

FREE

BONAIRE The REPORTER

October 16 - 30, 2024. Year 31, Issue 20



Box 603, Bonaire, Caribbean Netherlands, Phone/WhatsApp (+599) 786-4055,
www.bonaireporter.com email:bonaireporter2019@gmail.com



Photo Julie Morgan

Regatta Bonaire 2024 had more of everything

Bonaire has held an annual regatta since 1967 and every year the event seems to grow in magnitude. What began as a friendly bet for a race around Klein Bonaire 57 years ago, between two sailors, Captain Don Stewart and Ebo Domacasse, has evolved into an event encompassing almost every aspect of entertainment and sport. We wonder if Stewart and Domacasse would approve.

Expertly organized by Tourism Corporation Bonaire's (TCB) CEO Miles Mercera, Regatta Bonaire 2024 (Oct 6 -13) was more of a production than previous versions.

The mainstay and heart of the Regatta are the sailing competitions and due to early planning on the part of TCB with the first announcement in July, the number of competitors from Bonaire and other islands was at an all-time high.

Sailing coordinator Ruben Petrisie working with Hennyson Thielman of Hype Events said, "The return of such significant participation numbers was a clear indication of the Regatta's enduring popularity and importance in the region."

There seemed to be more of everything this year. More sports competitions, more land-based sports events and something new called Regatta Village with two entertainment stages and 25 food booths. Some 15+ musical groups and DJ's entertained the crowd nightly from October 9 - 12.

First up on the Regatta calendar, October 6, was the ever-popular Swim to Klein benefitting Jong Bonaire's youth development program. An amazing 700+ swimmers entered the



Bonaire favorite Luis Moka performs on the final night of Regatta Photo Julie Morgan

water at Eden Beach to experience this once a year opportunity to swim to little Bonaire. Two swims, a competition and then group swim were held. Koen Verhoeven (age 15) came in first in both. First woman to complete the group swim was Marieke van Bommel in the 18 - 39 group.

Overall winners were: Men: 1. Koen Verhoeven-21:12.36; 2. Danny van Haalen- 22:57.30; 3. Arjen Dalm Divine-24:05.94; Women: 1.Marieke van Bommel- 29:12.36, 2.Ylsa Dykstra-22:57.30, 3. Sinne Brakke- 4:05.04.

Keinta Kaya, (street warmup) October 6 - 8, was the first event in the Regatta Village with musical entertainment and a food and craft market.

An International Softball Tournament, October 7 - 13 featured eight men's teams, six local, one Netherlands and one Aruba. Red Sox Bonaire came out on top, 7-2, in the tourney's final game against the Netherland's One Reckless.

Regatta officially began October 9 with the Regatta Loop, a 5k run for adults and 2k for kids. And yes, the run attracted more runners than in previous years.

For the second year in a row, Parade of Nations was held with representatives from all the countries who reside on and love Bonaire. Participants carried their original home country flag and many wore traditional dress. They walked from the stadium to the main stage in Regatta Village for the opening ceremony.

Regatta 2024 to page 16
Regatta race results on page 3

Szabó and Cft approve 2024 budget mostly

State Secretary Zsolt Szabó has informed the Island Council by letter that, upon the recommendation of the Financial Supervision Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba (Cft BES), he has approved the second budget amendment for 2024, which the Council adopted on September 3.

“The second budget amendment is balanced,” Szabó said. “This multi-year forecast shows surpluses for the years 2025 to 2027. Furthermore, Bonaire has provided insight into the effects of proposed policy changes per year. As a result, the budget gives a much better picture of Bonaire’s (multi-year) finances and which resources are involved in which policy. The inclu-

sion of an overview of income and expenses based on economic categories in Bonaire’s implementation reports and annual accounts will further contribute to this.”

Szabó did have concerns, though. “The second budget amendment states that a number of special benefits will in all likelihood no longer be spent in 2024 and will therefore be postponed to 2025. However, the explanation (substantiation) is limited. This also applies to withdrawals from special-purpose reserves in 2024. I would ask [the Island Council] to pay more attention to this in future budget amendments.” *DMR*

CBP fines the OLB for violating privacy legislation

The BES Personal Data Protection Supervision Committee (CBP BES) has imposed its threatened penalty payment order on the Public Body Bonaire (OLB) for failure to adequately protect the personal data of citizens. CBP charges that, despite repeated warnings, personal data of residents are still vulnerable to misuse. CBP says the fine has immediate effect, but it will give the OLB a four weeks grace period to comply.

The OLB acknowledges that the protection of personal data is not ‘optimal’ and that much still needs to be done. Some improvements have been achieved it says, citing the introduction of access cards and the replacement of non-lockable cabinets. It also complained of organizational obstacles, such as the dis-

tribution of civil servants across multiple buildings and limited work space, as reasons its compliance has been delayed.

In four-weeks CBP BES will conduct unannounced audits to monitor the OLB’s progress in taking the necessary measures to protect the privacy of citizens. If these audits reveal inadequate implementation of the measures, the penalty payment imposed will be collected, which could rise to \$90,000.

CBP BES insists that the protection of personal data is a priority for all government organizations. Citizens are entitled to secure processing of their data, and the OLB bears great responsibility in this regard. *DMR*

Updating the StarLink story

In July *The Bonaire Reporter* reported that the National Digital Infrastructure Inspectorate (RDI) had ordered SpaceX (StarLink) to discontinue service Bonaire because they did not have a license. The public reaction was mostly negative.

Subsequently RDI announced that it had invited StarLink to send a letter requesting a license and said the license would be issued. However, recently StarLink removed Bonaire from its coverage map and told its customers to look elsewhere for service.

The Reporter queried RDI about the matter. RDI responded that SpaceX had submitted an incomplete application. RDI invited them to reapply, but as yet they had not. *DMR*

Da Vinci satellite will talk with kids

The Da Vinci satellite will be launched next year. Its Caribbean ground station is under construction on Bonaire. Delft University is putting together teaching packages that will allow primary and secondary school students in the Caribbean Netherlands to communicate with the satellite from their classrooms via the ground station.

A team from the Da Vinci satellite project of the aerospace faculty of the Delft University of Technology will soon be visiting schools at the invitation of BES Envoy Edison Rijna to introduce teaching packages specially developed for the project. After the Da Vinci satellite is launched next year, pupils will be able to communicate with it via the Galileo ground station.

From the classroom, commands can be given, photos and videos can be uploaded and games can be played. “People are hardly aware of the impact that space travel has on their daily lives. That is why we have made it our mission to get young people excited about space travel and technology,” says Floor Baghus of the student management team of the Da Vinci satellite project. *(News release)*

What we know about the crocodile



STINAPA says the reptile is probably a sharp-snouted crocodile (*Crocodylus acutus*), a shy and reclusive species that lives in brackish or salt-water areas, such as ponds, streams and mangroves.

Photo from Jalisco, Mexico

The crocodile was first seen under the dock at Sorobon, then disappeared. It was last seen sunning itself on the beach. That’s what we know about the crocodile.

Best guess is that it got disoriented and swam here from Venezuuela. Presumably it’s still hiding somewhere in the channels through the mangrove roots at Lac. Estimates of its size range from 2 meters to 5 meters—that’s between 6 1/2 feet and 16 1/2 feet. Five meters might be a record for our part of the world.

No one wants to kill the crocodile. They are a protected species. The plan is to catch it, tie it up, and transport it to a specially prepared site. The site is ready. How the first two steps will be carried out still seems uncertain.

STINAPA reports its rangers are working tirelessly, using nets, drones, and visual tracking to safely find and capture the animal. As a precaution STINAPA closed Lac to swimmers, then reopened it when the businesses there complained. STINAPA says there is little danger, but it adds that visitors would enter the water at their own risk.

Reportedly a small crocodile turned up on Bonaire in the 1930s. It was killed and eaten. *DMR*

This Issue's Stories	
Regatta 2024	1
Buena Vista Optics / Buki di Pret	3
Regatta 2024	3
RRFB new leader & bigger team	4
STINAPA on climate change	5
Cleaning up after Regatta party	6
Donations to NGOs	7
Pickleball	8
Winter flights	12
MoltenWolf Glass closes shop	13
Dive Friends 4th quarter cleanup	13
Special Olympics athletes return	13
New Healthcare cards	13
Regatta 2024	16

Our Facebook page brings you news that arrives between issues

Columns	
Who's Who in The Reporter	2
Island News:	
• Budget approved; Privacy fine; Starlink; Crocodile; da Vinci;	2
• Ronald Coffy, Job Center; Fish traps Lac; Rincon heritage preservation; Financial supervision St. Maarten & Curaçao; Akseho hours; Measuring water quality	7
Police Report	4
Ask Bob (Part 3. Buying property)	5
Opinions: Landfill	5
Corjan Recipe (Miso soup with Tuna)	16
Foodies' Dining Guide	9
Garden (Strawberries)	10
Optimal Health (Strokes)	10
Reef Glimpses (Urchins, continued)	11
What's Happening (Events; Cruise ships; Clean ups; Church services)	12
Business Directory	14
Pet of the Week (Cat: Pudge)	15
Shelter News: Volunteers needed for Pakus & cruise market stall	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 30, 2024
 Contributor's Deadline: October 25, 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, Izaïn 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*

Island News
 to page 7

Regatta Results 1, 2, 3

Overall results: Yachts Racing 2 • 1 – J24 Dick Langerveld NB • 2 – J24 Hans van der Gulik Cur • 3 G34 Henry Hernandez Cur

