

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



Roel Calister, Luis Moka and the Leerokest Bonaire choir perform *Biba Salú*
 Photo Julie Morgan



in a summer food to table cooking camp for kids. He noticed huge positive behavioral changes in the children. The *Learn It* zone is making it fun, giving the children a game to play and learn with the superheroes. *Love It* zone brings all their senses together.

As kids love music, Roel Calister and Bonaire's Luis Moka collaborated on writing the song *Biba Salú (Live Healthy)*. It is inspired by the rhythm and cadence of Simadon and includes a cow horn and conch.

Roel said, "We captured the flow of the island, old style and new style that appeals to the older generation but hip with the new kids."

The superheroes were the work of artist Avantia Danberg and just like all superheroes, each of these characters have their own specific traits and superpowers that are evident in their appearance.

Wòti Walnut embodies the importance of brain health and shows children that mental strength is as valuable as physical strength. Bitá Banana was inspired by Josephine Baker, she is full of energy and resonates with movement for sustainable energy to play sports, dance and learn. Zula Pumpkin represents a big boned, huggable character. She personifies body diversity and teaches that strength includes empathy, and that health is not only in being athletic but in caring. Awasi-



to is the embodiment of water as both nourishment and environment. She is depicted as both a surfer and a wave to remind children of the ocean's healing qualities and that hydration is essential for the body. The Bon Salú group as a whole is designed to inspire children to eat healthier, drink water and stay active, to make healthy choices and develop their own superpowers.

The fiesta included four fun learning games designated by each of the super heroes: Woti Walnut - a memory game with cards; Bitá Banana - an energy game requiring running back and forth to move cards from one spot to another; Zula Pumpkin - a bean bag toss for strength and Awasi - a water game of running to fill liters of water with a soaked sponge. This was to remind children to drink two liters of water per day.

Saeed gave away free veggie burgers, local fruit and frozen fruit bullets from his food truck, the local dance groups and drum band performed.

The finale to the evening was the premier performance of *Biba Salú (Live Healthy)* by

Bonaire's new superheroes don't fight bad guys like Batman or Spiderman, but they do wear capes. They don't fly through the air or spin a web, their superpowers are more grounded and have the power to make kids healthier and live better lives. The new superheroes are known as the Bon Salú Squad: Woti Walnut, Bitá Banana, Zula Pumpkin and Awasi. They made their first appearance to the general public November 2 at the first Fiesta di Salú (Health Festival) a project by the GGD (Municipal Health Service) at Wilhelminaplein.

This was a project put on hold by the GGD for some time as they had a lot of ideas but no time to make it happen.

Lara Chirino of the Teal Agency was contacted, and she did make it happen with the help of a unique team including Curaçao artist Avantia Danberg, George Bernabela of Leerokest Bonaire Choir, Roel Calister producer, Capella Chirino creative director and Allan Carolina of the GGD.

Lara explained that the idea for the project is based on a *Triad Zone: Try it, Learn it and Love it*. The *Try It* zone was used by Saeed Lourens of Nature Cooking School Bonaire



Saeed Lourens prepares free veggie burgers, fruit and icy fruit bullets from his food truck at at Fiesta di Salú Photo: Julie Morgan

Work to begin on BOPEC site immediately



It is official. On October 30 the leasehold and infrastructure of the BOPEC site was transferred to Curoil Bonaire Terminals N.V. The company can start site cleanup immediately and begin preparing BOPEC to operate as a driver of the island's economy again. Initial funding is assured and much pre-planning is built into the transfer agreement.

An amount of €22.68 million (including a 20% risk premium) has been earmarked from BOPEC's bankruptcy estate to finance the remediation.

The remediation project will begin with urgently needed cleanup of the soil and groundwater contamination at the site. A BOPEC Plot Remediation Foundation has been formed to carry out a plan that has been prepared by experts.

Curoil will offer new employment contracts to many of the BOPEC employees who lost their jobs when the company

suddenly shut down in 2019. BOPEC owed back pay to many workers as well. The trustees will settle those claims this year.

The economy of the whole island, and especially of the Rincon community, will be given a big boost by the site restoration Project. That effect will be multiplied into the future if Curoil succeeds in recreating BOPEC's former role as a petroleum transshipment point in the world fuel market.

The Executive Council is also claiming the restoration of BOPEC will assure Bonaire's long term fuel supply. However, Bonaire's short term fuel supply is immediately endangered, with potentially disastrous consequences. (See below.)

A new terminal at BOPEC, plus the transportation infrastructure needed to deliver fuel to the rest of the island safely and efficiently, are still years away. *DMR*

Fuel supply blowup approaching critical mass



Now that the restoration of BOPEC is about to begin and will include a new terminal where tankers can deliver the island's fuel, the Executive Council is declaring Bonaire's future fuel supply is secure. However, a team from the Human Environment and Transport Inspectorate (ILT) will spend four days this month inspecting the deteriorating tanks the island has been using for years. The inspectors are not coming to determine how the island will be storing its fuel a few years into the future. Their November report will determine whether The Hague allows Curoil to continue using its present deteriorating tanks when the current temporary permit lapses on April 1.

If the aging fuel terminals at the airport and Hato breach, life as we know it on the island will end. Bonaireans will go without water, sufficient electricity, and mobility. Five years ago the ILT determined the tanks were deteriorating and needed to be replaced. The Executive Council countered that a restoration of the present tanks would extend their life for a few more years, a project it intended to get around to someday. If the Executive Council ever began work on restoring the tanks, they never announced it.

Two years ago the ILT put the aging fuel terminals at the airport and Hato on probation. It allowed the terminals to continue operating for a year under a temporary permit, then for a

second year under an extended temporary permit that included a \$1.5 million penalty. That second extension ends on April 1. The November inspection will determine what action the ILT will take then.

In 2020 The Hague took control of the Island's fuel supply and created the state-owned Bonaire Bon Transition (BBT), gave the company 20 million Euros, and tasked it with replacing the fuel tanks at Bonaire's airport. Clark Abraham, deputy for finance and leader of the Executive Council, rejected BBT's role. He wanted control of the project, along with the funding. Abraham has been a booster of turning the BOPEC site into the new fuel terminal the island needs.

When Abraham proved recalcitrant, the Dutch changed BBT's mission. BBT partnered with WEB and Contour Global and used the money to create Bonaire's solar and wind power infrastructure. Then, its work completed, the company returned full authority to WEB and Contour Global and departed the island. The island now has much more renewable energy, but it will come to a standstill if the delivery of old fashioned, polluting fuel is interrupted. *DMR / Photo via RCN*

This Issue's Stories

Fiesta di Salu	1
Evening of Remembrance	3
Hoogervorst new head Cft	4
Kids Book Week	5
Press Breakfast	5
Vote for Bonaire for Best World Dive Spot	5
Potluck in honor of Michael Gaynor	6
BJSC at Aruba Chess Challenge	7
Halloween in Playa	8
CN Care package more 'equal'	10
Mental Health 2024 numbers	10
Dementia Care Pathway	10
Curvin George Program Manager Care	9
STCB fishing line cleanup	11
No longer Captain Don's Habitat	11
BSN pickup coming	13
Sexual Health Clinic	13
GEW-B week (Global Entrepreneur Week)	15
Zoom: GEW Masterclass /	
DCNA symposium on Water	15
Flu and covid shots	15
Tio Ali comes to ACE	16

Our Facebook page brings you news that arrives between issues

Columns

Who's Who in <i>The Reporter</i>	2
Island News:	
• Curoil signs BOPEC; Fuel supply	2
• Dutch elections; Historical archive needs funding; School safety; WEB at Rotary	7
Police	4
Ask Bob: Start with the bank	5
Elesiër Angel, Column 1	6
Foodies' Dining Guide	9
Corjan recipe: Sapadilla Chutney	13
What's Happening: Events; Cleanups	
Cruise ships; Church services [13]	12
Optimal Health: Freedom	17
Business Directory	18
Pets of the Week:	
Cats - Chips Family. Dog - Rosso	15
Animal Shelter News: Cat Quarantine	15
Accessibility: Hofi Kultural	15
Garden: Wonder	16

How to Find Us

Read us online: <https://bonairereporter.com>
<https://www.Facebook.com/TheBonaireReporter/>
 Also available in 77 locations on Bonaire
 Printed every two weeks

Next edition: Nov. 19, 2025

Contributor's Deadline: Friday, Nov. 14, 2025

Stories, tips, questions, ideas & ads:

Phone (+599) 786 4055
 Email: bonairereporter2019@gmail.com
 Address: Box 603, Bonaire, Dutch Caribbean.

