

FREE

BONAIRE The REPORTER

October 2- 16, 2024. Year 31, Issue 19



Box 603, Bonaire, Caribbean Netherlands, Phone/WhatsApp (+599) 786-4055,
www.bonairereporter.com email:bonairereporter2019@gmail.com



Fishers Jourdaine "Judy" den Boef and Shurendi "Nati" Martina return on the Thelma after a long day at sea
Photo Julie Morgan

Fishing is a way of life, not a hobby

Fishing is a way of life on Bonaire. It's part of the cultural heritage and history of the island. The knowledge and skill of fishing Bonaire's waters are passed down from generation to generation. Fishing is not just a hobby but a lifestyle. Children as young as six rise early to assist their fisher parents or grandparents, then go to school and later return to help their family with fishing chores after a long day at sea.

In August, a new documentary *Piskado' pa semper* (Fishing Forever) was released. The film was produced by Fuhikubo, and Museo Boneiru SKAL and screened for the public at Parke Isidel on September 28. The documentary tells the story of fishers on Bonaire, their passion and the challenges they face and how they are being dealt with today.

As ideal a life as fishing may appear to outsiders, the truth is it is a hard life and often dangerous. Fishers suffer boat breakdowns, get caught on the reef or become lost at sea.

Years ago, fishers would gather at the home of the "godfather of fishers" Dui Diaz, and discuss the need for a cooperative fishing alliance. At first it was mostly talk but eventually it became the reality known as Kopibon. Even though the coop had a self-appointed board and no members, it was a start.

In 2017, Kopibon evolved into Piskabon headed up by Ernest Martin De Lanoy. Larry Gerharts and a fisher named Checho approached De Lanoy with the idea of starting a whole different way of fishing. A short time later Stacey McDonald of WWF became involved and the wheels began turning.

McDonald said, "One of the first things I noticed was that the fishers themselves were not involved and no one was talking to them – they didn't have a voice."

The fishers were all out working on their own until McDonald talked to them. Gerhart introduced the idea of employing FADS (Fish Aggregating Device) which Curaçao was using to attract fish. FADS are floating buoy devices that are designed to attract pelagic fish. Piskabon member Jan Hendrik "Tuti" Emerenciana went to Curaçao to fish the buoys and saw first-hand how they were producing results.

"Tuti" said that when FADS were installed on Bonaire, within just a few days the buoys began to attract the fish there are more fish.

McDonald explained the FADS turned out to be a very nice project but social control, mutual respect and trust are still needed between the fishers and all entities involved. Everyone needs to cooperate.

Piskabon gave a presentation to the local and Netherlands governments and STINAPA and all were enthusiastic. They all promised their support and advice.

Piskabon is a cooperative that functions for its members but it requires a certain knowledge and financial strength. In the beginning, a positive conversation with the local government promised financial support but it never came.

McDonald said, "...I think that for a very long time the government didn't really care for the fisher sector. Except for the political parties. Then you hear things like the fishers are important. We need to do something for the fishers but in the end the fishers are not supported..." For example: infrastructure for the fishers like piers and slipways for their boats are either non-existent or do not function properly and many facilities are missing.

In recent years, STINAPA has invested a lot of time and energy to make clear that certain measures are needed, and the fishers know that and they are willing to collaborate.



Piskado pa semper being shown at Parke Isidel
Photo Julie Morgan

Economic trainwreck seems imminent for Bonaire

Lots of government money news for this issue, none good for Bonaire. Most of the following story is sourced from the Dossier Kingdom Relations. The Dossier's interpretations of the news are not always objective, but they appear to be founded on accurate information.

Here's the larger context of the story. The 10-10-10 transition was built upon an Administrative Agreement that defined the terms under which the BES islands would join the Netherlands as a municipality. In essence, The Hague promised to help the islands build toward eventual economic and social parity with the European Netherlands.

In exchange, the Public Bodies in the BES promised to abandon their tradition of behind-closed-door rule by hereditary oligarchies. They agreed to strive for transparent good governance and accountable spending. As part of that plan, Bonaire's OLB outsourced the collection of taxes to the professionals at the Tax Authorities of the Caribbean Netherlands

The Admin Agreement has worked well. After a dozen years of dedicated effort, the OLB is beginning to master the most complicated function of governance, good financial management. The finance people are producing sound budgets and subsequent financial reports that win the approval of the College of Financial Supervision (Cft).

Bonaireans, in turn, are enjoying more roundabouts and better roads, modern medical care, good policing, improving social benefits, expanded job opportunities, and are close to 80% sustainable energy, to mention some of the benefits that were impossible under the old style of government.

But all that good will and cooperation seems to be crumbling away since the Schoof cabinet took charge at The Hague and the Abraham Executive Council took charge on Bonaire. That's the backstory. Here's the recent news.

The Schoof cabinet announced it is giving BES 80 million euros in 2027. It did not mention that it also intends to give the Caribbean Netherlands 85 million euros less than the 628 million the Rutte government had pre-budgeted for 2027.

The Council of Ministers has agreed to changes proposed for the 2025 tax plan for the Caribbean Netherlands. The Central Dialogue (CD) is extremely disappointed with the decision. "This decision completely ignores the substantiated advice that the CD and the three public bodies have given on this plan. This decision is also in conflict with the Kralendijk Agreement, which the CD concluded in 2021."

Another government news release reports that the Netherlands has learned it could save a total of 150 million euros on expenditures in the Caribbean parts of the Kingdom over the next 3 years. That was a finding in the budget cuts list, an official product of the Ministry of Finance. The news release said the list is an annual overview of possible measures to improve government finances. "It does not provide an opinion on the desirability of the measures" however. It just identifies possible cuts.

Finally, news broke that, as Deputy of Finance on the Executive Council, Clark Abraham has been trying to keep secret his intention to start collecting island taxes himself. When the news became public, the Cft announced "foresees risks with regard to the implementation costs, the implementation power and declining tax revenues and advises Bonaire to be cautious with this step." It also appears that the Executive Council failed to forward the Cft's negative advice on the draft budget to the Island Council in a timely manner.

The central government expects to receive 260 million euros in taxes and premiums from residents and companies in the Caribbean Netherlands next year. That is four million more than this year. *DMR (Dossier Koninkrijksrelaties)*

This Issue's Stories

Fishing is a way of life	1
World Cleanup Day	3
EV charging station	5
Trippin Tuna	5
Regatta begins	6
Tourism month and summit	8
September's Nos Zjilea (Fishing)	10
Book - Landscape Biography	10
Reef fish ID course	12
Delno Tromp <i>Goat with Golden Tooth</i>	16

Our Facebook page brings you news that arrives between issues

Columns

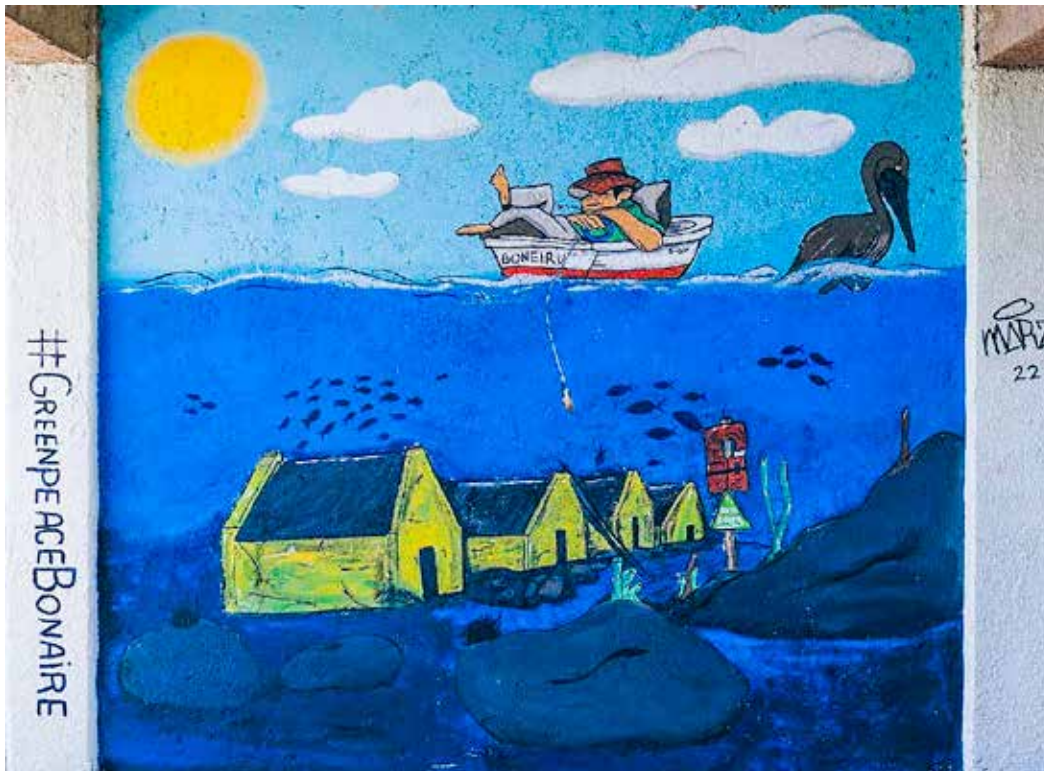
Who's Who in The Reporter	2
Island News:	
• Economic future; Climate case	2
• Airport access; Daycare closed; Corona / flu shots; Domestic violence; Economic growth statistics; Internet rates; Selibon detects hot spots; Home solar overloads; Cars towed	7
Police Report	4
Ask Bob (Part 2. Buying property)	5
Opinions: Nubian Donkeys	5
Foodies' Dining Guide	9
Buckley's Books (Secret Life of Corals)	10
Garden (Raspberries)	11
Corjan Recipe (Mac & goat cheese)	11
What's Happening (Events; Cruise ships; Clean ups; Church services)	12
Reef Glimpses (Urchins)	13
Optimal Health (Jokes)	13
Business Directory	14
Pet of the Week (Cat: Kuddles.)	15
Shelter News: Dog care worker wanted	15
Accessibility (Day of Elderly)	15

How to Find Us
 Read us online:
<https://bonairereporter.com>
<https://www.facebook.com/TheBonaireReporter/>
 Also available in 88 locations on Bonaire
 Printed every two weeks
 Next edition: October 16, 2024
 Contributor's Deadline: October 11, 2024

Stories, tips, questions, ideas & ads:
 Phone (+599) 786 4055
 Email: bonairereporter2019@gmail.com
 Address: Box 603, Bonaire, Dutch Caribbean.