Overall results: Yachts Open • 1 Jeanneau - Winfried Merkies Cur • 2 Knysna - Gerrie Fokke NB • 3 Beneteau - BEL

Overall results: Yachts Racing 1 • 1 Jenk NB • 2 Beneteau NB

Overall results Sunfish • 1 Sipke Stapert NB • 2 Emil Erichsen NB • 3 Kabes Soliano NB

Overall results for racing 1 an 2 class after 7 races • 1 Langerveld NB • 2 Van der Gulik CUR • 3 Jenk NB

Yacht Overall: • 1 Langerveld NB • 2 Van der Gulik CUR • 3 Jenk NB

Optimist B: • 1 - Ariana Riley CUR • 2 -

Gianno Francisca, CUR. • 3 - Kyra Van De Keuken, CUR • 4 - Beau Hilgers BON

Optimist A: • 1 - Giraldo Timmers CUR • 2 - Rohan van Dongen CUR • 3 - Keesha van Dongen CUR

Micro Boats: • 1 - Melissa Domacasse with Sea Bird • 2 - Jebiell Clarenda with Angel • 3 - Genaro Anthony with Roja

Men's Wingfoil: • 1 - Rick van der Leer • 2 - Pieter Zweers • 3 - Martijn Bos

Women's Wingfoil: • 1 - Monique Meijer • 2 - Ineke Knijp

Kitesurf Twintip Men: • 1 - Leon van Bergen • 2 - Jake Kellboom • 3 - Gijs Weijters.

Kitesurf Twintip Women: • 1 - Astrid van Schaik • 2 - Audrey Groenenboom • 3 - Tamar Binkhuysen

Kitefoil: • 1 - Jeroen Roevros • 2 - Silio Montana • 3 - Yuri van Rooij

Windsurf: • 1 - Juvianne Augustien.



Winners all Buena Vista Optics teaches kids about their eyes

Buena Vista Optics took advantage of summer vacation time to inform three groups of kids from Buki di Pret about the workings of the eye. The staff explained how the eye works, how eye exams are done and even how the lenses of glasses are fitted into frames. But Buena Vista didn't stop there, the kids received a goodie bag with treats and an eye related coloring page to be colored and returned to win a gift certificate of \$25.

Five kids returned their coloring page and all five kids won.

Jennifer van Hassel of Buena Vista said,



"Everyone did such a great job, we just couldn't choose who was the best."

The winners were: Pleun and Suze van Hees and Jinthe, Naveyah and Boodhi Schokker.

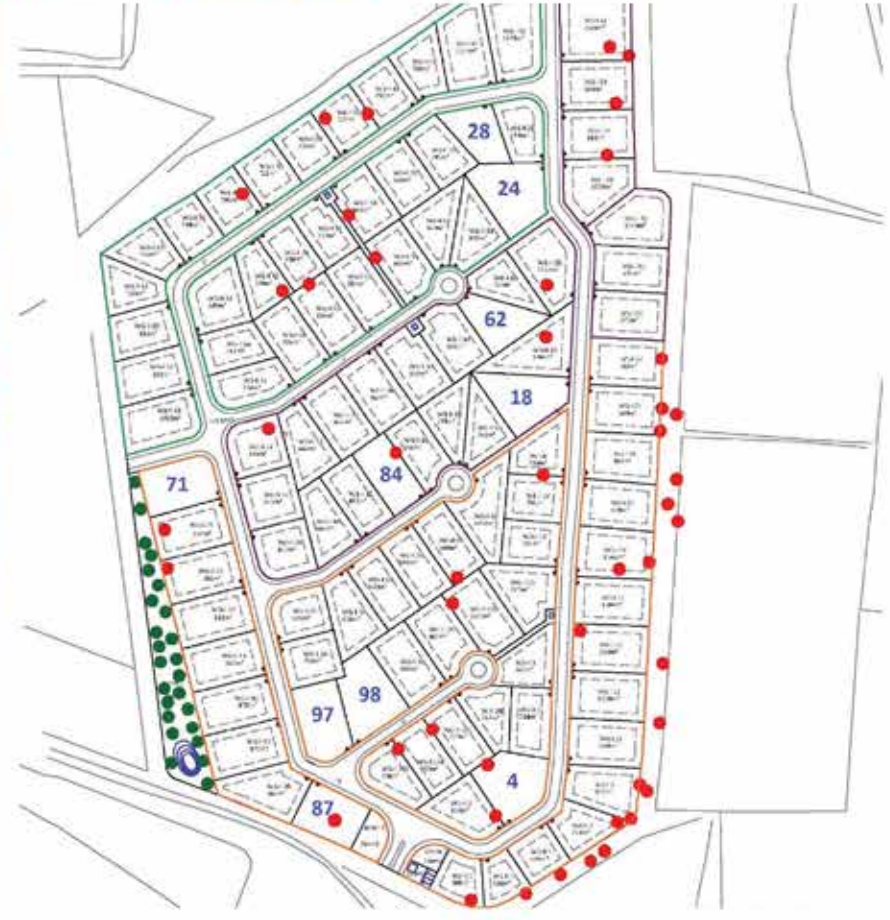
Julie Morgan / Photos Buena Vista Optica



FOR SALE Affordable Buildings Lots Vista Royal Village



- Location: Nikiboko
 - Sizes vary: 729 m2 - 1126 m2
 - Owned land, zoning Woongebied II
- Prices starts at \$ 145,000 US Dollar**



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

POLICE REPORT

Property crime

Oct. 10. A locked car parked near the Red Slave dive site was broken into between 1 and 2 p.m. while the car's owner was diving. Stolen items included a yellow bag with three iPhones and a wallet with contents. The stolen bag with the goods was found on Kaya Calixta a little later.

Oct. 6/7. A black Sym Fiddle scooter license plate MF-2365 was stolen while parked on Kaya Korsou. It was taken between 9:30 p.m. on Sunday and 2 a.m. on Monday.

Oct. 6. Around 10:20 a.m. a man, 22, was arrested on Kaya Linda for handling stolen goods. When police arrived after the suspect hit a car with his scooter, he was unable to show a valid driver's license and insurance. Further investigation revealed that the license plate of the scooter was stolen. The suspect was arrested and taken to the police station. The scooter was taken to the police station by a tow truck.

Oct. 4. A Kymco Agility scooter license plate MF-707 was stolen between 2 - 4 p.m. while parked with a steering lock in front of a house on Kaya Tanki Matrimonio.

Oct. 4. Around 6:10 p.m. the owner of a scooter stolen earlier that day reported that she saw two boys riding it. Two minors aged 15 and 16 were arrested for theft.

Sept. 30. A white Kymco Agility scooter license plate MF-1437 was stolen between 3:45 and 4:15 p.m. while it was parked at a catering establishment at Sorobon Beach.

Sept. 27. A black Sym Orbit 2 scooter license plate MF-3526 was stolen while parked with a steering lock at a house on Kaya Krabe. It was taken between 7 p.m. on Thursday and 8 a.m. on Friday.

Sept. 24/25 & 27/28. Two reports were filed for vandalism and theft from company cars on Kaya Korona. Between Tuesday, 24, around 8:30 p.m. and 8 a.m. on Wednesday, 25, a car battery and a toolbox were stolen from an unlocked pick-up. Between Friday, 27 around 5:45 p.m. and 5:50 p.m. on Saturday, 28 the windshield of a locked vehicle was smashed and a toolbox and car battery were taken.

Arrests

Oct. 12. At 12:30 p.m. the central control room received a report about a woman who hit another woman with a bottle at a catering establishment on Kaya L.D. Gerharts. The victim was taken to the hospital. A woman, 45, was arrested at 12:40 p.m. for assault with a weapon. She had hidden in the kitchen of the catering establishment.

Oct. 11. Around 3:30 p.m. a man, 21, was arrested on Kaya Renata for violating the BES Firearms Act and for threats. In connection with this case, a house search was conducted on Kaya Papa Cornes.

Oct. 10. Around 7:50 p.m. a man, 51, was arrested again upon his release from the Caribbean Netherlands Judicial Institution (JICN). During a check, a cartridge (ammunition) was found on him. He was arrested for violating the BES Firearms Act. The ammunition was confiscated and the case is being investigated.

Traffic accidents /

Driving under the influence

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

Oct. 11. Around 11:20 police were called when a man fell from his bicycle on Kaya P.N. Antonio Neuman and was injured. The victim stated that he did not remember anything. He was treated by the ambulance personnel and was taken to the hospital.

Oct. 11. Around 1:15 a.m. on Kaya Platina a car crashed into a fence around a house. The driver was injured and was taken to hospital by ambulance.

Oct. 10. Around 1:50 a.m. a man, 26, drove his vehicle into a fence. He was arrested at Kaya L.D. Gerharts for driving under the influence of alcohol, violating the Opium Act and assault. The suspect did not have a driver's license. During a search, narcotics were found on him. Also found was a warrant for his detention in connection with an assault committed on September 8.

Oct. 6/7. Around 11:30 p.m. a man, 44, was arrested on Kaya Grandi for driving under the influence of alcohol. The suspect was reversing his vehicle and collided with a parked scooter. He then left the scene of the accident. Two witnesses saw the scooter fall over and get damaged. They followed the vehicle, stopped the driver and alerted the police.

Testing showed that the driver was DUI and his invalid driver's license was confiscated. Around 1:50 a.m. the central control room received a report that the suspect had been seen behind the wheel again after his release. A patrol took the car keys into custody on the spot.

