



COVID developments and weather news since we went to print - page 13+

New film explores self sustainability

Bonaire is working to get back to its roots and grow its own food. For too many years the island has depended on food importation and many people have realized Bonaire needs to be more self-sustainable. Openbaar Lichaam Bonaire (OLB) has a short film series in the works, "Di Simma pa produkto", (From seed to product), to draw public interest and promote planting sustainability.

The five to eight minute films are being produced by Casy Roosje Creates. The first episode is set to air on October 25 on Facebook and perhaps television.

Episode one profiles four Bonaire companies involved in growing and distributing fresh vegetables to make the island more self sustainable. Viewers will see the unique and varied ways these individuals are bringing food to the table. Episode two will focus on the efficiency, economics and just how eco-friendly the individual planting procedures are. The third episode explains the commerce side of growing, in other words, how does it get from seed to the store.

Bon Tera, owned and run by Arie Boers, has been in operation since October 2018. Arie grows vegetables in a huge 4300 sq meter greenhouse on a half hectare of land leased through the destination agriculture program. His unique growing system uses Forteco coco slabs, a completely organic growing material made from husks. The coco has a huge air holding capacity and retains moisture. Arie rotates the crops every few months and recycles the coco soil to grow other plants for sustainability. A minimal amount of fertilizer is used for growing. He hopes to use more of the coco to cut back on his water usage of 300,000 liters per month.

Bon Tera produces a wide assortment of vegetables:

small cucumbers, mixed salad, tropical spinach, arugula, sweet peppers, long bean, micro greens, mint, mung beans, bok choy and basil.

Arie said, "Growing here on Bonaire helps us grow a little less reliant on tourism. We start with seeds and have an end product. I don't think we should ever go back to the way it was before."

Bon Tera is open to the public for purchases Tues and Thurs from 2pm to 5:30pm. Products are available at Van den Tweel, Warehouse and Terra Basket.



Lauri Janssen of Bonaire Daily Fresh looks on as videographer Casy Roosje gets just the right shot for the film "Di Simma pa produkto."

LVV is the agriculture and live stock division of OLB. Manager Maurice Adrians has spearheaded quite a few improvements in the last six months including a thriving new outdoor garden. But the latest and most exciting is a new concept for leasing LVV land to professional or individual growers. This new idea will make use of LVV's 50 hectares of land by increasing agricultural growth and reduce food imports.

Plots for professional growers are 3000 sq. meters and individuals or families can lease plots from 500 to 2000 sq meters. Price for the pro plots is \$1500 per year and price for the smaller ones has yet to be determined. Recycled water is priced at \$1.50 per 1000 cu liters and WEB drinking water is \$4.50 per 1000 cu liters.

The first professional plot is going to Bonaire Daily Fresh (See Reporter Issue 18). The contract should be signed any day.

LVV is growing three different beans, papaya, okra, cucumber chiquito, eggplant, moringa, pumpkin, watermelon, and animal food.

Bonaire Daily Fresh is a sustainable, agricultural venture using Aquaponics for growing vegetables. The owners Bob and Laurie Janssen created a prototype greenhouse in their backyard in hopes of graduating to a bigger system on LVV land. Their success has been rewarded and following the official contract signing, they will construct a 1250 sq meter green house. Aquaponics is an organic soil free way to grow vegetables with the use of recirculating water from fish tanks. The fish water

New film explores self sustainability, continued on page 5

Covid situation is improving

Dr. Marian Luinstra-Passchier reported on recent covid developments as of October 15. The number of positive test results is decreasing, despite a spike of 14 new cases during October 5 and 6. At the time Dr. Luinstra-Passchier spoke no new cases had been reported for a week.

Dr. Luinstra-Passchier also announced that infections in the work place have become less common. The home environment is still the location producing numerous infections. No infections have been reported in the hospitality sector or schools. More adults in the age group of 20 - 40 years have been infected, while the number of infections among the elderly and children is still relatively low,

Far fewer people are getting tested. That is good news, although it raises the possibility that people are avoiding testing. Some may be reluctant to be tested because they could be quarantined while waiting for the results. As well, Dr. Luinstra-Passchier says, sometimes people are stigmatized and avoided by others for having tested positive. She assures people that anyone who has been symptom free for 24 hours has recovered and can be considered noncontagious.

In other news, the Directorate of Supervision & Enforcement reports that, with a few exceptions, businesses are conforming to the new rules. A few hospitality establishments have been warned for doing business from behind the counter after 10 pm, in violation of the closing times. For each violation, businesses can receive a cease and desist order up to \$23000. Also, a business can be forced to close for a time if they break the rules repeatedly.

At the time of writing corona infections on Curaçao are trending down after an upward spike. On October 15 the island had more than 300 active cases, as of October 19 the active cases were down to 292.

In Aruba there has been a significant decrease. More than 1,600 people were infected a month ago. Last week only 343 active cases were registered.

Sint Maarten seems to have fewer cases. But they cannot afford to do much testing.

The BES islands have 15 infections compared to 78 last month. *DMR*

Covid package extended for nine months

The Hague has extended until July 12, 2021 the support and recovery package for all residents and businesses in the Netherlands, including the Caribbean Netherlands.

Island mourns the passing of Dr. Hermelijn

Doctor Michael Hermelijn died of covid related problems in the CMC hospital in Curaçao on October 14. Dr. Hermelijn was a beloved general practitioner on Bonaire with many devoted patients.

Hope for Bonaire tourism promised

The European Netherlands currently considers Bonaire a code orange destination, a designation that discourages tourists because they are expected to self-quarantine for 10 days upon their return. The OLB is applying for code yellow, the designation Curaçao currently enjoys. Code yellow countries are considered safe, although precautions are suggested. People can face the possibility of getting stranded by a code change during their visit.

According to BONHATA, Bonaire seemed headed for a banner tourism year when 2020 started off, then crashed 80 %-90% in the second quarter when the borders were closed. When Bonaire started accepting visitors from five European countries, the occupancy rate recovered quickly to around 50%, even though the North American market remained closed. The numbers crashed again on September 21 when Bonaire was declared code orange.

Governor Rijna announcement last week that the island has appealed to the Netherlands for code yellow designation and

The Netherlands presents reform package for Curaçao

As part of its Caribbean reform plans, the Netherlands has announced a country package for Curaçao that targets four problem areas: government and finance, economic reform, care and education, and strengthening the rule of law. A Body for Reform and Development will be established to implement the Curaçao package as a set of coherent programs. While the government recognizes that not everything can be achieved at once, it insists that “only an integrated approach will be able to provide the necessary trend break with the past.”

The reform package addresses several well known, historically imbedded problems of governance on Curaçao and proposes positive solutions for them. Cross-border crime is prevalent, for example, such as drug smuggling and human smuggling, arms trade and money laundering. The “interdependence between the upper and the underworld” threatens the proper functioning of the democratic constitutional state.

Other targets of the reform package are: The costly, ineffective public sector, which is vulnerable to corruption and political influence. The need for a robust tax system to counter Curaçao’s low tax compliance and for adequately organized tax services that are free of political influence. Curaçao needs a stable, regulated financial sector that can support the real economy. The reform package also provides for broad improvements in education and health care.

The Netherlands has stipulated that any future support for Curaçao will depend on the island’s compliance with, and successful implementation of, the reform package. *DMR (Bonaire.nu)*

MPs ask what’s up between the EU and Venezuela?

Some MPs at The Hague have raised serious concerns about what they call “a secret deeply-integrated European Union mission to Caracas.” The issue discussed by the mission was the Maduro government’s proposal to postpone the next Venezuelan parliamentary elections. The MPs wonder what authority the EU delegates had, who they talked to in Venezuela, and whether the discussions “legitimized” the Maduro government and its election plans.

According to the MPs, the official EU position supported by the Netherlands is that, “regardless of the election date, the outcome of the elections will only be recognized by the European Union if other requirements are also met, such as the release of political prisoners, a fair election framework, the election participation of all candidates and political parties, the return of exiles and an impartial composition of the National Electoral Council.” The MPs asked for reassurance from their own government that the Netherlands considers that policy to still be in force. *DMR (Koninkrijk.nu)*

Pensionado life certificates discontinued

Retirees living in the BES islands no longer need to inform Pensioenfondsen Caribisch Nederland (PCN) that they are alive. That is, they do not have to submit an annual life certificate (attestatie de vita). On the other hand, PCN does need to be informed when a retired person dies. Then it can stop making pension payments immediately. If payments continue, PCN has to recover over payments later from the surviving relatives.

PCN no longer needs the life certificates because it now has access to the Municipal Personal Records Database in the BES islands. The database can assure it who is alive and who isn’t. On the other hand, retirees who collect their pensions outside the BES islands are not in the database. So they still have to submit a life certificate every year and will continue to receive notices. *DMR (BES Reporter)*

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Covid on Bonaire

as of October 30, 2020

1 active	0 hospitalized
130 recovered	3 deceased
134 positive	2427 tested
2293 negative	32 in quarantine

Phish Phactory moves forward



behind the business, Suus Doherty Zelders and Eunan Doherty.

Suus, originally from the Netherlands and Eunan from Ireland came to Bonaire in August 2012 and since 2014 they've worked hard to make Phish Phactory the respected business it is today. People come to Phish Phactory for the quality. And Eunan and Suus are proud to announce a couple of new developments a new location and staff member otherwise known as a daughter named Mia.

But the Phish Phactory story began years before when Eunan and Suus met in Thailand working as dive instructors. From there they moved on to Australia and worked in the dive industry, hospitality and jam for Elfreds of the Peninsula. Ready to move on again, Eunan sent out 70 emails across the Caribbean to various islands for diving work.

"I'd always heard about Bonaire and we had to start somewhere," said Eunan

They worked for Dive Friends-Yellow Submarine and Sand Dollar initially and thought it might be a good idea to make wetsuits, which never happened but something else did.

Phish Phactory, more or less began as a lucky accident when wooden boat builder, previous boatyard owner and brilliant sailor Lelle Davidson gave Eunan and Suus a sewing machine to help out repairing some sails. And after that, Lelle turned out to be the go to guy, best friend and source of knowledge.

Eunan said, "The first job was a massive catamaran. We carried the machine onto the dock at Harbour Village from Lelle's pickup. We worked eight hours in the sun."

After that Eunan dived into buying more equipment, books and manuals to learn how to make repair sails and even started designed his own stuff. Word spread and



Eunan works on a sail in the new work studio.

they began specializing in outdoor cushions and marine canvas projects.

"At the very start we accidentally bought the wrong material for our projects and had to redo the first 10 jobs. People heard about us redoing all this work and word got round Phish Phactory was dependable with a great follow up service, so even a rookie mistake turned into something wonderful in the end" said Eunan

From the start they have always invested in their company to do the job right. They operate five industrial machines for their projects and materials are ordered.

Suus said, "I'm so proud of this guy. He has taught himself everything and together we have made a real success of this."

Their business includes repairing sails, kite surfing sails, custom upholstery and cushions, canvas projects and boat roofs.

"When we first opened the shop in Hato in 2015, we took in 15 kites in the first couple of days. We could really utilise our skills and the great advice on techniques we picked up in our first year from colleagues from around the world." said Eunan.

Phish Phactory, continued on page 4

FOR SALE Sabadeco Crown Shores 40 Spacious Villa with Apartment



- Lot size : 1909 m2 / 20548 sq. ft. owned land
- House : 3 bedrooms / 3.5 bathrooms
- Apartment : 2 bedrooms / 1 bathroom

- Tropical well maintained garden with pool
- Large covered porch with great views
- Excellent rental possibilities

Listed for \$595,000 US Dollar



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 http://www.facebook.com/REMAXBonaire



Inside the Phactory with the whole crew.

Canvas is the predominant material for projects and nothing goes to waste. Suus takes all the scraps and recycles the old stuff to make amazing bags, pocket books and even dog collars. They even recycle old sails that people discard.

Suuz said, "We recycle everything we can. We love our island and want to maintain its natural beauty. This is why we strive to have less waste by using anything we can."

