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Combating the coronavirus

Bonaire successfully walled off the coronavirus pandemic for half a year, thanks to informed, proactive measures taken by the government and sensible precautions practiced by the public. In six months the island had only seven total cases, all recovered. Suddenly, however, the virus has slipped through the cracks. As of September 22nd, Bonaire's total cases have jumped to 52, and the island has recorded its first corona related death. It has 39 active cases, plus 217 people quarantined. Strict new lockdown rules have been declared, and far more people are wearing face masks and more places of business are requiring them.

The Bonaire Public Entity (OLB) issued its first warning of the impending threat on January 24, then closed the island to airline and cruise ship arrivals on March 14. It began imposing social distancing restrictions on people's activities and in subsequent months recalibrated those limits as the situation changed here and in other countries. Recently the island has been more receptive to visitors, the schools have opened, and some restrictions have been eased.

Three positive tests have been particu-

larly troubling: Dr. Hermelijn, a popular general practitioner, became infected, as did an unnamed staff member of daycare center Bon Kuido and an employee at the tax office. The Public Health Office is conducting intensive contact tracing. So far it has detected four separate clusters as well as several individual cases. Public Health has increased its testing rate from 10 - 20 tests per day to 40 - 60 per day.

Lieutenant Governor Edison Rijna asked the minister of foreign affairs in the Netherlands to change the Dutch travel advice for Bonaire from code yellow to the more onerous code orange, and the minister agreed. Code orange will not shut down flights from Holland. It is only a recommendation. People should travel here only if necessary. So vacationing will be discouraged. BONHATA (the Bonaire Hotel & Tourism Association) strongly opposes the governor's recommendation. Its members have welcomed the partial restoration of the tourist industry. They point out that the sudden surge of infections in September seems to have been generated locally rather than imported by visitors, and they consider the present reporting require-

ments for visitors adequate protection.

With the Bonaire-Curaçao "bubble" now closed (except for ZVK medical charters) visitors from Holland have fewer alternatives for flying to Bonaire. Despite the recent outbreak on Bonaire, the island has safeguarded itself against the coronavirus more effectively than either Curaçao or the Netherlands, both of which have experienced serious spikes recently. In the week through September 22, the Dutch reported 13,471 confirmed coronavirus infections, an increase of more than 60% from the previous week. The death toll was 33, up from 19. Between September 5 and September 16, Curaçao surged from four new cases a day to 23.

Governor Rijna announced a ten day mini-lockdown through to September 30.

- People should stay at home as much as possible.
- Working at home is encouraged.
- Construction work can continue.
- All food and beverage outlets are closed. Takeout and delivery are allowed until 8 pm.
- All businesses that provide personal care services involving contact—for ex-

ample, hairdressers, nail stylists, etc.—are closed.

- All gyms are closed, Outdoor sports with fleeting contact are allowed, but audiences are not.
- Casinos are closed.
- Funerals are allowed with a maximum of 10 people in the farewell room
- Marriage ceremonies at the registry office are allowed without invitees.
- Elderly care facilities can remain open subject to guidelines from Public Health.
- All shops, companies and institutions will be closed except those providing vital services such as healthcare (including informal care), government, financial institutions, and organizations such as Selibon, BIA and WEB.
- The botikas, supermarkets, petrol stations and building material shops are open until 8 pm. Visitors are asked to adhere to the door policy and the maximum capacity of the stores.
- The schools and childcare remain open under strict conditions of Public Health. If people test positive, the necessary measures will be taken to prevent spread. *Story by Don M Ricks.*

Cover Photo Julie Morgan



Gloves are off in financial showdown

Aruba, Curaçao, and St Maarten say that because the covid pandemic has decimated their economies the central government is obliged to rescue them with loans, but loans that do not violate their "autonomy." In response, all parties in Parliament agree that the economies of those islands are not worth saving in their present form because for generations the island governments have been corrupt and financially irresponsible. Parliament insists that the economic damage inflicted by the pandemic has provided not just an opportunity, but an absolute requirement, for Aruba, Curaçao, and St Maarten to finally begin reforming their governments. It stipulates that meeting the economic needs of the populace must be the goal, not serving the financial interests of the entrenched oligarchy.

As a first step, the Netherlands has declared an immediate and easily framed decision point. The carrot: the Dutch government is willing to provide "hundreds of millions" to save Aruba, Curaçao, and St Maarten from imminent bankruptcy, and to help them build stronger and more innovative post-covid economies. The stick: the islands must agree to the establishment by the Netherlands of a "Caribbean Reformation Entity" to supervise the use of the money. The people in power in Aruba, Curaçao, and St Maarten can accept supervised loans from the Dutch, or they can confront their impending economic collapse on their own without further Dutch assistance.

The discussion in Parliament produced some strong language regarding the "national autonomy" issue. One member said for example, "The autonomy discussion is . . . an excuse for not having to do anything, to claim that you can arrange it yourself, that autonomy. No prying eyes. Especially leave things to the old! The old friends and family principle. Directors and States members who are mainly concerned about their job and the jobs of their friends and family."

Taxes were also a major issue for the parliamentarians. One member said, "Collection is random. If you belong to the friends and family, you pay little or nothing, if you don't belong to them, you pay more or double. Companies that support political parties get better tax deals and the tax collector can always arrange something for you if you belong to the friends and family."

Another member said, "Until the end of March 2020, there was 4.5 billion guilders in the street in uncollected taxes on Curaçao. But actually collected, it is an amount of just over 1 billion guilders. If Curaçao were to collect its taxes properly, they would not even need the help from the Netherlands."

Aruba's Prime Minister, Evelyn Wever-Croes, said her country has exhausted its reserves and will likely not be able to pay civil servant salaries this month. Since the Dutch have, according to Wever-Croes, broken their promise to loan Aruba money, her country may borrow money on the international capital market.

State Secretary Raymond Knops responded with a press statement criticizing Wever-Croes' plan. He pointed out that a loan from Holland would be interest free, Wever-Croes' borrowing would commit Arubans to pay 21 million florins a year in interest for seven years, then the principle would have to be repaid. Wever-Croes responded by saying Knops had miscalculated the amount of interest Aruba would pay. She also had an extraordinary argument regarding future repayment. "This [repayment] may be true for a car loan or mortgage, but for a country the only way to reduce debt is to have more income than expenses. So surpluses. Making interim repayments sounds nice, but it is of no use as long as there are no surpluses. With surpluses in your pocket you can only really start making repayments," wrote the prime minister.

Knops also said that a large loan would put Aruba among the 10 countries with the highest public debt ratio. Wever-Croes responded that the Aruba's debt ratio would get worse regardless where it borrowed the money. But she also pointed out that Holland could preclude the debt ratio increase by donating the money to Aruba instead of lending it. *DMR*

This Week's Stories

Covid-19 on Bonaire	1, 2
Wild donkey film	5
Book: Great Lionfish Escape	6
Talent school resumed	8
What's not happening	9
Dive in AWARE week	9
Study & career event moved online	9
Follow Flappie STCB	11

The Reporter online

Covid-19 breaking news,	13+
Knop's letter on Bonaire	
Coral spawning schedule 2020	

Departments

Flotsam & Jetsam (Fisherman's blessing, Dutch loans to islands; 500 million euros; future proofing; WEB load shedding; BCN payroll tax; Internet subsidy; Appointments: Pieter Island Register & Martina R&D; Hurricanes)	2, 4
Who's Who in The Reporter	2
Ask Kate (housing prices)	4
Police Report	4
Letters (covid R-rate)	4
Did You Know (reef animals millions of years ago)	7
Ask a Geek: (email extortion)	8
Reef Glimpses: (Crooked Jaw)	8
A Garden? (Amaranth/kalaloe)	8
What's Happening	9
Making Bonaire "Accessible" (handicapped parking)	9
Business Directory	10
Pets of the Week: Yuki & Bali - cats	11
Shelter News: (Covid closings masks; reserve boarding)	11

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Covid on Bonaire

as of October 4, 2020

57 active	2 hospitalized
54 recovered	2 deceased
113 positive	2110 tested
1997 negative	263 in quarantine

The one hundred year old celebration of Virgen del val, the saint who protects fishermen was cancelled on September 12 due to the coronavirus. The celebration is a Bonaire tradition, known as a blessing for the fisherman of Bonaire. It is usually a festive time for our local piscadores. In lieu of the formal ceremony, a few locals out fishing in the Lac Bai area gathered for a photo around the statue: Jeremy Jansen, Sherwin Theodora, Tino, Joselito, Nolly Thode, Patun Saragosa and Willy Meyer

The Netherlands budgets €500 million

"Even more than before, it became clear during the Covid-19 crisis that Bonaire, Sint Eustatius and Saba are part of the Netherlands." That declaration was made by Minister Kajsa Ollongren of the Interior and Kingdom Relations in a parliamentary memorandum attached to the 2021 Netherlands budget.

In total, the Hague has budgeted 100 million euros more spending for the Caribbean Netherlands than last year: 504 million in 2020 vs. 404 in 2019. The increase is partly intended to alleviate the economic consequences of the corona crisis. The Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport will spend 150 million euros in the BES in 2021. Education, Culture and Science will spend 69 million, Social Affairs and Employment 67 million, Justice and Security 45 million euros, and Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality less than 4 million.

The Ministry of Finance predicts that the citizens and companies on Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba will in turn contribute 142 million to government revenues in 2021. Wage tax and national and employee insurance contributions will exceed 80 million, and the ABB will yield 40 million.

"Combating Covid-19 has major consequences for society and the economy of the Caribbean Netherlands," Minister Ollongren said, "partly because of the disappearance of tourism. This corona problem comes on top of already existing vulnerabilities on the islands in terms of the economic structure, employment, infrastructure and poverty. The government-wide ambition is and remains to further improve the social and economic perspective in the Caribbean Netherlands." *DMR*

WEB forced to start load shedding

Since September 10, WEB has been load shedding in a coordinated and controlled way when demand exceeds the output of the power generation system. WEB disconnected electrical service to relatively small areas of the island for periods of an hour or less. Low winds have reduced wind generator output, maintenance shutdowns have limited the output at the ContourGlobal power plant, and extreme temperatures have driven up demand for air conditioning. WEB predicts that all its production units will be back in service shortly and a steady supply of power will be restored. *DMR*



COVID-19 UPDATE SEPTEMBER 2020

WEB BONAIRE OFFICE VISIT CHANGES

The WEB office in Rincon is only open the first week of the month. At the WEB office in Playa, the Customer Service Department is at your service as usual. Our hygiene measures are extensive. We use stronger disinfectant products. Our teams work according to the hygiene practices recommended by the Cabinet of the Lieutenant Governor.

Nevertheless, WEB strongly discourages its customers from visiting the offices. This certainly applies to vulnerable groups and those with preexisting medical conditions, such as the elderly and the sick. WEB wants to minimize the risk of COVID-19 spreading.

Do your business with WEB preferably digitally or by telephone. Avoid physical contact as much as possible!