Oct. 4. Around 2:50 a.m. a man, 22, was arrested on Kaya Libertador Simon Bolivar for driving under the influence of alcohol. He had been involved in a two car collision. A breath test was administered to both drivers. The suspect was given a 2-hour driving ban because he had consumed more than the permitted amount of alcohol. He was unable to show proof of insurance and was fined.

Oct. 1. Around 11:15 p.m. a woman, 42, was arrested at Kaminda Sabana Piedra Krus for driving under the influence of alcohol. She had been involved in a two car collision. A breath test was administered to both drivers, which showed that the suspect had consumed more than the permitted amount of alcohol. She was arrested and taken to the police station for a breath analysis. She was unable to show proof of insurance and valid drivers license and was fined.

Traffic control /Speed checks

Oct. 8. On Kaya Korona nine vehicles were stopped and checked. One fine was issued for driving without valid insurance.

Aug. 28 to Sept. 30. Fines were issued for traffic violations during routine traffic checks for driving without: 6x a seat belt; 28x for a valid driver's license; 19x valid insurance; 4x a license plate; 3x a helmet. Fines were also issued for: 5x for parking incorrectly; 1x for driving with a defective light; 2x for allowing a minor to drive without a driver's license; 1x for driving in a prohibited direction; 3x for holding a telephone while driving.

Fire

Oct. 10. Around 1:35 a.m. the fire brigade extinguished a fire in a pick-up on Kaya Jaspe. No one was injured. The cause of the fire is unknown.

Public order

Oct. 3. At around 7 a.m. a man, Euron 'Shiek' Marcera, 49, was reported missing since Oct. 1. Around 11 a.m. the same morning, based on a tip received by the police, he was found in an apartment on Kaya Carlos A. Nicolaas. He was healthy and well and was transferred to an institution. The police would like to thank everyone who contributed in one way or another to the search for the person.

Oct. 2. In the evening a person with a gunshot wound was taken to the hospital. The victim stated that he was walking on Kaya Calixta when a car unknown to him drove up and fired shots at him.

Oct. 1. Around 11:30 a.m. at a diving site by the salt pier, a diver became unwell while entering the sea and fell forward. Resuscitation attempts first by onlookers, then the police and the ambulance personnel were in vain. The coroner determined the death of a 75-year-old man with initials R.M.S. born on October 8, 1948, originally from the United States.

Sept. 30. Around 3:25 p.m. a man called the central control room saying that he was lost and injured on Klein Bonaire. The Multidisciplinary Maritime Hub Bonaire (MMHB: Police, Coast Guard, KMar and Customs) went to Klein Bonaire. The lost person was found approximately 800 metres from the coast on Klein Bonaire. The victim had to be carried to the coast because his feet were full of thorns and spines. He stated that he drifted to the back of Klein Bonaire while snorkeling. He thought he could take a shorter route back via land, but got lost. Fortunately, he had his phone with him and was able to send his location. The victim was taken to the north pier where an ambulance was waiting for him for medical treatment. He did not have to go to the hospital.

RRFB appoints new leader and expands team

Reef Renewal Foundation Bonaire (RRFB) is pleased to announce that Ernst Noyons is now leading the organization as Chief Operating Officer (COO). Support from several international grants and collaborations has allowed RRFB to expand its personnel and operations.

With a specialized team of nine full-time employees and a growing volunteer base, RRFB is fully equipped to carry out crucial, long-term projects amid the mounting challenges facing Bonaire's reefs.

The organization has added new, vulnerable species to their focus, expanded their nursery system around the island, and set plans for an on-land facility that will allow them to greatly scale up their coral breeding program and educational efforts. Beyond their on-island operations, RRFB continues to exchange knowledge with an international network of partners via restoration workshops, conferences, and collaborative projects.

Francesca Virdis, who has led RRFB as Managing Director since its inception in 2012, will be transitioning to a new role as Restoration Strategy & Planning Lead at King Abdullah University of Science and Technology's (KAUST) Coral Restoration Initiative in Saudi Arabia. While Francesca has stepped down from her operational role, she will continue to contribute to RRFB as a member of its Board of Directors.

President of RRFB Board of Directors David Fishman said,

"Together with the entire Board of RRFB, I am thrilled to have Ernst leading our Foundation. Alongside our talent-

ed senior management team, Caitie Reza, who oversees our communications and development initiatives; Sanne Tuijten, who directs our data, monitoring, and science research projects; and Donetta Murphy, who manages our administrative and financial needs, RRFB is exceptionally well positioned to continue achieving its goals to restore and preserve the biodiversity of Bonaire's reefs." *RRFB News Release*



Top row: Jason Mirtsopolous, Netta Murphy, Ernst Noyons, Lola Salvador, Nicolas Franchini
Bottom row: Perri Rappaport, Caitie Reza, Sanne Tuijten, Cheyenna de Wit Photo Max Rouwenhorst

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.

Solving landfill problems

The health of every Bonairean is at risk, even those who do not live close to the landfill!

Pro Lagun, a community initiative committed to pollution and the health of people, animals and nature, is very concerned about the situation at the landfill and calls on everyone to pay attention to the seriousness and dangers of this situation brings with it.

Overload and hazards:

For years, residents of Lagun and surrounding areas have been battling stench and harmful emissions from the landfill and its malfunctioning waste incinerator. A waste incinerator that is not designed to burn medical waste, but is widely used for that purpose. For a long period even without the necessary permits being issued. It is thanks to the commitment of Pro Lagun that this incineration plant has now been stopped, but the problem is far from solved.

On May 10, the whole island was startled by a large raging fire at the landfill, a fire that had been raging underground for some time. Many residents inhaled—if not unknowingly—toxic fumes, and this fire is still raging. The fact that this fire is still raging is unacceptable. Some residents have been experiencing the harmful effects for decades, with serious health problems for the future.

Every resident of Bonaire, even those who do not live directly near the landfill, should be very concerned. The air residents breathe can be harmful to health, even for residents of Nikiboko, Antriol or Amboina. Additionally, the contamination can affect nutrition; vegetables or fruits grown in the vicinity of the landfill may contain hazardous substances. More than enough reason to sound alarm for every resident of Bonaire and in the interest of nature.

Responsibility:

We demand that the responsible authorities no longer ignore their duty. Selibon, the Public Body of Bonaire (OLB), the State Representative and ultimately the Ministries of Infrastructure and Public Health in The Hague have all failed to adequately protect the population and the en-

vironment. They bear the responsibility for the health risks that residents now face and the damage that is being done to our nature.

Pro Lagun calls on these parties to take responsibility and take immediate action. It is time for swift and decisive action to prevent further damage and safeguard the health of Bonaire's inhabitants and nature.

Pro Lagun requires:

Within 30 days:

- Launch a full environmental and health review by the RIVM;
- Establish a plan for extinguishing the underground fires;
- Ensure timely relocation of residents near the landfill;
- Involve Pro Lagun in all discussions to monitor progress.

Within 12 months:

- Implement a sustainable waste management solution;
- Prepare a concrete rehabilitation plan for the landfill;
- Ensuring strict enforcement of environmental legislation;
- Permanent monitoring of the health of residents.

Finally

Pro Lagun will not stand by while the community is exposed to unacceptable health and environmental risks. Pro Lagun has engaged external experts to verify and scientifically substantiate our claims. Pro Lagun is currently working on further steps and will not rest until everyone feels safe in their own living environment and Bonaire can truly call itself a Blue Destination.

Pro Lagun is determined and determined to continue this fight until our goals are achieved. Together we fight for a safer and healthier Bonaire!

To contact or share stories:

- Mail Pro Lagun to: aplbonaire@gmail.com
- Follow Pro Lagun on Facebook

Jan Verbeek, Association Pro Lagun

STINAPA explores the effects of climate change on Bonaire

Global Climate Change was the focus of STINAPA's Marine Park Platform meeting led by Senior Conservation Manager Roxanne Francisca on October 3 at Captain Don's Habitat. Everyone is aware of the threat the effects will have on our planet but locally our ocean, reefs, marine life as well as life itself on Bonaire will be altered.

Francisca reminded us that excess of greenhouse gases with high levels of CO2 stemming from the burning of fossil fuels and other energy sources is heating up the planet. The entire planet is getting warmer resulting in stronger and more frequent storms, ocean acidification, ocean warming, sea level rise, spread of invasive species, habitat degradation, impact to fisheries and loss of biodiversity. Bonaire is expected to see coastal erosion in low lying areas, an impact on marine biodiversity, coral reefs, sea level rise and increases in air temperatures.

The cost of climate change will affect the GDP (gross domestic product), public health risks, infrastructure and tourism.

Dramatic effects to our coral reef ecosystems are already occurring which we have witnessed in more diseases, bleaching becoming more frequent and with greater magnitude and less spawning due to thermal stress.

STINAPA has climate initiatives ongoing with the European Bestlife 2030 Project and Lenfest Bonaire from FSU

(Florida State University). Lenfest and STINAPA are trying to understand the marine environment through adaptive management. By looking for the areas that are already failing they can potentially map climate vulnerabilities.

STINAPA is engaging stakeholders to perform realtime data collection and diver surveys on the status of the reefs around the island. Temperature loggers are installed to measure at the oceans surface, 6m, 12m and 20m. Curaçao has taken measurement with the sensor buoys and to date temperatures are higher on Bonaire than on Curaçao. A lot of thermal stress is being seen on the east coast of the island.