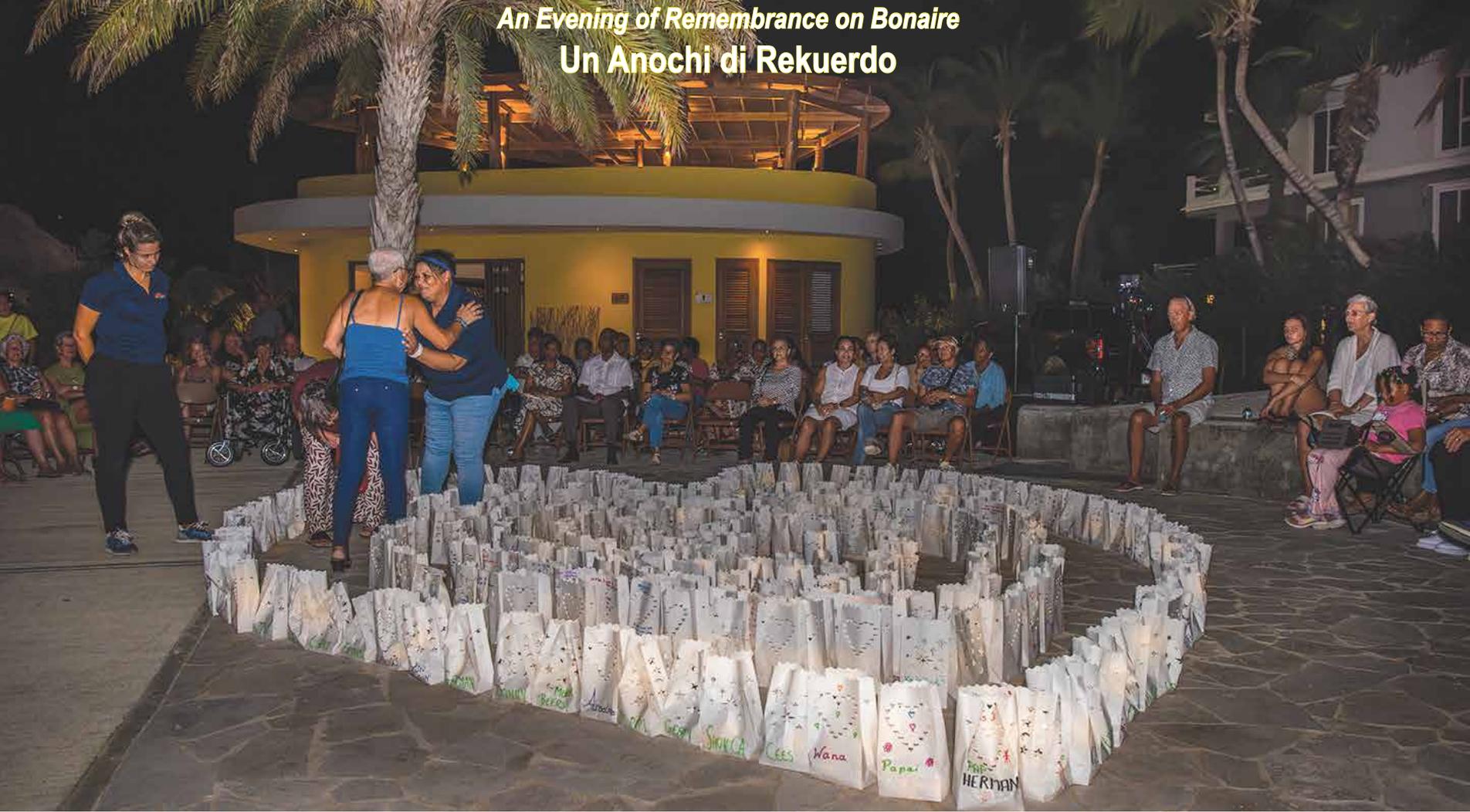
The Bonaire Reporter Staff

Publisher: Julie Morgan
Production: Barbara Lockwood
Website: Michael Copini
Contributors: Angliet Baidjoe, Ria Evers-Dokter, Dee Scarr, Don M Ricks, Alan Zale, Irene de Cunda Costa, Marissa Lamers, Chef Corjan Hoogerheide, George Buckley, Bo Attevelt, Ginny Knight, Carmen Toanchina, Elesiër Angel
Distribution: Divi-Divi Airline
Printed by: DeStad Drukkerij, Curaçao
Founders: George & Laura DeSalvo
 KVK # 12190 (SBI 58130)
 © 2025 *The Bonaire Reporter*

Reef Glimpses by Dee Scarr will return soon



**An Evening of Remembrance on Bonaire
Un Anochi di Rekuerdo**



The air was thick with emotion at An Evening of Remembrance on November 2. A saxophone played softly in the background as people placed a lighted lantern to complete a giant illuminated heart in memory of their loved ones. The event, organized by Kas Flamboyan Hospice, was the first of its kind for Bonaire and will most likely become an annual tradition. All of Bonaire was invited to be a part of this

simple but meaningful remembrance. Individuals purchased a paper lantern and many inscribed the name of their loved one on it before placing it to be a part of the heart. Alan Bowen's soothing sentimental sax set the atmosphere and mood for contemplation and remembrance. Several people read poems or spoke including poet Wilco Harbers and Bonaire's Lt. Gov. Jon Soliano.

Hospice Kas Flamboyan is 7.5 years old and provides a compassionate final home for many on Bonaire. All proceeds from the evening help Hospice Kas Flamboyan. For more information about Hospice kas Falboyan contact coordinators Mimi Dongen and Angelo Goeloe: info@kas-flamboyan.com; www.kas-flamboyan.com. Story / Photos Julie Morgan.

**FOR SALE Bella Vista 25
Affordable Family Home**



- Location: Nikiboko
- Lot size: 402 m2 / 4326 sq. ft. owned land
- 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, large covered porch

- Open floorplan with modern kitchen
- Fully fenced in garden

Virtual 3D Tour



Asking price \$399,000 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

You can contact the police via 715 8000, 911 or via the anonymous tip line 9310.

Property crimes

Six thefts from dive sites

Oct. 29. While the owners were swimming at Te Amo Beach two children's bags containing childcare products, a wallet with cash, and cards were taken from their golf cart.

Oct. 29. Between 10:15 and 10:30 a.m. while the owners walked to and from 1000 Steps dive site two backpacks containing wallets with cash, cards, and a towel were stolen from their golf cart.

Oct. 26. While the owners were diving at the Andrea II dive site, a first aid kit and an iPhone 14 Pro were taken from their vehicle.

Oct. 24. While the owners were diving at the 'Weber's Joy' dive site, a shoulder bag was taken from their pickup truck. The occupants found the bag in the bushes. Everything was still in the bag except for a pair of prescription glasses.

Oct. 22. While the owners were swimming at Te Amo Beach, two bags containing iPhones, a wallet, and clothing were taken. The stolen goods were found a short time later on Kaya Sonmontuno.

Oct. 20. While the owners were snorkeling at Te Amo Beach, a shopping bag left under a tree was taken. The bag's contents included a mobile phone, a wallet with cash, several cards, glasses, and clothing.

Oct. 31. A gray Kymco Agility scooter, license plate MF-1167, was stolen while parked in front of a house on Bulevar Julio A. Abraham.

Oct. 28. Police conducted two house searches in connection with a theft that occurred on Monday, October 27, at a tourist accommodation on E.E.G. Boulevard. The searches took place at a residence on Kaya Karañito and at a residence on Kaya Monseigneur Nieuwindt. A firearm and a quantity of suspected narcotics were found, as well as several items suspected of being stolen goods. Two men, aged 19 and 20, were arrested in connection with this case.

Oct. 24/25. A license plate V-731 was stolen from a pickup truck parked in front of a house on Kaya Chi Ku Cha.

Oct. 23. At a tourist accommodation located on Sabadeco Courts unknown persons came through the kitchen window and stole, among other things, a laptop, bank cards, wallets containing cash, a watch, mobile phones, and bags.

Oct. 20/21. A suspicious scooter suspected of being stolen was reported parked on Kaya Tanki di Matrimonio. It had no license plate or lights and the ignition had been forced. Also reported were a fat bike and scooter parts found in the bushes along Kaya Doce in Tera Kora.

Oct. 18. Two unknown men took several bottles of alcohol without paying from a supermarket on Kaya Pos di Pepe in Belnem.

Oct. 17/18. In the night a caller reported the theft of a scooter parked in front of a building on Kaya L.D. Gerharts. Police searched the surrounding area and found the stolen scooter in the town center.

Oct. 16. Between 7:45 and 10:45 p.m. unknown persons entered a home on Lagun Hill and stole items including medications, perfume, wallets, and cash.

Arrests

Oct. 30. Around 2:20 p.m. a man, 34, was arrested on Kaya Korona for intentionally failing to comply with a police order. The suspect was arrested after he was spotted on a scooter with an invalid license plate. He drove away and was seen again shortly afterward at a restaurant. When the police tried to remind him to comply, he saw the officers and drove away again. He tried to hide behind an electrical box, but when he saw the police again, he fled again. Police grabbed him, causing him to fall. The officers then managed to apprehend the man. The scooter was confiscated. The suspect had no identification and could not produce proof of a driver's license or insurance. He was fined for this.

Oct. 28. Around 7:45 a.m. a man, 29, was arrested at a residence on Kaya Vivaldi for assault and threats as part

of an ongoing investigation from Sunday, October 5.

Oct. 26. Around 5:25 p.m. a stabbing was reported at a home on Kaya Doce. Upon arrival, police found an injured man who likely had been stabbed with a sharp object during an argument. The man was taken to the hospital by ambulance. A woman, 45, was arrested at the scene for assault with a weapon. However, at the hospital, the victim denied having been stabbed and declined to press charges against the suspect. The suspect was subsequently released later that day.

Oct. 20. A man, 21, was arrested on Kaya Avelino J. (Abechi) Cecilia as part of the investigation into a fight that took place on Kaya Grandi during the night hours of Saturday, Oct. 11th. The suspect was arrested for aggravated assault and attempted manslaughter.

Traffic accidents / DUIs

Under the policy 'botsen is blazen' ('to collide is to blow') a breath test is given drivers who have accidents.

Oct. 29. Around 6:50 p.m. a van traveling south on Boulevard Gobernador N. Debrot hit a pedestrian near Sabadeco. The woman, who had been walking with others, was thrown into the bushes next to the road. She was rushed to the hospital by ambulance.

Oct. 26. Around 2:20 p.m. a person fell from a moped and was injured on Toeristenweg (Tourist Road / Queen's Highway). The victim was transported by ambulance to the hospital.

Oct. 25. Around 4:50 p.m. a car and a pickup truck collided on Kaya Korona. The driver of the car was injured and taken to the hospital by ambulance. The driver of the car could not be given a breath test due to the priority of medical care.

Oct. 23. Around 5:10 p.m. a car and a scooter collided on Kaya L.D. Gerharts. The injured scooter rider was treated at the scene by paramedics.

Oct. 22. Around 8:40 p.m. a scooter doing a wheelie and riding only on its rear wheel collided with a turning car at the intersection of Kaya Sonmontuno and Kaya Calixta. The scooter rider was lying injured on the ground and was taken to the hospital by ambulance. Due to the priority of medical care, the scooter driver could not take a breathalyzer test. The car was impounded to analyze the dashcam footage. The driver of the car was fined for driving without valid insurance. The scooter driver was a minor who will later be fined for driving without a license and not having valid insurance.

Oct. 22. Around 12:55 p.m. a car and a cyclist collided on Kaminda Djabou. When police arrived, the cyclist was lying injured on the ground. The victim was taken to the hospital by ambulance for medical treatment.

Oct. 21. Around 10:30 a.m. a collision was reported near the lighthouse at Boka Spelonk. An ATV had overturned, seriously injuring the two occupants. Due to the poor road conditions, the Coast Guard helicopter was requested to transport the victims to Bonaire. However, it was being used to transport an unwell person on Klein Curaçao. It was therefore decided that the ambulance itself would transport the victims. The ambulance and police officers got stuck in the mud several times during the journey, so it took some time for the victims to reach the hospital for medical treatment.

Oct. 17. Around 6 p.m. two cars collided on E.E.G. Bulevar. One of the drivers was injured and taken by ambulance to the hospital. Due to the priority of medical care, a breathalyzer test could not be administered. The driver of the other car was fined for not having a valid driver's license and insurance documents.

Oct. 15. Around 10:15 a.m. a car and a scooter collided on Boulevard Gobernador Nicolaas Debrot. The scooter rider was injured and rushed to the hospital by ambulance. The scooter was driving on the wrong side of the road, causing a head-on collision with an oncoming car on a bend. Due to the priority of medical care, the scooter driver could not undergo a breathalyzer test.

From Oct. 15 to Oct. 25 police reported that nine drivers

were arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol. Drivers who register a positive result on a breath test given at their vehicles are arrested and taken to the police station for a breath analysis.

Two of the drivers were repeat offenders. One driver presented an invalid driver's license and could not produce valid insurance. Police found that his driver's license had been confiscated in June when he was also in a collision while he was driving under the influence of alcohol. His invalid driver's license was confiscated. His valid driver's license is already in the possession of the Public Prosecution Service.

Police stopped one driver for a routine check, and one for dangerous driving. The other seven drivers were involved in collisions: one crashed into a fence, two collided with parked vehicles, one crossed into the opposite driving lane and crashed his car into concrete barriers along the sidewalk, and three drivers were involved in two car collisions.

