

FREE

BONAIRE
The REPORTER

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**Surprise guest Sammie (the dog) and foster dad Cees van Loon with Janne Schepers and auctioneer Michiel van Bokhorst
Photo Julie Morgan**

A Cause 4 Paws

August 16 was a good night for the 170 dogs and 80 cats that reside at Animal Shelter Bonaire. It was the night of the first Charity Dinner and Auction for the Shelter since 2018 and it was a definitive success. The last several years have been tough for the Shelter, with countless people surrendering their animals due to housing availability for people with pets, lack of volunteers and salary increases. Then the Shelter's main source of funds, the thrift store, Pakus di Pruga had to close and find a new location.

But the love of animals runs deep on Bonaire and the Shelter has kept going. Pakus has reopened at a new location, the cruise market kiosk does well and the Dinner/Auction garnered \$11,070 thanks to smart planning by Shelter staff member Marissa Lammers.

The Charity Dinner and Auction was held at Red Palm Village, a unique out-of-the-way resort that is home to the restaurant Lekker Thuis headed up by innovative Chef Corjan Hoogerheide.

Only 30 tickets at \$175 per person were available and they went fast. Either everyone was anxious to be a part of this cause for paws or they knew this promised to be a dinner unlike no other with Chef Corjan at the

forefront.

Everything for the dinner was donated and that included the assisting Klub di Koki (Cooks Club) chefs: Isidoor van Riemsdyk, SGB; Richard Palsgraaf, SGB and Brandon Poort, de Smaak maker.

After a toast and welcoming speeches by new marketing professional and board member Chantal Hulst, board president Jane Disoko and auctioneer Michiel van Bokhorst, the

dining began. Much of the kitchen of Lekker Thuis is in full view of the diners and it was a marvel to watch the four chefs work in sync preparing each elegant and unique course.

The wine flowed freely throughout the evening complimenting each course. First was the Amuse, a Cocotte with mushrooms in cream sauce, herb butter and soy under a puff pastry with sesame. The starter was marinated salmon with crème fraîche, dill and crispy mustard sauce, bread with tape-

nade, snack cucumber with sea banana. Next up was a red curry coconut soup with sweet pepper and leek surimi spring roll. The main was Mahi Mahi with pea cress and white butter sauce served on long beans and an orzo salad of bell pepper, peas, red onion, pickles, green onion and dried tomatoes. The final course was dessert: Bonchi Boneiru coffee panna cotta with blueberry yogurt, Sally caramel ice cream, baked pineapple with caramel and nuts and finally coffee with pralines.

Throughout the evening a new Animal Shelter video and slide show played giving diners glimpses of the Shelter animals and activities.

Auctioneer van Bokhorst led the crowd through the bidding for 16 donated lots displayed by Lammers and Hurst. The majority of items on the block were art pieces by local artists including: Lize van de Ven, Joseph M. Bowen, Eric Cremers, Meredith Schnoll, Paul Turner, Markus Taurer, Monique van Eck plus a piece by Dutch Moroccan artist Rachid Benali and a Ugandan painting from Everything but Lolo. Mellissa Sailing and Solobon Sailing donated sailing trips and Beyouty Salon and Felicia Schueete Portrait offered a makeover and photoshoot. The items ranged in value from \$100 to \$1400.



Klub di Koki chefs: L-R Corjan Hoogerheide, Brandon Poort, Richard Palsgraaf and Isidoor van Riemsdyk Photo Julie Morgan



Exec Council to be investigated for data protection violation

The Commission Supervision Personal Data Protection BES (CBP BES) has announced it will investigate the media reports that someone on the Executive Council, or on behalf of the Executive Council, may have violated the privacy of a former civil servant by leaking the employee's exit interview to the press.

The information that went public appears to connect the leak with the news that broke recently of an exodus in recent months of senior management from the Finance Department of the OLB. People were allegedly resigning because they objected to how Deputy Clark Abraham managed the Finance Department. Parts of the leaked information reportedly can be interpreted as exonerating Abraham.

The person whose interview was leaked said, "I gave absolutely no permission. This could be very bad for my new position." The BES Personal Data Protection Act (Wbp BES) does not allow a document that falls under the protection of the law to be used without "the unequivocal" consent of the person concerned, and certainly not for political gain. A violation carries a fine, but if committed knowingly, a prison sentence of up to 6 months can be imposed. *DMR*

Privacy continues to be a public issue

The data protection authority BES (CBP BES) announced it intends to enact penalty payments against the Public Entity of Bonaire (OLB) for its failure to comply with previous agreements. At issue is the OLB's failure to fully implement the CBP BES's Clean Desk/ Clear Screen policy. The policy is intended to assure that the personal data of individuals in the possession of the government remains private.

A CBP BES audit at the OLB in 2022 revealed that personal-sensitive documents were stored in non-lockable cabinets, had been left unattended in printing trays in public spaces, were left open on desks and even lying on the floor. Subsequently the OLB failed to correct the problems by an October 2023 deadline, or again by a followup March 2024 deadline. The OLB also failed to respond to CBP BES written questions with substantive answers.

An order under penalty is "a corrective enforcement instrument," the bureaucratic version of a fine. The CBP BES can levy a Charge Under Penalty of \$15,000 if the OLB fails to meet its legal obligation to assure data security. Subsequent charges could add up to a maximum of \$90,000.00.

Regarding two different cases, the CBP BES also announced it is conducting two investigations: one into the violation by the Bonaire Executive Council of the privacy of a former civil servant and the other into a data leak at the Civil Affairs department.

At another level of government, the Ministry of Interior Affairs and Kingdom Relations is working on a regulation that will protect the privacy of whistle-blowers who report discrimination in the BES. *DMR*

The bad guys make a non-voluntary contribution to the environment

The Public Prosecution Service of Bonaire, St Eustatius and Saba seized a yacht that was obtained with the profits from criminal offenses. The Prosecution Service turned the yacht over to a team from the U.S. Department of Justice that was investigating a money laundering scheme. Following forfeiture, the Americans sold the yacht and remitted \$300,000 to the Prosecution Service as its share of the proceeds, as stipulated by a

1994 treaty between the United States and the Netherlands.

The Public Prosecution Service intends to use the financial windfall to make "a lasting contribution to the environment of Bonaire." It will spend the money making its office building and vehicle fleet more sustainable. *DMR*

Island News to page 7



The island's kids explore a cruise ship

On August 14th, almost 80 children between the ages of 4 and 13 explored a visiting cruise ship, the *Carnival Celebration*. Miles Mercera, CEO of TCB, described the event as a unique blend of fun and learning. Kids stepped onto an actual cruise ship, discovering its different sections and gaining insights into how ships operate and the world of hospitality.

The cruise ship visit was presented jointly by Tourism Corporation Bonaire (TCB), and *Buki di pret Bonaire*, an annual booklet full of fun activities and offers for the summer vacation. All primary school children between 6 and 13 years old receive their own copy a few weeks before the summer vacation starts.

Photo via TCB

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The Reporter is taking a break.

**Look for our next issue
 September 18th, 2024.**

A Clean Bonaire: Our Duty, Our Pride

Dia di Boneiru, Bonaire Day or Flag Day, is coming on September 6 and the government is doing their best to encourage enthusiasm and pride for this important day. The beautiful Bonaire flag is flying in almost every direction you drive. The roundabouts and Kaya Grandi are decorated with multiple traditional flags flying in addition to the new sustainable flags.

Our Pride” and efforts have already occurred, or are underway to make the island shine.

August 17 was an all day clean up event across the island and six neighborhoods provided cleaning stations which included large dumpsters, waste bags, drinks, mu-

***Dia di Boneiru
continued on page 6***

The slogan this year is “A clean Bonaire: Our Duty,



Happy Bonaire Day - September 6

With Dia di Bonaire approaching we are seeing more and more of the Bonaire flag. Turn to page 7 to see what its colors and symbols signify.

Photo Julie Morgan



Deputies Angelica Cicilia and Nina den Heyer got to work with other volunteers to sling some trash at the Nort' i Salina cleanup station Photo Julie Morgan.

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POLICE REPORT

Property crime

Aug. 17/18. A pink and dark grey Suzuki GSXR 1000 moped, license plate MF-4114 was stolen while parked with a steering lock on the balcony at the front of a house on Kaya Cheyenne between 8:45 p.m. on Saturday and 11:30 a.m. on Sunday 18.

Aug. 16. A backpack and a beach bag was stolen at Playa Pal'i Mangel (Donkey's Beach) located on the E.E.G. Bulevar between 3:15 and 3:45 p.m. while the owners were swimming. The bags contained, airpods, Rayban sunglasses, clothing, food and drinks, and other personal belongings.

Aug. 14. Items were stolen from a golf cart parked at Te Amo Beach while the owner was swimming. The bag contained several cards, reading glasses, a Samsung S21, an iPhone 8 and cash.

Aug. 14. Between 1:50 and 2:30 p.m. a backpack / Tommy Bahama cooler bag was stolen from a golf cart while the owner was swimming at Playa Pal'i Mangel (Donkey's Beach). Stolen items included a card holder with several cards and cash, and also food and drinks.

Aug. 13/14. Between 11:30 p.m. and 1:30 a.m. a dark grey Kymco scooter license plate MF-2231 was stolen while it was parked locked, next to the security house in the parking lot at Kaya Bonaire.

Aug. 11. Between 1 and 1:45 p.m. a bag was stolen while the owner was snorkeling at E.E.G. Bulevar near Te Amo Beach. Stolen items included towels, a shoulder bag, two snorkel masks, keys and an iPhone 13.

Aug. 9. Around 11:25 a.m. a man, 25, was arrested at a kunuku on Kaminda Lac for theft. When the kunuku owner arrived at his property, he saw two unknown men and a vehicle. The door of the container on his property was open. In the loading bed of the unknown pickup truck were his electrical cables and his window frame was leaning against the pickup. The owner immediately called the police. When he told the men that this was his kunuku and that he would call the police, one of them walked away while the other remained standing. When the patrol arrived, the caller said that this was not the first time that people had taken items from his kunuku.

Aug. 7. Between 2:30 and 4 p.m. a shoulder bag was stolen while the owner was swimming at Pink Beach. The bag contained a wallet with cards and cash, a Samsung A53 and pink prescription sunglasses.