After so many years of working and focusing on the business, the couple said its so great to finally own something. The couple is combining work with raising a family and still putting final touches on the business and their new home to find

the perfect balance between the two. The sewing work continues for Eunan but Suus' bags and accessories are on hold until Covid recedes and or tourism re-starts.

Eunan and Suus work with local non-profits Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire (STCB), Bonaire Sailing School Association and SLP department from SGB Bonaire (special needs education

For all your marine sewing projects call 780-9124 or email phishphactory@gmail.com. The new address is Kaya Beni 6A. Phish Phactory bags and accessories are available at Beach Vibes in downtown Kralendijk. Photos and story Julie Morgan



Ask Kate Bonaire real estate advice

Question: Is the down payment for a home on Bonaire 15% or 30%? I've seen both and am confused. Thanks, Marge

Hi Marge,
Good question! Usually buyers put down a 15% deposit within 10 business days of the fully signed purchase agreement. This is true for both cash buyers and buyers who are applying for a mortgage with a Bonaire bank. This deposit is held in escrow by the Notaris, which is the closing agent. The balance of the purchase price plus closing costs are sent when the buyer receives the final closing statement from the Notaris, generally about two weeks prior to the sale.

If it is a financed sale with a Bonaire bank, the bank requires the buyer to pay 30% of the purchase price of the home plus closing costs, and the bank will mortgage 70% of the purchase price. In this case, you would still put 15% down as a deposit, then an additional 15% plus closing costs when you receive the final closing statement, and the bank will loan the final 70%.

All the best,
Kate Butler and Jean Scarce
Re/Max Bonaire

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

Covid summary, tourism, continued from page 2

expects to receive it fairly shortly. Rijna also said the OLB "is preparing to create more flexible conditions for inbound travel for the islands around us, especially Curaçao."

Curaçao, with a code yellow designation, on October 19 opened to direct flights from Florida, and from Aruba and St. Maarten as well. Curaçao has opened the airport to fifteen Caribbean islands and 35 countries. Previously, direct flights from New York, New Jersey and Connecticut and also from Canada

were allowed. The Dutch have been able to fly back to Curaçao for a long time. Passengers from all countries must submit a negative corona test. DMR

BONHATA is asking the government to open to tourists from the U.S. See story on page 13 this issue.

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

POLICE REPORT

Property crime

On Wednesday, October 7, presumably between 12:30 and 2 pm in the parking lot of the sports hall at Kaya Amsterdam, a license plate numbered MF-3015 was stolen.

Between Wednesday, October 7 and Friday, October 9 an outboard motor was stolen from a boat docked near the pier in Sorobon.

Arrests

On Thursday, October 8, around 11.30 pm, two men were arrested for attempted theft and failure to obey a police order. The first suspect was caught by a patrol while fiddling with a container on a construction site. The suspect escaped and drove off in a flatback truck. A little later he was found on foot in a mondi in the area. Here he tried to flee again, but was overtaken and arrested. The second suspect is the owner of the flatback truck that was used in the attempted theft.

In the early morning hours on Saturday, October 17, a house search took place at the Kaya Maria. Drugs and cash were confiscated. A woman, 38, and two men aged 57 and 56 were held. Investigation

in the case is ongoing.

On Monday, October 19, around 2:45 am, two men, both 19 years old, were arrested for driving without a helmet, without a driver's license, without insurance and for violation of the Identification Act and theft. A scooter, probably from theft, was seized.

Traffic accidents and violations

In the late afternoon hours on Wednesday, October 7, a traffic check was held at Kaya C.E.B. Hellmund. 36 vehicles were checked. One fine was issued for driving without a helmet, 31 fines for driving without a seat belt and three fines for driving without insurance.

At around 1:45 pm on Sunday October 11, a pick-up and a passenger car collided on Kaminda Tras di Montaña. The driver of the pick-up stated that he was driving towards Playa when the car in front suddenly braked to turn left. He could not brake in time and crashed into the rear of the car at full speed, after which he drifted to a halt in the mondi along the road. The driver and passenger of the pick-up were both slightly injured and were checked on the spot by the ambulance personnel. The

driver of the car complained of neck pain and was taken to hospital by ambulance.

Sunday, October 11, around 8.45 pm, on Kaminda Tra'i Montaña a car ran off the road and collided with a stationary car along the road. A person who was standing by the stationary car was injured and taken to hospital by ambulance. Traffic police have opened an investigation into this case.

In the early morning hours of Monday, October 12, on Bulevar Gobernador Nicolaas Debrot, a car skidded and hit a wall near a restaurant. Due to the risk of skidding due to the water on the road surface, the road along the marina was closed. One can use the new temporary road.

At around 6 pm on Tuesday, October 13, a collision between two cars took place on E.E.G. Bulevar at Donkey Beach. Car A, driving towards Belnem, was surprised by car B which suddenly drove from the shoulder onto the street. The driver of car B was taken to hospital by ambulance.

On Thursday, October 15, around 5:30 pm, two cars collided on Kaya Monseigneur Nieuwindt. One driver was treated on the spot by ambulance personnel. The other driver was very shocked but was not injured.

Vehicles have been checked at various locations in recent days. Fines were is-

sued for driving without a helmet, driving without a seat belt, driving without valid insurance and license plate. These checks will be held regularly. Safe traffic is the responsibility of all of us.

Fire and public safety

In the early evening hours of Sunday, October 11, the police station received a report of a fire in the kitchen of a building on the Bulevar Gobernador Nicolaas Debrot. The fire brigade extinguished the fire. Because the building smelled of gas, the fire brigade carried out some extra checks. After this, the residents could continue their evening.

On Thursday, October 15, the police station received a report that a man had fallen down a staircase near a house on Kaya Tambu. The man complained of shoulder and hip pain and was taken to hospital by ambulance. Labor inspectorate was notified of the accident.

How to contact the Police

If every second counts:
emergency number 911 (free)
If you want to give an (anonymous) tip,
phone (+599) 717 7251
If there is no emergency,
phone (+599) 715 8000 or 717 8000

How to contact the tax office

Since closing because of corona virus, the office of the Belastingdienst Bonaire has been inundated with e-mail queries. A new address is now available for any questions people would normally expect to ask at the counter: Balie@belastingdienst-cn.nl. These might include:

- Questions about all types of declarations;
- Requests, such as: DIGI-D, Crib number, payment arrangement and deferment of payment;
- Changes, such as: reporting a change of bank account number and / or change of address;
- For all your Customs questions: legal aid statements, income statement.
- You can also make an appointment for a personal telephone conversation at no cost. The Belastingdienst will call you back then.

The e-mail address help_desk@belastingdienst-cn.nl will remain available, but only for IT and online issues.

To physically hand in documents on Bonaire, you can also deposit them in the letterbox next to the main entrance of the office of the Belastingdienst. *DMR*

Proxies okay in Holland, not here

To give people more alternatives to voting in public during the pandemic, the Netherlands is expanding the rules for voting by proxy during the March 17, 2021 election for the House of Representatives. However, the BES will be exempted. Proxy voting still has a bad reputation in the islands because of past abuses. *DMR (Koninkrijk.nu)*

Dutch include Caribbean in defense planning

In a memorandum 'Fighting for a Secure Future,' Defense Minister Ank Bijleveld-Schouten presented her vision of the potential threat scenarios the Dutch military should be capable of countering. She was adamant that, "Defense is a kingdom affair. The first main task of the Dutch army is, protection of its own and allied territory, including the Caribbean part of the Kingdom."

Bijleveld-Schouten listed several possible Caribbean security concerns: the situation in Venezuela, natural disasters such as hurricanes, effects of climate change, and organized crime. She envisioned, in her words, a potential "Doomsday scenario": New oil discoveries lead to border conflicts in the north of South America and escalate militarily and destabilize the region."

As a result, Bijleveld-Schouten, continued to hypothesize, "Curaçao and Aruba are inundated with refugees . . . The large number of refugees creates a food shortage . . . Riots break out on the islands and the population is plundered. Armed organized international gangs take advantage of the unstable situation by transporting large quantities of drugs and weapons and by exploiting the flow of refugees (robbery, extortion, recruiting, smuggling). Violent robberies also take place on ships anchored off the islands."

Bijleveld-Schouten insists the Dutch people must be resilient, must invest in the men and women of the armed forces who defend their values, and must be prepared to protect the Netherlands, including the Caribbean part of the Kingdom. *DMR (Koninkrijk.nu)*

Visit us!



provides a natural fertilizer for the plants and the plants help to purify the water for the fish so no chemical fertilizers are needed.

Laurie and Bob said, "We are very excited and honored to be the first to receive a plot from the new initiative. We plan on building a showcase system that will not only produce food in a sustainable way, but will support ecotourism on the island."

Daily Fresh veggies are available for sale at Bon di Gro and Terra Basket or you can contact them via their Facebook page for free delivery.

Terra Basket doesn't grow vegetables but it is doing its best to provide the freshest home grown, non-imported food for Bonaire. The little store owned by Kayla Ursula opened September 4 and is located in Hato. Kayla, originally from Curaçao, wants to sell all Bonaire's agricultural products. Presently the store carries a lot of

fresh fruit and vegetables from Curaçao as they grow 40 percent of their food. Shoppers can find local Bonaire products from Bon Tera, LVV, Crusada, Bonaire Afield and Daily Fresh. The store is open Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri. from 6-11:30am/ 3-7pm; Sat 7am-7pm and Sun 9am – 12 pm.

From seed to product will be produced in Dutch with Papiamentu subtitles. *Story and photos by Julie Morgan*

Page one photos (Left to -Right):

LVV director Maurice Adrians, Lauri and Bob Janssens of Bonaire Daily Fresh, Kayla Ursula of Terra Basket and Arie Boers of Bon Tera.

Councilor Coffie questions shooting goats in Slagbaai

Council member Daisy Coffie of Fractie Coffie has disclosed three surprises regarding the Slagbaai portion of Washington Slagbaai National Park.

First, Bonaire does not actually own Slagbaai.

Second, the organisation that does own Slagbaai is willing to hand over Slagbaai to Bonaire, on the condition that STINAPA remove the goats.

Third, STINAPA, as part of its own environmental protection plans, is already removing the goats by shooting them.

Coffie revealed this information in an October 18 letter addressed to Lieutenant Governor Edison Rijna and distributed to the public in a press release.

Regarding the ownership confusion . . . In the beginning, Bonaire acquired the Washington plantation from the Erven Herrera family. CARMABI acquired the Slagbaai plantation. (CARMABI is Caribbean Research and Management of Biodiversity, a non-profit foundation on Curaçao established in 1955.) CARM-

ABI holds Slagbaai through the still extant STINAPA Netherlands Antilles, the predecessor to STINAPA Bonaire. Both Bonaire and CARMABI designated STINAPA Bonaire to manage the resulting national park.

In her letter to the Governor, Councilor Coffie acknowledges that the goat population is out of hand and needs to be reduced, for the longer term benefit of both the Park and the goats themselves. So she agrees with STINAPA's shooting them. She does object, however, to the practice of leaving their carcasses to decompose. She suggests they should be "herded together to be taken to the slaughterhouse and used as food for our people." She raised the issue of the shooting endangering visitors to the park as well.

Coffie also asked whether the OLB is aware of CARMABI'S conditional offer to return Slagbaai to Bonaire; and if so, are they pursuing it? *DMR*



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.

Create Crystal Clarity

Reflection For Today

Image that moment of clarity, when you suddenly realize that it is really possible for you.

Tip For Today

You are walking from here to there but your glasses are smeared.

Will you be able to see clearly where you're going? And more importantly, do you know where you're going?

Whether it's living your purpose in life, realizing your dreams or achieving your goals for today...creating clarity is key.

"Clarity is power. The clearer you are about what you want, the greater your chances of achieving it."

- Billy Cox

Define your *What, Why & How* by asking yourself these three clarifying questions:

1. *What* is it I want to have, do or be?

It starts with being very specific about *What* you want.

2. *Why* do I want have, do or be this?

This is the most important question. Your *Why* will drive you.

3. *How* can I have, do or be this?

Having a strategy sets you up for execution. Your *How* helps you to get there.

Then...take action!

Remember...

Getting from here to there requires crystal clarity followed up by taking action.