Police gave one driver a four hour driving ban. Police confiscated the driving licences of the other drivers.

Speed checks

Oct. 17-29. Police measured vehicle speeds with a laser gun on Kaminda Tras di Montaña (1x) and E.E.G. Boulevard (3x). During the check on Kaminda Tras di Montaña, five tickets were issued for exceeding the 60 km/h speed limit. The measured speeds ranged between 60 and 127 km/h. On E.E.G. Boulevard, where the speed limit is partially 40 km/h, four tickets were issued for exceeding the speed limit. Fines were also issued for holding a mobile phone while driving and for riding without a helmet.

The speed limit in built-up areas is 40 km/h and 60 km/h outside of them.

Fire

Oct. 27. Around 12:40 p.m. a pickup truck was reported on fire in the parking lot of a store on Kaya Amsterdam. The fire department extinguished the fire. There were no injuries.

Hans Hoogervorst new chair Boards of Financial Supervision



Effective from 1 February 1, 2026 Hans Hoogervorst becomes the new chair of the three Boards of Financial Supervision: the Cft Curaçao and St. Maarten, the Board of Financial Supervision Aruba and the Cft Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba.

Hoogervorst has been a member of the three Boards on behalf of the Netherlands since 2022. Hoogervorst was a State Secretary and Minister in several Dutch cabinets. After his political career, he was chair of the Dutch Authority for the Financial Markets and of the International Accounting Standards Board.

The Boards of Financial Supervision are independent and monitor the soundness of the public finances of the countries of Curaçao, St. Maarten and Aruba and of the Public Entities of Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba. The Boards have a signaling and advisory role.

Kingdom Relations press release

A week "Full of Adventure" ahead



Bonaire Public Library is located on Kaya Amsterdam behind Penha.

Bonaire Public Library begins their annual celebration of Children's Book Week November 8 – 16. The entire week will be full of adventure, just like the theme, Boshi Aventura or Full of Adventure. It revolves around imagination, discovery and pleasure in reading. All children are invited to join this journey into the world of books with the visiting writers and artists.

Writer Sharlon Willems is providing her book, Gift Book for Children's Book Week with illustrations by Gerulaine Booi. Forest Adventure is the theme reflecting friendship, curiosity and courage.

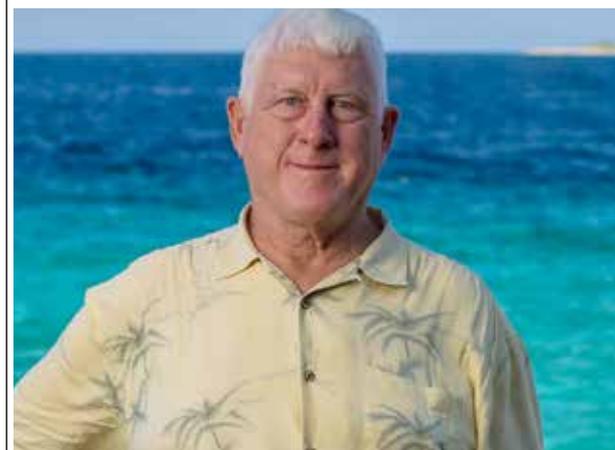
A Living Library will take place in Rincon with Rogén Pineda bringing traditional folktales to modern narratives to life.

Singer songwriter Luis Moka has created a song full of optimism, *Forest Adventure*, as the official song of Children's Book Week. All children are invited to join in and sing and dance to Moka's music on November 8.

Children's Book Week is to emphasize the importance of reading for the development of our children. Books are language stimulation, books enrich our world and books contribute to empathy and cultural connection. What the Public Library of Bonaire wants to achieve this week is for every child to experience that reading is not only educational, but also enjoyable, adventurous and develops self-confidence.

Ask Bob

Bonaire real estate advice



Hi Bob,
I'm thinking about buying a home or plot of land, but I'm not sure where to start. Should I start looking at properties first, or go to the bank?
Thank you. Jason

Hi Jason,

That is a good question.

The first step is to take look at your personal finances. How much savings do you already have? That will help the bank to determine what your own downpayment can be.

Then go to your bank to see how much you can borrow. The bank will review your savings, income, employment contract, personal loans (like a car loan), and any assets you have, like investments or property.

Once you know how much you can borrow, you'll have a clear idea of what price range to look in.

That's the smartest and most realistic way to begin your home search.

Best regards,
Bob

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

Saturday, November 8, 3-4 p.m. age 4-12 years	Opening of Children's Book Week, Luis Moka sings the theme song, Skol Amplio Papa Cornes
Sunday, November 9, 2-4 p.m. age 4-8 years	Scavenger hunt full of adventure in the library, Bonaire Library,
Thursday, November 13, 6-7 p.m. parents and educational professionals	The Great Speaking Adventure: Speech therapist Ankie Frannsen gives us important information about reading and communicating with children, Bonaire Library
Friday, November 14, 2-4 p.m. age 8-12	Makerspace: Full of adventure, Bonaire Library,
Saturday, November 15, 5-8 p.m. age 8-12 (a parent must be present)	Aventura den Rincon: Live presentations in the Rincon neighborhood, Bonaire Library, free transport from Rincon



Bonairean Raphael Rodriguez and his wife invited the members of the press for a breakfast on November 1 to thank them for their work in documenting the current events of Bonaire. Rodriguez, a long time island advocate, has traveled the world working in eight different countries, at 17 hotels and for 25 years with QR International.

Everyone attending enjoyed a nice breakfast and conversation. It was unfortunate only a few members of the press attended as very rarely do the media gather except

to cover news. Thank you to Raphael for including *The Bonaire Reporter*.

L-R: Raphael Rodriguez; Lupe Martis, *Fundashon Avanti (Antriol)*; Edson (Fitipaldi) Pietersz, *Boneriano* photographer; Johnny Leoneta owner of the radio *BròKêS 93.5 Boneiru*, Nathaly Evertsz, *Boneriano* editor; (not pictured Julie Morgan owner/publisher of *The Bonaire Reporter*)

Biba salú from page 1

Roel, Luis with Leerorkest Bonaire choir who studied under George Bernabella. Bonaire radio stations are now playing the song, so listen for it.

The first lines of *Biba Salú* (English version):

Bonaire!
Raise your hand if you eat healthy!
Shout out loud if you do sports!
Clap your hands if you go to bed early!
I want to see you jump if you love—
Wöti Walnut, Bitá Banana, Zula Pampuna, Awasito!

This is just the beginning for the Bon Salú group. The schools are incorporating fresh fruit every week and a special water filling station is available for kids rather than sugary sodas. Plans are in the works to incorporate healthy meals for the children at schools and send information home to parents to adopt into their lifestyle. *Story / Photos Julie Morgan*

(The online *Reporter* has the lyrics to *Biba Salú* in four languages, see page 17.)



Vote now for Bonaire as Best WORLD Dive Destination

<https://www.worldtravelawards.com/award-worlds-leading-dive-destination-2025>

The Space Between by Elesiër Angel

Bonaire holds a very special place in her life and heart. Born and raised here, an islander, a diver, the grandchild of an iconic fishing and kunuku family "Doei & Chana Diaz", she carries this island in everything she does. After completing her masters education in the Netherlands, she couldn't wait to return home. Today, she finds herself as one of the youngest CEO's in Bonaire's tourism industry.



Elesiër Angel

Yes, that's me. I feel both blessed and honored to play a role in shaping our island's cultural, economic and environmental future. It's a big responsibility and one that keeps me close to the heartbeat of this island: its people, its challenges, its potential. But beyond this, I'm a local who cares deeply about where we're heading.

As I think about the challenges that face us, one guiding question always stays with me: How do we include more voices, more viewpoints and more positive energy as we build the future of our beloved island?

I remember one of my first interviews as if it were yesterday. It was sometime after Covid, when everything was just starting up again on the island. I was new on the job, full of energy and feeling very nervous, armed with documents and plans written about Bonaire and tourism. I had studied them all, line by line, ready

to share the vision and direction that, to my understanding, we were heading toward.

The reporter was kind but sharp, with their own opinions and ideas about where the island should go. The conversation was long, intense and at the time, exciting. I spoke freely, perhaps too freely repeating what I had read and what I believed we were all aligned on.

It didn't take long before I learned how layered our island truly is.

My words made people react, not because I said anything untrue, but because I spoke without fully understanding the politics, the sensitivities, the history woven both on and off island.

On a small island, words travel fast and touch deep. Every opinion connects to something bigger - pride, family or memory.

That moment shaped me.

It taught me that leadership requires more than ideas, it requires awareness, patience and respect. Diplomacy, I've learned, isn't about being fake; it's about understanding that your truth is only one part of a larger story.

I've learned when to speak and when to listen. I've learned that silence can be strength and that not every truth is meant to be shouted.

Now, years later, I write this as a young Bonairian who loves this island deeply, its people, its history, its nature, its contradictions.

We have come so far as such a small island. However, we also face major challenges as we look to the future. Having seen much of the world, I can say with pride that Bonaire has everything it needs to stand strong, our people, our culture, our natural beauty and the en-

ergy that runs through every one of our 27,000 loyal residents.

I've learned that leadership and growth don't come from knowing all the answers but from daring to ask better questions, together.

Through writing, I've found peace. Words allow me to process, to reflect, to share, not just about tourism or policies, but about what it means to live and love on this masterpiece of paradise I call home.

That's why I've decided to write this column: to share reflections from both my work and my heart, to spark honest conversations and to invite more voices into the dialogue about our shared future.

My grandparents and my mother always taught me to treat people with love, kindness and respect to speak my truth and never compromise our values.

Those lessons guide me daily, they are my foundation.

So this column will not be perfect. It will be honest, sometimes reflective, sometimes opinionated, sometimes emotional and sometimes. I look forward to sharing this space with you. I'll be exploring and I hope you'll join me.

Small island, I'll see you around.

Remembering Michael's dream



Michael Gaynor, 1946 - 2015
By Henk Roozendaal

On November 8 this year, we are remembering that Michael Gaynor's dream: 100% wheelchair accessible Bonaire. Michael Gaynor passed away 10 years ago and he put all his energy, sweat and tears into starting MiVaBo.

Therefore, MiVaBo is organizing a Potluck on the beach, open to all and located between TWR Radio Station and the Salt Pier. 5 - 7 p.m. Bring a dish to share and your own chair, cup, plate, and utensils.

Diana Gevers writes: Also, we would like to put some small, handmade items in memory of the life of Michael and the topics he was very involved with.