July 29. Around 2 a.m. a man was robbed near the Wilhelminaplein in Playa. While he was walking to pick up his bicycle, he was approached by a man who asked him for money. When the victim replied that he would not give money, he was pushed. Three more men then joined in and attacked him until he was unconscious. When the victim regained consciousness, he discovered that his electric bicycle (a Fatbike) and other personal belongings had been stolen.

Arrests

Aug. 17. Around 11:40 a.m. a man, 34, was arrested at a beach located on the E.E.G. Bulevar. He had been reported to STINAPA for illegally spearfishing. When the STINAPA officials arrived by boat and

informed the man that spearfishing is illegal on Bonaire, he became aggressive and started to insult and threaten the employees. When the KPCN patrol arrived, the man was ordered to come out of the sea and hand over the harpoon to the officers. He complied but was unable to identify himself. He was arrested for violation of the BES Identification Act, threats and violation of articles 8 and 9 of the Island Decree Underwater Park Bonaire. All items that the suspect had with him while spearfishing were confiscated.

Aug. 16. Around 8:10 p.m. a man, 25, was arrested on Kaya Jakupeper for serious assault.

Aug. 11. During the night, a man, 22, was arrested in the car park of a supermarket on Kaya Nikiboko South for making threats. When the officers found the suspect in his car, he resisted violently. When he did not respond to several requests from the police to get out of the car, the officers then had to use physical force to get the suspect out. In the meantime, the two officers were approached by two other people who were swearing at them. One man suddenly put his hand in the bag as if he wanted to get something out. After being asked several times to take his hand out of the bag, he did so. After this, the same person went back to his car as if he was going to get something out. Because of this second suspicious action, one of the officers felt compelled to draw his service firearm. But when it could be verified that this person had taken his phone out of the car, the officer put the service firearm away again.

Driving under the influence

According to the policy 'botsen is blazen' ('to collide is to blow') a breath test is given drivers involved in accidents.

From Aug. 6 to 18 eight drivers were arrested for driving under the influence. Two of those drivers had been involved in single vehicle accidents; one driver was banned from driving for five hours; one was banned for four hours and one for three hours. Five drivers had their driving licenses confiscated.

Traffic accidents

Aug. 18. Around 6:50 p.m. an accident on E.E.G. Bulevar was reported. Two people riding a scooter fell off the scooter. Both were injured and were taken to hospital by ambulance.

Aug. 17. Around 11:40 p.m. on Kaya International near the airport the driver of a car lost control and collided with two vehicles parked along the road in a bend. Due to the impact, the rear wheel of the car flew through a window of a company. The driver stated that he wanted to test how fast the vehicle could go and wanted to demonstrate his driving skills, which caused him to lose control. A breath test was administered, but he did not exceed the amount of alcohol that may be consumed while driving a vehicle. The driver did not have a driver's license and was fined for this. The passenger was taken to the hospital by ambulance for medical treatment. There was a lot of material damage to the vehicles. The road was temporarily closed so that the services could carry out their work.

Aug. 12. Around 9:20 p.m. the central control room received a report of a sin-

Ask Bob

Bonaire real estate advice

Hi Bob – I am thinking of buying a property on Bonaire through an LLC in the US, or in my living trust. Is that a good idea?

Tim T.

Hi Tim,

Property buyers are free to buy in their personal name, in a living Trust, LLC or in a Dutch company (BV/NV). Buyers should talk with their tax advisor ahead of time to determine which ownership structure is best for them. All of these ownership methods benefit from the fact that there are no local taxes on rental income or "capital gains" when you sell the property for a profit.

One thing to keep in mind is that the local property tax rates can be different if you are buying a house that you plan to live in, and you are planning to become a Bonaire resident. If you are a resident and the property will be your primary residence then your property will be subject to grondbelasting, which is taxed at the lower rate of 0.345%. If the property is owned by a company (BV/NV), Trust or LLC it will always be taxed at the Vastgoedbelasting rate which is 0.91% even



if you are a resident of Bonaire and it is your primary residence.

On a \$500,000 house, this is a difference of \$2,875 per year, so it's important to consider this when you buy.

Regards

Bob Bartikoski, Re/Max Bonaire Broker/Owner

If you are looking to buy or sell a home on Bonaire, or if you have a real estate question for Bob, email him at

info@bonairehomes.com.

Bonaire: +599-717-7362.

Toll free from US: 1-866-611-7362



Police measure the speed of approaching cars with a 'laser gun.' Photo KPCN

gle-vehicle collision on Kaminda Yato Bako in which two people were injured when the vehicle crashed into a fence of a house. The driver stated that he was driving towards Playa when he saw a donkey on the road. He braked, but the passenger pulled the handbrake at the same time. This caused the driver to lose control and crash into the fence. Both occupants were taken to hospital by ambulance for medical treatment.

Aug. 7. Around 5:10 p.m. three vehicles collided at the intersection of Kaminda Djabou and Kaya Sirena. The collision occurred as a result of failure to give way. Pickup 1 came from Kaya Sirena and wanted to drive onto Kaminda Djabou to park near a supermarket. At that moment a car arrived on the priority road. The driver of the car crashed into the first pickup, after which it crashed into another parked pickup. The driver of the car was medically checked by the ambulance personnel on site.

Traffic control /Speed checks

Aug. 17. Around 7:30 p.m. officers conducted a traffic control on Kaya Korona. Six vehicles were checked and fines were issued for driving without: 2x a valid driver's license; 2x a valid insurance; and 1x a seat belt.

Aug. 14. A speed check took place on Kaya Ir. R. Stadius van Eps where the permitted speed is 60 km/h. During the speed check, 10 vehicles were checked, of which four were fined for exceeding the maximum permitted speed. The speed that was measured was between 70 and 83 km/h.

The KPCN will continue to carry out speed checks at various locations on the island in the coming days and warns motorists to pay attention to their speed on the road. In built-up areas, the maximum speed is 40 km/h and outside of built-up areas 60 km/h.

Letters & Opinions

The opinions, beliefs and viewpoints expressed by the various authors and forum participants do not necessarily reflect the opinions, beliefs and viewpoints of The Bonaire Reporter.

Parrots and People

I was appalled to read “Flocking to Gigi’s” in *The Reporter*, July 10-July 24, 2024 which promotes human interaction with a wild species whose biggest threat comes from humans. That two “parrot lovers” and The Reporter’s writer would condone and promote such behavior is very disappointing. Encouraging readers to visit and donate to something that results in the parrots having unnatural relationships with humans goes against basic conservation practices and should be discouraged.

Dianne Forthman

Dianne’s view is one I’ve heard before. It’s part of a larger view of not feeding animals to elicit behaviors. I understand it, but I think it ignores our reality.

In Australia, there are many urban parrots, particularly sulfur-crested cockatoos. Australian avian scientists are studying how parrots interact with humans. A number of the citizen scientists who support research projects, most notably the Clever Cockie Project funded through the Taronga Zoo (<https://www.clevercockies.com/the-clever-cockie-project>), do feed and otherwise interact with parrots. Australians recognize that humans and parrots share space, and therefore interactions are normal.

Similarly, Bonaire’s parrots co-exist next to humans. It is unrealistic to imagine that the parrot and human populations could or should be siloed off from one another on a small island. And though feeding our Loras may seem unnatural, offering supplementary food during the dry season, when Lora parents are working hard to care

for chicks, likely helps more Loras to survive.

Mary E. “Mel” McCombie, Ph.D.

Hi Diane

Thank you for your letter. The person who first told me about Gibi was the head of Echo- Julianka Clarendada. Gibi is trying to help the starving and dehydrated birds with water and food. As you may have noticed all our animals are suffering from this major drought. He doesn’t do this year round only during dry season. Visit him in Rincon and talk to him.

Thanks Julie

Submergence Vehicles such as the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution’s ‘ALVIN’.

Heffernan begins her journey in the ‘Twilight Zone,’ the offshore depths where photosynthesis ends at 300 feet or so and the last twinkling of light and the true ocean depths of eternal darkness begin at 3000 feet. It is a poorly studied area that is getting a LOT of attention as it has been found to be full of sea life and is the site of the biggest animal migration on earth. Trillions of deep water organisms rise to the midwaters to feed as the darkness of night settles in and then drift back down at sunrise to avoid predators, taking carbon from the upper waters to deeper ones. This creates a massive, long term and valuable transfer of carbon. Recent estimates note that there are one to TEN BILLION tons of fish in this zone! A harvesters delight. Problematical in these discussions are the facts that little is known about these populations, their sustainable harvest limits and that most of the areas are a ‘No Mans Land,’ outside of National and International control. A ‘free for all’ could ensue, badly impacting the populations of marine life in the ‘Twilight Zone.’ The United Nations needs to greatly increase their efforts at creating International controls for this area.

A continuing series of high seas/open ocean discussions include “Dark Targets”: ‘illegal, unreported and unregulated’ fisheries or IUUs that harvest without regard for any sustainability measures. Some researchers estimate that one out of five fish are harvested by this ‘pirate fishing,’ often in uninspected rust buckets with crew that are often called ‘fishing slaves’ due to working conditions that are deplorable. It is almost impossible to control such operations. “Treasures from the deep.” investigates the burgeoning efforts to strip mine the deep sea of precious minerals for the global battery and technology industries in the largely unprotected ‘Clarion-Clipperton Zone.’ This is one of the tectonic plate fracture zones in the Pacific Ocean, well south of Hawaii. You will be hearing a lot about this in the coming months and years as the quest to harvest minerals from these ‘out of sight, out of mind’ areas increases. Other topics look at “Interventionists,” who are researching presently controversial engineered environmental treatments to capture carbon, reduce surface temperatures, create rain etc. “A Near Arctic State” discusses the very major issues that climate change creates as new opportunities open never before used shipping channels in the once frozen Arctic that are being exploited by China much to the concern of other nations. Heffernan also includes chapters about the multitudinous issues unfolding in Antarctica: the ever growing problems in developing uses and patents for genes and drugs from ocean life and the legal implications for researchers and institutions;

the “Deep Trouble” that we face from ocean pollution at old deep sea waste dumps, plastics, ship discharges, space junk at sea and more.

