

**FREE**

# **BONAIRE** **The REPORTER**



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**Bonaire Daily Fresh 1250 sq meter showcase greenhouse**  
Photo Julie Morgan

## **Bonaire Daily Fresh opens at LVV**

Bonaire's LVV (agriculture, livestock and fisheries) celebrated its final Open Day for 2022 on October 30. Over the past year the event has grown significantly in popularity due to the increasing interest in agricultural sustainability. But this particular Open Day was unique in that it featured the grand opening of the long-awaited Bonaire Daily Fresh Showcase Greenhouse owned by Bob and Lauri Janssen. This is the first sustainable agriculture venture on lease property on LVV's 50-hectare (123,55 acre) land.

Despite the threat of early morning rains, an estimated 1000 people attended. In the last year Open Day has flourished getting better every offering under the guidance of director Maurice Adriaens and his LVV team. While many people showed up to solely enjoy Open Day, it is safe to say the majority were curious to see the new Daily Fresh Showcase and see how it works differently than traditional agriculture.

The new Daily Fresh 1250 sq meter (0.308 acres) greenhouse uses an environmentally friendly form of agriculture that combines raising fish in tanks (recirculating aquaculture) with soilless plant culture (hydroponics.) The nutrient rich water from the fish tanks provides a natural fertilizer for the plants and the plants help to purify the water for the fish. It is totally organic with no chemical fertilizers needed as it all comes from the water used raising the fish. The process uses

1/6 the water to grow eight times more food per acre making this a great idea for Bonaire. And, the fish can of course be eaten too, nothing is wasted.

In his Open Day welcoming speech, Maurice Adriaens, manager of LVV said, "It is a very successful day. We are celebrating the opening of Bonaire Daily Fresh. As you might know LVV is the home of the knowledge center to promote daily agriculture production [on Bonaire]. Daily Fresh is the first company for Bonaire for local production... This dates back two years, and it has been a long journey with a lot of issues. We would really like to thank Commissioner James Kroon and Marlon Roy Martina of Spatial Planning Development (R & D) for their vision. And thanks to the very enthusiastic owners Bob and Lauri. We all need to buy Bob's book on the experience of the last few years."

And, of course Bob had a few things to say, "We are super, super proud and super happy. We couldn't have done this alone. We will be providing 160,000 fresh vegetables a year to make the island more sustainable and environmentally friendly. Without Maurice and LVV's help it wouldn't have been possible."

Following the ribbon cutting, the doors of the showroom were open to tours beginning with several members of the island council and other government officials. Approximately 300 people were able to enjoy the reservation only

15- minute tours that ran from 9:45 a.m. – 2:45 p.m. Touring guests had the opportunity to taste salad first hand made with Daily Fresh greens and purchase their own newly harvested products to take home.

In addition to the Daily Fresh grand opening 34 vendors provided all types of food, drinks, crafts, clothing, plants, environmental information and fun activities.

Open Day food booths included just about anything you craved: local food including Cadushy cactus soup, stobas, BBQ, lasagne, crepes, smoothies, fruit pops, pastiches, cakes, local sweets, fresh local fruit drinks, specialty coffee, wine booth and a bar with all types of beverages. Craft booths sold every variety of plant, local medicinal herb products, clothing and even shoes.

Staff and volunteers from STINAPA and the Mangrove Maniacs provided information about their work, Washington Slagbaai National Park and the Bonaire Marine Park. Kid's and 'big kids' could even plant their own mangrove tree.

Cute youngsters competed in a Halloween costume contest and won prizes from a local toy store. Attendees were entertained by the Kolegio Kristu Bon Wardador school dance team performing the cultural ribbon and Simadon dances. Two bands, J.C. & Friends and Trio Sabrosito provided great background music for the festive spirit of the day and enter-

tained the crowd enjoying the day under the shaded patio area. There was even a bounce house to keep the kids happy.

The final event of the day was awarding Jeannine Toy winner of the raffle for Chef Helmi Smeulders' "Dinner in the Field" event at Daily Fresh on November 11/12.

Commenting on the day, Bob and Lauri Janssen said, "It was an incredible day. We were so happy to see so many people as enthusiastic as we are about agriculture on Bonaire. We are thankful for all the support from the organizations, individuals, and of course the government

**Daily Fresh, to page 15**



**Daily Fresh commissioned MoltenWolf Glass for this signature piece to display in the shop.**



## Parties unite to defend BonLab from ZJCN closure

Bonaire needs more than one medical testing lab. That was the firm message carried to The Hague this week by a group of party leaders from the Island Council of Bonaire. Previously ZJCN attempted to terminate its contract with BonLab and assign all medical testing on the island to Mariadal's laboratory. That move was temporarily blocked by the Public Body. But ZJCN, citing cost savings, continues to press to shut down BonLab.

Supporters of BonLab question Mariadal's capacity to serve both the hospital's needs and the public's needs for testing, especially given the rapid population growth. They also point out that Mariadal is not set up to provide the home care to less mobile clients that BonLab provides, and that Mariadal has to send some samples to Curaçao for testing that BonLab can test here.

Supporters of BonLab emphasize that a critical health care function on the island would hang by a slender thread if turned over to a single-provider monopoly. The delegation from the Island Council was led by Tjin Asjoe, Abraham, Bernabela and Coffie.

DMR

## 95% have not shown up for their new Covid-19 vaccination

People need another Covid-19 booster, according to GGD head Michael Mercuur and vaccination doctor Selly Pourier. The new vaccine protects better than the earlier ones, and the effect of the previous injections is slowly fading away. Until November 26 people can visit one of the vaccination locations without making an appointment. After November 26, vaccination is only possible by appointment.

In the coming weeks the Public Health Department will offer citizens the opportunity to get a repeat vaccination at additional locations. For example, there is a vaccination session scheduled for Friday, November 11, 2022 at El Mundo. Citizens can still receive the repeat vaccination at SGB in Playa, the Chinese Club and in Rincon.

For more information about the repeat vaccination and vaccination centers please visit [www.bonairegov.com](http://www.bonairegov.com) or call the toll-free number 0800 0800.

## Help available for agricultural entrepreneurs

The Public Body is assisting entrepreneurs begin or increase production of vegetables and fruit on Bonaire. Entrepreneurs can be assigned lots at the LVV site. Coaches from the agricultural program 'Simia pa produkto' will help them write a business plan, and the Public Entity Bonaire will pay half of the tractor costs for plowing their agricultural site.

Qredits Bonaire, an organization formed four years ago to strengthen entrepreneurship on the island, offers microcredit loans up to \$50,000 to support agricultural startups. It also offers mentoring and practical advice to new business owners.

Promoting sustainable agriculture and rural development is one of the Executive Council's priorities. According to Deputy Thielman, lack of financial resources is currently a primary obstacle for local entrepreneurs. The OLB and Qredits Bonaire are creating extra financial scope for expansion and sustainability of existing agricultural companies, plus an opportunity for new companies to get off to a good start.

## Additional subsidies to help lower WEB bills

The OLB is now covering part of the variable usage charge on people's WEB bills until the end of the year. A subsidy from Ministerie EZK already covers the fixed usage charge. Given the two subsidies, WEB customers now pay only a reduced tariff of USD 0.3903 per kWh, for both post-paid and pre-paid (Pagabon).

More than 700 people with a low income have applied for the reimbursement of \$1,300 for electricity or Pagabon. An additional 300 or so received compensation because of their private situation.

Terrence Jansen, the manager of the project No Laga Korie Dal Bo Duru, encourages people to apply, including those who are unsure whether they qualify. According to him,

## Chogogo's imported sand is now on the reef



The controversial beach at Chogogo Resort has been badly eroded. The *BES-Reporter* broke the story with dramatic photos following last week's heavy rains. Much of the sand that the developers deposited on the shoreline without getting a permit, and that they deposited behind a stub of a sea wall that would not have been approved, has ended up exactly where the critics predicted. It has been washed into the ocean and now threatens the health of the reef.

A follow-up visitor to the site reports that the sand the flooding deposited on the walkway has been shoveled back over the sea wall (which looks to be less than a foot high) but the beach is still conspicuously eroded.

DMR /photo Julie Morgan

the surest way to find whether they qualify is to apply. They definitely won't receive the subsidy if they don't apply. For more information: [www.bonairegov.com](http://www.bonairegov.com), > 'Campaigns'.

## Reading Day to resume, volunteers wanted

Reading Day is being resumed in the schools following the corona hiatus. Volunteers are needed to read to the children from 09:00 to 09:30 in all classes of the primary schools. Groups 1 to 4 will be read to in Papiamentu, groups 5 to 8 in Dutch.

Volunteers may bring their own book or get a book from the media bus or the library. The librarians can recommend a good choice if asked.

Louella Mercera is the contact person for inquiries. Writebonaire@gmail.com

## Sustainable flight coming to the islands

The Dutch Caribbean Airport Association (DCCA) is meeting this week in Aruba to talk about the future of aviation as well as connectivity between the islands. The DCCA, a collaboration of the six Caribbean airports within the Kingdom of the Netherlands, provides a vehicle for the airports to help other individually as well as work together to serve the air transport needs of the islands.

A focus of the conference is the pending introduction of electric powered flight service between the islands. There will be speeches and presentations, panel discussions, masterclasses, and flight demonstrations with the Pipistrel Velis Electro, the world's first certified electric aircraft. (*Bonaire.nu*)

DMR

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# Nos Zjilea is the perfect cultural remedy



Leticia (Leti) Beaumont provided samples of her hibiscus and oregano health drinks.

Every last Saturday of each month on Bonaire locals and visitors gather at Mangazina di Rei in Rincon for Nos Zjilea (Our Desire or Yen) cultural festival. Each month has a different theme and guest presentations amidst great, local food, drinks, crafts, music and dance in a setting at one of the most historic buildings on the island.