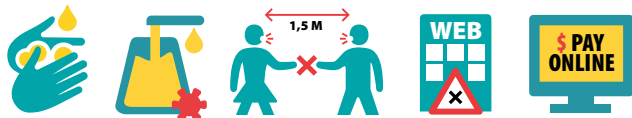
- Pay online! With online banking you can pay save from home 24/7. **Important!:** Please state the invoice number per each invoice! It takes approximately 2 business days to process your payment
- Pay your WEB invoice via the ATM of MCB; or
- instruct WEB for a direct debit.

Would you rather pay at the WEB office?

- Keep in mind that 1 cash register is open.
- WEB only allows a limited number of customers at a time.
- Preferably use your debit card, not cash.

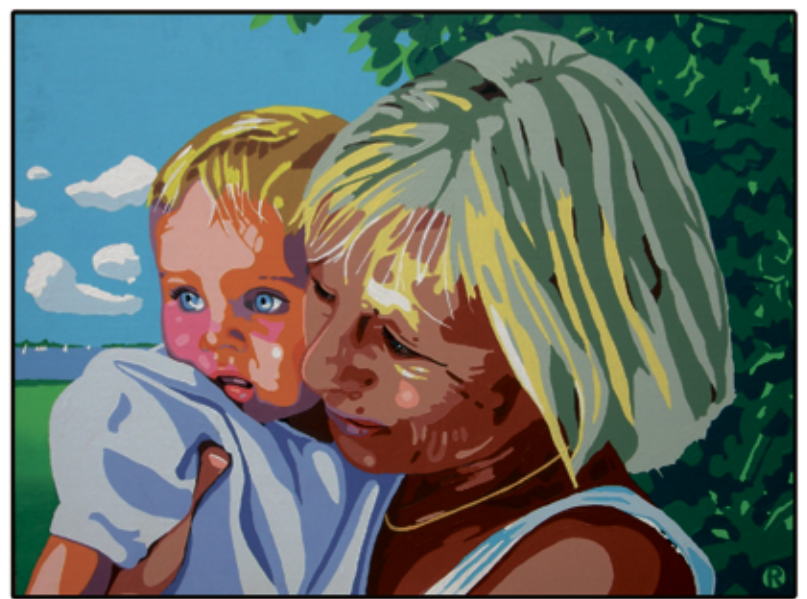
Is it necessary to visit the information desk?

- This is only possible by making an appointment via e-mail: info@webbonaire.com
- **Important!:** no cash payments can be made at the information desk.



WEB Customer Service can be reached via **INFO@WEBBONAIRE.COM** or **+599 7158244**

let's do it together



Whilst lovingly cared for in nursing home "de Makroon" our beloved wife, mother and grandmother has passed peacefully.

Nita

Elizabeth Benita Gerritsen-Coes

Vriezenveen,
december 1, 1939

Amsterdam,
september 2, 2020

Amsterdam - Guus Gerritsen
Rotterdam - Govert Gerritsen
Maxime Gerritsen
Ellen van Loon
Renee Gerritsen

Utrecht - Petra Gerritsen
Bertil Merkus
Bob Merkus
Rik Merkus

The cremation memorial service took place on September 9 and was attended by a small group of family and friends.
Email: Gerr7009@planet.nl

FOR SALE Sand Dollar E3 Oceanfront Condo



- Location : Hato, Sand Dollar Resort
- Living area: +/- 120 m2 / 1292 sq. ft.
- 2 bedroom / 2 bathrooms

- Dive shop, ocean access, sandy beach
- Close to bars and restaurants
- Scan code for virtual 3D tour



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POLICE REPORT

Property crime

Between 1 - 8 am Monday, September 14, two BTC scooters, model Grande Retro were stolen; a brown / gray and a red scooter. The scooters were parked at an apartment complex on Bulevar Gobernador Nicolaas Debrot and were locked by a steering wheel lock. Some time later, the red scooter was found dumped in the garden of a house on Kaya Nijmegen. The battery of the scooter was empty and the wiring appeared to have been tampered with.

On Wednesday, September 16, a report was made of the theft of a number plate numbered V-1330 from a pick-up. Presumably it was removed between Saturday September 5 and Wednesday September 16. Location where it was taken is unknown.

Targeting tourists

On Saturday, September 19, between 9 - 10:45 am at the dive site 1000 steps thieves took cash from a backpack that was under a tree on the beach while the owners were snorkeling.

On Friday, September 18, between 11 - 11:30am thieves stole a bag from a beach at the Bulevar E.E.G. The bag contained a black iPhone, model XS, and a black "Apple" watch, series 5.

Arrests

On Friday, September 11, a man, 34, was arrested for failure to comply with the Law on Identification Requirements BES and for violating the Bonaire Road Traffic Regulation. The suspect did not respond to a stop signal from the police and only stopped after a short chase. He was unable to show any ID on the spot and was arrested. After his passport was taken to the office, he was able to leave the office with a ticket. The car was confiscated because it did not meet technical requirements, had an old number plate and therefore probably has no insurance or road tax.

In the evening of Saturday, September 12, the police station received a report of a fight at a house on Kaya Gepi. Two women were fighting each other. One woman had a knife and the other a stick. Both women were injured and taken to hospital by ambulance. Four women were eventually arrested in this case. Three women aged 23, 29, 19 years old, were arrested for disturbing public order and assault. A woman, 36, was arrested for disturbing public order, assault and theft. Two have been sent [away] after questioning and the two others are still under investigation.

On Thursday, September 17, the police station received a report of a fight at a mini market at Kaya Falcon. The mini market owner hit a boy on the head with a beer bottle during a discussion about cycling around his yard where his kids are playing. The victim was taken to hospital by ambulance for medical treatment. Two men aged 30 and 35, have been arrested for open violence and assault with a weapon.

In the late evening hours of Friday, September 18, a lady, 26, and a man,

34, were arrested for violation of the Opium Act BES at a house at Kaya Carlos A. Nicolaas.

Traffic accidents & violations

Two traffic checks were held on Tuesday, September 8. At Kaya Korona 31 vehicles were checked. 19 drivers were fined; six for not wearing the seat belt, five for not meeting the light transmission requirement of the windows, four for not wearing a helmet, two for driving without insurance and two for not having a driver's license. In the early evening hours at Kaya C.E.B. Hellmund 23 vehicles were checked. Eight were fined for not wearing a seat belt, three for driving without a driver's license and one for driving without a helmet. These fines range from \$85 to \$225.

At around .50 am on Wednesday September 9, pick-up overturned on Bulevar Gobernador Nicolaas Debrot and the driver was stuck inside. After the fire brigade freed the driver she was taken to hospital by ambulance. The pick-up was taken to the police station by the tow truck.

On Thursday, September 10, several cars were checked for seat belts. Many drivers did not meet this requirement because they were going to do something "quickly."

Did you know that:

- your chances of survival after an accident are much higher if you wear a seat belt? Those who are thrown out of the car after a crash have up to five times less chance of surviving.
- you can even survive traffic accidents up to 100 kilometers per hour if you wear your seat belt correctly?
- if you don't wear a seat belt, you can be seriously injured in a crash from 20 kilometers per hour?
- if you are caught without a seat belt, you will be fined \$ 115?

Whether you are a driver or passenger: always wear your seat belt, both for short and long distances!

On Wednesday, September 16, around 7 pm, a car and a scooter collided on Kaya Industria. The car driving towards the roundabout at the petrol station wanted to turn left at one point to enter a supermarket parking lot. The driver of the car overlooked the scooter that was approaching from the opposite direction. The driver of the scooter was taken to hospital by ambulance. He was wearing a helmet. The scooter was taken to the police station for safekeeping.

A white pick-up, numbered V-799, has been parked on the side of the road at Kaya Leeuwarden for a long time. KPCN urges the owner to remove the pick-up within 48 hours. If this does not happen, measures will be taken.

Public order & safety

Around midnight, Wednesday, September 9 the police station received a report of a brawl and "hit & run" at a bar / restaurant on Kaya Grandi. A man and a woman had problems with each other, after which the man hit the wom-



Ask Kate

Bonaire real estate advice

Hi Kate and Jean:

How has the coronavirus affected

the real estate market there? I have a friend on an island in the northern Caribbean who said housing prices there are really distressed. Thanks, Jake

Hi Jake,

Bonaire's real estate market is still stable. Although incoming flights are limited so there are not as many buyers physically on the island, there is a pent-up demand for properties here. Particularly in the under \$275,000 price range, there are not as many properties available as there are interested buyers. Jean and I just sold two homes

to buyers who were not on the island, and there were three additional clients interested in those properties. We are working with many people who plan to fly here to buy a home as soon as they are able, so we expect an increased volume of sales once flights resume.

We are getting a large number of new inquiries from not only people who are familiar with the island, but also those who have never been here.

All the best,

Kate Butler and Jean Searce
Re/Max Bonaire

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

an's car with his car and hit two other parked cars. The two parked cars belong to the residents of an apartment next to the bar. The driver of the third car, the woman the man was having problems with, was put through a breathalyzer, then taken to the station to sober up. The car was impounded for further investigation. Investigation into the man who caused the "hit & run" is ongoing.

In the late afternoon hours on Saturday, September 12, the police station was notified that a boat was sinking near Klein Bonaire. The five meter long rental boat with six passengers had overturned. Stinapa and Customs went to the spot. The reporter had the occupants

in his boat and they came ashore safe and sound. The rental boat was towed to shore by Stinapa's boat.

On Tuesday, September 15, the police station received a report around 10:00 of a fire in a house on Kaya Korona. The one person in the house was taken to hospital by ambulance. The fire brigade extinguished the fire and carried out the necessary security checks. The cause of the fire is not yet known.

See page 9 for how to make an appointment with the police during the mini-lockdown.

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,

The recent decision to enforce a 14 day quarantine on travelers from Curaçao is baffling.

In the last 7 days the Netherlands has had an average of 1,382 new cases, or 8.13 new cases per 100k. Curaçao, interestingly, has had an average of 13 new cases, or 7.44 new cases per 100k. Yet travelers from the Netherlands are not required to quarantine?

Unfortunately I was unable to find a R-rate for Curaçao, but I did find that information for the Netherlands. Currently (20/09/2020) the R-rate in the Netherlands is 1.29, which means that every 100 people will infect 29 more. Interestingly, the R-rate median across the entire US is 1.03, with the lowest being .81 and the highest 1.25. Even if we use the highest R-Rate, it is still not 1.29? Yet TUI are increasing flights in October from a country where the virus is growing a faster rate than even the US?

It seems that the R-rate is not import-

ant and neither is the number of new cases per 100k. What then is the criteria for allowing flights, only requiring COVID test, and requiring quarantine?

Why the need to quarantine for Curaçao, when the risk is higher from the Netherlands when only a test is required? Why not open to the US, the R-rate is lower? Third, if neither of these are acceptable, then why are we still open to the Netherlands?

Any help would be greatly appreciated.

