

FREE

BONAIRE
The REPORTER

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**Mirte Kruijt checks in on a newly neutered kitten before release
Photo Julie Morgan**

TNR - humane cat control

Free sterilization to pet owners for their cats and dogs has been offered by Animal Shelter Bonaire (ASB) since 2004 yet the pet populations are still growing. Bonaire's local veterinarians perform the surgeries on every pet sent their way but the fact remains it's not enough. Many of these new lives are born in the wild only to die of disease, hunger or being hit by a car. If everyone sterilized their pets, this problem would not exist. A new band aid solution for the felines in the wild has

just been introduced that has been proven effective in the U.S. and Europe.

a choice of four languages.

In August Flamingo Island Veterinary Center (FIVC) launched Trap – Neuter – Release or TNR to Bonaire. Mirte Kruijt of FIVC explained that the program is a compassionate approach to overpopulation of stray cats. We humanely trap the animals, neuter and then release the cats where they are found.

“It's easiest if someone is feeding them and we know the place and time of day. We can go with the cat cages and put some smelly food like sardines and tomato sauce and with

TNR to page 16

Mirte said, “Everyone worries about the dogs, but people forget about the cats. They are a danger to our local birds and many of the feral cats carry feline leukemia and AIDS which can infect people's pets if they come in contact with each other.”

The program began August 23 with a workshop from Kitten Rescue Curaçao for the new TNR team of FIVC veterinarians and 14 local volunteers. The team learned the best way to capture the felines, then perform or assist in the neutering surgeries and the release procedures. In the first week the new TNR team neutered 21 stray cats and have since done 20 more. The plan is to do this once a month. Many of the wild cats have taken up residence at local kunukus. One man has been caring and feeding 80 felines while another had 20.

Mirte said, “We can make a dent in the wild population with the help of the local kunuku owners before it gets too far out of hand.”

To assist the TNR team in capturing the felines, a Bonaire map on the TNR website is set up for people to identify where stray cats have been seen by simply dropping a pin. Details can be given as to the exact location and other information in



The Capture



The Surgery

Island Council agrees to faction allowance reduction

In October last year the Island Council quietly approved payment of almost \$1.4 million as faction support to be distributed among the political parties. When news of the vote became public the reaction, both on the island and in the European Netherlands, was loud and negative. Now the Council has agreed unanimously to settle for \$420,000 instead of \$1,400,000 million. The faction support is paid to the parties to cover operating costs, but no accountability is required.

Member of Parliament Peter van Haasen (PVV) praised the reduction. He calls the compensation “still very high compared to Dutch standards,” but points out that “there are few small

Dutch municipalities with an international airport and seaport and that also have to deal with the problems of a small country.” The MP does express the hope that the spending of the faction compensation will be accounted for.

Van Haasen sent a message to the Island Council regarding his rejection of the \$1.4 million amount by temporarily blocking a request then State Secretary for Kingdom Relations Van Huffelen had filed earlier for an 8.6 million euros increase in the free allowance for Bonaire. He suggested that if the Island Council could afford to increase its own allowance by so much, it didn’t need extra financial support from The Hague. *DMR*

Those aren’t power outages

Raymond Silberie, director of WEB, says the island is not actually experiencing power outages. Bonaire’s demand was growing 5-6% per year. Over a couple of years it has spiked to 15-20% because of all the activity on the island. WEB and ContourGlobal have boosted production about 5 megawatts, so the system is now producing enough electricity. But the overloaded distribution system can’t handle it. Short circuits keep occurring at different locations, and WEB workers can’t dig fast enough to keep them repaired. To prevent the whole system from crashing, WEB cuts service to rotating neighborhoods temporarily. So that’s not really a power outage. You’re just taking your turn. Full praise to WEB and its people for their gallant efforts in a difficult situation. *DMR*

Curoil to buy BOPEC

Curoil has been designated the preferred bidder for the purchase of the installations of the bankrupt Bonaire Petroleum Corporation NV (BOPEC) following a tender procedure. A price and due diligence measures will now be negotiated and

the final purchase is expected to be completed before the end of this year.

Curoil intends to restore the BOPEC facilities and bring the storage park back to a level that complies with all applicable regulations and standards, and with capacity for sustainable energy. It will also replace the tanker that transports petroleum product to the island. In the near term, a station for filling gas bottles will be installed at Kaya Aruaco with a gas (propane) filling station. *DMR*

Norwegian Cruise Line cuts Bonaire from its itinerary

Norwegian Cruise Line has announced that it will no longer sail to Kralendijk, Bonaire in 2025. This decision applies 13, 2025. They are extending the ship’s stays in Punta Cana (La Romana), Dominican Republic; Oranjestad, Aruba; Willemstad, Curacao; Castries, St. Lucia; and Basseterre, St. Kitts.”

Bonaire harbor master Gunther Flanegin said the decision “has nothing to do with the port or our services. This decision is also separate from the discussion about the number of cruise ships that are allowed to dock in Bonaire.” *DMR*

Harewood is new Island Registrar

During the Island Council meeting on September 3, 2024, Jacqueline Harewood was officially sworn in as the new Registrar (griffier) of the Island Council. The Registrar heads up the team that assists the Island Council with administrative tasks. The Registrar assures all the documentation is in order and the Council is fully and correctly informed regarding the business before it. The Registrar also assures the Council legislates in compliance with the laws and required procedures. Harewood gained years of experience in various positions with the government of Aruba. *DMR*

Kroon returns to Island Council

Pablo J. Kroon, a member of the Island Council numerous times over the years, has once again joined the council, having replaced Roderick Groenman. Kroon represents the Union Patriótico Boneriano (UPB), a party he previously led. He is expected to provide strong opposition to the governing coalition formed by the Democratic Party, M21 and independent councillor Cyrill Vrolijk. *DMR*

Island News to page 8



Nine Island Council members flank the Lt. Governor and Island Register (clerk/griffier): (L-R) Simeona ‘Jona’ Chirino-Felida; Cyrill Vrolijk; Delno Tromp; Rolanda M. Hellburg-Makaai; Lt. Gov. John

Soliano; Island Register, Jacqueline Harewood; Daisy Coffee; Benito Dirksz; James Kroon; Dany Crestian; Junnywout Wout.

Photo OLB

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September is Tourism Month



Experience the extraordinary during Culinair - Zara's



Chef Janos Vermaat at work Photo Julie Morgan.

in the making. Janos spends 100 hours a week in the kitchen and he loves this work, never finding time to even enjoy a snorkel on Bonaire. Everything on the menu is homemade, including the pasta, breads and desserts. Zara's is his baby and literally his daughter's name! Zara's has a spotless kitchen outfitted with top of the line German ovens, fresh ingredients (Janos was peeling wild caught, giant shrimp (prawns) from Argentina as we arrived). His attention to detail is evident in everything from the artistic presentation of each dish, the flavors, the table settings and tableware and most importantly, the result: divine food in a divine setting. Upstairs, the sparkling night island view and gentle breezes are the perfect setting for a special and delicious

dinner under the stars.

I started with the "Welcome Frozen Mojito" which was the best mojito ever. All fresh ingredients, including Cadushy liquor and Rom Rincon, mint so super fine so no need to chew your cocktail) and the mini homemade Magna ice cream bar topping it, that is actually more frozen mojito to cleverly keep your drink cool.

The bread plate offered two types of bread and spreads which were delicious and interesting.

Culinair at Zara's
continued on page 8



Zara's Restaurant top deck Photo Zara's

Extraordinary architecture, food and drinks! Zara's is just wonderful!

as unique as the pergola above. During Bonaire Culinair, dinner is just \$39.50 for the three-course "Chef's Choice Menu" (drinks excluded).

Like many of you, I watched as the delicate, white rooftop ribbons of steel were erected on top of a building on Kaya Corona a couple years ago. This magical pergola is an absolutely beautiful piece of architecture, designed and manufactured in Portugal and shipped to Bonaire for assembly here. It shelters and defines Zara's restaurant. Like many of you, I thought such a lovely restaurant was probably not affordable. Wrong. It is absolutely affordable and

Amazing prices for an amazing meal prepared by owner and chef, Janos Vermaat. Janos began working as a chef at age 16. He worked and attended hotel /restaurant school and was ultimately trained as a chef in the 3-Star Michelin restaurant, Brass Boer Thuis in the Netherlands. After moving to Bonaire he served as Chef at Sebastian's before opening Zara's. Zara's was six years

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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.

Brownouts threaten Bonaire's economy

Dear members of the Island Council of Bonaire,

The Business Federation Bonaire represents the interests of affiliated entrepreneurs, employers and trade associations in particular, and of a healthy socio-economic climate for Bonaire in general. Based on this responsibility, we make the following, urgent and substantiated appeal to you.

The recent 'brownouts' on Bonaire have become more than an occasional, difficult side effect of living and working on an island. They have now acquired a structural character and are therefore a threat to our economy and thus the security of existence of all residents that should not be underestimated. The only way to counter this is to enforce clear actions at the government-owned company WEB NV in the very short term.

Background of the problem

Our economy runs on our companies. The costs of doing business on Bonaire are naturally higher than on the mainland, and even occasional 'blackouts' or 'brownouts' could be factored into business planning up until now. Now that we have apparently reached the final limit of the capacity of the distribution network, it is of the utmost importance that the costs involved are mitigated as soon and as well as possible, immediately.