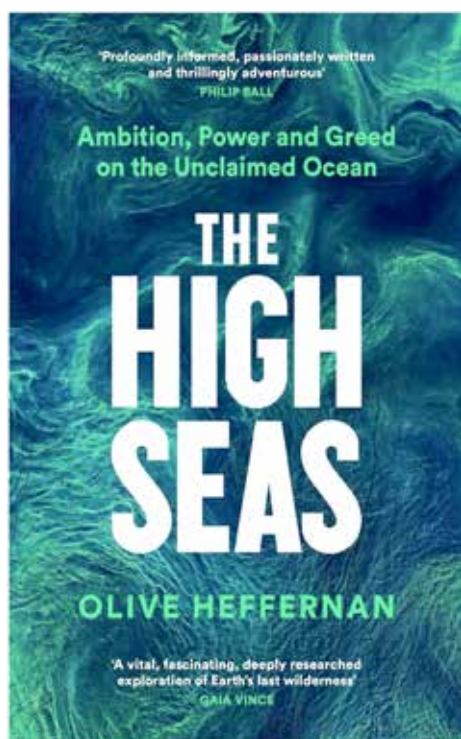
Drawing much from Sylvia Earle’s *Blue Hope*, Heffernan ends her high seas discussions with a chapter on HOPE; about things accomplished, areas protected, Marine Sanctuaries created and expanded, treaties proposed, the United Nations Sustainability Goals and more. Everyone needs to understand the really heavy lifting that needs to be done to ensure the environmental protection of what Jacques Cousteau called ‘the Blue Marble in Space’ when he first saw satellite images of planet Earth. It is not only about Global Climate Change, it’s about how we protect all earthly environments now and for the future.



George Buckley has been coming to Bonaire since 1976, working with Captain Don (who called him CLAM for his work with mollusks), Hendrik Wuyts and others on environmental and educational projects and films. He has led over 100 study groups to Bonaire with many of his students returning often. Semiretired from decades of teaching Environmental Management and leading an active graduate program in Sustainability, he now works with many environmental groups and as an environmental consultant.

Buckley’s Books

by George Buckley



The High Seas by Olive Heffernan
“Greed, power and the battle for the unclaimed ocean”

In this offshore and deep sea exploration, award winning science writer Olive Heffernan delves into the many valuable aspects of earth’s remote and ‘barely understood’ ocean environments and the environmental damage that can happen there. She investigates the high stakes risks of the work being done there now and that is proposed to be done there in coming years. Her work has made her a world expert on the reporting of ocean climate issues.

When we look at the oceans, we see water and ever present waves, sometimes calm and sometimes turbulent. Until recent times, only the fortunate few who were SCUBA divers or skilled snorkelers got to see the undersea environment in real time. New and dynamic underwater technologies such as Remote Operated Vehicles (ROV’s) and Autonomous Underwater Vehicles (AUV’s) and other submersibles. Coupling this with the ever evolving imaging equipment, our abilities have greatly expanded to see the underwater realm in real time and at depths previously unattainable in all but a handful of deep submersible Human Occupied Deep

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sic and staff on site. People brought their trash and refuse to one of the stations or if there wasn't one in their neighborhood they went to the closest one. Everyone seemed to be taking advantage of this day to clean up Bonaire and show their island pride.

Earlier this month, Deputy Nina den Heyer said, "A clean island is fundamental to our health and well-being. A clean Bonaire shows the love we have for our island and how proud we are of her."

And these weren't empty words, as den Heyer walked the talk along with deputy Angelica Cicilia and manned the Nort' i Salina clean-up location.

Other cleanup efforts are happening including overgrown brush clearing from the sides of many of Bonaire roads.

Bonaire Day is celebrated for the day Alonso de Ojeda and Amerigo Vespucci discovered the island in 1499.

What the flag signifies

The yellow and the upper triangle represents the sun and the bright yellow flowers that bloom after a rain. The white field represents the purity of the Bonairean people, while the blue reminds the people of the ocean that surrounds the island. The star represents the six traditional neighborhoods of Bonaire, while the navigator's compass pays homage to the brave sailors and navigators who helped the Dutch marines during the Second World War. The color red represents the fighting spirit of the Bonairean people! (TCB)

Story /Photos Julie Morgan

Painting and Sipping helps Bonaire birds



What began as a great find at the Bonaire Museum Thrift Store evolved into a fundraiser for Bonaire Wild Bird Rehab. Christa Cook, had every intention of turning the numerous wooden clogs she found at the museum into her own work of art, but after several weeks of trying to figure out how to mount them she gave up.

A volunteer at Wild Bird Rehab, Christa said, "I thought others might like them, but instead of selling them on market place, I thought of a fundraiser paint and sip party. It was a win, win for everyone!"

And it was a win, win with 30 joining the party painting, sipping, having fun with new and old friends and raising \$731 for Elly Albers birds at Wild Bird Rehab.

Story / photo Christa Cook

The Reporter is taking a break.

**Look for our next issue
September 18th, 2024.**

STCB removes fishing line from North pier



STCB fishing line cleanup participants L-R: Caspar Atkinson, Tatum Diamond, Floor van Schalkwijk (STCB), Robert Bixby and Kady Bixby. Photo Julie Morgan

Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire's (STCB) monthly fishing line cleanup attracted 18 dedicated divers at the North Pier on August 17. The divers removed a large bin full of tangled fishing line and other trash including a right shoe, bottles, cans and a spoon. More trash abounds under this pier but the focus of the divers was primarily the fishing line.

Removing fishing line at the piers and on our reefs is important as turtles and marine life can become ensnared and/or trapped in the line and hooks.

The next cleanup will be in September with no specific date yet. For more information about STCB visit their website www.bonaireturtles.org or on Facebook.

Story / photo Julie Morgan

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Interested in working for STINAPA?

For STINAPA vacancies follow this link: <https://stinapabonaire.org/join-us/vacancies/>
 Two vacancies are posted on *The Reporter's* online edition page 18,
 and are also posted on our online update pages.

Bonaire gets second composting machine

Staff from the Department of Agriculture, Livestock, and Fisheries (LVV) have been learning to operate their new shredder assisted by an expert from the Netherlands. The shredder chops garden waste and wood into small pieces that can be turned into compost.

Terra Barra has also been composting on the island for some time. They bought their shredder with funds raised by public donations. *DMR*

Cft says Executive Council is flimflaming 2023 budget

The OLB experienced a deficit of \$3.4 million in 2023, and Commissioner of Finance Clark Abraham has attempted to cover the shortfall with a withdrawal from the general reserve. The Board of Financial Supervision (Cft BES) informed the Executive Council that the move would not be legal under the FinBES Act. The Cft has ruled that the OLB can cover the shortfall only with future revenues earned in 2024 and 2025. That requires submission of an amended budget for 2024, which itself would have to be approved.

The Executive Council attributed the budget shortfall to unforeseen circumstances. The Cft countered that it had kept the Executive Council informed, but its recommendations were not followed.

Finance deputy Clark Abraham said the required budget amendment has been submitted to the Island Council, but it has not been made public yet.

In the meantime, Sint Eustatius has won high praise from the Cft for the quality and completeness of its financial reporting. *DMR*

Solar panel park outperforming expectations

ContourGlobal Bonaire and Bonaire Bon Transition (BBT) have announced that during January through May, the power production of the solar panel park near Karpata averaged almost one fifth more than predicted. Output peaked during March, when average production was 921 kWh, 46% more than expected. *DMR*

Some food prices increase significantly

According to Fundashon Tienda pa Konsumidó Boneriano (FTPKB) prices of some foods increased alarmingly between April and June. Meat and fish prices rose by 27% in May and 17% in June. Fruits and vegetables cost 15% more in May, though a 5% decrease followed in June. The average price increase of the total essential product list for the period, about 4.3%, was stable but elevated.

CBS data show that consumer goods and services overall were 2.5% more expensive on average in the second quarter of 2024 compared to a year earlier, a decrease from the 3.4% inflation rate in the first quarter. *DMR*

Two directors to be added to Fundashon Mariadal Board

Fundashon Mariadal will soon be advertising openings for a Director of Operations and Finance and a Director of Medical Care. Together with General Affairs Director Dr. Giovanni J.M. Frans, they will constitute the board of directors. The island population is increasing and aging, the hospital is growing, and the healthcare package is becoming more

complex. Additional leadership is needed at the top. *DMR*

Political squabble threatens patient air transport

The authorities and healthcare institutions on Sint Eustatius and Saba are very concerned about the availability of flights to other islands for medical care. Sint Maarten says it will refuse landing rights to Curaçao-based airline Z Air at Princess Juliana Airport. Curaçao has retaliated by saying it will not allow Winair to land at Hato Airport. Therefore patients on Sint Eustatius and Saba no longer have assured evacuation to other islands for medical treatment.

The governments of Curaçao and Sint Maarten have taken each other to court, but the wheels of justice turn slowly. Both governments have agreed to defer their decisions for two weeks and scratch their heads while they try to figure out a solution. *DMR*

Proposed tax plan causes trepidation in BES

The highest tax rate in the BES, 35.4%, is paid on incomes above \$322,769 per year. Under the proposed 2025 Tax Plan, the threshold would be \$50,000. The OLBs of the BES Islands have objected vociferously in a letter to the Cabinet. They insist the proposed tax increase is huge, unsustainable, complicated, and unlike the plan for Europe, seems designed "off the cuff." They say the effects on the purchasing power of lower middle income families and vulnerable groups especially were not considered. *DMR*

Record breaking lionfish caught



eliminate the invasive Lionfish from Bonaire waters since 2009. Since then, their population numbers have varied from high to low density and back again. Ac-

cording to STINAPA this is dependent on the number of dedicated hunters. Lionfish are predatory to reef fish and reduce the numbers in our waters. Plus, they can

lay up to 50,000 eggs every three days and can easily outnumber Caribbean reef fish that spawn once a year.

To hunt lionfish on Bonaire, the hunter must be a resident with a Bonairian ID (sedula) and a certificate for the lionfish hunting course taken on Bonaire. Certification classes are available at many of Bonaire's local dive shops.

After certifying, the hunter can apply for an ELF (Eradicate LionFish Tool) from STINAPA. This is the only type of spear allowed for use in Bonaire waters as regular spear fishing is prohibited. Hunters must provide the correct documents and a \$150 deposit. The hunter is not buying the ELF. When it is returned damage free to STINAPA the deposit is returned.