October’s presentation featured Leticia Beaumont or Leti, an herbalist known for her acquired ancestral knowledge of practical uses of Bonaire plants. She recently contributed her knowledge to a book on herbal drinks with Denise De-Jongh-Rekwest, Bebe Bira Bon.

Every month, Nos Zjilea regulars know Leti and visit her table full of local remedies from salves to drinks for advice on her locally made products can provide

for their well-being.

In her presentation, she displayed various plants from 1% of herbs growing in the wilds of Bonaire but there are so many more. Each plant/herb has a particular purpose or purposes to cure or improve one’s health. Knowing what each plant does is acquired knowledge passed from early Bonaireans.

With Mangazina de Rei’s Experience Coordinator Izain (Izzy) Mercera at her side, Leti explained the uses in Papiamentu as Izzy translated in English.

A few examples of the medicinal plants and remedies:

*Pomegranate* can cure diarrhea and stomach problems.

*Watapana* or Divi Divi tree is especially good for the tonsils and tooth pain but should be chewed, not swallowed.

*Stromelstok* is a good remedy to add to the bath for skin problems.

*Suco* lowers blood sugar in diabetes.

*Alas Mulato* can provide help with inflammation, aches, pains and kidney problems.

*Yerba di Sangura* is used for cleaning the stomach.

*Soer* can calm, lower blood pressure and for a good night’s sleep.

Leti provided samples of her Hibiscus Punch and Oregano drink.

Throughout the day attendees enjoyed music from Farley’s Entertainment and JC & Friends while they enjoyed local food including homemade soups and freshly baked bread from a stone oven. And there is even a bar featuring your favorite drink. Art from Notchi Coffie was on display, handmade guitars, re-

cycled paper jewelry and more. And of course, Leti’s herbal medicine was available. EchoBonaire.org provided information on preserving the yellow-shouldered Amazon parrot and reforestation.

For the next four months, Izzy will be getting some help managing Nos Zjilea from intern/ student, Ize Volleberg from the Netherlands.

The next Nos Zjilea is scheduled for November 26 with a a full schedule including a theme of “In our Nature” and will present the next Miss Bonaire.

To learn more about Mangazina de Rei Cultural Park including their amazing museum visit [www.mangazinadirei.org](http://www.mangazinadirei.org) or their Facebook page. Open Tuesday to Friday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Photos/story Julie Morgan

More photos on our Facebook page



Albert Crestian helps out his family with the popular traditional bread baking in a wood fired oven

## FOR SALE Ocean View Villa Caribbean Club Villa 303



- Location: Caribbean Club Resort
- Lot size : 209 m2 / 2250 sq.ft lease land
- 2 bedrooms / 2 bathrooms / storage



- Large fully screened in porch with ocean views
- Fully furnished, AC in living + bedrooms

Virtual 3D tour



Asking price \$499,000 US Dollar

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# Local boaters upset about mooring regulations

Several of Bonaire's long-term boaters on the waterfront overnight moorings have been asked to move due to policy line in their mooring contract. Harbour Village Marina and STINAPA supervise the moorings and the marina and uphold the contract.

The controversy is with regulation #6 that states:

Overnight moorings can only be used by people who do not have a Sedula and are visiting Bonaire. The maximum period to use an overnight mooring cannot exceed a period of a half year. Please note: maximum periods of stay can differ based on nationality and country of origin. (U.S. and Dutch are allowed six months while other countries only three)

At present 15 boat owners carry a Bonaire sedula making them residents. Many became sedula holders during the Covid crisis and have kids in our schools.

The boaters are saying if they sign the contract then they are in violation due to regulation #6 making it invalid and a breach of contract. Several of the sedula holding boaters attempted to pay their mooring fees and were denied due to the #6 item.

Ideally, these long-term boaters would move to private moorings. But there are only so many available and a waiting list is in place. Their other option is to move to one of Bonaire's marinas which they say is not ideal.

In September 2021, STINAPA sent a letter to boat owners that stayed on the overnight moorings for longer than a half year and/ or were Bonaire residents. The letter described types of moorings available and who could use them. The government was lenient during the pandemic and a deadline was now set for the boaters to move from the overnight moorings by January 1, 2022.

## The boaters say:

In her role as manager of the mooring field, STINAPA has drawn up a policy stating that the moorings along the boulevard may only be used by temporary visitors. Boats whose users have a Sedula must be moored on a private mooring. That applies to about 15 boats.

The idea behind this policy is embraced by the relevant group of boats. In order to implement the policy, STINAPA must ensure sufficient private moorings. She has failed to do so to this day. This resulted in a long waiting list. So far this has not led to any problems because STINAPA tolerates that Sedula holders use the tourists moorings.

Recently, however, STINAPA has amended the rental conditions for the moorings, which explicitly state that the use of visitor moorings by Sedula holders is prohibited. There are signs that STINAPA will soon summon this group of boats to leave the mooring field. However, the marina is full so the boats have nowhere to go but leave the island.

But that's not an option at all for most. There are boats with school going children, people who work on the island, people who have hospital appointments or other obligations and appointments on the island. That leads to all sorts of dire

cases.

Now, to maintain rules without offering an alternative is unreasonable and inhumane. It may even be discriminatory because a group of people are banned from using the mooring field because they are registered in a certain country. The group does not understand the urgent need to maintain just 1 point now, while there are so many other abuses in the mooring field that STINAPA does nothing about. Just this week alone, a jet ski and some dinghies raced through the mooring field and there was a major oil slick. Every day there are beginner divers close to the surface of the water and are therefore at risk. STINAPA is then nowhere to be seen. Earlier this year, unfortunately, a girl died in Aruba after being hit by a speeding boat.

The boats call on the government to intervene immediately and check the new conditions of STINAPA against the law and the constitution and to offer an appropriate solution to the Sedula holders who have finally imported their boat to the island for a lot of money. You must first facilitate before maintaining the rules.

## In response, Bonaire Marine Park manager Judith Raming wrote:

STINAPA did not change the rules and regulations regarding the use of overnight moorings nor did it change policy around the use of overnight moorings. STINAPA is the manager of the moorings placed in the BNMP and we have placed three type of moorings to accommodate three types of use:

Private moorings to accommodate residents who have a boat registered on Bonaire – I refer to art. 20 sub 3 Eilandsbesluit Onderwaterpark Bonaire which stated that private moorings can only be used if the applicant for use is registered as a citizen of Bonaire and has a boat in ownership which is registered at the Harbor Office of Bonaire.

Overnight moorings to accommodate visiting guests who are not having a registered boat nor residency on Bonaire – I refer to art. 22 Eilandsbesluit Onderwaterpark Bonaire.

Public moorings – to be used by all boats with a maximum of 13 meters with a maximum of 2 hours per use – I refer to art. 23 Eilandsbesluit Onderwaterpark Bonaire.

We did integrate a new contract for the use of overnight moorings because of the waste water project and the pump out station that is installed at Harbour Village Marina.

STINAPA does not have to ensure that all boats that are imported by residents on Bonaire are accommodated with the use of a private mooring. STINAPA manages the moorings in the BNMP to ensure that there is a correct balance between use and nature which means that conservation and protection of nature should not be harmed/damaged by the placement of moorings to accommodate boats. It is incorrect to state that STINAPA tolerates residents to use the overnight mooring. I refer to the attached letter that was sent out last year to all residents who were



then using the overnight moorings.

After sending out this letter some residents contacted STINAPA and asked to use the overnight moorings longer due to private problems with accommodating boats in another matter. We have made agreements with these boat owners that boat owners have followed. Currently we have to deal with one boat owner who has decided that he isn't going to fulfill the agreement made with STINAPA.

It is correct that we will ask residents to vacate the overnight moorings. We will respect the contracts signed by these residents and have to look at this situation individually; meaning per resident that is currently using an overnight mooring. We are sorry that this is causing stress but at some point we have to adhere to the rules and policy. I do let you know that we are speaking about 15 resident boat owners who have taken use of overnight moorings but we also have at least 35 more resident boat owners who are respecting the rules and policy of STINAPA. They are currently also waiting for the use of a private mooring but do not use an overnight mooring.

I reject all reference to STINAPA acting discriminatory; we are just asking boat owners to adhere to rules and the

policy of STINAPA. We do not have to accommodate all resident boat owners with the use of a private mooring. This is simply not possible. We do not have the space in the BNMP. I also refer to the rules- and regulations of paragraph 6 of Eilandsbesluit Onderwaterpark Bonaire which states where STINAPA can and cannot accommodate boats in the BNMP.

The mandate to act around speeding in the mooring field is with the Harbor Office. When we catch people speeding in the act, our rangers will act on this directly by giving a warning and/ or a charge. When we get reports about speeding in the BNMP, we make incident reports and submit this to the Harbor Office. We work together in picking up these reports actively. The same is happening around leakages with oil in the BNMP. For the sake of completeness I let you know that we have forbidden the use of an overnight mooring to one resident who actually was leaking oil in the BNMP.

STINAPA is always willing to discuss rules and policy with the government. For the sake of completeness I let you know that STINAPA is currently acting with the support of the Harbor Office and Maritime Hub.



## Flooding forces closures and delays repairs

The OLB closed the downtown area and the Malekon to all traffic because of flooding caused by the heavy rains that began on November 5. Local flooding was also reported at various locations on the island, but no evacuations or emergency measures have been needed. Tuesday, November 8 saw numerous power outages on the island that service crews couldn't repair until conditions dried enough to do so. Forecasts indicate that unsettled weather can be expected for the next week or two at least, with intermittent periods of heavy rain.