The Bonaire Reporter Staff
Publisher: Julie Morgan
Production: Barbara Lockwood
Website: Michael Copini
Contributors: Ginny Knight, Angliet Baidjoe, Ria Evers-Dokter, Dee Scarr, Jane Madden-Disko, Don M. Ricks, Alan Zale, Irene de Cunda Costa, Sanne Attevelt, Marissa Lamers, Amy Bowen, Kaj Schut, Wilma Nijland, Izaïñ Mercera, Chef Corjan Hoogerheide, George Buckley, Frank Böhm, Paul Ruijs, Pam Teitel, Mel McCombie, Sara Matera
Distribution: Divi-Divi Airline, *Printed by:* DeStad Drukkerij, Curaçao.
Founders: George & Laura DeSalvo
 © 2024 The Bonaire Reporter

Greenpeace climate case to be heard in court



Local artist Judmar Emerenciana "Marz" painted this mural at the old Esperanza Hotel on Bonaire's southwest coast which will be underwater in the future if nothing is done.

Greenpeace Netherlands is suing the Dutch government on behalf of Bonaire. The Plaintiffs are demanding that the State reduce Dutch CO2 emissions to zero more quickly and do more to protect Bonaire against the consequences of climate change. The Court in The Hague has ruled that the suit is admissible and may proceed.

While the court ruled that Greenpeace has standing, it said eight Bonaireans who filed the suit jointly with Greenpeace

cannot participate as parties to the case. The ruling is based on legal reasons and is consistent with previous decisions.

Greenpeace's lawyer has asked the court to allow the plaintiffs to testify as witnesses. The first hearing will take place next year. *DMR*



Island News to page 7

World Cleanup Day

STCB welcomed a surprise guest, a hawksbill turtle on the dive at the North pier. The 21 divers participating collected a large bin of fishing line and other trash including glass beverage bottles and tins.

Scuba Do and Dive Friends headed to Klein Bonaire for their cleanup following a short class on "Diving Against Debris." A group of 25 divers, snorkelers and beach walkers boarded Dive Friends' beautiful Tiki Diver boat at the Sand Dollar pier and headed to No Name Beach. Divers collected very little trash underwater but what was found

included: plastic bags, bottles, cans and a full-face mask.

Beach walkers found a minimum amount of garbage but a huge number of cigarette butts littering the beach. All trash damages the environment but cigarette butts are toxic to marine life as just one butt can contaminate up to 1000 liters of water. Following the cleanup, participants enjoyed drinks and snacks at Scuba Do.

Thank you to everyone who participated in World Cleanup Day 2024.
Story / Photos Julie Morgan.



It's official. After five years of cleanups, World Cleanup Day on September 20, 2024 was officially recognized as an International Day on the United Nations calendar and Bonaire was a part of it.

Four Bonaire organizations participated: Selibon stationed large waste containers in the neighborhoods of Bonaire for everyone to bring their trash; Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire (STCB) held a fishing line cleanup and Scuba Do and Dive Friends joined forces for an underwater cleanup.

FOR SALE Kaya H.J. Pop 2D Penthouse close to the Boulevard & Ocean!



- Location: Kralendijk, walking distance to town
- Living area: 180 m2 / 1,937 sq. ft.
- 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, office, storage

- Roof terrace, garden, offstreet parking
- Long- and short term rentals allowed

Virtual Tour



Asking price \$499,000 US Dollar

Kaya Grandi 24-A Bonaire, Dutch Caribbean Tel. +599-717-7362
 info@bonairehomes.com www.bonairehomes.com
 Facebook: www.facebook.com/REMAXBonaire



POLICE REPORT

Property crime

Sept. 26. Around 9:45 a.m. the owner of a previously stolen diving bag reported that he had recognized it and the diving gear that was in it with two boys at Kaya J.N.E. Craane. The boys, two minors aged 14 and 15, were arrested for receiving stolen goods.

Sept. 22/23. Between Sunday 2 p.m. and 7:50 a.m. on Monday a garage door was destroyed to gain access to the garage of a house under construction in Sabadeco Crown West. Two black La Souris, Crossboss V14 E-bikes were stolen.

Sept. 22. On Bulevar Gobernador N. Debrot between Saturday 3 p.m. and 8 a.m. on Sunday, a container lock was destroyed and various construction tools were stolen: drills, small grinder, circular saw, metal disc machine, meter roll extension cables, metal scissors, line strip, set of drill bits and extensions.

Sept. 21. On Kaya Mamore a container lock was destroyed and various construction tools were stolen: a Tigual drill, a tile cutter, a Makita circular saw, a Hitachi angle grinder, a HBM drill and a jigsaw.

Sept. 20. At 'Te Amo Beach' on Kaya International a blue Christal Cruises backpack was taken stolen while the owner was snorkeling. The bag contained several cards, reading glasses, Prada sunglasses, a cap and clothes.

Sept. 20. When the landlord of a building on Kaya Almirante Pedro Luis Brion came home and started cooking, he noticed that his two 20 liter gas bottles were stolen from the yard.

Sept. 18. An orange Jansports backpack and a black/white bag were stolen from a golf cart while the owners were swimming at a beach on E.E.G. Boulevard. The stolen bags contained passports, clothes and a white Apple Airpod. The victims, cruise tourists, tried to chase the suspect car, which the suspect got into, but due to the high speed at which the car drove away, it disappeared from view.

Sept. 17/18. Between 7:45 p.m. Tuesday and 8:15 a.m. Wednesday a white Sym Symply scooter with license plate MF-705 was stolen. It was secured with a chain lock on the rear wheel and was parked outside an apartment complex located on Kaya Avelino J. (Abechi) Cecilia.

Sept. 16. Cash was stolen from a house near the church on Plaza Reina Juliana.

Sept. 14. Around 4:15 p.m. a report was received at the police station about an attempted theft of a scooter that was parked in a side road off Kaya Libertador Simon Bolivar. When the caller spoke to the two young men he saw at the scooter, they fled on their bicycles. Later a patrol spotted on Kaminda Lagun a scooter with two people without helmets who matched the caller's description. The patrol followed this scooter and saw that it had no license plate. The driver complied with a stop sign but could not show a driver's license or insurance or an ID card. Both young men were taken to the police station. A report was filed a little later of the theft of a Kymco Agility scooter, license plate MF-4353 while it was parked at Kaya Playa Lechi. It turned out that this scooter was the scooter on which the boys were found. Both minors, aged 14 and 15 were arrested at the police station for theft.

Sept. 13. A room door was destroyed and cash was taken from a hotel room in a tourist accommodation on Kaya Lodewijk D. Gerharts.

Arrests

Sept. 29. Around 1:55 a.m. a man, 67, was arrested on Kaya Zambezi for threats.

Sept. 28. Around 11:10 p.m. a 41-year-old man, 41, was arrested on Kaya Mandolin for assault.

Sept. 26. A man, 46, was arrested at Kaminda Gurubu for trespassing, threats and assault.

Sept. 19. A man, 41, was arrested by the Special Assignments Group (GBO) for violating the BES Firearms Act. During a search, narcotics (probably) were found on the suspect. A house search was then conducted in a house on Kaya Mandolin.

Sept. 16. Two people were arrested for assault at Kaya Ruth, a woman, 26, and a man., 46.

Sept. 15. A man, 44, was arrested at Bario Santa Rosa for assault.

Drugs Curaçao / Bonaire

Sept. 21. The Dutch navy ship, *Zr.Ms Holland*, sailing for the Caribbean Coast Guard, intercepted two go-fast boats near the ABC Islands. During the first interception, approximately 1290 kilos of cocaine were seized and four suspects were arrested and were transferred to the Curaçao Police Force (KPC). During the second interception, approximately 500 kilos of cocaine were seized and three men aged 45, 38 and 44 were arrested and transferred to the Caribbean Netherlands Police Force (KPCN). The seized drugs were destroyed that same afternoon, under the supervision of a public prosecutor.

Sept. 20. A man, 42, was arrested in Curaçao for violation of the BES Opium Act. He is involved in an investigation on Bonaire that has been ongoing since 2022. The suspect was transferred to Bonaire for further investigation.

Sept. 18. Three men aged 38, 24, and 41 were arrested on Curaçao in connection with violation of the BES Opium Act. The suspects attempted to smuggle narcotics camouflaged in boxes out of the island via a cargo company. After the arrests, four house searches were carried out on Curaçao. A firearm, ammunition and opium were found and confiscated. These were handed over to the Curaçao Police Force. Because the suspects are involved in an investigation that is ongoing on Bonaire, they were transferred to Bonaire for further investigation.

Traffic accidents /

Driving under the influence

Sept. 29. Around 5:40 p.m. a man, 42, was arrested on Kaya Korona for driving under the influence of alcohol. The suspect had crashed his vehicle into a lamppost. He was fined for driving without a driver's license and insurance.

Sept. 27. Around 8:25 p.m. a pick-up truck overturned on Kaya Internashonal. The driver stated that he drove off the road because he could not see very well. According to a witness, the vehicle was driving swerving on the road and suddenly drove off the road surface. The driver was taken to the hospital by ambulance for medical treatment. The vehicle was towed away.

Sept. 26. After midnight a person was reported fallen from his scooter on E.E.G. Bulevar. When the patrol arrived, the driver stated that he did not know exactly what had happened. Approximately 20 meters away, the patrol found an injured donkey. The donkey did not survive the collision. The victim was taken to the hospital by ambulance.