Our economy is under pressure: prices are already rising without the problems with the electricity supply, due to, among other things, the increase in the WML, increased fiscal pressure and the complete failure to implement cost-reducing measures promised in the Kralendijk agreement (such as rent subsidies, public transport, better financing conditions for entrepreneurs, freezing fiscal measures for a number of years). We are now entering a period in which:

- perishable stocks must be written off;
- productive hours are drastically reduced due to a lack of electricity on the work and construction site;
- unexpected purchase costs arise for replacement equipment that breaks down due to the electricity cuts;
- the night's rest of everyone on Bonaire is disturbed (one of the most important conditions for good health and being able to function well in all areas);
- we are particularly endangering the health of our vulnerable citizens (the elderly and very young children) additional danger (lack of cooling and eating spoiled food);
- the tourist high season is approaching in which we cannot offer our guests the promised level of comfort.

Our request to you

We ask you, as our parliament, the highest body on Bonaire, to urge WEB NV to do the following, which in our opinion are vital to somewhat limit the consequences of reaching the capacity limit of the distribution network. These must be implemented immediately. Every day of delay leads to higher costs and a further free fall of our economy.

- ask WEB immediately for a clear outline of the reality with which it has to work;
- please ask WEB immediately for as complete an overview as possible of what they need to:
 - *immediately guarantee the security of electricity supply (whether or not by means of a switching diagram);*
 - *guarantee the security of electricity supply in the short, medium and long term at the current built-up area of Bonaire, and in the event of any expansion of the built-up area.*
- make every effort to facilitate WEB to guarantee the



security of electricity supply. We appeal to you to carry out this process as transparently as possible, so that we can assist you in this, to the extent possible within our capabilities. One way to do this is:

- immediately establish an 'electricity distribution table', with representatives of relevant organisations, such as:
 - Cabinet Governor (safety);
 - Office Island Secretary (services to citizens and entrepreneurs);
 - WEB;
 - entrepreneurs. BFB is of course prepared to take a seat in this (limiting the consequences of the switching schedule for economic activities);
 - Public Health (limiting the consequences of the switching schedule for the health of the population);
 - TCB (limiting the consequences of tourism);
 - BIA (limiting the consequences of accessibility);
 - Schools (limiting the consequences of the availability of education);
 - Telbo (limiting the consequences of digital accessibility).

This table can share relevant information with each other so that we can limit the damage to our economy as much as possible.

Pending the realization of the above, we already appeal to you to instruct WEB to:

- give priority to electricity supply to companies located in commercial and/or industrial areas during office hours/opening hours;
- give priority to electricity supply to residential areas and hotels/tourist accommodations in the evenings and at night;
- quickly produce a map of Bonaire with the designation of the various areas that WEB maintains that they mention in their communication expressions about the switching diagram.

Finally,

We see no point in pointing fingers at the causes of the situation that has arisen. At most, we can learn lessons from this for the future at a later time. We are now focusing on preventing a further downward socio-economic spiral, precisely at a time when we as a society have made so many great steps towards an income for everyone on Bonaire that is at or above the Social Minimum. We are certainly not there yet: the balance is very precarious. The current developments in this are therefore extra dangerous.

We would also like to express our appreciation for the WEB employees who are currently, apparently, working day and night on the problems that have arisen. Their focus on technology deserves the broader social input of the parties mentioned above so that we can jointly tackle this enormous challenge on Bonaire.

On behalf of the Business Federation Bonaire

P. Coolen, Chairman

Ask Bob

Bonaire real estate advice



PART 1:

Hi Bob – I'm interested in buying property on Bonaire, but I'm just getting started . Can you tell me what the process is and how to get started?

Thanks, Joe K.

Hi Joe –

The first step toward buying a property on Bonaire is to determine your budget for purchasing a property. Is your budget \$300,000 or ?

The second step is to determine if you need to get a mortgage from a bank in order to buy. Each bank is a little different about the guidelines they use to determine if they will give you a mortgage and how much they are willing to loan you. It is a good idea to meet with the bank of your choice to get an accurate estimate of the amount you can borrow and then combined with how much money you have for a downpayment you know how much you can spend to purchase a property.

Once you have determined how much you can spend, then it's time to meet with a real estate broker and look at homes or investment properties. Once you find a property that you want to buy and can afford to buy then it's time to make an offer. In my next column we'll discuss the buying process.

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

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Letters & Opinions, continued.

Boating accident highlights urgent need for stricter water safety enforcement in Bonaire

Bonaire is known worldwide as a diver's paradise, attracting people from all over the globe to experience its vibrant underwater world. But what happens when this paradise becomes unsafe for the very people it draws? On Sunday afternoon, my dive buddy Daphne van der Bend and I were practicing essential diving skills in shallow waters, only a few meters deep. What happened next was something no diver should ever experience: a boat hit her.

The pain and panic that followed were indescribable. Daphne screamed as the boat's driver—just 17 years old—fled the scene, leaving us in distress. Fortunately, I was able to bring her back to shore, and someone quickly called 911. Thankfully, she survived, but the outcome could have been far worse.

What followed after the accident was just as troubling. The police were called to the dive site but arrived after we had already left in the ambulance. They told others at the scene they would visit us at the hospital to take our statements, but they never showed up. We went to the police station later that night, but instead of

taking our case seriously, they dismissed us and sent us home. When we returned the next morning, they were still unhelpful.

This incident raises serious concerns about the police response. A minor was driving the boat that hit Daphne. Is it even legal for a 17-year-old to be behind the wheel of a boat on Bonaire? The driver claims to have reported herself to the police, yet no action has been taken. What are the authorities doing about this? It seems like nothing. This lack of accountability is unacceptable.

Bonaire's rules are clear: boats are not allowed in the light blue zone near shore, where divers and snorkelers are most active. Yet, despite these regulations, enforcement remains lax. If we do not act soon, the next accident could be fatal. Are we waiting for someone to lose their life before taking action?

In the wake of this incident, we are also launching a **GoFundMe** campaign to support my dive buddy, Daphne, who has suffered both physically and financially. She lost her diving gear and clothing in the accident,

and as a self-employed individual, the days she cannot work are a significant financial burden. The goal is to raise \$1,000—an amount we originally requested from the driver of the boat, who refused to pay. These funds will help Daphne replace her lost gear and compensate for the time she will need to recover, both physically and emotionally, from this traumatic event.

For more information or to support the campaign, please visit our GoFundMe page [here]: <https://gofund.me/6648ac70>.

I urge **STINAPA**, the **Maritime Hub** (including the Harbourmaster, the Coast Guard, the Korps Politie Caribisch Nederland, and the Koninklijk Marechaussee), and all local authorities (**OLB** and **TCB**) to prioritize the safety of our waters. Bonaire's reputation as a safe, world-class diving destination is at stake. The rules exist to protect both divers and boaters, but they are meaningless without enforcement.

Melina Charbonnet

Protecting our trees: Essential for freshwater safety and coral reef survival

Trees are an essential component of the global water cycle. They play a vital role by drawing water from the ground and releasing it into the atmosphere as vapor through tiny pores in their leaves, a process known as transpiration. This not only contributes to global temperature regulation but also influences rainfall patterns worldwide.

Trees and forests are crucial in capturing rainwater and reducing the risk of natural disasters such as floods and landslides. Their intricate root systems act like filters, removing pollutants and slowing the absorption of water into the soil. A single tree's daily transpiration can have a cooling effect equivalent to running two domestic air conditioners for a full day. This highlights the significant impact trees have on our environment, particularly in conserving water—an element essential to all life on Earth.

Conserving Water through Healthy Trees

Water is fundamental to survival and the health of all living creatures, including humans. Trees are key players in maintaining water cycles and ensuring a reliable water supply. Whether in forests or as individual stands, preserving tree cover is crucial for maintaining water resources, directly impacting the quantity, quality, and filtration of water.

Trees manage the water cycle by regulating rainfall, water evaporation, and the flow of water through the environment. But how exactly do they help conserve water and ensure its availability on Earth?

The Incredible Ways Trees Conserve and Manage Water

- Pollution Reduction and Soil Erosion Prevention: Trees' intricate root systems filter pollutants and slow water absorption into the ground. This process prevents soil erosion near water bodies, reducing the risk of sedimentation and floods.



- Water Quality Enhancement: By preventing soil erosion and sediment from entering storm drains and streams, trees play a crucial role in improving water quality.

- Rainwater Management: Trees intercept rainfall with their leaves, reducing water runoff. Their roots absorb water and stabilize the soil, further preventing erosion.

- Water Interception: According to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, a mature evergreen tree can intercept more than 15,000 liters of water annually.

- Soil Capacity Improvement: As rainwater filters through the tree canopy, it soaks into the ground and is absorbed by the roots, increasing the soil's capacity to hold more stormwater.

- Influence on Rainfall Patterns: The layers of forest canopy, branches, and roots store and release water vapor, which plays a role in influencing rainfall patterns.

The Consequences of Tree Loss on Water Resources and Coral Reefs

When deforestation or the removal of mature trees occurs, the natural water cycle is disrupted. Sediment flows into streams, polluting the water supply. For islands like Bonaire, this sediment runoff can have devastating effects, extending beyond the land and into the surrounding coral reefs. Sediment can smother coral, block sunlight, and inhibit the growth of these vital ecosystems. Coral reefs are not only critical to marine biodiversity but also serve as natural barriers that protect the island's shorelines from erosion.