# NEWS FLASH

## Bonaire maintains its reign as the Number One Shore Diving Destination in the Caribbean/Atlantic region

Scuba Diving magazine announced the results of its 2023 Readers' Choice Awards in the November 2022 issue, recognizing Bonaire in 13 categories. The island received rankings in several categories including six number one spots.

Nearly 6,000 recreational divers participated in Scuba Diving magazine's 30th annual Readers' Choice Survey to name the best diving destinations in the world, with votes counted in a variety of categories based on dive destinations visited over the past two years. Bonaire's reputation as a diver's paradise continues to dominate the scuba scene as the island secured 13 different awards in the 2023 Reader's Choice Awards, including six number one ratings. For the 30th consecutive year, Bonaire has maintained its reign as the number one Shore Diving Destination in the Caribbean/Atlantic region. The island also received first place in five other regional categories including Best Beginner Diving, Best Macro Life, Best Snorkeling,

Best Health of Marine Environment, and Best Underwater Photography.

Additionally, the destination received Reader's Choice rankings in Best Value, Advanced Diving, Big Animals, Wreck Diving, Wall Diving, Best Overall, and Cave, Cavern and Grotto.

According to CEO of Tourism Corporation Bonaire, Miles B M Mercera, "We are celebrating as a community as this recognizes the hard work and eco-efforts done by several partners on island to keep Bonaire Blue and focused on its vision for sustainability. This is not only considered an award but a recognition of what truly matters to us which is the synergy and love between mother nature and human nature. On behalf of all us, as we say in our local language Pabien (congrats) Bonaire for its 30th consecutive year being recognized as the number one Shore Diving Destination in the Caribbean/Atlantic region. #Diversparadise"

The 2023 Readers' Choice Awards are published on [www.scubadiving.com](http://www.scubadiving.com) and in the November 2022 issue of the magazine.

## Tourism more than recovered, is now growing

Tourism Corporation Bonaire (TCB) reports that 14,303 stayover visitors arrived during October, approximately 17% more than the 12,200 who came in October, 2019, the pre-pandemic benchmark year. Half of them, 7,274, were Dutch and 20%, 2,951, were from the U.S. Additionally 1,841, 13%, visited from Curaçao. Germany, Belgium, Canada, and the United Kingdom all

sent twice the number of visitors than in September.

The Dutch visitors stayed an average of 14 nights. The U.S. visitors averaged seven nights. Overall, the visitors ranged between 46 and 65 years of age. Five cruise ships arrived in September carrying a total of 14,398 passengers.

The annual Bonaire Regatta is considered a signature event that attracted visitors to the island during October.

## Everyone vote for Bonaire, TBC says

Travel + Leisure's 2023 World's Best Awards are open for voting and Bonaire is on the ballot in the 'islands' category.

Voting is open through February 27th, 2023. We encourage you to send this survey to all employees, loyal customers, friends, and family, asking them to please vote. You'll need to register and check that you traveled to the Caribbean/Bonaire on the survey in order to vote. Every vote counts! You can view the official rules and regulations to promote the nomination here:

<https://wba.mrr.com/documents/TL%20WBA%20Promotion%20Guidelines%202023.pdf>



The 46th Annual DEMA show held November 1-4, bounced back with enthusiasm after a lax following in 2021 due to the Covid pandemic. The Bonaire Pavilion had a new look and feel. Bonaire Partners included: AB-Dive, Belnem House, BONHATA, Buddy Dive Resort, Captain Don's Habitat, Chogogo Beach & Dive Resort, Courtyard by Marriott, Dive Friends Bonaire, Divi Flamingo Beach Resort, Grand Windsock, Plaza Beach & Dive Resort, Resort Bonaire, STINAPA, Tourism Corporation Bonaire, and VIP Diving. DEMA Show 2023 will be held in new Orleans, Louisiana Nov. 14-17. The Bonaire Reporter Nov. 9 - Nov. 23, 2022

# Ask Bob

## Bonaire real estate advice



Dear Bob –

*I just bought a property on Bonaire, and I don't live full time on Bonaire. What do I do now??*

There are a few things you need to do right away:

- **A property manager.** If you don't live on the island, the first thing you should do is hire a caretaker or property manager. If you are not planning to rent out your house, you will still need someone to act as a caretaker and check your house monthly, or more often. It is normally required by your insurance company that you have a local caretaker who checks on your property on a regular basis. Your caretaker can also make sure your other vendors are doing a good job and coordinate any home repairs that might be needed while you are gone.

- **Water and Electricity:** Once you own a property on Bonaire you need to go the WEB, located on Kaya Grecia, and set up an account. You will need to show WEB a copy of your ownership deed and an ID like a passport or Sedula. And you will set up one account for your water service and trash pickup and one account for your electricity. The security deposit for water is currently \$100, plus a one time connection fee of \$40.00. The security deposit for electricity is currently \$150 plus an additional \$75 for each air conditioning unit you have at the house plus a connection fee that is also \$40.

- **Internet/TV:** For most locations on Bonaire there are two primary providers of Internet service and TV. You can take your choice of either TELBO ([www.telbo.net](http://www.telbo.net)) or Flamingo TV ([www.flamingotv.com](http://www.flamingotv.com)). Both companies also offer bundled services combining TV/Internet/Telephone services. Costs and deposits vary depending on your location and

the services and internet speed that you want. Many areas of Bonaire now have high speed fiber available.

- **Home Owners Insurance:** Most insurance companies provide insurance covering first and storm damage and they can also provide liability coverage. There are at least three large Insurance companies on Bonaire: Guardian Group ([https://myguardiangroup.com/en\\_DTC\\_home](https://myguardiangroup.com/en_DTC_home)), Nagico (<https://www.nagico.com/>) and Ennia (<https://www.ennia.com/en/>). All three companies provide both home owners insurance and automobile insurance. You can contact each company directly, or you can use an insurance broker who will shop all three companies (and some others) and try to find you the best deal.

If you have purchased an apartment or condo the homeowners insurance is usually paid for by the Homeowners Association, HoA or the VvE, but if the VvE/HoA is paying for the insurance they normally DO NOT insure the contents of your property like furniture, appliances, so you need a separate policy for that.

- **Gardener:** If you bought a house, or a property with a garden you will need to hire someone to take care of the garden, when you are away. This will involve trimming the trees and bushes during the rainy season and picking up leaves, etc. during the dry season. There are a lot of garden maintenance companies on Bonaire who do a good job. The best way to find one is to ask your neighbors who they use and try that service for yourself.

- **Pool:** If you purchased a house with a pool it is very important to find a good pool maintenance person. Make sure you hire a pool maintenance person who has experience with your pool equipment including the pump and filters, and chlorination system. This is also a service that you can ask your neighbors about who they use.

We encourage people to check the references of any service provider before they hire them. Make sure they are reliable and will show up every week or every month to take of your property.

*Bob Bartikoski, Broker/Owner  
Re/Max Bonaire*

**If you have a real estate question or want to buy or sell property, email me at [bob@bonairehomes.com](mailto:bob@bonairehomes.com) or call or WhatsApp me at +5990786-7362**

## Government still pondering the stray dog problem

According to their news release, the working group appointed to attempt to solve the long time stray dog irritant on the island has concluded "the problem is complex and involves more than nuisance from stray dogs." It cites an increase in people being bitten as well. The group intends to tackle the problem using "a short- and medium-term approach," the release says. Those approaches will use "all the instruments available from the government."

In the shorter term, owners will be fined for letting their dogs run unsupervised. Under the existing legislation the enforcement options are limited. Therefore updated legislation will need to be passed.

The two medium term solutions will be "making provisions and information." The provisions the working group has mind are not stated, although the free sterilization program is mentioned as an example.

An information campaign will be launched November. "Information is based on awareness and that is primarily a long-term issue. As a community, we need to recognize that we don't always take good care of our pets. We are not saying that we will determine exactly how that should be done, but we can help and provide information on how you can best meet the necessary care that having a dog entails as a dog owner. In the coming period we will regularly draw attention to this and we would like to start that conversation with you." *DMR*





I am the Witch, de heks, la bruja de Halloween. This past Halloween, our Kaya Grandi 'Trick or Treat' group sweetly celebrated its 25 years! It's an amazing fun-filled event of sugary treats made possible by the generosity of our Kaya Grandi merchants. They do it willingly, free of charge, treating 150 kids with big-heartedness and excitement.

Our group is truly thankful to them for the treats and, most importantly, for this special day.

Let me try to tell you what these 25 years of 'Trick or Treat' has meant to so many...

This day, is a day of **fantasy**. Bringing to life our children's dreams so that for this one day, they can be whomever, whatever, they want to be. Of living in the moment of our children, and our inner child.

This day, is a day of **magic**. Child super heroes turning into teenage zombies. Pink princesses morphing into black witches. Moms and dads magically becoming Disney characters they have loved all their lives.

This day, is a day of **joy**. With pure happiness in the unfolding of a bonbon wrapper and little fingers tugging at me to share a treasured sweet with their Witch. Families, friends sharing a cocooned moment of joy, away from worries.

This day, is a day of **memories**. Filled with the nostalgia of endearing and embarrassing photos that many young adults ask me to dig up for them. Tante...do you have a picture of me in my pirate costume, as a fairy,

Superman, Batman? Their childhood is snugly woven into the fabric of their Halloween costumes.

This day, is a day of **blessings**. As your Witch, I have been blessed to share a small, but significant, part of your family's life. Seeing your toddlers turn into teens and reach that moment when they feel too old to Trick or Treat. Letting us know they have other paths to discover and blessedly, they can.

For 25 years, we have made life-long memories together. Every Halloween, I am asked if this is my last one. Stop being a part of magic, fantasy and joy? And I smile a witchy smile.