Francisca explained, rising air temperature doesn't necessarily mean the water temperature will rise. Changes are coming and we are trying to plan for them based on the information we do have. We can't do nothing. We do have to do something.

To take diver survey about Bonaire's coral reefs, scan this code. *Julie Morgan*



Ask Bob

Bonaire real estate advice



PART 3:

Hi Bob – I made an offer on a property, and I got accepted! I'm so excited to finally buy a house. What do I have to do now?

Thanks, Joe K.

Hi Joe – This is the exciting part, so here's what you do.

If your offer is accepted then you and the seller will need to sign a purchase agreement that documents your agreement on the purchase price, and other conditions of the sale. This will need to be signed by both you and the seller. If you are working with a real estate broker (makelaar) they will have a standard contract that they normally use for a sale.

If your offer was contingent on being approved for a mortgage you want to get started right away. Your bank will provide you a list of approved appraisers who can perform an appraisal of your property that the bank will accept. Before you hire the appraiser, you should make sure that his/her appraisal will be accepted by the bank. The cost of an appraisal can be different with each appraiser, so make sure you ask for the price ahead of time. The appraiser will make an appointment to come take a look at the house, and then write an appraisal report (taxatie rapport) that you can submit to the bank along with any other paperwork they might need like your salary slip or financial reports of your business. Local banks often take 4 to 6 weeks to fully process a loan application, so it is important to start this process as soon as possible.

At the same time, you will want to arrange for a technical inspection to make sure that the property you are buying is in good condition and that everything is in working order. Your real estate broker can suggest a number of local inspectors who can check your property and make a written report for you. I recommend that you go to the house with the inspector so you can see what he/she writes up in their inspection report.

Once you receive the inspection report you will want to review it carefully and review the inspector's estimates of any costs that you may incur to fix any issues that are found by the inspector. More about the inspection, next time.

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

Cleaning up after the party

The Regatta Boat and Float party on the waterfront of Regatta Village was a lot of fun but like after every party, someone has to clean up the mess. Bonaire Marine Center (BMC) took on the job by organizing an underwater cleanup as part of their Suzuki Clean Ocean project.

BMC collaborated with Dive Friends for the boat, tanks and divers while STI-NAPA provided the safety aspects.

BMC invited boats running Suzuki's new motor with a Micro Plastic Collecting Device to join the cleanup along with local divers and Dive Friends staff. The 28+ divers and snorkelers collected nine bags of trash in just a little over an hour. The refuse from the boat party revelers was far less than anyone expected meaning most all the party goers respected our ocean.

Most everything recovered in the cleanup was plastic and glass. Here are the details: 263 plastic fragments, 215 glass fragments, 12 cloth fragments, 204 metal fragments, 3 rubber fragments, 5 wood fragments, 70 paper/cardboard fragments, 2 mixed materials and a rubber tire.

The Global Clean Ocean Project by Suzuki is dedicated to reducing plastic waste in the water to contribute to a better marine environment. Their Micro Plastic Collecting Device on outboard motors filters microplastics from the water just by running the engine. Suzuki has initiated other projects like this one to clean up the coastline and they are reducing their plastic packaging replacing it with paper products. All of this means less plastic waste contaminating our seas.



Thank you to BMC, Dive Friends, STINAPA and all participants in the cleanup. Story / Photo Julie Morgan



Miso soup with fresh tuna by Chef Corjan Hoogerheide, Lekker Thuis Restaurant

100 g (6 T) brown Miso • 1/2 onion, chopped 4 cloves garlic, finely chopped • 1/2 celeriac, diced • 1 1/2 L (6.34 C) vegetable stock

Garnish:

1 bunch of onion, cut into rings • 100 g (3.5 oz) bean sprouts, blanch if neces-



sary • 1/4 leek, cut into half rings • 100 g (1 C) oyster mushroom or shiitake • 4 boiled eggs • 200 g (7 oz) fresh tuna, gently cooked • Roasted sesame seeds • Wakame seaweed

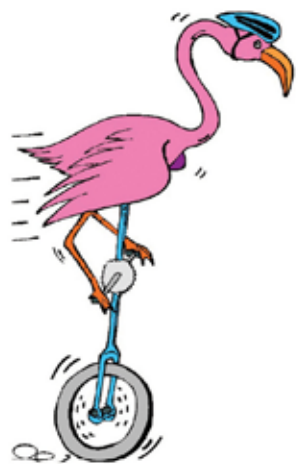
sliced egg, fried oyster mushroom and the rest of the vegetables. Pour the soup over it and serve. The vegetable stock could also be replaced with fish stock



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

Fry the chopped onions and chopped garlic in a saucepan. Add the vegetable stock and bring to the boil. Add the celeriac and cook until done. Add the Miso and blend into a smooth soup. Put all the garnishes in a soup plate, piece of tuna,

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



We love to fly with you

Daily Flights to and from Curacao and Aruba

CHARTERS - CARGO - EXPRESS MAIL

FLYDIVIAIR.COM +599-717-2121

QUARTERLY CLEAN UP DIVE

Saturday 19 October



INFO@DIVEFRIENDSBONAIRE.COM
 WWW.DIVEFRIENDSBONAIRE.COM



Ronald Coffy, new head of Plenchi di Trabou

New head Plenchi di Trabou

In September, Plenchi di Trabou, Bonaire's job center, welcomed a new head: Ronald Coffy. A native of Bonaire, Coffy has previously worked as a policy advisor for the Ministry of Public Health, Welfare, and Sports (VWS) and for the Public Entity of Bonaire, Department of Social Support and Labor (MOA).

Ronald stated, "The Plenchi di Trabou team is dedicated to guiding local job seekers towards employment and assisting employers in finding suitable candidates for their businesses. By utilizing various labor tools, such as free training and wage subsidies for employers offering work placements to BBL students, we support the matching process." (News Release)

Fish traps removed from Lac

STINAPA rangers have removed over 70 kanasters (fish traps), most illegal, from Lac Bay. People need a government "nature permit" as well as STINAPA's approval to place kanasters. A kanaster can trap large quantities of fish as well as protected sea life such as lobster and sea turtles. STINAPA intends to return the legally placed kanasters to the owners. The nature organization protects sustainable fishing practices on Bonaire. DMR

Bonaire to get \$2 million for heritage preservation

The Heritage Deal program has awarded Bonaire \$2.1 million to use in preserving its heritage in a way consistent with climate adaptation, energy transition, sustainable economy, nature and agriculture, housing and mobility spatial challenges. 'Di Boneiru pa Boneiru,' a project that focuses on restoration of "the authentic Rincon," will receive most of the money. Homes with cultural-historical value in Rincon will be restored and made sustainable. The houses will be provided with cooling and means to collect water, while their surroundings will be greened to adapt to climate change. Deputy Anjelica Cicilia initiated the application for the funds. DMR.

Curaçao and Sint Maarten not off the hook yet

The Kingdom Council of Ministers have extended for three years the financial supervision imposed on Curaçao and Sint Maarten since 2010. An evaluation committee determined that both countries still do not meet the standards set out in the Kingdom Act on Financial Supervision.

Therefore the Financial Supervision Board will continue to monitor the budgetary policy of Curaçao and Sint Maarten until at least 2027. Financial supervision will end when the countries demonstrate that their financial management is structurally in order. DMR

Akceso sets fixed consultation times

Residents of Bonaire are asked to contact Sentro Akceso at specific times with their questions about welfare, youth care and neighborhood development. The new opening hours are: Mon. Tues. Thurs. 8 – 11 a.m. Wed. 1- 4 p.m. On Fridays, appointments can be made to measure. Residents can make an appointment by calling +599 717 7300 or via WhatsApp +599 701 5292.



Bonaire water quality to be monitored

Next week the Rijkswaterstaat (RWS) will begin installing three stations to continuously monitor the clarity and salinity of Bonaire's waters. The collected data will help explain the sources and transport of nutrients and sediment from land to sea. The stations will be located in the Kralendijk harbor near the South Pier, at Sand Dollar, and on a buoy at Kaya Tilburg (Hato). DMR

Bonaire's NGOs benefit from donations

Bonaire Wild Bird Rehab has received a donation from the Bonaire Lions Club. The Wild Bird Rehab works to rehabilitate and protect wild birds in Bonaire. With this contribution, Bonaire Lions Club reaffirms its commitment to working 'hand in hand' with local organizations for a more sustainable future, "where our nature and our community can develop and prosper together."(see also page 15 for the Lions Club's donation to the Animal Shelter)

Blue Defenders have received a pledge of \$1,500 from the Cadushy Distillery. The donation will support the Blue Defenders' shark research initiatives, with a special focus on the megafauna of the Yarari Sanctuary. The waters of the Yarari Sanctuary of Saba, Sint Eustatius en Bonaire, are home to more than twenty different species of whales and dolphins, including orcas, humpback whales, and sperm whales. This rich marine biodiversity highlights the importance of protecting these ecosystems to ensure the survival of both sharks and other marine species. The Cadushy Distillery is marking its 15th anniversary by donating to a variety of Bonaire's NGOs.

