



COVID developments since we went to print - page 13+

NOBO partners Michael LaFortune, Carolyn Caporusso, Alex van der Kroft and Sharon Bol. Photos and story, Julie Morgan

## Making plastic waste NOBO

One person's trash is another person's treasure taken literally could never be more true than with NOBO, the foundation that is up-cycling some of Bonaire's plastic trash. NOBO is a WWF (World Wide Fund for Nature) Netherlands pilot program that takes Type 2 plastic containers and turns them into items you want or need.

NOBO partner and founder of A Plastic Free Bonaire Michael LaFortune said, "What's important is we make something out of plastic that's useful, rather than sending it to the landfill."

The idea for NOBO is actually the evolution of a collaborative effort between WWF and Selibon called Keep Bonaire Clean in 2016. The project headed up by WWF's Sharon Bol and Selibon's director Rudsel Leito included an incentive trash collection called "Trash to Cash". The WWF invested in specialized equipment from Dave Hakkens' Precious Plastics to recycle the collected plastic: injection mold, compression oven, extruder and a small shredder. Selibon's staff was

trained to use the machines with the idea of producing items but this didn't prove feasible.

When the project ended, the equipment was left idle at Selibon. Then in 2018

Clean Coast Bonaire founder Carolyn Caporusso and husband Alex van der Kroft heard about the Precious Plastics machines. After they spoke to WWF's Sharon Bol, Michael LaFortune offered

a workplace for the equipment. Before long, NOBO was born.

Working on a small scale, the steps of going from plastic trash to an actual product is labor intensive and certain parameters have to be followed. First off, only HDPE type 2 or type 5 plastics are used. These are products we use everyday like shampoo bottles, detergent, cleaners, milk jugs, bottle caps etc, (the number is marked on the bottom). Then the bottles have to be thoroughly cleaned and the labels removed. Next, the plastic goes into the shredder machine. The different colored plastics are mixed together to produce a marbled pattern and then heated to 160c. This produces a viscous material similar to toothpaste that is injected into a mold for whatever item being made. The mold is a key element and has to be purchased elsewhere.

NOBO is currently making small items like cell phone holders, coasters and bowls, that can all be branded with a



Phone holder/keychains, coasters, basket and even a clock made from recycled HDPE Type 2 plastic



## Coronavirus strikes hard

September 19 was not a good day for Bonaire. The number of positive Covid tests suddenly jumped to 19, signaling a large increase in the infection rate. September 11-27 produced 87 new infections. Dr. Marian Luinstra-Passchier said that meant 'all hands on deck' as the Department of Public Health rushed to get in touch with those people, to place them in isolation, and to initiate source and contact tracing.

Between September 22 and October 6, the total number of people who tested positive on Bonaire since the beginning of the pandemic jumped from 52 to 127. The current positives increased from 39 to 68, with two hospitalized. A second person has died. The number of people quarantined has gone down from 217 to 196.

The burst in contact tracing is giving health authorities a better understanding of how the pandemic is behaving on Bonaire. According to Dr. Luinstra-Passchier, most of the newly infected "were people between the ages of 40 and 60. [Few] 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." Very few older people tested positive.

"Based on our source and contact tracing," Dr. Luinstra-Passchier reported, "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. 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."

Five children between the ages of eight and twelve had been tested positive for the coronavirus. Three of the five children did not become infected at school. They were already quarantined at home because of contact tracing. The other two children attend Kristu Bon Wardador primary school and Skol Amplio Papa Cornes. Department of Public Health contact tracing showed that only six children at Kristu Bon Wardador primary school and four at Skol Amplio Papa Cornes had close contact with the infected children. They are not likely to be infected, but have been quarantined. A third group 7 student at Kristu Bon Wardado has tested positive for Covid-19. The school notified parents that the student was infected at home and is in quarantine. Other children can attend the school safely.

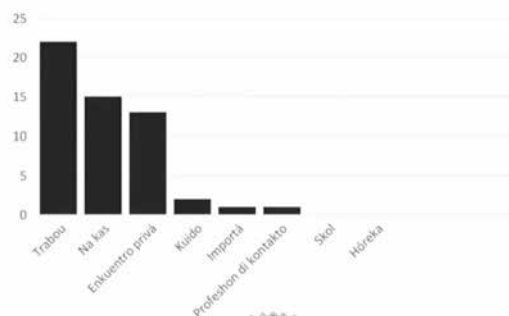
All restrictions in the current emergency declaration will remain in effect until the end of October. *DMR*

For breaking Covid-19 news and graphs go to the online version of *The Reporter*: <https://bonairereporter.com>

11 sèptèmber te ku 27 sèptèmber

### Cases by place of infection

Sitionan mas frekvente di infekshon



irùs di corona: 0800-0800 [www.bonairecrisis.com](http://www.bonairecrisis.com)

Graph Bars L-R: work • home • private gatherings  
• health care • imported • contact professions  
• school • hospitality industry

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## Covid on Bonaire

as of October 18, 2020

7 active	1 hospitalized
121 recovered	3 deceased
131 positive	2330 tested
2199 negative	54 in quarantine

As of October 1, 2020 Nolly Oleana has been appointed acting Lieutenant Governor of the public entity Bonaire for a period of three years. Nolly Oleana is head of the Education, Culture and Science (OCW) Caribbean Netherlands department. He will fulfill the function of acting Island Governor in the absence of the Island Governor. He was sworn in by acting Government Representative, Jan Helmond, in the presence of Lieutenant Governor Rijna.

## TELBO pushing online billing

Many people now receive their TELBO bill online, while others still get theirs through the mail. TELBO has announced that customers who do not want to switch to e-billing will be charged a \$10 fee. The \$10 will be added to the \$11.68 fixed base rate they pay for phone service each month. *DMR (Bonaire.nu)*

## REMAX offers services to help Americans vote

If you are an American who lives on Bonaire, and you need help registering to vote, or with requesting an absentee ballot, or with sending in your ballot, REMAX is offering to help.

Bob Bartikoski: "If you have already requested your ballot, we have a fax machine to fax it in. We have a scanner to email it in, and we will even help you to send it in via DHL or FEDEX. (it's too late to mail it!) Feel free to call our office if you have a question or to make an appointment, at 717-7362 or email us at [info@bonairehomes.com](mailto:info@bonairehomes.com)." (See page 3.) *Bob Bartikoski*

## Dutch counters BES money laundering

The Public Prosecution Service has quietly strengthened the financial-economic investigation capacity of the BES Island. A special anti-money laundering officer has been appointed for the Caribbean Netherlands, along with two investigators from the National Criminal Investigation Department. The House of Representatives has tightened the BES Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing (Prevention) Act. *DMR (Koninkrijk.nu)*

## Masterplan postponed until November

Presentation of the Bonaire 2030 Masterplan to the public, scheduled for October 10, has been postponed until November 6 because of meeting limitations imposed by the coronavirus. The Masterplan team is now brainstorming ways to present the plan to the Bonaire community in a safe and creative way, taking into account all corona guidelines.