*Corine Gerhart Tapiero*

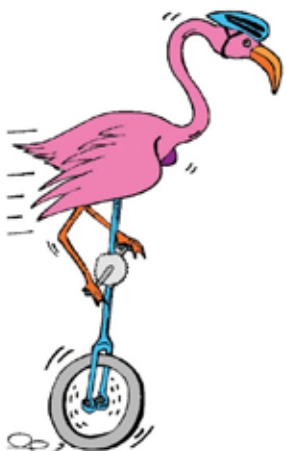
**Over the years, our beloved Trick or Treat Shops. (\*+10 years). THANK-YOU!!!**

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# Reef Glimpses

by Dee Scarr

## Sponge Gardening

Have you ever thought about how amazing Bonaire's sponges are? When I was guiding for Dive Bonaire, I'd introduce divers to the members of Bonaire's Over-Forty Purple Tube Sponge Club. The Club, an "organization" (I invented) of purple tube sponges in formations with 40 or more tubes, had a surprising number of members.

And, ever since I saw filmmaker John Stoneman mark water movement through sponges with milk, I've been doing the same thing. Well, okay, not exactly. I started out doing the same thing, but discovered that leaving milk in my truck for several days wasn't a great idea. So, I switched to food coloring, and my buddies get to see how sponges move water.

I was excited about showing sponge circulation to the other divers on my next tropical Pacific liveaboard trip, until I got in the water, and it registered on me how few sponges lived there, and how small they were! Other Caribbean sites I've dived have had more sponges than the tropical Pacific, but always fewer and/or less colorful sponges than Bonaire.

Conclusion: if you want to see a reef with more sponges in more colors than a grocery store cleaning-products aisle, sponges in a variety of shapes and sizes, sponges which are living communities of cells creating fantastic formations –



Newly-tied sponges on a Karel's pier piling are joined by a trumpetfish. Photo: Dee Scarr



Many sponges, torn from North Pier pilings during a wind reversal, were swept together into this hollow. Only the ones on the edges have survived. Photo Dee Scarr

if you want all that, there's no place in the world better than Bonaire, Sponges' Paradise.

Bonaire is also a great place to learn about sponges. For example, what happens to a sponge which breaks away from its base and is no longer attached to anything?

Much of the time the sponge ends up resting against a rock, or a shell, or even a piece of debris. If it stays in contact, it can attach itself to that surface, and will do just fine. But not always.

Our recent wind reversals have been tough on shallow sponges. When we dived around the North Pier for the Clean-up Dive in October, for example, we found a hollow where dozens of detached sponges had ended up. Most of them died, because too many sponge communities were trying to filter oxygen and food from the same water; sponges don't normally live in such dense populations.

The healthiest of the detached sponges, however, plus unattached sponges from the nearby reef, have been collected for the creation of Bonaire's first sponge garden. In the late 1980's we practiced for this by tying more than 600 sponges back onto Old Pier (aka North Pier) pilings. In the previous year, all growth – corals, sponges, Christmas tree worms, etc. -- had been scraped from fifty of the Pier's 200 pilings to check for structural problems. Of all that growth, nothing was capable of reattaching except the sponges, so we tied them onto pilings until there

were no loose ones left. Many of those sponges still flourish.

Although there's no room for more growth on Bonaire's established piers, Karel's new pier has more than 30 pilings. Naked pilings. Pilings just waiting for sponges. Karel was happy with the idea, I was approved for a permit to relocate nearby unattached sponges, and the world's first sponge garden was begun right here on Bonaire.

Currently, 50 sponges have been tied onto five pilings. Some feel like they're already attached.

So, when you pass Karel's pier, take a look at the pilings. Some sponges can be seen from the surface at the Beach Bar, but the best view -- of course -- is underwater through a mask. I'll be giving updates on the garden, but everyone is welcome to visit in person. We hope you enjoy it!



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

## Arno Verhoeven heads up DCNA.



Arno Verhoeven will head the Dutch Caribbean Nature Alliance (DCNA) as of November 1st. The DCNA is a regional partnership of protected area management organizations on the six islands of the Dutch Caribbean (Aruba, Bonaire, Curacao, Saba, St. Eustatius and St. Maarten).

Verhoeven is an entrepreneur and conservationist. He grew up in the Netherlands, graduating with a BA in marketing. For 20 years he ran an advertising agency before he started one of the first Dutch internet service providers. In 2014 he joined an international big data company specializing in social media monitoring tools. He helped develop the first algorithm that could recognize the Papiamentu and Papiamento languages for governments on Bonaire and Curaçao.

In 2018 Verhoeven, his wife and two daughters moved to Bonaire. He joined the mangrove restoration work in Lac and is now a board member of the Mangrove Maniacs Foundation.

Speaking of his new role as Executive Director at DCNA, Verhoeven said:

"DCNA is magnificent. In essence this alliance is about working together... I believe that if you help others to thrive, you will thrive yourself. What makes me proud to serve this team is this collective spirit, where the differences between the islands are an enrichment and where the similarities easily make us aware that we are all in the same boat."

DCNA press release  
Photo Julie Morgan.

## POLICE REPORT

### Property crime

**Oct. 25/26.** A house on Kaya Hobo was burgled. Thieves took, among other things, a Playstation 5.

**Oct. 23.** A house on Kaya Barakuda was burgled. Thieves broke in between 12 noon and 4:30 p.m. and stole, among other things, a Samsung television, an Inventum vacuum cleaner, some Buddha to Buddha jewelry, a silver Apple MacBook, a make-up bag and sunglasses. The case is under investigation.

### Traffic accidents/violations

**Oct. 30.** On Kaya Nikiboko South a scooter driver lost control and fell from his scooter when the car in front of him suddenly braked. He was taken to hospital by ambulance.

**Oct. 30.** During the night hours on the Kaminda di Rincon a car crashed into a tree in the mondi. The driver stated that he lost control because he wanted to avoid a pothole. Two of the three occupants were taken to hospital by ambulance.

**Oct. 26.** Around 11 p.m., the central

control room received a report about a collision on Kaminda Djabou. When two cars collided, the driver of one of the cars lost control and crashed into a house. The driver and the resident of the house were injured. They were taken to hospital by ambulance.

### Public safety.

If you are driving on Bonaire's roads Nov. 4 to 18 expect to see lights flashing and sirens wailing. The officers of the Royal Netherlands Marechaussee (Koninklijke Marechaussee, KMar) are taking a driving proficiency training course. They are learning how to move quickly

and, above all, safely to an (emergency) call. The training will take place on weekdays, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. The Royal Netherlands Marechaussee asks Bonaire's residents and road users to be aware of the training and to respond to emergency signals as usual.

### Do you see anything suspicious?

Call 717 800  
or  
the anonymous tip line  
9310



# Waste isn't waste until you waste it



Luuk Bastiaans

subsidies. They discussed the project with Selibon and NOBO to determine their next actions and decided to go forward but in a small way. Specialized equipment was necessary, and a location were needed. Just as things were beginning to fall into place, Covid hit and everything came to a halt. Hesterman returned in 2017 to the Netherlands and began her own company Charlutions, Marine Conservation and Waste Management Consultancy. She was still very much a part of NwCV and purchased much of the necessary equipment for plastic recycling. Hesterman got to work testing the machinery, producing products and even selling them in the Netherlands. In September 2021, the equipment was delivered to Bonaire and in June 2022, the recycling company moved into their warehouse location. Bastiaans began test recycling Bonaire plastic waste with the equipment. But they soon discovered Bonaire's humidity had a slightly different effect on the process than in the Netherlands, a glitch that they eventually solved.

Both partners are committed to this recycling project with Bastiaans on Bonaire full time and Hesterman here for six months of the year.

To produce the recycled product they use a crusher, grinder, press, oven and, of course, plastic. But not just any plastic; it has to be #2 or #5.

# 2 – HDPE (High-Density Polyethylene) is the stiff plastic used for milk jugs, detergent, shampoo bottles, toys and some plastic bags. It is the most commonly recycled plastic and is thought to



be one of the safest forms of plastic. It is used to make picnic tables, plastic lumber, waste bins, park benches, truck bed lines and plastic raised garden beds.

#5 – PP (Polypropylene) is tough and lightweight. It's used as a barrier against moisture, grease and chemicals. You'll find it in the liner of your cereal box, disposable diapers, pails, bottle tops, butter and yogurt containers, chip bags, straws, packing tape and even rope. Recycled #5 is used for landscape borders, battery cases, brooms, bins, and trays.

Before production begins, the plastic has to be washed. Then it is crushed, grinded, melted and poured into molds to be recycled into a new product. Currently NwCV is making clipboards, magnets, keyrings, coasters, bowls, placemats and floor tiles.

"We know we aren't solving the problem, but we are helping. We have a devotion to the project. It's all about the

project; we aren't trying to make any real money at the moment but we need more machines if we want to continue long-term. We want to build everything from sustainable items," said Bastiaan, "We have a good life. We want to give something back. Be good to Bonaire and Bonaire will be good to you."

If you would like to donate your clean recyclable plastic and give it new life rather than have it end up in the landfill, contact NwCV on their Facebook page by sending a message.

No Waste products are currently sold at Multishop and Marriott Watersports.

Luuk Bastiaans is a retired financial advisor and wine importer from the Netherlands. He and his wife Marianne Zengerink are both involved in projects that turn waste into useable products.

Story/Photos Julie Morgan

\*The Roundup.org and WeForum.org



## Flamingo tales we love

We know you like awesome success stories and so do we. How about this one?

We have received two separate sightings of flamingos that we have released from the rehab. The first one was rescued at Delfins Beach Resort, Punt Vierkant, on the June 11 this year, weighing just over 800 grams (1.76 lb). We released her back into the sanctuary on July 29. She was spotted last week 120 km (74.56 mi) south of here at the Cuare Wildlife Refuge in the state of Falcon, Venezuela.