Peter McNiff
Resident

Sources:

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<https://www.rivm.nl/en/news/number-of-covid-19-infections-is-increasing>
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BCN to check Bonaire companies' payroll tax

As of October 1, Belastingdienst Caribisch Nederland (BCN) will pay surprise visits to companies to verify if they are correctly registered for their loonheffing (payroll tax). Employees will be asked to identify themselves to check whether they are registered by their employer for the tax.

BCN emphasizes that many companies are following the rules. But there are also those who fail to meet their obligations, earning an unfair advantage in competition against those companies who do fulfill their tax obligations.

No cost for cancelled/changed tickets

KLM customers may now cancel their tickets for any reason, or exchange them for a refundable voucher or cash. The policy applies to tickets with a departure date up to and including March 31, 2021.

This policy also applies to customers who already have a KLM ticket or travel voucher.

According to Boet Kreiken, who is responsible for the customer service at KLM, "many people want to travel, but are reluctant to book due to uncertain times and constantly changing travel advice. We therefore offer more flexibility with this measure."

KLM has had to cancel many flights due to travel restrictions and has experienced a large number of restitution requests. KLM therefore has needed more time than usual to repay the amounts, but is busy catching up. *Source: Koninkrijk.nu*

BES Internet needs subsidy

The internet rates on Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba can only be lowered to an acceptable level with structural subsidies from the government. So State Secretary Mona Keijzer concluded after the investigation carried out by the Netherlands Authority for Consumers and Markets (ACM) at the insistence of the House of Representatives.

ACM has determined that the high rates are largely caused by uncontrollable local circumstances. "The only option to really bring the tariffs in line with those of the European Netherlands is a direct subsidization of end users," the minister said.

Keijzer will delay the decision about subsidies until the next Cabinet. Materially, this delay has no immediate consequences. Due to the corona crisis, the government is subsidizing the cost of an internet subscription at \$25 per month until the end of next year. Because the rates on St. Eustatius and Saba are much higher than on Bonaire, the government's contribution there will be increased to \$35.

Netherlands to spend €26.6 million "future proofing" BES

The 2021 budget of the Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management (I&W) includes 26.6 million euros for a wide range of new and continuing infrastructure upgrades in the Caribbean Netherlands. The program is intended to proactively anticipate and prevent future problems in the BES resulting from known infrastructure degradations—that is, to help "future proof" the islands from predictable crises before they occur. The program will also immediately stimulate spending to help the covid-damaged island economy recover.

One objective is to share the cost with the Bonaire government of building a safe and future-proof infrastructure for the island's fuel supply. Assuring affordable drinking water in the Caribbean Netherlands will be another goal, along with the professionalization of waste management and more efficient installations. Plastics will be phased out.

The chapter in the budget that covers expenditures the I&W has planned for the BES islands lists many other projects. On Saba, work is continuing on a new future-proof port and the development of the surrounding area. On St. Eustatius, plans are being made for the further development of the port and stopping erosion. The construction of the new control tower and passenger terminal at the airport on St. Eustatius will be completed in 2021. Work is in progress on the aprons of the airport on Bonaire.

An improved ferry will sail in 2021 at a reduced rate for two years between Saba, St. Eustatius and St. Maarten. In addition, they are working on improving governance in aviation and putting in order safety standards, Search & Rescue regulations. The Royal Netherlands Meteorological Institute (KNMI) is developing an automatic system for meteorological observations for aviation. The KNMI is also further developing volcano monitoring in view of international standards. *DMR*

LVV encourages farmers to plant buffalo grass

Project leader Maurice Adriaens of the Department of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries (LVV), has encouraged farmers to plant buffalo grass. Easy to plant, it keeps well during periods of drought. He suggests planting it in the rainy season in order to avoid having to import large amounts of grass or straw for animals in times of drought.

In addition to buffalo grass, Adriaens also recommended "6-week maize" to Deputy James Kroon during his working visit to LVV. "This corn variety is higher than what we know as sorghum or 'small corn'. After removing the spike with the corn, the farmer can use the rest of the plant as animal feed for his animals.

Film reveals history of Bonaire's wild donkeys



In a new film by Boi Antoin, "Buriku", Bonaire's wild donkeys are displayed as the historical and cultural icons that they are.

The film premiered to a by invitation only crowd that included officials Lt. Governor Rijna, deputy Elvis Tjin Assjoe, and deputy James Kroon at Habitat on Sept 10.

As a prelude to the showing, Al Catalfumo organizer of Bonaire Donkey Protection League Foundation (BDPLF) spoke to the crowd stressing the importance of the survival of the animals. "Donkeys are a blessing for Bonaire as shown in this documentary. They are a big part of Bonaire's landscape. They hold special value as they are African Wild Nubian Ass, a breed that is pretty much extinct in their homeland of Africa. They are on the endangered species list."

Six years ago, DNA samples were collected and tested at Texas A & M University and findings revealed their genealogy, Nubian Wild Ass, Equus Africanus or African Wild Ass. And at the 2019 Donkey Welfare Conference in California it was said that the donkeys live in only two places in the world and one of them is Bonaire.

Catalfumo says we need to consider that these animals are part of Bonaire's culture, heritage and community.

The film itself displays video and photo imagery from past and present. Sever-

al of Bonaire's elderly were interviewed in the film. They related their personal experience and funny stories that exhibited the cultural heritage of Bonaire's donkeys.

All over the world, donkeys are being eliminated and removed.

Various studies and groups proclaim the donkeys are detrimental to the environment while others say they aren't harmful to the land. Both agree that some sort of control is necessary to prevent over population through a conservative biological balanced approach. One such plan is to control the population by injecting the females so they can't get pregnant for three years.. The Pegasus Foundation, an animal welfare organization based in Virginia, USA, is willing to oversee. Another is to create a wildlife reserve.

Catalfumo said that the donkeys are of economic value for tourism and he can increase tourism by attracting people to see the donkeys without too much government expenditure.

"They have great value. To eliminate something that is a value to the island is ludicrous," said Catalfumo.

"Buriku" is available for viewing on YouTube <https://youtu.be/6hffOy-OU8YQ> *Story by Julie Morgan*

The film is in Papiamentu but will soon be available in English.

September storms swarm

August ended with category four Laura, the strongest hurricane to make landfall in Louisiana since 1856, wreaking havoc. Since then the weather service has had to use eight more names in the Atlantic: Paulette, Nana, Rene, Paulette, Sally, Teddy, Alpha, and Beta. Of those nine tropical storm/hurricanes, three struck Louisiana, and three struck Bermuda, all in consecutive weeks. Many new records were set. *DMR*

Appointments



Shuzelle Martha Pieter has been sworn in as the new registrar for the Island Council. The year-long temporary appointment will end on September 14, 2021.



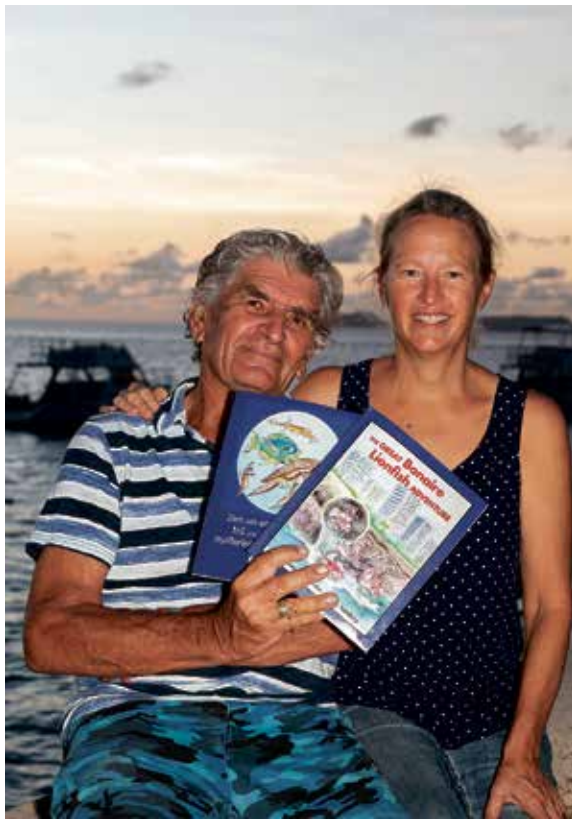
Marlon 'Roy' Martina will take over the Department of Space and Development (R&D) on October 1st. Until recently, he was policy director at the Ministry of SOAW in Curaçao.

Martina is an engineer and has an MBA. *DMR (Bonaire.nu)*

Visit us!



"The Great Caribbean Lionfish Escape" is available



she, together with a turtle and a parrotfish help to save the coral reefs and marine life on their beautiful island. Young readers will learn more about lionfish and how they first arrived in the Caribbean. They will also learn about what invasive species are and how lionfish pose a threat in the Caribbean. Pollution, ocean plastics and other environmental threats are also touched on.

Dominique has been hunting lionfish on Bonaire since 2009 when the fish first arrived on the island. His efforts have helped save Bonaire's reefs, as well as providing delicious dinners for him and Cathy.

Originally from Paris, Dominique has a degree in Fine Arts from Ecole de Beaux-Arts de Paris. Many years later, in 1983, he actualized his childhood dream - he boarded Calypso to create a series of graphic novels with Jacques-Yves Cousteau. The missions of the Cousteau team on our blue planet inspired the series of 17 books. Dominique continues to work defending the marine environment, with the likes of Paul Watson (Sea Shepherd), Jean-Michel Cousteau (Ocean Futures) and Patrick Deixonne (Expédition 7e Continent) through his drawings, paintings and graphic novels.

Born and raised in Montreal, Cathy graduated in film and photography from Concordia University. Cathy has been publishing newspapers, magazines and books for over 35 years now. Covering what the mainstream press ignored was a passion that she pursued for many years. She started scuba diving in her late 20s, but once she put her head under the water, all she wanted to do was discover and explore this wonderful liquid world.

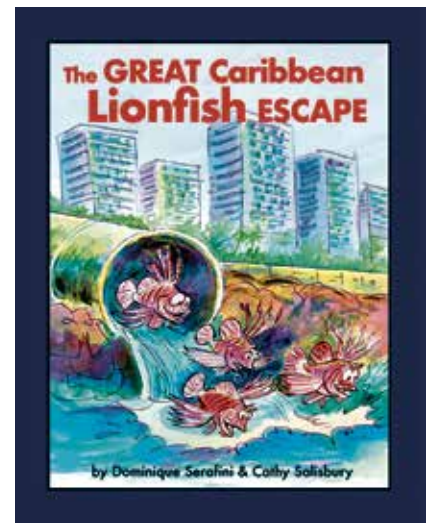
In 1999, Cathy arrived on Bonaire where she met her life and diving partner, Dominique. They have collaborated on all kinds of creative projects to do with our undersea world, including a book about the most spectacular shipwrecks of the region called Dreamwrecks of Aruba, Bonaire & Curacao.

On Amazon Prime, you can see their Dreamwrecks television series. Both Cathy and Dominique exhibit their paintings and photography regularly. In Bonaire, Cathy was one of four artists at Bonaire's now defunct Cinnamon Art Gallery.