Mantelzorg (Informal Care) Foundation has been awarded a second donation from the Rotary Club Bonaire. The Stichting Mantelzorg supports people who provide unpaid care for a family member, a loved one



During a recent lunch meeting, Rotary Club Bonaire presented a cheque worth \$6,000 to representatives of the Stichting Mantelzorg Bonaire, Diana Thomas, coordinator, and Nela Martis, chairman of the board. Photo via Rotary

or just an acquaintance. The Mantelzorg foundation works together with FAB (Fundashon Alzheimer Bonaire) and ZW group (Zorg & Welzijn group). There is still no local government funding for this socially important organisation. The foundation depends on donations such as those from the Rotary Club Bonaire. The foundation is looking for volunteers who want to

help informal carers, for example, by keeping the person being cared for company for an hour or running an errand. Those interested can apply to Diana Thomas via whatsapp or call on tel number +599 790 1813 or via e-mail: Mantelzorgbonaire@gmail.com

News Release : otary Club, Lions Cub and Cadushy

Pickleball is now a foundation



When we last wrote about the Sport Pickleball in March, it had gained a place in the competition at Bonaire's Sport Expo and International Sports Week.

Now it has been elevated to the Pickleball Association Bonaire (PAB). The official founding date was August 29.

The interesting thing about Pickleball is most everyone who picks up a paddle and plays a few games is sold. It's a great sport for anyone age 8 – 80. It builds teamwork skills for younger players and it's not as

tough on the joints of older players. Everyone gets a good workout and it's a lot of fun.

The foundation came about due to enthusiasm of Robin Jayesuria and Richard Dove who worked relentlessly to bring players to the sport. A board has been formed with Danny Rojer as chairman, Henk Boekhouder as secretary and Marsha Wielemaker handling the finances.

Rojer said, "Pickleball is more than just a sport. It is a way to bring communities together and encourages

people of all ages to stay active and socially engaged."

Pickleball is currently being played at Chinese Association of Bonaire, Tues. and Thurs., 6–8 p.m. and Sat. 10 a.m. –12 noon, (\$1 per hr), Sport Hall Jorge Nicolaas, Sunday 10 a.m. –12 noon (\$2 per hr) and soon will be played at Jong Bonaire.

For more information or about learning to play, visit Pickleball Bonaire on Facebook or contact Henk Boekhouder +599-780-8540, henkboekhouder@hotmail.com

Story / photo Julie Morgan

Get the **Flu** and/or **COVID Vaccines**

No
appointment
necessary

 **Saturday, October 19 and 26, 2024**


 **9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

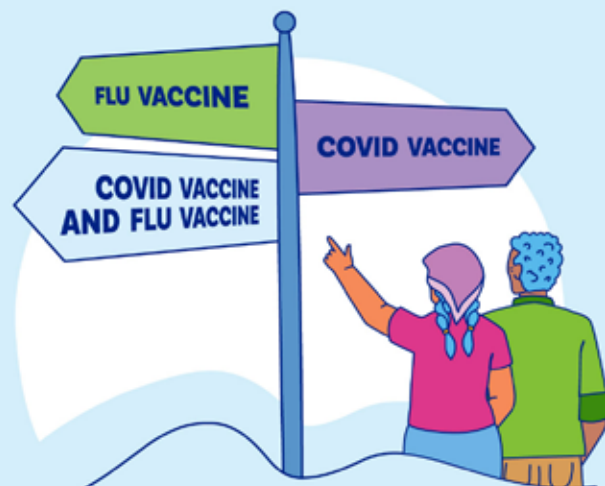
 **Jong Bonaire**

Please bring your ID card or passport

Patients at Rincon Medical Center

 **October 22 through November 18, 2024**

 **8:00 – 11:00 a.m.**



 **0800 0800**

 **www.bonairegov.com/prikken**

*This is a message from the
Public Health Department*

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

Restaurant & Boutique Hotel Sonrisa

RESTAURANT (Breakfast & Dinner)

- Breakfast daily from 7.30 to 9.30.
- Sunday: Cheese Fondue
- Tuesday: Schnitzel Night
- Open from 18.30 – 22.00.



FOOD TRUCK (Lunch & Dinner)

- Monday – Friday, 11.30 – 14.00.
- Monday & Thursday, 17.00 – 19.30

KAYA FINLANDIA 3,  +599 777 78 55

SONRISA-BONAIRE.COM/RESTAURANT



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



LUCIVNO 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.



BOVAIRE 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



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.

A Garden? Just Do It!

Strawberries

by Angliet, Nature Lover

You won't believe it, but this is a true story.

After my last column about the Tibetan raspberry, my friend Sidney showed me pictures of strawberries she had grown on Bonaire - beautiful, attractive and big strawberries.

I said, "What, you grew them here, and they aren't from Van der Tweel?"

She then showed me more photos from her greenhouse and gave me all the details.

Sidney has traveled all over the world, but her story started in Da Lat, Vietnam where she visited a strawberry farm. With the information she acquired she was curious to see if it would be possible to grow strawberries on Bonaire. She bought two young plants at a local market placed them into bigger containers to keep them safe during traveling. This is a very long flight for the plants but Sidney had prepared them well to survive the stress. She left the plants in Holland at a friend's and traveled to Portugal where she bought more strawberry plants as she was so excited to go "strawberries."

Back on Bonaire she followed the instructions she received from the strawberry farm in Vietnam and replanted the plants in bigger containers with rich black soil. Sidney's little strawberry farm had great results. Within just a few weeks they began to produce sweet, juicy, red fruit with good texture. After a month they produced long stems or runners and it was time to make new plants by planting the strawberry crowns in a new container.

I was so impressed by her story. What an experience, passion and daring effort to go around the world with such small plants and care for them. Sidney inspired me to look for more information to inspire you to grow your own strawberries.

Strawberries are easy to grow in a warm climate such as Bonaire. The plants start from seeds or cuttings (spurs) from the mother plant. Cut 1-2 cm spurs and plant each



Strawberry plants Photo Sidney Mouissie

one in a small cup. Tie the stem on a pin so it can develop strong roots in the soil. A new mother plant will grow and the stem can be cut off. Plant the new mother plant in a bigger container. Six plants can grow in a container of a square meter. Plants need between 25-35 cm of space in a container or the garden. It's also possible to grow plants from the seeds on the surface of the berry or from the berry crown like Sidney does. A plant lives two to three years but if you plant every year you will always have fruit.

Important to know that too much fruit on the mother plant gives smaller fruits. Three berries at the time on one stem will give juicier, sweeter and bigger fruit. Cut off the other berries and flowers on the stem so the mother plant has a lot of energy to grow and the berries will have a better quality.

There are two types of plants. One bears fruit for about

three months and produces a lot of big fruit good for jams and culinary kitchens. Well known types are El Santa, Sonata, Darselect and Clery. The other type produces for a longer time but the fruit is smaller. They are: Rapella, Ostara, Sweet Eve, Charlotte, Anaïs and Eve's Delight.

Strawberries need sun and light. So you can skip the expensive strawberries from the grocery and grow your own berries in your garden or green house in Bonaire. They need to be watered often but wait until the soil is semi dry to rewater. Rain water is of course the best for all your plants. Leaves of the strawberry plant hang fast when it's too hot but that is nothing to worry about. Furthermore strawberries like black dirt mixed with rotten leaves and very old manure from goats. Go look in the mondi for it.

Needless to say, strawberries are very healthy with a lot of liquid and fiber, minerals, calcium, phosphorus and potassium. To avoid a difficult visit to the toilet, these berries are great because of the high fiber and liquid. But for those with diarrhea, diabetes and food processing problems this fruit is a challenge.

For the culinary arts, this is a beloved fruit for Ice creams, jellies, jams, yogurt products, fruit salads, liquors and more. Strawberries are also found in skin and body care products for facial cleanings, skin tonics, handmade soaps and body lotion.

And in the end, they're great for sustainable agriculture. Go green. So be wise like Sidney. Grow your own strawberries and enjoy a lifetime of many benefits, and also a benefit for your pocket.



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.

hard time recovering.

There are some of the risk factors that will predispose you to a stroke: a history of previous strokes, genetic factors, certain blood disorders that increase the tendency to create clots and clumps and certain autoimmune diseases like lupus or rheumatoid arthritis that cause general inflammation. You can't do much about them, but you can focus on lifestyle changes that will decrease the likelihood of having a stroke.

Other factors that might increase the likelihood of having a stroke are directly related to lifestyle and most are related to the health of your circulatory system, for example:

- High blood pressure predisposes you by putting additional stress on the blood vessels and it can cause ruptures.
- Smoking and excessive alcohol intake alter the elasticity of the vessels.
- A sedentary lifestyle.
- Medications like birth control and hormone replacement therapy.
- Chronic stress.
- Insulin resistance, type 2 diabetes and all the conditions related to metabolic syndrome (cardiovascular disease, high blood pressure, poor circulation, chronic kidney disease, peripheral artery disease)

There is a third type of vascular incident in the brain called transient ischemic attack (TIA), also called ministroke or warning stroke, that many times goes unnoticed and undiagnosed. It is a very short shortage of blood supply to the brain, less than 5 minutes, so there might

be sudden unconsciousness but not severe or long-term brain damage. In general the signs of TIA appear suddenly (this is very characteristic) and without explanation. Some of them are: severe and sharp headache, loss of consciousness, weakness or paralysis affecting one side of the body or the face, difficulty swallowing, sudden loss of fine motor skills such as writing or buttoning clothing, difficulty speaking, slurred speech, loss of balance and coordination, cognitive changes, mood alterations, sudden memory loss or blurred or double vision.

One study showed that about one-third of the people who have a TIA will go on to have a full stroke within a year. Another study showed that 43% of the people that had a full stroke, had had a TIA within the previous seven days. So, it is important to recognize a TIA as it can be a warning sign to a more serious episode.