The second was rescued on the April 22, 2021 at the Lighthouse Beach Resort, also Punt Vierkant, and released on the May 29 of 2021. She was not returned to the salt pans but set free at the rehab where she joined our famous breakfast group. And now, 1.5 years later she has been spotted at the Laguna de Unare in the state of Anzoátegui, Venezuela, 390 km (242.33 mi) southeast of Bonaire.

This is just fantastic news and confirms that the work we and our team of awesome volunteers have been doing is successful. Well done beautiful birds. Hopefully we will see you back here for the breeding season in a few years.

Elly Albers

*Thank you to Nohelys Díaz, Cuare Wildlife Refuge Coordinator, and Juan Zambrano, for the flamingo report at Unare Lagoon, Anzoátegui.*



The red marks are the two reserve locations: Cuare to the west of Caracas and Unare Lagoon to the east.

**You can get the repeater vaccine at a drop in center until November 26:  
We are all safe when we are all safe! (see page 2)**



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# Bonaire's sky park

## Watch satellites pass over Bonaire

People can sign up to be notified when Starlink satellites, and even the Space Station itself, will pass over Bonaire and be visible from the ground.

**Starlink** is the name of the satellite network being launched by Elon Musk's SpaceX. The network provides high-speed broadband internet access, particularly for rural and remote areas. Satellite internet is reportedly 47% faster than fiber-optic cable on earth.

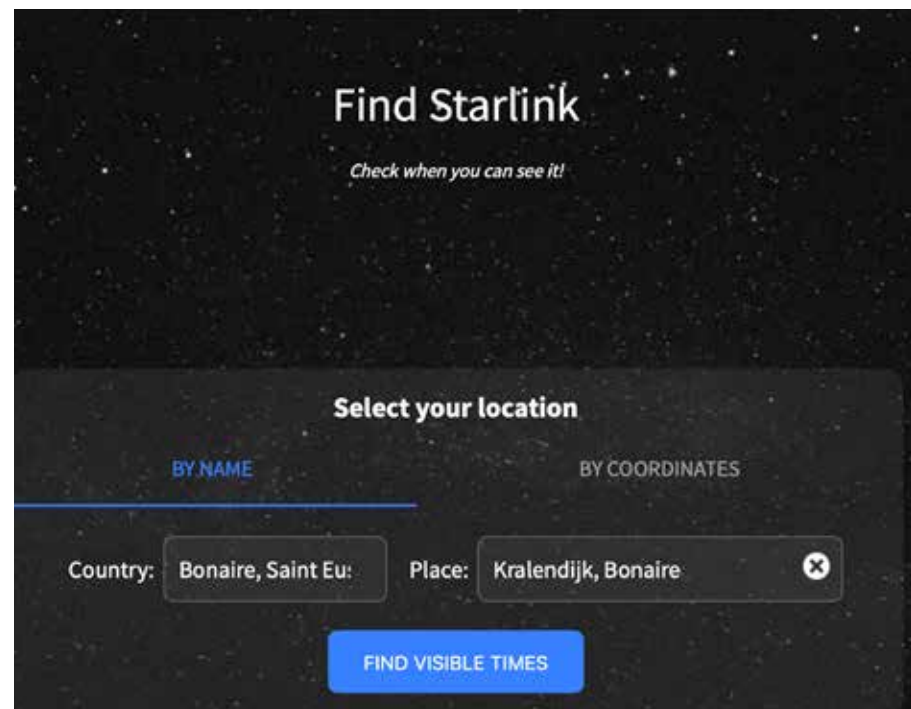
SpaceX plans to send up at least 12,000 Starlink satellites, and perhaps as many as 30,000 eventually. Each weighs 550 pounds (227 kilograms) and is about the size of a coffee table. They circle the earth at an altitude of 340 miles (550 km). That is low enough to assure they all will be pulled down by gravity as their effective life winds down and their speed slows. Then they will burn up as they enter the earth's atmosphere.

When launched the Starlink satellites, 46 or more at a time, are visible for about 48 hours as a string of lights heading upwards from earth as each moves toward its separate orbit. Eventually one of every 15 lights in the night sky will be a satellite. There is speculation that more and more satellite launchings account for the increase in reported UFO sightings.

Starlinks are brightly visible in the night sky as groups of satellites moving together. Astronomers have begun to call the satellite groups "virtual constellations." They are concerned that the satellite clusters will disrupt the work of the observatories around the earth that search into the deep space of the universe.

**Space Station.** People can also sign up with NASA to be notified when the Space Station itself will pass over Bonaire and be visible from the ground. Use the email:

[HQ-spotthestation@mail.nasa.gov](mailto:HQ-spotthestation@mail.nasa.gov)



To sign up for Starlink satellites, go to the website for SpaceX Starlink Satellites and sign up for space Station flyover alerts.

Our thanks to Bonaire resident, Lynne Ahlstedt, who told us how to sign up for space station sightings. DMR

## Making Bonaire Accessible

by Ria Evers-Dokter

### To light a candle...

About 20 years ago, after a vicious attack and a long period of intensive physiotherapy I was officially declared unfit for work.

That was a hard nut to crack, but there was no other way. I needed to find something to do, to occupy myself.

I decided to make candles. I was familiar with the craft, since I had successfully set up candle making at the FKPD (Fundashon pa Kuido pa Personanan Desabilita. / Foundation for Disabled Persons). I learned from the master!

Candle making is not very hard. You cannot go wrong but should you go wrong, you just melt the product and start all over again until it is right.

Buying wax was very expensive, so I decided to get people to donate their old

candle stumps. I melted them and passed the molten wax through pantyhose to clean the wax. For molds I used anything that I could find.

We lived on an island in the North Sea where one could harvest lots of Japanese oysters. The shells made awesome forms. I placed an artificial pearl on the wax-filled shell and the result was beautiful. I bought molds in heart shapes to make different candles and I donated the proceeds to the foundation "Heart for Haiti." It made me feel very good.

I also specialized in making very personal candles and restored broken candles, giving church candles a new life. It was very satisfying. I learned to make candles despite my impediment and became known as "the candle lady."

I learned that people love to give a candle to friends who need comfort. People often burn candles as a ritual to keep loved ones who passed away near to their heart, for a special ambiance.

In the beginning of November, candles are lit for special people who passed away to remember them by and to pray.

But why only burn candles when the loved ones are not here anymore? One can also burn candles for a birthday, a feast, a romantic event, a wedding or a celebration.

If I had my way, I wish that everybody would burn candles for all those brave persons who sit at home because they cannot leave, have nowhere to go and who are lonely and need company.

For all those with an impediment and keep on fighting to get well or get better. For all those working in hospitals and care facilities who bust their backs to make people better. For all ambulance staff who are always on time to save lives

and get patients safely to a hospital.

For all the volunteers who visit lonely elderly and make them smile and feel loved. For all the policy makers who try to improve lives of so many in need.

For all parents who have children with special needs and family members who take care of them.

And, for all who are fighting for their life and those who care for them.

May all those little lights shine for anyone in need.



Ria Dokter is living happily on Bonaire, where she also used to work as a director at the FKPD and started Special Olympics Bonaire. She took care of her husband (R.I.P) for many years and feels that accessibility is the most important issue on our island.

## Creating optimal health

by Irene da Cunda Costa

### Attachment to the result, one of the ego traps.

A few issues ago I wrote about the ego traps. The ego is neither good nor bad. It gives us a certain degree of internal coherence and has been essential in our evolutionary history to protect us from external threats. As the venom is in the dose, the excess of ego creates traps that generate unnecessary suffering. One of the traps is the attachment to the result.

I have a few simple examples of daily situations where you might see yourself reflected. A few weeks ago, a friend of mine was preparing a dessert. As often happens here in Bonaire, he couldn't find all the exact ingredients for the original recipe, so he had to substitute some of them. As soon as he finished it, he tried it and with a disapproving gesture said: "It is bad! It shouldn't taste like this!!!" Another person tried it and said: "it's fabulous, it couldn't taste better!!!" This is a very graphic example of attachment

to the result. Depending on the person's expectations, a result can provide happiness or suffering. Fortunately, this event did not cause excessive suffering. With a simple discussion, I was able to convince the "cook" that the dessert was delicious as it was, regardless of his expectations and we all enjoyed a great dinner with a delicious dessert.

On another occasion, a famous photographer told me that some prints he had ordered came with the wrong colors and he was thinking about discarding them. I asked him to invite me to see the photos. Although I could see the difference of the colors on the different impressions, I found some of the ones that were in the "disqualified" group to be more beautiful, intense and vivid. I don't know if I got the artist to accept my arguments, but I don't think he destroyed the "bad" ones in the end.

The greatest suffering usually comes from personal disappointments such as instances when we expect a specific reaction from a person and it does not happen. It hurts us so much that we blame the other person for not living up to our expectations. We forget that we are not the world's meter, and that each person is different. This is very fortunate because if we all react in the same way to similar circumstances, the world would not only be boring, but there would not be room for innovation and change. Cultivating openness to receive unexpected results or reactions, contrary to our expectations, is a permanent exercise. The practice of mindfulness and self-knowledge help us in this regard.

It is relatively easy to see the ego traps in another person. What is challenging is recognizing them in oneself. The practice of mindfulness helps us to develop the internal observer, to slow down the course of our thoughts and to recognize our visceral and emotional changes. Many of the ego traps manifest themselves through irrational, rapid and

automatic thoughts. By slowing down the flow of our thoughts we can detect these irrational ideas and thinking patterns that produce unnecessary suffering. Sometimes it is through an emotion or gut feeling that we detect a trap. We can also resort to psychotherapy or coaching. Exchanging ideas with a valid interlocutor can give us an external perspective of ourselves. And never underestimate the help and support of good friends who do not always tell us that we are right in everything and with love and kindness can point at some of our ego traps, thus challenging us to be better.