The Master Plan will determine Bonaire's future. Since information gathering began last November, 16 meetings have been held, public and online. More than 700 Bonaireans and some 404 companies and organizations have provided input. *DMR*

**Flotsam & Jetsam, continued on page 5**

# Rafaela nominated to Women of the Year 2020



year. Samira is described as a versatile, progressive, feminist MEP with an Islamic, Jewish, Dutch Caribbean, and West African background.

At the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, Rafaela committed herself in the European Parliament to the Caribbean part of our Kingdom and the most vulnerable in our society.

Samira: "We must do all we can to stay healthy and to safeguard our economy, including those of the islands."

Rafaela was previously named Woman of the Week in April 2020 for her commitment to the Caribbean islands during the corona crisis. The public can vote for the public award via this link:

<https://acties.harpersbazaar.nl/woty-2020>

The award ceremony will take place in Amsterdam on the November 19, 2020.

Advisory Council the Table of 12 has nominated the first European Parliamentarian with Dutch Caribbean roots, Samira Rafaela (D66) for Harper's Bazaar Women of the Year 2020. A shortlist of 16 women have been nominated for their special achievements in the past



The Spatial Planning and Development Department of the public body of Bonaire constructed a temporary dirt road on Bulevar Gobernador Nicolaas Debrot. The temporary road was built to combat the seawater that often floods the road in the bend at Harbor Village Marina Bonaire.



**Attention to all of our fellow Americans who live on Bonaire. YOU NEED TO VOTE, I DID!**

***"I have said this before, and I will say it again," said the late US Representative John Lewis in June 2019, "The vote is precious. It is almost sacred. It is the most powerful nonviolent tool we have in a democracy."***

**It has never been more important for you to vote than it is this year. This is an important opportunity for everyone to make their opinion heard, and to vote for the candidate(s) of their choice including the President, many Senators and all of our Representatives. If you need help registering to vote or with requesting an absentee ballot, or with sending in your ballot, we are here to help.**

**If you have already requested your ballot, we have a fax machine to fax it. We have a scanner to email it and we will even help you to send it via DHL or FEDEX.**

**(It's too late to mail it!)**

**We are here to help your vote get counted. No matter who you support. Your vote is too important to not use it.**

**Feel free to call our office if you have a question or to make an appointment, at 717-7362 or email us.**

**Bob Bartikoski**

**Owner REMAX/Paradise Homes - Bonaire**

**599-786-7362**

## FOR SALE Punt Vierkant 87 Spacious Family Home



- Location : Belnem
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# POLICE REPORT

## Found

In the early evening hours on Monday, September 21, a bunch of keys found in Kaya Grandi was delivered to the police station. If this key ring is yours, you can make an appointment at 715 8000 to collect it at the police station.

## Property crime

Between Monday, Sept. 21, 9 pm and Tuesday, Sept. 22, around 5 am, thieves removed four wheel covers / car rims from a car parked outside a house on Kaya Magdalena.

Between 8:15 and 8:30 am, on Monday, Sept. 21, thieves stole several things including a drill and a Bosch brand grinder from a car parked in front of a house on Kaya Proud.

Close to 1 am on Wednesday, Sept. 22, a theft was reported from a yard of a restaurant / bar at the Bulevar Gobernador Nicolaas Debrot. Unknown people took away alcoholic drinks, among other things.

Between Wednesday, Sept. 30, around 8 pm and Thursday, Oct. 1, around 6:30 am, thieves removed three car tires.

Around 9:20pm on Friday, Oct. 2, the police station received a message that a robbery had taken place at a bar on the Kaya Grandi. Two men entered the bar and took cash, among other things. Immediately afterwards police searched the vicinity. In the early hours of Oct. 3, a first suspect was arrested; a man 24 years old. In the afternoon on Saturday, Oct. 3, a second suspect was arrested; a man 18 years. The investigation in this case is ongoing and multiple arrests may take place.

The theft of a scooter was reported around 11:45 am on Sunday, Oct. 4. The scooter was parked at an apartment complex on Kaya Sirena.

## Investigations

**False accusation.** Following four different reports against a woman with initials M.A.R.J. aged 36, the investigation team of the Dutch Caribbean Police Corps conducted an in-depth investigation of the reports made in connection with threats, assault and stalking. The investigation showed that the woman was wrongly accused.

**Shooting.** Wednesday Sept. 30, around 8:50pm, the police station received a report of a shooting that wounded people at Kaya Orinoco in Tera Kòrá. Three unknown men surprised those present in the house. A man and a woman were injured and taken to hospital by ambulance. The case is under investigation.

## Arrests

At around 7:15 pm on Saturday, Sept. 27, a man was arrested on Kaya Korona for violent behaviour.

Wednesday, Sept. 30, around 9:45 pm, a man was arrested at a house on Kaya Kamari for attempted manslaughter. The suspect tried to run his car over his neighbor and the neighbor's child.

In the afternoon hours of the same day, a man was arrested at a house on Kaya Deseado for assault.

In the early evening hours of Saturday, October 3, a man aged 53 was arrested at an apartment complex on Kaya J.N.E. Craane for vandalism.

On the night of Saturday, Oct. 3 to Sunday, Oct. 4, around 1:50 am, a man was arrested for theft.

## Traffic accidents & violations

In the afternoon, around 3:40 pm of Monday, Sept. 21, a car and a motorcycle collided on Bulevar Gobernador Nicolaas Debrot. The driver of the motorcycle was taken to hospital by ambulance.

On Friday, Sept. 26, around 12:15 pm, a car and scooter collided on Kaya Korona. The driver of the scooter was injured and was taken by ambulance to the hospital.

In the afternoon hours on Tuesday, Sept. 29, a collision occurred on Bulevar Gobernador Nicolaas Debrot near a restaurant. Car A heading north was about to overtake a bus. When the bus was overtaken, the driver of car A saw car B driving up the Bulevar Gobernador Nicolaas Debrot from a dirt road. The driver of car A tried to swerve but collided with the left side of car B and lost control of the car, driving into the door of a restaurant. An employee of the restaurant was injured and was taken to hospital by ambulance.

At around 1:30 pm on Wednesday, Sept. 30, a car and scooter collided. The scooter was driving on Kaya Industria towards the roundabout at the petrol station. A car approaching from the opposite direction suddenly wanted to turn left. This caused them to collide; the scooter hit the front bumper of the car. The driver of the scooter was slightly injured and was treated by ambulance personnel on the spot.

On Friday Oct. 2, around 9:40 pm, the driver of a scooter fell and was injured on Kaya Dialma. The driver was taken to hospital by ambulance.



## Ask Kate Bonaire real estate advice

**Question: If I buy a place that needs renovation or repairs, is it hard to get this done if I am not on the island? Do I have to ship supplies to Bonaire? Thanks, Marge**

Hi Marge,

There are many fine repair people and contractors on the island who can handle jobs from small repairs to major renovations. There are also suppliers for a variety of cabinetry, bathroom and kitchen fixtures, appliances, furniture and household items. Your

property manager can schedule and be present for repairs and you can hire a contractor to supervise more extensive renovations. It's important to have cost updates, photos and videos sent to you during the work, so that you can verify that the items and locations are the ones you have agreed on.