Through their creative works, they try to show people how magical a place the underwater world is and hope to inspire others to love it as much as they do.

The Great Caribbean Lionfish Escape is available on Amazon both in paperback and eBook format in the United States and many other countries. You can look inside the book by typing in this link on your web browser: <https://amzn.to/2ZAt9HQ>

Currently, there is a limited quantity of the books on Bonaire. If you would like to purchase a signed copy from the authors, you can contact Dominique at domiserafini@gmail.com. *By Cathy Salisbury. Photos Julie Morgan*



The diving duo of Dominique Serafini and Cathy Salisbury has just published a children's book entitled THE GREAT CARIBBEAN LIONFISH ESCAPE. The book is suitable for children from four to eight years of age.

While in Curaçao, Dominique met Lisette Keus who hunts lionfish as a primary source of revenue, teaches lionfish hunting, supplies restaurants with lionfish, makes jewelry out of lionfish fins and has a store in Willemstad where she sells her jewelry.

The book joins Lisette, a young lionfish hunter, as

To learn more:

Cathy Salisbury's website:
www.catherinesalisbury.com

Dominique Serafini's website:
www.dominiqueserafini.com

AWARE WEEK

September 21st - 26th

Clean Up Dive Schedule
FREE Air for the dive!

- Monday | Gooddive
- Tuesday | Sand Dollar
- Wednesday | Hamlet Oasis
- Thursday | Yellow Submarine
- Friday | Delfins Beach
- Saturday | Dive Inn

Sign up required. Check availability at your DEB location or contact reservations.

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Bonaire is now code orange
for travelers from the Netherlands

What does code orange mean?

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs advises you to only travel to Bonaire if that is really necessary.

Holiday trips are **not** necessary.

Are you still coming to Bonaire?

Then it is mandatory to get tested on covid 72 hours before departure and show a negative test result upon arrival.

Without a negative test result you will have to be quarantined for 14 days.

Coronavirus information hotline: 0800-0800 www.bonairecrisis.com

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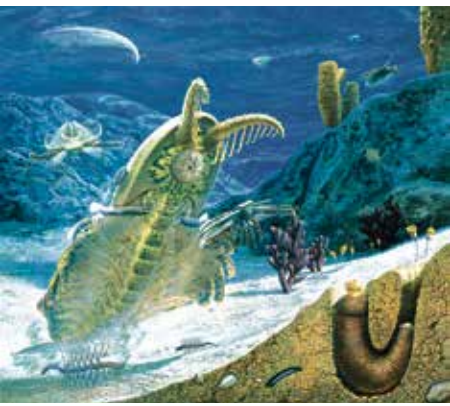
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Did You Know?

that the very first reef like structures built by animals were built by sponges around 530 to 520 million years ago?



Artist representation of life during the Cambrian explosion by John Sibbick from the Natural History Museum.

We can't be 100% sure of when living creatures first arose on our planet, but the scientific community thinks that life as we know it on planet Earth began around 3.8 billion years ago, most likely right after the oceans were first formed. These earliest forms of life likely looked and functioned a lot like bacteria; simple single cell organisms that existed in great numbers in ancient oceans. Fast forward a couple of billion years to 900 million years ago and we start seeing the very first evidence of multicellu-

lar life. These early creatures amounted to little more than colonies consisting of multiple single cells cooperating for survival. Then, around 800 million years ago, we see the first beginnings of complex life. Sponges, the oldest multicellular animals, are first to appear on the scene. Jump another few million years, to 680 million years ago, and we see the ancestors of jellyfish and corals appear in the fossil record. Then, some 540 million years ago in an era known as the Cambrian, we see an incredible increase in the diversity of life. In about 20 million years all the animal groups that would ever exist, and many, many more, suddenly appear. Now, 20 million years might seem like an eternity to us, but on an evolutionary scale it is little more than the blink of an eye. Especially considering that for the preceding three billion years not much had happened in terms of evolution. During the Cambrian explosion, evolution was put into gear but, unfortunately, no repeat performance has been documented since.

It is after the Cambrian explosion that we start seeing evidence in the fossil record of complex reef communities. Around 460 million years ago reefs became widespread; the creatures that could be found on such

reefs are eerily reminiscent of our reef communities today. These prehistoric reefs contained a diversity of sponge species, many now extinct, as well as algae, a myriad of worm like creatures, and the predecessors to today's hard corals. For over 150 million years, reefs persisted in this form; corals sponges and algae formed the basis of the reefs. Some of these reefs reached massive proportions and contained a diversity of early plant and animal life that likely rivaled what we see today. Then, around 252 million years ago, during the end-Permian extinction event, corals all but disappeared. Scientists think this massive die off of corals was likely caused by the waters becoming more acidic. What remained of the reefs became covered in macroalgae, similar to what we see happening to reefs around the world today. When reefs reappeared on the scene, about 10 million years later, they were once again mainly composed of sponges, similar to the very first reefs. While these sponge reefs soon gave way to reefs built by massive framework building corals, closely related to the corals we see today, it was not meant to be. Another extinction event, around 200 million years ago, almost drove hard corals to extinction.

The causes of this rapid decline are similar to the threats facing reefs today: rapid climate change resulting from increased greenhouse gasses and ocean acidification.

Following this second extinction events, reefs were slow to recover. As the planet changed, continents rose and fell, the conditions became ever more favorable for a third expansion of reef building corals. From 145 million years ago to now, reefs have remained present in the fossil record. While the framework remained the same, the changes in the communities that could be found on these reefs were intense. Unlike many ecosystems and species, coral reefs did not disappear during the extinction event that killed off the dinosaurs. But they did change; they slowly evolved from communities dominated by tubeworms and clams to the reefs we see today. The history of coral reefs is a long and complicated one. Coral reefs have fought hard to carve out their spot in evolution and the contemporary world. It's up to all of us to make sure that that struggle was not in vain; given the time they can also adapt to the new normal.

Roxanne-Liana Francisca
STINAPA Biologist. Connecting People with Nature

Ask a Geek: Email extortion

by Brian Niessen

If you have any email address, you have probably received an email like this:)

Hi!

Unfortunately, I have some bad news for you. Several months ago, I got access to the device you are using to browse the internet. Since that time, I have been monitoring your internet activity.

Being a regular visitor of adult websites, I can confirm that it is you who is responsible for this. To keep it simple, the websites you visited provided me with access to your data.

I've uploaded a Trojan horse on the driver basis that updates its signature several times per day, to make it impossible for antivirus to detect it. Additionally, it gives me access to your camera and microphone. Moreover, I have backed-up all the data, including photos, social media, chats and contacts.

Recently I recorded a video of you in front of your computer.

Rest assured that I can easily send this video to all your contacts with a few clicks, and I assume that you would like to prevent this scenario.

With that in mind, here is my proposal: Transfer the amount equivalent to 1500 USD to my Bitcoin wallet, and I will forget about the entire thing. I will also delete all data and videos permanently.

In my opinion, this is a somewhat modest price for my work.

You can figure out how to purchase Bitcoins using search engines like Google or Bing, seeing that it's not very difficult.

My Bitcoin wallet (BTC): 13dk8JbVeEK-GmHq7aevbdVxjg2cHYFT4kg

You have 48 hours to reply and you should also bear the following in mind:

It makes no sense to reply to me - the address has been generated automatically. It makes no sense to complain either, since the letter along with my Bitcoin wallet

cannot be tracked. Everything has been orchestrated precisely.

If I ever detect that you mentioned anything about this letter to anyone - the video will be immediately shared, and your contacts will be the first to receive it. Following that, the video will be posted on the web!

P.S. The time will start once you open this letter. (This program has a built-in timer).

Good luck and take it easy! It was just bad luck, next time please be careful.

Now, my original intent for this article was to point out how none of the things that the culprit says he is doing or can do are true, and that nobody is stupid enough to send him any money.

Remember, being the Blockchain, every transaction is public, so to find out if anyone sent Bitcoins to that address, it's as simple as going to this web page <https://www.blockchain.com/btc/address/13dk8JbVeEK-GmHq7aevbdVxjg2cHYFT4kg>

And I was shocked! This crook has already received about \$9,000 from suckers who thought it was true.

The moral of the story, NEVER send Bitcoin to anyone you don't personally know. It's all a scam.

Be well, stay safe, and if you get an email like this, please feel free to forward it to me care of the Reporter for an opinion.

**Need help?
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Business ad on page 10**



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Reef Glimpses

Introducing “Crooked Jaw” **

When I unimaginatively named the spotted moray with the crooked jaw, “Crooked Jaw”, I didn’t realize how long our relationship would last or what an amazing individual I would discover her* to be.

I visited CJ a few times a week at the pipe she lived in near the Old Pier. She was the star of my dive orientation. Once in the water, we’d rest on the sand around her pipe’s entrance. I’d put on brightly-colored gloves to help her distinguish food from fingers, and offer food to CJ. Sometimes she accepted and sometimes not, but she was always gentle. When she was done eating I’d remove my gloves and stroke CJ along her lower jaw.

Then, with a pre-arranged gesture, I’d invite my buddies, one at a time, to stroke CJ on the underside of her jaw. Some would decline, some declined at first but then accepted, and some accepted right away. Everyone who accepted successfully stroked CJ barehanded. Most got closer to a moray than they’d ever been before; almost all of them were touching a moray for the first time. We all got to experience the incredibly silky texture of CJ’s skin, and to feel that it’s equally silky in each direction. No one was ever bitten nor did CJ ever make an aggressive move.

What about CJ: how did she feel about all this?



Under the Pier with Crooked Jaw, Ms. Piggy checking things out too. Photo credit: Stephen Lewis.

If she hadn’t been interested in us, she could have avoided us by resting in the middle of her pipe, or leaving it entirely. She stayed inside very rarely; if she didn’t come to the front of the pipe when we arrived, we’d wait a bit, and if she didn’t come to her doorway we’d leave. Our semicircle around the front of the pipe was always incomplete, so that if she chose to leave the pipe by her front door she had a clear route. She never left the pipe to leave us. She always appeared to be very comfortable with us.

What about the skin where all those divers stroked her?

Fresh-water-fishers are warned that when handled with dry hands, trout and other fish lose their skin-protecting mucus and can get skin disease and even die.

None of that applied to us and CJ, since, obviously, our hands were never dry when we stroked her. We know we didn’t transfer the mucus from her skin because our fingers never felt slimy. Over the years hundreds of divers interacted with CJ under my supervision, and her chin, jaw, and all the rest of her skin stayed in perfect shape.

Because of our healthy fish population, Bonaire’s morays probably don’t need to spend a lot of their time hunting, which means they spend a lot of time just hanging out – with no books, no television, and no internet. When I introduced myself with a gift of food, I gave her a reason to be interested in me. She definitely didn’t depend on me for food, though, and, in fact, her interest in any food I offered lessened over time.

We believed that our interactions gave us a chance to study CJ, but it turned out they also gave her a chance to study us.

Next: the results of CJ’s studies.