Irene is passionate about health, neurosciences and personal growth. Originally from Uruguay, she is an Integrative Psychotherapist (PNIE), Life Coach (ICF), Master in Nutrition (IUSC) and Yoga Instructor.





**PRESENTS**

# Thanksgiving 2022 - November 24

Butternut squash soup  
Seafood chowder

Homemade cornbread  
Homemade assorted breads

Marinated sweet potato, corn, apple and walnut salad  
Mixed salad  
Crudites mix

Whole roasted turkey served with three kinds of stuffing  
Classic American  
Classic Ground beef  
Rum Runners style

Oven roasted ham with a maple, garlic & bourbon glaze

Sauteed Broccoflower, broccoli and carrot  
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Spicy cranberry & apple relish  
Cranberry sauce  
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At Rum Runners we do our utmost best to work with fresh ingredients only. However being on a small remote island means that these are not always available. If this is the case our chef will adjust the dish accordingly. For this we ask your understanding.

**Plantation Bolivia,  
the never-ending story to protect nature.**



To find the initial Memorandum and the Motion go to:

<https://www.saveplantationbolivia.com/index.php/2022/11/03/breaking-news/>

Regarding Plantation Bolivia it has been rather silent since June 2022 when Bonaire Properties held at least two presentations for invitees-only. In these presentations they showed their megalomaniac plans to develop more than 2.000 houses (mainly investment properties), and thereby destroying the valuable nature.

## Initial Memorandum

On October 26, 2022, this changed. Bonaire Properties submitted their Initial Memorandum [startnotitie] for the Environmental Impact Assessment [Milieu Effect Rapportage] for a zone change of Plantation Bolivia allowing to build more than 2.000 houses, five ecolodges etc. It is worth noting that this Initial Memorandum is dated November 2021, more than half a year before they presented their detailed (again changed) plans in June 22.

## Adopted Motion

A second event took place on November 1, 2022, where the Second Chamber of the Dutch Parliament adopted a motion (120 of the 149 members in favor) in which they would urge the Executive Council not to take irreversible decisions regarding Plantation Bolivia before the spatial development program is finished (which is now planned for May 2023). This is just after the elections for a new Island Council in March 2023.

## A little more about the Initial Memorandum and what you can do.

The Initial Memorandum is the first step towards an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA: an essential nature investigation for a zone change). The purpose of an Initial Memorandum is to list the backgrounds, principles, and research methods of the project and to describe which matters must be investigated in the EIA. In addition, the Initial Memorandum defines a number of alternatives. Finally, it indicates the (environmental) effects on which the alternatives will be being investigated.

In short, the Initial Memorandum describes the boundaries for the EIA.

Both the initial memorandum and the EIA are drawn up by the developer, so it is very important to read the Initial Memorandum carefully and submit your opinion.

Up till 25 of November 2022 every person can send an opinion about the Initial Memorandum to the executive council (BC). Your opinion should describe the extra subjects which have to be addressed in the EIA and to which detail these (extra) subjects should be investigated. This will improve the Environmental Impact Assessment and help to preserve the beautiful nature of Plantation Bolivia. To find the initial Memorandum and the Motion go to the link above in the heading.

*Foundation Save Plantation Bolivia.*



LVV recorded a total of 167.3 mil. (6.58 in.) of rainfall from November 1 - November 8. Roads under construction and even the new roads (pictured here) were flooded creating slow going and unsafe travel. Residents are complaining that construction of the new roads is inadequate and should have been better planned foreseeing Bonaire's rainy season.



# What's Happening

**Animal Shelter:** Mon-Fri 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; 2-3:30 p.m. Sat. 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m. phone/whatsapp: 701 4989 or 717 4989. Email: [animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com](mailto:animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com)

**Arts & Crafts Market in Wilhelmina Plaza.** Weekly schedule can be found at: <https://www.bonaireartsandcraftscruisemarket.com/market-schedule> or <https://www.facebook.com/BonaireArtsandCraftsCruiseMarket/>

**Cultural Park Mangazina di Rei in Rincon:** Tuesday - Friday -10 - 4

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

**Pakus di Pruga (Animal Shelter flea market. Central Kralendijk):** 8- 4 Saturdays.

**Terramar Museum** Mon-Fri 9-2. Kaya J.N.E. Isla Riba 3. Admission \$10. Residents \$5. Tours \$20. Children under 12 free. <https://terramarmuseum.com>

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

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

November 9 - 30	<b>Terramar after school workshop. Art Exhibition:</b> Create your own art and organize your own exhibition in the museum. Two hours a week, \$20 for the entire workshop. Register: +599 701 4700 <a href="mailto:terramarmuseum@gmail.com">terramarmuseum@gmail.com</a>
Friday, November 18	<b>Meet the Artist,</b> 7 - 9 p.m. MoltenWolf Glass. Kaya J.N.E. Craane Terramar 8 +599 701-1880 <a href="http://www.MoltenWolfGlass.com">www.MoltenWolfGlass.com</a>
Tuesday, November 19	<b>Sinterklaas and his Pieter</b> will arrive in the harbor of Kralendijk 9 a.m.
Saturday, November 26	<b>Chamber of Commerce Art Show</b>
Sunday, November 27	<b>Animal Shelter Holiday Book Fair and Flea Market.</b>
Tuesday, November 8	<b>Kids edition Big Live Nature Quiz.</b> See below.
November 9 - 30	<b>Terramar after school workshop. Art Exhibition:</b> Create your own art and organize your own exhibition in the museum. Two hours a week, \$20 for the entire workshop. Register: +599 701 4700 <a href="mailto:terramarmuseum@gmail.com">terramarmuseum@gmail.com</a>
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Saturday, November 26	<b>Chamber of Commerce Art Show</b>
Sunday, November 27	<b>Animal Shelter Holiday Book Fair and Flea Market.</b>

# Activities, Events & Meetings

**12 steps meeting:** 12 Step Meeting, Wednesdays at Kaya Den Haag 30 in Hato. Meeting starts at 7:15 p.m till 8:30 p.m. Info: [12stepsbonaire@gmail.com](mailto:12stepsbonaire@gmail.com)

**Alcoholics Anonymous open meeting** Every Thursday, 7 - 8 p.m. International Bible Church Kaya Papago 104 in Hato (Behind Bon Bida Spa and Gym and Bon Bida apartments). All welcome, regardless of primary addiction or no addiction at all.

**Beach Tennis Bonaire** can now be found at its new location, the Kaminda Djabou (direct left from Kaya Neerlandia --behind Budget Marine). It is open daily until 10 p.m. People can play for free or register for training and tournaments for a fee.

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



**Echo Conservation Tours** - weekdays at 8 a.m. or 5 p.m. and Saturday 8 a.m. To reserve email at [info@echobonaire.org](mailto:info@echobonaire.org)



**Manta Monday** - Nicole Pelletier of the Caribbean Islands Manta Conservation Program. November's presentations 7:30 p.m. at: Nov. 14 - Beyond the Corals at Bloozz Resort; Nov. 21 - VIP Diving 7:30pm



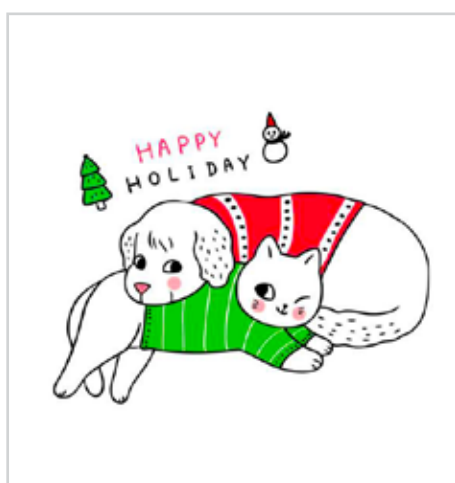
**Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire (STCB).** Free public presentations are held at Yellow Submarine, every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month, at 8 p.m.

## You can help keep Bonaire clean

Saturdays	<b>One Hour Clean up Power.</b> Weekly coastal clean up every Saturday, 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. Location given on FB page: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/OneHourCleanUpPower/">https://www.facebook.com/OneHourCleanUpPower/</a>
Sunday, Nov. 13	<b>Piedra Pretu, 4 - 6 p.m. Clean Coast Bonaire.</b> Held second Sunday of each month at one of three locations. Collect and count. Donate your time by working as a citizen scientist to collect marine litter and data. <a href="https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=clean%20coast%20bonaire">https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=clean%20coast%20bonaire</a> .
<b>Quarterly Clean up Dive, Dive Friends.</b> Held January, April, July and October. Everyone is welcome. If you don't dive, you can snorkel; if you don't snorkel, you can help out on shore. <a href="https://www.divefriendsbonaire.com/eco-activities/quarterly-clean-up-dives/">https://www.divefriendsbonaire.com/eco-activities/quarterly-clean-up-dives/</a>	
<b>Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire.</b> 1. fishing line clean ups with Dive Friends and 2. annual clean up with SELIBON of Klein's beaches that have nest sites. Check FB page for dates. <a href="https://www.facebook.com/bonaireturtles/?ref=hl">https://www.facebook.com/bonaireturtles/?ref=hl</a>	

## BOOK FAIR

Animal Shelter Bonaire will have a Holiday Book Fair and Market on Sunday, November 27 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. (weather permitting). Thousands of books and many market treasures just in time for Christmas. There will be face painting for children (and adults!), beer and soft drinks, Stress Remedy for fireworks season and other special happenings. And of course, you can visit with our many, many cats and dogs. Mark your calendar....see you there!