Story Julie Morgan

Last week the biggest recorded lionfish on Bonaire was captured by the Lionfish Patrol otherwise known as Javier and Alejandra Rosa Setau.

Alejandra said, "We broke our own record with a 48 cm (18.9 in), 1.20 kg lionfish. An absolute record!"

In the 2023 STINAPA Bonaire National Marine Park Lionfish Derby, the largest lionfish was measured at 41.1 cm (16.2 in). According to Lionfish.co, the largest lionfish on record was caught in Florida measuring 48.8 cm (19.21 in) and the second largest was caught in the waters of Aruba at 47 cm (18.5 in). With these statistics, the Lionfish Patrol turned in their numbers to Lionfish.co and are now listed in second place. Alejandra and Javier's prize catch was found at Salt City at 35m (114.89ft).

STINAPA Bonaire has been working to
The Bonaire Reporter Aug. 21 - Sept. 18, 2024

Kaya L.S. (Goi) Coffi



Leonardo "Goi" Saturnino Coffi

In a small ceremony on August 15, the life and work of Leonardo "Goi" Saturnino Coffi 1913 – 1976, was commemorated on the street where he worked as a Bonaire policeman from 1942 – 1973.

The police department in the 1960's was located at Fort Oranje. Only 15-20 officers were needed back then to maintain order on this island of less than 6,000. Bonaire was a quiet island with very little theft or violence and drug use was unknown.

According to Boi Antoin of FuhiKubo, the man primarily responsible for the street naming honor, Goi was more than a policeman. He didn't hold the highest rank, but his work was significant. If someone in jail needed something like a toothbrush, he would use his own money to provide them with what they needed. Goi had a big heart for the people of Bonaire.



Photo Julie Morgan

During his years with the police, he traveled to Sint Marten where he met Brooklyn, NY born, Daisy Louise "Wicha" Coffi-Green. They fell in love, married and had 12 children, eight of whom are still living. Now 99, Wicha was a force on Bonaire in her own right as an entrepreneur and she received a high medal of honor from the King of the Netherlands.

After 41 years with the police, Goi worked as a bailiff, or tax debt collector. His daughter Sheila, one of his 12 children, would often accompany her father on these visits. She explained her father kept these visits social

by offering lifts to the tax office to the debtor.

The ceremony for Goi Coffi was attended by family, Lt. Governor John Soliana, other officials and friends. Boi Antoin, daughter Sheila Coffi and Deputy Angelica Cicilia spoke prior to unveiling the street sign reading Kaya L.S. (Goi) Coffi.

Guests attending the ceremony and unveiling of Goi Coffi's sign included family members widow Daisy Louise Wicha Coffi-Green, daughter Elka Coffi, youngest daughter Sheila Coffi, eldest daughter Cheryl Coffi and grandson Malcom Wilson. *Julie Morgan*

Larval propagation for coral reef restoration

DCNA – BIO NEWS JULY 30

Kelly Latijnhouwers recently presented during the DCNA Reef Restoration Workshop, highlighting new strategies in coral larval propagation. Understanding and advancing larval propagation techniques is vital for enhancing coral reef restoration, which in turn supports marine biodiversity, coastal protection, and sustainable tourism in the Dutch Caribbean.

The presentation given by Kelly Latijnhouwers, from SECORE International and the CARMABI Research Station, underscored the importance of improving our scientific understanding of coral life cycles to enhance restoration efforts. This includes understanding proper techniques for gamete collection (collecting reproduction material), larval rearing (including the process of fertilization and embryogenesis), settlement (maximizing likelihood of larvae settling onto substrates) and outplanting and monitoring (planting young corals back



Spawning Coral. Photo credit: Paul Selvaggio

onto the reef and monitoring their growth over time).

Recent Improvements

Early restoration efforts faced low fertilization success, limited knowledge on reproductive timing, and high costs due to large-scale settlement and rearing requirements. Luckily, recent years have seen this improve due to better techniques for larval culture maintenance, and improved understanding of settlement cues, enhancing the overall effectiveness of restoration efforts.

During the Reef Restoration Workshop, Kelly Latijnhouwers presented several innovative tools and technologies aimed at increasing the success of field-based coral restoration. These include Coral Rearing In-Situ Basins (CRIB), protected in-water basins which have

significantly increased the scale and transferability of coral breeding, making large-scale restoration efforts more feasible and cost-effective. In addition, techniques such as heterotrophic feeding, which involves feeding coral settlers with natural plankton, has been shown to improve post-outplanting survival rates by enhancing settler fitness prior to outplanting.

Significance for the Dutch Caribbean

The insights and advancements discussed during the workshop hold valuable implications for the Dutch Caribbean, an area rich in marine biodiversity but increasingly threatened by climate change and human activ-

Larval propagation

continued on page 13



Collecting reproduction material.

Photo credit: Kelly Latijnhouwers

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Make Bonaire Accessible Taking care

by Ria Evers-Dokter

There are so many people who take personal care of someone. It may be a family member, friend, colleague..... anyone who takes care is a special kind of person.

They care because they want to, not because they have been summoned. They give their all, sometimes for many years, sometimes for a shorter period of time. The care can be extensive or small, but they are there. The person who needs care can always count on them.

And then comes that moment the care is not needed anymore because the loved one passed away. Often these informal caretakers know and fear that this moment is coming. And then it happens. And the world stops, for both sides. The caretaker falls into an abyss.

Often there is nobody who helps and/or coaches the caretakers. So suddenly they are useless, or so they feel.

And at this very moment these caretakers need counseling and we should give them all the time they need to heal. Now you have a person who is not schooled in

caregiving but is, thanks to their experience, a specialist. They were schooled by the person they cared for and there is no one that experience can be shared with.

There are governments, city councils, insurance companies, medical schools, etc. that pay a lot of money for specialists and experts for advice. But strangely enough, those informal caregivers, the personal experts, are never asked about their experience. These personal caretakers are specialists in their field, but their knowledge and empathy is almost never used again. And if it is used, it is mostly to take personal care of a loved one or a friend.

It makes me very happy that there are organizations now that are there to help, to advise caregivers who are in need and to help each other, so to speak. This is wonderful, because in this way all that expertise is not lost. In working together there is nothing better than helping each other and sharing knowledge.

These special caregivers have never been paid. Sometimes they get some kind of attention of the city council or government and it is highly appreciated. In my opinion these persons should get special awards, some kind of a medal and rank in a hall of fame. I know that they really don't want that, because they do the job because they want to and because they don't want to let their

people down. But believe me, getting an award and seeing your name in a paper with a picture is a wonderful feeling. And a nice amount of money would also be welcome. This is all so easy to achieve.

So, for your next project, invite a caretaker to help you tackle the problem of accessibility or logistics and have them reward a specialist because she/he treated his patients so wonderfully and patiently.

The next celebration of the Day of the Personal Caretaker is November 14. Make your plans and celebrate accordingly.



Ria Dokter is living happily on Bonaire, where she also used to work as a director at 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.

The Mantelzorg Foundation works to support Bonaire's informal caregivers. To reach Mantelzorg Foundation: call, app +599 790 1813 or email via mantelzorgbonaire@gmail.com.

Creating Optimal Health Heat exposure by means of a sauna

by Irene da Cunda Costa

In the many articles I have written about stress I stated that stress is a normal reaction of our body to different situations. Stress is acute when you are faced with a situation that must be solved, and this acute stress is the kind that helps us survive as individuals and species. When we are exposed to a stressful situation for a long period of time - whether we are aware of it or not - then this chronic stress, the one that is detrimental to our health as Hans Seyle described in the 1940s as General Adaptation Syndrome.

According to Dr Rhonda Patrick, PhD in Biochemical Sciences, a way of counteracting the effect of bad stress (or chronic stress) is the voluntary exposure to short term stress, also called hormetic stress, something that can activate all our natural mechanisms to deal with stress.

One way of doing this is exposing yourself to heat in a sauna. A sauna session is a type of heat stressor, during which dynorphin is secreted to cool down the body. Most people are familiar with endorphins, the feel-good hormone. Well, dynorphin is the counterpart and it makes us feel uncomfortable. The release of dynorphin during a sauna session increases the number and sensitivity of endorphin receptors, so next time your body releases endorphins you are going to feel so much better. This is one of the reasons heat exposure helps with anxiety and

depression: it makes you more sensitive to endorphins.

Heat exposure also appears to affect overall longevity. In a study for 20 years at the University of Eastern Finland that followed some 2000 middle aged Finnish men who were using the sauna, they found that those who used the sauna two to three times a week were 27 percent less likely to die from any cardiovascular related disease compared to those who use it only once a week. Men who use it four to seven times a week were 50 percent less likely to die from cardiovascular related diseases. Those who stayed longer than 19 minutes had the most robust effect on lowering cardiovascular related mortality compared to those who used it only for less than 11 minutes. So, both the frequency and duration of sauna was very important for lowering cardiovascular risk. This may be because sauna in some ways mimics cardiovascular exercise, as when you sit in the sauna your heart rate elevates to 100 to 150 beats per minute.

Heat exposure also affects longevity due to the activation of heat shock proteins; these are the ones that help all our proteins keep their three-dimensional structure to function optimally. The fact is that the three-dimensional structure of protein is getting damaged all the time by just normal existence, due to oxidative stress and metabolic byproducts, and as we age these damaged protein form aggregates that accumulate inside of our cells.

Amyloid beta, recently pointed out as one contributing factor to Alzheimer's disease, is probably one of those protein aggregates.

Another longevity pathway that is activated with heat is FOXO3 gen. Foxo3 activates genes that repair DNA before they produce mutation protecting the cell from becoming cancerous. Foxo3 activates autophagy, getting rid of senescent cells, which are known to accelerate the aging process. Foxo3 also activates genes that are involved in stem cell function, which are responsible for replacing any tissue, including white blood cells that help in the immune function.

Exposure to heat in a sauna also increases growth hormone, which in adults regulates fat, muscle tissue and bone, and plays a role regulating insulin action and blood sugar levels.

So, considering all the benefits, no wonder why sauna sessions are becoming more and more popular even on Bonaire. In next issue I will write about cold exposure, its benefits and the possibilities to combine heat and cold exposure.



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.