This powerful combination will greatly improve your chances of success!

Affirmation For Today

Today I am taking action with clarity, moving with ease from where I am to where I want to be.

So...

Think, be equipped, be empowered and...

Live Inspired Today!

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



(L-R): Harry Neumann, Siggie Neumann Lottra, Sanne Attevelt (Shelter manager), Willem Kalkwiek and Peter Konig.

Scuba bikers donate big money

Scuba Bikers Bonaire recently made a major donation of \$1,500.00 to Animal Shelter Bonaire! While advocating social distancing and mask wearing as appropriate, members of the motorcycle club paid a visit to the Shelter to present a generous donation. This was made possible through their weekend “rides” from which they donate the proceeds to a local organization. Shelter Manager Sanne Attevelt and Shelter House Dog Roxy were delighted to accept their gift. This is not the first time Scuba Bikers has supported the Shelter, and we are so thankful for their continuing support. Check out their Facebook page at Scuba Bikers Bonaire.

The Shelter is so grateful to Scuba Bikers for this support during the Covid-19 crisis. With the island in “lockdown” from North American tourists, the Shelter has suffered a major loss of income from our tourist related activities like the Cruise Ship Market, Happy Hour Sales at local hotels and our donation boxes around the island. Scuba Bikers Bonaire’s donation will greatly help us continue our efforts to feed and care for

the animals during this crisis.

The Shelter has seen an increase in animals being surrendered. People are unable to properly care for their animals because of loss of income. We are valiantly continuing to ensure that these animals receive the care they need. If you can help in any way, no matter how small, your support would be greatly appreciated. You can make a donation to our local bank account (MCB Account #10237800 Stichting Dierenasiel Bonaire) or phone or whatsapp the Shelter at 701-4989 to make an appointment to donate in person, or drop your donation in one of our boxes.

THANK YOU, SCUBA BIKERS BONAIRE! YOU ARE THE BEST!

Story & photo: Jane Disko



Jane Disko Sanne Attevelt Travis Sullins

Pet of the Week: Maui

Meet Maui! Maui is a really handsome seven month old, sterilized male cat with “longish” hair. He has a big, fluffy tail and so he very much resembles a Maine Coon type cat. Maui was just a few days old when he was found and brought to the shelter. He grew up in a great foster home thanks to the shelter.

But the time has come for Maui to find his forever home! He will always greet you at the door and loves to be held and petted. Maui even enjoys splashing in water and loves being on your shoulders. Sometimes he’ll even help himself up there! Maui is great with kids and other cats and would love to meet his new family! If you would like to visit Maui, please call or WhatsApp the Shelter at 701-4989 to make an appointment.



Story by Travis Sullins; Photos by Jane Disko

Pakus Di Pruga reopens



Animal Shelter Bonaire’s Pakus di Pruga (a second hand shopping market) is once again open on Saturdays from

8 am - 4 pm. Residents can again take advantage of the great deals on an enormous variety of items from furniture to clothing. In addition, you can “stay safe” and purchase excellent quality facemasks with all proceeds going to help care for the Shelter animals. Both children’s and adult masks are available in a variety of wonderful prints or basic colors. Shoppers must observe the social distancing rules to keep themselves and the Pakus volunteers safe. A limited number of people will be permitted in the inside areas at any one time. Pakus di Pruga is located on Kaya Simon Bolivar opposite Brandaris Cafe. Jane Disko

Are you the “purr-fect” cat care giver we are looking for? Animal shelter bonaire has a paid position open for Cat Care Giver/Level 2

Three days per week, 20 hours per week, Monday and Thursday, 8 am – 1 pm and 3-5 p.m, Sunday 8 am-2 pm; salary based on qualifications (minimum \$6.25/hr).

Requirements:

- Love of cats • Physically able • Bonaire sedula • Clear conduct record
- Good people skills and basic computer skills
- Speak, read and write basic English (Papiamentu a plus)

If you are the “purr-fect” person, please Email animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com with your C.V. DO NOT RESPOND VIA FACEBOOK OR MESSENGER!



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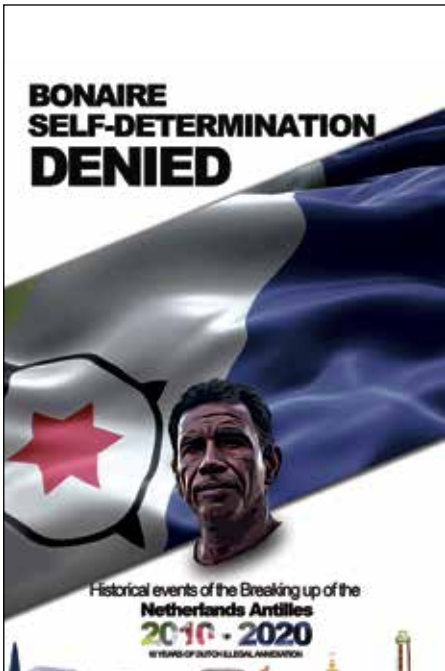
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Bonaire, Self-determination Denied by James Finies and like minded collaborators documents and commemorates the events that transpired between 2010 and 2020 in Bonaire. This includes the important decisions, situations and actions that led towards the illegal annexation of Bonaire and the consequences of the change of status that has been imposed. It shines light, desecrates and encapsulates the persons, politicians, leaders and the players actions that led to the betrayal and annexation of the Bonaire peoples on October 10, 2010 going forward to October 10, 2020.

The people of Bonaire never chose this change of status termed “public entity” also referred to as “special municipality”.

On the contrary, Bonaireans used a referendum to express overwhelming rejection of the imposed status under unequal rights in the Dutch Constitution.

The book reveals the atrocities committed against our people: social inequality, oppression of our rights and suppression of our culture on Bonaire. Imposed laws, policies, regulations, and taxes rob our people of their natural food resources and inherited land and leave them destitute. Local Bonaireans, now a shrunk and displaced population, have become a minority group on their own island in less than a decade.

Bonaire Self-Determination Denied summarizes Nos Ke Boneiru Back (We want Bonaire back) trajectory to re-list Bonaire on the Non-Self-Governing-Territories list of the United Nations. This began in 2016 when James Finies spoke in the UN’s Special Committee on Decolonization, He was the first Antillean to speak to this committee.

History has shown us that only international exposure can free our people and guarantee the right of self-determination to the Dutch colonies in the Caribbean: Sint Eustatius, Saba, Bonaire, Aruba, Curacao and Sint Maarten.

Bonaire, Self Determination Denied is scheduled for release January 2021 but is available for pre-order now for \$45. Contact nkbb.bek@gmail.com or call 599-786-4576/599-782-5664.

Youtube link of trailer-promo: https://youtu.be/dNoiZo_hNbY

Trends in the Caribbean Netherlands



The annual publication *Trends in the Netherlands* offers important data on the economy and society of the Caribbean Netherlands. This year is a special edition, as it is 10 years ago that Bonaire, Saba and St. Eustatius became special municipalities of the Netherlands. Statistics Netherlands (CBS) therefore also has

been producing statistics on the Caribbean Netherlands for 10 years.

What has happened in the last ten years on the islands with regards to the population, the economy, tourism or prices?

- “Between 2011 and 2019, the number of residents on Bonaire has grown annually with an average of 900 people.”
- “In 2018, the wages of female employees on Saba were 17% lower than those of male employees. In 2011 the difference was 23% .”
- “Between 2010 and 2019, consumer prices on St. Eustatius have increased by 25.1%. This is an average increase of 2.5% per year .”

These and a wide range of other useful statistics are included in the new CBS publication, available electronically to the public through the following link: www.cbs.nl/caribischnederland.

Hard copy. The hard copy will soon be available at our office on Bonaire. Would you like to receive a hard copy? Let CBS know, by emailing your name and address via email: caribischnederland@cbs.nl

Rehabilitating Loras

When the two confiscated parrots came in the rehabilitation center at Echo, they brought with them the sad story that poaching is still happening on island. While the rescued chicks were settling in and starting to eat wild fruits by themselves, we also welcomed seven new parrots to the rehabilitation center, most of which shared a similar story. All were badly handled by people before later being rescued by animal lovers.

It’s clear that before coming to Echo most of them did not have a nice experience with humans. Their wings, for example, were clipped in an inhumane and disastrous way. Baby parrots grow their new feathers in one month, but when wings are so badly cut, it takes more time for them to grow back, making it difficult or sometimes even impossible to fly. This clipping is a bad habit of the people who want to trade or keep parrots, which



Rescued parrot enjoys his new home

in all clarity is still happening illegally. Prevention comes down to education and awareness building on an island where the Loras have been protected for almost 70 years.



In memorium. One special parrot who contributed to education and awareness-building even before the existence of Echo was Oscar (pet parrot of George and Laura De Salvo). She will truly be missed but her beautiful memory remains with us. (Photo of Echo Founder Sam with Oscar)

Echo’s reforestation now focusing on private lands

We can already pick some native fruits like Kohara and Shimaruku that are growing in our Reforestation sites in the National Park, Yerba di Seru and Morotin. Echo is committed to monitor reforestation and to encourage biodiversity on the island although we don’t have continued funding. That’s why, again, we want to encourage local farmers to adopt more native trees and plant them out on their enclosed private property. We ask only that they give the native trees minimum care before they are established enough to survive on their own.

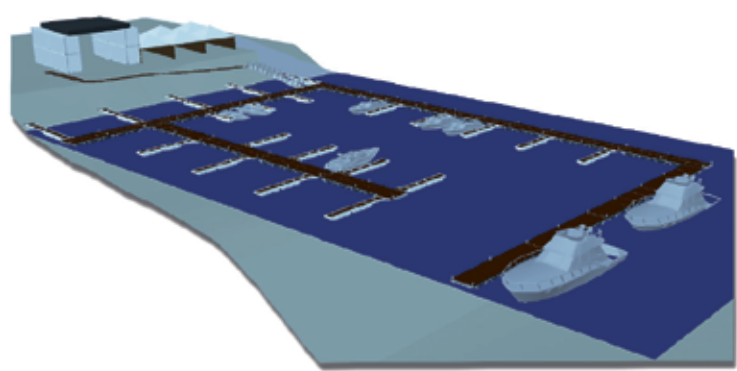
Earlier this year Kunuku Terra Bara in Tras di Montana has planted 118 native

trees grown in the Echo nurseries. Another example is Elsmarie who was the first private landowner motivated to do a big scale reforestation over the past four years. Lately she concluded her project by planting 220 native plants in the last phase of the private reforestation project in Nieuw Amsterdam.

**Are you interested in local plants?
Please make an appointment to visit and adopt your native tree.**



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Reef Glimpses

Introducing Tootsie

In 1999 a weird wind reversal caught everyone by surprise. Hurricane Lenny itself stayed north of Bonaire, but as it travelled from west to east – a reverse of the usual direction – it sent backwards waves of up to 20' high (according to Wikipedia) down upon our “protected” shoreline.

Waves crashed into the cliffs and washed out water-level areas all along our West coast. Locals became tourists, watching the action along our suddenly windward calm side. When I drove to Captain Don's Habitat that morning, I was happily surprised to discover that there were no cars parked in the spaces closest to the dive center. Happily, that was, until a wave crashed up and over the cliff, and up and over the dive center, and gave my car a salt-water shower.

When things finally calmed down, divers were able to rescue most of the furniture, dive gear, restaurant supplies, and other terrestrial debris that had been washed into the sea during the reversal. The rescue efforts at Captain Don's didn't include three plastic chair legs protruding

from the bottom, because the rest of the chair was too firmly buried to dislodge.

Between then and now, a brain coral colony began on the end of the middle chair leg. I didn't log when I first noticed it, but it was certainly more than 10 years ago. Since then I've watched that coral head grow, bleach more than once, return to health more than once, and grow, until right now it's about 15" (38 cm) in diameter. When I decided to write about it, I realized it was time to name this coral colony. Since it's round and has a stick protruding from it, my suggestion for its name is Tootsie, as in Tootsie Roll Pop.