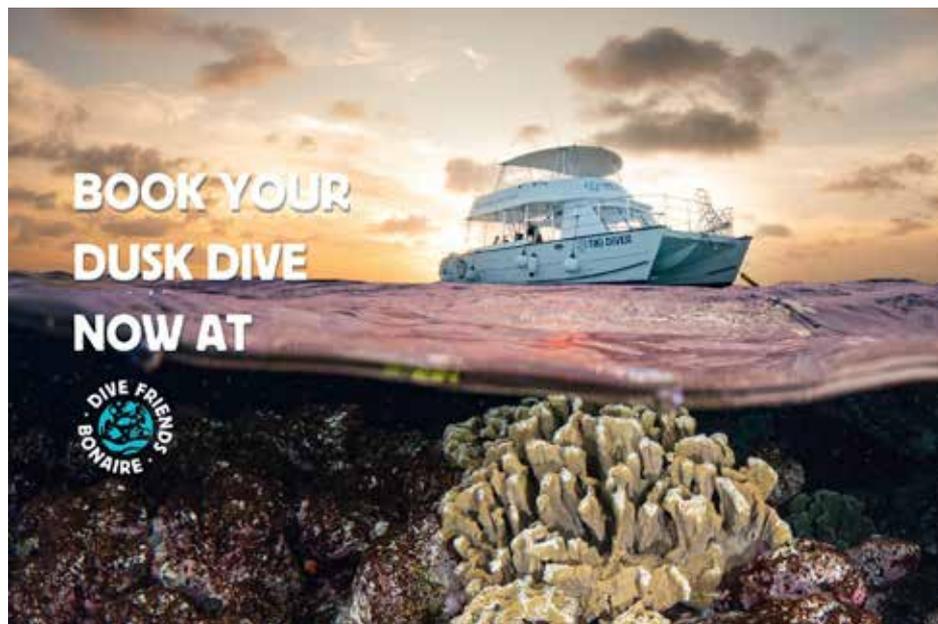


We love to fly with you

Daily Flights to and from Curacao and Aruba

CHARTERS - CARGO - EXPRESS MAIL

FLYDIVIAIR.COM +599-717-2121



BOOK YOUR DUSK DIVE NOW AT



The Netherlands moves back towards the center

The recent elections are expected to result in a new Dutch coalition that is distinctly more centrist. Voters' strongly rejected the governing style of Geert Wilders' outgoing far right PVV party. The PVV won 37 seats in the 2023 election. But non-affiliated Dick Schoof served as proxy prime minister because the other leading parties refused to work with Wilders. In this year's election the PVV won only 26 seats.

Rob Jetten's D66, which won nine seats in 2023, tied the PVV with 26 seats this time. Jetten, who has a reputation for effective leadership and good people skills, is expected to be joined in a centrist coalition by VVD, CDA, and a fourth party yet to be decided. *DMR*

Históriko Kultura foundation appeals to OLB for support

The Fundashon Históriko Kultural Boneriano (FuHi-KuBo) was founded by Bòi Antoin in 1998. In three decades it has accumulated a comprehensive archive of Bonaire's cultural-historical memory. The collection consists of written, audio, and visual materials, and objects.

The archive has outgrown the foundation's ability to care for it. The foundation, which receives a small subsidy from the local government, currently lacks sufficient resources, capacity, and in some areas, expertise needed to ensure the collection's continued existence. Bonaire's largest source of history is at risk. The foundation is appealing to the Executive body for increased financial support. *DMR*

Safety Covenant signed for schools

The Bonaire School Community (SGB), the Caribbean Netherlands Police Force (KPCN), and the Public Entity Bonaire (OLB), will collaborate to improve safety in and around schools. The three parties have agreed to take a joint approach to youth safety.

The agreement is a response to concerns about increasing gun ownership, violence, and criminal influence among young people. The government wants to address these problems with cooperative actions carried out under clear agreements. Their goal is to create a safe and supportive school environment where young people feel protected.

The three parties have signed a covenant entitled "Safety in and around schools on Bonaire 2025–2029." Under the covenant, each party has a specific role

- The Executive Council will of course take the lead and organize consultations and preventive actions.
- The SGB will implement safety policies within the school, report incidents, and involve students, parents, and staff.
- The KPCN will focus on enforcement and investigation. It will also appoint permanent community police officers as contact persons for the schools.

The term of the agreement is four-years (2025–2029). The covenant will be evaluated annually and be revised as the safety situation changes. *DMR*

Rotary receives WEB info we all want to know

At the most recent Rotary Club of Bonaire, Robert Emerenciana, Business Unit Manager Electricity and Hans Staring, water advisor for WEB (Water and Electricity Bonaire) were the featured speakers.

Emerenciana and Staring told the members the rapidly growing demand for water and electricity is a major challenge for WEB. In 2024, water production treatment was expanded modularly and may need to do so again in 2026. An expansion of 13.5 km of the main pipes is planned. Renovation and expansion of connection pipes will be 35 km. New water reservoirs will be built at Seru Langu and Industria Pariba and reservoirs at Seru Langu and Rincon will be overhauled.

Modern techniques for GIS (Geographic Information System), the ERP (Enterprise Resource Planning) computer program and asset management will make the processes manageable. Modifying and expanding a sustainable electrical distribution network is challenging as it involves solar panels and wind turbines. Presently peak production times do not coincide with peak consumption times therefore smart meters are being considered. Preventive maintenance in targeted areas should prevent power outages.

The methods of the RES, the Dutch Regional Energy Strategy, are being used to expand production capacity.

Rotary press release



Clé Brugers wins U16 in Aruba Chess Challenge 2025



Jérónimo Lont competes in U12. Photo BJSC

At the end of Regatta the Bonaire Youth Chess Club (BJSC) traveled to Aruba to compete in the Aruba Chess Challenge, 2025, joining the 155 students from 13 countries who participated in the FIDE tournament.

The U18 had 42 competitors. BJSC's Clé Burgers won the award for best U16, standing in fifth place over all. Also from Bonaire were Adrián Fernandez with four points (nr 13), Winson Cen with four points (nr 15), and Klavin Espinal with three points (nr 22).

In U12 Colin Koolman earned 3rd place, Matthew Wu 4th, Daniel Fransico 7th, Jerónimo Lont 15th, and Nathan Guterrez 18th.

The Open had 41 participants. Christiaan Smeets fought hard, and earned 8th place after losing in the last round against the International Master Jasel Lopez of Aruba.

BJSC leader and coach Serapio Pop said "We are satisfied with the serious participation of our students and next time we will prepare better!"

"We thank INDEBON who helped us with part of the expenses and also other sponsors and the parents themselves who paid for their children to participate. We also thank Charles Lont and Kathiusca Coromoto for their dedication and cooperation in the trip."

Serapio Pop, BJSC leader and coach



Clé Burgers on his way to winning U16. Photo BJSC

Halloween kidlets invade Playa once again



Ghouls, witches, hobbits, mummies, pirates, superheroes and even an avocado swarmed the streets of downtown Bonaire on October 31, Halloween. The kids were in search of one thing – candy – and the 300 kids received it from the 20 participating stores on Kaya Grandi by singing a simple Trick or Treat song.



Remax hands out lots of goodies. Photo Julie Morgan

The costumed children and their parents raced from store to store fueled by sweet treats. They were treated to an ice cream party at Gio's and got a chocolate pizza from Rumba.

The Trick or Treaters were divided into two groups, one making the rounds at 3 p.m. and the other at 4:15 p.m. They were led by the Halloween event founder Corine Gerhart and new helper Jilly Sapong, a STINAPA ranger.

This was the 28th year for the Bonaire Trick or Treat event in downtown Kralendijk, and the second year for Bonaire police department to add to the fun with a photo booth and more sweets for the children. This year Corine received help from Adina Helmbolt and Michele Knuf in managing the logistics, registration and invitations.



Story / photos Julie Morgan



Littman's ladies hand out candy - not jewelry. Photo Julie Morgan



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

original • local • fresh • handmade



ALETTA'S SEMPER KONTENTU
GOAT FARM
Kamuku Tras di Montagne B.V. Bonaire

Shop Open
Mon-Fri
10am - 12pm

Tours 9am
Reservations
+599-786-6950

semperkontentu.wixsite.com



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)

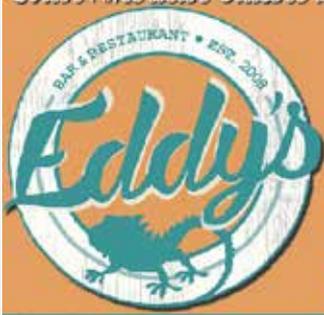
Authentic Indian Cuisine

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



Mon - Sat
5:30 - 10 pm

LIVE Music
Tuesday & Friday

599-717-6731

Gob. Debot 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
<https://www.facebook.com/beerburgersbonaire>



A Happy Place

Mon-Thurs
8-3 / 5-10

Fri-Sat
10-3 / 6-12

Sun - Closed

At the Hato Circle
599-717-7722
599-784-2038



Artisan Bakery Bonaire

The Only Sourdough & Plant-Based Bakery of Bonaire

Bobbejan's

796-4783



BBQ

WEEKENDS & TAKE AWAY ONLY
FRIDAY SATURDAY SUNDAY 6 - 10 PM



WINES & MORE

Take out or Dine in

Kaya L.D. Gerharts 10 Unit 1A - +599 785 0724



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 



The Italian homemade delicatessen

OPEN EVERY DAY FOR:
Monday until Saturday
8am - 10 pm

BREAKFAST LUNCH DINNER

 Sun 8am - 4pm

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



Daily Catch FISHERMAN'S MARKET

Mon to Fri: 10.00-19.00
Sat: 10.00-17.00
Sundays closed!

For orders call or whatsapp:
+599 787 1198

For menu visit:
www.freshfishbonaire.com

CN Care to better fit with European Netherlands

As of January 1, 2026, the care package for Bonaire, St. Eustatius, and Saba will change. The package will better align with the basic package in the European Netherlands and with the practice on the islands.

New reimbursements will be introduced, such as the sleep position trainer as an aid, the combined lifestyle intervention for children, and physiotherapy for people with axial spondyloarthritis. Existing rules concerning transplantation costs, long-term care, newborn blood spot screening, and sleep apnea equip-

ment will be updated. The temporary regulation for post-COVID recovery care will expire.

The BES Healthcare Insurance Claims Regulation (*Regeling aanspraken zorgverzekeringen BES*) is updated annually. More information about the changes is available at:

www.internetconsultatie.nl/wijzigi/gaansprakenpakketbespremie/percentagewerkgeverbes/bl

RCN press release

Finding the numbers

The Federation Dutch Caribbean Mental Health (DCMH) has presented the first regional report for mental healthcare in the Caribbean part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands. It outlines demographic characteristics and diagnoses, and offers strategic recommendations for policy and collaboration.

In 2024, approximately 8,400 clients were treated by the affiliated institutions. Most of these clients received care on their own island. Women constitute 56% of all clients. Furthermore, 30% of clients are under 25, and 30% are over 55. The most common diagnoses are psychotic disorders, depressive disorders, neurodevelopmental disorders, and trauma- and stress-related disorders.

The report represents an important step toward gaining greater insight into mental healthcare in the Caribbean part of the Kingdom, comprising Aruba, Curaçao, St. Maarten, Bonaire, St. Eustatius, and Saba (ABCSSS).

RESPALDO, *Fundacion Salud Mental*
Aruba Press Release



Advocates begin the Dementia Care Pathway

Local organizations held a workshop in October to start the Dementia Care Pathway, a project funded by a ZonMW grant.