Reef Glimpses - Smart Fish? by Dee Scarr



You can see an assfish specimen in the exhibit *Extreme Deep: Mission to the Abyss*. Photo by Mark Sabaj/ANS

fleeing fish and in protected waters with comfortable fish.

When Bonaire's invasive lionfish grew too big to be netted, around 2010, it became clear that spearguns would have to be introduced into the Bonaire National Marine Park. The biggest worry, naturally, was that they'd be used for fish other than lionfish. I'm delighted to report that I've seen no evidence of any fish other than lionfish fleeing an ELF (lionfishing device).

I have known a couple of instances when the sound of the ELF has attracted a fish, usually a moray. Once when I was ineptly shooting at a finger-length lionfish, a spotted moray showed up, saw the lionfish eyeing me, approached the lionfish from the other side, and gobbled it down. I'm pretty sure the moray was alerted by hearing the ELF.

How many times would that moray have to have been around before it associated the sound of the ELF with a harassed – and thus vulnerable – lionfish? Back when I fed morays, it often took only three dives to introduce a spotted moray to feeding: the first time the

moray would be shy, the second time it would be assertive, and by the third time it would have calmed down. (Do NOT try this. It's prohibited in the Bonaire National Marine Park, it's dangerous, and those three steps are not instructions!) The moray I saw could have as-

sociated the ELF sound to easy prey after three, or even two, instances.

One of my favorite ways fish incorporate humans into their routines is when trumpetfish line up with divers. This happened to me once on San Salvador when I was hovering in a safety stop: I looked down and there was a trumpetfish hovering right there along with me! I've heard of divers who should feel even more flattered, because trumpetfish have swum along with them, using those divers for shadow-stalking.

Another incorporation is more easily seen and experienced: fish using our dive lights to hunt. Tarpon were the first fish to hunt by dive light on Bonaire, as long ago as the 1980's. If you don't ex-



In the daytime, these grunts and a few snappers hang out together. Once darkness settles, a few of these grunts will increase their hunting success by joining divers.

Photo Dee Scarr

pect it, it's quite a shock when such a big fish zooms in from behind you and gobbles down the little fish you had just been watching! In addition to the tarpon, other fish who have figured out the benefits of hunting by dive light include snappers and even grunts.

One way you can tell that this behavior is learned rather than instinctive, is that not all of the tarpon, or all of the grunts, are doing it. Just the smart ones.



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*; 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.

Choco rocks

by Chef Corjan Hoogerheide, Lekker Thuis Restaurant



Ingredients:

100 g (3.5 oz) white chocolate • 100 g (3.5 oz) crispy white chocolate • 30 g (1 C) cornflakes • 15 g (1/3 C) puffed rice grains • 25 g (1/4 C) raisins • 30 g (20 nuts) hazelnuts, roasted and coarsely chopped • 2 g (1/2 t) coarse Bonaire sea salt

Melt the chocolate in an iron bowl over hot water. Stir all ingredients until everything is coated in chocolate. Divide them into rocks on greaseproof paper and let

them harden in the refrigerator.

Delicious at home with coffee or tea. You can of course use any flavor of chocolate and add other flavors, such as cranberry, dried banana, grated coconut, etc.



Each issue Chef Corjan Hoogerheide of Lekker Thuis shares the recipe for one of his personal dishes created from Bonaire's fresh ingredients.

NEW 2025 IDC DATES

7 February
11 April
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What's Happening

Animal Shelter: Mon-Fri 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Sat. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. phone/whatsapp: 701 4989 or 717 4989. Email: animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com

Arts & Crafts Market in Wilhelmina Plaza. NEW open Friday 9am till 4pm as well as for the cruise ships (schedule can be found at: <https://www.facebook.com/BonaireArtsandCraftsCruiseMarket/>)

Cultural Park Mangazina di Rei in Rincon: Tues.-Thurs. 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Sat. 8-noon

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

Marshe di Playa Local market Sat. 9-1. Kaya Industria, by Warehouse Supermarket.

Pakus di Pruga (Animal Shelter flea market.): Pakus reopened May 11 at new location Kaya Gilberto F Croes. Located just past Caribbean Laundry. 8 a.m. – 3 p.m. Pakus raises funds for the Animal Shelter by selling recycled and affordable clothes, furniture, books, music, housewares and more.

Terramar Museum Mon-Fri 9-2. Kaya J.N.E. Isla Riba 3. Admission \$10. Residents \$5. Tours \$20. Children under 12 free. +599 701 4700 <https://www.facebook.com/terrarmuseumbonaire/>

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Taxi Service Online: Bonaire-taxi.com is available for bookings. Tourists can easily reserve their taxi via the website or the dedicated app. Phone/whatsapp: +599 786 1786 Website: www.bonaire-taxi.com

Washington Slagbaai Park: Open Tues. - Sun. 8-5 (entry to 2:30 p.m.) \$40 (Free with Nature tag)

August-October 27	Art center Antriol. Summer group exhibit Wed-Sun 11:30 a.m. - 10 p.m. Kaya Korona 74.
Fri. / Sat. August 23/24	Football competition between Aruba, Bonaire and Curaçao. U17 competes at the Antonio Trinidad Stadium in Rincon. Visitors are encouraged to come and enjoy the matches.
Sunday, Aug. 25	MoltenWolf Mosaic Workshops. We will demonstrate creating your own personal sushi set. 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. \$175 pp. Second of three summer workshops. No experience necessary. All materials and equipment provided. 8 people per class. Email MoltenWolfGlassinc@gmail.com .
Wed. Aug. 28	Open Day breast cancer and cervical cancer screening. Fundashon Mariadal 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. For women 30 - 75 years. For info, visit our website www.screening-cn.com or our Facebook page screening CN. Divers Drink & Dance Yhanni's Arepas. 5 p.m.
Friday, Aug. 30	Terramar Museum News Cafe: Shaping a healthy society. In Dutch and Papiamentu. 6 to 8:30 p.m. in Captain Don's Habitat (Aqarius Hall). To reserve contact +599 701 4700 or terrarmuseum@gmail.com
Friday, Sept. 6	Bonaire Day. Public holiday. Much is closed.
Friday, Sept. 13	U.S. Consular Officer in Bonaire for American Citizen Services. Trans World Radio Station, 64 Kaya Gob. N. Debrot. 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. By appointment only. To schedule, email ACSCuracao@state.gov . Services: U.S. passport applications • Consular Report of Birth Abroad (CRBA) applications • Notarizations
Sept. 19-Oct. 3	Bonaire Culinair. Use this 15-day event to discover the wide variety of restaurants Bonaire has to offer. Bonaire's culinary hotspots create a special 3-course menu at a special price. https://bonaire-culinair.com
Saturday, Sept. 21	Funrace opening the Berezanski trail. 4 p.m. For more information visit the Bonaire Bicycle Club or De Freewieler on Facebook .
Wed. Sept. 25	Divers Drink & Dance Yhanni's Arepas. 5 p.m.
Oct. 6-12	Regatta 2024. Races for Sunfish, windsurf, wingfoil, yachts, microboats, Optimist, fishing boats and kitesurfing. Other activities: Oct. 6. Swim to Klein Bonaire Jong Bonaire Fundraiser • Oct. 9. Parade of Nations Flag parade & Comcabon Regattalooop, 5:30 p.m. Kids 2km run; Adults: 5km run • Oct. 10. Microboats workshop & windsurf lessons • Oct. 12. A boat party

Church Services

Roman Catholic Churches Bonaire

- **Parish La Birgen di Coromoto (ANTRIOL):** Holy Masses: Mon-6:30 a.m.; Tues & Thurs -7:30 p.m.; Sat-6 p.m. (English) / 7:30 p.m.; Sun-7 a.m. / 10 a.m. / 6 p.m.
- **Parish San Bernardo (PLAYA):** Holy Masses: Mon,Wed, Fri, Sat-7 p.m.; Sun-9 a.m. / 7 p.m.
- **Parish Luis Beltran (RINCON):** Holy Masses: Tues,Wed, Thurs, Sat-7 p.m.; Sun-7 a.m. / 10 a.m.

International Bible Church of Bonaire (HATO): Kaya Papago 104 Sun: Worship Service & Children's Church 9 a.m. Sunday School 10:45 a.m. Services are conducted in English.

United Protestant Congregation

- (KRALENDIJK), Plaza Wilhelmina: Sun 10 a.m. Services in Dutch
- (RINCON) Kaya C. D. Crestian: Sun 8:30 a.m. Services in Papiamentu/Dutch

You can help keep Bonaire clean

Saturdays	One Hour Cleanup Power. Weekly coastal clean up every Sat., 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. Location on FB: https://www.facebook.com/OneHourCleanUpPower/
Sunday, September 8	Clean Coast Bonaire. 8-10 a.m. Te Amo Beach. Donate your time. Work as a citizen scientist to collect marine litter & data. https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=clean%20coast%20bonaire

Events, Meetings, Sports

12 steps 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

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.

Art Gallery Sobremesa Bonaire View or buy art from Bonaire's local artists. Opening hours are Tue-Fri 2 - 5 p.m. and Sat 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Abraham Boulevard 10. In JULY our open studio is Saturdays. Feel like making some art? You are welcome to use our materials and facilities every Saturday from 11 to 2 pm. Cost \$5. Closing for holidays July 27 till August 25.

Beach Tennis Bonaire <https://www.facebook.com/beachtennisbonaire/>
<https://beachtennisbonaire.com>

Bridgeclub Bonaire organizes a bridge evening Wednesdays 7:30 - 10:30 p.m. All playing levels are welcome. Info: 795-0128 (only whatsapp text messages), bridgeclubbonaire@gmail.com. <https://www.facebook.com/bridgeclubbonaire>

Bonaire by Night Shopping night every month

Divers Drink & Dance Yhanni's Arepas. Wednesdays 5 p.m. Aug 28, Sept 25, Oct 30

Diver Safety. Next presentation August 18 by Martje Bakker on jelly fish stings. Hosted by Jason Buttenshaw who holds presentations the third Sunday of the month 6:30 p.m. at Sugar Thief, 8 Kaya Inglaterra.