Tootsie has grown almost perfectly spherically, and is perfectly healthy right now. Under usual circumstances, a coral head begins on a hard surface on the bottom, so the colony itself has a flat bottom. The growth of stony corals can also be modified by sunlight and shade, or by contact with gorgonian corals, sponges, or even trash. Tootsie grows on the end of a stick, up off the bottom, with no other growth nearby except the chair's other two legs -- which each support encrustations of fire coral. Tootsie is perched at



Tootsie grew on an upturned chair following Hurricane Lenny at Captain Don's Habitat house reef.

the end of that chair leg like ... well, like a Tootsie Roll Pop.

Years ago I read, in a source I trusted, that boulder-type corals take 300 years to grow a meter in diameter. Tootsie has grown to one-third that size in less than one-sixth of that time! Either my source was way off, or Tootsie is growing very robustly, surprising at a time when most coral reef life is becoming less healthy rather than more healthy – but not surprising for Bonaire. Dee Scarr

Dee has been guiding divers on Bonaire since 1982. She's written about her undersea experiences in her books, *Touch the Sea*, *The Gentle Sea*, and *Coral's Reef* (for children); in *Dive Training Magazine* from 1990 to 2000, with "Coral Glimpses" in the *Bonaire Reporter*, and now with "Reef Glimpses." Dee's books are available for purchase at the *Carib Inn* on Bonaire or through touchthesea.com.

Picture Yourself

Hanoi, Vietnam



The Reporter's own gardening expert, Angliet Baidjoe, writes:

In 2020 one of my dreams came true. I traveled to Vietnam. Starting in Hanoi, North Vietnam, we traveled by planes, touring cars, boats and even bicycles till the last big city, Ho Chi Min City in the south. We visited villages and cities, saw rare cultural and historical highlights and ancient art, going to awesome natural surroundings and enjoying the most delicious exotic East Asian food and fruits. Not to forget, the body-and foot massages and relaxing baths.

I was deeply impressed by the kind hospitality of these beautiful, hard working people. They have experienced a tragic war, but they found the strength to make their life happy again and to build a country with a strong positive belief in the future.

The photo is in Hanoi, in front of an enormous mausoleum where their beloved political leader Ho-Chi-Min rests. Close by is a huge beautiful garden, museum and the little simple house where he lived during his time as political leader

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



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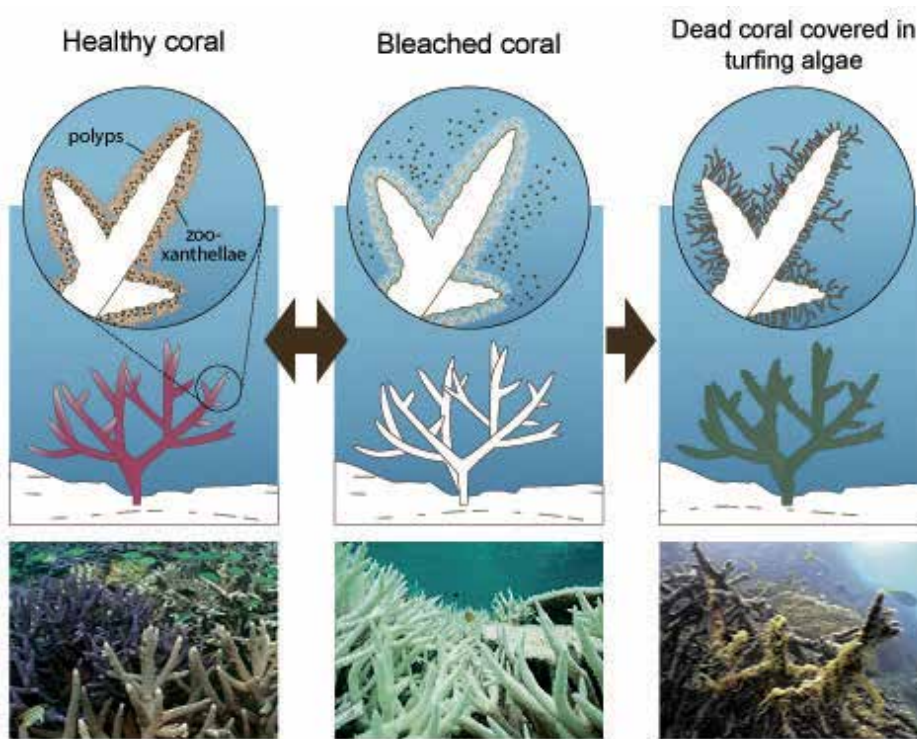
Did You Know? that corals can't stand the heat?

Global Climate Change is one of the greatest threats facing coral reefs today. Although there have always been warm and cool periods on Earth, the current rate of temperature rise is causing problems for many lifeforms, especially corals. Warmer than normal temperatures stress corals and often result in a phenomenon called coral bleaching, where the corals slowly lose their normal coloration and get paler and paler until they are completely white and look 'bleached'.

So, what's actually happening?

Corals are animals. Reef corals have special algae called zooxanthellae, or zoox, that live within their tissues. The zoox convert sunlight into energy that they give to the corals in exchange for a safe place to live. Reef building corals can't live without these zoox. The zoox, many different species with different colorations, are what give corals their colors.

When seawater heats up too quickly, zoox become stressed and release toxic chemicals that, in turn, stresses the corals. When this happens, the corals kick out the zoox. They force them right out into the water. As the corals get rid of the zoox, they also lose their coloration and become lighter and lighter until all of the zoox are gone and the coral is completely white.



Corals may live without their zoox for a short time – perhaps a few weeks – but without their main energy suppliers, the corals are slowly starving to death.

If the coral dies, fuzzy algae will start to grow on the white colony. However, if the water begins to get cooler – say cloudy skies for a week or two OR strong

winds that replace warm surface waters with cooler water from the deep – then the corals may allow the zoox back inside and they will slowly recover (referred to as rebrowning).

Coral bleaching is pretty traumatic for the corals and takes its toll, so therefore STINAPA urges divers and snorkelers to

be extra careful not to bump into corals during a coral bleaching event. In the past three years, the Great Barrier Reef lost more than 50% of its corals to coral bleaching. Other factors that may affect a coral's ability to resist bleaching is its general health. In Australia, scientists believe poor water quality may be a contributing factor to the amount of coral death they are seeing.

In Bonaire, we have had some major bleaching events, the most recent being in 2010. For the past four years, we have had some coral bleaching, but rarely did it result in corals dying. If Bonaire can manage to keep its seawater clean by treating sewage, controlling runoff and preventing direct discharge of dirty water into our coastal waters, our corals have a better chance of surviving bleaching events. Currently, our region is under NOAA's Coral Reef Watch Alert Level 2 status, meaning that the water is unusually warm for this time of year and that coral bleaching is imminent. Let's hope that, once again, our reefs make it through this year without too many corals dying.

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



A Garden? Just Do It! It's pumpkin time

Watering my plants today I noticed how fast my pumpkin plants are growing. They took over the whole space where I also had other plants like lemon grass, amaranth, basil and some wild flower plants. But the pumpkin vines climbed over all these plants so it's hard see them under the big pumpkin leaves.



Pumpkin is one of my favorite vegetables. For that reason, I always plant it and the best time on Bonaire is the rainy season. Pumpkins needs a lot of water so as soon as the first heavy rain shower came down a few months ago I planted the seeds of a funny looking deep orange sweet pumpkin. A week later the young plant popped up and started growing. Now I'm waiting for the first flowers.

I think my pumpkin plant is the midsize one that will bear three to six pumpkins. The miniature varieties can yield 10 to 12 pumpkins, while the large variety can produce one to two. I once had a plant of the large variety that started to grow under a wayaca tree and climbed its way up into the tree. It took over the whole tree. It was funny to see among the wayaca branches huge pumpkin leaves and a lot of flowers. After a while there were only two pumpkins left, growing bigger and

bigger. I was amazed to see how two giant pumpkins of 12 and 13 kilo were hanging on those very strong vines. They were the best pumpkins I ever had.

Pumpkin needs a lot of space, sunlight and water. Locals plant them close by the waste water, where the kitchen and bathroom water comes into the yard or where aircos are placed. Sometimes pumpkin plants just pop up somewhere in the yard where kitchen water flows. Water is an

urgent need for these plants to grow well and to get nice pumpkins. But if the roots soak in water, the plants will die. The number of pumpkins growing on a plant depends on the type, watering, fertilization and sunlight. You can plant pumpkins in big containers with a lot of holes at the bottom and in organic compost to fertilize your lawn optimally. It improves the soil condition and increases its ability to retain moisture.

Plant every two seeds one finger deep in the soil. When the vine grows up to two feet long, you should pinch out the tips to stimulate growth. Make sure there is a proper support for a pumpkin that is climbing on a trellis. The vines grow long and need proper support to hold the weight of the growing pumpkin. A healthy and sturdier vine can support maximum yield.

After sowing the seeds, it takes five to 10 days before sprouting. To protect the young plants from iguanas and lizards use old paint buckets that are open on both sides to put over the plants for a while. At least six hours a day of direct sunlight is needed to help the plant grow. It takes anywhere from 80 to 120 days from planting to harvesting.

Pumpkin takes 45-55 days from flow-

ering to the actual growing of pumpkins. The pumpkin flower must get pollinated quickly to reduce this time. Bees and other insects are essential for a natural way of pollination. If not pollinated on time, the flowers wither and die off without producing any pumpkin. One can help with pollination. This is what we call manually fertilizing if there are no bees and insects around. There are two types of pumpkin flowers; the male and female. The male grows first and won't produce any fruit. The female flower appears a few days later after the male flower.

With a cotton swab, feather or paintbrush you rub pollen from the long-stemmed male flowers and pollinate the female bud. It takes a week after pollination for the flower to start bulging and form into a pumpkin.

There is a large selection of pumpkin varieties that you will quickly discover and every pumpkin is perfect for whatever you want to do with it.

Pumpkins are healthy, tasty, vegetables that you can use not only for eating but also for carving for your jack-o-lantern during Halloween.

On Bonaire pumpkin is a popular vegetable in local kitchens. Pumpkin soup, pumpkin stoba, pumpkin cake, pumpkin pancakes, pumpkin-fish menu, pumpkin salads and baby's first pumpkin meal.

It's rainy season, start now with pumpkin plants. Just do it.

Angliet, Nature lover

Maniacs and Johan win Trouw



The Mangrove Maniacs

Every year Trouw, a Dutch newspaper, announces nominations for the top 100 green and sustainable citizen initiatives. This year three initiatives of doers and thinkers outside the European Netherlands made the list, one from Curaçao, and two from Bonaire: Johan van Blerk with Fundashon Terra Barra and the Mangrove Maniacs. The nominations were reviewed by a team of very prestigious judges.

The final ranking was revealed on October 8. With one being the best, the Maniacs received a number 10 and Johan number 40.

Johan has a passion for the native vegetation of Bonaire and over the years has gained a lot of knowledge on native plants, native rare species, and the propagation of seeds. He is working on creating an area with native plants of Bonaire, the 'Tera Barra Native Garden'.

The Mangrove Maniacs are a group of people with a passion for mangroves and nature. They love to toil in the mud to restore the water circulation or to plant small seedlings. They go out in small boats every Tuesday and once every month on a Sunday. The Maniacs help



Johan van Blerk with Fundashon Terra Barra

nature where needed, for instance when sargassum floods the coast of Bonaire.

Congratulations and thank you to the Maniacs and Johan for all your hard work in protecting Bonaire's nature!

Sabine Engel



In the early morning of October 13, around 3:30 am Bonaire mariners were caught by surprise by a wind reversal. There was no warning from the Harbour Master. High wind and waves sent at least three small fishing boats, a Dive Friends dive boat and Lelle Davidson's sailboat adrift and crashing into the waterfront. Another sailboat was freed from its mooring and was saved by some quick thinking men before it crashed into another boat and the south dock at Divi Flamingo. The fisherman's pier was damaged but should be easily repaired due to the design.

Photo – Lelle Davidson accessing the damage of his sailboat on the waterfront. *Julie Morgan*



Millions of sightings help map biodiversity

Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF) provides a global platform for citizen scientists to upload biological observations from anywhere in the world. Recently 42,000 observations from the Dutch Caribbean (reported in DutchCaribbean.Observation.org) were added to GBIF. Photo-supported observations are an important source of biodiversity data.