The Importance of Preserving Mature Trees

While planting new trees is beneficial, the protection of mature trees is far more critical. Mature trees have established root systems that are highly effective at preventing soil erosion and managing water cycles. They also provide immediate benefits, such as high levels of water interception and carbon storage. In contrast, newly planted trees take decades to develop these capabilities. Therefore, efforts to preserve existing trees are essential to maintaining the health of our environment, protecting our freshwater resources, and safeguarding the coral reefs that surround Bonaire.

Nature as a Priority

We must prioritize the preservation of our mature trees, whether they stand in forests or alone, to ensure the continuity of the natural processes indispensable for life on Earth and the health of our unique island ecosystems. Nature is not just a backdrop to human life; it is the foundation of our survival. By making the preservation of nature a top priority, we invest in a sustainable future for all living beings.

FSPB

Bonaire has the oldest tree in the Netherlands

In the rugged and rocky terrain of Bonaire there is a special tree that is possibly the oldest in the whole of the Netherlands. An impressive wayaká, located on a difficult to access plateau, has a trunk diameter of no less than 1.20 meters. Johan van Blerk, owner of the Tera Barra foundation, is committed to preserving the local flora. A day after the tree was nominated as Dutch tree of 2024, the editors of Bonaire.nu spoke to the admirer.

“This tree is truly a phenomenon,” says the enthusiastic van Blerk. “In the literature, a wayaká with a diameter of 80 centimeters is already estimated to be a thousand years old.



Bonaire's 1000 year wayaká is a candidate for “Tree of the Year” in the Netherlands.

Vote at: <https://www.deboomvanhetjaar.nl/stem-op-uw-boom>

Photo by Johan van Blerk

This one is much thicker, which means it must be at least a thousand years old. Probably even older.” The tree has an impressive history. Van Blerk explains:

“About 500 years ago, this tree was cut down by colonists for its valuable wood. The stump itself was too big to transport. The tree has since recovered

and sprouted again.”

What makes this tree so special is not only its age, but also its location. “It is on a rock pla-

teau where the soil offers hardly any nutrients,” says Van Blerk. “The roots have to grow deep through the cracks in the rocks to reach groundwater. It is incredible how this tree has adapted and survived.”

The tree is now in the spotlight as one of the nominees for the title ‘Tree of the Year’. “This nomination is an opportunity to create more awareness for the unique flora of Bonaire and the importance of nature conservation,” emphasizes Van Blerk. “We hope that people will vote and this tree will get the recognition it deserves.”

Do you also want the Bonairean Wayaká to be elected tree of the year? [Vote here now.](#)

Story thanks to: sylvia@abconlinemedia.com

BNMP Coral Disease Update

The Bonaire National Marine Park held an update on Bonaire’s battle with Stony Coral Tissue Loss Disease (SCTLD) on Thursday, 5 September. The presentation, by Danielle de Kool, began with a history and description of SCTLD, which was first found on Bonaire’s reefs in 2023 but which had been killing coral north of us for years.

Normal coral growth is about 1 cm per year. SCTLD kills coral at the rate of 3-4 cm per day.

Weirdly, there’s still no clear answer as to what SCTLD actually is. Some research indicates that a virus may be involved, but since antibiotics can kill it, bacteria is also probably involved. Again weirdly, tests on various SCTLD-infected corals show different bacteria, even in coral heads close to each other.

A paste composed of an antibiotic and other ingredients has

proved effective against SCTLD, but it has to be applied to the edges of each SCTLD-infection by hand. The BNMP has begun a group of volunteers to do just that, beginning with classroom and underwater training in recognizing the disease, spreading the paste in the most effective way, and so forth. Currently the volunteer team consists of 36 divers who have treated more than one thousand coral colonies at fourteen sites. Of the 629 treated corals that were tracked, the positive response to treatment was 90%! More volunteers could do more good, of course, so if you’re interested, send an email to info@stinapa.org, go to the menu, Join Us, and Volunteering, and fill out the form.

Since May of 2024, the BNMP has been monitoring our reefs to determine changes in reef composition and coral resilience, and also conducting species surveys. Causes of coral mortality are predation (par-

rotfish crunching, for example), physical damage (an anchor dropped on it), disease (SCTLD, black band), and prolonged bleaching. Note that coral has no life span as such, it does not die of old age. It has to be killed.

BNMP is monitoring for another invasive species, an Indo-Pacific soft coral called *Unomia stolonifera*. *Unomia* has taken over areas of reef in Venezuela to the exclusion of almost all native species. It has not been sighted on Bonaire, but plans are being made to deal with it if it does, just as plans for dealing with lionfish had been made before lionfish came to Bonaire. A report from the BNMP on Bonaire’s invasive lionfish is forthcoming.

Dee Scarr

Jeannine Toy, supervisor of STINAPA’s antibiotic SCTLD volunteer team treats a brain coral. .

Photo Julie Morgan.



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POLICE REPORT

Property crime

Sept. 11/12. A black and white Kross bicycle was stolen between 8 p.m. and 9 a.m. from a property on Kaya Mississippi.

Sept. 7. A black Kymco Agility scooter, with license plate MF-3106 was stolen between 12.30 and 1.30 a.m. The scooter, which had steering wheel locks, was parked on a parking lot in Libertador Simon Bolivar Street.

Sept. 4. A black 'Fatbike', Biker's Choice bicycle (E-bike) was stolen between 7:30 and 8:30 p.m. The bicycle was parked with a chain on its front wheel, in Kaya Korsou.

Aug. 31. A rear license plate, number B-11391 was stolen from a car parked outside a yard on Kaya Bongo between 10:30 a.m. and 5:15 p.m.

Aug. 31. Three scooters were reported stolen from property on Kaya Rosaura: concerns two gray Gilera Runner scooters (one with license plate MF-760), and a gray black Peugeot Ludix scooter. Between 2 and 8 a.m. the fence of the garden was torn down and the unlocked scooters were stolen.

Arrests

Sept. 10. At approximately 5:50 p.m. detectives from the Caribbean Netherlands Police Corps conducted three house searches at residences in Amboina, Kaya Mazurka and Kaya Anna. During the house searches, a quantity of narcotics, a firearm and relevant articles for the investigation were seized. In addition, a woman, 36, was detained.

Sept. 2. Around 6:45 p.m. a man, 41, was arrested for theft at Sabadeco Terrace. The suspect is said to have stolen a significant amount of meat products from a business.

Sept. 1. At approximately 3:50 a.m., a woman, 38, was detained on Kaya Kapachi for arson and destruction.

Aug. 31. Two shootings occurred. Around 7 p.m. unknown persons fired multiple shots from a firearm on Kaminda Lagoon. The second incident occurred about 40 minutes later at a residence on Kaya Kamari in Tera Korá. A car drove by and fired several shots from a firearm toward the residence while people were inside. There were no injuries. On the same day, around 11:40 p.m., in connection with this case, a man, 54, was detained by the

Special Orders Group (GBO) for contravention of the Firearms Act BES, attempted murder and menacing.

Aug. 31. At approximately 3:50 p.m., a man, 33, was detained at the police station for assault.

Aug. 20. At approximately 7:15 p.m., a man, 56, was arrested on Kaya Capricornio for threatening with a knife at a party on Aug. 13.

Traffic accidents / Driving under the influence

Between Aug. 30 and Sept. 13 police dealt with eight accidents. In two accidents a car collided with a scooter; two were single vehicle accidents; a pick-up truck collided with a crosser; two cars collided and a hit and run car collided with a cyclist. Nine people were taken by ambulance to the hospital; one was sent off island for treatment.

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 seven 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. Three drivers had their driving licenses confiscated.

Traffic control /Speed checks

Sept. 8. In the morning, a traffic check was held on Kaya International. Police checked 16 vehicles and issued three fines for driving without valid insurance, a valid driver's license and for driving without a helmet.

Sept. 1. Around 6:30 p.m. KPCN and Customs CN checked 92 vehicles (80 cars, 10 scooters and 2 quads) on Kaya Ir. Randolph Statius van Eps (the road to Sorobon). They issued 18 fines for driving without: a valid driver's license 9x and valid insurance 9x. Several bags of suspected narcotics (marijuana) were also seized. The police brought four cars, one pick-up and one scooter to the police station to be held until owners show the necessary documents and pay the towing costs.

Aug. 20. Aspiring officers of the KPCN conducted a traffic check on the Kaya Indu-

stria. They checked nine vehicles and issued four tickets for driving without valid insurance or failing to show it.

Between August 1 and 28, during routine traffic checks, tickets were issued for traffic violations: 9x for driving without a helmet; 17x for driving without valid insurance; 3x for holding a phone while driving; 16x for driving without a valid driver's license; 1x for driving without a seat belt; 2x for driving without license plate; 2x for causing danger on the road.

Fire Brigade

Sept. 9. Around 10 p.m., a fire was reported in an empty room of a tourist accommodation on Boulevard J.A. Abraham. When they arrived police and fire department saw a lot of smoke coming from the room. Staff at the accommodation had already started putting out the fire with extinguishers. Firefighters took over and guests in surrounding rooms were evacuated. An ambulance arrived to check on guests and staff who had inhaled smoke. The fire was caused by a short circuit in the air conditioner.

Sept. 3. Around 10:55 p.m. on Kaya Sabalo a car hit a fence around a house and overturned. The driver was still in the vehicle and was unresponsive. Because the windows were closed and the doors were locked the fire brigade was called to free the driver.