Paws and Foot Prints bi-weekly dog walking group Every other Wednesday beginning July 24, 8 a.m. for an hour at Seru Largu. Signup by sending a WhatsApp message to 599-701-4989 no later than 2 p.m., the day before the walk (so we know how many dogs to bring)

Pickleball. Chinese Assoc. Tues. & Thurs 6-8 p.m.; Jong Bonaire Weds 6-8 p.m. this week only; Sand Dollar at Eddy's almost daily 8 a.m. Come join the fun. A sport for all ages.

Racing / Fevering. The Onima fever platform is available every Tues. Thurs. Sat. and Sun. 4 - 7 p.m.



Echo Conservation Tours - Weekdays at 8 a.m. or 5 p.m. and Saturday 8 a.m. To reserve email at info@echobonaire.org



Manta Monday at 7:30 p.m. - Nicole Pelletier of the Caribbean Islands Manta Conservation. [Caribbean Islands Manta Conservation facebook](https://www.facebook.com/CaribbeanIslandsMantaConservation). No presentations between July 20 and Sept 7th. Email: Caribbean.Islands@mantatrust.org



Reef Renewal Bonaire. Sundays 5:30 p.m. Blennies Restaurant – Buddy Dive Resort. Free. Open to everyone. Want to learn about coral reef restoration on Bonaire? Come listen to a staff member, instructor, or volunteer give an informative presentation about Reef Renewal Foundation Bonaire and the importance of restoring and protecting Bonaire's coral reefs! Questions? email: info@reefrenwalbonaire.org



Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire (STCB). Free public presentations at Yellow Submarine, every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month, at 8 p.m. See facebook. Would you like to learn everything about what we do in the field during nesting season and how we can protect our turtles? Then you can join us in the field! We go out to Klein Bonaire on Monday, Wednesday and Friday to search for nest activity and we sometimes have a few spots open. Sign up by sending an email to cepa@bonaireturtles.org.

Interested in Bonaire's Geology?

Everyone who loves Bonaire has questions about the island's geology...How was the island formed and when? What is the actual composition of the island's topographical structures? Is Bonaire a volcanic island?

All your questions will be answered in a three-part fun class on the geology of Bonaire by André Nahr. The class will be held in September: Tuesday 3, Thursday 5 & Saturday 7 at Opleidingsinstituut Bonaire (OIB), Kaya Amsterdam 25, next to Home Style & OMNI.

Session 1 & 2 are scheduled from 7-9 p.m. and session 3 brings everything together in a fun field trip on Saturday from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. The field trip will include visits to several interesting spots on the island to learn and see first hand examples of Bonaire's geology. Comfortable shoes are suggested, but no heavy hiking is involved. The class is taught in English.

Cost is \$120.00 p.p. payable **in cash** at the first session. Sign up at geology.andrenahr@gmail.com but don't wait too long, only 15 spots are available! Don't miss the opportunity to learn about Bonaire's fascinating geology!

2024 Cruise Ship Schedule

DATE:	CRUISE SHIP	TIME	PIER	CAPACITY
Wed. August 21	CARNIVAL HORIZON	0700-1500	South	4683
Wed. August 28	CELEBRITY BEYOND	0600-1800	South	3260
Thurs. September 5	RHAPSODY OF THE SEAS	0800-1800	North	2417
Wed. September 11	CARNIVAL CELEBRATION	0800-2200	South	6630
Thurs. September 12	CELEBRITY BEYOND	0600-1600	South	3260
Wed. September 18	CARNIVAL HORIZON	0700-1500	South	4683
Wed. September 25	CELEBRITY BEYOND	0600-1900	South	3260

Sailing world experts appointed as Regatta race directors

The Regatta Bonaire 2024 is set to be a spectacular event, thanks to the efforts of three renowned individuals from the sailing world who are organizing and coordinating most aspects of the sailing segment of the Regatta.

According to Miles Mercera, CEO of Tourism Corporation Bonaire (TCB): “Ruben Petrisie, Claudio Alessandrello, and Anastazja Lewandowska bring a wealth of experience, expertise, and passion to this year’s regatta, promising an unforgettable experience for participants and spectators alike.”

Ruben Petrisie: Windsurfing Legend from Bonaire

Hailing from the island of Bonaire, Ruben Petrisie is a former professional windsurfer who has made waves on the PWA World Tour and the European Freestyle Pro Tour. With a career that spans freestyle, wave, and slalom disciplines, Ruben has represented Bonaire on the global stage, earning sponsorships from top brands in the windsurfing industry. His involvement with the International Windsurfing Association (IWA) has been pivotal, particularly in setting up youth competition platforms, events, and races. As the IFCA Class President since 2018, Ruben has driven significant changes and secured major championships worldwide. Balancing his wind-



Ruben Petrisie



Claudio Alessandrello

surfing duties with a career as a software developer for government enterprises. Ruben’s multifaceted expertise will be invaluable in orchestrating the Regatta Bonaire 2024.

Claudio Alessandrello: The Race Officer Extraordinaire

Claudio Alessandrello, a World Sailing International Race Officer since 2004, brings a rich history of managing



Anastazja Lewandowska

top-tier sailing events. His impressive resume includes being the Principal Race Officer for prestigious competitions such as the African Games, RS

Worlds, and IQ Foil Europeans. Claudio’s expertise extends to various classes, from PKRA World Cup Slalom to the Kitefoil World Series and World Cup Wingfoil. As a race director and elimination ladders specialist, he has overseen numerous kite-

boarding and wingfoil races. Claudio’s meticulous planning and execution skills are set to ensure smooth and competitive races at the Regatta Bonaire.

Anastazja Lewandowska: The International Judge

Polish World Sailing International Judge Anastazja Lewandowska has held her status since 2016 and has judged countless continental and world championships, including serving on the International Jury for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games and as a Digital International Official at Tokyo 2020. Anastazja’s judging career follows a successful international sailing stint in the Optimist, ILCA, and 470 classes. An avid mountaineer and snowboarder, she splits her time between the French Alps and waters around the world. Anastazja’s keen eye for detail and fair play will be crucial in ensuring the integrity and excitement of the Regatta Bonaire.

TCB Press Release

2024-CARMABI-Coral-Spawning-Predictions

<https://www.divecuracao.info/curacao-diving-news/coral-spawning-curacao/>

The Caribbean Research and Management of Biodiversity (CARMABI) has released its 2024 annual coral spawning prediction calendar for the Southern Caribbean. This calendar plays a central role in studying the reproductive biology of Caribbean corals and guiding coral restoration efforts for the southern Dutch Caribbean islands. During spawning events, researchers from CARMABI, in collaboration with Reef Renewal Bonaire and Reef Renewal Curaçao, collect coral gametes that can be used to grow new corals in a laboratory setting.

In her “Did you know?” column (*The Bonaire Reporter*, Issue 18, September 2-16, 2019.) Roxanne-Liana Francisca, STINAPA Biologist, wrote:

“Did you know that a couple of nights a year Bonaire’s coral reefs put on dazzling shows of subaquatic fireworks? ... When the conditions are just right the corals will reproduce. During this mesmerizing spectacle all the corals belonging to the same species will simultaneously release little pink balls containing the sperm cells and egg cells necessary to create the next generation of corals.

“Because corals are not able to move around to find



You will find the coral spawning calendar at the link above, and also on pages 17 and 18 of *The Reporter* online (also on our update pages online).

a partner, reproduction is a little more complicated than for most animals. The basics however are still the same. Egg meets sperm and voila, a baby coral is made. Unlike the adults, this baby coral, a small worm-like creature called a planula larva, is able to move around. The larva will often drift some distance away from where the adult colonies are before actively swimming around trying to find a place to settle on the reef. This is one of the most important decisions for a coral larva to make. After all, once the larva has settled down and transformed into a coral polyp, there is no going back. They are stuck in that location forever! Once the larva has chosen its for-

ever home, it will undergo some drastic physical changes. During this metamorphosis the larvae will transform from a worm-like creature to the very first polyp. It will basically look like an upside down jellyfish, and will hopefully grow to become a large and healthy coral colony.

“But how do corals, animals that cannot move or talk to each other, make sure that the right sperm cell meets the right egg cell and at the right time? ... Usually once a year, all the corals release little packets containing the building blocks for the next generation. These little packets, resembling tiny pink balls, will float up to the surface where they burst open to release the sperm and egg cells they contain. At that point the sperm cells and egg cells can meet in the water column. If fertilization is successful a tiny planula larva is formed and the circle of (coral) life carries on. This is what we call a coral spawning event. Different coral species will spawn on different days or at different times. You can imagine how critical it is for every colony to spawn at the right time; not too early or too late or they miss their chance at reproduction.”

You will find Francisca’s article online. Search for *The Bonaire Reporter*, Issue 18, September 2-16, 2019.

Learn More

Stay tuned for more articles in this coral reef restoration series, where we will delve deeper into the topics discussed during the workshop, highlighting the critical work being done to preserve these vital marine ecosystems.

This workshop is funded by the Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality (LNV) and supported by the Dutch Postcode Lottery. Kelly Latijnhouwers’ participation in the workshop was sponsored by Diergaarde Blijdorp.

DCNA (BIO)NEWS 77

Larval propagation, continued from page 8

ities. By adopting these larval propagation techniques and restoration strategies, the Dutch Caribbean can:

- Enhance Biodiversity: Improved coral restoration methods can help restore damaged reefs, ensuring the survival of diverse marine species.
- Boost Coastal Protection: Healthy coral reefs act as natural barriers against storms and erosion, protecting coastal communities and economies.
- Promote Sustainable Tourism: Vibrant coral reefs attract tourists, providing economic benefits to local communities through sustainable tourism practices.

The Reef Restoration Workshop showcased signifi-

cant progress in coral larval propagation, offering hope and practical solutions for restoring coral reefs in the Dutch Caribbean. The ongoing efforts and continued innovation in this field are crucial for maintaining the ecological and economic health of the region’s marine environments.

Watch Now

Watch the presentation “Larval propagation and its field-based applications” online now:

<https://youtu.be/4WMa83v44-0?si=O1KTLVdNBglx56pN>

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Pets of the Week



(L-R) Zuko and Zane

Hello dog lovers. My name is Zane and my brother's name is Zuko. We are two sweet boys of about 2 years-old, I'm the light colored brindle and Zuko is more brown.

As small pups we were dumped at Sorobon. We had a great time there sleeping and playing in the sand, getting food from everybody and having a good life. But a few months ago we were brought to the shelter because it's not a normal lifestyle to keep on camping on the beach.

