep	13-Sep	14-Sep
		SUNSET TIME	18:45	18:44	18:44	18:43	18:43	18:42	18:41	18:40	18:40	18:39	18:38	18:38	18:37	18:36
Latin name	Common name	Spawning Window														
Diploria labyrinthiformis*	Grooved Brain Coral	70 min BS-10 min AS												17:25	-18:45	
Meandrina meandrites	Maze Coral	10-70 min AS						18:50-1	9:55 (Spa	wns many	different nig	hts in this r	ange, expe	cted throug	gh Sept 20	or later)
Montastraea cavernosa	Great Star Coral	15-165 min AS							18:55	-21:25						
Colpophyllia natans	Boulder Brain Coral	35-110 min AS								18:55-20:3	30					
Pseudodiploria strigosa (Early group)	Symmetrical Brain Coral	30-70 min AS								19:10-19:5	50					
Eusmilia fastigiata	Smooth Flower Coral	75-270 min AS								19:55	-23:15					
Montastraea/Orbicella franksi	Boulder Star Coral	90-150 min AS							20:10	-21:10						
Dendrogyra cylindrus	Pillar Coral	90-155 min AS			20:15	-21:30										
Dichocoenia stokesii	Pineapple Coral	100-160 min AS					4	20:20-21:20	(Spawns	more than	20 nights	in a row, e	kpected thi	rough Sep	t 25 or late	r)
Acropora palmata	Elkhorn Coral	140-190 min AS	21:	:05-22:15	(Spawning	could occu	ur on any o	f these day	s: This spe	ecies is no	t highly pre	dictable in	the Southe	ern Caribbe	ean)	
Acropora cervicornis	Staghorn Coral	150-190 min AS				21:30-22:10)									
Stephanocoenia intersepta	Blushing Star Coral	160-210 min AS							21:15	-22:05						
Montastraea/Orbicella annularis	Lobed/Boulder Star Coral	185-250 min AS							21:20	-22:10						
Montastraea/Orbicella faveolata	Mountainous Star Coral	185-250 min AS							21:45	-22:50						
Siderastrea siderea	Massive Starlet Coral	210-280 min AS						22:10-23:20)							
Pseudodiploria clivosa	Knobby Brain Coral	210-255 min AS								22:10	-23:10					
Pseudodiploria strigosa (Late group)	Symmetrical Brain Coral	220-270 min AS							2	22:20-23:1	0					
Madracis senaria	Ten-Ray Star Coral	all night							all night							
Agaricia humilis/Agaricia agaricites	Lettuce Coral	all night							all night							

		DAYS AFM	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
October Corals		CALENDAR DATE	1-Oct	2-Oct	3-Oct	4-Oct	5-Oct	6-Oct	7-Oct	8-Oct	9-Oct	10-Oct	11-Oct	12-Oct	13-Oct	14-Oct
		SUNSET TIME	18:25	18:24	18:24	18:23	18:22	18:22	18:21	18:20	18:20	18:19	18:19	18:18	18:18	18:17
Latin name	Common Name	Spawning Window														
Diploria labyrinthiformis *	Grooved Brain Coral	70 min BS-10 min AS													-18:30	
Meandrina meandrites	Maze Coral	10-70 min AS						18:30)-19:35 (Sp	awns mar	ny different	nights in th	nis range, e	xpected til	Oct 21 or	later)
Montastraea cavernosa	Great Star Coral	15-165 min AS							18:35	-21:05						
Colpophyllia natans	Boulder Brain Coral	35-110 min AS							1	8:45-20:1	0					
Pseudodiploria strigosa (Early group)	Symmetrical Brain Coral	30-70 min AS							1	8:50-19:3	0					
Eusmilia fastigiata	Smooth Flower Coral	75-270 min AS								19:35	-23:00					
Montastraea/Orbicella franksi	Boulder Star Coral	90-150 min AS							19:50	-20:50						
Dendrogyra cylindrus	Pillar Coral	90-155 min AS			19:50	-21:10										
Dichocoenia stokesii	Pineapple Coral	100-160 min AS						20:00-21:0	0 (Spawns	more than	20 nights	in a row, e	xpected th	rough Oct	25 or later)
Stephanocoenia intersepta	Blushing Star Coral	160-210 min AS							21:00	-21:50						
Montastraea/Orbicella annularis	Lobed/Boulder Star Coral	185-250 min AS							21:25	-22:30						
Montastraea/Orbicella faveolata	Mountainous Star Coral	185-250 min AS							21:25	-22:30						
Siderastrea siderea	Massive Starlet Coral	210-280 min AS						21:50-23:0	0							
Pseudodiploria clivosa	Knobby Brain Coral	210-255 min AS								21:50	-23:00					
Pseudodiploria strigosa (Late group)	Symmetrical Brain Coral	220-270 min AS							2	2:00-22:5	0					
Madracis senaria	Ten-Ray Star Coral	all night							all night					, and the second		
Agaricia humilis/Agaricia agaricites	Lettuce Coral	all night							all night							