Sept. 24. Around 1 a.m. a pick-up with five occupants overturned and ended up in the yard of the fire station on Kaya International. When driving from Sorobon the driver lost control, left the road, hit a lamppost and then overturned. A breath test showed that the driver, 22, had consumed more than the permitted amount of alcohol and his driver's license was confiscated. On site, all occupants were given a medical check by the ambulance personnel.

Sept. 23. Around 4:50 a.m. Two cars collided on Kaya International at Kaya Maximiliana Rosaria due to a failure to give way. Ambulance personnel checked the people at the scene. One of the vehicles was no longer drivable and was towed away.

Sept. 22. Around 4:50 p.m. a patrol saw a car stationary on Kaya Korona and several people walking around on the road. A car overtaking a group of young cyclists had come back too quickly into its own lane and hit one of the cyclists. The victim fell and was injured, but did not want medical help.

Sept. 21. Around 6:25 a.m. a two-car collision on Kaya Nikiboko South was reported. Shortly after the report, an injured man - the driver of one of the cars - came running to the police station. An ambulance was immediately summoned. When the officers arrived at the scene, they found one of the cars in the middle of the road, the other against a concrete pillar. The driver at the scene stated that the car coming from the opposite direction made a sudden movement and collided with the left rear of his car. The driver of this car then fled on foot. The car that caused the collision had no insurance and was towed to the police station. Its driver was arrested for driving under the influence.

Sept. 21. Around 4:35 a.m. a man, 54, was arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol. The suspect, driving on Kaya Nikiboko Zuid, repeatedly ignored police signals to stop. Eventually, he stopped his vehicle near Bario Mam-

paria Kutu. After the breath tests he was given a 3-hour driving ban, and fined for not being able to produce a driver's license or proof of insurance. His vehicle was towed to the police station.

Sept. 16. Around 3:50 p.m. a car and a motorcycle collided on E.E.G. Bulevar. The motorcycle driver was injured and was taken to the hospital by ambulance. The car was driving towards Playa. At the moment the driver wanted to turn left he was overtaken by the motorcycle, which collided with the left side of the car. The driver of the car could not show a valid driver's license and insurance papers and was fined.

Sept. 15. Around 3:10 a.m. a car and a pick-up collided on Kaya Korona. When the patrol arrived the people involved were arguing. The driver of the pick-up stated that he wanted to overtake the car in front of him, but the driver of this car pressed the brake pedal. When the pick-up tried to overtake for a second time, he was blocked, causing him to lose control of the vehicle, collide with the driver's side of the car and end up with his vehicle on its side. The driver of the pick-up was injured and was treated by the ambulance personnel.

Traffic control /Speed checks

Sept. 26. During a traffic check on Kaya Korona police checked 17 vehicles and issued six fines for driving without: 4x a seat belt; 1x a driver's license; 1x valid insurance.

Sept. 22. During a traffic check on Kaya International police checked 15 vehicles and issued six fines for driving without: 4x a seat belt; 2x valid insurance.

Sept. 20. During a traffic check on Kaya Amsterdam police checked 16 vehicles and issued three fines for driving without: 2x valid insurance; 1x a seat belt.

Fire

Sept. 29. Around 6 a.m. a large fire at a catering establishment on E.E.G. Bulevar was reported. A security guard had tried unsuccessfully to extinguish the fire burning in a pile of wooden pallets and likely to spread. A palm tree had also been burned. The fire brigade extinguished the fire. The cause of the fire is unknown and is being investigated.

Sept. 27. Around 1:10 p.m. a fire in a palapa at Chacha Beach, located on Kaya C.E.B. Hellmund, was reported. The fire brigade extinguished the fire. An arson report was also filed. The case is being investigated.

Public order

Sept. 20. Around 8:20 a.m. the central control room received a report of a fisherman who had engine trouble with his boat south of Bonaire and was drifting away due to the sea current. The Multidisciplinary Maritime Hub Bonaire (KPCN, the Coast Guard and STINAPA) found the fishing boat floating approximately two miles from the coast. The fisherman and his boat were taken to the fishing pier 'Waf di Piskadó' at Playa Pabou. The fisherman was healthy and well.

Sept. 15. Around 5:30 p.m. the central control room received a report about a surfer who had difficulty swimming to the coast at the diving location 'Alice in Wonderland' on the south coast of Bonaire. According to the caller, the surfer, who was about 25 meters from the coast, had been trying to swim back for about 30 minutes, but he was unable to do so. When the police patrol and STINAPA arrived, another person had already swum to the surfer and helped him push his windsurfing board to the coast. The surfer stated that he was windsurfing when his mast broke. He tried to bring the mast and sail together with the board to the coast, but he was unable to do so. Eventually, he left the mast and sail behind at sea and tried to swim to the coast with the board.

Sept. 15. Around 3:20 p.m. the central control room received a report about a diver who had been hit by a boat near the diving location called 'Something Special.' The victim was injured and was taken to hospital by ambulance. When the patrol arrived, they spoke to a number of witnesses who stated that a boat was sailing within the buoys and hit the diver when she came up. According to the witnesses, the diver had looked back and then continued sailing. Several people jumped into the water to help the victim and bring her to shore. The officers went looking for the boat together with STINAPA and found it after some time. An investigation is being conducted into how this could have happened.

Sept. 15. Around 3:30 a.m. a drive-by shooting incident took place at a house located on Kaya Papa Cornes, the same house that was shot at on 25 August. There were no injuries.

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.



A beautiful sight and one I so enjoyed seeing so frequently when we lived on Bonaire from late 1975 to late 1984 - the donkeys are part of Bonaire's nature and must be protected at all costs. Peter Hughes

The Bonaire Nubian Donkeys are extinct in their home land and must be protected. Al Catalfumo

Ask Bob

Bonaire real estate advice

PART 2:

Hi Bob – I want to purchase a property on Bonaire and I know how much I can spend to buy it, what are my next steps?

Thanks, Joe K.

Hi Joe –

Once you have decided how much you can spend on purchasing a property you need to remember that when you buy property on Bonaire, it is the buyer who pays the transfer cost, (in Dutch, it is kosten koper or just k. k.). Your estimated buyers costs are around 7% of the purchase price for a used house and about 10% if you are buying a new built house that's never been lived in.

Once you look at properties and find something you want to buy, it's time to make an offer to buy that property. When you make an offer to buy a property there are more things to consider than just the purchase price. In order to make a good offer there are a number of important considerations:

- What do you want to offer for the purchase price? For most properties the price can be negotiable, depending on the property and how long it has been on the market.
- Offers are almost always made as buyers' costs (kosten koper), so you will also need to have 7% (or 10% if new) of the purchase price to put down on the property
- If you need to arrange financing from a bank, your offer should be made contingent on financing.



- You may want to make your offer contingent on a technical inspection of the property to make sure there are no unseen or hidden problems with the house such as leaks in the roof, or plumbing leaks.

- If the property you're buying has tenants, you'll need to decide whether to keep the tenants once you become the owner. You can work out with the seller if you want the existing tenants to remain, or if you want to buy the house without tenants.

- The last item will be to agree with the seller on a transfer date, which is the day you go to the Notaris to transfer the deed and get the keys to your new home, or investment property.

Regards

Bob Bartikoski,
Re/Max Bonaire Broker/Owner

If you are looking to buy or sell a home on Bonaire, or if you have a real estate question for Bob, email him at info@bonairehomes.com.
Bonaire: +599-717-7362.
Toll free from US: 1-866-611-7362

First EV charging station installed



In the last few years, Bonaire has welcomed an electric car dealer, more electric rental cars and now finally electric charging stations are being made available on the island. The first one was officially brought into service at the TUI shop at Chogogo Dive & Beach resort. This will be the first of 10 charging stations installed by TUI and Dynaf on Bonaire.

In a celebration marking this first station, Antion Klein Hofmeijer, Head of TUI Dutch Caribbean and Urni Rosalia regional account manager for Dynaf initiated the charging of a car before the press.

Hofmeijer said, "We stand behind the sustainable initiative called fair travel and by installing these charging stations we want to support the use of electric cars. Bonaire is an important destination for TUI and we want to keep it for the future generations. This is a way we can contribute to a better and greener future for Bonaire."

TUI and Dynaf are installing a network of 55 charging stations: Aruba – 15, Bonaire – 10 (five at Chogogo) and 30 in Curaçao. TUI and Dynaf are investigating other Bonaire locations for the other five stations.

Story / photo Julie Morgan

Trippin tuna gives birth

A 15ft stainless steel tuna sculpture gave birth September 27 in the reception area of Mariadol hospital in Bonaire. Three new baby tuna sculptures were delivered by the doctors, with EMT's on the ready along with artist Fred Ros standing nearby.

The mother sculpture, created by Dutch Artist Ron Moret and Ros has traveled throughout Europe to Bonaire to raise awareness regarding the delicate balance between humanity and nature. Ros says the tuna, known as Trippin Tuna, has created deep connections with those who have encountered it.

While in Bonaire, Trippin Tuna has been on display at Van den Tweel, Bonaire International Airport and Mariadol. The three baby tunas and more are being sold to support the nature awareness installation's cost.

Eventually the large tuna will be placed underwater at Oil Slick Leap for divers and snorkelers to enjoy.

Story / photo Julie Morgan





Regatta Bonaire events are less than a week away with the Swim to Klein Bonaire kicking off the first activity on October 6. If you check out the schedule, you will find some cool surprises. There is a softball tournament on October 7, and on October 9 the organizers have added a 5k run called the Regatta Loop at 5:30 p.m. and the All Nations Parade at 6 p.m.

The entertainment lineup is packed with your favorite artists this year so if you love music, but you don't like fighting the crowd consider a VIP package that puts you in the best seats in the house and even includes refreshments.

Visit www.regattabonaire.com for information about everything Regatta Bonaire 2024.

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	CUROIL 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

Fishing is a way of life from page 1

De Lanoy said, "STINAPA stands on one side of the field in order to define marine life and protect marine life. Everything that takes place in the sea needs to be protected... We have seen over time that our reefs are disappearing so there needs to be an entity to protect the fish and STINAPA does that and they are doing a good job. STINAPA does not make the rules or laws - our own government has done that. STINAPA is just executing them. It's a noble thing what they are doing. Anytime I ask them they are there - they collaborate - they help."