Luckily we adjusted very fast and love all the attention, but now we are looking for a place we can call home.

As much as I love my brother, it's better we find separate homes. We are both very good with other dogs, but Zane prefers the ladies more. We both love children, both small and big. We like to go out for walks and a nice swim. I hope you can help us find a home.

Photo/story: Sanne Attevelt

Please meet our kitten of the week, **Snow White**. Snow White is a female kitten, all white in color and has one green eye and one blue eye. She is 15 weeks old and she is beautiful!

Snow White was found with her three siblings and brought to us only days old. The kitties were fostered in a home and bottle fed day and night. Thankfully all survived and are now healthy enough for adoption.

Snow White is very active and loves to be cuddled. She begins purring as soon as you hold her. Snow White will do well with children and other cats in the home. If you have dogs and are willing to work with her and the dogs, I am sure she will do fine.

Please consider coming to meet Snow White. I believe she will make a nice addition to your home.

Snow White is sterilized and has tested negative for feline leukemia and FIV.

Photo/story: Amy Bowen



Snow White

If you would like to meet our cats and dogs, please come to Animal Shelter Bonaire, Kaminda Lagun 26A.

Open Monday - Friday 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday 11 a.m.-2 p.m. You can also call 701-4989 or 717-4989 to make an appointment, via whatsapp, facebook messenger, or email animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com



Bonaire's sky park

Waiting for a rare nova explosion

From: Trace Domingo, From: Sky Gazers See an Exploding Star in 2024

"Let's talk about a new exploding star, T. Coronae Borealis, AKA the Blaze Star which explodes about every eighty years. It's due although no one knows exactly when. But at some point soon we'll all see a nova in the sky.

"Here's where you should look. Hit the darkness at 10 p.m. and find Arcturus in the west. Use the Big Dipper and arc to Arcturus in Bootes. Next pick out the keystone of Hercules. Corona Borealis is in-between. At some point by September 2024 Blaze should explode, becoming about as bright as the North Star.

"Blaze is a white dwarf orbiting an unstable red giant that ejects hot matter off its surface. The white dwarf picks up the matter but eventually can't take any more and explodes. (So relatable!) This recurring nova is one of five in our galaxy, so check every night and keep looking for the nerdy news."

Thanks to Trace Dominguez,

See full video at:

<https://www.stargazersonline.org>

From: NASA: Global Astronomers Await Rare Nova Explosion

"It's a once-in-a-lifetime event that will create a lot of new astronomers out there, giving young people a cosmic event they can observe for themselves, ask their own questions, and collect their own data," said Dr. Rebekah Hounsell, an assistant research scientist specializing in nova events at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Maryland. "It'll fuel the next generation of scientists."

Don't confuse a nova with a supernova, a final, titanic explosion that destroys some dying stars, Hounsell said. In a nova event, the dwarf star remains intact, sending the accumulated material hurtling into space in a blinding flash. The cycle typically repeats itself over time, a process which can carry on for tens or hundreds of thousands of years.

"There are a few recurrent novae with very short cycles, but typically, we don't often see a repeated outburst in a human lifetime, and rarely one so relatively close to our own system," Hounsell said. "It's incredibly exciting to have this front-row seat."

The T CrB nova was last seen from



Finding Corona Borealis, the Blaze star. Image thanks to <https://www.stargazersonline.org>

Earth in 1946. Its behavior over the past decade appears strikingly similar to observed behavior in a similar timeframe leading up to the 1946 eruption. If the pattern continues, some researchers say, the nova event could occur by September 2024.

The outburst will be brief. Once it erupts, it will be visible to the naked eye for a little less than a week—but Hounsell is confident it will be quite a sight to see.

Dr. Elizabeth Hays, chief of the Astroparticle Physics Laboratory at NASA Goddard, agreed. She said part of the fun in preparing to observe the event is

seeing the enthusiasm among amateur stargazers, whose passion for extreme space phenomena has helped sustain a long and mutually rewarding partnership with NASA.

"Citizen scientists and space enthusiasts are always looking for those strong, bright signals that identify nova events and other phenomena," Hays said. "Using social media and email, they'll send out instant alerts, and the flag goes up. We're counting on that global community interaction again with T CrB."

See full article at:

<https://www.nasa.gov/centers-and-facilities/marshall/nasa-global-astronomers-await-rare-nova-explosion/>

A Garden? Just Do It! Mangos, Birds & Body Masks

by Angliet, Nature Lover



Protecting the fruit

These days my mango tree is full of mangos. It is one of the best restaurants for the birds. You know them: the Loras, prikichis and a few others. Among them there is even an awesome hummingbird with a gold brown belly.

Normally I love to watch the birds in my garden but when they damage all the mango fruit, that hurts. It's so frustrating to see them damaged and wasted under the tree. Mangos are such a fresh, delicious, healthy, sun ripened fruit but they are so expensive in the supermarkets.

My mango tree looks like a Christmas tree decorated with brown paper bags. In each bag there is a hidden mango. I protect the mangos as high as I could on the tree with the paper bags. And I have enjoyed some of these goodies already. To get as many as possible of these mangos I shake a broom through the tree when I hear the loras and their friends. That takes a lot of time, energy and patience to go up and down the tree the whole day to chase the birds. But at least I get some more mangos from all this effort so it is worth it.

I have also noticed in the early morning, smaller typical Bonaire birds walk-

ing in the garden and eating all kinds of things from the ground. Mostly seeds but also bugs and small parts of the damaged mangos. And there are some hummingbirds hanging in the plantain trees, sucking the juice out of the flowers. I love to watch all the birds' actions in the garden, except when they damage the mangos.

What surprises me is that there are no white fly (pies pies) around. What a blessing for the plants. Normally this fungus goes around during the dry season, hitting my lemon grass, the plantain plants, the eggplants, sweet pepper plants, papayas and so on. Their survival would be even less with the attack of the white fly fungus. Its absence saves some time for gardeners who must treat this plague

every two weeks during the dry season. Could it be that even for the white fly this drought is too tough?

Protecting your skin

Not so long ago I started to put masks of fresh fruit skins on my face. In the morning I consume three types of fruits. I mash the skins (papaya, mango, water melon, apple, avocado etc.) and put it on my face. It works as an astringent and when I wash my face, it feels so soft and smooth and no wrinkles. Sometimes I first remove the dead cells with a scrub and then add the fruit mask. It gives a boost to the facial skin and makes you look so good. Give it a try and you will be surprised seeing another YOU in the mirror.

By the way, when I go to the beach I always give my body a scrub with the fine beach sand. Together with the sea salt it's a great cleansing for the skin and your skin feels so soft and it even shines.

With tea from the red Bougainvillea, yellow juice of Aloë and pure coconut oil you can make a hair mask that is good for your hair and makes it shine. All these goodies to treat your body are almost free. You just need a bit of your time to prepare them, but it's worth it when you see the results. If you have all this stuff in your garden you can keep your money in your pocket.

Dia di Bonairu is a perfect day for this body care. It's a holiday so you have time to give yourself a body boost to shine before hitting the street and enjoying the cultural activities and great creole food.

Wishing you a nice Dia di Bonairu.

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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- You are a team player, you give and receive feedback and together with the team you deliver results for the benefit of the population of the island.

- You are available full-time.
- Flexibility is a must as the range of tasks is comprehensive and the island context can be isolated.
- You are willing to commit for at least 2 months (extension is possible).
- Foreign work experience is not a must but is a plus.

About St. Eustatius Health Care Foundation

The St. Eustatius Health Care Foundation (SEHCF) manages the island's premier and only medical facility. Our dedicated team of 65 professionals includes nurses, doctors, supporting administrative staff, a midwife, a physiotherapist, a gynecologist, and specialized Practice Nurses for chronic care, ensuring comprehensive primary care services for our community.

At SEHCF, our commitment to excellence is reflected in our diverse range of healthcare services. From outpatient services featuring general practitioner care and visiting specialists to community (home) care, emergency response, inpatient care, physiotherapy, and advanced diagnostic services in our laboratory and X-Ray departments. In short, we deliver primary care+. We work hard every day to be a good primary care + medical center, continually enhancing the quality of care for the local population.

We work closely with various stakeholders in our daily operations. For elective specialist care and emergency referrals we maintain strong partnerships with medical centers in St. Maarten and hospitals in Bonaire and Curaçao. Additionally, we work closely with key stakeholders, including the Ministry of Health, Welfare, and Sport and local public health organizations like GGD and GGZ.

What SEHCF offers

SEHCF offers an extraordinary job with opportunities for personal and professional development. This position is ideal for a general practitioner seeking new challenges beyond the regular scope of general practice. The employment conditions are competitive within the region and include the following:

- Full-time position (40 hours per week)
- Duration: 4 months, starting on 1st October 2024
- Accommodation: Housing provided for the first two (2) months.
- Transportation: Rental car provided for the first two (2) months
- Airfare: Economy class return ticket to and from St. Eustatius provided

Interested?

If the above appeals to you and you meet the conditions, we invite you to submit your CV/resume with cover letter, copies of diploma and/or certificates and two references to: St. Eustatius Health Care Foundation, attn. Mr. Fazal Baboe, Medical Manager, via email: hr@sehcf.org. Mr. Baboe can also be contacted for more information via +599 318-2211 or +599 319-1381.

Closing date: September 16, 2024 (extended)

H.M. Queen Beatrix rd. 25 | Oranjestad |
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W: www.sehcf.org | T: +599-318 2211

The Sint Eustatius Health Care Foundation (SEHCF) has a vacancy for:

General Practitioner or Tropical Physician (Short-Term)

Working within SEHCF means working on holistic care for residents that connects lifestyle, prevention, optimal treatment, and nursing care in a strong network on the island and in the region. As a General Practitioner or Tropical physician, you get the unique opportunity to gain new experiences in the Caribbean Netherlands and in a dynamic work environment where broad care questions arise. Empathy, team spirit, flexibility and being solution-oriented are keywords that describe you as a doctor.

The function

You hold GP consultations, make diagnoses, coordinate with the multidisciplinary care team or medical specialists from other islands and you can decide whether is needed to send a patient abroad for further care. Your duties also include emergency care, nursing home care, community care and care for patients who are temporarily admitted (primary-plus care) and if you have these skills, you perform minor surgical procedures. The care needs are very diverse, and the range of tasks is broad, which means that every working day is different.