Sept. 2. Sept. 2. Around 11:10 p.m. while police officers were still busy dealing with a collision on Kaminda Djabou, they were called to help a woman who was stuck to an iron fence at an apartment complex on Kaya Sirena. The same woman had been arrested earlier that day for driving under the influence. She had impaled her left leg when tried to jump over the fence. The fire brigade freed the victim.

Public order

Sept. 12. During the night the central dispatch center received reports that two fishermen who had gone out in a boat Wed. Sept. 11 had not returned. They were last seen off Bachelors' Beach by other fishermen. Around 4:30 a.m. the Coast Guard helicopter began a low-altitude search over the sea until about 6 a.m. Then the Coast Guard plane 'Dash' also arrived on Bonaire. Around 9 a.m. the fisher-

men were reported found on Klein Bonaire, and STINAPA picked them up. They were healthy and getting food and drinks from the tourists on Klein. They explained that their boat sank and they were driven by the sea current to Klein Bonaire.

Sept. 11. Around 1:30 a.m. a patrol stopped a car they saw speeding on Kaya Korona towards Playa. The two occupants were minors. Both minors and the car were taken to the police station. The underage driver was cited for driving without a license and one of his parents was also convicted of allowing his minor child to drive a motor vehicle.

Sept. 9. Around 11:30 a.m. the central control room received a report that a lifeless body had been found in a house on Kaya Italia. the coroner determined the death of a 62-year-old man with initials R.K. born in the Netherlands.

Sept. 7. Police received several reports of children putting traffic in danger by doing stupid things on bikes in the areas of Kaya Macario (Cai) Sint Jago, Bario Mamparia Kutu and Bario Nieuw Amsterdam. Around 7 p.m. a patrol saw a group of about 11 young people who were riding bicycles without lights on Kaya Macario (Cai) Sint Jago. When the young people saw the patrol, some of them began to jump on their bicycles and hit the officers. Police took some of the bicycles to the police station. A few parents who were dissatisfied with the police action came to the scene, acted aggressively and insulted the officers. After the officers left the scene, the central control room received several notifications that the group of young people on bicycles were throwing fireworks and obstructing traffic.

To reclaim a bicycle, you must present a proof of purchase and must ensure that your bicycle meets all legal requirements, such as a light front and rear and a bell.

Aug. 26. Around 4:30 a.m. a shooting incident occurred at the office of a company on Kaya Dr. José Girigorio Hernandez. Unknown persons discharged multiple bullets from a firearm into the building. There were no injuries.

Aug. 25. Around 4 a.m., a drive-by shooting incident occurred at a residence located on Kaya Papa Cornes while people were inside. There were no injuries.

Can you identify the two suspects who set fire to a car parked on Kaya Hulanda Thursday, September 14? Video at WeTransfer link <https://we.tl/t-4xSJ4xWAeo>

Dynamite win again



Dynamite Coach Carlos Santiago

One of everyone's favorite events during the Bonaire Day celebrations was the women's softball tournament, August 29 – September 8. Five local teams took on the challenge of the Dia di Boneiru Softball tournament hosted by the New Angels team. The four game tournament at Jossy Boekhoudt Ball Park featured teams: New Angels, Rincon Diamonds, Honey Crusher, Dreamers and Dynamite. The final playoff game matched the three out of four game tournament winners, the Dynamite, against the Rincon Diamonds. The Dynamite came out on top to win the

tournament with a 12 to 3 final score.

Dynamite Coach Carlos Santiago said the team has won their last three tournaments. Congratulations to the Dynamite.

Story Julie Morgan

The Dynamite have a team roster of 22 players but only a few who stayed around for the trophy photo. L-R: Ainsley Helmboldt, Michenou Marselia, Adina Helmboldt, 'Edichi' Agostien, (well-known Bonaire softball co-founder), Naidy Cicilia Marchena, Vyrvierne Bokshoven, Marjolene Bernabella and Genevieve Hariquez.



Bonaire's first nature-inclusive development started

Work is under way on a 148 home development in the Dawari area that will be the first built in compliance with the Bonaire Land Policy Memorandum 2022 – 2025, “Proyekto Bibienda Pagabel/Woondeal.” The homes will be “fitted in” within the existing vegetation and new vegetation planted to supplement it.

Local stakeholders such as Bon Berde and Tera Bara were involved in the planning and are helping with the site preparation. Future construction planned for the Rincon Pariba area will also be nature friendly.

Deputy Anjelica Cicilia, who spearheaded the project, said: “The method of nature-inclusive approach through area development is not only unique for Bonaire, but also for all Caribbean parts of the Kingdom. Bonaire will introduce several innovative instruments in the field of modern housing.” . *DMR*

Consumer group reports wide range in food prices

The Fundashon Tienda pa Konsumido Boneriano (FTPKB) has named Caribe Nobo in its July price survey as the least expensive supermarket on the island for buying food. Bondigro and Warehouse came in second and third. Warehouse also had the lowest prices in the Fruit & Vegetables and private labels categories. Of the 17 supermarkets on the island, all but three participate in FTPKB's surveys.

FTPKB reports significant differences from store to store in the price of the “basic products” on its list. It said that many supermarkets are buying private label products from the cheaper supermarkets and reselling them at higher prices. . *DMR*

Public transport coming maybe

The Executive Council of Bonaire has adopted a statement of “intent to proceed” with creating a public transportation system on Bonaire by 2025. The Executive Council forecasts operating costs of 1.1 million dollars annually. According to the announcement, the central government will contribute 400,000 euros annually and the public body has structurally reserved 300,000 euros in its own budget. The balance, at least 400,000 euros annually, would have to be collected from fares. The ini-

Culinair at Zara's

continued on page 8

For the starters, I enjoyed the Rendang Beef, a tasty Thai beef stew. My dining partner Julie Morgan had the Grilled Gamba (the Argentine shrimp mentioned above) which swam in a delicious, complex bisque. We tried the mid-course smoked bell pepper margarita which I actually woke up this morning thinking about. It was completely unique and delicious and equal to the welcome mojito as an interesting cocktail.

For the main, Julie ordered the creamy Tagliatelle with barbecue roasted pumpkin and I loved the crispy barracuda filet served with another fantastic creation, a deep fried funchi topped with Mango Chutney.

Then the surprise desert arrived, a slice of creamy heaven with an elaborate lacy, crunchy top.

Service was handled with apparent ease by staff and manager Kelvin Geedink who has worked there for over a year and is very pleasant.

Outside of Culinair, this three-course dining experience is just \$42.50 or trade up to four, five or six courses at a graduated price. Wine and drink pairing is also available.



Dawari area Drone photo via OLB

tial report does not say anything about the rates, other than that a bus ride will be “affordable.”

The Executive Council predicts an additional startup costs of \$2.6 million to cover a pilot and the purchase of eight buses for \$1.6 million.

(Source: *Dossier Koninkrijksrelaties*). *DMR*

Sint Eustatius and Saba say we're BES, not "Bes"

The Island Councils of Bonaire, Sint Eustatius, and Saba gathered on Bonaire two weeks ago for the BES Summit that takes place four times a year. Council members from the three islands meet to discuss key issues, exchange ideas, and collaborate on matters that could improve the lives of residents on the BES islands.

The BES Tax Plan 2025, healthcare, and some form of joint representation in The Hague were on the agenda. Statia and Saba reaffirmed their intention to each send their own delegate. They got spooked in March when Bonaire presented, without previously consulting with them, a fully developed plan for creating a single in-

ter-island agency to speak in one voice with the government. *DMR*

Bonaire is short of cash

According to Dossier Koninkrijksrelaties, the Executive Council has issued an explanation of the budget for 2025 that accounts for “depletion of liquidity” problems. (Translation: money is being spent faster than it's coming in.)

The Executive Council is considering “short-term actions” such as the faster collection of claims and the delay of planned investments.

Dossier Koninkrijksrelaties reports: “In total, the BC expects to spend almost 109 million dollars next year, the same as the expected income. More than 54 million consists of the Free Allowance that the public body receives from The Hague. 13.4 million is reserved for investments: 6.6 million for maintenance and construction of roads, 4 million in preparation for the construction of a container port and 1.6 million for rainwater drainage and street furniture.” *DMR*



In short, do not miss Zara's during Culinair or otherwise. It is a sensory delight in all ways. I am looking forward to my next visit already!

Zara's is open from Wednesday through Sunday. Lunch is served in the courtyard beginning at 11:30 a.m.

and dinners are on the rooftop starting at 5 p.m. Reservations may be made through the Zara website: zarasbonaire.com or call 599-701-0040. *Ginny Knight*

Photo: Kelvin delivers the Welcome Frozen Mojito to Ginny
Photo Julie Morgan.

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A Garden? Just Do It!

Some like it hot

by Angliet, Nature Lover

Considering how hot it is, it's hard to believe September is the month to start planning your garden. We need to think about the what, when and where to plant and what activities need to be done. Our rainy season is short, normally begins in November and, most of the time, stops in February. So preparing for the garden now is important.

We need to think of the seedlings, making rows and fertilizing the soil with a mix of compost, manure, dry leaves, charcoal, ashes, egg shells, coconut fiber and black dirt and letting it rest for a month. Meanwhile you are growing the young plants from seeds, cuttings and tubers (such as plantain, ginger, curcuma/tumeric).

By the time the rainy season starts you have your young plants ready to go in the soil. In February, March and April you can harvest, just in time before the dry season starts again.