Piskabon celebrated its seventh birthday in September. In the past seven years they have introduced six FADS buoys in Bonaire's waters with GPS location and radar reflectors. Each FAD buoy has a price tag of \$16,000 and cur-

rently two are in use in the waters of Bonaire. Much of Piscabon's finances are realized with the help of the Prins Hendrik Foundation. They provide their members with special ice to keep the fish fresh and coolers, to provide higher quality fish to the restaurants, hotels and residents. Safety materials are provided at a major discount and enhance the fishers safety at sea. Piskabon also has a special cooperation with the coast guard and other regulatory agencies.

The documentary Piskado' pa semper is available to view on YouTube <https://youtu.be/yvuqcQXDcH0?si=nLZzI5BaLnY4QPng>. The film is dedicated to Raynel Cecilia who put great effort into capturing and showcasing the fishing industry in Bonaire.

Story / photos Julie Morgan



WE LOVE TO FLY WITH YOU

DAILY FLIGHTS

Bonaire to Curacao

Mon-Thur-Fri: 7:15am - 8:40pm

Tues-Wed: 7:15am-7:45pm

Sat 11:15am - 6:45pm

Sun 11:15am - 8:40pm

Curacao to Bonaire

Mon-Fri: 6:40am - 5pm

Sat-Sun: 8:25am - 5pm

CHARTERS - CARGO - EXPRESS MAIL

FLYDIVIAIR.COM- +599717-2121

Buena vista
Perfect Service and Quality - Our Passion!

Experienced Staff - Eye Exams on Site - Insurance Accepted-Advanced Equipment
Lens Fabrication - Over 1000 different frames and sunglasses
Ray Ban, Oakley, Maui Jim and more
Mon-Fri 9-12 / 2-6

Kaya Grandi 36 **Optics** Tel: +599-7179181

Better access road to airport coming

Arriving visitors will soon experience a safer and more attractive route from the airport. The access road to the airport is going to be upgraded to improve its appearance and make it safer for pedestrians and cyclists.

Kaya International will feature a paved path, benches, and a green strip of local plant species. Rainwater drainage will be improved as well.

The upgrade will be a joint project of Bonaire International Airport (BIA) and Public Entity Bonaire (OLB).

DMR

Daycare center closed for violations

The childcare centre 'Happy kids, Happy days' has been closed for the second time in two years on the recommendation of the Education Inspectorate. "An acute danger to the safety and health of the children" was cited as the reason. The childcare provider has reportedly failed to implement the necessary improvements on several occasions.

The FrontOffice Childcare has arranged the temporary transfer of the children to other childcare providers.

DMR

Government wants to reduce internet rates

Lack of competition and outdated submarine cables account for the extremely high rates people in the BES have to pay for internet service, a government study has revealed. Data to and from the rest of the world must be transported by underwater cables to internet exchanges and data centers on the mainland. These "costs for IP transit" form a substantial part of the total internet costs on the islands.

In the Caribbean, a single provider owns a large share of the market for sea cables, so there is little competition on price and quality. Also, the submarine cables throughout the Caribbean are relatively old: approximately 45% are older than 20 years. The cables around Bonaire are also nearing the end of their original lifespan of 25 years.

The central government hopes to find a less costly way of providing internet to the BES. In the meantime, it is structurally reducing internet costs with subsidies for end users (both consumers and businesses) until at least 2026. DMR

Selibon can detect hot spots in landfill

Selibon N.V. has tested a thermal camera that detected the heat at areas where underground fires have been reported. The Fire Department and The Directorate of Supervision and Maintenance sent observers to the test. The camera is expected to be a good tool for containing and even eliminating the underground fires that have been producing noxious smoke. DMR

Home solar threatens to overload WEB

Technological advances can come with unanticipated problems. Many on Bonaire are reducing their energy costs by installing home solar panels and batteries. Their systems are called hybrids because the homeowner can charge their batteries either from their solar panels or from the WEB grid on, say, cloudy days. Here's the unanticipated problem. On hot days when home systems are overloaded by airco and battery charging both, owners are likely to switch to the grid. But then the grid has to power both their airco and charge their batteries at the same time. That could result in a massive extra load for WEB. DMR

Corona and flu vaccinations coming next month

During the third and fourth weeks of October, local people and those who winter over, aged 60 or above, will be able to get the flu and corona vaccinations for free. People under 60 with diabetes, lung problems, heart problems, etc. can also be vaccinated then.

People can choose to receive both the corona vaccination and the flu vaccination at the same time, or separately. They can also choose whether to be vaccinated by the Public Health Department or their house doctor. The dates and locations of the vaccination days will be announced later. DMR

As the population grows so does the economy

Bonaire's economy grew by 8.8 percent in 2022, mainly driven by the accommodation and food services and recreation sectors. When the coronavirus travel restrictions ended at the beginning of 2022, inbound tourism

by air continued to increase from 111 thousand tourists in 2021 to 173 thousand tourists in 2022, an increase of 55%.

The higher number of tourists combined with a 5.3 percent increase in the island's population also boosted the value added of the trade sector. Supermarkets in particular performed well in 2022. The value added in real estate activities increased by 17.5 percent, as many building lots were sold on Bonaire in 2022. The value added in public administration increased by 17.1 percent due to an increase in the number of jobs in this sector from 1,270 in 2021 to 1,490 in 2022.

On the negative side, in 2022 the value added in construction declined by 6.9 percent and the number of jobs in this sector decreased by 4 percent. Despite this decline, its value added has increased by over 50 percent since 2017.

The 6.5 percent drop in value added of the transport, information and communication sectors was caused by the BOPEC bankruptcy. The other businesses in the transport sector grew, mainly due to the removal of all travel restrictions at the beginning of 2022.

The contraction was largest in Financial services (down by 9.6 percent), in line with the fewer number of jobs in this sector in 2022. DMR (Statistics Netherlands)

BES to join world agreement on combating abuse

The Caribbean Netherlands is expected to ratify the Council of Europe so-called Istanbul Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence in 2026. Prior to ratification, certain policy and legislative measures will be taken.

A protection code for professionals must be drafted, and shelter options for victims must be guaranteed. These measures are laid down in the draft decree on social support and combating domestic violence and child abuse in the Caribbean Netherlands, which was submitted to the House of Representatives on June 8, 2023. The implementation of this decree is scheduled for January 1.

The Dutch government expects the Istanbul Convention to officially come into force in the Caribbean Netherlands in 2026. DMR

Another old Bonaire tradition dies

We can't park on the sidewalks anymore. Police conducted a large-scale traffic check that focused on parking violations on Wednesday morning, September 25. They fined 21 vehicles for illegal parking and towed five to the police station at their owner's expense. When owners offered to move their cars the police accepted, but handed them a ticket first.

While ticketing and towing, the police took a photo of the new parking lot at Brion Kazerne behind the Playa police station, which opened in June. It showed 30 empty parking spaces. So there was plenty of room there for the 21 illegally parked cars, and nine parking spaces would still have been available downtown.

During the traffic check the police also issued three tickets for driving without a seat belt, two for driving without a valid license, and one for driving without valid insurance. They also caught one driver using a mobile phone. That's a new Bonaire tradition that should be abolished. DMR / Photos via KPCN



Tourism month

September is tourism month on Bonaire and Tourism Corporation Bonaire (TCB) checked all the boxes to ensure the month was full of activities including a photo contest, a kids' scavenger hunt and a Taste of Bonaire. The highlight of the month was TCB's Tourism Summit on World Tourism Day with 120 attendees at the new Plaza Resort convention center on September 27.

First speaker up was Commissioner Clark Abraham, commissioner of Tourism and Economy asking, "Why should people come to Bonaire? What makes us special?" Then he

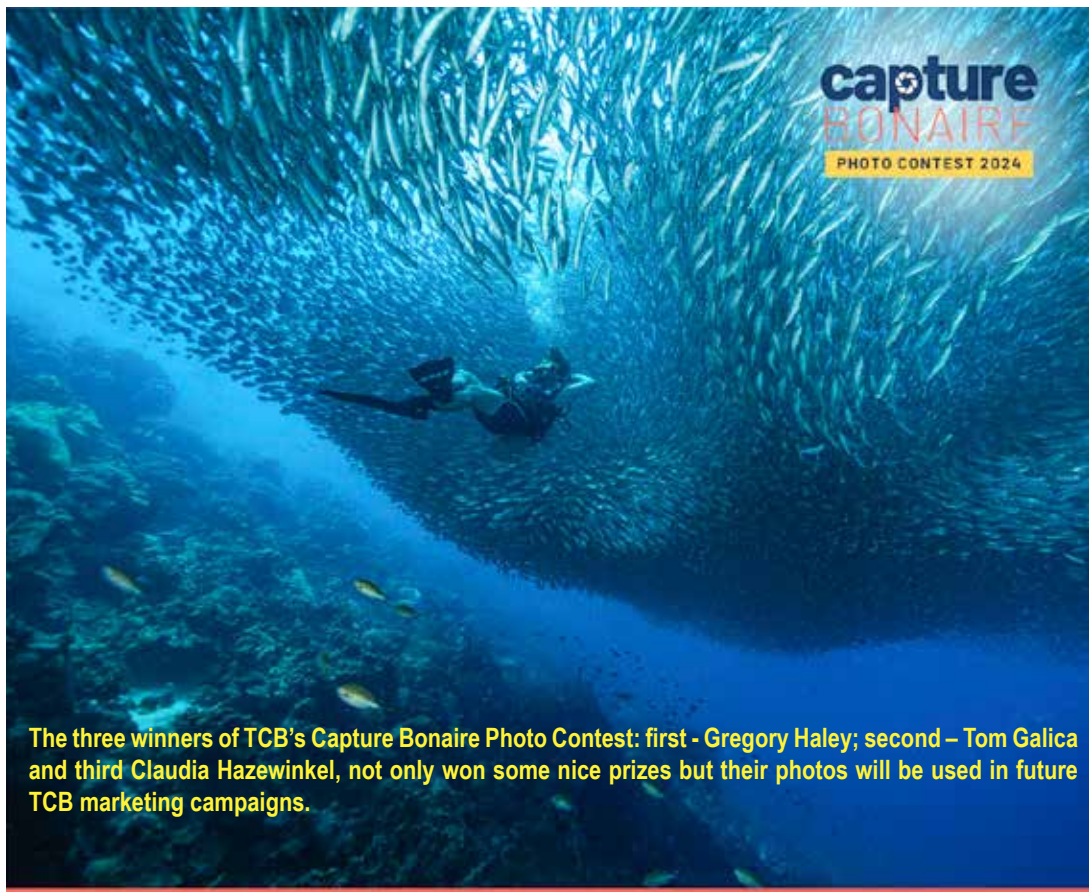
stated, "Our people are our identity... We should focus on what we already have."