* The sex of morays can’t be determined visually, so the fact that I called CJ “she” and Captain Don “he” is not necessarily accurate.

** Please note: there were never any negative results from these interactions, which took place more than 25 years ago, in a location that was shunned by almost all other divers except at night.

Dee Scarr

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

Talent school resumes

Talent School has resumed for children in groups 7 and 8 (age nine, 10, 11 years). Seventy children are enrolled in the after-school program held in day schools in Antriol, Rincon, Nikiboko, Playa, Hato and North Salina. They are guided by six professional talent coaches for one and a half hours a week to discover and develop their own talents. The goal is make the children aware of their own special skills, use them in a positive way, know themselves better and think about their future.

The Hobennan i Futuro foundation

hopes to increase kids chances of a bright future It appreciates the cooperation of after-school care organizations on the island. This project is funded in part by contributions from the Orange Fund and Kansfonds.



Children from after-school care Arco Iris at work (through play) in the Talent Class.



A Garden? Just Do It!

Amaranth (kalaloe)

A popular vegetable known in the kitchens during the old days of Bonaire is amaranth (locally known as kalaloe). With just a few raindrops this delicious leafy vegetable pops up all over the place; along bushy roads, in open fields, in the “mondi” and it will take over your yard if you don’t do anything about it. In fact because it is a great veggie, it can never be too much.

Several species of amaranth have been used for food by Native Americans and Columbian civilizations. Both leafy greens and the seeds have been consumed and also used as medicinal herbs and a source of ceremonial face and body paint. This plant family has spread out all over the world and used in many different ways: raw in salads and cooked.

Three species are commonly grown



Kalaloe with flower

as minor food crops in modern agriculture: red amaranth, love-lies-bleed-

ing, and princes feather. All species are easy to grow, harvest and are simple to cook. Both the leaves and seeds are good sources of dietary fiber, calcium, iron, magnesium, Vitamin C and Vitamin A. The cooked leaf is a good food with medicinal properties for young children, lactating mothers and for patients with fever, hemorrhage, anemia, or kidney complaints. The leaves are used in Africa as a febrifuge and poultice to treat inflammation, boils, abscesses and also against lung disorders.

Kalaloe grows fast and within six weeks it’s ready to consume. The flowers of the different types of amaranth can hang or stay straight up. They make a very nice dry floral bouquet. The flowers are full of healthy seeds that can be used in baked cakes, smoothies, bread and so on..

The leaf has the taste of spinach and can be prepared with mash potatoes, in a wok or a meat ‘stoba’.

Instructions for cooking in a wok.

1. Wash the picked leaves and the stem

very well because of dirt and bugs.

2. Chop the leaves and the soft part of the stem.

3. In the wok, add some oil, chopped onion, garlic and cook for a minute. Add the chopped kalaloe.

4. Add salt, pepper, curry powder and wok for a few more minutes.

The kalaloe tastes a lot like spinach this way.

Kalaloe grows in every kind of weather and when it rains you get a field full of it where before you had only a few plants. So pick it when young before it flowers to prevent too many plants. The yellow butterflies love to lay their eggs in the leaves; looks like black powder on the leaves. Once the caterpillars get out of the eggs, they eat all the leaves and that goes fast. Spray tea made from the neem tree on your crops to prevent these bugs.

So, now you have a vegetable, you don’t need to take care of it, it grows by itself. You only need to consume it, so just start with it now. *Angliet, Nature lover*

Sept. 21-26	September 21 - 26 is the third annual AWARE week in the world of diving. See events on this page and schedule on page 6.
Upcoming Events	<p>Oct. 17 Dive Friends Quarterly Clean Up Dive</p> <p>Oct. 30 48hourfilm project Sign up at: http://www.48hourfilm.com/bonaire</p> <p>Nov. 20 Dive Friends Instructor Development Course</p>

Dive in to AWARE week



Next week, September 21 - 26 is the third annual AWARE week in the world of diving. PADI and the Project AWARE team created this event in order to encourage the dive community around the world to unite and organize activities and courses to promote a clean and healthy ocean. With this initiative, AWARE week brings change by making people 'aware' of the effects their actions have on our oceans and its contents.

Dive Friends Bonaire is joining this effort again this year, by organizing a daily clean up dive on each of our house reefs, adopted under the 'Adopt a Dive Site' program. The cleanup dives begin Monday, September 21 and continue daily through Saturday, September 26th. We are asking people to sign up for the dive(s). Due to Covid-19, we can accept a maximum of six divers

on each dive. Dive Friends offers the participants free air tanks in return for supporting our cause that will benefit current and future generations. The dives will take place at the following locations: Gooddive (Something Special) on Monday 21st, Sand Dollar (Bari's Reef) on Tuesday 22nd, Hamlet Oasis (Cliff) on Wednesday 23rd, Yellow Submarine on Thursday 24th, Delfins Beach on Friday 25th and Dive Inn (Cha Cha Cha Beach) on Saturday 26th. You can sign up via info@diverfriends-bonaire.com or at any of our locations.

Please remember, sign up is required to participate.

Meeting time is 2pm on each day at each location.

Together we can make a difference and save our oceans. *Sarah Cann*

Study and career event moved online

Students in the Antilles will have to make decisions about the next phase of their education before the next Study & Career Market, now postponed to February/March of 2021. Instead, students from all six islands can attend a presentation by educational institutions through a live stream. Participation is free of charge, and students can ask questions.

The Universities and Colleges of the Netherlands, Canada, USA and the Caribbean can also register to participate

free of charge. Interesting workshops will be given by Student finance/DUO, TuranGoeloe, NIBUD, Ocan and others. By offering this event virtually we will ensure that, despite the current challenges, prospective students can make a good decision for their future studies.

If you are a student, please visit the new website <https://studychoicecaribbean.com/> and sign up before the deadline for each presentation you wish to attend.

Canceled:

- History and Culture of Bonaire presentations by André Nahr and Boi Antoin that was planned for September. Will be re-scheduled.
- Tourism Corporation Bonaire (TCB) one-hour beach cleanups Sept. 19th and 26th, and other activities planned for Tourism Week
- FKK Animal Rescue Open Day on October 4 (World Animal Day).
- Pakus di Pruga. Saturday Flea Market store sponsored by the Animal Shelter.

Moved online:

- Students can register for live stream presentations by educational institutions at <https://studychoicecaribbean.com/> Please sign up before the deadline for each presentation you wish to attend. See story this page. The "live" Study & Career Market has been postponed to February/March of 2021.
- TCB will present an educational video displaying the different types of career in the tourism sector. This activity is a virtual activity. Its goal: to make youngsters aware that their interests or hobbies can become their profession.

Closed to visitors:

- STINAPA is closed to visitors Washington Slagbaai Park and STINAPA headquarters at Barcadera from September 21-30, 2020. However staff will be continuing with their daily tasks and can be phoned at 717-8444 or 777-8444 (also whatsapp) or via e-mail on info@stinapa.org. Nature fees should be paid online: stinapa.bonairenaturefee.org
- Animal Shelter will be closed to the public from September 21-30. In case of emergency or questions you can send a message on Facebook; call or Whatsapp us on 701-4989; or send an email to animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com.

Restricted access as of September 21, 2020

- WEB. (See details on page 3) Must wear face mask. WEB will supply the face masks Mon. 21 and Tues.22. Starting Wed. 23, all visitors must bring their own mask. WEB office in Rincon open only first week of the month. Playa's Customer Service is open but all are encouraged to pay online, and do WEB business digitally or by phone. A limited number of customers will be admitted at a time. WEB's information desk is open only by email appointment (info@webbonaire.com)
- TELBO. Maximum three people in TELBO office at a time. Must wear face mask. To sign up for services, leave a message via whatsapp (Residential 777-1110; KLa mobile 770-7080; business 770-7027)
- Police (KPCN). You must have a phone appointment (715-8000) to come to the police station. In an emergency you can be helped without an appointment, but you are urged to call emergency at 911 first. If you have an appointment, you must report in via the station's intercom. You will be admitted to a declaration room that will be disinfected after each visit. You must wear a mouth mask. Please make reports / declarations by phoning 715-8000, or by e-mailing at politie@politiecn.com. The Victim Support Office can be reached only by telephone on 717 6181 or 781-0176.
- Rijksdienst Caribisch Nederland (RCN) All changes to the services can be found at <https://english.rijksdienstcn.com/covid-19/public-services>. Many services will be provided by telephone or online instead of in the offices. The Tax office and Customs Administration are temporarily closed; assistance is provided by telephone or email. The SZW examining physician will handle consultations by phone. ZVK asks insured send emails to change their GP, request proof of registration and submit invoices. Youth care, Guardianship Council and IND will receive visitors by appointment.



Making Bonaire "Accessible"

Handicapped parking is still a problem

On August 1, 2019, the new island traffic legislation started. Parking for the handicapped was finally organized so they would be able to get more accessibility. But until now, nothing regarding this new legislation for special parking has been done. It seems the whole process is sleeping.

Since then MiVaBo (Foundation for the Handicapped) has spoken to many supermarket and shop owners and there is a list with signed intentions from 25 supermarkets. They all agree to have at least one special parking spot at their establishment.

This list has been sent to DROB (R&D). But as of today, MiVaBo has not received any reaction from them. We find this very strange. I was just wondering,

does the coronavirus keep everything on hold with the government or other businesses? Staying inside as much as possible does not mean one has to be inactive. Plans can be written and people can do their jobs. Paint can be ordered, schedules can be drawn-up, and a confirming email could be written to MiVaBo. Are the restrictions in the Covid 19 management so powerful that nobody is functioning?

We need parking spots; why don't we get them. How hard can it be?

To get action, MIVABO could organize a SIGNATURE RALLY for handicapped parking and for a sensible procedure for obtaining handicapped parking cards. People would be asked to sign if they agree to the fact that our govern-

ment should start executing this policy: "parking for the handicapped".

This made me think about the signing petitions one sees so much on Facebook nowadays. Social media is a powerful "weapon" and MiVaBo has a Facebook page. A petition could be set up in a jiffy.

To cater to those who do not have a Facebook account, we could set up signing sessions at supermarkets or other places where people gather. A little table, a bottle of hand-disinfectant, a spray-can of disinfectant, a pen and a stack of papers to sign would be all that is needed. After signing, the folded paper could be put in a closed box. A MiVaBo representative could be present, for guidance, explanation and overseeing that everyone "sticks to the rules" with



"Corona-approved" handling.

Obtaining (or buying) a handicapped parking card is a bit more complicated. But it is very do-able. A large quantity of those cards can be ordered and a medical office may be asked to help in the process. This would be an awesome job for an intern. One can apply for a handicapped card by mail. A doctor / intern can be asked to help here to approve or disapprove the application. Every card must have some kind of warranty and only be valid for a certain amount of time.

When the application card is approved, the applicant is sent mail with the request to come and pick it up. The card can be handed over in an envelope. The recipient will sign for her/his handicapped parking card and be a happy "parker".


Please do not let coronavirus be a spoiler; the world must go on.