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](mailto:kate@bonairehomes.com).**

## International day of the elderly

International Day of the Elderly was celebrated October 1 with Deputy Nina den Heyer taking the lead to honor all the elderly in our society. The day was dedicated to how important the older people on Bonaire are to the community and addressing their needs. She encouraged everyone to surprise an older person with a card, a cake or a bunch of flowers on this day and everyday. Giving the elderly a little extra attention and care goes a long way in fighting loneliness and isolation that so many are feeling during the coronavirus.

Den Heyer encourages us to be a society that takes age differences in to account so we can grow older together.

Times are tough and in the shadow of



**Luciana Sint Jacoba, better known as Lulu chiki, with deputy Nina den Heyer**

Covid 19 it is especially important that we keep in touch with the elderly on a daily basis. *Julie Morgan*

## Investment in the elderly continues to grow

State Secretary Paul Blokhuis, of Health, Welfare and Sport, informed the Lower House that heavy investments are planned for improving the quality of life of the elderly in the BES Islands. He said that under the BES Healthcare Insurance Decree, inhabitants of the Caribbean Netherlands are entitled to long-term care in connection with old age, illness or disabilities. He also said the government wants to help people live independently in their own homes and participate in society as long as possible.

Much has been done already to improve social support facilities. On all three islands in the Caribbean Netherlands the elderly have access to domestic help, meal service, customized transport, daytime activities and home modification. On Bonaire, day

care has been arranged with Cocari from October, including meals to be offered on Saturday mornings for the elderly in Rincon. In addition, support for informal care givers will be intensified and a new location in Bonaire will be established where the elderly can get information on what care is available to them.

An inventory conducted prior to the BES becoming a municipality of the Netherlands determined that the islands lacked many necessary facilities for the elderly, and that some existing facilities were inadequate and buildings and equipment were poorly maintained. Bonaire needs more quality housing, including smaller living units, and better provisions for people with disabilities who receive 24-hour care as well as respite care for caregivers. *DMR*

## NOBO, continued from page 1

companies logo.

Carolyn said, "There is a lot of potential to make all kinds of things - tables, benches, tiles, lampshades - it is matter of vision."

In the last few weeks, NOBO sent 1000 branded phone holders to Saba as a part of their governmental ban on single use

plastics campaign that kicks off January 1, 2021.

To expand the NOBO project, the partners have reached out to the technical schools in hopes of getting them involved in creating new design products and even developing machines. NOBO hopes to move from the WWF pilot project to a

social enterprise in the next two years. They are looking for collaborations or partnering with environmentally interested parties.

"We want to be commercially smart but do something good for the island," said Sharon.

NOBO products are sold at the Salt

Store. A four-pack of coasters is \$20 or \$5 each and the phone holders/keychain is \$6.

If you are interested in NOBO products or how you can get involved send a message through NOBO's Facebook page. *Story and photos Julie Morgan*

### Doctor convicted on sex charge

On Bonaire, a 61-year-old general practitioner has been convicted of fornication with an 18-year-old patient. He was given a four-month suspended sentence with three years' probation. He must also carry out a community service order of 240 hours. The victim was present in court via video connection and was partially awarded a claim for damages. (Source: Bonaire nu)

### Grow it, buy it, eat it here

The Bonaire government has launched a project to encourage agricultural entrepreneurship and local consumption of island grown products. The project—"From Seed To Product - Di Simia Pa Produkto"—is intended to make people aware they can earn income by growing local products and selling them to local consumers. The project will target pensioners, young people, and all others who are interested in agriculture. It is intended to make people aware that they can earn an income growing food for the local market, then help them do both.

The Bonaire island government, the Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries department (LVV), and the Fundashon Tienda pa Konsumidó Boneriano (foundation for consumers), will collaborate on achieving the project goals. The Facebook page "Di Simia Pa Produkto" provides additional information. DMR

### Bonaire trained nurses meet Dutch standards

Nurses who receive their training at Fundashon Mariadal will now practice in the European Netherlands. Presently they do not qualify to register as trained nurses there (BIG registration) but only because the necessary legislation has yet to be enacted. Minister for Medical Care Tamara van Ark has assured Parliament that she will make sure Bonaire nursing diplomas are accepted for BIG registration pending the next amendment to the BIG legislation.. DMR

### Holding company to be eliminated

Bonaire Holding Maatschappij, which functions as the parent company of Bonaire Government Buildings (BOG), BonLab, Selibon, Telbo, and Tourism Corporation Bonaire (TCB), will eventually be dismantled and closed down. Adely Jansen, who formerly worked for BOPEC and the POB, has been appointed temporary director. She will maintain the continuity of operations of the holding company and its subsidiaries during the restructuring. The previous director, Ben Oleana, resigned because he did not agree with what he called 'political interference.' DMR (Bonaire.Nu)

### STINAPA offices closed till October 31

STINAPA headquarters at Barcadera is closed to visitors until, October 31, 2020 according to their facebook page. 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

Visit us!



On "World Clean Up Day," Saturday, September 19, Selibon collected 13,920 kilos of waste. Given coronavirus precautions, Selibon placed bins in neighborhoods so that every resident could safely toss out unwanted items. The bins, such as the container pictured above at Nort Salifia, were filled with garden waste (branches and grass), pallets, cardboard boxes, iron objects (such as bicycles), electrical equipment (such as computers, televisions, air conditioners) and different plastic bins and buckets.

### STINAPA welcomes a new director

Over the past 20 years Jan van der Ploeg has worked at the intersection of science and nature conservation in Africa, South-East Asia and the Pacific. After completing his studies at the Institute of Environmental Sciences at Leiden University in the Netherlands, he worked for eight years in the Northern Sierra Madre Natural Park, the largest protected area of the Philippines. More recently, Jan worked in Solomon Islands, where he led the World-Fish research program on community-based fisheries management.



Jan holds a PhD degree in environmental anthropology from Leiden University, and is a member of the IUCNSSC Crocodile Specialist Group. He is an avid bird- and fish-watcher. Jan has a wife and two daughters.

## Oranje Fonds asks for applicants

As of Oct 5, the Oranje Fonds starts its search for three projects to win an Apple of Orange 2021 award. In 2021 the theme is Mental Strength. The prizes are devoted to projects that make people feel good although these people do not have it easy mentally. Such projects can register up to and including November 7 via oranjefonds.nl/appeltjes. Three initiatives will receive an Apple of Orange from Queen Máxima in May.

Sandra Jetten, director Oranje Fonds: "When people are struggling with mental problems, it is enormously valuable if there is someone who involves them in society. Someone who is not a professional healthcare provider. What they have support from, which helps them to overcome obstacles and take a step further. This way these people can feel that they can be themselves and that there are others who are there for them. We cordially invite all social initiatives that make this possible to register for the Appeltjes van Oranje 2021."

#### The prizes

The Appeltjes van Oranje are awarded annually to three initiatives that successfully connect different groups of people or that ensure that people participate in society again. All winners of an Appeltje van Oranje receive a bronze statue, made by Princess Beatrix, and a cash prize of 15,000 euros.