Yesterday I picked the last sweet peppers from an almost dried out plant. Even watering everyday cannot keep the plants alive in this drought. But I got so many nice and tasty red peppers. It was a pleasure to pick and add them to salads, soups, stews, the wok and to make sweet sour pickles in jars. Hot spiced chutneys are popular in the Ca-

ibbean kitchen and on Bonaire locals like a bit of peppery stuff in their Creole and Surinamese food. Sweet peppers are found in many local gardens. LVV usually has all kinds of peppers you can buy for your garden. One can eat peppers everyday and many times a day as they are low in calories and so perfect to lose weight.

Peppers are easy to grow. Put the seeds in small cups with some dirt and when bigger re-plant them. You can have them in pots and any kind of container on the porch, in the garden soil or in a green house. Some rich black soil, water and some love and your pepper plant will go crazy.

There are different types and varieties of this vegetable. In fact it's a berry from the Capsicum Anuum plant from the Night Shade family.

Peppers are loaded with a lot of good nutrition. All varieties are great sources of vitamin A, Vitamin C, potassium, folic acid and fiber which is good for the immune system and eye health. Other health benefits are decreased inflammation and reduced disease risk. Peppers are an excellent source of antioxidants such as flavonoids which support the protection of the heart and protects against oxidative damage in the body.

There are hot peppers and sweet peppers in different colors, sizes and shapes. Iguanas love the leaves and the white fly fungus is its enemy. So keep a strict eye on your



Home-grown sweet peppers

plants and protect them.

A well known hot pepper is Cayenne pepper. It's a great detoxifier because it helps flush toxins from the body, stimulates circulation and neutralises acidity in the body.

Bell peppers are also very popular worldwide. Of all their various colors the red ones are the sweetest and healthiest. Yellow ones are sweet and green ones are less sweet and a bit bitter in its flavor. Bell peppers contain Vitamin B6, K1, Potassium, (heart health) Folate, Vitamin E and Vitamin A. Paprika is a beloved spice made from dried bell peppers and other peppers.

The spice is often used to flavor and add color to food dishes.

Here is a list of heat levels of some popular hot peppers according to the Scoville scale (heat units to measure the heat in peppers):

- Ghost extremely hot (over 1000.000)
- Habanero extra hot (100.000 - 300.000)
- Tabasco hot (30.000-50.000)
- Cayenne hot (30.000-50.000)
- Jalapeno medium (2.500-5000)
- Poblano (Ancho) mild (1.000-2.000)

Do not store peppers in the refrigerator, but place where it's fresh with a low temperature. They will then last for 7-8 days.

So, if you like it hot; start gardening your own peppers. It's easy.



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.

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.



ROLANDO CELEBRATES 30 YEARS

Rolando Marin is celebrating a remarkable milestone: 30 years of dedicated service at the Tourism Corporation Bonaire (TCB). Since joining TCB on September 1, 1994, Rolando has been a reliable and exemplary employee, always ready to assist whenever needed.

With a total of 39 years in the tourism sector, Rolando's career began in 1985 as a Car Rental Agent at Budget Car Rental. Later, when the role of Tourist Guide opened at the tourism office, Rolando seized the opportunity, transitioning into TCB to continue his journey in promoting Bonaire.

Currently, Rolando serves as an Information Officer, where he has become the face of the tourism office. He brings extensive knowledge in various areas, including the history, flora, and fauna of Bonaire, making him a valuable asset to the team.

The TCB family congratulates Rolando on his 30 years of service and looks forward to his continued contributions in promoting the beautiful island of Bonaire.

Creating Optimal Health

by Irene da Cunda Costa

Cold exposure in Paradise

It is popular knowledge that what doesn't kill you makes you stronger. This brings us to the concept of hormetics, also known as hormesis, which means that a controlled exposure to a stressor can actually strengthen an organism, making it more resilient to future challenges. This can apply to various types of stressors, including physical stressors like exercise, or environmental stressors like cold or heat exposure, or nutritional stressors like caloric restriction or intermittent fasting.

Controlled and voluntary cold exposure can be achieved by jumping in a cold lake, taking a cold shower, jumping into an ice bath, walking around in the cool air in the winter or going into a cryotherapy chamber, not that easy on Bonaire, when lately the water temperature coming out of the faucet is about 36 Celsius/96 Fahrenheit.

Probably one of the most robust responses to cold stress is the increase in norepinephrine in a brain area called the locus coeruleus. Norepinephrine is released during cold exposure because it causes vasoconstriction and that's one of the mechanisms that we use to conserve heat when we're cold. Norepinephrine regulates mood, enhances focus, attention, makes you feel good and helps with anxiety, that is why after a cold plunge or shower you feel focused, activated, full of energy and in good mood.

Another mechanism to generate heat, also related to norepinephrine, is the increase in mitochondrial biogenesis in the adipose tissue often referred to as browning of fat. Brown fat, in contrast to white fat that stores energy, burns energy to produce heat, a process known as non-shivering thermogenesis. When the body is exposed to cold, brown fat is activated to burn calories and generate heat, helping to maintain body temperature. Some studies suggest that increasing brown fat activity might help in combating obesity and related metabolic disorders like type 2 diabetes.

Cold exposure among other things reduces inflammation and helps with recovery time in sports. That is why top athletes use cold jackets after performing to recover faster. Cold exposure is not indicated if you are doing strength training to produce muscle hypertrophy as it will interfere with the inflammatory process needed to produce hypertrophy.

Going from a hot sauna into the cold water causes norepinephrine to be increased even more than either alone so that's good, implying there might be some synergistic effect. Cold shocking the body also activates heat shock proteins, not as robustly as heat does, as explained in the previous issue, but the fact is that it activates the same pathway that heat does. This could indicate that both can be used synergistically improving overall health and longevity through similar mechanisms.

There are several options for cold plunge that can suit all budgets. Commercial cold plunge pools range from \$6000 to \$10,000. They have built-in cooling and filtering systems. A cheaper option is to adapt a horizontal freezer, there are some videos on YouTube that explain how to do this. The cheapest option is to purchase a container of the appropriate size and use a mixture of water and ice. If you want to experience a cold plunge without having to invest in infrastructure, I recommend checking out Float which offers the possibility of combining the infrared sauna with cold plunge.

Cold exposure might not be suitable for everyone, particularly those with certain medical conditions like severe hypertension, heart disease, or cold allergies. Remember to check with your physician before starting a program that includes 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 - STRANGER DANGER! by Dee Scarr

When I came across this coral in the tropical Pacific, the first word I thought of was “cute.”

You’re right, “cute” is definitely a weird word to use to describe a coral.

The polyps of this coral are rosebud-shaped. Unlike rosebuds, though, they open and close – and they do this quickly and continuously but not simultaneously. What I’d see reminded me of a cluster of sand-colored rosebuds, opening and closing to gobble every tiny bit of food that drifted by.

Each bud has a thin, thumb-length stalk, which attaches with others to a thicker stalk, which grows upon rock or other hard surfaces. The colony grows both up and out. If any piece of this coral is torn off, it can begin a new colony where it lands. And, of course, it also reproduces sexually.

It’s native to the tropical Pacific. My identification books for that area, published in the mid-1990’s, identify this coral as “*Xenia* sp.,” which means the genus is *Xenia* but the species unknown. “*Xenia*” means “stranger or foreigner.” The Dutch Caribbean Nature Alliance gives the common name of this species as “Pulsing *Xenia*,” and its scientific name as *Unomia stolonifera*; The best translation I could find for *Unomia* is “without law or custom,” and *stolonifera* means bearing shoots or branches. Interesting that both the old name, *Xenia*, and the new name, *Unomia*, add up to **invader**.

And invade is exactly what *Unomia* has done in some areas of Venezuela and Cuba. It’s believed to have been placed – discarded? – into the Caribbean in the early 2000’s, as a result of the aquarium trade in Venezuela. Whatever limits its population in its home range is not in the Caribbean, and neither are any other critters who would like to eat it. Once a *Unomia* colony begins growing, it smothers nearby growth – including stony, reef-building corals – and takes over whole areas. Local fish and invertebrates cannot find refuge in *Unomia*-covered areas, so all *Unomia* habitat is lost to them. If you want to be educated –

and depressed – search online for photos of *Unomia stolonifera*.

The Bonaire National Marine Park is monitoring our reefs for *Unomia*, and they have a plan in place if it’s found. By press time I was not able to learn the plan, but my guess is that *Unomia* will be treated like lionfish, with trained divers removing *Unomia* from the sea. The training in this case would need to be extensive, including not only how to identify *Unomia*, but especially how to remove every bit of it without allowing any fragments to begin new colonies. If you’d like to volunteer your diving time against *Unomia*, and/or against Stony Coral Tissue Loss Disease, register at sti-napa.org: go to the menu, Join Us, and Volunteering, and fill out the form.

Even if you can’t volunteer, you can help: if you see anything that looks like *Unomia*, send that information to STI-NAPA. Having a photo is obviously the best, but if you don’t have a photo, listing the site, the depth, and the distance (in time is okay) from the mooring or entry can be very helpful. That’s how we initially reported lionfish sightings.

Lionfish are a lot simpler to identify than *Unomia*, though. If you think you see the invader, remember the “pulsing” part of its common name, and that the mouths don’t all open and close at the same time. In the Pacific all those mouths might have been cute, but here they’ll be cute like the baby Audrey plants in *The Little Shop of Horrors*...

And, as far as the search for this invader goes, I wish the same thing to all of us: bad luck.