Ria Evers-Dokter

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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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with author
Xiomara Frans

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Shelter News

Animal Shelter closed to public September 21-30.

Due to the recent Covid-19 regulations imposed by the government of Bonaire, the Shelter will be closed to the public from September 21-30. Our love and care for the dogs and cats will continue but sadly without visitors. We want to protect our staff, volunteers and animals and give them the best care they deserve. In case of emergency or questions you can send us a message on Facebook or call or Whatsapp us on 701-4989 or send an email to animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com. We will assist you as best we can. Stay safe and hope to see you soon!

Stay safe, mask up and help the Shelter animals and the environment!



Many local businesses are requiring clients to wear face masks when entering their premises: MCB, Telbo, Flamingo TV, Bonaire Tobacco Liquor, just to name a few. Don't be "left out in the cold" without a mask.

Stay safe, follow the rules AND help the homeless pets of Bonaire! Animal Shelter Bonaire's Pakus di Pruga is selling Bonaire-made high-quality masks for \$8 each with proceeds to Animal Shelter Bonaire! Masks are available for adults and children in a variety of prints and colors, including darker colors for men. Made from recommended quilting cotton, the masks are excellent quality, fully washable/reusable with the Animal Shelter Logo and an inside pocket for an additional filter. They feature an adjustable inner wire to fit the contours of your face with comfort. Disposable masks are already polluting the planet, so you can help our animals and our environment. Pakus di Pruga is located on Kaya Simon Bolivar opposite Brandaris Café. Open Saturdays 8 am- 4 pm

Plan ahead for shelter boarding facilities:

It's only the end of September but it's time to start planning ahead if you plan on boarding your dog or cat during the Christmas/New Year holidays. Remember, not only is it a vacation period for most, it is also fireworks season and many people board their dogs and cats for their safety. With the reservations that have already been made, we are filling up fast, so please make your reservation now! Call or Whatsapp 701-4989 for availability. When bringing your pet to board at Animal Shelter Bonaire make sure they are vaccinated and recently treated against fleas and ticks. They should also be sterilized. It is important to let us know the name of your veterinarian in case of emergency or should your animal get sick while boarding. *Story & photo, Jane Madden-Disko*

Pets of the Week: Yuki and Bali, the best of buddies!



These two handsome young men are inseparable! They eat together, sleep together, chill together, walk shoulder to shoulder together, and are always ready for human attention together. Both seven months old, Yuki (silky black panther) is about a week older than Bali (sleek, shiny tabby). Yuki arrived with his sister after being rescued by Dierenhulp, a few weeks later, Bali's owner passed away and he and two siblings arrived at the Shelter. But neither were interested in hanging out with the family! The two boys bonded immediately and have been best friends ever since.

The Shelter would really love to have these two handsome boys go to the same fur-ever home, they are so close that it would be really sad if they are separated. Yuki and Bali are both very laid-back kittens, always ready for love and attention from humans... and mostly sleeping or cuddling together the rest of the time. They are definitely not high maintenance cats and would be a loving and warm addition to any home. Two is often better than one as these two keep each other company when you are at work or away.

Please come and meet Yuki and Bali, you will surely fall in love with these buddies just as the Shelter staff has. You can visit them Mon.-Fri. 9 am-12 pm and 3- 5 pm, Sat. 9 am-3 pm nonstop at Kaminda Lagun 26. Call or Whatsapp 701-4989.

Story & photo, Jane Madden-Disko



Jane Madden-Disko

Sanne Attevelt

Travis Sullins

Follow "Flappie" with STCB

An adult female hawksbill turtle, now known as "Flappie" is the latest turtle to receive a satellite transmitter from Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire (STCB). As of August 26, "Flappie" became the 26th sea turtle to be fitted with a satellite transmitter tracking device by STCB.

Since 2003, STCB has tracked and followed the journeys of the 26 adult sea turtles all across the Caribbean. The information received from the transmitters provides valuable insight into the turtles' post-nesting and foraging migration routes. And it aids STCB in identifying the foraging areas of adult reproductive sea turtles born on Bonaire.

Manager Kaj Schut, "Since our tracking program began in 2003, we have tracked sea turtle migrations from Bonaire west to the Gulf of Mexico and to the coastal waters of Nicaragua, Honduras and Columbia; north to Cuba, Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic and the Virgin Islands; and east to the Los Roques Archipelago and Isla de margarita in Venezuela. Right now, "Flappie" is heading west and we are very excited to find out where she'll go!"

STCB is grateful to ContourGlobal Bonaire for sponsoring the cost of this satellite transmitter and support.

Sanne Huisman of ContourGlobal Bonaire said, "We have decided on the name "Flappie" and we are looking forward to learn more about the behavior of 'our' turtle in the coming months!"

If you would like to stay up-to-date on the whereabouts of 'Flappie,' sign up for STCB's newsletter. Regular updates will be posted on the website and social media.



Flappie was discovered nesting and then outfitted with the transmitter.

Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire (STCB) is a non-governmental research and conservation organization that has been protecting sea turtles since 1991.

Please help us continue to operate. Donate in person at the shelter (cash, credit or debit card), via our website <http://www.animalshelterbonaire.com> with PayPal or European credit card, or you can make a bank transfer:

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The BONAIRE REPORTER online

news that has broken since the printed issue



A second death to Covid-19.

Oct. 2, 2020

The Public Entity of Bonaire (OLB) announces that a person with Covid-19 has died in the evening of October 1st to October 2nd, 2020. This person belonged to a risk group and is the second person that passes away from this disease on Bonaire. OLB extends its condolences to the family. Let's all give the family the space to bare their loss during these difficult times.

There is 1 additional positive case of Covid-19.

On October 2nd there are 60 active cases of Covid-19 on Bonaire. 45 persons have recovered and 2 persons have been admitted to hospital. The people who tested positive are informed and in isolation.

A Covid-19 related hospitalization does not automatically mean admission to the special care unit and/or use of one of the 7 respiration facilities that are available for Covid-19. It occurs that people need care and medication that cannot be provided at home. This sometimes also happens in cases of non-Covid-related illnesses. Call 0800-0800 if you have any symptoms related to Covid-19.

Maintain the hygiene instructions to prevent contamination with the coronavirus. Protect yourself and the people around you.

New measures until October 31

Sept 29, 2020

Governor Rijna has announced new measures for Bonaire in regard to the coronavirus.

Beginning tomorrow restaurants, bars and cafes may reopen to customers but they must register and all must adhere to hygiene rules. They may stay open till 10 pm. Stores will reopen and may stay open till 8 pm.

Hairdressers, barbershops and nail salons may reopen but people must wear masks. Casinos and gyms are still closed.

Churches may open with a max of 50 people. Weddings and funerals can be held with a max of 10 people.

Schools and kreshes will follow same rules as before.

These measures are in effect until Oct. 31. Rules will be strictly enforced.

Another press conference will be held tomorrow (Sept 30) with Gov. Rijna and Dr Marian Luinstra-Passchier.

Bonaire

Numbers COVID-19

October 4, 2020

Active	Recovered	hospitalized	Deceased
57	54	2	2
Positive	Negative	Tested	In quarantaine
113	1997	2110	263

Questions about coronavirus call 0800-0800

WWW www.bonairecrisis.com Openbaar Lichaam Bonaire

Two additional positive cases of Covid-19.

Oct 3, 2020

On October 3rd 2020 there are 57 active cases of Covid-19 on Bonaire. 54 persons have recovered and 2 persons have been admitted to hospital. The people who tested positive are informed and in isolation.

A Covid-19 related hospitalization does not automatically mean admission to the special care unit and/or use of one of the 7 respiration facilities that are available for Covid-19. It occurs that people need care and medication that cannot be provided at home. This sometimes also happens in cases of non-Covid-related illnesses.

Call 0800-0800 if you have any symptoms related to Covid-19.

Maintain the hygiene instructions to prevent contamination with the coronavirus. Protect yourself and the people around you.

#PreveniCorona #coronaBonaire #coronaBoneiru

For a long time we did not have any coronavirus infections here on the island of Bonaire. This came to an end at the end of August when we discovered several unrelated infections. In the second week of September the numbers increased. During the weekend of September 19, we confirmed multiple positive cases in a short period of time and consequently we implemented responsive measures on Monday September 21.

During this last week, the Public Health Department has worked hard to extensively analyze the infections that took place from September 11 - 27, by doing things such as source and contact tracing. I would like review developments during this period and talk to you about how the virus has spread in the last weeks. Since September 11, we have conducted more than 1000 tests at the Public Health Department, of which 87 were positive. In total 7 people were admitted to hospital and 1 person has died. Fortunately there are also people recovering.

One of the people who were admitted to the hospital has been transferred to the CMC on Curacao. Fundashon Mariadal has deployed additional staff, equipment and medicines and is able to provide intensive care medicine to patients with COVID-19. Nevertheless, for every patient with COVID-19 we are constantly evaluating where they can get the best care at any given moment. Sometimes a transfer is desirable, for example because the patient needs a certain medical specialism or particular medical treatment at ICU level, which is not available here. In such a case, a patient can be transferred to one of the hospitals on Curacao or Aruba, which we work with.

Only a small number of infections was reported each day until September 19. On September 19 we had a scare when 16 people were tested positive in one day. This put Bonaire in a completely new situation. It meant 'all hands on deck' to be able to reach all those people, to place them in isolation and to initiate source and contact tracing. At the same time we started consulting with various parties in order to provide the Governor with advice about what it meant for Bonaire to have such a large number of infections. This resulted in the measures

that were taken on September 21, and our analysis of the past weeks formed the basis for the advice we provided the Governor concerning new measures. Firstly, I would like to give you more information about the infections between September 11 and 27.

Based on the initial data up to and including last week we can see that most people who tested positive are in the working- age group. This graph shows this as well. In addition, we see that on Bonaire very few older people are being infected at the moment. That is a good thing, because where COVID-19 is concerned, they are the vulnerable group. We also see that six children between the ages of 10 and 19 years of age have been infected during that period.

In order to understand how the virus spreads on Bonaire and where the risks of infection are, it is important to carefully check where each infection may have occurred. We know that the six children between the ages of 10 and 19 were infected at home or by a family member. It is particularly important to know that it did not happen at school. We continue to monitor this carefully in order to ascertain whether schools indeed remain a safe place.

We have not been able to ascertain where all patients were infected and in some cases the source tracing has not been completed yet, so information is continuously being updated. However, most infections are clearly mapped out. In the following graph you can see that most infections take place in work situations: this is usually in offices when the 1.5 meter distance rule was not adhered to, or during lunch breaks and informal contact at the beginning or end of the working day. Private gatherings are an important source of infection as well, because during these people often did not respect the 1.5 meter distance rule either. It is not unexpected that people are regularly infected at home. It is very difficult to keep distance from each other at home. We do realize this.

We see very few or no infections in the hospitality sector, contact professions, health care and schools. The infection that did take place in a school was between teachers, not students. This is why this case is categorized as a "work" in-

fection in this graph, but of course we are monitoring this situation.