With the widespread use of smartphones, now each citizen is carrying around the key to unlocking some of science's biggest mysteries in their back pocket. Everyday people may come across rare or endangered species, and by simply taking a photo and uploading it to the internet, can give scientists a whole new avenue for data.

Global database

Since 2018, Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF) also included information from the Netherlands' largest citizen science platform for nature observations, Waarneming.nl, which has contributed more than 26 million validated Dutch observations. This year, 2020, has seen even more contributions. With the addition of sightings from Observation.org worldwide, nearly 58 million validated records have been uploaded into GBIF. By adding these data, the Observation.org dataset has become the 3rd largest dataset on GBIF. All of this information

is now available to the general public, researchers and policy makers worldwide. This information has over 26,000 downloads and 69 citations of Observation.org in scientific articles.

Sightings from Observation.org are held in high regard, as this platform requires that all entries must go through a validation process once uploaded. Here image recognition, statistics and expert judgment are used to confirm the sighting before it can be made publicly available on the database. This resource has already been instrumental in detecting trends, such as shifting distribution of species due to climate change and early detection of harmful invasive species.

Report Your Nature Sightings

Report your sighting on the website DutchCaribbean.Observation.org or download the free app (iPhone (iObs) & Android (ObsMapp)).

Observation.org is a free website. It is available in more than 40 languages. T. For more information contact research@dcanature.org

Video about Dutchcaribbean.observation.org

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ni0fsWwD-Io&feature=youtu.be>

(English): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CV6hrVfqUZc&feature=youtu.be>



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What's Happening

Weekends only

Washington Slagbaai Park Oct 5 to 31, open Friday to Sunday. Closed during the week.

Every Saturday

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

Closed

STINAPA headquarters is temporarily closed until October 31

Clubs & meetings

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

12 Step Meeting Wednesdays at Bonaire Basics, Kaya Korona 47. Meeting starts at 7:15pm. Info: 12stepsbonaire@gmail.com



Making Bonaire Accessible *Action for the elderly*

There is a lot of action going on for the elderly on Bonaire these days.

Cocari

Opening of the weekend stay-over-care of Cocari in Rincon took place last week Saturday.

Cocari (Commission for care for the elderly) offers a new kind of service. It offered daycare for the elderly through the week, but care throughout the weekend seemed very necessary. In total there are 12 rooms available now.

The next step will be "stay-care". The elderly are a steadily growing group of citizens and the care for them needs to be adapted. Day care and stay-care on Bonaire is not enough anymore.

This weekend daycare in Rincon is the start of an island wide program. Soon more day and night care will be offered all over Bonaire.

In Cocari there is also one room available for those who need care in a hurry. For example, when the caretaker at home must go abroad for an emergency and there is no one to take over the home-care.

Since we placed our story on the elderly who are afraid and lonely, more action is going on. It is a bit too soon to show and tell, but you can be assured that it will be something very special. So, please stay tuned for some amazing new plans and activities.

Not everything is positive. More and more one hears about medical treatments not taking place, operations not executed, because the patient was 70 years old or more. This is happening in Holland, but since we are a special municipality of Holland, we might also be vulnerable.

Hofi Ambiente Kultural

During a visit to Hofi Ambiente Kultural I was pleasantly surprised to meet a group of elderly making music and having a great time. A few well known musicians accompanied them. They played the guitar together and sang their hearts out. It appeared they were rehearsing songs for Christmas. They gather weekly and make music. Music is bonding and very therapeutic. Should you want to join them, you can get in touch with Hofi Ambiente Kultural, or just drop in and have a cup of coffee and join the fun.

October

This month, October, is known as "the month of the flowers" (luna di flor). We get a bit more rain, the wind is picking up again and every tree blooms exuberantly and dresses Bonaire in an inviting way. There is a beautiful song that the elderly like to sing these days, "Luna oktober, luna di flor". The well known Boi Antoin loves nature and these days he walks a lot in nature and offers walking tours, so he can explain all about our beautiful island and about what nature offers us.

These are the days that most Americans are preparing for Halloween. On Bonaire, that is not the case, the elderly do not celebrate Halloween. All Saints and All Souls is what is getting the attention. The graves of loved ones and family members who passed away are cleaned and decorated with long burning candles and flowers that are mostly plastic, since real flowers die very soon in our hot temperatures.

The best news for now is this: The "Covid numbers" are going down and that makes everybody very happy!
Ria Evers-Dokter

Dive Friends cleans up waterfront



Tessa van den Broek and Bart Linders show Project Aware's flag

Team up to clean up, that's our slogan for the Quarterly Clean Up Dive!

We had our fourth and last quarterly cleanup for 2020 on October 17. Due to the current situation with COVID-19, all things are a bit different than with our previous cleanups but that was not going to ruin the fun (or any day for that matter!)

Dive Friends staff and volunteers met at our central location Yellow Submarine on the waterfront. Only a few days before, the area was slammed by a wind reversal with high winds and big waves. The reversal did a lot of damage to the local fishermen's pier, boats moored on the waterfront and blew a lot of trash into the ocean.

Our timing was perfect for the cleanup. We were there at the right time and at the right moment to clean up the trash!

Because we want to make sure everyone's health and safety is guaranteed, we made a reservation schedule for checking in our 40 volunteers.

The first group started at 9 am then with a 20 minutes interval time we continued until all 40 people were checked in.

The divers had a great time, who can blame them? Going out for a beautiful dive and doing something good for the ocean that gives you major karma points is always a good idea!

The first group returned after about an hour and we began counting trash right away. There was a lot more trash than we expected and bags returned full or overflowing, which is a good thing!

We collected 180 kilos of trash, mostly plastic fragments but also 144 glass bottles, a reef anchor and even a few very new looking pieces of clothing.

After sorting out all the trash we put it in separate containers provided by Se-libon. We are lucky that our local waste company is also invested in recycling and the environment. And every piece of trash was registered for project aware.

Project aware is worldwide non-profit organization based solely on the conservation of our oceans, marine life, and

everything that we divers love and want to preserve.

With all the data coming in from clean up dives all over the world, they can not only track the sources of pollution but also they have built a detailed map of all marine debris that is removed by divers.

We at Dive Friends Bonaire not only do our part in these clean up dives but did you know we are also a 100% Aware Dive shop?

This means we have adopted and maintain our house reefs by doing monthly clean up dives. All our dive shops are as eco-friendly as possible and we get to certify you with cool cards with pictures of manta's, sharks and leafy green sea dragons.

We left the ocean a little cleaner than it was before, and we got to hang out with super enthusiastic divers.

In the end it was a delightful end of a very successful day.

A big shoutout to all our volunteer divers, crew and everyone who has made this clean up dive possible! Thank you for protecting our ocean and we hope to see you on the next clean up dives!

For the actual results and more details about this cleanup dive please check out our project aware page, which has every single piece of trash we counted nicely displayed in a virtual graph:

<https://www.projectaware.org/diver/dive-friends-bonaire>

For more information on project aware and the worldwide marine debris map:

<https://www.projectaware.org>

For more information on our clean up events check our website, Facebook and Instagram page:

<https://www.facebook.com/dive-friendsbonaire>

<https://www.instagram.com/dive-friendsbonaire>

<https://www.divefriendsbonaire.com>

By Pieter de Groot

Visit our business directory on page 14
for new products and services.

The Mediabus folks campaign for new bus

The date 10-10-20 is the start of a recruitment campaign for a new (er) bus for the Mediabus. After five years of loyal service, we need to replace our bus with a newer one, so that we can continue to guarantee our daily trips to primary schools.

But replacing our current bus naturally entails costs, costs that unfortunately we as a foundation cannot bear alone and for which we need help. We hope that individuals and organizations will want to help make it possible to purchase a new bus.

We have already received the first commitments. Three organizations have already indicated that they want to make a contribution to make the purchase of a new bus possible. We hope more will follow!

For more information:

Paul Ruijs

Project leader Reading and Writing Foundation

+599 782 4569



Darly Janga, library assistant on the Mediabus, holds some of the many books the bus has available.

Mediabus celebrates past successes

Every year the Mediabus, an initiative of Stichting Lezen en Schrijven Bonaire, welcomes about 1500 students. And these students borrow and read for free so many books!

Last Saturday, 10-10-20, we celebrated our fifth anniversary on the Wilhelminaplein by inviting important partners and companies to come by for a look at our bus, the volunteers who drive it, and the range of books it holds. For five years now, the Mediabus has been visiting primary schools on Bonaire on weekday mornings to make primary school children between six and 12 years enthusiastic about reading. And every Saturday between 10 and 12 the Mediabus is also open for business in the parking lot at the van den Tweel supermarket.

Did you know that 17% of the Bonairean population has difficulty reading and writing? The younger we start encouraging our children to read Papiamentu and Dutch, the more they will benefit from it later in life.

BONHATA campaigns for American tourists



BONHATA's Vice-President, Luite Berkenbosch (left) and President Bas Noij (right)

The members of BONHATA want Bonaire to re-open for American tourists

A recent survey of BONHATA members shows that 73% feel that Bonaire can no longer afford to remain closed for the US market. "We have to open now", according to the members.

Naturally, BONHATA is concerned about the medical situation on the island regarding COVID-19 and fully supports any measures necessary to control infections.

President Bas Noij states: "In the past months Aruba has clearly shown that a controlled influx of tourists has hardly had any effect on the number of cases, even with relatively large numbers of American tourists. In the months of July, August and September, a total of about 45,000 tourists from The United States arrived on Aruba, two-thirds of which were able to submit a negative PCR test prior to departure. The remaining passengers were tested at the airport of Aruba. Only 27 people ultimately tested positive out of a total of almost 14,000 tests

performed at the airport. These 27 people were immediately quarantined and were unable to infect anyone on the island." Vice-President Luite Berkenbosch adds: "In my opinion, the influx of tourists on Bonaire should be seen separately from local preventative measures and emergency regulations. Both tourists and residents must continue to adhere to the rules and protocols to prevent the spread of the virus. And where necessary, the local government can expand or relax the rules based on the current situation with regard to infections.

"With the separation of the tourist flow from island COVID-19 measures, it is perfectly possible to both guarantee a stable medical situation and at the same time give our economy the much-needed boost that enables businesses to survive", says Noij.

As far as BONHATA is concerned, Bonaire welcomes back American tourists as soon as possible before the upcoming high season.

Coffie says BOPEC deadline is imminent

With many decisions regarding the future of BOPEC still hanging in the air, a deadline looms at year end, according to the council member Daisy Coffie. In an October 19 letter to Lieutenant Governor Rijna and released to the public, Coffie points out BOPEC is operating under a license granted by the US Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC). She says the license will expire on December 31, and the authority to pay BOPEC employees from the escrow account will expire with it.

Beyond the initial question — can, and will, the OFAC license be extended? — Coffie raises many issues that the OLB will face when, inevitably, BOPEC finally shuts down. Will funds remain in the escrow account, and can they be spent? How many BOPEC employees will lose their jobs, and are the ministry of Social Affairs and Employment and the ministry of Service for Society and Care making plans for accommodating them and their families? Coffie pointed out that at least two BOPEC staff member have quit, but the escrow terms are blocking settlements with them.

Coffie also conjured Bonaire's "elephant in the room." What happens to the BOPEC facilities when all activities there end? She wonders whether the Netherlands might take charge and restore its former operations. *DMR*

Ask a Geek by Brian Niessen Computer things that P. M. O.

There are many things about computers nowadays that make you cringe, scream, cry and curse. Here are a few of my personal favorites:

Like when you set up your computer and work on a bunch of things, and go have lunch, and come back to see "Windows Update Completed. We had to restart your computer. Hope you didn't lose anything (evil grin)."

Like when you upgrade your computer, and go to install all the software you have paid thousands of dollars for and are told "Sorry, your XYZ doesn't work on this version of windows, but we will sell you an upgrade for only \$985.00".

Like when you plug your webcam, music player, printer into your new computer and are told "Sorry, we don't have a driver for your XYZ. Please throw it away and buy a new one."