Abraham explained the role of OLB is to make the rules, policy and finance. TCB's role is to execute. He further said that we should ask ourselves if the policy of 2017 is on par with what we want.

Captain Don Habitat manager, Claire Sealy, spoke saying, "Ten years ago we did not have direct flights to Bonaire. The marketing began on getting American Airlines flights. It went well and they added more flights, but the flights were emp-



The evening of September 28 saw another successful Taste of Bonaire where locals and visitors enjoyed great food, drinks and music. Photo Julie Morgan



The three winners of TCB's Capture Bonaire Photo Contest: first - Gregory Haley; second – Tom Galica and third Claudia Hazewinkel, not only won some nice prizes but their photos will be used in future TCB marketing campaigns.

ty because there was no marketing. We need to focus on the marketing so the flights can be filled. Initially that means that TCB needs a bigger budget."

Abraham responded saying, "I agree we should have more funding, but we need to know what we are doing. We do not have unlimited funds. We have to make choices as to how to direct those funds."

CEO of TCB Miles Mercera spoke next and began by saying tourism is a business not a social activity. We have to talk about figures and data and what it means for our island. We need to know that the world is changing and standing still is not an option. We need to do things differently in our approach. The future of travel is changing.

Mercera explained the effects of tourism through the numbers.

- **Number of visitors.** By the end of 2024, TCB expects to reach 180,000 visitors. This is in sync with the 2017 tourism plan that stated by 2027 we should reach 200,000. So far this year Bonaire has entertained 14,000 stayover visitors per month with a total of 130,000. Some 42% of those guests stayed in a hotel while 25% stayed in another property or villa. Of those 130,000, 45% were from the Netherlands while 30% were from the U.S. or Canada.

- **Spending.** Currently U.S. visitors spend \$201 per day while the Dutch spend \$160 per day. Monetarily TCB would like to see a 5% increase in spending from visitors per per-

son per day.

- **Guest surveys.** TCB emails surveys to every guest after their visit. And each year one lucky traveler receives a free return ticket and hotel for their responses. Guests surveys revealed of the 130,000 visitors 91.95 were overall satisfied; 91.52 of the guests said they would recommend coming to Bonaire and 91.61 said they would return again. The survey found 50-55% were repeat guests and 45% were first time visitors.

- **The GDP (Gross Domestic Product)** for Bonaire is \$662 million and 40% or \$265 million of that is brought in through tourism. This is up by 8.8% from last year. The top two money earners for the island are recreation (diving, sports, etc) and Horeca (hotel,

restaurants, bars). In terms of ROI (return on investment), every \$1 invested on tourism yields \$132 in tourism dollars directly. Mercera said, "If TCB had \$4.5 million for marketing rather than \$2 million then the total GDP would increase to \$701.55 million.

'Nature Inclusive tourism: Find the balance between visitation and protection' was the theme developed by Roxanne Francisca, STINAPA senior conservation manager and Robert Wester, STINAPA education manager.

Francisca explained that a great amount of pressure has been put on our nature systems. Not only have we had massive bleaching and disease outbreaks, but our activities can stress the environment. She gave an example of the Phi Phi

Tourism, continued on page 15



On September 21 eight groups of kids dressed up as island animals to compete in the second annual TCB Scavenger Hunt. The groups visited historic island locales and earned points for solving activities at each site. The Loras (above) were the overall winners. Photo via TCB

Venezuelan Gluten-Free Fresh Food

Yhanni's Arepas

Dine-in Garden/ Take-away



Mon-Tu-Th 12-7pm Fri-Weds 12-9 pm Sat-Sun 12-6 pm

Order +599-788-0035  

Kaya Neerlandia 21-behind Budget Marine

Reserve this spot.



*Book an ad.
We will tell your story.*

Blue lagoon cafe

Local lunch

Grab & Go meals!

+599 701 1373

Open Tuesday - Saturday 10AM - 8PM
Find us in the Dabboussi Center (AVIS)

Authentic Indian Cuisine

Open Six Days a Week

Lunch 12-3 p.m. / Dinner 5-10

(Closed Tuesday and Sunday afternoon)

Kaya Grandi 67  +599-717-6700

South American Cuisine with a Caribbean Twist



NOW OPEN for LUNCH
Mon-Tues-Thurs-Fri 11:30 - 2pm

DINNER
Mon-Fri 5:30-10pm

LIVE Music
Tuesday-Friday

599-717-6731

Gob. Debrot 79 - Reservations - www.EddysBonaire.com



LUCI VNO

ICE CREAM

Kaya Isla Riba
(centrum Kralendijk)

DAILY 07:30-23:00

New! Bonaire District
Shopping Center - Hato
MON-SAT 9:00-22:00

KRALENDIJK - BONAIRE



Beer and Burgers

Tues-Thurs 5-10pm

Kaya Simon Bolivar 21 / 599-777-2907

*Get your NAME
out there.*



RUM RUNNERS

restaurant & cocktailbar

Open 7 Days a Week

Breakfast-Lunch-Dinner

Great Custom Made Cocktails

Spectacular Sea View

  Captain Don's Habitat +599-717-8290 x 100 

Bobbejan's

796-4783



BBQ

WEEKENDS & TAKE AWAY ONLY
Friday Saturday Sunday 6-10 PM

Your favourite RestroBAR

Come catch a sunset !!

Open for Drinks & Dinner

Mon, Wed - Sat : 4 pm to 11:30 pm

Sun: 5 pm to 10:30 pm

Weds-Mon: Happy Hour
5-7 pm

Pasta Night
Every Thursday from 6 pm

\$5,- Friday's
5 Drinks and 5 Appetizers for \$5,- each.
Every Friday: 10 pm to 11 pm

Party at **HOOKED**
With DJ's Sento & Goos
Every Tue: 10 pm to 2 am



Corner Kaya Bonaire & Kaya J.N.E Craane

 T: +599 700 7738

W: www.hookedbysunsets.com



CASA BIZARRO

EST. 2005

+599-701-3884 Kaya Princes Marie 1

 www.sakurabonaire.com 



Artisan Bakery Bonaire

The Only Sourdough & Plant-Based Bakery of Bonaire

*They come to
dive and dine.
Help them find you.*

Bonaire's Landscape Biography highlights Island values



Lt. Gov Jon Soliano receives the first copy of the book

Fuhikubo's Emma Pratt, project leader and Boi Antoin launched their latest book *Landscape Biography Bonaire* on September 27 at Kas Cocari in Rincon. Planning for the joint venture with Fundashon Cocari II and Strootman landschapsarchitectern began in July 2023 and took form in November 2023.

Landscape Biography of Bonaire is divided in three parts and highlights the values of the island's historical, cultural and natural landscape.

Part 1 gives the history of the natural and geological landscape and early habitation including the plantation during and after slavery.

Part 2 exhibits the value of the landscape, water biography, the four plantations' biographies and core values.

Part 3 investigates the future of our current and future landscape, development principles, future perspectives and core values.

In the ceremony the book authors Emma Pratt, Boi Antoin and Jan di Vries of Cocari presented the first copy to Lt. Gov. John Soliano, Roxanne L Francisca of STINAPA and author/artist Delna Tromp.

The *Landscape Biography Bonaire* was designed by Deviant Design with many of the photos supplied by the Fuhikubo archive. Only 200 copies were printed so if you are interested in one contact Fuhikubo. The book is in Dutch and is \$65.

Story / Photo Julie Morgan

SEPTEMBER'S NOS ZJILEA - Let's go to sea

September seemed to be the month for events about Bonaire's fishing. In addition to the new documentary Nos Zjilea at Mangazina di Rei held a presentation titled "Let's go to sea." Stand in hosts for Nos Zjilea's popular MC Izain Mercera were Julianka Clarenda of Echo and Laurianne Ammerlaan of Bonai.

Fisherman Gerald Martines demonstrated the use of cast nets used to catch bait fish like sardines and mas bango. The weighted nets have different sized mesh depending on the type of fish. As the net bends it makes it easy to create the angles of the boat. Martines has been fishing since he was a child. His advice to kids who aspire to be a fisher is to finish school so you have a back up.

Elder fisherman and boat builder Jo Mercera spoke with the ladies about boat

building. He uses wood from the Casaba tree as it is bendable to create the angles of the boat. His sage advice to aspiring fishers was to be a better business person as a fishermen and be willing to adjust to the times.

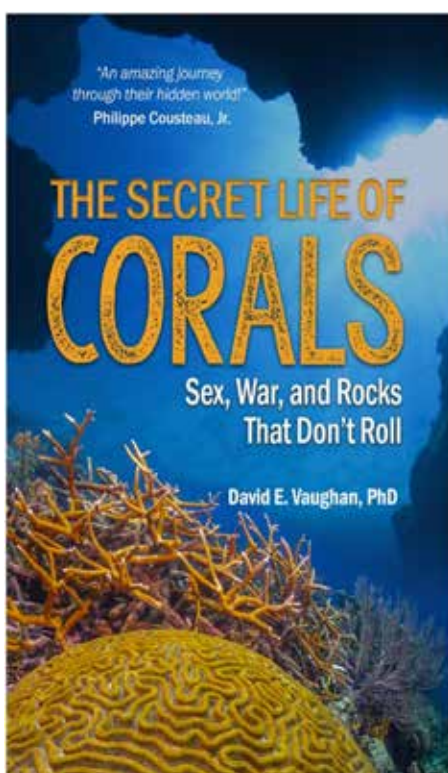
With all the talk of fishing everyone's mouth was watering for the freshly cooked barracuda from Julius Clarenda. His easy recipe for fish is add a little salt and cook in oil. But his favorite recipe is to add tomatoes, peppers and onion for Creole style.