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.” brought to you free of charge through touchthesea.com.



Above: This brain coral colony will likely be killed by the *Unomia* surrounding it. A close look shows that some of the polyps are open and some are closed; in all our native corals, the polyps open and close together. Below: A closeup of *Unomia*. Photos from GBIF.org



Unomia stolonifera

Bolus bread pudding by Chef Corjan Hoogerheide, Lekker Thuis Restaurant

Ingredients:

5 buns • 1/2 L (2 C 2 T) milk • 4 eggs • 100 gr (1/2 C) brown caster sugar • 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon • Dash of vanilla extract • Borrel Spices of Saba liqueur

Mix the brown caster sugar with the cinnamon powder. Cut the buns into 5 mm thick slices. Boil the milk together with the sugar and vanilla extract. Beat the eggs in a bowl and pour the warm milk over them, stirring continuously. Pour the egg-milk mixture back into the pan and heat, stirring constantly, until it starts to “set” and thickens slightly.

Line an ovenproof dish with greaseproof paper and brush lightly with butter. Now place 1 layer of bolus in the dish and sprinkle some liqueur over it. Now cover with some egg-milk mixture and repeat until all is used.



Sprinkle the top with some brown sugar for a crunchy bite.

Now bake in an oven at 170 degrees Celsius (338 F) for about 35 minutes.



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

DUSK DIVING BOAT TRIP



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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/>

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

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.
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 Berezinski trail. 4 p.m. For more information visit the Bonaire Bicycle Club or De Freewieler on Facebook. World Clean Up Day 2024. See page 1.
Wed. Sept. 25	Divers Drink & Dance Yhanni's Arepas. 5 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 28	Nos Zjilea Cultural Event 10 a.m.- 3 p.m. Cultural Park Mangazina di Rei, Rincon. Enjoy the music, dancing, crafts, amazing food and drink. Taste of Bonaire 2023 (Tourism Edition) Starts at 6 p.m. @ Wilhelmina Park. Food, culture, local handicrafts. Signature dishes of well-known restaurants offered at special prices.
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 Regatta loop, 5:30 p.m. Kids 2km run; Adults: 5km run • Oct. 10. Microboats workshop & windsurf lessons • Oct. 12. A boat party

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.

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.

Tennis clinic for kids. Free clinic Saturdays Sept. 28 - Nov. at 10 a.m. at Eddie's restaurant tennis courts in Hato. Kids 6 – 14 are taught basic elements of tennis; backhand, forehand and service/volley. Register via bonairetennisassociation@gmail.com stating your name, age and phone number.



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. - Toucan Diving Sept. 23; Scuba Elite Sept 30, Nicole Pelletier of the Caribbean Islands Manta Conservation. [Caribbean Islands Manta Conservation facebook..](https://www.facebook.com/CaribbeanIslandsMantaConservation)



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@reefrenewalbonaire.org



Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire (STCB). Free presentations at Yellow Submarine, every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month, 8 p.m. See facebook. Would you like to learn everything about what we do in the field during nesting season? Join us in the field! We go to Klein Bonaire Mon., Wed. and Fri. to search for nest activity and we sometimes have a few spots open. Sign up by email: cepa@bonaireturtles.org.

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

2024 Cruise Ship Schedule

DATE:	CRUISE SHIP	TIME	PIER	CAPACITY
Wed. September 18	CARNIVAL HORIZON	0700-1500	South	4683
Wed. September 25	CELEBRITY BEYOND	0600-1900	South	3260
Thurs. October 3	RHAPSODY OF THE SEAS	0800-1800	North	2417
Wed. October 9	CARNIVAL VISTA	0800-1600	South	4683
Thurs. October 10	CELEBRITY BEYOND	0800-1700	South	3260
Sat./Sun October 12/13	CORAL GEOGRAPHER	arr. 11:30 12th dep. 23:59 13th	North	120
Wed. October 16	CARNIVAL HORIZON	0700-1500	South	4683
Fri. October 18	CELEBRITY ECLIPSE	0700-1700	South	3013



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, October 13	Clean Coast Bonaire. 4-6 p.m. Boka Onima. Donate your time. Work as a citizen scientist to collect marine litter & data. https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=clean%20coast%20bonaire

A pioneer cyclist leaves Bonaire

Domingos de Lima, also known from Carpinteria Dias & Lima BV, is leaving the island after more than 35 years. He is going back to Portugal. Domingos was here when mountain biking was first set up on Bonaire. With a small group, a round was ridden on the unpaved paths on Saturday afternoon. The rounds were not long because of the many flat tires. Eventually we found a solution for that and the real work could begin.



L-R - Frank Böhm and Domingos de Lima, duo partners for years

Mountain bike training was well organized, and we soon discovered the goat paths for our bike trails. And it wasn't long before the first competition soon became a reality. Domingos was always up for it. The next step was to compete individually and as a duo on other islands. I was Domingos' duo partner for many years. The trophy cabinet was soon full because we won many competitions. Domingos is still present at every competition on Bonaire and is still competing at the top. It was always striking that he always lights a cigar after a big competition.

small gathering of bikers rode a surprise route last Sunday to thank Domingos for the many years.

Good luck Domingos, thanks for the many years of fun.
Frank Böhm, De Freewieler

Many people especially mountain bikers find it a pity that he is leaving. A

Free tennis clinics for youth

The Bonaire Lawn Tennis Association (BLTB) is the governing body of tennis on Bonaire.

tory course for children between the ages of 6 and 14.

Our main goal is to further develop tennis on the island, despite the current lack of adequate facilities. One of our priorities is to introduce as many children as possible to this great sport; not only because of the social aspect and to get physically active, tennis also contributes to the development of youth on a mental level. In order to give children from all walks of life the opportunity to get acquainted with tennis, we are organizing a free introduc-

The clinic starts on Saturday, September 28 and lasts six weeks. Every Saturday at 10 am, children can come to the courts of Eddie's restaurant in Hato. The clinic is given by specially trained trainers from the tennis association. In the clinic the basic elements of tennis are taught in six weeks; backhand, forehand and service/volley. You can register via bonaire.tennisassociation@gmail.com stating your name, age and telephone number. *BLTB*

Berezinski Trail opens with a ride

September 21 is the official opening of the Berezinski Trail. The trail is named in honor of Paul Berezinski who was killed while riding his bike by a drunk driver on Christmas 2022.



Paul Berzenski

Paul loved riding bikes and diving. He headed up the initiative "Dare to Bike" to encourage Bonaireans to ride their bikes and enjoy the beautiful island.

Pascal Aandewiel of Baislife said, "In October 2022 we started Baislife Bonaire, a ministry of health funded four year program to try and take away the hurdles for Bonaireans to ride their bikes. Our program goes from teaching kids to ride BMX bikes to try to influence the OLB and others to have safe roads for all. We also completed two mountain bike routes, the Yatu Bacu trail and Berezinski trail."

The ride on September 21 at 4 p.m. will be held on top of Seru Largu near the start of the trail. The Baislife trail will be officially handed over to Bonaire Bicycle Club following a short moment to honor Paul. The fun race will follow and everyone is invited to participate.

bottom of Seru Largu and complete five laps of 4.1 km (22km). Fun riders will begin at the official starting point and ride three laps (12.3km). The race will be followed by fun night with drinks and barbeque.

Entrance is \$10 and free to club members. The Elite riders will start at the

For more information visit <https://www.baislifebonaire.com/> or Bonaire Bicycle Club on Facebook.

Julie Morgan



On Thursday, September 5, 2024, the Public Entity Bonaire unveiled the new name of a square in honor of Mr. Pedro Nicolaas 'Niki' Tromp. The Oranjeplein, next to Passangrahan, where the first Tourist Office was located and where Tromp worked as director, now bears the name 'Plasa Niki Tromp'.

Hugo Gerharts and Don Steward, Tromp laid the foundation for dive tourism and the Bonaire International Regatta, an event he organized for over 30 years.

For three decades, the name Niki Tromp could be heard everywhere on these islands. Tromp was not only known as a tourism director, but also as a journalist and sports leader.

With the support of individuals such as

REGATTA BONAIRE WEEK SCHEDULE

5 OCT	BONAIRE BY NIGHT REGATTA EDITION	☀️	KAYA GRANDI KRALENDIJK	10 OCT	KIDS PARADE	☀️	SKAL START
6 OCT	SWIM TO KLEIN BONAIRE	☀️	EDEN BEACH HOTEL	10 OCT	NIGHT MUSIC FESTIVAL REGATTA WEEK	☀️	REGATTA VILLAGE
6 OCT	KEINTA KAYA 3 NIGHT EVENT	☀️	REGATTA VILLAGE	11 OCT	CUROIIL STAGE & DOMINO ENTERTAINMENT & TOURNAMENT	🌙	KAS DI REGATTA
7 OCT	SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT REGATTA WEEK	🌙	JOSSY BOEKHOUDT BALL PARK	11 OCT	CARIBBEAN RAMPAGE REGATTA WEEK	🌙	WAF DI PISKADO PLAYA PABOU
8 OCT	WATER COMPETITIONS REGATTA WEEK	🌙	KAS DI REGATTA PLAYA PABOU	11 OCT	NIGHT MUSIC FESTIVAL REGATTA WEEK	☀️	REGATTA VILLAGE
9 OCT	REGATTA LOOP	☀️	STADION DI PLAYA START	12 OCT	BOAT & FLOAT PARTY INTERNATIONAL	☀️	BETWEEN NORTH PIER & KARELS BEACH BAR
9 OCT	FLAG PARADE INTERNATIONAL	☀️	STADION DI PLAYA START	12 OCT	AWARD CEREMONY FINAL REGATTA CELEBRATION	☀️	REGATTA VILLAGE
9 OCT	REGATTA OPENING INTERNATIONAL	☀️	STADION DI PLAYA START	13 OCT	BIKE RIDE START AT JONG BONAIRE	☀️	AROUND BONAIRE
10 OCT	CULTURAL ACTIVITIES REGATTA EDITION	🌙	KAS DI REGATTA PLAYA PABOU	13 OCT	REGATTA CLEAN UP DAY	☀️	REGATTA VILLAGE

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REHAB
A woman holding a small dog, with a beach and ocean in the background.