Like when you make a backup to a removable disk/USB memory stick, and when you need to use it you are told "Hmmm, I can't seem to find anything. Sorry (evil grin)".

Like when you are told "Please update Skype, this version doesn't work anymore" so you figure "OK, cool, it's free at least" and when you install the update it says "Sorry, Skype no longer works on your Windows version, please buy a new computer to continue" and there

is no way go to back to your old version.

Or when Facebook says "Sorry, you cannot use this account anymore because we don't believe you." and you lose all of your contacts, photos, messages, etc and there is no recourse.

With most of these, one would expect some smart lawyers would be creating a very large class action lawsuit to recover some of our hard earned, grudgingly spent money, but I don't see any on the horizon. C'mon lawyers, do something good for us all!!!

So, with all that bad news, let's end with a bit of levity:

How about when you are told "Keyboard cannot be found, press the F1 key to continue."

Or the old favorite "Press any key to continue." and in 40+ years, I have yet to find the "ANY" key.

And the absolute funniest I have ever seen in the instructions for a device "Do not turn off if the power is on."

Please email the editor with your favorites, and we will add them in future columns.

Need help? See the Geek's Business ad on page 14

At Your Service

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


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Selibon is cleaning up

Although the number of tourists are down on Bonaire due to Covid 19 measures, Selibon continues to pay attention to keeping the island clean. Now more than ever it is important to pay attention to the cleanliness and hygiene of our island. Clean surroundings lessen Covid-19 contamination and prevent other diseases such as dengue and chikungunya.

Last month we maintained and cleaned Playa Pariba and Playa Pabou. On the Malekon we cut down branches and removed weeds on the sides of the road and sidewalks. People can now walk or exercise more easily and comfortably there.

In recent weeks we have paid more attention to our beaches. We have noticed people are frequenting our beaches more and that means more waste. In response, we have set up a special team to clean and maintain our beaches every week. But everyone needs to do their part.

We would like to remind you of the following:

- If you see rubbish lying on the ground, please pick it up and put it in the waste bin.
- When you visit one of our beaches, before you return home, remember to pick up everything you have used and put it in the waste containers provided on the beach.



Before and after

- If you come to a place where there is no waste bin and you would like Selibon to place a waste bin there, feel free to contact us at 717-8159. We will arrange for a bin to be installed there. In this way you contribute to the protection of our nature and to a cleaner and more beautiful Bonaire.

Selibon will begin cleaning work in Amboina on October 19.

Parrots and People, continued from page 7

Education continues at Echo



Since the start of the new school year, Echo has been hosting weekly lessons for the Pro (practical education) department of SGB. Kids from first and second class are scheduled to visit Echo conservation center one morning a week to actively learn about Bonaire's nature and help with Echo's conservation efforts. With respect to all the Covid ordinance of the last month some of the youngsters chose not to go to school giving a bigger presence and participation on their Echo day. This means that they are interested in nature education and also feel safe in outside classes. The Pro students are being evaluated on different competitions while they develop more love for nature and conservation on the island. Part of the project is the field visits to other natural areas and other kunukus once a month. The field visits showcase sustainable initiatives where local farms

or gardens are growing vegetables and fruits.

Education continues with other groups in the afternoon hours, as we host the parrot club program for the after school program of Rincon. Four different groups ages four to 10 join us at our educational center. They learn while doing interactive games about parrots and the Bonaire dry forest habitat we all call home. The bigger groups with only boys have called themselves our future restoration wardens, as their favorite activity is taking care of the plants in our reforestation areas, including the newest one at Dos Pos.

At Echo we are always happy to have volunteers, but guiding the local kids and helping create Nature Lovers makes us feel excited and rewarded in these uncertain times when we can not depend on outside volunteers.

First edition of Bonaire Culinaire ahead



Bonaire Culinaire, a BONHATA initiative, is a 15-day island wide culinary event set to begin November 5th and end November 19th. During these 15 days, 20 participating restaurants will create a special three-course menu at a set price of \$33. This is an opportunity to discover the wide variety of culinary offerings from many of Bonaire's restaurants.

During the event, diners receive a Bonaire-Culinaire raffle card and with every order from the menu they receive a raffle stamp. Handing in this raffle card at one of the participating restaurants will give you the chance to win one or more of the \$500 worth of prizes from the Cadushy products prize package.

Culinary Committee chairman of BONHATA, Eric Gietman, said, "During these very challenging times, we all need to have something positive

and exciting to look forward to. Let us make this event a major success!". And, of course, in these times all restaurants have taken safety measures to ensure the safety of their guests and staff."

Anticipating success for this first time event, BONHATA plans to organize this Bonaire Culinaire twice a year. Bonaire Culinaire is endorsed by the Bonaire Restaurant Association (BRA) and Tourism Corporation Bonaire (TCB).

For more information and a list of participating restaurants visit www.bonaire-culinaire.com or 'BonaireCulinaireEvent' Facebook page. Please make your reservations in advance, availability is limited! Contact: Eric Gietman at 599-786-8769 or by email - info@bonaire-culinaire.com



BONAIRE SKY PARK

Planets in conjunction and Medusa

Medusa's severed head

Happy Halloween star parties, Trace here ready to take your money to cross the river Styx. But before we do that, let's learn about the story of a severed head in the sky! MUHAHAHAHA

Around 10pm, all this Halloween week, October 25 to November 1, look due east. There you'll see the bright star of Aldebaran, one of the brightest stars in our sky; it is part of Taurus. Far above Aldebaran you'll see the "W" of Cassiopeia! In-between is the constellation Perseus, the ancient Greek hero who slew Medusa -- the monster with snakes for hair that turned humans to stone with a LOOK.

Legend has it; Algol is the star marking Medusa's severed head! AHGH! Perseus is holding Medusa's head to defeat Poseidon's sea monster Cetus, which is also in the sky -- just on the other side of the moon right now.

Hopefully they hold off on their battle until after all the kiddos get their candy. Keep an eye on them while you KEEP Lookin' up!

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

A waxing crescent moon and three planets in conjunction

October 19 to 25 is a beautiful waxing crescent moon, which means the multitude of amazing planets that are in the sky right now are readily visible with the naked eye!

Even better? If you can find the moon, you can find THREE PLANETS in a CONJUNCTION! Head outside just after sunset, say, 7:30 pm.

Right above this Waxing Crescent masterpiece is the handsome ringed planet Saturn, to its right is the king of planets, Jupiter, and if you look WAAAY out to the left and follow the ecliptic -- the path the sun and moon take through the sky -- you'll find wee little Mars -- it'll be the second brightest object after the moon, so it shouldn't be too hard to spot.

For bonus points, in-between the moon and Mars are two constellations: Capricorn is closer to the moon, and Aquarius is closer to Mars!

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COVID-19 MEASURES & TO MINIMIZE VISITS & INTERACTION:

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The BONAIRE REPORTER online

news that has broken since the printed issue



Numbers November 1, 2020

There are no additional positive cases of Covid-19.

On November 1st there is 1 active case of Covid-19 on Bonaire. 130 persons have recovered and no people are admitted to hospital.

Do you have a fever, sore throat or other complaints related to Covid-19? Stay at home and call 0800-0800.



Weather alert October 30, 2020

PRESS RELEASE

The KNMI predicts a lot of rain for Bonaire in the coming days. This applies from Friday to the beginning of next week. Due to the rain showers, any gusts of wind can change direction. Boat owners must be aware of this.

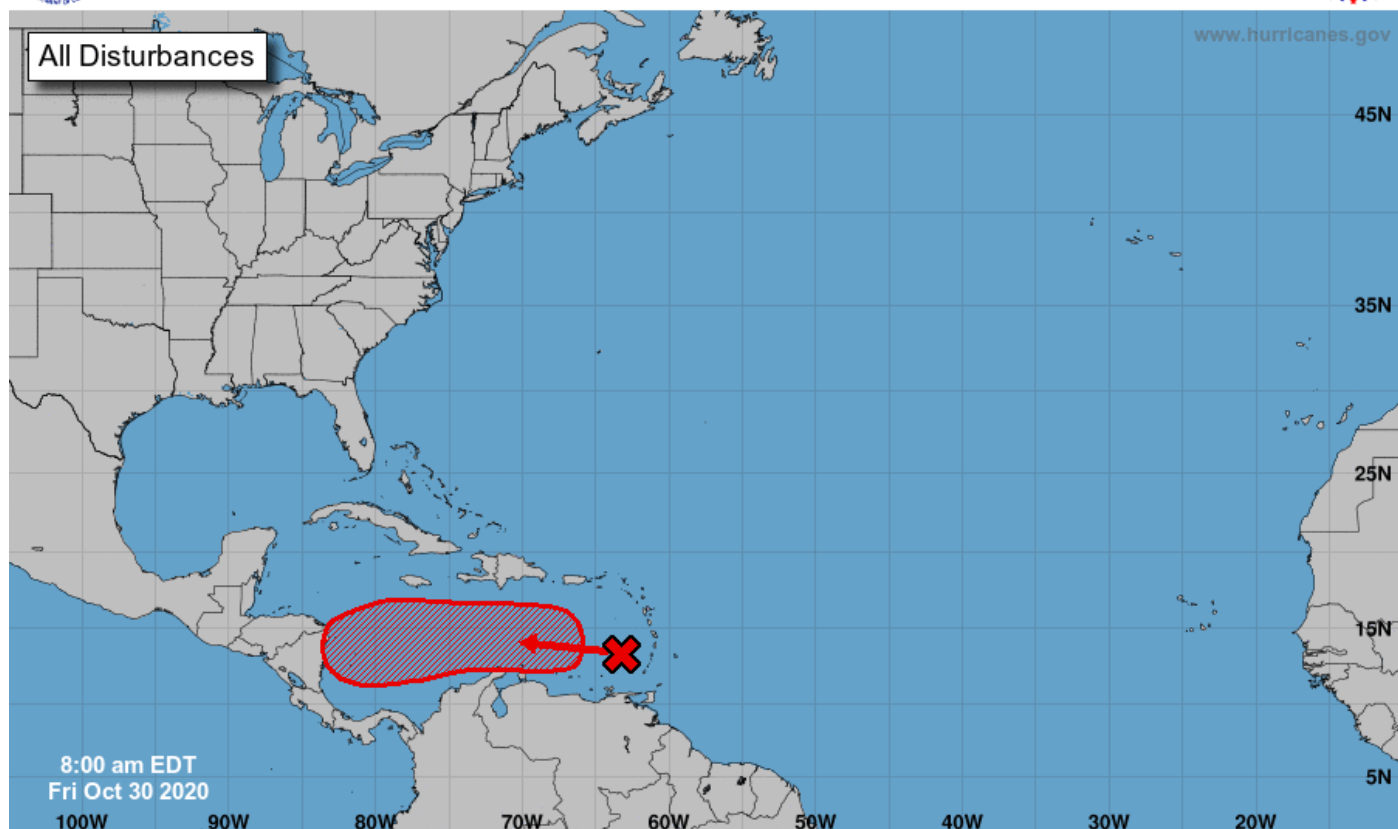
Weather developments can be followed via <https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/gtwo.php?basin=atlc&fdays=5>

Date: 30 – 10 – 2020

Warning for wind from the south Kralendijk - KNMI warns that in the night of Friday, October 30 to the morning of October 31, the wind will come from the south. A lot of rain comes from the south. Strong gusts of wind from the south must be expected. Small boat owners must take precautions. The wind force can be just like it was recently when there was a lot of damage to several boats. For more information visit <https://www.knmidc.org/>



Five-Day Graphical Tropical Weather Outlook National Hurricane Center Miami, Florida



Current Disturbances and Five-Day Cyclone Formation Chance: ✕ < 40% ✕ 40-60% ✕ > 60%

Tropical or Sub-Tropical Cyclone: ○ Depression ◉ Storm ⊙ Hurricane

⊗ Post-Tropical Cyclone or Remnants

Confirmed: American Airlines resumes flight schedule Curaçao

MAIN | By Correspondent Oct. 22, 2020

WILLEMSTAD, MIAMI - The Curaçao Tourist Board (CTB) confirms to Curaçao Chronicle that American Airlines (AA) is resuming its flight schedule in Curaçao. From the first week of December, on the 3rd to be exact, there will be flights again from Miami to Hato Airport.