The next edition of Nos Zjilea at Mangazina di Rei in Rincon will be October 26. Visit their Facebook page to learn more.

Story / photo Julie Morgan



Buckley's Books by George Buckley



The Secret Life of Corals - Sex, War, and Rocks that Don't Roll

- David E. Vaughan, PhD

"An amazing journey through their hidden world" is what Philippe Cousteau Jr. calls David Vaughn's *The Secret Life of Corals*. Published last year, it provides an extensive look into the ecology of a coral reef and the anatomy and functions of the coral polyps that build them. It reviews the many impacts that coastal development, pollution and global climate change have had on reef ecosystems and the recent great advances in coral reef restoration science and practice largely through the aquaculture of coral fragments. Astronaut Nicole Stott said "David Vaughn has opened up a whole new perspective on the awe and wonder of the corals that reside in 'inner space' under the sea here on 'Spaceship Earth'".

The Secret Life of Corals also tells the story of David Vaughn as a young boy energized and inspired by Jacques Cousteau's underwater explorations and the freedom that SCUBA gear gave him to venture into the sea. The rest as they say is history, as we are given first row seats in the development of a marine biologist's career. And what a career it has been! His field and laboratory research have built a wide and strong foundation for the next steps and discoveries and innovative projects of which there have been many and most of them are recounted in this easy to read and well illustrated

book which is chock full of infectious optimism and bursting with innovative projects.

Vaughn answers the question "what is a coral?," discussing their animal, plant, microbial and mineral components. He describes the mysteries of coral sex, their habitats from shallow water to the deepest oceans, their fossil history and ecological services in acting as critical marine habitat that enhances biodiversity and fisheries and vital wave reduction capacity that protects shorelines. He notes corals' potential biomedical resources by means of biologically active compounds, many in the early stages of investigation and unknown numbers that are yet to be discovered. He also investigates corals' complex communication strategies as well as "coral wars" as they defend their territory from nearby coral species in what some have called "slow motion warfare with specialized weapons." Most importantly, Vaughn provides a comprehensive overview of new hope for corals and what the future holds.

I first met and worked with David when we were founding members of the Board of Directors of EARTHECHO with Alexandra, Jan and Philippe Cousteau and Jack Chalk. They came to Bonaire to work on coral reef ecology and sewage

issues back in the 1990's when Jack was leading Captain Don's Habitat Dive Operations and served as Board Chair of STINAPA.

In an effort to expand his coral restoration endeavors and engage more people in his efforts, Vaughn created the "Plant a Million Corals Foundation." Located on four bayside acres on Summerland Key in Florida, the foundation is creating the future of coral reef restoration. You can go online and see their work and if you choose to help out with their endeavors, donations are very much appreciated.



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

A Garden? Just Do It!

Raspberries

by Angliet, Nature Lover

We often see raspberries in small containers at Van den Tweel and Warehouse Bonaire. These red colored berries with a nice shape look so attractive and they are healthy too and have a nice taste. I love them but they are very expensive. So I've been wondering if the plant would grow on Bonaire. I got very excited to learn that yes they can. Raspberries love the sun and it is not difficult to adjust the soil for growing. I thought I'd give it a try so I won't need to pay the extremely high price for just a few berries.

There are many types of raspberries but for this article I will mostly talk about the Tibetan raspberry of the Rubus family, because it can easily grow in this area.

There are different stories as to where the raspberry originates. Some say its homeland is Japan where it grows on the mountain slopes in light forests. Another version says that the origins of the rose leafed strawberry-raspberries or Tibetan raspberry are found in China and, of course, Tibet.

It is now spread widely throughout North and South America, so it is in our neighborhood and we should try to grow it here as well.

The plant is a very attractive shrub with a height of more than 60-70 cm (2 ft).



Tibetan raspberry Photo Elisey Kostsov.

The stems and leaves are covered with curved thorns that cling to everything. The plant makes a perfect hedge with its beautiful flowers and healthy berries. At times there are both flowers and the red colored berries making it an even more attractive plant.

The berries have a light aroma and a sweet - sour after taste when they are fully ripe. When treated with heat they taste like a strawberry. That is why the Tibetan raspberry is also called raspberry-strawberry plant.

At Christmas I love to add the berries to vegetable salads and decorate certain dishes and yogurt. Raspberries in rum is great but when consuming fresh, the taste is much richer. Freezing the berries makes no sense as when they are defrosted they lose their shape.

The fruit has great health benefits: • efficient circulatory system • hemoglobin in the blood rises • prevents of flu and

colds • supports digestion • metabolism improves • antidepressant • high in Vitamin C and E, iron copper, and folic acid.

If you are interested in growing the plant, the seedlings can be ordered but they are expensive so perhaps you can share with others to bring the costs down. The plant can be grown by shoots, cuttings, layering and even pieces of rhizomes. I'm guessing no one has the plant on Bonaire so only seedlings will work for now.

After a month of growing the seedlings in a small container, one can transplant them into the garden. The plant prefers loose, neutral dirt with some manure, compost and dead leaves to provide the plant the moisture and nutrition. Raspberries like full sun with partial shade.

The root system is rather aggressive, so if you don't have a lot of space, plant raspberry rhizomes in containers. When planting in rows, for example for a hedge, the distance between the plants

has to be .08-1.2 meter. (2.62 - 3.93 ft) In the first year the plant produces only a few berries because the plant is still taking root. In future years it will give you full production.

It's important to prune the shoots to the ground when growing. Protect yourself with gloves and long sleeves when pruning, because of the thorns. All plants require regular irrigation especially during the dry months. The Tibetan raspberry is not that attractive to pests and bugs, so no white fly or possibly iguanas and lizards. But bees, humble bees and butterflies love this plant and the plant is an excellent honey plant.

If you want to enjoy delicious raspberries in a cheaper way on Bonaire try growing your own. Give it a sustainable try.



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.



Mac and goat cheese

by Chef Corjan Hoogerheide, Lekker Thuis Restaurant

Ragout:

50 g (1/4 C) butter • 60 g (1/2 C) flour • 15 g (1/8 C) onion, chopped • 2 dl (6.7 oz) vegetable stock • 2 dl (6.7 oz) milk • 100 g (2/3 C) macaroni, boil in salted water • 100 g (3.5 oz) soft goat cheese • 50 g (1.7 oz) grated mature cheese • Pinch of cayenne pepper

Put the butter in a saucepan and heat the chopped onion until translucent. Add the flour and stir until a ball forms, a roux, and cook through slightly. Now add the cold milk and stock and let the

roux dissolve in it and then heat further until a firm ragout is formed. Stir in the goat and grated cheese and let it simmer gently. Now stir in the cooked macaroni and pour this into a mold from which a 2 cm thick "burger" can be cut out.

Allow the ragout to stiffen in the refrigerator. Now cut or cut out the desired shape and bread it by first rolling it in flour, beaten egg and then all around in breadcrumbs.

Deep fry at 175 degrees Celsius (347° F) until golden brown and garnish with vegetables and a goat cheese "truffle"

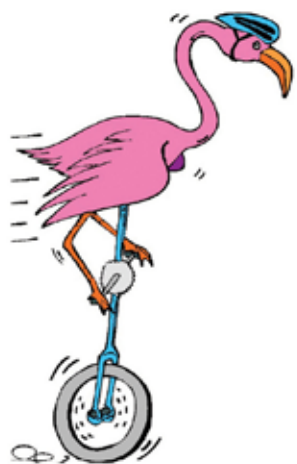
(season the soft goat cheese with salt, pepper and some honey and bread it in finely chopped radish and parsley).

Or just enjoy it with a (spicy) red pepper sauce.



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

DE FREEWIELER



Sales & Repair:
Road, Mountain & Dutch Bikes.
Giant, Specialized, Bikkell
& Golden Lion Bikes
Parts and accessories for all brands of bikes
Beautiful bike clothes, shoes, helmets
House and car keys duplicated
Kaya Grandi #61 "The blue building"
Open 8:30-12:30, 14:00-17:00
Owner Operated Call 717-8545

Website: www.freewielerbonaire.com
Email: freewieler@bonairefreewieler.com

QUARTERLY CLEAN UP DIVE

Saturday 19 October



DIVE FRIENDS
BONAIRE

INFO@DIVEFRIENDSBONAIRE.COM
WWW.DIVEFRIENDSBONAIRE.COM

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 Wed. 7:30 - 10:30 p.m. All levels are welcome. Info: 795-0128 (whatsapp text), 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. Oct 30


Diver Safety. 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 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.; Sand Dollar at Eddy's almost daily 8 a.m. Come join the fun. A sport for all ages.

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.** Oct. 7. Toucan Diving; Oct. 14 Divi resort; Oct. 21 Divi Resort; Oct. 28 - TBD
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@reefrenwalbonaire.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

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

2024 Cruise Ship Schedule

DATE:	CRUISE SHIP	TIME	PIER	CAPACITY
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

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/terramarmuseumbonaire/>

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.
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
Tuesday, Oct. 15	FREE Fish ID Class at TWR Bonaire Headquarters on starting at 7 p.m. See page 15.



FREE Fish ID Class

Tuesday, October 15, 7:00 pm
TWR Bonaire Headquarters



Ready to dive deeper into the world of marine life?

Join us for a FREE Fish ID Class at TWR Bonaire Headquarters on Tuesday, October 15, starting at 7:00 p.m. Expert REEF surveyors, Carmen Toanchina and Ed Benjamin will be teaching the 25 Most Common Fish Species of Bonaire. Join in on the fun and learn how YOU can be a citizen scientist by participating in the REEF Volunteer Fish Survey Project.