#### Orange Fund

The Oranje Fonds is building a social society, where people are there for each other and everyone can participate. It mobilizes, strengthens and supports as many people and organizations as possible that ensure that no one is left alone. The support consists of inspiration, advice, knowledge and money. The Fund can do this thanks to, among others, the National Postcode Lottery, the Dutch Lottery, Friends and companies. King Willem-Alexander and Queen Máxima are the patrons of the Oranje Fonds.



## Live Inspired Today!

by Malcolm Wilson

In *Live Inspired Today!* I will regularly be sharing three inspirational triggers to help ignite your success.

A *Reflection For Today* to inspire you, a *Tip For Today* to equip you and an *Affirmation For Today* to empower you.

#### Reflection For Today

"And suddenly you know it's time to start something new and trust the magic of beginnings." - Meister Eckhart

#### Tip For Today

Has this ever happened to you? You get an inspiration. You want to take action, but... this or that holds you back! Too often we want to turn the page of a chapter in our book or take initiative and do the thing that resonates with us yet there are obstacles in our way. Or, worse yet, the little voice in our head talks us out of taking the first step!

"Take the first step in faith. You don't have to see the whole staircase, just take the first step." - Martin Luther King Jr.

Remember...

Sometimes we need to take the first steps without seeing the whole staircase.

The staircase will reveal itself as we go... take the first step!

#### Affirmation For Today

Today I am taking the first step in faith, with courage and confidence.

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

# Shelter News



## Lucky dogs on a journey home

Last week nine Shelter dogs who have been waiting for a fur-ever home traveled to the Netherlands to meet their new owners. The Shelter has recently been overwhelmed with dogs being abandoned or surrendered to us and we are at full capacity. The number of dogs available for adoption far exceeds the local "demand" for companion animals. Shelter Manager Sanne Attevelt started a project to find these dogs homes in the Netherlands. It was successful and they all flew on KLM together to meet their new fam-

ilies. Some of these dogs have been at the Shelter for over two years waiting for that special someone.....their hopes have finally been fulfilled!

## Animal Shelter Bonaire reopens

Based on the Bonaire government's easing of restrictions, the Shelter is back to regular business hours 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. and 3 - 5 p.m. HOWEVER, all visits or adoptions are BY APPOINTMENT ONLY! The Covid-19 virus is on the island and we want to keep our visitors and staff protected. By scheduling all visits in advance we can

# Pet of the Week: Snowy

Let me introduce myself, my name is Snowy and I am about 11 months old. While my fur might be bright as snow, I really prefer to lie in the sun! I have lived at the Shelter for over eight months now, and I really think it's time for me to move on to a place I can call home. I'm very good with other dogs, even other male dogs but only if they are younger than me. I really enjoy bath times and really like attention. Cuddles and hugs are my favorite. I am neutered, vaccinated and very healthy.

If you think that we are a match then I am happily waiting for you at the Animal Shelter at Kaminda Lagoen 26a. Please call to make an appointment at 717-4989 or 701-4989 to meet me. Hopefully see you soon.

Story: Sanne Attevelt  
Photos: Astrid Roedoe



limit the number of people on property and keep everyone safe. Please call or WhatsApp the Shelter at 701-4989 to schedule your visit and we will do our best to accommodate you.

## Pakus di Pruga not yet open...Shelter masks still available

Pakus di Pruga has not yet announced when they will reopen for the Saturday sales. Concerns over shoppers not maintaining social distance and following the

hygiene rules despite the presence of the virus on the island have delayed the reopening. We will keep you informed as to the reopening. IF YOU ARE IN NEED OF THE HIGH QUALITY MASKS from the Pakus with proceeds benefiting the Shelter, contact Laurie at [kliban517@yahoo.com](mailto:kliban517@yahoo.com)

Story: Jane Disko  
Photos: Bo Attevelt



## Buena vista Optics

Perfect service and Quality. Our Passion!

Experienced Staff  
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Over 1000 different frames  
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Mon-Fri 9-12; 2-6

Kaya Grandi 36, Across from Littmans 717-9181



## New Address



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# Reef Glimpses Godzilla

One afternoon on a North Pier dive, I saw a hole in the sand about 4” (10 cm) across. It was deep and smooth-sided, and when we looked straight down into it, we could see only darkness. I took a piece of fish, jiggled it over the hole, then held it still. Suddenly a creature popped up, grabbed the food, and disappeared back into the burrow. We had met Godzilla.

Wow!  
This crustacean is the biggest mantis shrimp we have, the scaly-tailed mantis, *Lysiosquilla scabricauda*. *Squilla scabricauda* translates to “rough-tailed shrimp”. I couldn’t find a great translation for “Lysio”; the best I could get was “furious” or “mad”, which would make Godzilla a “mad, rough-tailed shrimp”. “Mad shrimp” would probably be an acceptable name to the fishermen (or other crustacean-collectors) who have reason to call these creatures “thumb-splitters”. As Godzilla became more comfortable around us, he’d take our offerings more slowly. Eventually he stopped carrying them into the burrow. Instead, he’d stay at the doorway of the burrow, munching on one end of the food while I held the other. This gave us opportunities to study his amazing behaviors. In the photo you can see that he’s so comfy he’s not even holding onto the fish with his main claws, just munching with his little mouth claws.

This photo also displays one of the mantis’s infamous three-segmented “thumb-splitter” claws. The claw section farthest from his body has a bunch of spikes. This spike section is attached to a second segment, which is attached to a third segment, which is attached to Godzilla’s body.



How does a mantis shrimp use this equipment to get such a fierce reputation?  
When resting, Godzilla would build a sand cover entirely over the opening of his burrow. When he was ready to hunt, he’d stick his eyes, which are extended on stalks, through the cover – and, like all ambush predators, he’d wait. When the perfect prey passed, Godzilla would explode out of the burrow and pin the prey between the spikes and the next arm segment. Just thinking about my thumb being seized that way gives me chills.  
Godzilla would then take the captured prey into the burrow, rebuild his doorway, and relax in his hidden burrow until the next ambush.  
We were able to learn firsthand how Godzilla the mantis shrimp lives and hunts, by giving him a reason to be interested in us (the fish) and by familiarizing him with calm divers who behaved consistently.

Note: The interactions with Godzilla took place more than 30 years ago. It’s difficult even today to find information about how rough-tailed mantis shrimp use their claws. *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.*

# Win Wanika’s new game



Regatta Quest 2020, the latest board game developed by Wanika Games, is now available for sale. Gamers will have fun and learn about Bonaire’s first regatta.

WANIKA and *The Reporter* are giving away five games to readers. To win, draw a sailboat and send it via WhatsApp to 785-9040. Winners will be selected on October 16 with prizes awarded at Kas di Regatta Saturday, October 17. Drawings will be posted on WANIKA and *The Bonaire Reporter* Facebook pages. To buy the game call or WhatsApp to 785-8040

This year’s 53rd Regatta has been cancelled to ensure the safety of residents during Covid 19, but everyone can enjoy a game of Regatta Quest 2020. The game is for kids eight to 88 and it takes around 20 minutes to play. WANIKA made the game in the form of a map to make it affordable. The cost is \$10 dollars and \$2 of each game sold in October goes to Bonaire’s food bank.