Based on our source and contact tracing we have been able to currently identify ten clusters. A cluster is a group of infected persons who are connected in some way. It may start in the work environment and then spread to the private contacts of an infected person. In such a way one infected person becomes two and the spread continues until a whole circle of people around that person is infected. As you can see, most infections can be traced back to two large clusters. Most of the other clusters pertain to infections within a household or extended family.

By quickly isolating the infected individuals, we can slow down the growth of these clusters. If someone is infected, but is isolated, they cannot infect others. This is how we can limit further proliferation and ensure the number of new infections will decrease again.

In summary, we have had 87 new infections in the period of September 11-27, most of which were people between the ages of 40 and 60. Little or no infections were observed in schools, the hospitality sector or contact professions. In fact, generally, the source has been at work, at home or at private gatherings. Based on this analysis we have revised our advice to the Governor concerning which measures are necessary.

- This is why I would like to reiterate the importance of working from home whenever possible. If you do have to go to work: keep your distance. One and a half meters is more than the length of two upper arms (elbow bump).

- And when you meet up with family or friends, even if you know each other really well: keep your distance.

- This is what a meter and a half looks like!

I would like to talk a bit more about the unrest felt by parents and teachers at schools. We understand that you are shocked to learn that a child at your school has tested positive. Not many children are tested positive, but there are some. They have all been infected at home or in private situations, not at school. All of the children have mild symptoms and they are at home. For all these pupils we are conducting extensive

source and contact tracing. Where necessary, the Public Health Department will contact their closest and most frequently seen friends. If necessary, they will have to be quarantined as well, despite the fact that – even for them- the risk of infection is small. This is done to protect other children so that it will remain safe to go to school. We are monitoring this very closely.

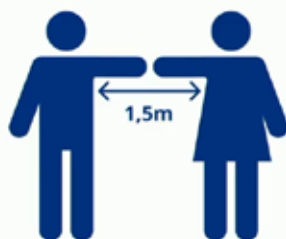
Children are much less susceptible to this virus, and when they do get infected they often do not get sick at all or have very mild symptoms. When children have the virus they are also significantly less contagious than adults. As a result, the risk of infection at school is considerably lower than at work for example. This is reflected in the clusters that we showed you earlier.

The virus has appeared all over the world, including Bonaire as of this month. The virus is expected to stay among us for a long time. But it is up to us to live together in such a way that we contain it, head it off in such a way that we can continue with our lives. We can do this by adhering to the measures: keep an appropriate distance, cough into your elbow, and wash your hands regularly. And if you have symptoms: stay at home and call the Public Health Department at 0800 0800 for a test

Bista general COVID-19 Boneiru

11 sèptèmber te ku 27 sèptèmber

Largura di dos brasa di un adulto ta mas o ménos 1.5 meter



Advice on face masks



"Keeping your distance works better than wearing a face mask"

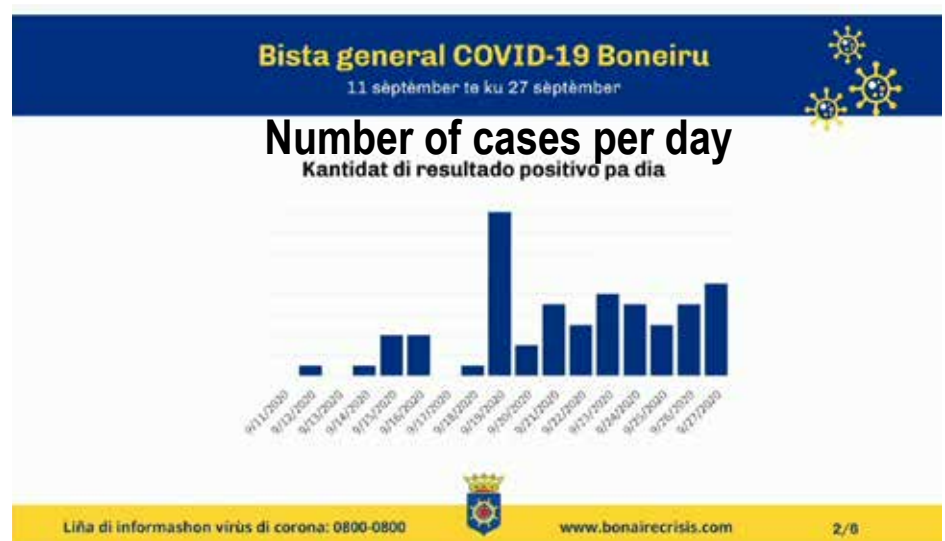
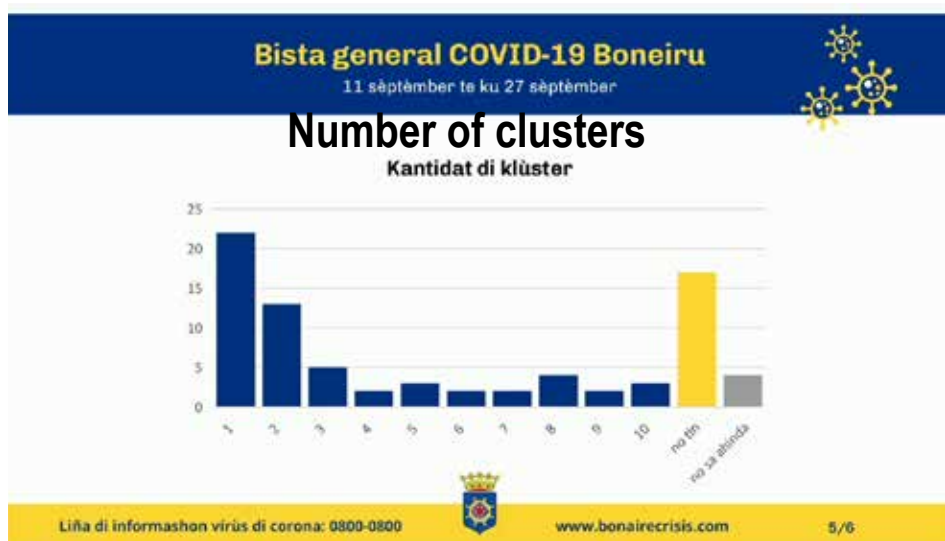
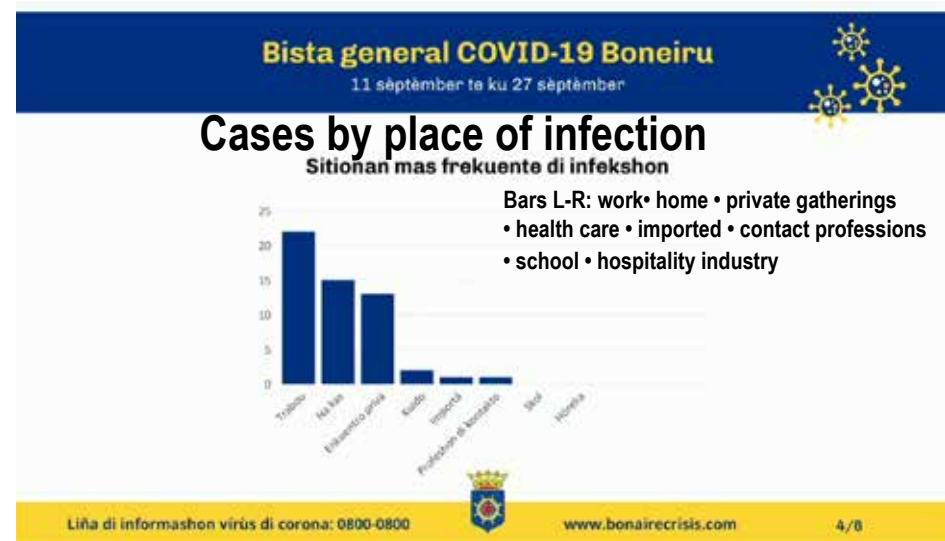
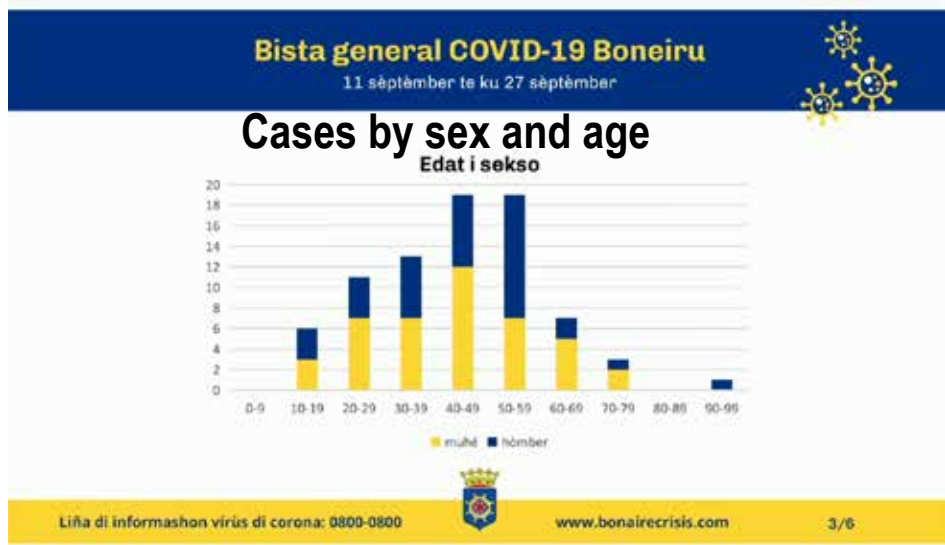
It is not necessary to wear a face mask, unless:

- ✓ if it is mandatory, such as in healthcare or at the airport
- ✓ if you cannot keep a distance of 1.5 meter
- ✓ if the doctor advises it

If you wear a face mask:

- ✓ keep your distance
- ✓ wash or replace the face mask regularly
- ✓ wear it over nose and mouth
- ✗ do not keep touching the face mask





Island Governor Rijna Speech Sept 30, 2020

Kralendijk - Dear citizens of Bonaire, Yesterday I informed you by means of a pre-recorded statement about the new measures that apply from today. Because I had to attend the island council meeting, there was no opportunity for the press to ask questions at the time. Today, at the end of this meeting, there is plenty of room for this.

I already indicated yesterday that we have arrived at these new measures on the basis of thorough analysis. We looked at number of infections, clusters and places where infections took place. Based on this, we have been able to introduce more targeted measures. This means that for some locations less strict measures apply. Because of the many infections in the workplace, it is important that people work from home as much as possible.

I have noticed that there are people that doesn't think that the measures tak-

Island Governor Rijna Speech Sept 30, 2020

Five primary school pupils infected with the coronavirus in their home environment

Kralendijk - In recent days, five children between the ages of eight and twelve have been tested positive for the coronavirus. These children have very mild to no symptoms and are doing well. They are at home in isolation. The Public Health Department has done extensive source and contact tracing. In all cases, the children have been infected in their home environment.