The last commercial flight between the two countries was on Sunday, March 22. Travelers from New York, New Jersey, Connecticut and Florida are welcome to Curaçao with a negative PCR test. According to sources, the PCR test would cost about 200 dollars per person.


Travelers from other states must also request specific permission and agree to a mandatory 14-day quarantine at their own expense

Where do you get your RCN news?

The national government in the Caribbean Netherlands (RCN) would like to know if they are reaching their audience, or if they can communicate better.

Let them know what you think by completing this survey. It will take approximately 5 to 10 minutes.

The link for the Media Survey Caribbean Netherlands 2020 is:
<https://nl.research.net/r/rcn-mediaresearch2020>



Rijksdienst
Caribisch Nederland



Speech Island Governor Rijna October 30 2020

Kralendijk - Hello Everyone,
Today I am going to talk to you about the status of our request to return to code yellow, the new emergency ordinance that came into effect on October 28 and the entry requirements. But first I would like to mention the state of affairs regarding the number of Covid-19 cases.

After having had days without detecting any infections, this week we have had three new cases. Today four people have recovered. We need to remain alert to prevent another outbreak. Doctor Marian Luinstra-Passchier will elaborate on this later.

An increased number of travelers are now coming to our island from Curacao and the Netherlands. This increases the risk of new infections from outside. For that reason it remains necessary to impose restrictive measures, in order to keep the risk of further spread minimal. This can be done by avoiding contact with others whenever possible and it is, therefore, preferable to work from home as much as possible. For the time being large public gatherings where people could infect each other are not yet allowed. Private gatherings are currently

allowed for up to 10 people.

On the other hand, gyms are open again. There are, however, firm rules that must be adhered to. So I would like to appeal to entrepreneurs, who are allowed to open, to strictly adhere to these rules. Please pay attention to your closing times and the number of visitors. Wearing a face mask, where a distance of a meter and a half cannot be guaranteed, is strongly recommended. Currently, a closing time of 10 p.m. continues to apply for the hospitality sector, which includes restaurants and casinos. If the numbers remain low for two weeks we may then hopefully return to a situation where longer opening hours will apply.

Getting back to the entry requirements; it has now become easier to travel to Bonaire. Passengers from Curacao, Canada and the Netherlands (i.e. Europe) are now welcome. Anyone from anywhere in the world may come to Bonaire via one of these three countries. The reason that it is currently only possible to fly from these three countries, is in order for us to be able to regulate the number of people entering Bonaire. To accomplish this we will make the necessary agree-

ments with the airlines. Passengers must show a negative PCR test upon entry. This test must be taken no more than 72 hours before departure from one of the three embarkation points mentioned above. Otherwise, arriving passengers will have to be quarantined for 14 days. An exception will only be made for travelers who fly from Bonaire to Curacao and back on the same day, without an overnight stay, such as for business, a funeral or a wedding. These travelers must make a request for an exemption at repat@bonairegov.com. Travelers, who travel to Bonaire from Curacao for one day, must show a negative PCR test on arrival. PLEASE NOTE: Travel remains a risky undertaking. If you become infected abroad and test positive, the in-country consequences are for your own account.

Finally, I would like to talk about our request to return to code yellow. A few weeks ago we submitted a request to become a code-orange destination in order to protect public health on Bonaire. The orange code discouraged people from coming to Bonaire. After the number of Covid-19 cases had decreased drastically again, last Tuesday a request was

made to return to code yellow. So far we have not yet received an answer from The Hague. The reason that this process is taking so long, is that the Netherlands wants to issue its travel advice for the entire Kingdom at the same time, and the coordination with all the countries is taking longer than expected. We are in daily contact with The Hague about this because we want an answer and clarity on the matter as soon as possible. After all, tourism is the main engine of our economy. Because it is taking longer than we had foreseen, we and the tourism sector -among others- are jointly looking at alternative ways to restart tourism. This could be, for example, by considering countries other than the Netherlands. I will keep you informed about progress on this as soon as possible.

On a final note, together we succeeded in reducing the number of local infections rapidly. Keep doing what you have been doing in recent weeks. Follow good hygiene practices. Eat healthily, get adequate sleep and stay active to boost your immune system. Protect yourself and the people around you.

Speech dr. Marian Luinstra-Passchier

October 30 2020

Kralendijk - After a period of two and a half weeks without new infections, we have had three new cases this week. This involves three people who traveled to Bonaire from the Netherlands. When the restrictions for coming to Bonaire were eased, we knew we may occasionally get people with COVID-19 on the island. As for example people from the Netherlands, Curacao or other countries.

This should not be a problem as long as we have the virus under control. And this is exactly what happened this week. We took immediate action at the right time. The three people infected with the virus were put into isolation immediately. They had had contact with only a few people and these people are now in quarantine. The risk that the virus has spread is minimal.

COVID-19 will remain among us for a long time to come. We must learn to live with the virus. This means that we have to keep the infections under control in order to live as safely as possible. This is why we limit the number of people who enter Bonaire and why we ask them to complete a health declaration and take a PCR test no earlier than 72 hours before departure. The result of this test has to be negative to be able to enter Bonaire. The airline companies check this before departure.

When passengers arrive on Bonaire, we check this again. In doing so we greatly reduce the risk that someone should come to Bonaire infected. The risk of this, however, is not zero. We know that we can never be 100% sure of preventing COVID-19 from coming to our island. It may turn out after their arrival that some people were infected anyway. Additionally, it is also possible that something was overlooked at some point during the check.

Speech Island Governor Rijna

October 21 2020

Kralendijk - Dear Citizen,

Today I want to start with good news that no new cases of COVID-19 have occurred on our island in the last 13 days. I am very happy that we got this done. To me, that's proof that if we join forces and stick to the rules of hygiene and social distance, we can slow the spread of the virus. It also means that now is the time to start step by step to adjust the rules that are still in force. For example, the rules for travelers who want to travel to Bonaire from the Netherlands or Curaçao. And also the rules that were in force for us here on Bonaire.

Why does this have to be done step by step? The answer is that we know which way we want to go. We want it to be so that there are few cases of people infected with the virus. A situation where we can monitor and control the number of cases of COVID-19. That is why we are not going to change everything on a large scale and in one fell swoop. What we are going to do is slowly make some changes and see how this works in practice. We must also take into account how the situation around COVID-19 is developing in precisely those countries from which many travelers normally come to Bonaire. We will regularly review how things are going before we come up with more changes.

We distinguish 6 phases in the corona crisis and the risks they entail. There is a diagram explaining which measures must

be taken for each phase. In phase 1, the situation is stable and there are no cases of people infected with the virus. The risk that people from abroad will infect local people with the virus is small. In this phase, the only rules are hygiene and keep yourself at a distance of 1.5 meters. In the last phase, the sixth, there is a massive outbreak of the virus and we have to go into a lockdown. In the period that we have passed, we were in phase 4. On Monday, October 26, we will officially go from phase 4 to phase 3 with the rules that belong to that phase. The schedule can be found on our website www.bonairecrisis.com. We will publish a detailed explanation of this scheme on our site shortly.

I now want to talk about the changes that are coming. To start with, yesterday we asked the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to switch from code orange to code yellow for Bonaire. RIVM is now investigating whether this is possible. As soon as the result is known, I will inform you about it.

Travelers from Curaçao can travel to Bonaire by plane or boat from October 26, 2020. They must take the PCR test no later than 72 hours before the flight and the result must be negative. They must also complete a health statement from the Public Health Department of Bonaire. This can be found on our website or can be requested by e-mail at

publichealth@bonairegov.com. For the time being, there are 4 daily flights from Curaçao from Monday to Thursday.

This is why it is very important that everyone adheres to the basic rules. And we, for our part, properly investigate the source of the virus and trace the people with whom the infected person has been in contact. People are immediately put into isolation or quarantine if necessary. We have a new test device and now our test capacity on Bonaire is larger. As a result we also get the test results faster. This is how we keep the virus under control.

In recent months we have jointly shown that we can do it. It is important that we keep doing what we are doing. We are counting on your cooperation. Do you know people who have come to Bonaire or do you have holiday guests? Explain to them what the measures on the island are. Tell them to call 0800-0800 if they get symptoms related to COVID-19. Do you know people in quarantine or isolation? Support them so that they may get through this period successfully. Take them groceries or telephone them more often. But do make sure you don't get too close to them.

We can keep living our lives as we were used to as much as possible, as long as we stick to basic rules such as:

Keep a distance of 1.5 meters from each other. If you have any symptoms that could be related to COVID-19, go home immediately and call for a test appointment.

We are counting on you!

who want to come to Bonaire.

Passengers from Bonaire can travel to Curaçao. When returning to Bonaire, they must take the PCR test in Curaçao no later than 72 hours before their flight. The result must be negative. When they return to Bonaire, they do not have to be quarantined.

Passengers from Sint Eustatius and Saba traveling to our island do not need to take a PCR test. Sint Eustatius and Saba together with our island form a so-called bubble. So an area in which it is safe to travel.

Passengers from Aruba, Sint Maarten, Canada and the United States can come to Bonaire via Curaçao. They must do a PCR test no later than 72 hours before departure and the result must be negative. They must also complete the health statement from the Public Health Department.

The flight ban for direct flights from the United States will be extended by two weeks.

If conditions remain favorable, we can relax measures even more and open up to more countries when it is justified. I want to offer perspective to our tourism sector.

The emergency ordinance that is now in force will be replaced by another one. The new emergency regulation will enter into force on Monday, October 26, 2020 and is valid until November 15, 2020. The new emergency ordinance is necessary because in this way, for example, the conditions can be arranged for passengers

From Monday, October 26, 2020, casinos and gyms may open, if they adhere to the guidelines of Public Health. Last week we spoke with a number of them. If they want to open earlier than Monday, they can open after an inspection by Supervision and Enforcement.

When it comes to work, we recommend working from home as much as possible.

Before I end I would like to say the following. If there is one thing we have learned in recent months, it is that we are well prepared to act in a crisis situation. We have had times when many people have been infected with the virus. And we all got through that. Thank you for your part in this, even though it may have been difficult at times to follow the rules.

I would like to ask everyone to be aware that we can only continue to relax measures if we continue to obey the rules. That is, the hygiene rules, coughing and sneezing in the elbow and staying 1.5 meters away from others.

I'm counting on all of you. Take care of yourself and each other. Together we can. Together we manage to fight corona.

THE AUTHORITY OF THE PUBLIC BODY BONAIRE (archive no. 2020003425)

Whereas:

- that the Regulation of the Minister of Infrastructure and Water Management of 28 September 2020, no. IENW / BSK-2020/186872 amending the Regulation on temporary ban on civil aviation airspace Bonaire, Sint Eustatius and Saba in connection with the virus that causes the disease COVID-19 caused, has been extended until November 1, 2020;

- that it cannot be ruled out that travelers from high-risk countries as referred to in Article 2 of the Regulation travel on to Bonaire via a stopover in one of the excepted countries as referred to in Article 2, paragraph 2, under a and c of the Regulation; that since the adoption of the Emergency Ordinance COVID-19 of Bonaire of September 30, 2020, the number of registered infections of the Coronavirus on Bonaire has shown a decreasing trend; that the Lieutenant Governor, after the advice of the island policy team of 20 October 2020, has therefore decided to relax a number of restrictive measures, while the other measures have been maintained;

-that the Lieutenant Governor calls on everyone to work from home as much as possible; that the regular means available to ensure the protection of safety and public health do not at present provide sufficient relief and that, in order to maintain public order and safeguard public health, it is necessary to impose additional generally binding rules in these exceptional circumstances to prevent the spread on Bonaire of the virus <let the COVID-19 disease cause or prevent further spread of the virus;

Under these circumstances, therefore, in accordance with the provisions of Article 179 of the Bonaire Sint Eustatius and Saba Public Bodies Act, temporary generally binding regulations are deemed necessary to maintain public order or to protect the safety and health of persons who located on the territory of Bonaire and Klein Bonaire, including the territorial waters of Bonaire.