What to Expect:

- Learn to identify local fish species
- Explore what it means to be a citizen scientist
- Gather with fellow ocean lovers! All are welcome!

Don't miss out on this fun and educational experience!



Reef Glimpses - Urchins, Gentle? by Dee Scarr

When I asked my friend Helma if there was an animal, she'd like me to write about, she suggested sea urchins. "You showed us that urchins were gentle," she explained.

Gentle was not a word I expected to hear in relation to urchins.

Then I remembered how many long-spined urchins were here in the early 1980's; it made sense for them to be perceived as nasty. Divers with poor buoyancy control, especially at night, were likely to acquire urchin spines in whatever parts of their bodies would otherwise have made contact with the reef. All our rocky shorelines, and even piers that were built on big rocks, hosted hundreds of sea urchins, who filled every crack and crevice. The abundance of urchins made shore diving especially challenging: long-spined urchins were actually raked out of a path at Karpata to maintain a safe entry for divers, snorkelers, and swimmers.

Since urchin spines can penetrate wet-suits and even shoes, just about everyone who enjoyed Bonaire's ocean had some experience with urchin spines, and those experiences were not pleasant. That would explain why urchins were definitely not perceived as gentle!

Our long-spined urchin's scientific name is *Diadema antillarum*, "Crown of the Antilles [Caribbean islands]." Like other "round" urchins, its mouth is on its underside so it can graze on algae. Its anus is on top, along with another neat organ that looks like a small balloon, and which tells the urchin which direction is up; an urchin placed on the sand, upside down, will easily right itself by digging its spines in the sand.

The spines of sea urchins are, obviously, a passive defense, functioning only against something making contact with



them. Dive guides loved them because they were a perfect natural deterrent to divers who got too close to the reef.

They still would be, if there were more of them.

The first sea urchin population drop occurred in 1983. An urchin disease hit the entire Caribbean, killing more than 90% of long-spined urchins, sweeping through Bonaire's reefs in a matter of days. The first sign was silt hanging from an urchin's spines like spider webs. Later, affected urchins would be out in the open, even in the daytime, stumbling around like zombie urchins. And then they died, and the bottom became so cluttered with their spines that running your fingers through the sand was likely

to result in being pierced by one or more spines.

These days it's not so easy to find an urchin spine, because it's not so easy to find an urchin. And if it's tough for us to find an urchin, it's even tougher for another urchin to find an urchin. This is a problem because urchins reproduce by releasing sperm and eggs into the water at synchronized times. Back in the good ol' days, one would see long-spined urchins leaving their crevices earlier than usual at spawning times; by sunset on those days urchins seemed to be everywhere. Eventually smoky fluids containing either sperm or eggs would squirt every so often from each urchin's "top" surface, and thousands of fertilized eggs would drift, hatch to larva, and finally

settle to the bottom to become adult sea urchins.

Nowadays the scarcity of urchins makes such mass spawnings unlikely -- if not impossible -- which is why a low urchin population grows very slowly.

Okay, but what's so bad about a low urchin population? Fewer visitors to the Emergency Room? The Karpata urchin-rakers losing their job?

The most significant effect of fewer urchins is that, since urchins eat algae, with fewer urchins there's much more algae on our reefs. The Caribbean's big yearly coral spawning will take place very soon and the larval corals will be ready to settle as early as the end of October -- but they have to find algae-free spots on which to grow. Every time I see a rocky spot that's been cleaned of algae by a foraging urchin I think, "Yay! The urchins have prepared another spot for larval corals!"

Algae-eating is wonderful, but it's not especially gentle...

The "gentle" term came from the spines, and I'll explain it in the next Reef Glimpse. Until then, if you find an urchin spine, see if you can tell what's gentle about it.



Dee has been guiding divers on Bonaire since 1982. She's written about her undersea experiences in her books, *Touch the Sea*, *The Gentle Sea*, and *Coral's Reef*; 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.

Creating Optimal Health

by Irene da Cunda Costa

Why are jokes so difficult to translate?

Sigmund Freud, the founder of psychoanalysis, explored the nature and function of jokes in his book *Jokes and Their Relation to the Unconscious* (1905). He categorized jokes into two main types:

- **Innocent Jokes** which are mainly playful and involve wordplay, puns, and clever twists of language, mostly meant for amusement without any underlying motives.
- **Tendentious Jokes** that have a deeper, often hidden meaning and are used to express thoughts and desires that are typically suppressed or forbidden, often involving themes like sexuality, aggression, and other socially sensitive topics. In this case Freud believed that jokes allow individuals to express thoughts and desires that are otherwise repressed due to social and moral

constraints. They serve as a socially acceptable outlet for unconscious impulses, providing a way to bypass the censoring mechanisms of the mind.

Jokes can be used to express hostility or aggression in a veiled manner, making it socially acceptable. Many jokes involve sexual innuendo and provide a way to discuss taboo topics indirectly. They can also serve as a form of social criticism, allowing individuals to challenge authority and social norms without direct confrontation.

The linguistic and structural aspects of jokes often involve techniques such as condensation (combining multiple ideas into one), displacement (shifting the focus to a less threatening target) and double entendre (using words with multiple meanings).

Wordplay, puns, and other forms of linguistic humor are heavily dependent on the specific sounds, meanings, and multiple meanings (homophones, homonyms) of words in the original language. The use of a single word that has different meanings explains why translating jokes is particularly challenging, as this inherent characteristic of humor does not carry over easily from one language to another.

Jokes often rely on cultural context, shared knowledge, and specific references that are unique to a particular culture. Idioms and expressions that are humorous in one language may not have direct equivalents in another language. The timing and rhythm of a joke play a crucial role in its effectiveness. What is considered funny in one culture might be seen as offensive or taboo in another. Humor often tests social boundaries, and these boundaries can differ widely between cultures. Jokes can include references to historical events, geographical locations, or well-known personalities

that might be unfamiliar to people from other regions. Without the necessary background knowledge, the humor might be lost entirely.

Translating jokes is a complex task that goes beyond simple linguistic translation. It requires cultural sensitivity, creativity, and a deep understanding of the nuances of both the source and target languages. The difficulty lies in preserving the humor, timing, and impact of the original joke while making it accessible and enjoyable for a new audience.



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.

At Your Service

Online INTERACTIVE Page - just click on the ad

To advertise on this page: ad spaces are \$22 per issue for a minimum of six issues at \$132 + ABB 6% for a total of 139.92.
Contact us at bonairereporter2019@gmail.com or 786-4055 (cell/Whatsapp).

Bruce Bowker's
CARIB INN
OPEN DAILY
8am to 5pm
● Boat Diving
● Full-Service Dive Shop
● Repairs
www.caribinn.com
JA Abraham Blvd 46
717-8819 ● info@CaribInn.com



Yoga Sensibile
Eden Beach Resort
Mon. 8am & 5.30pm; Tue. Wed. Thu. 8am
Fri. & Sat. 8.30am; Private class on request
Elisabetta +599 7807362 beta@web.de
www.elisabettamaccari.com



JEAN SCEARCE Your Real Estate Agent On Bonaire
Kaya Proud 23B
\$ 399,000
2 bed / 2 bath
Walking distance to town and ocean!
00 599 - 717 - 7362 Jean@bonairehomes.com



REMAX
A woman holding a small dog on a beach.

Bonaire Scuba
PRIVATE PADI COURSES
CUSTOM GUIDED DIVES
EQUIPMENT RENTALS
www.bonairecuba.com
+599-777-3483 (777DIVE)



MANGROVE MANIACS
LAC RESTORATION PROJECT



Day Spa
Face & Body
Nubia Obanda
Celebrating 19 years
Sand Dollar
Kaya Gob. N. Debot 79
+599-785-3398
www.bonairedausoabunubia.com



The Reporter
read locally
AND internationally
Reach thousands
Advertise here

Bonaire Coaching by Claudia B.V.
Learn faster, learn smarter
English, French, German and Spanish for Beginners
Private Lessons for all levels with personalized content adapted to your needs and your schedule
bonairecoachingbc@gmail.com - 786-9676



MOLTENWOLF GLASS
JEWELRY · HOUSEWARE · DÉCOR
Open: Mon - Sat
9:30 AM - 5:30 PM
Terramar 8, Kralendijk
+599-7011880
www.moltenwolfglass.com
Locally Made By Artists In Bonaire



MULTISHOP
Local Arts and Crafts - Souvenirs
Handmade One of a Kind Items
locally crafted - paintings, drawings, photography, jewelry, clothing, cards & more
Located at Hato roundabout
Mon-Fri 9am-5pm / Sat 9am-2pm
599-796-1715



Don't drink and drive!
www.bonaire-taxi.com
bonaire-taxi.com



petals BONAIRE
Order online!
Petalsbonaire.com
Kaya Gen. C.M. Plaz #10
+599 777 2055
Weekdays: 9:00-12:00
13:00-17:30
Saturday: 13:00-15:00



NEW IN BONAIRE
AMP MOTORS ELECTRIC VEHICLES
www.amp.cw Kaya Industria 17 unit 6
info@amp.cw +599 717 5055



The Touch KUNUKU SPA
HOT STONE MASSAGE
SEVERAL TYPES OF MASSAGE AVAILABLE
BOOK NOW
Kaya Caribe 57B +599 - 717 5303 / 785 6378



OUTDOOR BONAIRE
DO SOMETHING DIFFERENT!
KAYAKING · CAVING · CLIMBING · RAPPELLING
ABSEILLEN · ISLAND TOURS · BIRDWATCHING
+(599) 785-6272
hansoutdoor@hotmail.com
www.outdoorbonaire.com



THE STOREHOUSE MANGASINA
Call 700-1753
www.bonaireselfstorage.com
info@bonaireselfstorage.com



ezone
Easy, Affordable, Fast
Shop on-line & we will ship to you
<https://www.getezone.com>



The brands you want
Xprodiver Bonaire
The service you need
Atomic Zeagle
Hollis Oceanic
BOINAIRE@XPRODIVER.COM
777-7333 (REEF)



Elements
Hand made dichroic glass jewelry
since 2010
info@elementsbonaire.com
www.elementsbonaire.com
visit our stand at Cruises Market
Follow us on Facebook and Instagram



Coming soon

Bonaire Landsailing Adventures
Open daily for bookings
Reserve online
www.landsailingadventures.com



Denture Prosthetist
Full or Partial Dentures
New and Repairs
Call for an Appointment - 717-2248
Thijs van Zijl - Denturist
Kaya Dr. J.G.Hernandez (near Botica Korona)
tandprothetische praktijk
BONAIRE



LOOKING FOR A JOB WITH MEANING? JOIN OUR TEAM!