In the event of a serious stroke, you can always help by reacting FAST and calling for help if you detect: Face drooping (loss of symmetry), Arms that cannot be raised at the same time, Speech that is altered and using Time effectively activating the emergency system as soon as you identify these signs.



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.

Creating Optimal Health

by Irene da Cunda Costa

What is a stroke and is there a way to prevent it?

A stroke is a sudden disruption in somebody's life, and it can dramatically alter it. Many people fear them, and in fact, anyone can have a stroke. It's important to remember that some things can put you at higher risk and some things can lower your risk.

On the health channel from Dr Sten Ekberg there is a very easy to understand video about this topic. Dr. Sten Ekberg is an Olympic decathlete and a chiropractor.

He explains that a stroke is a lack of oxygen in the brain and can have different degrees of severity. The brain comprises only 2% of our body mass but uses about 20% of our energy. If it is deprived of oxygen for only 10 seconds, we would lose consciousness, and for more than 6 minutes, irreversible damage will occur.

There are two different types of stroke: ischemic stroke and hemorrhagic stroke. The ischemic stroke is the most common, in about 87% cases and is produced by a blockage in the blood supply. The consequences can be severe, but the chances of full recovery are high. It is fatal in only 3% of the cases. The hemorrhagic stroke, which accounts for the other 13%, is the most serious. It is basically the rupture of a cerebral vessel flooding a certain area of the brain with blood. 50% of the victims don't survive and the ones that do have a

Urchins, Gentle? - Depends on Your Perspective

Did you find an urchin spine? I couldn't.

I was barely able to find a long-spined urchin. On one dive I only found three, each of them smaller in diameter than a quarter (\$.25 coin). On other dives I found more, especially beneath the ledge that runs along shore in Playa. Almost all of them were not only small but also black and white, juveniles, not ready to spawn.

Here's what we learned back in the 70's when we touched a long-spined urchin spine: it seemed to be designed to come out (of whatever it penetrated) easily rather than to go in easily. If you held the spine by the wider end, which is the end normally attached to the urchin, and lightly slid a finger along the spine from the wider end to the point, your finger would move easily. If you then tried to slide your finger back to the wider end, it wouldn't work, no matter how lightly you contacted the spine. That's how I learned that each spine is covered with tiny scales, layered like roof tiles from the wide end to the spine's point.

My conclusion, back in the 1970's, was that the function of those backward-layered scales was to prevent the spine from penetrating. That's one way we ended up with urchins being described as gentle, at least in relation to people. Another reason was the way their short, underside spines and the tube feet between them would tickle as the urchin walked along our hands.

Some critters regularly prey on urchins despite their spines. Triggerfish, for example, first find an urchin who is not holding onto a surface with its tube feet. Avoiding the rest of the spines, the triggerfish then bites down on the end of one spine and tries to overturn the urchin.



This close up image of a juvenile longspined urchin shows the mechanism at the base of the spines that enables the spines to point in different directions. Photo Julie Morgan

Once the urchin's short-spined underside is exposed, the triggerfish can bite right through to the delicious contents.

Another predator of long-spined urchins is the helmet snail, who neither avoids nor uses the urchin's spines. The helmet snail simply rears up and engulfs the urchin, spines and all. Helmet snails must really love to eat urchins! (There's a video of this on You Tube.)

Back when we were letting urchins walk on our hands

and discovering all the remarkably adapted little animals who live with urchins, Caribbean fish and creature identification books were few, and limited. There was no Internet and much of the information available on the Internet these days wasn't even known yet. So, we got to discover on our own the little fish and elongated shrimp who live with long-spined urchins. Another urchin discovery back then was the shrimp who look just like, and live on, the spines of the black and white West Indian sea egg. Have you noticed that each one of these shrimps called urchin bumblebee shrimp, is about the length of one of the urchin's spines? And that they position themselves to look like a spine? If you haven't noticed, it's no accident.

There's information about sea urchins available online, of course. Almost every article highlights the treatment for urchin spine wounds – which is rarely necessary these days due to the lack of urchins.


If your interest in sea urchins is whetted, start with Wikipedia and go from there. You'll find species of urchin, particularly in the Indian Ocean and tropical Pacific, which have much nastier defense mechanisms than any of our urchins.

However, one source gave me a new perspective on the backward scales of our long-spined urchin's spines: that the scales don't prevent the spines from penetrating; rather, they serve the purpose of increasing the damage the spine makes when it penetrates a living creature.

Which one of these explanations you favor just might be related to whether you have ever experienced an urchin-spine stabbing.



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; and in Dive Training Magazine from 1990 to 2000, and in The Bonaire Reporter.



ZUMBA



With Undine Nahorst


Join Kankerfonds Bonaire and Penha for an energetic Zumba session to support the fight against breast cancer!

"Taking care of yourself is a way to prevent breast cancer."

Date: Thursday, October 31
Time: 6:30 PM, starts at 7:00 PM
Location: Isidel Beach Park, Boulevard Gobernador N. Debrot 75a Hato, Bonaire
Attire: Something pink

For registration or information, you can call +599 796 9798 or +599 9 563 0419



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. Kaminda Sorobon, Blue Building:* Tues. & Thurs 6-8 p.m. Sat. 10 a.m. to 12 noon. \$1 per hour. Ask for Henk or Richard. *Sports Hall Jorge Nicolaas, Kaya Amsterdam:* Sun. 10 a.m. to 12 noon. \$2 per hour. Ask for Henk or Danny. **Beginners:** *Sports Hall Jorge Nicolaas, Kaya Amsterdam:* Sun. 9 - 10 a.m.. \$2 per hour. Ask for Esther. **Coming soon:** Indoor hall at Jong Bonaire every Wed. and Fri. from 5:30 to 9 p.m. - t recommended for beginners but all welcome to play.

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. 21 Divi Resort; Oct. 28 - VIP Diving; Nicole Pelletier of the Caribbean Islands Manta Conservation. [Caribbean Islands Manta Conservation facebook](https://www.facebook.com/CaribbeanIslandsMantaConservation)..

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

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

Church Services

Roman Catholic Churches Bonaire

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

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

United Protestant Congregation

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

2024 Cruise Ship Schedule

DATE:	CRUISE SHIP	TIME	PIER	CAPACITY
Wed. October 16	CARNIVAL HORIZON	0700-1500	South	4683
Fri. October 18	CELEBRITY ECLIPSE	0700-1700	South	3013
Wed. October 23	CELEBRITY BEYOND	0600-1800	South	3260
Sat. October 26	ZUIDERDAM	1400-2300	North	2502
Fri. November 1	EURODAM	0830-2300	North	2731
Sat. November 2	SEVEN SEAS SPLENDOR	1330-2300	North	754
Tues. November 5	BRITANNIA	0630-1800	South	3674
Wed. November 6	GRANDEUR OF THE SEAS	0700-1800	North	2440
Thurs. November 7	ROYAL CLIPPER	1300-1900	North	246
Tues. November 12	CELEBRITY ECLIPSE	0600-1800	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.
Saturday, Oct. 19	Flu shot and the corona shot 10 a.m.- 4 p.m. For: • people over 60 • people under 60 with illnesses such as diabetes, heart and lung complaints • People who are temporarily living on Bonaire and cannot get the shot(s) in their own country. (see page 8)
Saturday, Oct. 26	
Saturday, Oct. 26	Pop up Art Gallery 9:30 a.m.- 5:30 p.m. At MoltenWolf Glass, Terramar 8, Playa (see page 13)
	Nos Zjilea Cultural Event 10 a.m.- 3 p.m. Cultural Park Mangazina di Rei, Rincon. Enjoy the music, dancing, crafts, amazing food and drink.
Friday, Nov. 1	Big Live Nature Quiz - Kids Edition Teachers can register their class teams online at www.BigLiveNatureQuiz.org . For more information, please contact: research@DCNANature.org
Friday, Nov. 15	Reading Day 9 to 9:30 a.m. Volunteers read to school kids. Call Daryl Janga or Paul Ruijs at +599 782 4569

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/
Saturday, Oct. 19	Dive Friends Quarterly Cleanup Dive . Town Pier (north pier). Check in 9:30 a.m. at Trocadero (see page 13).
Sunday, Nov. 10	Clean Coast Bonaire. 4-6 p.m. Piedra Pretu . Donate your time. Work as a citizen scientist to collect marine litter & data. https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=clean%20coast%20bonaire



FLIGHT SCHEDULE - Winter 2024/2025 starting November 1

DESTINATION	AIRLINE	DAY
NEW YORK JFK	jetBlue	SAT I TUE
MIAMI	American Airlines	MON I WED-SAT
ATLANTA	DELTA	SAT I SUN
NEW YORK NEWARK	UNITED	SAT
HOUSTON	UNITED	SUN
TORONTO	WESTJET	WED
AMSTERDAM	KLM	DAILY
AMSTERDAM	TUI	MON I WED-SAT
AMSTERDAM	corendon	SUN I WED
SANTO DOMINGO	SKYhigh	FRI
CURACAO I SINT MAARTEN	WINAIR	MON I FRI I SUN
CURACAO I ARUBA	DIVIDIVI	DAILY
CURACAO I ARUBA	ZAir	DAILY
BARRANQUILLA	ZAir	MON I FRI