Representatives from healthcare & treatment, welfare, government, the police, and various advocacy organizations, including Fundashon Alzheimer Bonaire, gathered with a common goal: to better integrate support for people with dementia and their loved ones.

To begin, Señora Jacqueline shared her compelling, personal story about life with her husband who has dementia. Her candid account highlighted the significant impact dementia has on the individual, their partner, family, and community. Following this, groups brainstormed on how existing services could better collaborate and strengthen each other. Because good dementia care is a shared task, the slogan is: “Tin Sèmper un kaminda si nos bai huntú,” / “If we do it together, we will always find a way.”

The Dementia Care Pathway will be a practical roadmap designed to ensure smooth collaboration and recognizable support for people with dementia and their loved ones, from the first signs to the later stages of the disease.

“Today we once again saw how much commitment and knowledge there is on our island,” said project leader Sigiona Provence of Fundashon Mariadal. “By working together, we can truly make a difference for people with dementia and their loved ones.” A session like this will

be organized at each phase of the project to inform everyone and gather information.

If you would like to learn more about this project, please email Ms. Daniëlle van der Linden, who works for the Public Entity Bonaire, at danielle.vanderlinden@bonairegov.com

ZonMw programs and funds research and innovation in health, care and well-being, stimulates knowledge infrastructures and the use of developed knowledge. Its main clients are the Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport (VWS) and Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NWO).

OLB press release



Effective November 1, 2025 Curvin George will begin his role as Program Manager of Healthcare Capacity in the Caribbean parts of the Kingdom of the Netherlands (Curaçao, Aruba, Sint Maarten, and the Caribbean Netherlands). With this move, he steps down from his current position as Head of Healthcare at ZJCN.

Zorg en Jeugd CN press release

Creating Optimal Health: The fallacy of freedom by Irene da Cunda Costa

Freedom and freewill are among the most cherished ideals of human thought. Philosophers, politicians and revolutionaries have invoked them for centuries as the highest aspirations of human existence. Yet, when scrutinized more deeply, both concepts reveal themselves less as tangible realities and more as abstract constructs: products of human imagination, useful in guiding thought and action but fragile when measured against the complexities of lived existence.

Freedom does not exist in the same way that trees, rivers or bodies exist. It belongs to the realm of abstractions—like justice, beauty or equality. These constructs are meaningful and powerful because they orient human societies and moral codes. Yet they are not empirically observable outside of the interpretive lens through which humans view the world. In this sense, freedom exists in the “ideal realm” of ideas, where it is conceived as pure and indivisible: one is either free or not free, without degrees in between.

The notion of freewill assumes that humans can make unconditioned choices independent of causality. Yet our actions

are inseparably tied to countless conditionings like biological factors (genetic predispositions, evolutionary instincts, neurochemical balances), psychological factors (unconscious beliefs, traumas, and hidden desires), cultural and social programming (childhood upbringing, language, traditions, and social expectations) and material conditions (access to resources, political structures, historical contingencies).

Every “choice” we make is already shaped by layers of conditioning. Even the desire to resist or rebel against one’s conditioning is itself conditioned. Thus, the idea of a pure, autonomous self freely willing its path apart from these influences appears more as a myth than a lived reality.

To our eyes, a bird flying across continents is free, and a bird confined to a cage is not. This illustrates the paradox of freedom. We are tempted to say the flying bird is freer. But is it? Its flight is driven by instinctual programming, migratory patterns embedded in its DNA. The caged bird, too, is subject to forces beyond its control, only these forces happen to be imposed by human hands.

Both operate under conditions they did not choose.

The same applies to humans. A man walking the streets may seem freer than a man locked behind prison bars. But the walking man is still bound by laws, customs, personal fears and unconscious drives that dictate his movements. The prisoner may be less free in a physical sense, but both are navigating conditions they did not author.

If we abandon the idealistic, all-or-nothing definition of freedom, we may find a more useful, gradual conception. Freedom, then, becomes not an absolute state but a matter of degrees: the expansion or contraction of possibilities within given conditions. A society may create broader conditions for individual expression; an individual may cultivate awareness that loosens the grip of unconscious patterns.

In this view, freedom is not the absence of constraints but the capacity to recognize them, negotiate them, and sometimes transcend them. It is a practice, not a static possession.

The fallacy of freedom and freewill lies in mistaking the ideal for the real. Pure freedom, the complete absence of conditioning, belongs only to abstraction, not to real life. Yet this does not make the concepts meaningless. Like other ideals, freedom serves as a horizon, something toward which humans strive, even if it can never be fully attained.

We are not free in the absolute sense, but we can become freer through self-awareness, social structures that expand human dignity, and a continual questioning of the invisible forces that shape us. Freedom, then, is less a fact to be possessed and more a direction in which to grow.

”



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.

Master in Nutrition(IUSC) and Yoga Instructor.

The Bonaire Reporter Nov. 5 - Nov. 19, 2025



Two turtles grace divers during cleanup

The divers at Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire's (STCB) monthly fishing line cleanup were treated with not one but two turtles at the South Pier on November 2. A green turtle greeted the divers as they entered and stuck around till the finish while a large hawksbill swam through for a quick inspection of the divers' work. The 38 divers collected a large tub of line and another with straps, hats, cans and other refuse. Unfortunately, there was still more to collect before the dive time ran out.

Fishing line and other debris pose a huge threat to turtles and other marine life and the only way to remove it is by divers carefully removing it manually.

We hope you will join STCB on the next scheduled cleanup in December. Tanks are always free and you never know what you will see. *Story / Photo Julie Morgan*

A New Chapter Begins at Captain Don's Habitat

Since 1976, we've been the Home of Diving Freedom — rooted in sustainability, adventure and a deep love for the ocean. Today, we proudly unveil our new logo and brand identity, reflecting the growth of Habitat Bonaire into a destination that welcomes divers, families, honeymooners, eco-travelers and explorers of all kinds.

One thing remains unchanged, Captain Don's Legendary Dive Shop continues with its original, iconic logo, the same passionate team and the same world-class diving you know and love. This isn't a departure from our past — it's an expansion of our future. *Habitat Bonaire / Photo Julie Morgan*



Sapadilla Chutney by Chef Corjan Hoogerheide

500 g (2 C) flesh of sapadilla fruit, coarsely chopped • 200 g (1 2/3 C) of onions, chopped • 40 g (1/3 C) fresh ginger, grated • 1 Spanish pepper, finely chopped • 5 cloves of garlic, minced • 2 teaspoons curry powder • 1 teaspoon ginger powder • 200 g (1 2/3 C) of sugar • 3 dl (10 oz) vinegar • 2 dl (6 3/4 oz) water • 50 g (1.76 oz) of ginger syrup • Salt and pepper

Bring all ingredients to the boil in a heavy

bottomed saucepan. Simmer gently, stirring regularly (be careful not to burn), until almost all the liquid has evaporated and a nice thick chutney has formed. Let it sit overnight so that the flavors can still meld.

Serve with, for example, a nice piece of fried tuna, brown bread with old cheese or turkey fillet from the BBQ.

Sometimes it is also called "paradilla" in local pronunciation (a corruption of sapodilla).



Each issue Chef Corjan Hoogerheide shares a recipe for a personal dish created from Bonaire's fresh ingredients. Corjan works as a Sous Chef at "The Reef Bar" at Sorobon luxury beach resort Bonaire.

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

Buena vista
Perfect Service and Quality - Our Passion!
 Experienced Staff - Eye Exams on Site - Insurance Accepted - Advanced Equipment
 Lens Fabrication - Over 1000 different frames and sunglasses
 Ray Ban, Oakley, Maui Jim and more
 Mon-Fri 9-12 / 2-6
 Kaya Grandi 36 **Optics** Tel: +599-7179181

Events, Meetings, Sports

12 steps meeting: Wednesdays at Kaya Cacique, Centro di bario Nort'i Saliña, 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.

Beach Tennis Bonaire Free. Everyone welcome. Sportpark Rudy Boezem. Open 7 a.m.-9 p.m. <https://www.facebook.com/beachtennisbonaire/>

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>

Consultancy open to all immigrants and/or refugees every Saturday 4 to 6 p.m. at Bijkerk's law office in Antriol. Call 796 2650 (abog. Bijkerk) or 787 2373 (FUIB - Union of Bonairean Immigrants).

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.

Fish ID course. Free. 7 p.m. at Trans World Radio (TWR) led by Carmen Toanchina. All welcome. Held last Tuesday of the month. Check: <https://www.reef.org/events/month>

JEU De BOULES CLUB Bonaire. ALL WELCOME to this very social sport. We play **PETANQUE** (the French version). Wed. & Sun. 2.30-6 p.m. Happy's Food & Drinks (road to Sorobon). We have spare boules (balls) for newcomers. jeudeboulebonaire@gmail.com or Peter Overman, 00599 7964037

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) Bonaire. GET RID OF YOUR DRUG ADDICTION Monday 19:00-20:00. Kaya Tanki Matrimonio 30. Dutch & Papiamentu. Call Wensley 700 7289 or Remco 784 1782.

Paws and Foot Prints bi-weekly dog walking group. Every other Wednesday 8 a.m. for an hour at Seru Langu. 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 Lac, Blue Building: Tues. & Thurs 6-8 p.m. Sat. 3 to 5 p.m. • **Sports Hall Jorge Nicolaas, Kaya Amsterdam:** Sun. 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Members play free, non-members pay \$ 5.00 per person per day.

Rosicrucian Order, AMORC in Bonaire Contact Michiel Bijkerk, tel: 796 2650, e-mail: abogado.bijkerk@gmail.com

Sunfish Race Days: Barring inclement weather: BSSA Bonaire Sailing School Association Facebook.

Tennis Eddie's courts. Everyone (18+) is welcome. **Free Kid's Clinics at Sentro di Bario Nikiboko Tue & Fri 4-6 p.m. Sentro di Bario Nort'i Saliña, Mon & Thu 4-6 p.m.** Register: email info@bonairetennisassociation.com or app 599 782 4569. <https://bonairetennisassociation.com/events/> **Tennis Mixed Competitions.** Mixed competition matches play Saturdays 4 to 10 p.m. on Eddie's courts. Match days are Sept. 28, Oct. 4, 18, 25, and Nov. 1.