Animal Shelter Bonaire has an opening for a

DOG CARE GIVER

25 hours per week/4 days per week

Two week days 8 a.m.- 3:30 p.m. Two week days 8 a.m.- 1 p.m.

- Able to read basic English
- Willing to learn about animal care

Responsibilities include:

- Cleaning kennels and cages, watering and feeding the animals
- Checking and reporting health and condition of the animals
- Walking, bathing, and grooming when needed
- Help keep property and kennels neat and clean

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.

Join our team!

WE'RE HIRING



Requirements:

- Minimum 21 years old
- Love of animals
- Must be in good physical condition and able to work outdoors
- Good people skills
- Resident of Bonaire with valid Bonaire sedula

Tourism, continued from page 8

Island National Park in Thailand. Only 4.73 sq mi in size, it was visited by up to 8,000 tourists per day. The islands' coral reefs, marine life, white pristine beaches and beautiful blue water disappeared due to misuse. The government acted and closed the island to visitors other than researchers in 2022. Today the island is coming back to life.

"We need to look at which direction we want to go. This is why we need to manage our assets," said Francisca. "We need to have a paradigm shift to nature inclusive tourism. We need to recognize with our use we are shooting ourselves in the foot."

Nature inclusive tourism is possible with conservation, enhancement, involvement of the local community, legislation and policy. We need to respect the reef and biodiversity, and this will protect us as well. We need to strive and persist, so we are helping the reef.

Francisca said, "I want you to think about what nature inclusive tourism is to you."

Julie Morgan

Pet of the Week



Kuddles

Kitten of the week! Please meet our kitten of the week, Kuddles. She is a sweet white and tabby colored female about 18 weeks old. And guess what? Kuddles loves to cuddle.

Kuddles came in only days old with her mom and three siblings. She was nursed by her mother for several weeks and is very healthy. Kuddles enjoys being with other kitties or just relaxing on your lap. She loves cat snacks and likes to play with your shoelaces.

Kuddles would be fine with other cats in the house. She is very active but also knows when it's time to chill out and sleep. She has not been around dogs but a patient owner and patient introduction, she may be fine.

Please consider coming to meet Kuddles. She will make a nice addition to your home. Kuddles is sterilized, vaccinated and has tested negative for feline leukemia and FIV. Photo/story: Amy Bowen

If you would like to meet our cats and dogs, please come to Animal Shelter Bonaire, Kaminda Lagun 26A. Open Monday - Friday 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

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

Make Bonaire Accessible

by Ria Evers-Dokter

The International Day of the Elderly

Since I had nothing to do because I am recovering from a nasty virus, I scrolled more than ever on my phone and found out that October 1st is the International day of the Elderly.

I remember that a few years ago all elderly were invited to a huge restaurant/party place at Onima. We had a wonderful morning with music from "our time," meeting up with many old friends and enjoying great food and drinks. I remember that I was really impressed because they had special port-a-pottys for persons with a disability.

Just this week the public library organized activities for the elderly with the theme "a treasure-box for wonderful memories." I was very sorry that I could not participate. Everybody was supposed to bring an old item that they had many fond memories of and do some kind of "show and tell."

But yesterday I was scrolling again and found a post that said, "October 1st is the International Day of the Elderly. On this day wishes of the elderly that they cannot make true, can maybe fulfilled!"

Of course my mind started spinning because that is a great thing! There are so many personal wishes, but also wishes for MiVaBo, for friends and my very few family members that are left.

I would like to see all my friends and family members live long and happy lives. I wish those sick and ailing better health.

I wish for all Bonairian elderly that the W.M.O. will finally come through and Bonaire/Holland will sign and we will all get the same rights as the disabled in Holland.

I wish that a cure for arthritis and arthrosis will be discovered, so we all have less pain and need fewer operations.

I wish that they would no longer call us the "Baby-boomers" and act as if we are here all of a sudden. We have always been here and everybody should have been better prepared.

I wish there was proper education in schools and in nursing schools one could get proper special schooling (like in the olden days). This would allow the elderly to be guided by a well-schooled staff in elder care and not by a staff that have been trained to work with children.

I wish that every educational institution offered possibilities for the elderly to teach. After all, that is what we have been doing all our years in the work force.

And last I wish that insurance companies grant us the necessities we had before, but were taken away because they were thought to be too expensive. We deserve more and we deserve better: social transportation, scooter-mobiles and proper public transportation.

And we also deserve to be taken seriously. After all, we are the generation who brought the younger ones into the world. We educated and taught them.

We are not adult toddlers!

Oh, and I wish all these nice things that might be excellent wishes, may come true.

Ria Dokter is living happily on Bonaire, where she also used to work as a director at FKPD and started Special Olympics Bonaire.



She took care of her husband (R.I.P) for many years and feels that accessibility is the most important issue on our island.

The Goat with the Golden Tooth

As always Delno had the crowd laughing with his remarks. They applauded when he said, "Every time I write something a speech or poem, the first person I read it to is my mother; then based on her reaction I know if I need to keep going."

On leaving the book launch guests received a signature "goat" imprinted tote bag holding the book and other goodies.

The children's book tells the sweet story of a young goat named Pitu living on a kunuku. When Pitu loses her baby teeth, she has a strange glistening in her mouth, a gold tooth.

The Goat with the Golden Tooth cover page is pure Denchi art and the story is beautifully illustrated by Gairo Tromp of Aruba (no relation to Delno). Text is in Papiamentu, Dutch and English. The book will be distributed free to Bonaire elementary school children age 6-12.

Delno presented the first copies of the book to a few special people: event kunuku owner Uchi Frans, Djea Dammers who gave him his first Papiamentu lessons and Tante Lind Coffie who sparked his creativity with art and craft classes.

The Goat with the Golden Tooth was published by Request Publishing and made possible by the financial support of the Public Entity Bonaire, Education and Welfare.

Story / Photos Julie Morgan



Delno L.A. Tromp's (Denchi) latest book *The Goat with the Golden Tooth* was presented to the public on September 29 with a book launch unlike any other on Bonaire.

In true Delno "Denchi" style the author choreographed the event to ensure everyone had a good time. Dressed in a shirt patterned with his goat, Delno welcomed his guests to Uchi Frans' kunuku. The guests, numbering well over 130, were first treated to an African printed bandana that they could scent with one of eight nostalgic fragrances including Limaco, Jean Nate, Glacial and Bay Rum.

Delno said, "Old smells bring sweet memories, leave a mark on our being and bring a memory to make us happy."

Just as everyone was comfortable under the tent with drinks and snacks, the musical groups *Tutti Frutti* and *Canta Orkidikia* came playing and singing down the road. Recitations of several of Delno's "Denchi's" poems were given before the artist and author addressed the crowd.



Denchi dancing with the band of Tutti Frutti and Canta Orkidikia



ROCARGO

LOGISTICS SERVICES B.V.



IFC | Experts in Expediting

For all your shipping needs to or from Bonaire



**WEEKLY CONSOLIDATED CONTAINER SHIPMENT FROM U.S. AND EUROPE
CUSTOMS SPECIALIST - LOGISTICS PAPERWORK INBOUND AND OUTBOUND
MOVING AND RELOCATION
WAREHOUSING STORAGE - AIRFREIGHT**

WWW.ROCARGO.COM - INFO@ROCARGO.COM

2024

Coral Spawning Predictions for the Southern Caribbean

Key to Abbreviations and Colors on Page 3

Spring Corals

Table with columns for Scientific name, Common Name, and dates (3-May to 4-Jul) with spawning windows.

*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

Table with columns for Scientific name, Common Name, and dates (21-Jul to 3-Aug) with spawning windows.

August Corals

Table with columns for Scientific name, Common Name, and dates (19-Aug to 1-Sep) with spawning windows.

Page 1 of 3

2024

Coral Spawning Predictions for the Southern Caribbean, continued

Key to Abbreviations and Colors on Page 3

September Corals

Table with columns for Scientific name, Common Name, and dates (17-Sep to 30-Sep) with spawning windows.

October Corals

Table with columns for Scientific name, Common Name, and dates (17-Oct to 30-Oct) with spawning windows.

Page 2 of 3

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	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu
<i>Meandrina meandrites</i> (10-70 MAS)	Maze Coral	15-Nov	16-Nov	17-Nov	18-Nov	19-Nov	20-Nov	21-Nov	22-Nov	23-Nov	24-Nov	25-Nov	26-Nov	27-Nov	28-Nov	
<i>Eusmilia fastigiata</i> (75-270 MAS)	Smooth Flower Coral															
<i>Dichocoenia stokesii</i> (85-160 MAS)	Pineapple Coral															

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	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>Holothuria mexicana</i>	Donkeydung Sea Cucumber	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>Hemodice carunculata</i>	Fire Worm															
<i>Diadema antillarum</i>	Long-Spined Sea Urchin															
<i>Neofibularia noltangere</i>	Touch-Me-Not Sponge															
<i>Plexaura, Pseudoplexaura, Eunicia</i>	Sea Rods															
<i>Plexaura homomalla</i>	Black Sea Rod															
Cphiuroidea	Brittle Sea Star/Serpent Star															
<i>Pseudopterogorgia</i> spp.	Sea Plume															
<i>Spirobranchus giganteus</i>	Christmas Tree Worm															

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