MOLTENWOLF GLASS TO CLOSE RETAIL STORE

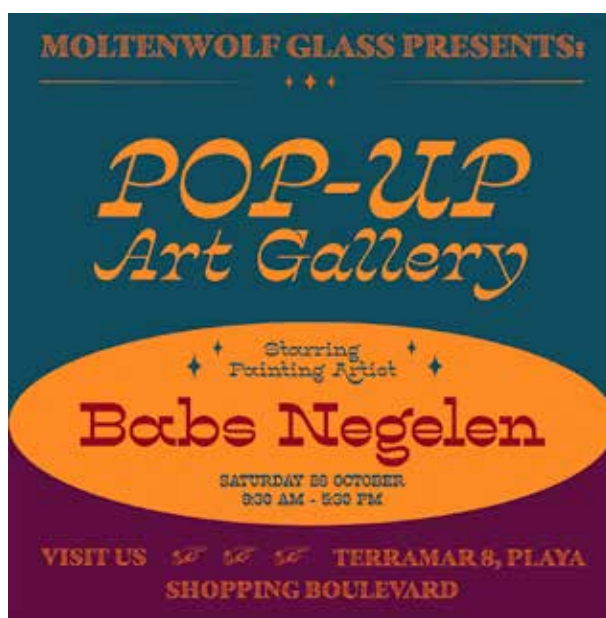
Owners Shift Focus to Commission Work and Workshops

After three years of contributing to the local art scene, MoltenWolf Glass has announced the closure of its retail store. The shop, founded by Jeff and Valerie in 2022, will officially close its doors on December 24, 2024.

While the retail store will be closing, the decision reflects the owners' desire to dedicate more time to the artistic side of their business. The new direction will enable them to focus on creating commission-based glass artwork and engage with customers through Glass Fusing workshops that continue to foster creativity in the community.

Over the years, MoltenWolf Glass retail shop has been a creative space for both artists and art enthusiasts, hosting a variety of events including Art Talks, where they explained the glass-fusing process, and Glass Fusing Workshops, which allowed participants to create their own unique pieces. The store also hosted Art Pop-Up Galleries, providing a platform for local artists.

The success of MoltenWolf Glass over the past three years has been a team effort. Jeff and Valerie expressed



deep appreciation for their staff, recognizing the contributions of Joel Muzo, Jessica Semeleer-Welch, and Josie Thodé Martinez, whose dedication to both the

artwork and the customer experience made the shop a vibrant and welcoming space.

Additionally, the owners are grateful to those who played a crucial role in the store's growth. Darwin Luna Colorado and Simon Hajducki, who provided stunning photography and videography services, helped showcase the beauty of the artwork, while Rosaly Design's creative design and marketing efforts elevated the store's brand.

As the store prepares for its closure, MoltenWolf Glass is offering special sales on its one-of-a-kind pieces through the end of December. Customers have the chance to purchase these unique artworks at discounted prices as a way to celebrate the past three years of creativity.

For more information about their ongoing work, classes, or the upcoming sales, visit

www.moltenwolfglass.com or facebook.com/moltenwolfglass

Final 2024 Quarterly Cleanup set

Dive Friends will hold their final Quarterly Cleanup Dive of 2024 on Saturday, October 19 at the Town Pier (north pier). Check in is at 9:30 a.m. with the cleanup dive briefing at 10 a.m. at Trocadero. Air (yoke) style tanks are free for the dive. Bring a dive knife, scissors and mesh bag for the cleanup and a DIN adaptor for your regulator if needed. Divers that prefer Nitrox can drop by a Dive Friends location to pick up a tank.

Non-divers are welcome too, as your help is needed on the shore.

As always Dive Friends has organized a BBQ and raffle at Hamlet Dive Friends at 6 p.m. Participants can win some nice prizes and enjoy some time with fellow members of the Bonaire dive communi-

ty. Dive Friends is supplying the meat and veggie meat, for the BBQ. Your contribution can be a side dish or dessert.

Sign up ahead of time through this link: <https://waiver.smartwaiver.com/e/guzJi4gmJyaX3ruo8JwuDc/> Or if you are a regular cleanup diver send an email to: dfbevents@divefriendsbonaire.com.

J.M.



Special Olympics athletes arrive home victorious

Special Olympics Bonaire Athletes arrived back from Paraguay victorious after competing October 4 to October 12 in the IV Latin American Games Special Olympics Asuncion 2024. The athletes brought with them a total of four Golds, five Silvers, two Bronzes and two 4th place ribbons.

Bolas: • Su-Endry Weef Gold in bolas singles • Marchantelie Anthony 4th place in bolas singles • Marchantelie Anthony & Heaven-Lee de Jongh Silver in bolas unified • Su-Endry Weef & Denzyl Statie Bronze in bolas unified

Athletics: • Michele Matthew Gold in the 200m • Shalimar Matthew Silver in the 200m • Roel Scherptong Silver in the 200m • Lixzandro Mauricio 4th place in the 200m • Shalimar Matthew Gold in the 100m • Michele Matthew Silver in the 100m • Roel Scherptong Gold in

the 100m • Lixzandro Mauricio Silver in the 100m • Shalimar Matthew, Michele Matthew, Roel Scherptong & Lixzandro Mauricio Bronze in the 4x100m relay

The athletes are incredibly proud of their achievements and are eager to be home and share their joy with everyone.

Special thanks from Special Olympics Bonaire to the Indebon and the government of Bonaire for their support in making this participation possible.

(Facebook News Release)



Healthcare cards available from October 28

Care & Youth Caribbean Netherlands (ZJCN) is introducing a healthcare card to replace the paper insurance certificate previously given to residents when they traveled abroad. The healthcare card is personal and is proof of registration with ZJCN. It contains the details of the insured person and the contact details of ZJCN.

Healthcare card is not travel insurance. The healthcare card is only for medical emergencies abroad that cannot be postponed. ZJCN advises all residents to take

out travel insurance before travelling abroad.

Required documents. When collecting your health insurance card, a valid sédu-la must be shown. Other forms of identification, such as a passport or driver's license, will not be accepted. Also the completed customer form must be submitted, which is available both [online](https://www.zvkcen.nl/) and at the ZJCN office.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.zvkcen.nl/>

Zorg en Jeugd Caribisch Nederland
Ministerie van Volksgezondheid,
Welzijn en Sport

Introduction of the Healthcare Card

From 28 October, Care and Youth Caribbean Netherlands (ZJCN) will introduce the Healthcare Card on Bonaire. This personal card will replace the paper insurance certificate. Bonaire residents who have been insured with ZJCN for at least two years can collect their Healthcare Card according to the schedule below:

Location Kralendijk: Jong Bonaire, Kaya Libertador Simon Bolivar #16

Birth Year	Period	Time
1920 - 1959	28 October until 2 November	
1960 - 1969	4 November until 8 November	09:00 - 12:00
1970 - 1979	11 November until 16 November	13:00 - 17:00
1980 - 1989	18 November until 22 November	
1990 or later	25 November until 30 November	

Location Rincon: Cocari, Kaya Rincon #50

Birth Year	Period	Time
All ages	2 December until 7 December	09:00 - 12:00 13:00 - 17:00

Important:
Bring your sédu-la and the completed customer form with you.

For more information, please visit: www.rijksdienstcn.com or scan the QR code.

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
 Caribbean Club Cottage 210
\$ 242,000
 1 bed / 1 bath
 Communal pool
 Close to the ocean
 00 599 - 717 - 7362 Jean@bonairehomes.com



Bonaire Scuba
PRIVATE PADI COURSES
CUSTOM GUIDED DIVES
EQUIPMENT RENTALS
www.bonaire-scuba.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
 TRANSLATION of WEB sites, manuals, official and private documents, business correspondence and more ... from and to English, Spanish, French and German.
bonairecoachingbc@gmail.com - 786 9676

JEWELRY · HOUSEWARE · DÉCOR
MOLTENWOLF GLASS
 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

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

KW BONAIRE KELLERWILLIAMS
FOR SALE
 +599 701 6516
WWW.KWBONAIRE.COM
 • 2 BED/2 BATH
 • PRIVATE GARDEN
 • WALK TO SHOPS
 • OWNED LAND
 • \$615,000 USD

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

Animal Shelter News

Calling all Animal Lovers once again!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



We are seeking:

1. **Sellers for the Cruise Market:** Do you have a friendly demeanor, enjoy chatting, and like working with tourists? Then this is the role for you! Sales experience is a plus, but enthusiasm is most important.
2. **Strong men and women:** Are you willing to help with setting up and breaking down Pakus Di Pruga on Saturdays, and sometimes with picking up donated items? Then we can really use your help.

Do you have a few hours a week to spare? By donating a bit of your time, you are directly contributing to the care of the animals at the shelter. Interested? Send us a message (animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com) or drop by Pakus Di Pruga or our stall at the Cruise Market. We look forward to hearing from you!

Marissa Lamers

Did you know that there are two important sources of income for Animal Shelter Bonaire?

1. Our stall at the Cruise Market, and
2. The second-hand market Pakus Di Pruga.

On days when a cruise ship is docked, our volunteers can be found at Wilhelminaplein in Kralendijk. They sell wonderful items such as t-shirts, paintings, bags, and keychains. All proceeds go to the shelter to support the care of the animals.

Every Saturday morning, we organize Pakus Di Pruga behind the stadium in Kralendijk (Kaya Gilberto F. Croes). This is our weekly second-hand market, fully run by volunteers, and it's the perfect way to support the work of Animal Shelter Bonaire. All proceeds go directly to the shelter.