Of course, you are not alone: you work closely with a multidisciplinary care team and provide 24/7 medical care in collaboration with the other doctors. The care team offers general primary-plus patient care, including prevention. Various specialists visit St. Eustatius for consultations, other care is referred to other island and/or countries.

Your profile

- A BIG - or equivalent - registered, broadly oriented general practitioner and/o tropical physician.
- In addition to your experience as a general practitioner, you bring extra knowledge and skills with you. For example, experience in acute medicine or experience in internal medicine, surgery or you have completed the training as a tropical physician.
- You have the ability to work within the context of St. Eustatius, you know how to empathize with the patients.
- Good command of the English language (spoken and written).
- Excellent communication skills. You are able to listen and build bridges where necessary, overcome resistance and communicate at different levels with a wide range of stakeholders.



2024

Coral Spawning Predictions for the Southern Caribbean

Key to Abbreviations and Colors on Page 3

Spring Corals

Scientific name (and spawning window)	Common Name	NAFM	10	11	12	13	10	11	12	13	10	11	12	13
		DATE	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu
		SUNSET	3-May	4-May	5-May	6-May	2-Jun	3-Jun	4-Jun	5-Jun	1-Jul	2-Jul	3-Jul	4-Jul

<i>Diploria labyrinthiformis</i> (70 MBS-10 MAS)	Grooved Brain Coral*	SUNSET	6:50 PM	6:50 PM	6:50 PM	6:50 PM	6:57 PM	6:58 PM	6:58 PM	6:58 PM	7:04 PM	7:04 PM	7:04 PM	7:04 PM
				5:40-7:00 PM				5:46-7:06 PM				5:53-7:13 PM		

*Monthly "DLAB" spawning has been seen from April to October in Curaçao, Bonaire, DR, and Mexico. Does this occur across the entire region? New observations needed.

July Corals

Scientific name (and spawning window)	Common Name	NAFM	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
		DATE	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		SUNSET	21-Jul	22-Jul	23-Jul	24-Jul	25-Jul	26-Jul	27-Jul	28-Jul	29-Jul	30-Jul	31-Jul	1-Aug	2-Aug	3-Aug

<i>Diploria labyrinthiformis</i> (70 MBS-10 MAS)	Grooved Brain Coral*	SUNSET	7:03 PM	7:03 PM	7:03 PM	7:03 PM	7:03 PM	7:02 PM	7:02 PM	7:02 PM	7:02 PM	7:01 PM	7:01 PM			
<i>Montastraea cavernosa</i> (15-225 MAS)	Great Star Coral						7:18-10:48 PM (Peaks in first 90 min)							5:52-7:12 PM		

**This year's mystery: Does *P. strigosa* spawn in two distinct groups or all night long? Please help watch this species during ANY spawning dive and send your observations of spawning and NOT spawning to v.chamberland@score.org. Thank you!

August Corals

Scientific name (and spawning window)	Common Name	NAFM	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
		DATE	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
		SUNSET	19-Aug	20-Aug	21-Aug	22-Aug	23-Aug	24-Aug	25-Aug	26-Aug	27-Aug	28-Aug	29-Aug	30-Aug	31-Aug	1-Sep

<i>Diploria labyrinthiformis</i> (70 MBS-10 MAS)	Grooved Brain Coral*	SUNSET	6:53 PM	6:52 PM	6:52 PM	6:51 PM	6:51 PM	6:50 PM	6:49 PM	6:49 PM	6:48 PM	6:48 PM	6:47 PM	6:46 PM	6:46 PM	6:45 PM
<i>Montastraea cavernosa</i> (15-225 MAS)	Great Star Coral						7:06-10:36 PM (Peaks in first 90 min)									

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Coral Spawning Predictions for the Southern Caribbean, continued

Key to Abbreviations and Colors on Page 3

September Corals

Scientific name (and spawning window)	Common Name	NAFM	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
		DATE	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
		SUNSET	17-Sep	18-Sep	19-Sep	20-Sep	21-Sep	22-Sep	23-Sep	24-Sep	25-Sep	26-Sep	27-Sep	28-Sep	29-Sep	30-Sep

<i>Diploria labyrinthiformis</i> (70 MBS-10 MAS)	Grooved Brain Coral*	SUNSET	6:34 PM	6:34 PM	6:33 PM	6:32 PM	6:32 PM	6:31 PM	6:30 PM	6:30 PM	6:29 PM	6:28 PM	6:27 PM	6:27 PM	6:26 PM	6:26 PM
<i>Meandrina meandrites</i> (10-70 MAS)	Maze Coral							6:41-7:41 PM (Expected nightly until at least Sept 30; new observations encouraged on any date)								

October Corals

Scientific name (and spawning window)	Common Name	NAFM	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
		DATE	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed
		SUNSET	17-Oct	18-Oct	19-Oct	20-Oct	21-Oct	22-Oct	23-Oct	24-Oct	25-Oct	26-Oct	27-Oct	28-Oct	29-Oct	30-Oct

November Corals

Scientific name (and spawning window)	Common Name	NAFM	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
DATE																
<i>Meandrina meandrites</i> (10-70 MAS)	Maze Coral	SUNSET	6:07 PM	6:07 PM	6:07 PM	6:07 PM	6:07 PM	6:07 PM	6:07 PM	6:07 PM	6:07 PM	6:07 PM	6:07 PM	6:07 PM	6:08 PM	6:08 PM
<i>Eusmilia fastigiata</i> (75-270 MAS)	Smooth Flower Coral									6:17-7:17 PM						
<i>Dichocoenia stokesii</i> (85-160 MAS)	Pineapple Coral									7:22-10:37 PM						
7:32-8:47 PM (Has been observed from mid-September to mid-November, new observations are highly encouraged!)																

Fall Sponges, Stars, Gorgs, and More

Scientific name (and spawning window)	Common Name	NAFM	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
DATE																
<i>Holothuria mexicana</i>	Donkeydung Sea Cucumber	19-Aug	20-Aug	21-Aug	22-Aug	23-Aug	24-Aug	25-Aug	26-Aug	27-Aug	28-Aug	29-Aug	30-Aug	31-Aug	1-Sep	
<i>Hermodice carunculata</i>	Fire Worm	17-Sep	18-Sep	19-Sep	20-Sep	21-Sep	22-Sep	23-Sep	24-Sep	25-Sep	26-Sep	27-Sep	28-Sep	29-Sep	30-Sep	
<i>Diadema antillarum</i>	Long-Spined Sea Urchin	17-Oct	18-Oct	19-Oct	20-Oct	21-Oct	22-Oct	23-Oct	24-Oct	25-Oct	26-Oct	27-Oct	28-Oct	29-Oct	30-Oct	
<i>Neofibularia noltangere</i>	Touch-Me-Not Sponge					2:00-7:00 PM										
<i>Plexaura, Pseudoplexaura, Eunicia</i>	Sea Rods									starting at 7:00 PM						
<i>Plexaura homomalla</i>	Black Sea Rod									7:00-11:00 PM						
Cphiuroidea	Brittle Sea Star/Serpent Star									7:30-11:00 PM						
<i>Pseudopterogorgia</i> spp.	Sea Plume									8:00-11:00 PM						
<i>Spirobranchus giganteus</i>	Christmas Tree Worm									9:00-11:30 PM						

Abbreviations & Colors

- NAFM:** Nights After the Full Moon
 - MBS:** Minutes Before Sunset
 - MAS:** Minutes After Sunset
 - Pale Blue:** Spawning may be possible but data are sparse. Please help by diving these dates
 - Light Blue:** Spawning is possible. Spawning has been observed on these dates
 - Medium Blue:** Spawning is likely. Spawning is often observed on these dates
 - Dark Blue:** Spawning is very likely. Spawning is reliably observed on these dates
- New color gradient is friendlier to colorblind viewing and grayscale printers. Times are now in AM/PM instead of 24h*



Tips for Observers

- Spawning is never guaranteed, especially in a changing climate. When in doubt, go for a dive
- Predictions do not include buffers; we suggest entering the water well before predicted times
- Dive in a place with high coral cover
- Make multiple dives on multiple nights
- Dive shallower than 50' to maximize dive time
- Use a moderately bright dive light
- Scan the water column for clouds of spawn
- Spawn from most brain/star/elkhorn/staghorn corals looks like snow/confetti/polka dots
- Spawn from starlet, pillar, maze, and pineapple corals and male great star corals looks like puffs of smoke or sprays of fine sand
- Spawn from female great star corals looks like chunky vomit (hooray!)
- Spawning depends on local sunset times; to adjust dives based on your local sunset times,

More Resources & How To Get Involved

- **Bonus features and PDF download:** Sign up for our dive tips, access this PDF, get notified when future spawning calendars are released, and help us measure our reach: Please take our quick survey at www.tinyurl.com/CarmabiCal2024.
- **New Coral Breeding Reference Sheets:** This new community resource for coral propagation, led by Val Chamberland, is now available to download here: <https://www.crc.world/resources-propagation-outplanting>.
- **Please share your observations:** Your discoveries help coral research and conservation! A new AGGRA database is under development to collect and distribute regional spawning data. Therefore, if you monitor spawning, please record as many of the following details as possible: Date, location, site name (or lat/long), depth, species, setting time (if seen), spawning start and stop times, area monitored in m2, # of colonies monitored, % of colonies that spawned, # of male/female colonies (if applicable). Photos, partial records, and records of no spawn are all very welcome! Send reports to carmablog@gmail.com, v.chamberland@secore.org, or kristen@marhaverlab.com. You can also post your observations at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/CoralSpawningResearch>.
- **Huge thanks** to everyone who shared observations over the past 30+ years. The Curacao team wishes you a safe and productive spawning season!
- **Suggested citation:** KL Marhaver, VF Chamberland, and MJA Vermeij, "Coral

Working at STINAPA: **COMMUNICATION ASSISTANT** (m/f) fulltime

As a Communication Assistant, you will be responsible for supporting the development, implementation, and execution of various communication, media, and marketing activities. You will work closely with the Communication Officer and the Education & Communication Manager to ensure optimal visibility of STINAPA through various communication channels.

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