 **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.** Presentations: Nov 3 & Nov. 10 - Divi Resort Pure Ocean Garden; Nov 17th - Toucan Diving at Plaza Resort
Nicole Pelletier of the Caribbean Islands Manta Conservation.
Email: nicole.pelletier@mantatrust.org ; [Caribbean Islands Manta Conservation facebook](#)

 **Reef Renewal Bonaire.** Mondays 5:30 p.m. Breakfast Area – Buddy Dive Resort. Free. Open to everyone. Learn about coral reef restoration on Bonaire. Come to an informative presentation on restoring Bonaire's coral reefs. Questions? email: info@reefrenwalbonaire.org

 **Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire (STCB).** Free presentations at Kaya Aruba 4E on 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month, 8 p.m. See facebook. <https://www.facebook.com/bonaireturtles/> **2025 sea turtle nesting season** May to December. Join a nest monitoring patrol on Klein Bonaire. M, W or F. \$40 donation for adults and \$20 for children under 12 (and residents). <https://www.bonaireturtles.org/wp/nest-monitoring-patrols/>

 **Sobremesa Kas di Arte** View or buy art from Bonaire's local artists. Tue-Fri 2 - 5 p.m. Sat 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Abraham Boulevard 10. **For those who love to make art themselves:**

- Every Sat 11 - 2. Open Art Studio. \$5 to use our space and materials but no guidance. 12+
- Every Wed 7 - 9 p.m. Art Club. \$20 for all materials and professional help is available! Work on your own art project (2D). 16+ Whatsapp +599 700 7115 • email: sobremesabonaire@gmail.com

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. 715 5344. Anyone can become a member. Free for residents 0 to 18 years. Adults \$10 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.): Kaya Gilberto F Croes, just past Caribbean Laundry. Saturdays 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/>

SACA Art Center Free entrance. Kaya Korona 74. During the day the garden is open to the public.

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

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

Oct. 13 to Nov. 14	Join the "We're part of nature" Challenge Film a short video anywhere in Bonaire's nature and post it to https://www.facebook.com/NTBDN See page 20.
Specific dates Oct. 18 to Nov. 13	Flu shots and COVID vaccine For age 60 and over and those with a serious illness. see page 15.
Starting Thurs. October 23	Tera Barra gives away 800 Kibrahacha trees Pick up your seedling (1 per person) Thursdays and Fridays 8 a.m. to 12 noon, Saturdays 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Wednesday, Nov. 5	Fact-finding workshops on climate change & gender inequality In Dutch: Societat, Rincon, 6 - 8 p.m. Infor or registration: terramarmuseum@gmail.com / 701 4700
Thursday, Nov. 6	Lecture in Dutch at Terramar Museum: Consequences of outcome of Dutch Parliament Elections. Given by Wouter Veenendaal, Leiden University. 6-8 p.m. Registration is recommended. Questions? Email terramarmuseum@gmail.com or WhatsApp message +599 701 4700
Friday, Nov. 7	Big Live Nature Quiz - Kids Edition 8:30-9:15 a.m. Teams or individuals. For primary school kids, grades 5 & 6 (Dutch system groups 7 & 8) Registration required. see page 15. https://dcnnature.org/quiz/
Saturday, Nov. 8	Potluck in Michael Gaynor's honor. 5 - 7 p.m. Location: between TWR Radio Station and the Salt Pier. Bring a dish to share and your own chair, cup, plate, and utensils. See page 6.)
Nov. 8 to 15	Kids' Book Week. See page 5.
Nov. 10 to 15	Adventure with Rhythm Week for kids 4 - 12. With artist Tio Ali. For info contact EKADKBonaire@gmail.com or call +599 790 0155. See page 20.
Nov. 11 to Dec. 4	Pick up your BSN. Locations to be announced on OLB website.
Nov. 17 to 23	Global Entrepreneurship Week (GEW). See page 15.
Fri., Sat., Sun. Nov. 21, 22, 23	3-Day Tennis Tournament: Carl's 50 Doubles Open Cup Bonaire On courts at Sabedeco & Eddy's. Register carlstennisservices@gmail.com / +599790 3777 +31641772707
Sat. November 29 Sun. November 30	Kaminda di Arte. Art studios, galleries and museums will open their doors and over 30 artists will present their work and illustrate their individual creative process. Updated info: www.sobremesa-bonaire.com
Sat. November 29	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. https://www.facebook.com/mangazinadirei/
Weekends Nov 29 & 30 Dec 6 & 7	Tennis Federation Championship, singles and doubles: Information and registration until Nov. 22 via info@bonairetennisassociation.com or WhatsApp 599 782 4569, Eva, Astrid, Peter, and Paul

2025 Cruise Ship Schedule

DATE	TIME	CRUISE SHIP	PIER
Wed. November 5	0800-1600	CARNIVAL VISTA 4683 guests	South
Thurs. November 6	0830-1800	CELEBRITY SILHOUETTE 2886 guests	South
	1330-1900	ROYAL CLIPPER 246 guests	North
Fri. November 7	0800-2300	ZUIDERDAM 2502 guests	North
Sat. November 8	1200-2200	INSIGNIA 702 guests	North
Tues. November 11	0700-1800	SERENADE OF THE SEAS 2500 guests	North
	0700-2000	ROTTERDAM 2668 guests	South
Wed. November 12	0730-2200	CARNIVAL HORIZON 4683 guests	South
Thurs. November 13	0500-2000	SEVEN SEAS SPLENDOR 754 guests	North
Mon. November 24	0600-1800	MSC DIVINA 4345 guests	South
	0830-1500	ROYAL CLIPPER 246 guests	North

You can help keep Bonaire clean

Saturdays	One Hour Cleanup Power. Weekly coastal clean up every Sat. 9 – 10 a.m. Location on FB: https://www.facebook.com/OneHourCleanUpPower/
Sunday, Nov. 9	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



You can watch episodes of Way a Bo Man on the [Youtube channel of Public Body Bonaire.](#)

BSN pick-up weeks



The BSN pick-up weeks are about to start! Will you be picking up your BSN letter?

Starting November 11, every resident of Bonaire, St. Eustatius, and Saba will receive their own personal Citizen Service Number (BSN). The pick-up weeks run from November 11th to December 4th. During this time, everyone can pick up their BSN letter without an appointment at the designated locations. To ensure everyone is served efficiently, extra staff will be deployed during these weeks.

After the pick-up weeks, the BSN can always be requested from the Census Office.

The BSN is your unique, personal number. You're getting it now so you can take care of government business online in the future. Receiving a BSN is a first step toward better government services. Please keep your BSN safe and do not just share your BSN with others.

Communication SSO-CN

NOTE: The pick-up locations and times are due to be published on the OLB website, but as of press time none had not appeared.

Global Entrepreneurship Week 2025: Dream It, Build It, Own It

Global Entrepreneurship Week (GEW) is celebrated in over 200 countries. It serves as a platform to inspire individuals and communities to explore their potential as innovators and business creators.

Throughout November, GEW-Bonaire and the Small Business Foundation (Fundashon Negoshi Pikina - FNP) will bring together entrepreneurs, students, professionals, and community members to explore how creativity, collaboration, and resilience can transform ideas into reality. (See also below)

[Details: GEWBonaire on Facebook](#)



Register Right NOW!

November 5. Two Zoom events

1. Registration Deadline: November 5.

GEW 2025 Masterclass Series Nov. 10, 12 & 14.

Luncheon & Keynote Nov. 17 for Bonaire-based participants.

\$ 75 Students \$ 65. In partnership with GEW-Curaçao and University for Peace (UPEACE) as part of Global Entrepreneurship Week (GEW). Presenter: S Mohit Mukherjee has a masters degree from Harvard Graduate School of Education. He's the Founding Director of the UPEACE Centre for Executive Education. [Details: GEWBonaire on Facebook](#)

2. Wednesday November 5, 2 p.m.

Symposium: Healthy Waters. Thriving Nature. Vibrant Communities

The event is in Curaçao, and is available via Zoom. Online registration is free and open to all. https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_NjtTDAPLTUeaTkXPousj1A#/registration
Hosted by Dutch Caribbean Nature Alliance (DCNA) in partnership with Caribbean Research and Management of Biodiversity (CARMABI) Foundation. This event brings together scientists, decision-makers, community representatives and conservation practitioners from across the Caribbean to spotlight the vital links between water quality, human health and ecosystem resilience.

Corona and flu shots scheduled

People aged 60 and over and those under 60 with a serious illness or working in health care can now get the flu shot, the COVID vaccine, or both.

- **At Jong Bonaire or at the community centers you can get both shots.** Residents are asked to bring their ID. If you are taking medication, bring a list of your medications. Before receiving the COVID vaccination, you will be asked a few questions.
- **Patients of Rincon Medical Center** can get their flu and COVID vaccinations at that practice without an appointment from October 20 to November 21.
- **At other GPs,** only the flu vaccination is available. Patients do not need an appointment.

For questions about the flu or COVID vaccination, call +599 777 6102 during office hours, or an email to izb@bonairegov.com. For information visit www.bonairegov.com/prikken

Jong Bonaire Kaya Simon Bolivar 16 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.	Antriol Sentro di bario 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.	Nort'i Salina Sentro di bario 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.	Tera Kora 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
	Tuesday, Oct. 28.	Thursday, Oct. 30.	Wednesday, Oct. 29.
Saturday, Nov. 1	Tuesday, Nov. 4.	Thursday, Nov. 6.	Wednesday, Nov. 5.
Saturday, Nov. 8	Tuesday, Nov. 11.	Thursday, Nov. 13.	Wednesday, Nov. 12.

Church Services

Roman Catholic Churches Bonaire

- **Parish La Birgen di Coromoto (ANTRIOL):** Holy Masses: Mon-6:30 a.m.; Tues & Thur -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: M. W. F. Sat-7 p.m. Sun-9 a.m./7 p.m.
- **Parish Luis Beltran (RINCON):** Holy Masses: Tu. W.Th. 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 in English.

United Protestant Congregation

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

New Sexual Health Clinic and more condom machines for Bonaire



Starting October 15, residents of Bonaire can attend a new sexual health clinic run by GGD Bonaire. This clinic is for anyone with questions about love, sex, relationships, contraception, or STIs (sexually transmitted infections). You can also get a free and anonymous STI test.

This clinic is accessible and anonymous and is held at various locations on the island. The nurses at the clinic speak Papiamentu, Dutch, English, and Spanish. They are avail-

able Monday through Friday between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. The nurses can be reached by phone and WhatsApp at +599 790-7373.

The GGD Bonaire is also expanding the number of condom vending machines on the island. The machines can be used anonymously, and a condom costs just \$0.50 each. The full list of locations can be found on the Public Entity Bonaire website via this link (<https://bonairegov.com/inwoners/condoom-automaat>).

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 AT
RE/MAX
PARADISE HOMES BONAIRE
00 599 717 - 7362
www.bonairehomes.com
jean@bonairehomes.com




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



BLUE SKY SOLAR
GO SOLAR
+599-784-1782



MANGROVE MANIACS
LAC RESTORATION PROJECT



TEKIBON
(Tekila & Rum)
Unique Liqour
Made on Bonaire
Cruise Market - Van den Tweel
The Place (Kaya Grandi 8)
Tambo (Kaya Grandi 11)
+599-787-7348 / +599-786-2686



The Reporter
read locally
AND internationally
Reach thousands
Advertise here

petals
BONAIRE
Order online!
www.petalsbonaire.com



THE STOREHOUSE MANGASINA
STORING EVERYTHING UNDER THE SUN



CARIBBEAN ISLANDS MANTA CONSERVATION PROGRAM



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
BONAIRE@XPRODIVER.COM
777-7333 (REEF)



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



Help your clients find you.
Advertise here.

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
taandprothetische praktijk



Pets of the Week

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



The Chips Family

Meet Cheeto (right), Wokkel (left) and Taki (bottom).