To buy the game call or WhatsApp to 785-9040. Delivery is free in Kralendijk. *Julie Morgan*



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# Did You Know?

## Forbidden love of Jack and Octo



At first sight it would be the perfect setting for a romantic love story. On a quiet reef between waving gorgonians and colorful corals, an eight-armed creature and a streamlined fish were circling around each other. While I was observing their romance from the sideline, not wanting to disturb them, I noticed that there was more going on than just a forbidden love story. It turned out to be an interaction between an octopus (*Octopus briareus*) and a bar jack (*Carangoides ruber*). Every time the octopus moved from one spot to another, the bar jack rushed to explore the new area, snapping the sand around him. It was almost as if this bar jack (let's call him Jack) was the bodyguard of the octopus (Octo). In a way, Jack was indeed "the bodyguard" of Octo. As I moved closer, Jack suddenly changed from dark brown to silver and right away Octo fled to shelter and camouflaged to the background of the reef. The bar jack used his color to let the octopus know that potential danger was nearby.

Besides protecting each other, they were also hunting together. When Octo moved to another rock, he blocked off one entrance, forming a big balloon like pouch with his arms. Meanwhile Jack blocked off the other side of the rock, making escaping impossible for fish, worms and other prey.

Less romanticized scientists would call this behavior between different species "cooperative hunting", since both parties benefit from the alliance. An alliance between two species, also known as mutualism, is not new to biologists, but a planned hunt like this is rare and requires advanced thinking and coordination. The bar jack and the octopus are able to give signals to each other by changing colors and/or the structure of their skin.

Although their alliance is a cool discovery, there could also be a downside to this story. Until not long ago octopuses were known as solitary hunters. The forming of bonds with other reef predators could be an indication that food is scarce because of a decline in reef health and that animals need to come up with new ways of hunting to survive in a changing environment.

Further investigation on cooperative hunting between different species in a changing environment could be useful for monitoring the status of the reef. But until then, I wish Octo and Jack a happy and romantic life together. *Written by Max van Aalst, Connecting People With Nature.*

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## Ask a Geek:

by Brian Niessen

**Question: My computer is overheating in the Bonaire weather. What can I do?**



If you have lived in the Caribbean for any amount of time, you have probably run into a time when your computer keeps shutting down due to overheating.

When this happens on a deadline, I have resorted to putting a tray of ice cubes under my laptop to keep it cool, but it got messy after a while.

I recommend some solutions. First, get the fan cleaned out. Just like any other appliance, dust, pet fur, etc can get in the fan and slow it down/stop it completely, or restrict the airflow. You can use a paint brush or vacuum cleaner to easily and quickly clean it. (Turn it off first).

Another issue is that the combination of the salt air and humidity can cause the

fans to rust and stop working. You should replace the fan, or in a pinch you can use an under-laptop external fan.



The third issue I have run into is that the heat sink compound (white gooey stuff) that helps the chips stay cool can dry out. When that happens, things get hot very quickly and hot enough to melt the solder

on the motherboard and chips can loosen and even fall out. Not good!

So, in general, keep it clean to keep it cool. Using your computer in an air-conditioned room can also help keep things cooler.

Enjoy the weather.

*UPDATE from the Email Extortion article in last issue.*

*So far, fourteen people have sent a total of \$13,270 to the criminals.*

*That is six more suckers in the last 10 days. Not a bad salary.*

**Need help? See the Geek's Business ad on page 10**



## A Garden? Just Do It! Tuturutu

A flower that reminds me so much of my childhood in Surinam is the flowering plant we call here "tuturutu". Walking to school early in the morning it was a habit to pick the young pods from the tuturutu plant and chew on the beans until reaching school. In almost every yard there was a tuturutu. In Surinam we call it Krerekrere and they were planted as a hedge or close to the fence where the low hanging pods were easy to pick from the plant. Later, when traveling in the Caribbean I noticed this beautiful plant grows on all the islands in different colors. Of course, I have it in my yard too, in the reddish-orange color and pink and off white varieties. There is also a pure, yellow color and a mix of orange-yellow. You will find tuturutu everywhere on Bonaire. It's such an easy growing plant that loves the sun and can withstand the drought, hard, dry wind and salt in the soil without any prob-



**Tuturutu flowers in my yard.**

lem. It flowers year round decorating your yard with its beautiful inflorescence and also very nice to see as a hedge or fence.

Tuturutu (*Caesalpinia Pulcherrima*) is a

member of the fabaceae or pea. It is also known as peacock flower, dwarf poinciana, pride of Barbados, redbird of paradise and Mexican bird of paradise.

When you like to have birds around your house, plant a tuturutu. Loras and prikichi love the green beans in the pods and hummingbirds and bees love the long petals of the flowers. And I have never seen an iguana interested in its leaves, so this guarantees success in your yard.

The seeds are ready to take when the pods turn brown. Remove the seeds and let them dry for a few days and add them straight to the soil in your yard or plant them in a container. After a week, the young plants come up and they grow fast when you keep the soil moist. After a while you can put them in your yard or up-plant to a bigger container. Once established in favorable growing conditions, the plant will thrive and should flower in its first year. A healthy plant will usually resist diseases or insect attacks.

They are bushy plants that grow three to six meters high with spines on their stems. The spines store liquid that allows

them to withstand the dry, hot climate and protects the plant from drying out.

Every stem gets a bunch of flowers and when you trim and prune after every blooming to about 60 cm from ground, you get even more stems with even bigger bouquets of flowers. There is no plant as easy to maintain and grow here on Bonaire and in the Caribbean. Its feathery foliage and quick growth make the Pride of Barbados a popular evergreen shrub with very attractive flowers. These flowers last three days. The first day half open, the next day full open and bright and the third day you notice it has had its best days.

As I wrote, the seeds of some species are edible before they reach maturity, but after that they are poisonous.

So, if you are looking for a striking ornamental, easy growing, always flowering plant, look around for tuturutu plants and seeds. They will make your place lush with flowers, butterflies and birds. Just do it now.

*Angliet  
Nature lover*



# What's Happening

<b>Upcoming Events</b>	<b>Oct. 11</b> Clean Coast Bonaire Boka Onima at 4pm
	<b>Oct. 17</b> Dive Friends Quarterly Clean Up Dive
	<b>Oct. 30</b> 48hourfilm project Sign up at: <a href="http://www.48hourfilm.com/bonaire">http://www.48hourfilm.com/bonaire</a>

## Weekends only

**Washington Slagbaai Park** Oct 5 to 31, open Friday to Sunday. Closed during the week. **STINAPA headquarters** is temporarily closed until October 31

## Clubs & meetings

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

**12 Step Meeting** Wednesdays at Bonaire Basics, Kaya Korona 47. Meeting starts at 7:15pm. Info: [12stepsbonaire@gmail.com](mailto:12stepsbonaire@gmail.com)

## Carnival 2021 is canceled

The Executive Council has now formalized the decision to cancel Carnival 2021.