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Pets of the Week



Peer

Dear Dog lovers. Hi, I'm Peer, a 22-week-old pup who has been living at the shelter since I was just four weeks old. I came

here with my brothers and sisters after a rough start in life. They've all found their forever homes, but I'm still waiting patiently for mine. I'm a happy, friendly guy who loves everyone I meet. I adore cuddles and I've been told I'm quite the handsome fellow! Could you be the one to give me the loving home I've been dreaming of? I promise to be your loyal and snuggly companion!

Photo/story: Marissa Larners

Kitten of the week! Please meet our kitten of the week, Sneezzy. Sneezzy is a female kitten, tabby in color and 19 weeks old. She is a real cutie!

Sneezzy was found with her three siblings and brought to us when 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. All of her siblings have been adopted and I am hopeful once you

meet her you will fall in love and take her home.

Sneezzy loves to be cuddled and held in your lap. She is very loving and seeks attention. Sneezzy is socialized with other cats and is doing well. If you have dogs and are willing to work with her and the dogs, I am sure she will be fine in a short time.

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

Sneezzy is sterilized, vaccinated and has tested negative for feline leukemia and FIV.

Photo/story: Amy Bowen



Sneezzy

You can also call 701-4989 or 717-4989 to make an appointment, via whatsapp, facebook messenger, or email animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com

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.

Make Bonaire Accessible

by Ria Evers-Dokter

It's hot, hot, hot...

While writing this, I feel the hot sun scorch the roof and I am very thankful that I can sit on a wide porch with the wind blowing, keeping me relatively cool. September is our hottest month and we've all noticed it. Everybody is complaining about how hot they feel and how it has never been this hot. The huge power failure at our electricity company had everybody worried.

We were advised to use less electricity and that is very understandable. With all the inhabitants on the island, we need to be very careful about the use of electricity. I am coping pretty well. The outages have made me think of the days I lived on Curaçao in 1979. There were power failures so often one got used to it. I learned how to take it as easy as possible. I'd make use of the Passat-wind, adapt my activities to the temperature, drink lots of water and always have batteries and candles available. And nothing has really changed since, only now I live on Bonaire.

But what keeps me worried are the people who live all by themselves (mostly elderly), persons with limitations and persons who live in institutions that have no generators.

Getting enough to drink every day is very important. Does everybody get enough? Is there enough shade to sit in? Are there enough volunteers who can help or come by to see to them? Elderly often lose the feeling of thirst, so they rarely get enough liquids, and they often refuse to drink water. They can be offered liquid food like soups, thin puddings or yoghurts and ice cream. Watermelon is a wonderful fruit that is full of liquid and nutrients, so they cover the

food and liquids-part.

All kitchens of big institutions could help here by providing to all those in need.

Groups of volunteers could be formed and have them come by and check if there is enough wind passing through the rooms. Maybe the same volunteers could come by to repair windows that are stuck.

There are fans nowadays that are rechargeable. When there is an electricity shortage, they would be wonderful. These fans are expensive though, maybe there is a funding program that could provide rechargeable fans to those in need. These programs could also provide ice-jugs plus one bag of ice a day and the liquid-provision would be covered.

In the old days the inhabitants of a barrio were responsible for each other. This is something that could be reinstated again.

Nowadays you see a lot of mini-ventilators that can be plugged into your phone. Almost everybody has a phone these days, so large companies could sponsor those personal fans for all those in need. It would be an excellent promotional program.

And I know for sure that when large groups of volunteers get together and are asked how they could be of help, or have any suggestions, there would be a flood of ideas. As I stated before, people always have been responsible for each other and still are. Keep your cool, everybody.



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.

Animal Shelter News

Are you the cat lover we're looking for?



Photo Marissa Larners

Animal Shelter Bonaire has an opening for a

CAT CARE SUPERVISOR

27 hours per week/5 days per week (one weekend day)

8 a.m.- 1 p.m.; one weekday 8 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Requirements:

- Love of animals
- Physically able
- Good computer skills
- Good people skills
- Resident of Bonaire or Curaçao with valid sedula
- Able to read basic English
- Willing to learn about cat health care

Responsibilities include:

- Cleaning kennels and cages, watering and feeding the cats
- Administering medications
- Supervising and instructing cat volunteers and employees
- Monitoring health and condition of the cats; setting medication regimens
- Scheduling and caring for cats in boarding

Salary based on qualifications, minimum \$10.10 per hour

If you are interested please email animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com with your C.V. for an interview appointment. DO NOT RESPOND VIA FACEBOOK OR MESSENGER.

Time to do your part on World Clean Up Day 2024



Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire (STCB) is doing their part once again with a fishing line cleanup on September 20 at the north pier. Divers will meet at Dive Friends Dive Inn at 9 a.m. Please come prepared with c-card, Marine Park tag, shears/line cutters and a mesh bag. Dive Friends Bonaire is sponsoring the air. Email cepa@bonaireturtles.org.

Selibon N.V. together with Fundashon Bonaire Limpi i Bunita, would like to collect as much litter as possible on World Clean Up Day. Selibon will concentrate its efforts in neighbourhoods like Tera Korá, Nort Saliña, Hato, Nikiboko, Rincon, Playa, Antriol i Tras di Montaña.

You can make use of Selibon's rubble containers that will be placed in different places in the neighbourhoods. If a group has their own pickup truck, they can use the pickup to put litter into waste bags and transport them to Landfill for free. At the Landfill all collected litter will be weighed, so Selibon can know later how much litter was collected from Bonaire's environment.

Photo /story Julie Morgan



diving No Name Beach on Klein Bonaire was already full but there are still spots available on the coastal clean up team.

Following the clean up, the participants will be rewarded with drinks and snacks at Scuba do. If you would like to join the cleanup efforts sign up now at DFBEvents@divefriendsboanire.com or stop by Dive Friends at Port Bonaire or Scuba Do.

All over the world people are joining together and taking action to clean up their personal part of the planet both above and below the surface of the sea. On Bonaire there are several organized options for you to join to make a difference in cleaning up.

Dive Friends, STINAPA and Scuba Do and have teamed up for an international coastal clean up on September 20, 1 p.m. At press time the underwater cleanup for

TNR from page 1

patience we can capture them, but some of the cats are very smart," said Mirte.

Once trapped the felines are taken to FIVC, neutered, fed and spend the night to ensure they are in good condition. One ear is clipped so they can be easily identified as neutered. The cats are then returned to the place they were found. TNR targets stray animals and not pets so the team checks the animals for microchips to ensure they aren't owned by someone and cause undue stress.

TNR campaign goals: Trap and neuter, release and monitor, community education and long-term care. In the future the team hopes to include feeding stations in areas the sterilized cats live. If you would like to be involved in the TNR program contact Flamingo Island Veterinary Clinic through TNR-Bonaire@bonaireveterinarycenter.com. If you are aware of stray or wild cats visit the TNR website to pin the location <https://tnrbonaire.com>

Dierenlot made this project possible by supplying 20 trapping cages, medical supplies anesthesia, and suture material.

Responsible pet owners should have their pets sterilized and chipped. In the future there is hope that government legislation could have a hand in pet welfare by requiring tagging, registering and chipping of all pets.

Thank you to FIVC owner, Jocehm Lastdrager, Dierenlot and all the amazing volunteers and veterinarians helping to make the TNR program a success from now and into the future.