They are now 14 weeks old, and ready for adoption! Cheeto is the crazy cheese puff, Wokkel sometimes puts himself in some weird positions. And Taki is our spicy girl. They were brought in two months ago with their mother Frito. Mama Frito gave birth under someone's bed, and unfortunately could not stay. The kittens are playful and healthy now that they don't nurse with mama anymore. We are looking for good homes for them.

Come and meet our little Chips family!

Story / Photo: Bo Attevelt

Meet Rosso.

Rosso is a 7.5 year old, handsome black Belgian Malinois who's ready for a fresh start. Here at the animal shelter Rosso has shown us what a sweet and affectionate dog he is. He loves people and enjoys being petted and spending time with humans.

Despite his age, Rosso is still full of energy. His favorite spot is a self-dug hole under his doghouse, where he loves to relax. He gets along well with female dogs of his own size or bigger.

Rosso came to us because he wasn't a great match with a new, smaller dog that joined his previous family. Because of this, he's not the best fit for small breeds, and we want to make sure he finds a forever home that truly suits him. During his time with us, we haven't seen any signs of aggression, quite the opposite, in fact. He loves spending time with his two girlfriends and enjoys being outdoors.

Rosso would be happy in a home where he can be active, get his cuddles, and have a nice yard where he can keep an eye on things and relax in, or under a dog house. If you're looking for a loyal, loving companion, come meet Rosso!



Rosso

Rosso Story / Photo: Marissa Lamers

Make Bonaire Accessible

You only have to make that first step

by Ria Dokter

It had a very interesting morning. So nice, that I decided to share it with all of you. I was picked up early at home by a volunteer from Hofi Kultural. She coordinates all the activities for the Friday morning gatherings. She must be on time to get everything ready; make coffee and prepare for what might be needed to spend a nice morning.

One by one everyone arrived, some by themselves or some with a peer or family member. Those who can do so helped get set up all the chairs and folding tables because you never know how many will be joining.

People who need help with transportation, only have to ask and someone is always willing to drive you. One can feel right away that everybody is very welcome. Every newcomer is greeted warmly and people sit where they like.

If you have a craft to work on, you can bring it along. If you don't, no problem. One can choose from a great amount of crafting material and a volunteer or group member will help you get started.

Volunteers offer refreshments, give help, advice, or if needed, an open ear. Only women used to come, but now also men participate. One gentleman with a disability and feeling very lonely, wanted to come and play chess or checkers. He came and has never been without a sparring partner. Today was his birthday and we, of course, all broke out in a happy birthday song, and he was hugged and congratulated by the whole group. The smile did not leave his face.

The people who brought a craft with them really did not feel like crafting, but instead needed to chat and so they did. A group of potential volunteers sat in their group close by to feel the ambience. Later they joined us, talked and had coffee.

Not everyone is a crafter, like the gentleman who joins his wife every Friday. But he is an excellent singer and guitar player, so that is what he does. He does what he loves and we all like it.

So, you see, you only have to make that first step to come and join the participants at Hofi Kultural. Everybody has a different need or reason to visit. And if you decide you want to come, the volunteers will make it happen.

I for one, am very happy I joined.

To join Hofi Kultural weekly events for the elderly call +599 700 5304 or visit website hofikultural.com to sign up under 'Contact.'



Ria Dokter is living happily on Bonaire, where she 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.

Ria Dokter is living happily on Bonaire, where she used to work as a director at FKPD and started Special Olympics Bonaire. She took care of her

Animal Shelter Bonaire Behind the scenes of our cat quarantine



When new cats or kittens arrive at the Shelter, they don't go straight into our Cat Palace. First, they stay in our quarantine area, a quiet space where they can rest, get checked and make sure they're healthy before meeting the other cats.

This is very important, because many of our new cats have lived outside without vaccines or regular care. During quarantine we deworm them, treat for fleas and ticks, give them their vaccines and do health checks.

One of the most important things we do is test for two viruses: FIV (Feline Immunodeficiency Virus) and FeLV (Feline Leukemia Virus). Sadly, both are quite common on Bonaire, so we have to be extra careful.

Kittens are often too young to test when they arrive. It's hard to take blood from very small kittens, and the results may not be correct yet. Usually they can be tested only when they're around five months old.

FIV is spread mostly through bites between cats, so it's usually seen in older outdoor cats that fight. When a mother tests positive, the chances are high that the kittens are infected as well.

FeLV (cat leukemia) spreads in a different way, through close contact like sharing food or water bowls, grooming each other, or licking. Because it spreads so easily, cats with FeLV cannot live together with healthy cats. Some cats can fight off this virus and later test negative again, so we always test carefully before letting any cat join the others.

If a cat does test positive, we have to make a very difficult decision and the cat is humanely euthanized. This is to protect all the healthy cats on the island and prevent the virus from spreading further. It's very sad, but it's part of responsible shelter care.

And that's also why visitors can't see our smallest kittens yet. It's not because we don't want to show them off, we just want to keep them safe, healthy and ready for the day they can meet their new families.

We hope you now have a better idea of what happens behind the scenes, and why our cats stay in quarantine for a while.

But of course, you are always welcome to visit the friendly cats in our Cat Palace, they can't wait to meet you!

Marissa Lamers

A Garden? Just Do It! - Wonders!

by Angliet, Nature Lover

I have seen wonders in my garden these last weeks. It has been a total change so I'm calling it the great garden makeover. During the two heavy rains water poured out of the sky, my street was like a river, and my yard turned into a lake, but it was exactly what we needed.

The rains were short but just enough to make a difference. Before all the plants were almost lifeless and grey, and after everything was suddenly green, shiny and vital.

This is what rain water does to plants. No WEB water, bottled water, beerput (cesspit) water can make the plants as strong and vital as rain water. As always, I caught the rainwater in buckets and Selibon containers. I then watered the plants everyday, so hopefully they could recover from the traumatic experience of the heavy drought.

Because of the rain the plants will produce a lot of young sprouts and start blooming. It's unbelievable, but the mango tree has produced flowers in the two weeks since the rain. The almost empty papaya tree has a lot of young leaves again and young papayas are beginning. The cherry tree is blooming as it always does after rain showers.

If your trees show a lot young sprouts, chop some off because if there are too many the tree will not grow fruit because it's busy giving all its food and energy to the young sprouts. But if you want your tree to grow big because you want shade in the yard, then keep the sprouts as they will become stems. If you want the tree to grow high, remove all the sprouts low on the trunk. For a tree to remain low with wide stems then chop off the top of the tree.



After the two rain showers a green garden
Photo Angliet Baidjoe

After the rain, the grass and weeds will grow fast so prepare your grass cutter. If you wait until the grass has seeds, you will get a bushy yard which is not good if you suffer from hay fever. So trim the grass before flowering.

When the new rainy season starts it is time to start gardening. I wish you happy gardening. May you joyfully grow healthy ingredients for great meals.

Angliet Baidjoe grew up in the Surinam jungle, moved to the Netherlands as a teen, and trained as a teacher, then in Alternative Healing. Everywhere she has lived, she has planted a garden and grown her own food.



Tio Ali is coming to ACE

Well-known Curaçaoan artist Tio Ali is heading to Bonaire to be a part of ACE (Art Culture Education) foundation's "Aventura ku Ritmo" (Adventure with Rhythm) week November 10 – 15.

Ali is coming to inspire children, teachers and after school caregivers with his "Entertain to Educate" method.



The entire week will be filled with music and being creative. Workshops and interactive performances are designed for kids 4 – 12.

ACE hopes to show that education and enjoyment can go hand in hand and with Ali's visit kids and teachers will be able to experience this creative approach firsthand.

Location and the program will be announced soon. For more information contact EKADKBonaire@gmail.com or call +599 790 0155.



ROCARGO

LOGISTICS SERVICES B.V.



**AMCAR
FREIGHT**

 | 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

Lyrics to the song *Biba Salú* in four languages. See story page 1.

Biba salú – by Roël Calister, featuring Luis Moka and kids from Leerorkest Bonaire (choir)

Papiamentu

Bonaire!
Hisa bo man si bo ta kome salú.
Nami un gritu si bo ta hasi deporte.
Bati bo man si bo ta drumi trèmpan.
Mi ke wak bo bula si bo ta stima.
Wòti, Walnoot, Bitá Banana, Zula Pampuna,
Awasio —
Ta nos superhéroenan lokal ku ta inspirá nos
muchanan pa nos tur por:
Kome salú, biba salú, pensa salú, bebe salú!
Ai, bebe awa! Biba salú

Drumi trèmpan, sòsega e kurpa pa bo no
kansa. Biba salú
Oh, kome bon!
Fruta, berdura ku ta dunabo vitamina. Biba
salú
Hai kuminda di tera! Biba salú
Pampuna, patia, maishi grandi – e ta na
moda! Biba salú
E ta na moda!
Kosecha di mi tera ta produsí muchanan
fuerte. Biba salú

(Kids solo)

Mi ta kome bonchi!
Ami ke pampuna!
Nami awakati, maishi chikitu ku grandi ku tur!
Mi gusta koko!
Ami shimaruku!
Mi ke makaprún, kenepa ku mango!

Hisa bo man si bo ta kome salú.
Nami un gritu si bo ta hasi deporte.
Bati bo man si bo ta drumi trèmpan.
Mi ke wak bo bula si bo ta stima bo kurpa.
Hópi moveshon, hópi akshon, tene kurpa den
bon kondishon.
Mahinta ta salí move, bisti keds bai veld bai
kore.
Kome kos bon balansa, ora di move no tin
kuenta di kánsa!
Anto ban ku e mente aktivo, pensamentunan
bon positivo.

Sigui bebe awa! Biba salú
Ma sa ku mi kome bon, mi por biba mas. Biba
salú
Masha tempu m'a kambia, ta kos di tera mi ta
kome. Biba salú
Ki bo sa di lanta mahinta, kome patia, warda
merdia – yuka pa nos haña!
Ai, ranka bara di bonchi di kunuku i e òksnan
aki pa nos haña.
No duna e mucha batata ku zeta pa e haña!
Oh, sali hunga bala, kore tras di yuana.
Huza meña pa bala, traha gol ku pida baran-
ka.
Tuturututu! Konvoi a yega pa nos bai landa!
Eh, hunga ninichi na kas di wela na Amboina!

Biba salú

English translation of 'Biba salú'

Bonaire!
Raise your hand if you eat healthy!
Shout out loud if you do sports!
Clap your hands if you go to bed early!
I want to see you jump if you love—
Wòti Walnoot, Bitá Banana, Zula Pampuna,
Awasio!
They are our local superheroes who inspire
our children so that we all can
Eat healthy, live healthy, think healthy, drink
healthy!
Hey, drink water! Live Healthy!