Deputy Nina den Heyer and acting head of SKAL, Felix Thomas, met with leaders of various carnival groups. At the beginning of the meeting, Commissioner Nina den Heyer made it clear that, given the current circumstances, Bonaire's carnival cannot take place in the regular period from January to March. The leaders of the carnival groups added that the participants' financial situation was also an obstacle. It was jointly concluded

that a later time period in 2021 would not be possible because organizers would have too little time to prepare for 2022's carnival celebrations. The availability of sponsors would also be limited.

Later in the evening, the leaders of the carnival groups evaluated the organization of this cultural event. Although there will be no carnival next year, the parties have agreed not to sit still, but to use the delay to strengthen the organization of future carnival celebrations.

## Quarterly cleanup ahead

Dive Friends Bonaire have organized their next quarterly clean-up dive for October 17.

The location has yet to be decided, so keep an eye on the social media pages and the website from Dive Friends for further information and updates.

The start time will be 10am and we are going to follow the previous format due to Covid-19, with a maximum of three persons per buddy team. We will stagger the check-in times so they are 20 minutes

apart until 12pm. Divers will be informed of their allocated time when they make their reservation. Dive Friends will have tanks on hand for \$5 or you can bring your own.

You must make a reservation to participate. Reserve via email to [info@divefriendsbonaire.com](mailto:info@divefriendsbonaire.com) or pop in to one of our locations and talk to our staff.

Come and join in the fun and help us to keep our ocean clean! *Sarah Cann*

# A Summer Day

Her summer dress catches the wind while she ambles across the terrace. On a normal day she would not have felt alone or lost; however, for quite some time now, those days seem to have vanished.

'Her' terrace, as she would lovingly say, feels abandoned, almost desolate. In earlier days this magical spot, right on the wavy waters, attracted a bounty of visitors. They enjoyed a bite to eat, sip a cocktail, or just soak up the rays on the beach -- white sandy beach, which flows naturally into the bay, and which consists of endless blue-green waters.

The island on which she lives was unaffected for a long time. No virus or anything like it had ever reached this far-flung tropical paradise. Or so it seemed. Slowly everything around her had changed. The silence of the place is deafening. When she closes her eyes, she can still hear the buzz of all the voices in her head, the hustle, bustle and fun. This spot knows many secrets. A soft breeze strokes her face. She is tired of all the bad news that floods into her heart and soul each day. It weighs harder and harder upon her. She peers over the shallow sea and smiles seeing a single wind surfer. Happiness used to be so common, she whispers.

Over at the bar, she detects traces of spilled sugar. A small, winged Banana Quit, or "sugar thief," approaches the tiny morsels and devours them. A sparrow and even a hummingbird or two follow his actions, imitating him. Who will let the sparrow and the hummingbirds know that they are not actually sugar thieves?

In the distance she spots flamingos flying in formation. Let me count them she mumbles. Aha, yes, 12 in total today. The flamingos fly very low, as to be less bothered by the wind. The silence and

the beauty of the moment overwhelm her. A voice in her heart calls out; it simply can't be true. How is it possible that an invisible enemy is wandering around on this island?

The World keeps on spinning, breathing, sighing and twisting. While her disbelief has a conversation with the daily reality, she sees a cruise ship on the horizon. The ship drifts aimlessly. No tourist on board, no port for safe harbor. She narrows her eyes while imagining couples dancing to soft reggae tunes, children diving into the pool, the song of seagulls who pilot the ship into port.

Not long ago she used to think that the island had become too crowded, too touristy. And now she catches herself staring at the ship as if seeing a long lost friend. The corners of her mouth turn up in a smile at the irony of her thoughts. She shakes off her reflections and gazes into the pretty blue and green water. A piece of protected nature reserve laps before her feet and cradles everything that is called unrest or uncertainty, gently into the sea. This island will withstand all storms, because of its beauty and peacefulness. It has done so for centuries.

On a summer day, she saunters off her terrace with renewed courage and so less alone.

To all our guests we say until we meet again! Stay Safe and have faith!

To all our colleagues we say Stay Safe and Strong!

*With love from all of us, Persia Sorobon Beach Club & Sorobon Beach Resort*

*Big thanks to my lovely editors: Jannet Butter and Karen & Bob Bastiaensen-Gilmour*



## Making Bonaire "Accessible"

### *The healing touch.*

Social distancing.... that is what we are supposed to practice nowadays. How hard is that? We as people are used to touching each other. We talk, make noises, move our bodies and most of all: we touch each other.

When greeting each other we were shaking hands, embracing and sometimes even kissing.

When meeting a friend or saying goodbye, we used to touch one at the shoulder or give a friendly push or a gentle box.

Whenever we were afraid, we would put an arm around someone's shoulder or pat an arm to assure that everything would be all right.

When someone was nervous, we would sit beside him or her, touch their hand or hold it and talk till everything was fine

again.

When someone was angry we could shake hands, embrace and hold that person till the anger disappeared.

When we were happy we grabbed each other's hands and danced or we hugged and laughed hard.

When we cared for someone, we showed that by hugging, embracing or stroking.

When we loved somebody we used words to express that, but our touching showed more: wipe a tear from a cheek, press the nose to ones hair, stroke a sweet face until a smile appeared or hold a loved one firmly without speaking.

We had so many ways to show our affection, our anger, our fear, our appreciation and even our hate.

We could hug, push, kick and every-

thing was okay, as long as it involved touching.

Now, since 'King Corona' reigns, we suffer from skin hunger: no more touching. Stay away from each other. We have to cover our face and nobody can recognize our feelings anymore, because we cannot see them anymore.

So how we are supposed to show we care now? To show we love? To show we are happy or angry?

When we are working with people, it is hard to refrain from the touch. You can help somebody, but the mask, the gloves and protective gear is "keeping the you away".

In working with the elderly, loved ones that suffer from Alzheimer's disease and persons with mental retardation; touching is always and has been always the most important part of the job. Touching lets

these people feel that you care. They already suffer so hard from the fact that visitors are not allowed and now the touch has also disappeared. Their life and world has become empty and cold.

Is there a substitute for touch? I hardly think so. Making phone calls is an alternative, but it is not enough. Video-calls... would that work? It is nice to hear your children and friends and see them, but one would rather feel them, kiss them, cuddle them or smell them. Visits in the garden, behind a gate, might look like a solution, but the heart shrinks when the contact is distanced.

Maybe we should organize visits anyway and dress up in protective gear and cuddle and hug. I know what I would prefer. How about you? Let us all try to come up with a beautiful and satisfying solution.... and fast!

Because love is what we need.  
*Ria Evers-Dokter*

# At Your Service

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# US Navy shows the flag off Venezuela



## The guided-missile destroyer USS William P. Lawrence shows the colors off Venezuela.

Last week an Arleigh Burke-class guided missile destroyer, the *USS William P. Lawrence*, conducted a freedom of navigation operation (FONOP) 16 miles off the coast of Venezuela to challenge what the U.S. considers the Maduro government's excessive maritime claims. Long standing international law decrees that a nation controls a 12-nautical mile territorial sea along its coast. Beyond that, vessels of all nations are free to navigate the open oceans. Venezuela claims a 24-nautical mile "Venezuelan Contiguous Zone."