Julie Morgan



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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												
		DATE	10	11	12	13	10	11	12	13	10	11	12	13
<i>Diploria labyrinthiformis</i> (70 MBS-10 MAS)	Grooved Brain Coral*	SUNSET	Fri 3-May 6:50 PM	Sat 4-May 6:50 PM	Sun 5-May 6:50 PM	Mon 6-May 6:50 PM	Sun 2-Jun 6:57 PM	Mon 3-Jun 6:58 PM	Tue 4-Jun 6:58 PM	Wed 5-Jun 6:58 PM	Mon 1-Jul 7:04 PM	Tue 2-Jul 7:04 PM	Wed 3-Jul 7:04 PM	Thu 4-Jul 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														
		DATE	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<i>Diploria labyrinthiformis</i> (70 MBS-10 MAS)	Grooved Brain Coral*	SUNSET	Sun 21-Jul 7:03 PM	Mon 22-Jul 7:03 PM	Tue 23-Jul 7:03 PM	Wed 24-Jul 7:03 PM	Thu 25-Jul 7:03 PM	Fri 26-Jul 7:02 PM	Sat 27-Jul 7:02 PM	Sun 28-Jul 7:02 PM	Mon 29-Jul 7:02 PM	Tue 30-Jul 7:01 PM	Wed 31-Jul 7:01 PM	Thu 1-Aug 7:01 PM	Fri 2-Aug 7:00 PM	Sat 3-Aug 7:00 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		
<i>Colpophyllia natans</i> (25-115 MAS)	Boulder Brain Coral						7:27-8:57 PM									
<i>Pseudodiploria strigosa</i> (Early group 30-90 MAS)	Symmetrical Brain Coral**							7:32-8:32 PM								
<i>Dendrogyra cylindrus</i> (90-160 MAS)	Pillar Coral			8:33-9:43 PM												
<i>Acropora palmata</i> (140-190 MAS)	Elkhorn Coral			9:23-10:13 PM (Spawning is possible on any of these dates: this species is not highly predictable in our region)												
<i>Acropora cervicornis</i> (150-190 MAS)	Staghorn Coral				9:33-10:13 PM											
<i>Montastraea/Orbicella annularis</i> (185-250 MAS)	Lobed/Boulder Star Coral							10:08-11:13 PM								
<i>Montastraea/Orbicella faveolata</i> (185-255 MAS)	Mountainous Star Coral							10:06-11:18 PM								
<i>Pseudodiploria strigosa</i> (Late group 200-270 MAS)	Symmetrical Brain Coral**							10:22-11:32 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														
		DATE	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<i>Diploria labyrinthiformis</i> (70 MBS-10 MAS)	Grooved Brain Coral*	SUNSET	Mon 19-Aug 6:53 PM	Tue 20-Aug 6:52 PM	Wed 21-Aug 6:52 PM	Thu 22-Aug 6:51 PM	Fri 23-Aug 6:51 PM	Sat 24-Aug 6:50 PM	Sun 25-Aug 6:49 PM	Mon 26-Aug 6:49 PM	Tue 27-Aug 6:48 PM	Wed 28-Aug 6:48 PM	Thu 29-Aug 6:47 PM	Fri 30-Aug 6:46 PM	Sat 31-Aug 6:46 PM	Sun 1-Sep 6:45 PM
<i>Montastraea cavernosa</i> (15-225 MAS)	Great Star Coral					7:06-10:36 PM (Peaks in first 90 min)									5:40-7:00 PM	
<i>Colpophyllia natans</i> (25-115 MAS)	Boulder Brain Coral							7:14-8:44 PM								
<i>Pseudodiploria strigosa</i> (Early group 30-90 MAS)	Symmetrical Brain Coral**							7:19-8:19 PM (Peak in first 30 min)								
<i>Dendrogyra cylindrus</i> (90-160 MAS)	Pillar Coral			8:23-9:33 PM												
<i>Dichocoenia stokesii</i> (85-160 MAS)	Pineapple Coral			8:18-9:33 PM (Expected nightly from mid-Sept through mid-Nov: please help us discover if and when they spawn in August)												
<i>Acropora palmata</i> (140-190 MAS)	Elkhorn Coral			9:13-10:03 PM (Spawning is possible starting Aug 17: this species is not highly predictable in our region)												
<i>Acropora cervicornis</i> (150-190 MAS)	Staghorn Coral***				9:23-10:03 PM											
<i>Montastraea/Orbicella annularis</i> (185-250 MAS)	Lobed/Boulder Star Coral							9:56-11:01 PM								
<i>Montastraea/Orbicella faveolata</i> (185-255 MAS)	Mountainous Star Coral							9:56-11:06 PM								
<i>Pseudodiploria strigosa</i> (Late group 200-270 MAS)	Symmetrical Brain Coral**							10:09-11:19 PM								

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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														
		DATE	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<i>Diploria labyrinthiformis</i> (70 MBS-10 MAS)	Grooved Brain Coral*	SUNSET	Tue 17-Sep 6:34 PM	Wed 18-Sep 6:34 PM	Thu 19-Sep 6:33 PM	Fri 20-Sep 6:32 PM	Sat 21-Sep 6:32 PM	Sun 22-Sep 6:31 PM	Mon 23-Sep 6:30 PM	Tue 24-Sep 6:30 PM	Wed 25-Sep 6:29 PM	Thu 26-Sep 6:28 PM	Fri 27-Sep 6:27 PM	Sat 28-Sep 6:27 PM	Sun 29-Sep 6:26 PM	Mon 30-Sep 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)								
<i>Montastraea cavernosa</i> (15-225 MAS)	Great Star Coral							6:47-10:17 PM (Peaks in first 90 min)								
<i>Colpophyllia natans</i> (25-115 MAS)	Boulder Brain Coral							6:55-8:25 PM								
<i>Pseudodiploria strigosa</i> (Early group 30-90 MAS)	Symmetrical Brain Coral**							7:00-8:00 PM (Peaks in first 30 min)								
<i>Eusmilia fastigiata</i> (75-270 MAS)	Smooth Flower Coral							7:46-11:01 PM								
<i>Montastraea/Orbicella franksi</i> (90-150 MAS)	Boulder Star Coral							8:02-9:02 PM								
<i>Dendrogyra cylindrus</i> (90-160 MAS)	Pillar Coral			8:04-9:14 PM												
<i>Dichocoenia stokesii</i> (85-160 MAS)	Pineapple Coral					7:59-9:14 PM (Spawns from at least mid-Sept to mid-Nov: new observations encouraged!)										
<i>Acropora palmata</i> (140-190 MAS)	Elkhorn Coral			8:54-9:44 PM (Spawning is possible starting Sept 15: this species is not highly predictable in our region)												
<i>Acropora cervicornis</i> (150-190 MAS)	Staghorn Coral***				9:04-9:44 PM											
<i>Stephanocoenia intersepta</i> (160-255 MAS)	Blushing Star Coral							9:12-10:47 PM								
<i>Montastraea/Orbicella annularis</i> (185-250 MAS)	Lobed/Boulder Star Coral							9:37-10:42 PM								
<i>Montastraea/Orbicella faveolata</i> (185-255 MAS)	Mountainous Star Coral							9:37-10:47 PM								
<i>Siderastrea siderea</i> (195-280 MAS)	Massive Starlet Coral							9:47-11:12 PM								
<i>Pseudodiploria clivosa</i> (210-255 MAS)	Knobby Brain Coral							10:00-10:45 PM								
<i>Pseudodiploria strigosa</i> (Late group 200-270 MAS)	Symmetrical Brain Coral**							9:50-11:00 PM								
<i>Madracis senaria</i> (All night)	Ten-Ray Star Coral							all night								
<i>Agaricia humilis/Agaricia agaricites</i> (All night)	Lettuce Coral							all night								

October Corals

Scientific name (and spawning window)	Common Name	NAFM														
		DATE	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<i>Diploria labyrinthiformis</i> (70 MBS-10 MAS)	Grooved Brain Coral*	SUNSET	Thu 17-Oct 6:15 PM	Fri 18-Oct 6:15 PM	Sat 19-Oct 6:14 PM	Sun 20-Oct 6:14 PM	Mon 21-Oct 6:14 PM	Tue 22-Oct 6:13 PM	Wed 23-Oct 6:13 PM	Thu 24-Oct 6:12 PM	Fri 25-Oct 6:12 PM	Sat 26-Oct 6:11 PM	Sun 27-Oct 6:11 PM	Mon 28-Oct 6:11 PM	Tue 29-Oct 6:10 PM	Wed 30-Oct 6:10 PM
<i>Meandrina meandrites</i> (10-70 MAS)	Maze Coral							6:23-7:23 PM (Expected nightly until at least Nov 17: new observations encouraged on any date)								
<i>Montastraea cavernosa</i> (15-225 MAS)	Great Star Coral							6:29-9:59 PM (Peaks in first 90 min)								
<i>Colpophyllia natans</i> (25-115 MAS)	Boulder Brain Coral							6:38-8:08 PM								
<i>Pseudodiploria strigosa</i> (Early group 30-90 MAS)	Symmetrical Brain Coral**							6:43-7:43 PM (Peaks in first 30 min)								
<i>Eusmilia fastigiata</i> (75-270 MAS)	Smooth Flower Coral							7:28-10:43 PM								
<i>Montastraea/Orbicella franksi</i> (90-150 MAS)	Boulder Star Coral							7:44-8:44 PM								
<i>Dendrogyra cylindrus</i> (90-160 MAS)	Pillar Coral			7:45-8:55 PM												
<i>Dichocoenia stokesii</i> (85-160 MAS)	Pineapple Coral					7:40-8:55 PM (Expected nightly across the October lunar cycle: new observations encouraged on any date)										
<i>Stephanocoenia intersepta</i> (160-255 MAS)	Blushing Star Coral							8:54-10:29 PM								
<i>Montastraea/Orbicella annularis</i> (185-250 MAS)	Lobed/Boulder Star Coral							9:19-10:24 PM								
<i>Montastraea/Orbicella faveolata</i> (185-255 MAS)	Mountainous Star Coral							9:19-10:29 PM								
<i>Siderastrea siderea</i> (195-280 MAS)	Massive Starlet Coral							9:29-10:54 PM								
<i>Pseudodiploria clivosa</i> (210-255 MAS)	Knobby Brain Coral							9:43-10:28 PM								
<i>Pseudodiploria strigosa</i> (Late group 200-270 MAS)	Symmetrical Brain Coral**							9:33-10:43 PM								
<i>Madracis senaria</i> (All night)	Ten-Ray Star Coral							all night								
<i>Agaricia humilis/Agaricia agaricites</i> (All night)	Lettuce Coral							all night								

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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>Hemodice 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