Considering:

- Article 178 paragraph 1 jo. 179 of the Bonaire Sint Eustatius and Saba Public Bodies Act;
- The Regulation of the Minister of Infrastructure and Water Management to amend the Regulation temporary prohibition of civil aviation airspace Bonaire, Sint Eustatius e Saba in connection with the virus that causes the disease COVID-19, last amended on September 28, 2020.

HAS DECIDED

to establish the following generally binding regulations to enforce the public order and safety:

Article 1 Definitions

For the purposes of this Regulation:

- virus: the virus that causes the disease COVID-19;
- the Regulation: the Regulation of the Minister of Infrastructure and Water Management to amend the Regulation on the temporary ban on civil aviation airspace Bonaire, Sint Eustatius and Saba in connection with the virus that causes the disease COVID-19, last amended on 28 September 2020.
- the Lieutenant Governor: the Lieutenant Governor of

the Public Entity of Bonaire.

d. the joint household: persons who maintain a lasting, affective relationship with each other, even if they do not live at the same address (lat relationship), as well as parent (s) and / or guardian (s) whose children do not live at the same address as the parent (s) and / or guardian (s) reside.

e. children: own children as well as step, adopted and foster children.

f. stay: stopping and / or staying overnight, whether or not in transit.

Article 2 Scope

This regulation applies to the territory of Bonaire and Klein Bonaire, including the territorial waters of Bonaire.

Article 3 Inter-insular transport prohibition

- It is prohibited to carry out direct transport via airspace or territorial waters to Bonaire from Aruba and Sint Maarten.
- The prohibition referred to in the first paragraph does not apply to cargo and transport of persons as referred to in Article 6, paragraph 2, sub a to h, provided written permission has been granted by the Lieutenant Governor.

Article 4 Health declaration

All persons who enter Bonaire via airspace or territorial waters are obliged to submit a fully and truthfully completed health declaration digitally to the competent authority 48 hours before departure.

Article 5 Quarantine

- Persons of 13 years and older who travel through the airspace or the territorial waters of Bonaire and who, prior to their arrival on Bonaire, were resident in Europe, Canada or Curacao, are required to be quarantined for 14 days immediately after arrival on Bonaire. go to a location to be designated by the Lieutenant Governor, unless a negative result of the PCR test that has been taken no more than 72 hours before departure is submitted on Bonaire.
- All persons staying in quarantine at the location designated by the Lieutenant Governor must adhere to the measures and procedures to be given in order to prevent an outbreak or spread of the virus.
- The Lieutenant Governor may grant an exemption for the stay in quarantine, as referred to in the first and second paragraph. This exemption may contain alternative conditions.
- The costs associated with the stay in the quarantine location will be borne by the person, or his legal representative in the event that the person is legally incapacitated, who travels to Bonaire, unless this person of these costs under the policy of the Lieutenant Governor, is excluded.

Article 6 Written consent

- Pursuant to Article 2 of the Regulation of the Minister of Infrastructure and Water Management, the Lieutenant Governor grants to amend the Regulation on temporary ban on civil aviation airspace Bonaire, Sint Eustatius and Saba in connection with the virus that causes the disease COVID-19, last amended on September 28, 2020, written permission for the entry of medical personnel to Bonaire when the Lieutenant

Governor deems this necessary in the interest of public health on Bonaire.

2. The written permission referred to in the first paragraph may also be granted by the Lieutenant Governor to:

- Patients sent out by ZVK;
- persons who are residents of Bonaire;
- students who are or have been residents of Bonaire; persons who wish to settle permanently on Bonaire and who are in possession of a deregistration certificate from the basic administration of their current place of residence;
- persons who want to attend the funeral of a family member on Bonaire;
- persons who want to care for or visit a family member who is in the terminal phase on Bonaire;
- crew members of aircraft or persons who replace the crew on board a ship docked on Bonaire;
- Persons engaged in essential professions.

Article 7 Prohibition of gatherings and events

- It is forbidden to (have singing / dancing) events take place, to organize or to organize or to have them arise, and to participate in such events.
- Events as referred to in the first paragraph are understood to mean all public gatherings and entertainment as referred to in Article 176 of the WolBES or referred to in the Algemeen Politiekeur Bonaire. In addition, an event means all gatherings held in the public space or closed atmosphere where more than ten people or participants converge simultaneously, which take place in buildings that are open to the public, as well as in buildings that are not open to the public, including the associated yards. , as well as those in the open air or public places, public as well as private beaches. Children up to and including 13 years old are excluded from this.

3. The first paragraph does not apply to the following events and gatherings, provided that no more than 10 people are present and those present at all times maintain a distance of at least 1.5 meters from the nearest person:

- For legally required meetings, such as meetings of the Island Legislative Council, a maximum of 20 people are allowed, in deviation from the preamble;
- meetings necessary for the continuation of the day-to-day activities of institutions, companies and other organizations fulfilling a vital function as referred to in Annex I;
- funerals;
- wedding ceremonies.

4. Meetings where the right of religion or belief is exercised as referred to in Article 6 of the Constitution are permitted provided that a maximum of 50% of the capacity is used and no singing is done.

Article 8 Failure to observe a safe distance

- It is prohibited to be in a group of three or more persons without a minimum distance of 1.5 meters from the nearest person in that group and other persons.
- This prohibition does not apply to:
 - persons who form a joint household;
 - children up to and including 17 years old.

Article 9 Hygiene measures

Emergency Ordinance October 28, 2020, continued

All persons who are in the public space must adhere to the strict hygiene measures in accordance with the guidelines of the Public Health Department Bonaire.

Article 10 Closure of establishments

1. It is prohibited to keep any of the following facilities open:
 - a. Night clubs and discotheques;
 - b. Sex establishments;
 - c. Saunas.

Article 11 Educational institutions and before and after school care

1. Alie (private) schools and before and after school care are open, provided the following conditions are met:
 - a. There is at all times a distance of at least 1.5 meters from the nearest person by those present;
 - b. Strict hygiene measures were observed in accordance with the guidelines of the Public Health Department Bonaire.
2. The condition under paragraph 1 (a) does not apply to children up to and including 17 years of age.

Article 12 Non-essential shops, companies and institutions

1. Non-essential shops, companies and institutions are allowed to be open, provided that strict hygiene measures are complied with in accordance with the guidelines of the Public Health Department of Bonaire.
2. The establishments referred to in paragraph 1 shall close to the public not later than 8 pm local time.

Article 13 Sports and fitness clubs

1. Sports and fitness clubs (sports facilities and sports facilities), including sports halls and sports fields, are permitted to be open, provided that the following conditions are met:
 - a. only 50% of the occupancy capacity is used in the sports or fitness club (including staff);
 - b. a minimum distance of 1.5 meters from the nearest person is kept by those present at all times;
 - c. strict hygiene measures are observed in accordance with the guidelines of the Public Health Department of Bonaire.
 - d. a guest registration is kept and a health check is carried out;
 - e. Showers and changing rooms in the sports or fitness club are closed.
2. The condition referred to in paragraph 1 (b) does not apply to children up to and including 17 years of age.
3. The conditions as referred to in paragraph 1, under a, b and d, do not apply to outdoor sports. If it concerns a contact sport, only fleeting contact between the athletes is allowed.
4. Public is prohibited at all times.

Article 14 Contact professions

1. The practice of contact professions is permitted, provided the following conditions are met:
 - a. strict hygiene measures were observed in accordance with the guidelines of the Public Health Department Bonaire;

- b. a guest registration is kept and a health check is carried out;
- c. Wearing a mouth and nose cover is mandatory.

2. It is permitted to keep establishments open for external grooming, provided the following conditions are met:
 - a. strict hygiene measures were observed in accordance with the guidelines of the Public Health Department Bonaire;
 - b. a guest registration is kept and a health check is carried out.

Article 15 Catering establishments

1. Establishments where food or drink is sold and consumed on site, including establishments in businesses that are not accessible to the public (company canteens and company catering) and establishments in hotels for hotel guests, may only be opened, subject to the following conditions being met, satisfied:
 - a. There are fixed seats available;
 - b. Only 50% of the occupancy capacity in the establishment is used (including personnel);
 - c. Attendees always keep a distance of at least 1.5 meters from the nearest person at all times;
 - d. Strict hygiene measures were observed in accordance with the guidelines of the Public Health Department Bonaire.
 - e. A guest registration is kept and a health check is carried out.
 - f. Establishments as referred to in the opening lines that hide, deliver or supply food and / or drinks for use on site or other than on site 10:00 pm, local time, for the public

Article 16 Casinos

1. Establishments where commercial games of chance are offered are permitted to operate until 10:00 pm, provided the following conditions are met:
 - a. There are fixed seats available;
 - b. Only 50% of the occupancy capacity in the establishment is used (including personnel);
 - c. There is at all times a minimum distance of 1.5 meters from the nearest person by those present;
 - d. Strict hygiene measures were observed in accordance with the guidelines of the Public Health Department Bonaire.
 - e. A guest registration was kept and a health check was carried out.

Article 17 Transport

1. The use of a mouth mask is mandatory for everyone in public and / or regular transport.
2. The first paragraph does not apply to children up to and including 17 years of age.

Article 18 Exceptions for vital functions and processes

1. The prohibitions in this Regulation do not apply to:
 - a. The emergency services and supervisors involved;
 - b. Activities necessary
- Article 18 Exceptions for vital functions and processes
1. The prohibitions in this Regulation do not apply to:

- a. The emergency services and supervisors involved;
- b. Activities necessary for the progress of vital functions or processes, described in Annex I to this Regulation;
- c. Persons, locations or activities designated by the Lieutenant Governor or the (categories of) cases to be determined by the Lieutenant Governor.

2. The Lieutenant Governor can attach regulations and restrictions to an exemption or dispensation based on the first paragraph, part
- c. You are prohibited from acting in violation of such regulations and restrictions.

Article 19 Follow instructions

All instructions given by the police, Koninklijke Marechaussee or officials designated for that purpose in the interest of public order and / or safety of persons with regard to this regulation must be strictly complied with

Article 20 Penalty provision

1. Anyone who deliberately performs acts to undermine the instructions referred to in Article 19, or who violates the provisions laid down by or pursuant to this Regulation, shall be punished by imprisonment of not more than three months or a fine of the second category.
2. The offenses referred to in the first paragraph are violations.
3. The following are responsible for ensuring compliance with this Regulation:
 - Police officers as referred to in Article 184, paragraph 1 under a and b of the BES Criminal Procedure Code;
 - Extraordinary police officers appointed by the Lieutenant Governor as referred to in Article 184, paragraph 1, under c of the BES Criminal Procedure Code;
 - Supervisors appointed by the Lieutenant Governor;
 - Soldiers of the Royal Netherlands Marechaussee as referred to in Article 184, paragraph 1, under d of the BES Criminal Procedure Code;
 - Compulsory education officers as referred to in Article 28 of the Compulsory Education Act BES.

Article 21 Entry into force

1. This Regulation shall enter into force immediately upon publication and shall apply until 15 November 2020 at 12:00 am local time, unless a decision has been made to extend or withdraw the Regulation prior to that date.
2. Decisions based on the Emergency Ordinance COVID-19 Bonaire of 26 October 2020 are considered to be based on this ordinance.
3. The Emergency Ordinance COVID-19 of 26 October 2020 is repealed.
4. This ordinance is cited as: Emergency ordinance COVID-19 Bonaire of 28 October 2020.

Thus established on Bonaire, October 28, 2020

April, May, & June Corals

Latin name	Common Name	Spawning Window	DAYS AFM				DAYS AFM				DAYS AFM			
			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													
			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

August Corals

Latin name	Common Name	Spawning Window	DAYS AFM													
			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

September Corals

Latin name	Common name	Spawning Window	DAYS AFM													
			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

October Corals

Latin name	Common Name	Spawning Window	DAYS AFM													
			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

November Corals

Latin name	Common name	Spawning Window	DAYS AFM													
			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

August/September/October Sponges, Gorgonians, & Others

Latin name	Common Name	Spawning Window	DAYS AFM													
			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

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 carmablog@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, Curaçao.