The United States accepts neither the 24-mile territorial claim nor the gov-

ernment making it. The U.S. and almost 60 other countries recognize Interim President Juan Guaido and the Venezuelan National Assembly he leads as the legitimate government of Venezuela. U.S. ships conducted FONOPs off Venezuela in June and July as well.

The Navy and Coast Guard engage in intensive counter narcotics operations in the Caribbean. The U.S. Navy says it conducts freedom of navigation operations worldwide to demonstrate the United States' commitment to uphold the rights, freedoms, access and lawful uses of international waters and airspace guaranteed to all nations. *DMR*

# Do masks stop Covid 19?

Yes, is the answer according to Hackensack Meridian Health, CDC, (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) and WHO (World Health Organization).

They help in two ways:

One - reduce airborne respiratory droplets. Cloth face masks act as an extra layer of protection in addition to the other safety measures: social distancing and frequent hand washing. If everyone does their part, it decreases the amount of respiratory droplets in the air and prevents the spread of Covid 19.

Two - creates a physical barrier. An N95 mask is said to block up to 95 percent of small particles in the air and that includes the Covid 19 viral particles.

According to a Stanford study, a homemade cloth mask works as well or even better than a surgical mask if it is made correctly from the right materials. WHO recommends they have at least three layers of different materials to be most effective.

The outside layer should be made of a somewhat water resistant material of polyester/cotton or nylon blend. The middle layer should be a material similar to vacuum cleaner bags or three ply tissues. The inner layer should be a material that draws moisture from the face like old gym attire or 100 percent cotton t-shirts.



All masks should fit correctly without any gaps on the sides and it needs to cover your mouth, nose and chin. Wash your hands before putting it on and then avoid touching the mask once it is on. Wash your hands before removing it. Store the mask in a clean plastic resealable bag if it isn't dirty or wet so you can reuse it again. Wash the mask in hot water if possible, with soap or detergent at least once a day. Do not share your mask with others.

The CDC recommends face masks should be worn in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult like grocery stores, pharmacies etc.

A fabric mask can protect others around you. To protect yourself and prevent the spread of Covid 19, remember to keep at least one meter distance from others, clean your hands frequently and thoroughly and avoid touching your face and mask. *Julie Morgan*

# 10,000,000 pets go missing each year.



## FindMyPet.HELP.

Did you know that worldwide, about 10 million pets go missing worldwide each year, and only about 20% are reunited with their owners?

Of course you can get GPS collars to track your pet (until the batteries die), or chips from your vet (As long as you keep informing the local vet/shelter every time you move and only useful if someone catches and takes your pet to the shelter) to try and find a missing pet, but none of these things help your nerves when your baby is gone.

So, being pet people, we came up with an idea while living on Curaçao. Everyone has a mobile phone, so why not enlist all pet owners and lovers into

becoming a "Crowd Finding" network.

Once we came to Bonaire, we continued working on the project, and are now close to launching it, initially here and then expanding to other countries..

Once we have the FindMyPet system working well, the next logical step is FindMyKid (Over 8 million children go missing each year worldwide), then FindMyOldFolks (Dementia, Alzheimers), and even FindMyStuff (Missing or stolen items).

To see what we are doing, and to follow our progress, please visit us at [www.FindMyPet.help](http://www.FindMyPet.help) If you would like to help with it, email me at [brian@findmypet.help](mailto:brian@findmypet.help) *Brian Niessen*



# BONAIRE SKY PARK

*Mars and Venus*

## October is the month of Mars

As was the case in 2018, the year 2020 will be a spectacular year for Mars. The Red Planet arrives at opposition to the Sun on Oct. 13, in the zodiacal constellation of Pisces, visible from dusk to dawn and shining at an eye-popping magnitude of -2.6, a full three times brighter than Sirius; brighter than even mighty Jupiter! So bright does it become that between Sept. 29 and Oct. 28 it will supplant Jupiter as the second-brightest planet and become the third-brightest object in the nighttime sky (next to the moon and Venus). Mars will also be 30 degrees higher in the sky compared to 2018, and will be far better accessible for Northern Hemisphere observers. On Oct. 6 at 10:18 a.m. EDT (14:30 GMT), its distance from Earth at that moment will be 38.57 million miles (62.06 million km). Not until September 2035 will it come so close again.

From: *The 10 Must-See Skywatching Events to Look for in 2020* By Joe Rao <https://www.space.com/39231-top-skywatching-events-this-year.html>

## How Venus got its groove back

Hey there Venutian Vagabonds, Voluciferous vivacious Trace here to point you in the direction of our voluptuous neighbor planet, Venus.

Venus was named for the Roman goddess of Love and Beauty -- similar to Aphrodite in Greece.

As it is closer to the sun than we are, Venus will often appear in the morning before the sun or just after it sets. For this reason the ancient Greeks actually had TWO names for this one planet - the Greeks called it Phosphorus and Hesperus -- morning star and evening star. They finally realized it was just one planet around 30 BCE!

Only the sun and moon are brighter in the sky than Venus, which makes it easy to find! Wake up early (around 5am, and Venus will already be well above the horizon), shining bright and pure. What a stunner. Get out there and share her story while you Keep lookin' up!

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

*"Thank you Holy Spirit for the favor received ". P M*

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

- For any inquiries of your Cargo(arrival / invoices / payments), please call or e-mail us at 717-8922 / [info@rocargo.com](mailto:info@rocargo.com) and [frontdesk@rocargo.com](mailto:frontdesk@rocargo.com) and avoid visiting our offices unnecessarily.
- Kindly pay your invoices through online banking and please e-mail proof of remittance to [frontdesk@rocargo.com](mailto:frontdesk@rocargo.com)
- Pickup & Deliveries are on appointment, for arrangements please call or e-mail us at [warehouse@rocargo.com](mailto:warehouse@rocargo.com) and [frontdesk@rocargo.com](mailto:frontdesk@rocargo.com) (use both e-mails)



# The BONAIRE REPORTER online

*news that has broken since the printed issue*



## No additional positive cases of Covid-19.

Oct 18, 2020

There are no additional positive cases of Covid-19.

On October 18th there are 7 active cases of Covid-19 on Bonaire. 121 persons have recovered and 1 person has been admitted to hospital.

It remains important that everyone gets tested in case they have complaints. 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.

## Government extends support package for the Caribbean Netherlands

Oct 16 2020

The government decided today to extend the support and recovery package for residents and businesses on Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba due to the corona virus, with another nine months, until the 12th of July 2021. Residents and businesses on Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba are part of the Netherlands and can consequently make use of similar measures as in the European Netherlands.

The corona crisis has an enormous impact on the community of the Caribbean Netherlands. The three islands have also been hit hard economically. The tourism sector, which drives a large part of the economy, has come to a standstill. In fact, Saba and St. Eustatius have been closed for the outside world for six months.

The government is therefore extending the subsidy regulation for wage costs and loss of income by nine months. In addition, the public entities will be financially compensated for the loss of tax income and additional costs incurred due to the corona virus. There is also an extension and expansion of the fixed costs compensation regulation.