Three of the five children had not attended school while they were contagious because they were already in quarantine due to a prior infection at home. The other two children attend Kristu Bon Wardador primary school and Skol Amplio Papa Cornes. The Department of Public Health has conducted extensive contact tracing to determine whether other students and teachers may have been at risk. This study showed that a total of 10 children have had close contact with these students, of which six at Kristu Bon Wardador primary school and

en go far enough, for example because they are concerned about the health of their children and parents. There are also people who would like to relax the measures, for example out of fear of their income. I have a lot of understanding for both sides. Let's keep talking to each other and look for solutions together. I will keep you informed of developments and measures as much as possible.

The analysis used to arrive at the choices are thus presented by Dr. Marian Luinstra-Passchier. It will provide an analysis of the figures for the past period. She will also discuss the number of new infections, the clusters and the places of infection.

Finally, I would urge you to abide by the measures, because it is the responsibility of all of us to be corona smart!

four at Skol Amplio Papa Cornes. The chance that they have been infected is small, but to be on the safe side they will be quarantined and they will not attend school during that time. This will prevent any infections occurring at school.

The Public Health Department understands parents' concerns, but the risk of infection is minimal. Due to the measures that were taken, the other students and teachers can go to school as usual. Naturally, the existing measures at school remain important: good ventilation, thorough cleaning of the building and regular hand washing.

The Public Health Department and the school management are in close contact and are working together in accordance with the Protocol COVID-19 school and childcare. An updated, new version of this protocol has been sent to all schools today. The parents have also been informed by the school.

The Public Health Department emphasizes again: if you have symptoms stay at home and call 0800 0800.

Constructive consultation between schools and OLB

Sept 23, 2020 Press release

Kralendijk - On September 22nd, at the initiative of The Public Entity of Bonaire (OLB), consultation has taken place between all schools for primary, secondary and vocational education and the OLB. Sylvana Janga-Serfilia (Directorate of Society and Care), Marian Luinstra-Passchier (Department of Public Health) and Anouk Hansen (EOZ) have discussed the significance of the COVID-19 measures for the schools.

The Public Entity understands the worries among parents and staff. People have discussed the impact of the decision to keep the schools open. This decision was taken by the Lieutenant Governor, because research shows that children do not transmit COVID-19 infection quickly and if they do become infected, they rarely become ill. So far, it has also been found that hardly any infections occur in schools. Even if children get infected and it is passed on to others, this usually happens outside of school, where there is much more intensive contact than at school.

Topics of discussion included the proper regulation of the flows of parents and children, when entering and leaving the schools, keeping as much distance as possible, and how hygiene measures have been intensified. Schools could share with each other how they approach this and learn from each other's experiences.

Everyone in attendance shared their concerns about parents keeping children at home. Understandably, parents are concerned and want to protect their children. However, it is not necessary.

Schools offer education that is important for the future of the children, but also offer the environment where the children can develop well socially.

Children rarely get sick and rarely infect each other at school. It is very important for children to go to school.

The infections in Bonaire mainly take place among working people.

The Department of Education will continue to implement the Compulsory Education Act. This means that in the event of unauthorized absence, the attendance officer will warn the parents.

The sports classes at school were also discussed. Children under 18 do not have to keep 1.5 meter distance from each other and can continue to play sports, both indoors and outdoors. Sports classes at schools will therefore continue. Outdoor contact sports are still allowed.

April, May, & June Corals

Latin name	Common Name	Spawning Window	DAYS AFM				DAYS AFM				DAYS AFM			
			CALENDAR DATE				CALENDAR DATE				CALENDAR DATE			
			10	11	12	13	10	11	12	13	10	11	12	13
<i>Diploria labyrinthiformis</i> *	Grooved Brain Coral	70 min BS-10 min AS	17-Apr	18-Apr	19-Apr	20-Apr	17-May	18-May	19-May	20-May	15-Jun	16-Jun	17-Jun	18-Jun
			18:48	18:48	18:48	18:48	18:53	18:53	18:53	18:54	19:01	19:01	19:01	19:02

*Monthly "DLAB" spawning has been observed from April to October in Curaçao, Bonaire, the Dominican Republic, and Mexico. We don't yet know if this occurs across the entire region. New observations are highly encouraged!

July Corals

Latin name	Common Name	Spawning Window	DAYS AFM													
			CALENDAR DATE													
			0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<i>Diploria labyrinthiformis</i> *	Grooved Brain Coral	70 min BS-10 min AS	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
<i>Montastraea cavernosa</i>	Great Star Coral	15-165 min AS	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
<i>Colpophyllia natans</i>	Boulder Brain Coral	35-110 min AS									19:20-21:50					
<i>Pseudodiploria strigosa</i> (Early group)	Symmetrical Brain Coral	40-60 min AS									19:40-20:55					
<i>Dendrogyra cylindrus</i>	Pillar Coral	90-155 min AS				20:35-21:40										
<i>Pseudodiploria strigosa</i> (Late group)	Symmetrical Brain Coral	220-270 min AS									22:45-23:35					

August Corals

Latin name	Common Name	Spawning Window	DAYS AFM													
			CALENDAR DATE													
			0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<i>Diploria labyrinthiformis</i> *	Grooved Brain Coral	70 min BS-10 min AS	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
<i>Montastraea cavernosa</i>	Great Star Coral	15-165 min AS	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
<i>Colpophyllia natans</i>	Boulder Brain Coral	35-110 min AS									19:15-21:45					
<i>Pseudodiploria strigosa</i> (Early group)	Symmetrical Brain Coral	30-70 min AS									19:35-20:50					
<i>Dendrogyra cylindrus</i>	Pillar Coral	90-155 min AS				20:30-21:35					19:30-20:10					
<i>Dichocoenia stokesii</i>	Pineapple Coral	100-160 min AS						20:40-21:40	(Spawns more than 20 nights in September - help us discover what they do in August)							
<i>Acropora palmata</i>	Elkhorn Coral	140-190 min AS				21:20-22:10	(Spawning could occur any of these days: This species is not highly predictable in the Southern Caribbean)									
<i>Acropora cervicornis</i>	Staghorn Coral	150-190 min AS				21:30-22:10										
<i>Montastraea/Orbicella annularis</i>	Lobed/Boulder Star Coral	185-250 min AS								22:05-23:10						
<i>Montastraea/Orbicella faveolata</i>	Mountainous Star Coral	185-250 min AS								22:05-23:10						
<i>Pseudodiploria strigosa</i> (Late group)	Symmetrical Brain Coral	220-270 min AS								22:40-23:30						

September Corals

Latin name	Common name	Spawning Window	DAYS AFM													
			CALENDAR DATE													
			0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<i>Diploria labyrinthiformis</i> *	Grooved Brain Coral	70 min BS-10 min AS	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
<i>Meandrina meandrites</i>	Maze Coral	10-70 min AS	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
<i>Montastraea cavernosa</i>	Great Star Coral	15-165 min AS							18:50-19:55	(Spawns many different nights in this range, expected through Sept 20 or later)						
<i>Colpophyllia natans</i>	Boulder Brain Coral	35-110 min AS							18:55-21:25							
<i>Pseudodiploria strigosa</i> (Early group)	Symmetrical Brain Coral	30-70 min AS							18:55-20:30							
<i>Eusmilia fastigiata</i>	Smooth Flower Coral	75-270 min AS							19:10-19:50							
<i>Montastraea/Orbicella franksi</i>	Boulder Star Coral	90-150 min AS							19:55-23:15							
<i>Dendrogyra cylindrus</i>	Pillar Coral	90-155 min AS				20:15-21:30			20:10-21:10							
<i>Dichocoenia stokesii</i>	Pineapple Coral	100-160 min AS						20:20-21:20	(Spawns more than 20 nights in a row, expected through Sept 25 or later)							
<i>Acropora palmata</i>	Elkhorn Coral	140-190 min AS				21:05-22:15	(Spawning could occur any of these days: This species is not highly predictable in the Southern Caribbean)									
<i>Acropora cervicornis</i>	Staghorn Coral	150-190 min AS				21:30-22:10										
<i>Stephanocoenia intersepta</i>	Blushing Star Coral	160-210 min AS							21:15-22:05							
<i>Montastraea/Orbicella annularis</i>	Lobed/Boulder Star Coral	185-250 min AS							21:20-22:10							
<i>Montastraea/Orbicella faveolata</i>	Mountainous Star Coral	185-250 min AS							21:45-22:50							
<i>Siderastrea siderea</i>	Massive Starlet Coral	210-280 min AS							22:10-23:20							
<i>Pseudodiploria clivosa</i>	Knobby Brain Coral	210-255 min AS							22:10-23:10							
<i>Pseudodiploria strigosa</i> (Late group)	Symmetrical Brain Coral	220-270 min AS							22:20-23:10							
<i>Madracis senaria</i>	Ten-Ray Star Coral	all night							all night							
<i>Agaricia humilis/Agaricia agaricites</i>	Lettuce Coral	all night							all night							

October Corals

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

November Corals

Latin name	Common name	Spawning Window	DAYS AFM													
			CALENDAR DATE													
			0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<i>Diploria labyrinthiformis</i> *	Grooved Brain Coral	70 min BS-10 min AS	31-Oct	1-Nov	2-Nov	3-Nov	4-Nov	5-Nov	6-Nov	7-Nov	8-Nov	9-Nov	10-Nov	11-Nov	12-Nov	13-Nov
<i>Meandrina meandrites</i>	Maze Coral	10-70 min AS	18:10	18:09	18:09	18:09	18:09	18:08	18:08	18:08	18:08	18:07	18:07	18:07	18:07	18:07
<i>Eusmilia fastigiata</i>	Smooth Flower Coral	75-270 min AS							18:15-19:30	(Spawns many different nights in this range, expected through Nov 21 or later)						
<i>Dichocoenia stokesii</i>	Pineapple Coral	100-160 min AS							19:20-22:30							
									19:50-20:50	(Spawns more than 20 nights in a row, expected through Nov 24 or later)						

August/September/October Sponges, Gorgonians, & Others

Latin name	Common Name	Spawning Window	DAYS AFM													
			CALENDAR DATE													
			0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<i>Holothuria mexicana</i>	Donkeydung Sea Cucumber		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
<i>Hermodice carunculata</i>	Fire Worm		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
<i>Diadema antillarum</i>	Long-Spined Sea Urchin		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
<i>Neofibularia nolitanae</i>	Touch-Me-Not Sponge						14:00-17:00									
<i>Plexaura, Pseudoplexaura, Eunicia</i>	Sea Rods								starting at 19:00							
<i>Plexaura homomalla</i>	Black Sea Rod								19:00-23:00							
<i>Ophiuroidea</i>	Brittle Sea Star/Serpent Star								19:30-23:00							
<i>Pseudopterogorgia</i> spp.	Sea Plume								20:00-23:00							
<i>Spirobranchus aianteus</i>	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

Bright Orange: Spawning is likely - often observed on these dates

Red: Spawning is very likely - reliably 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
- Scan the water column for clouds of spawn

Notes

- 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 times, visit www.sunandmoon.com.
- 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.