November Corals	1	DAYS AFM CALENDAR DATE SUNSET TIME	1 1-Nov 18:09	2 2-Nov 18:09	3 3-Nov 18:09	4 4-Nov 18:09	5 5-Nov 18:08	6 6-Nov 18:08	7 7-Nov 18:08	8 8-Nov 18:08	9 9-Nov 18:07	10 10-Nov 18:07	11 11-Nov 18:07	12 12-Nov 18:07	13 13-Nov 18:07
Latin name	Common name	Spawning Window													
Diploria labyrinthiformis*	Grooved Brain Coral	70 min BS-10 min AS											17:00-	18:15	
Meandrina meandrites	Maze Coral	10-70 min AS					18:15-	19:30 (Spa	wns many o	different nig	hts in this r	ange, expe	cted throug	h Nov 21 o	r later)
Eusmilia fastigiata	Smooth Flower Coral	75-270 min AS							19:20-	-22:30					
Dichocoenia stokesii	Pineapple Coral	100-160 min AS				1	19:50-20:50 (Spawns more than 20 nights in a row, expected through Nov 24 or later))	

August/September Sponges, Gorgonia		DAYS AFM CALENDAR DATE	_	4-Aug 2-Sep 2-Oct	5-Aug 3-Sep 3-Oct	6-Aug 4-Sep 4-Oct	7-Aug 5-Sep 5-Oct	5 8-Aug 6-Sep 6-Oct	9-Aug 7-Sep 7-Oct	7 10-Aug 8-Sep 8-Oct	8 11-Aug 9-Sep 9-Oct		11-Sep	11 14-Aug 12-Sep 12-Oct	13-Sep	13 16-Aug 14-Sep 14-Oct
Latin name	Common Name															
Holothuria mexicana	Donkeydung Sea Cucumber		12:00-18:00													
Hermodice carunculata	Fire Worm		12:00-19:00													
Diadema antilliarum	Long-Spined Sea Urchin		12:00-21:00													
Neofibularia nolitangere	Touch-Me-Not Sponge					1	4:00-17:0	0								
Plexaura, Pseudoplexaura, Eunicia	Sea Rods							sta	arting at 19	:00						
Plexaura homomalla	Black Sea Rod							19:00	-23:00							
Ophiuroidea	Brittle Sea Star/Serpent Star								19:30	-23:00						
Pseudopterogorgia spp.	Sea Plume							2	20:00-23:0	0						
Spirobranchus giganteus	Christmas Tree Worm			21:00-22:30												

Legend

Days AFM: Days After the Full Moon

min BS = Minutes Before Sunset

min AS = Minutes After Sunset

Pale Blue: Spawning may be possible but more data are needed! This species is understudied on these dates and times. Please help us make new discoveries by diving these windows!

Pale Yellow: Spawning is possible - has been observed on these dates

To Observe Spawning

- Make multiple dives on multiple nights
- Dive in a place with high coral cover
- Enter the water before predicted times • Dive shallower than 50 feet to maximize bottom time
- Use a moderately bright dive light



- Predictions are based on observations from previous years but this does not guarantee spawning will occur. When in doubt, go for a dive!
- Spawning times vary based on local sunset times. To look up your local sunset
- Your discoveries help coral research. Please report your spawning observations (species, date, time, location, and pictures if possible) to carmabilog@gmail.com.
- To contribute to the CRC spawning database, contact v.chamberland@secore.org Special thanks to everyone who contributed their spawning observations over the past 25+ years! We wish you a safe and productive spawning season!
- Citation: Vermeij, M.J.A., Chamberland, V.F., and Marhaver, K.L. "Coral Spawning Predictions, Southern Caribbean 2007–2020." CARMABI, Curacao.