The extension of this support and recovery package was sent to the Parliament today on behalf of the State Secretary for the Interior and Kingdom Relations, the Ministers of Economic Affairs and Climate, the Ministers of Finance and the State Secretary of Social Affairs and Employment.

State Secretary Raymond Knops says on behalf of the government:

“The medical and economic situation on Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba remains worrisome. There is currently no prospect of improvement for the three islands. With this extension of various measures, we protect the incomes of residents and businesses for a long period of time. We hope that most jobs will be kept with this. These are difficult times, where a lot will be demanded of the community. At the same time, the government is convinced that even in this crisis the resilience of the islands will ensure that together, government and community on both sides of the ocean, we will get out of this.”



## Speech Island Governor Rijna Oktober 15th

Oct 15 2020

The figures from the past period show that the number of positive test results is decreasing. We have not received any new reports since last Friday, which means things are moving in the right direction on our island. However, it is still too early to draw firm conclusions. Last week on Monday and Tuesday, October 5 and 6, we did receive a total of 14 positive test results. This seems quite some time ago, but we will only know in due course whether other people, associated with these positive cases, have also become ill. The people who have tested positive have been in isolation since their tests, but we do not yet know the source of infection for the majority of this group. These unknown sources may have infected others who have not had themselves tested yet. This is why it is important to wait and see whether this peak will cause additional infections or not.

I would like to share with you some other insights from our analysis. Firstly, let's look at the place of infection for those cases with a known source. Infections in the work place are less common than in the previous period. The home environment is still the location producing numerous infections. People who become infected outside their homes, take the infection home and infect other household members. In order to protect your loved ones, you should especially observe the measures outside of your home.

As before, we do not see any infections in schools or in the hospitality sector.

We also observe that there is a shift in the age category of the people who become infected. Compared to two weeks ago, more adults in the age group of 20-40 years have been infected. The number of infections among the elderly and children is still relatively low, which is favorable.

Finally, we observe that far fewer people are having tests than in the previous weeks. As said earlier, this may have various causes. There may be fewer people with symptoms. We are also aware, however, that people do not always want to get tested; because then they have to stay home to wait for the result, or because they are afraid that others will find out that they are positive. This is why I would like to appeal to you yet again: if you have any symptoms, please get tested! Make sure to protect the health of the people around you. Also, I would like to ask you to support each other. Do not judge someone who has tested positive. When someone has not had any symptoms for 24 hours they are considered to be recovered. At that time we can be sure that that person can no longer infect others. In these cases there is no need to avoid someone. We are all jointly responsible for keeping COVID-19 under control as much as possible, so let's do that together.

# Graphs presented by Dr. Marian Luinstra-Passchier Speech Oct 15, 2020

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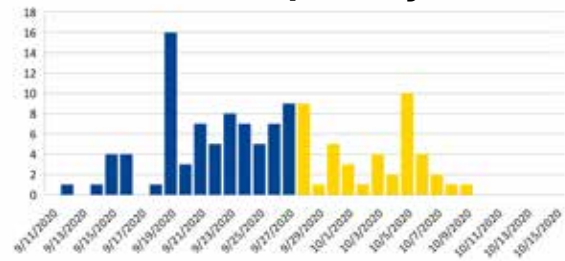
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## Kantidat di kontagio nobo pa dia desde 11 di sèptèmber

### Cases per day



Liña di informashon virús di corona: 0800-0800

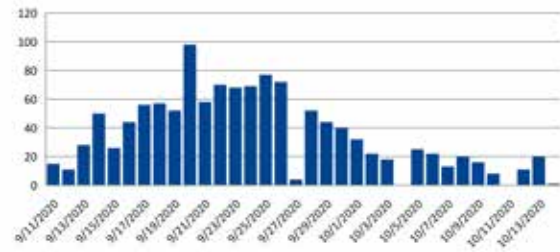


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## Kantidat di tèst pa dia hasí dor di PG desde 11 di sèptèmber

### Tests per day



Liña di informashon virús di corona: 0800-0800

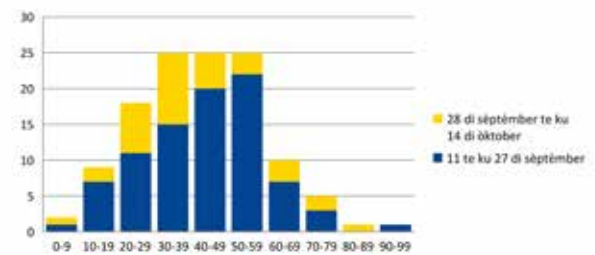


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## Repartishon di edat den kategoria di 10 aña

### Cases by date and age



Liña di informashon virús di corona: 0800-0800

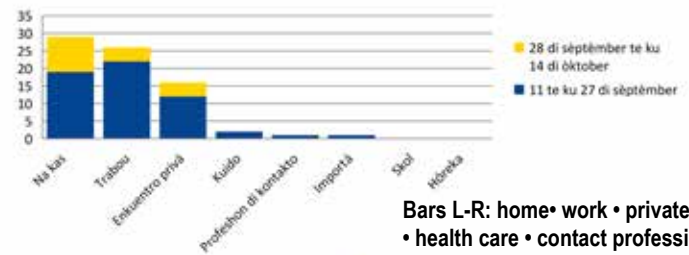


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## Sitio di kontagio ku por haña nan fuente

### Cases by place of infection



Bars L-R: home • work • private gatherings  
• health care • contact professions  
• imported • school • hospitality industry

Liña di informashon virús di corona: 0800-0800

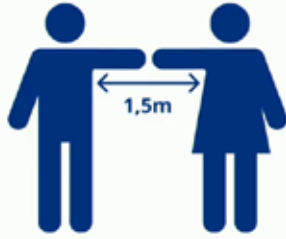


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Largura di dos brasa di un adulto ta mas o ménos 1.5 meter



*"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



## April, May, & June Corals

Latin name	Common Name	Spawning Window	DAYS AFM				DAYS AFM				DAYS AFM			
			CALENDAR DATE				CALENDAR DATE				CALENDAR DATE			
			SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME
<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													
			SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME
<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

## August Corals

Latin name	Common Name	Spawning Window	DAYS AFM													
			CALENDAR DATE													
			SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	
<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	18:58	18:57	18:57	18:56	18:56	18:55	18:55

## September Corals

Latin name	Common name	Spawning Window	DAYS AFM													
			CALENDAR DATE													
			SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	
<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

## October Corals

Latin name	Common Name	Spawning Window	DAYS AFM													
			CALENDAR DATE													
			SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	
<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

## November Corals

Latin name	Common name	Spawning Window	DAYS AFM													
			CALENDAR DATE													
			SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	
<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

## August/September/October Sponges, Gorgonians, & Others

Latin name	Common Name	Spawning Window	DAYS AFM													
			CALENDAR DATE													
			SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	SUNSET TIME	
<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

### 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](http://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](mailto:carmabilog@gmail.com). To contribute to the CRC spawning database, contact [v.chamberland@secore.org](mailto: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.