Sleep early to rest your body so you don't get
tired! Live Healthy
Oh, eat well! Live Healthy
Fruits and vegetables give you vitamins! Live
Healthy
Hey, food from the land! Live Healthy
Pumpkin, watermelon, big corn, it's the trend!
Live Healthy
It's in style!
The harvest of our land produces strong chil-
dren! Live Healthy

(Kids solo)

I eat beans!
I love pumpkin!
Give me avocado, little and big corn, and all
of it!
I like coconut!
I eat shimaruku (Acerola Cherry)
I want makaprún (hog plum/ jocote), kenepa
(genip / Spanish lime) and mango!

Raise your hand if you eat healthy!
Shout out loud if you do sports!
Clap your hands if you go to bed early!
I want to see you jump if you love your body!
Lots of movement, lots of action—keep your
body in good condition!
Morning comes, get moving, put on your
sneakers, go to the field and run!
Eat balanced food, when it's time to move,
you won't feel tired!
And let's keep our minds active, with good
and positive thoughts!

Keep drinking water!
Because I know that if I eat well, I can live
better!
I made the change long time ago, I eat food
from the land!
When you wake up early, eat watermelon,
and at noon—cassava for us to enjoy!
Hey, pull some beans from the garden and
the okra that grows for us to eat!
Don't give the child fried potatoes—give them
real food!
Go out and play ball, run after the iguana!
Make a ball out of socks, form your goal posts
with rocks!
Toot toot toot! The bus has arrived, let's go
swimming!
Hey, play marble's at grandma's house in
Amboina!

Live Healthy!

Nederlandse version 'Biba salú'

Bonaire!
Steek je hand op als je gezond eet!
Roep hard als je aan sport doet!
Klap in je handen als je vroeg gaat slapen!
Ik wil je zien springen als je houdt van...
Wòti, walnoot, bittere banaan, zoete pom-
poen, awasio!
Zij zijn onze lokale superhelden die onze kin-
deren inspireren zodat wij allemaal
Gezond kunnen eten, gezond kunnen lev-
en, gezond kunnen denken, gezond kunnen
drinken!
Hé, drink water! Leef Gezond!

Ga vroeg slapen, rust je lichaam uit zodat je
niet moe wordt. Leef Gezond!
Oh, eet goed! Leef Gezond!
Fruit en groenten geven je vitamines. Leef
Gezond!
Eet voedsel van onze eigen grond! Leef Ge-
zond!
Pompoen, watermeloen, grote maïs – dat is
helemaal in! Leef Gezond!
Ja, dat is in de mode!
De oogst van ons land maakt sterke kin-
deren. Leef Gezond!

(Kinderen solo)

Ik eet bonen!
Ik hou van pompoen!
Geef me avocado, kleine en grote maïs – al-
lemaal!
Ik hou van kokosnoot!
Ik eet shimaruku (acerola-kers)!
Ik wil makaprún (hog-plum / rode pruim), ke-
nepa (genip / Spaanse limoen) en mango!

Steek je hand op als je gezond eet!
Roep hard als je aan sport doet!
Klap in je handen als je vroeg gaat slapen!
Ik wil je zien springen als je van je lichaam
houdt!

Veel beweging, veel actie – houd je lichaam
in goede conditie!
's Morgens, kom in beweging, trek je sneak-
ers aan, ga naar het veld en ren!
Eet evenwichtig – als het tijd is om te bewe-
gen, voel je geen vermoeidheid!
En houd ook je geest actief, met goede en
positieve gedachten!

Blijf water drinken! Leef Gezond!
Want ik weet dat als ik goed eet, ik beter kan
leven. Leef Gezond!
Ik ben al veranderd – ik eet voedsel van onze
eigen grond. Leef Gezond!
Sta vroeg op, eet watermeloen, en 's mid-
dags – yuca om van te genieten!
Pluk bonen uit de tuin en de okra die groeit
voor ons om te eten!
Geef het kind geen gefrituurde batata – geef
hem echt eten!
Ga naar buiten om te voetballen, ren achter
de leguaan aan!
Maak een bal van sokken, bouw je doelpalen
van stenen!
Toet-toet-toet! De bus is er, we gaan zwem-
men!
Hé, speel knikkers bij oma thuis in Amboina!

Leef Gezond!

Spanish translation of 'Biba salú'

¡Bonaire!
¡Levanta la mano si comes saludable!
¡Grita fuerte si haces deporte!
¡Aplauda si te acuestas temprano!
¡Quiero verte saltar si amas...!
¡Wòti, nuez, banana amarga, calabaza dulce,
awasio!
¡Son nuestros superhéroes locales que in-
spiran a nuestros niños para que todos po-
damos
Comer sano, vivir sano, pensar sano y beber
sano!
¡Ey, bebe agua! ¡Vive Saludable!

Duerme temprano, relaja tu cuerpo para no
cansarte. ¡Vive Saludable!
¡Oh, come bien! ¡Vive Saludable!
Las frutas y verduras te dan vitaminas. ¡Vive
Saludable!
¡Comida de nuestra tierra! ¡Vive Saludable!
Calabaza, patilla, maíz grande – ¡están de
moda! ¡Vive Saludable!
¡Sí, están de moda!
La cosecha de nuestra tierra produce niños
fuertes. ¡Vive Saludable!

(Niños solo)

¡Yo como frijoles!
¡Me encanta la calabaza!
¡Dame aguacate, maíz pequeño y grande –
todos!
¡Me gusta el coco!
¡Yo como shimaruku (cereza acerola)!
¡Quiero makaprún (ciruela roja / hog-plum),
kenepa (limón español / genip) y mango!

¡Levanta la mano si comes saludable!
¡Grita fuerte si haces deporte!
¡Aplauda si te acuestas temprano!
¡Quiero verte saltar si amas tu cuerpo!

¡Mucho movimiento, mucha acción – mantén
tu cuerpo en buena condición!
Por la mañana muévete, ponte tus tenis, ve
al campo y corre.
Come balanceado – cuando sea hora de
moverte, no sentirás cansancio.
Y mantén tu mente activa, con pensamientos
buenos y positivos.

¡Sigue bebiendo agua! ¡Vive Saludable!
Porque sé que si como bien, puedo vivir me-
jor. ¡Vive Saludable!
Ya he cambiado – ahora como comida de la
tierra. ¡Vive Saludable!
Al despertar temprano, come patilla y al me-
diódía – ¡yuca para disfrutar!
Arranca frijoles del conuco y la okra que
crece para nosotros.
No le des al niño batata frita – ¡dale comida
verdadera!
Sal a jugar fútbol, corre detrás de la iguana.
Haz una pelota con calcetines, ¡con piedras
haz los arcos!
¡Tuturututu! ¡El autobús ha llegado, vamos a
nadar!
¡Eh, juega canicas en casa de la abuela en
Amboina!

¡Vive Saludable!

Coral Spawning Predictions for the Southern Caribbean

2025

Dear spawning community, wow, 2024 was rough. Corals in our region suffered from Stony Coral Tissue Loss Disease plus the hottest year on record. By fall spawning season, surviving corals were too stressed to spawn and much of the Caribbean saw nearly complete spawning failure. But this year, the water is cooler and surviving corals are spawning. We do suggest watching for an extra month if possible, because early full moons and cooler water may delay spawning as corals recover/recalibrate. Wishing a prolific spawn to all!

November Corals

NAFM	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
DATE	Wed 5-Nov	Thu 6-Nov	Fri 7-Nov	Sat 8-Nov	Sun 9-Nov	Mon 10-Nov	Tue 11-Nov	Wed 12-Nov	Thu 13-Nov	Fri 14-Nov	Sat 15-Nov	Sun 16-Nov	Mon 17-Nov	Tue 18-Nov
Scientific name (and spawning window)	Common Name													
<i>Meandrina meandrites</i> (10–70 MAS)	Maze Coral													
<i>Eusmilia fastigiata</i> (75–270 MAS)	Smooth Flower Coral													
<i>Dichocoenia stokesii</i> (85–160 MAS)	Pineapple Coral													
SUNSET 6:08 PM 6:08 PM 6:08 PM 6:08 PM 6:08 PM 6:07 PM														
6:17–7:17 PM (Expected every night through the end of Nov)														
7:22–10:37 PM														
7:33–8:48 PM (Has been observed from mid-September to mid-November, new observations are highly encouraged!)														

Fall Sponges, Stars, Gorgs, and More

NAFM	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
DATE	9-Aug	10-Aug	11-Aug	12-Aug	13-Aug	14-Aug	15-Aug	16-Aug	17-Aug	18-Aug	19-Aug	20-Aug	21-Aug	22-Aug
Scientific name (and spawning window)	Common Name													
<i>Holothuria mexicana</i>	Donkeydung Sea Cucumber													
<i>Hemodice carunculata</i>	Fire Worm													
<i>Diadema antillarum</i>	Long-Spined Sea Urchin													
<i>Neofibularia nolitangere</i>	Touch-Me-Not Sponge													
<i>Plexaura, Pseudoplexaura, Eunicia</i>	Sea Rods													
<i>Plexaura homomalla</i>	Black Sea Rod													
Ophiuroidea	Brittle Sea Star/Serpent Star													
<i>Pseudopterogorgia</i> spp.	Sea Plume													
<i>Spirobranchus giganteus</i>	Christmas Tree Worm													
6-Oct 7-Oct 8-Oct 9-Oct 10-Oct 11-Oct 12-Oct 13-Oct 14-Oct 15-Oct 16-Oct 17-Oct 18-Oct 19-Oct														
12:00–6:00 PM														
12:00–7:00 PM														
12:00–9:00 PM														
2:00–7:00 PM														
starting at 7:00 PM														
7:00–11:00 PM														
7:30–11:00 PM														
8:00–11:00 PM														
9:00–11:30 PM														

Abbreviations & Colors

NAFM: Nights After the Full Moon
MBS: Minutes Before Sunset
MAS: Minutes After Sunset
Palest Green: Spawning may be possible but data are sparse: Please help by diving on these dates
Light Green: Spawning is possible: Spawning has been observed on these dates
Medium Blue: Spawning is likely: Spawning is often observed on these dates
Darker Blue: Spawning is very likely: Spawning is reliably observed on these dates
<i>Times are show using a 12h clock (AM/PM)</i>

Tips for Success

- Spawning is never guaranteed in a changing climate: When in doubt, dive!
- Our predictions don't include buffers; be sure to enter the water well before the predicted spawning time
- Dive at sites with high coral cover
- Make multiple dives on multiple nights
- Dive shallower than 50' to maximize time
- Use a moderately bright dive light
- Scan the water for clouds of spawn:
 - Spawn from most brain, star, elkhorn, and staghorn corals looks like snow, confetti, or 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, visit www.timeanddate.com

More Info & Ways to Help

- **Bonus features and PDF download:** Download this PDF, get notified when future calendars are released, and help us measure our reach: Please take our quick survey at www.tinyurl.com/CarmabiCal2025.
- **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 now collecting and distributing 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 carmabilog@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 has shared observations over the past 30+ years. Last year was tough but we are optimistic for 2025. The Curacao team wishes everyone a safe and productive spawning season!
- **Suggested citation:** KL Marhaver, VF Chamberland, and MJA Vermeij, "Coral Spawning Predictions, Southern Caribbean, 2007–2025."