## International Flights to Bonaire

<b>Amsterdam (AMS)</b>	<b>KLM</b> Daily flights connecting through Aruba <b>TUI</b> Daily
<b>Brussels (BRU)</b>	<b>Air Belgium</b> will fly to and from Bonaire on Dec. 23 & 25 and on Jan 6 & 8, 2023. Will also connect through Curacao.
<b>Atlanta (ATL)</b>	Currently <b>Delta</b> has a weekly Sat. flight. From Dec. 17 to Jan.8, Delta will fly five flights per week: Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri. and Sat. From Jan. 9 to March 8 the flight schedule will be two weekly flights on Wed. and Sat.
<b>Miami (MIA)</b>	<b>American's</b> current flight schedule through Dec. 12 is three weekly flights: Mon., Wed., Sat. Starting Dec. 14 through Jan. 7 there will be daily flights with a Boeing 737 offering more capacity in both Business Class and Main Cabin. January 9 the flight schedule will go back to three weekly flights on Mon. Wed. and Sat. with A319 Jet.
<b>New York (EWR) &amp; Houston (IAH)</b>	<b>United.</b> According to TCB, the flight from Newark, New Jersey with United Airlines is currently on hiatus but will resume on October 29, while flights out of Houston, Texas will remain with a weekly flight to Bonaire on Saturday with return flight on Sunday.

## Tentative cruise ship schedule

DATE:	CRUISE SHIP	TIME	PIER	CAPACITY
Wed. Nov. 9	CELEBRITY EQUINOX	0700-1600	South	2852
Thurs. Nov. 10	ROYAL CLIPPER	1300-1900	North	246
Sat. Nov. 12	DISNEY MAGIC	0730-1700	South	2834
Sun. Nov. 13	AIDAPERLA	0600-2200	South	3286
Mon. Nov. 14	ENCHANTED PRINCESS	0800-1800	South	3660
Tues. Nov. 15	EXPLORER OF THE SEAS	0800-1700	South	3840
Wed. Nov. 16	CARNIVAL HORIZON	0700-1500	South	4683
Wed. Nov. 16	SILVER MOON	0800-2300	North	623
Fri. Nov. 18	CELEBRITY EQUINOX	0700-1600	South	2852
Tues. Nov. 22	BRITANNIA	0700-1800	South	3674
Tues. Nov. 22	ARCADIA	0700-1800	North	2388
Weds. Nov. 23	JEWEL OF THE SEAS	0700-2100	South	2501
Thurs. Nov. 24	NORWEGIAN GETAWAY	0600-1300	South	4028
Thurs. Nov. 24	CARNIVAL SPIRIT	0630-1600	North	2680
Fri. Nov. 25	STAR CLIPPER	0800-1700	North	180
Fri. Nov. 25	ENCHANTED PRINCESS	1200-2000	South	3660
Sat. Nov. 26	CELEBRITY EDGE	0700-1700	South	3200
Sat. Nov. 26	ROTTERDAM	0700-2000	North	2668
Sun. Nov. 27	WIND STAR	1300-2200	North	159



# Lionfish Hunt



Private Divers Bonaire will hold their monthly "Open Lionfish Hunt" on November 26 at the Something Special dive site. Last month's hunt set a record with 95 lionfish collected by nine hunters at Andrea 1. This will be the eighth monthly 'hunt' and all dive shops and resident and visiting divers are welcome. But a diver must be a certified Lionfish Hunter from any agency to actually hunt. Uncertified divers are also welcome to join and help spot the wily fish.

Private Divers Bonaire owners Baukje Wassenaar and John Verbeek explained they are trying to cover all the dive sites from south to north. The idea is to rid the island of lionfish or at least keep up with the population. But the most important thing is to get together with each other and build a small diving community.

Divers gather at Private Divers at 6 p.m., register and pick up their free tank provided by Dive Air Station Bonaire. They try to be in the water by 6:30 p.m.

Baukje said, "The divers are divided into two groups with one going to the left and the other right. This way we can track where most of the lionfish are."

At the end of the dive, the lionfish go into a big pile for a count and photo opportunity before the fish are claimed by

their owner. Any fish remaining are donated to Chefs on Tour and the fins are collected by unique jewelry maker Laura of Lionfish Creations Bonaire.

To ensure everyone has a great time, 11 year old Private Diver part-time help and diver, Vinn Knevel is shore support. He helps divers when needed, watches the vehicles and greets the divers on their return with cold drinks and pastiches. Vinn is working to fund his swimming competition trip with the Barracudas team to Curaçao so he charges a small fee for the refreshments. And he even takes special orders so everyone gets exactly what they want.

Bonaire has been hunting lionfish since 2009. Lionfish, originally from the South Pacific and Indian Ocean, are an invasive species to the Caribbean. They are a major threat to the life of Caribbean coral reefs and other marine ecosystems. According to NOAA, (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration), 'a single lionfish can reduce recruitment of native reef fish by 79 %.'

For more information contact Private Divers at Kaya Grandi 65, on their Facebook page or call +599-786-6763 or +599-786-1659.

*Photo/story by Julie Morgan*

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# BONAIRE CHAMBER

## Art EXHIBITION

### 2022

# A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO ADMIRE BONAIRE'S LOCAL ART

## 26<sup>TH</sup> NOV. 2022

The Bonaire Chamber of Commerce will be organizing it's second Bonaire Chamber Art Exhibition on November 26th, 2022. During this exhibition the works of art by the participating local artists will be displayed in the building of the Bonaire Chamber of Commerce and the public has the opportunity to admire and purchase these memorable art pieces. We welcome you to come and see all categories of art, such as paintings, sculpture, visual arts, graphic industry, photography and much more. We encourage you to visit us and observe the creative expressions of our local artists. There will be a taxi driving you from the Wilhelmina Park to the building of the Chamber of Commerce located at Kaya Amsterdam 23. Openings hours of the exhibition will be from 9am to 4pm. Don't you miss this unique opportunity to experience our local culture and hospitality.

This event is made possible by:

2022

Coral Spawning Predictions for the Southern Caribbean

November Corals

	NAFM	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	DATE	Tue 8-Nov	Wed 9-Nov	Thu 10-Nov	Fri 11-Nov	Sat 12-Nov	Sun 13-Nov	Mon 14-Nov	Tue 15-Nov	Wed 16-Nov	Thu 17-Nov	Fri 18-Nov	Sat 19-Nov	Sun 20-Nov	Mon 21-Nov
Scientific name (and spawning window)	Common Name	SUNSET	18:08	18:08	18:07	18:07	18:07	18:07	18:07	18:07	18:07	18:07	18:07	18:07	18:07
<i>Diploria labyrinthiformis</i> * (70 MBS–10 MAS)	Grooved Brain Coral														16:57–18:17
<i>Meandrina meandrites</i> (10–70 MAS)	Maze Coral								18:17–19:17 (Expected every night until at least Nov 28: can you help us find the end date?)						
<i>Eusmilia fastigiata</i> (75–270 MAS)	Smooth Flower Coral								19:22–22:37						
<i>Dichocoenia stokesii</i> (85–160 MAS)	Pineapple Coral						19:33–20:48 (Has been observed throughout Sept/Oct, we welcome new observations in Nov and beyond)								

Divers and snorkelers can witness the coral re-birth that keeps Bonaire's stunning reefs growing. The CARMABI chart gives a little insight into when the best times might be to see your favorite corals the most active. Spawning predictions are based on records from the previous years and aren't guaranteed. And times may vary in different areas of the Caribbean. Tips from CARMABI:

- Make multiple dives on multiple nights
- Dive in a place with high coral cover
- Enter the water before the predicted time
- Dive shallower than 50 ft for best bottom time
- Use a moderately bright dive light
- Scan the water column for clouds of spawn.

*The Bonaire Reporter Nov. 9 - Nov. 23, 2022*

**WARNING:** Be wary of box jellies at the reef edge after sunset. The box jellies are also lunar driven and make their appearance 7-10 days after a full moon (Nov. 8) which is right when most of the corals will be spawning. As I can personally attest, box jellies are really beautiful and cool to see but they are beyond nasty to be stung by! Charles M. Baltayan

For the full CARMABI schedule see our facebook page or the "Update" pages of *The Reporter's* online edition: <https://bonairereporter.com>



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# Pets of the Week



**Linda cuddles Batman & Beauty**

**Hello cat lovers,**

At this time kittens Batman and his sister Beauty are waiting for their forever home.

These little ones were found in a box at the landfill 6 months ago. They were about 4 weeks old. We don't understand why people do this, they pass the shelter on their way to the landfill so why don't they just stop and hand the little ones over to the shelter?

Lucky for Batman and Beauty, they were found and were soon fostered. They were bottle fed and therefore, very used to people. The kittens are 8 months old now, have had their vaccinations, tested for FIV and Leukemia and are castrated/sterilized.

Both are very sweet but Batman is a little bit naughty sometimes. Both are playfull and like to cuddle up in your arms.

In this photo the kittens are on the lap of Linda, a tourist who visited the shelter a few times just to cuddle the cats during her holidays. Did you know that you are always welcome to cuddle our cats and kittens? Come see all our kittens and cats for a cuddle or take one home to their furrever home.