We are looking for new volunteers to join our team!

Pet of the Week



Pudge

Kitten of the week! Please meet Pudge, our kitten of the week. Pudge is a female kitten, black and white with some very rare tortie striping.

If you are looking for a kitten who is very calm, sits in your lap for hours and just wants to be held, Pudge is your girl! She came in only a week old with her two siblings, Qball and Quincy. From the beginning, Pudge was loving and wanting to be held and snuggled. Pudge will play and can be very active when she wants to be. She loves cat snacks and small cat toys.

Pudge would do best as an inside cat and would be fine with other cats in the house. She is litter trained.

Please consider coming to meet Pudge. I believe she will make a nice addition to your home. Pudge is sterilized, up to date on vaccines 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

Lions Club donates pet food

In honor of World Animal Day, October 5, the Bonaire Lions Club donated food for dogs and cats to Animal Shelter Bonaire. The Animal Shelter currently cares for more than 180 dogs and more than 70 cats that are available for adoption. The service club gave a special thanks to BONDIGRO for its support with the donation. (see also page 5)



Make Bonaire Accessible

by Ria Evers-Dokter

Changes..... we hate them

Recently I read an interesting article about an elderly couple. They loved IKEA so much, they came there for more than 10 years every day for a couple of hours. They would always sit at the same table. The table was reserved for the couple, nobody else could sit there. The staff was very keen on that.

They ate and drank the same thing every day, the whole staff knew about this and acted accordingly.

The couple became so "famous", there were hundreds of people coming to this specific warehouse to watch them and talk to them. They became like an icon to this specific warehouse.

When their time was up, they would say goodbye to the staff and leave.... Till the next day.

When I finished reading this article I was laughing very hard, all by myself and could not believe there are people like "this."

But... later on I started to realize that we are all the same. We all say: "No, nobody in this house has 'their' place." But at the end of the day, everybody sits in that same chair every day, for years. And should the kids grow older and leave the house, the parents always refer to THAT chair as being the chair of this specific kid. When that kid comes to visit the parents years later, he/she goes and sits on that very chair as soon as possible.

I attend two different projects that of-

fer activities for the elderly. And at both projects it is the same. When the group members arrive, they all sit down at the tables and chairs they sit in every week.

The funny thing is: everybody says that we don't have chairs to our names, but everybody is upset when a new member comes and sits in "their" chair.

Sometimes even a little quarrel takes place without one word being spoken.

And when the "newcomers" arrive, they are told that so and so sits there all the time, so please take another seat.

I remember the days when my Mom went to live in a care facility. When I went to see her later in the evening to ask how her first day was, she said that she started off good, with a quarrel! She was told where to sit and she had asked right away if all the places were rented, because she did not see a name on them.

This is an interesting fact that one has to know about when starting to work at

a care facility. Learning to deal with a "problem" like that. And it would certainly be a great topic for a paper for an exam at nursing school.

I certainly was one who always said that I did not care. But nowadays I am very happy to have a rollator that I also use as a chair and sit on it all the time, everywhere.

But.... I prefer to park that rollator at the same old spots.



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.

with the first competitor completing the course in under 25 minutes—an impressive achievement that demonstrated the high level of skill and competition on display.

Regatta maintained its high standards of organization and excitement.”

Commenting on the Regatta, Mercera said, “Overall, we were pleased with the Regatta, especially the strong turnout and the sense of community spirit. The event showcased Bonaire’s vibrant maritime culture, and we received a lot of positive feedback from both locals and visitors.

“However, we did experience some logistical challenges, particularly with parking and traffic management. This is definitely an area we will work on improving for future events. It’s a learning process, and we are already looking into ways to streamline this for next year.” *Story / Photos Julie Morgan*

Additionally, the racing boats took on a challenging long-distance race, with well over two hours of sailing. Bonaire’s Captain Langerveld who raced a Curaçao boat with his mixed crew from Bonaire and Curaçao set the fastest time, demonstrating their skill and determination and making them the overall winner. Their impressive performance is a proud moment for the local sailing community.

While there were a few minor issues throughout the Regatta, they did not impede the races or the overall flow of the event. These minor setbacks were handled promptly, ensuring the



On the main stage Mercera introduced Henry Tore, the man to whom Regatta Bonaire 2024 was dedicated. Tore introduced the Regatta Festival in 1983, made contributions to Bonaire’s culture and helped shape the event we know today.

October 10 – 12, Thursday – Saturday, all sailing events were held for the cruising/ racing yachts, Sunfish, Optimist, fishing boats, multihull, microboats, windsurfers, kites, and wingfoil. Most races began at Kas di Regatta.

October 12 featured the popular and fun Boat and Float party on the waterfront of Regatta Village and the competitive long-distance races.

The award ceremony was held that night prior to the final celebration with favorite musicians Luis Moka and Palu grandi, Jeon & Band, Chris Strick and Icons & Ir saïs. The main stage area overflowed with spectators and the streets and sidewalks were overflowing with vehicles. Fireworks ended the evening about 2:30 a.m.

Petrisie said, “One of the major highlights was Saturday’s long-distance races, which drew a significant number of participants. The kite, wing foil, and some windsurfing competitors took off with a rabbit start from Atlantis, racing towards No Name Beach in Klein Bonaire. It was a thrilling spectacle,



Swim to Klein begins - look closely for the top medal winners. Photo Julie Morgan



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

October Corals

Scientific name (and spawning window)	Common Name	NAFM	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
		DATE	Thu 17-Oct	Fri 18-Oct	Sat 19-Oct	Sun 20-Oct	Mon 21-Oct	Tue 22-Oct	Wed 23-Oct	Thu 24-Oct	Fri 25-Oct	Sat 26-Oct	Sun 27-Oct	Mon 28-Oct	Tue 29-Oct	Wed 30-Oct
<i>Diploria labyrinthiformis</i> (70 MBS-10 MAS)	Grooved Brain Coral*	SUNSET	6:15 PM	6:15 PM	6:14 PM	6:14 PM	6:14 PM	6:13 PM	6:13 PM	6:12 PM	6:12 PM	6:11 PM	6:11 PM	6:11 PM	6:10 PM	6:10 PM
<i>Meandrina meandrites</i> (10-70 MAS)	Maze Coral							6:23-7:23 PM (Expected nightly until at least Nov 17; new observations encouraged on any date)							5:03-6:23 PM	
<i>Montastraea cavernosa</i> (15-225 MAS)	Great Star Coral							6:29-9:59 PM (Peaks in first 90 min)								
<i>Colpophyllia natans</i> (25-115 MAS)	Boulder Brain Coral									6:38-8:08 PM						
<i>Pseudodiploria strigosa</i> (Early group 30-90 MAS)	Symmetrical Brain Coral**									6:43-7:43 PM (Peaks in first 30 min)						
<i>Eusmilia fastigiata</i> (75-270 MAS)	Smooth Flower Coral												7:29-10:43 PM			
<i>Montastraea/Orbicella franksi</i> (90-150 MAS)	Boulder Star Coral									7:44-8:44 PM						
<i>Dendrogyra cylindrus</i> (90-160 MAS)	Pillar Coral				7:45-8:55 PM											
<i>Dichocoenia stokesii</i> (85-160 MAS)	Pineapple Coral							7:40-8:55 PM (Expected nightly across the October lunar cycle; new observations encouraged on any date)								
<i>Stephanocoenia intersepta</i> (160-255 MAS)	Blushing Star Coral									8:54-10:29 PM						
<i>Montastraea/Orbicella annularis</i> (185-250 MAS)	Lobed/Boulder Star Coral									9:19-10:24 PM						
<i>Montastraea/Orbicella faveolata</i> (185-255 MAS)	Mountainous Star Coral									9:19-10:29 PM						
<i>Siderastrea siderea</i> (195-280 MAS)	Massive Starlet Coral							9:29-10:54 PM								
<i>Pseudodiploria clivosa</i> (210-255 MAS)	Knobby Brain Coral									9:43-10:28 PM						
<i>Pseudodiploria strigosa</i> (Late group 200-270 MAS)	Symmetrical Brain Coral**									9:33-10:43 PM						
<i>Madracis senaria</i> (All night)	Ten-Ray Star Coral									all night						
<i>Agaricia humilis/Agaricia agaricites</i> (All night)	Lettuce Coral									all night						

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 15-Nov	Sat 16-Nov	Sun 17-Nov	Mon 18-Nov	Tue 19-Nov	Wed 20-Nov	Thu 21-Nov	Fri 22-Nov	Sat 23-Nov	Sun 24-Nov	Mon 25-Nov	Tue 26-Nov	Wed 27-Nov	Thu 28-Nov
<i>Meandrina meandrites</i> (10-70 MAS)	Maze Coral		6:07 PM	6:07 PM	6:07 PM	6:07 PM	6:07 PM	6:07 PM	6:07 PM	6:07 PM	6:07 PM	6:07 PM	6:07 PM	6:07 PM	6:08 PM	6:08 PM
<i>Eusmilia fastigiata</i> (75-270 MAS)	Smooth Flower Coral									7:22-10:37 PM						
<i>Dichocoenia stokesii</i> (85-160 MAS)	Pineapple Coral									7:32-8:47 PM (Has been observed from mid-September to mid-November, new observations are highly encouraged!)						

Fall Sponges, Stars, Gorgs, and More

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

Abbreviations & Colors

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



Tips for Observers

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

More Resources & How To Get Involved

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