*Story/photo Monique Degenaar*

*If you would like to meet our cats and dogs, please come to Animal Shelter Bonaire, Kaminda Lagun 26A. Open Monday - Friday 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and 2-3:30 p.m. Saturday 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m. nonstop. You can also call 701-4989 or 717-4989 to make an appointment, via whatsapp, facebook messenger, or email [animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com](mailto:animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com)*

## Shelter News Can you please help us care for our animals?

“Inflation” is a word that is being tossed around all over the world. Animal Shelter Bonaire is no stranger to the word and we are feeling two kinds of “inflation”. The first “inflation” is the increase in the number of animals that are being surrendered to us or just “dumped” on our property. Despite the fact that since 2020 the Shelter provided funding for 1,660 free spay/neuters of island companion animals, during that same period we took in over 1,000 cats and dogs. As of this writing, the Shelter is currently caring for 214 residents, a number far beyond optimal capacity. The increase in surrenders and the decrease in adoptions are likely caused by three factors: saturation of “the market” (everyone who wants a dog has one), the increase in “no pets” policy in most of the local affordable rental market, and finally the second kind of “inflation”.... the monetary. Many people can simply no longer afford to care for their animals let alone their own families.

The Shelter is hit hard by the combination of the monetary inflation and the intake numbers inflation. The costs of our animal food, medicines, vaccinations, utility services, property maintenance and the like has skyrocketed and continues to rise. While we have recently received partial funding from foundations to increase our spatial ability to handle the increasing numbers, our daily operating costs continue to rise with no increase in our regular sources of income (Pakus di Pruga, cruise ship market, general donations). These sources of funds



have never returned to the pre-Covid pandemic levels.

Bottom line.....we need your financial assistance. Any amount you can donate will be greatly appreciated. There are a number of ways you can donate. Donation boxes are located all over the island, look for the purple and white “dog houses”. Bring your donation to the Shelter and visit our residents. You can donate on line via our website [www.animalshelterbonaire.com](http://www.animalshelterbonaire.com). Click the yellow “Donate” button to donate via PayPal (U.S.) or the “on line doneren” box for European PayPal and debit card via Geef.nl. In addition, you can make a donation via transfer to our bank accounts. Our bank account information locally is:

**Maduro & Curiel's Bank, Bonaire Branch**  
Account name: Animal Shelter Bonaire/Stichting Dierenasyl Bonaire, Account Number #10237800, Kaminda Lagun 26, Kralendijk, Bonaire, Dutch Caribbean  
Bank address: Kaya Gob. N. Debrot #70, Bonaire, Dutch Caribbean,  
SWIFT/BIC: MCBKBQBN

**In the Netherlands:**  
Rabobank (Dongen, Netherlands)  
Account name: Stichting Dierenasiel Bonaire  
Account number: NL40RABO0137748744

No amount is too small. Our animals appreciate whatever you can do.

*Jane Disko*

## Bonaire Daily Fresh opens at LVV, continued from page 1

for their incredible program at LVV that got us to this day. We are only getting started!”

According to Adriaens, the next Open Day will be held in approximately four months or sometime around Dia di Rincon. He was really pleased STINAPA and the Mangrove Maniacs joined Open Day and hopes to have more information booths in the future.

LVV advises on planting, livestock, farming and in the future fisheries. They sell seeds, wiring, vegetables, livestock and more. Lease land is also available for your own sustainable agricultural endeavor. LVV is open Mon-Thurs 7 a.m. – 4 p.m. and Friday 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. For more information call 717-8836, 717-6734 or visit on Facebook.

With this enlarged space, Bonaire Daily Fresh is producing amazing green offerings and experimenting with new products constantly. Current green goodies include: varieties of Romaine, Butterhead, Oak leaf, Bok Choy, Spinach, Summer crisp, mustard greens, endive, Kale, Swiss chard and basil. Specialty items are offered occasionally including pumpkins, beets, butternut squash and eggplant. There are even a few herbs growing in the aquaponic garden. Daily Fresh veggies are available at Warehouse, Terra Basket, Van den Tweel or by subscription deliveries. For more information: visit <https://www.dailyfresh.eco/>; mail: [info@dailyfresh.eco](mailto:info@dailyfresh.eco); +599-701-6321 or visit their Facebook page

*Story/photos Julie Morgan  
More photos on our Facebook page*



**Official ribbon cutting LR: Bob Janssen, Elvis Tjin Asjoe, Lauri Janssen, Cyril Vrolijk, Esther Bernabela, James Kroon, Roy Martinus and Maurice Adriaens**



# A Garden? Just Do It!

by Angliet, Nature Lover



There is a green explosion going on in my garden and I'm sure my garden friends are experiencing the same. I am seeing all kinds of plants in my yard. For sure wild flowers, cultivated flowers, young plants from fruit trees and also herbs. There are wild vegetables like bimbe, kalaloe, purslane, wandu beans and other stuff such as local cucumber, tomato, sweet peppers, pumpkin plants and watermelon. Seeds of yerbi hole (basil) and Italian basil have spread everywhere in my garden. I'm seeing a lot of guyaba fruit plants, cherry, soursop, papa-

ya and a young bacoba popping up. I'm guessing the same is happening in your yard and here are some ideas of what to do with these plants.

First, for sure don't pull them and throw them away. Take them carefully out of the soil and plant them in a recycled container (tin pots, open cut plastic bottles and even milk boxes). These make a great gift for another gardener, friend, neighbor, colleague or family member.

Or you can replant them and sell them in the local markets. If you have a kunuku, plant them there.

Another idea is to plant the fruit trees in an empty spot at a school or church. When they bear fruit, kids and others will be happy with its fruit.

Since Christmas is around the corner, plants can be a great Christmas gift.

Last year I gave one of my neighbors a young golden apple tree for Christmas. She loves the fruit and I could not have given her a better gift. The funny thing was that in just a short time the small plant started to grow fruits and my neighbor had his own golden apples within a few months after he got the plant. We were surprised and he gave me some of the apples too. In Spanish it's called Manzana di Oro. And now the little tree (only one meter high) has more than 15 apples ripening.

So it works, make someone happy with a fruit tree that will fit in their garden space. It's a plant you don't want from your garden and with all this rain, they will grow fast.

Needless to say the grass is growing very fast too. Don't let it grow until it produces seeds. Trim it in time, otherwise the seeds will grow and the last thing you want is more grass.

The grass without the seeds is a good compost to store in dry months. Let it stay in a corner of your yard for a while to get dry and rotten. Rats, mice, roaches and other bugs love these habitats so turn it once in a while with the rotten grass upside down to let fresh air in and to make sure you don't have these animals. I've noticed the mycelium fungi growing in my garden where there are a lot of rotten leaves. Great!! It means the soil is healthy and the mycelium supports the growth of the plants. So don't pull the fungus out. It is our friend in gardening. Needless to say that when you have too many vegetables growing like spinach, hot peppers, tomatoes, okra and so on,

just share or take it to the local market. The same goes for fresh fruit. There are so many people who ask me where to buy local fruits. Foreigners and tourists like to experience everything about Bonaire and that includes the local fruit: mispel, knep, guyaba, tamarin, soursop, yellow mombin, appeldam and more. Don't let the fruit get rotten under the trees but sell it and buy some stuff for your garden like garden tools or dirt. Or maybe you can pay a gardener to trim our yard with that fruit or veggie money. And don't forget, one can make all kind of jams, marmalades, juices, sirops and fruitcakes with all this stuff. It's all so healthy because it comes straight from your garden to your belly. It has the highest health and nutritional value. And again make gifts of your garden stuff and start to prepare for your fruit for a sweet fruit pie for Christmas. In these actions we support sustainable agriculture which is a MUST to fight climate crisis and to save our planet.

There is one more thing I want to mention to fight against and that is the prevention of dengue, sika and chicunguya in our society. These plagues exist because mosquitos lay their eggs in clean standing water in containers outside. Even a Coca Cola bottle top with a little bit of rainwater is enough for a mosquito to lay its eggs in and the larva come out after only four days. Clean your yard by turning containers upside down and check if there is any standing rain water.

So enough work to do, this is garden time.

Go for it, just do it.



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



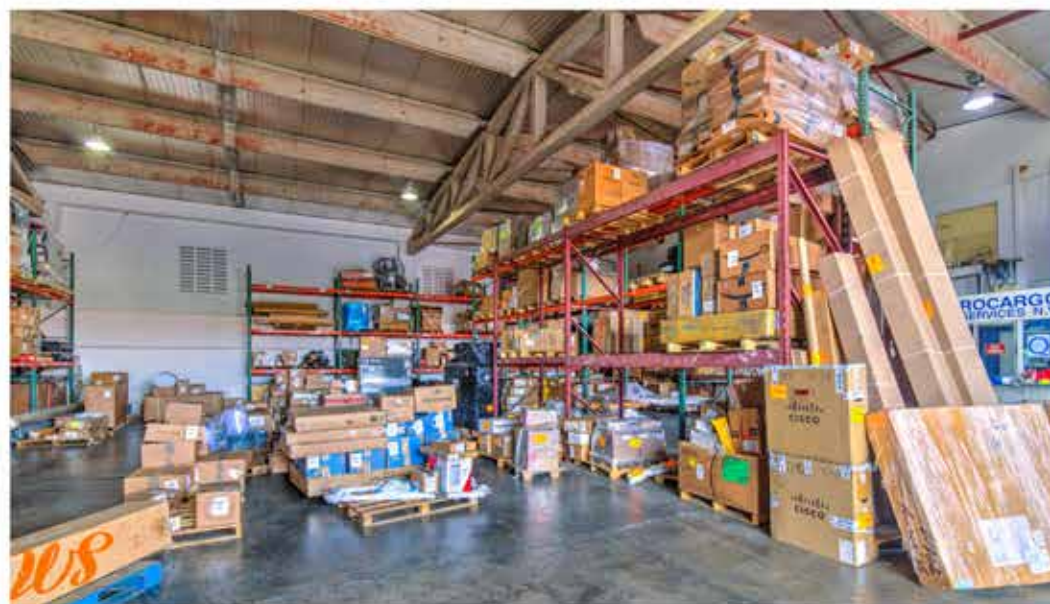
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