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BONAIRE The REPORTER

May 6 to May 20, 2026. Year 33, Issue 9

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TCB participants dancing to the music on May 1



Bonaire celebrates

For well over a month, the wealth of events and celebrations on Bonaire has filled the calendar. It has been a busy spring, beginning with the kickoff on March 28 for a month of Dia di Rincon (Rincon Day) events.

Dia di Rincon is Bonaire's biggest cultural celebration attracting visitors from throughout the Dutch Caribbean and beyond. The entire month's schedule of events leads up to one special day, April 30, to celebrate Rincon, the first village established in the Caribbean Netherlands by the Spanish in 1527.

Visitors to Rincon can see evidence of its rich cultural history with remnants of the past almost everywhere. The warm and friendly people are doing their best to keep their ancestry alive by educating their youth and visitors with monthly programs like Nos Zjilea at Mangazina di Rei, the King's Storehouse.

The theme this year was all about the founding families of Rincon. The month included over 30 individual events and many were focused on the families. Rincon Day organizers decorated a tree with plaques bearing each family name, a portrait board of old photos, family street sign names and one event brought families together to share their unique talents whether it be baking, sewing, fishing etc.

The Kanto Krioyo singing and writing contest was held for several days and there was a late-night local band jam called Kings of Krioyo. There was even a Rincon style comedy show, a cultural dress fashion show and a huge feast with a super long table called Sena de Mesa.

And then there were the four parades which everyone loves and thinks that is what Rincon Day is all about. The Grandinan (elderly) parade, School parade and Folklore parade led up to the final Dia di Rincon parade. Unfortunately, the Folklore parade

began late masking the colorful cultural dress of the groups. The four featured groups were accompanied by semi-truck trailers with bands or DJs playing music as they danced through the streets of Rincon: Tourism Corporation Bonaire (TCB) with 205 participants wore la muenchi (lime) outfit; MBO Group made up of teachers and students numbered 45 and wore red and white checked costumes; Foyan Boys had 50 and wore outfits stylized with a base of the new Rincon Day t-shirt and SGB-SLP School



"Man na Obra" (all hands on deck) had 60+ participants and had a fisherman theme. After the parade there were several musical performances at a main stage that lasted late into the night.

On Dia di Rincon, everyone expected the traditional Rincon Carnavalesque type parade with bright colors and local music blasting through the streets. But that wasn't to be. A stream of cars continued to arrive throughout the day and everyone waited and waited, and it never came. The former Rincon parade of many colorful groups with energetic band music was replaced with a cultural parade of the ancestral lives of the people of Rincon. There were housewives, farmers, fishers, aloe farmers, goat tenders and even a wedding but no music other than singing.

On May 1, Bonaire celebrates Labor Day with a parade and this year it was dedicated to the island's famous fisherman, the late Doeï Diaz and wife Thano. Doeï is remembered as one of the founders of the Sailing Regatta, the May 2 Simadan parade, fishing tournament and annual Blessing of the Fisherman's Fleet.

The parade included several of the groups from Rincon's Folklore parade and more. TCB's group made a strong stand with their 205 lime dressed participants as did MBO. Several other groups joined including the Diamonds.

Memorial Day was May 4 and military, veteran and government groups paid respect in a wreath ceremony. (see page 4)

Freedom Day or Liberation Day was celebrated on May 5 with Freedom Meals, free meals at Tera Cora Ranch. In the evening it was all about the Reggae Freedom Festival organized by Eduka Bonaire with local reggae bands at Tera Cora and other locations.
Story / Photos Julie Morgan

Cabinet to foster growth and prosperity in CN

In a Policy Letter on Kingdom Relations, State Secretary Eric van der Burg has declared the Jetten Cabinet's intentions to bring future economic growth and broad prosperity to the six Caribbean islands. Cabinet will stimulate economic development and self-reliance of the islands and countries and strengthen their position in the region. A Caribbean Economic Growth Platform is being established to better connect innovation, entrepreneurs, and capital on the six islands. In addition, a newly established National Investment Institution will be opened up to the Caribbean part of the Kingdom. A fund will also be created to provide entrepreneurs, such as farmers and fishermen, with financing to expand their businesses.

The Jetten Cabinet wants to achieve three priorities.

Priority 1: Building decisive and results-oriented governance

Together with Bonaire, Sint Eustatius, and Saba, the Cabinet will strengthen public administration by establishing a decisive and ethical government and clear legal frameworks on each island. The Cabinet will build on the Good Governance Agenda Caribbean Netherlands, revise the WolBES and Fin-Bes laws, and increase the size of the island councils.

In order to strengthen implementation and administrative capacity, the Cabinet will continue to battle integrity violations. BES Islands will participate in the Integrity and Security Monitor starting this year. Public services in the Caribbean Netherlands—online, by telephone, and at the counter—will

be brought to a level equivalent to that of the European Netherlands.

Priority 2: Strengthening social and economic resilience

The Cabinet supports the economic development and self-reliance of the islands. Therefore, the Caribbean Economic Growth Platform is being established to better connect innovation, entrepreneurs, and capital across the six islands and the region. Additionally, the newly established National Investment Institution will be opened up to the Caribbean part of the Kingdom.

A fund will also be created to provide entrepreneurs, such as farmers and fishermen, with access to financing to expand their businesses. To contribute to a livable minimum standard for BES, the Cabinet is making €30 million available structurally by 2027.

Priority 3: Effective cooperation within the Kingdom

The Cabinet hopes a Kingdom Conference will be established to better utilize opportunities for cooperation between Aruba, Curaçao, Sint Maarten, and BES and to strengthen them structurally. A recurring dialogue should be formed to bring the four governments together to discuss developments, issues, and opportunities for cooperation within the Kingdom, including new opportunities for regional collaborations, particularly in areas such as energy, trade, and logistics. *DMR*

RIVM says study pollution but fix Landfill; Van der Burg offers help

The Lagun landfill crisis has been hanging over the OLB's head for a long time. Now Bonaire may have opportunity to begin serious remediation. The RIVM report on pollution on the island has recommended immediate action on the Landfill, and State Secretary Eric van der Burg says he wants to see concrete steps taken within a short time and has proposed his government will tackle the problem itself if the island agrees.

The RIVM has released the report on its 2025–2026 exploratory study into environmental pollution and health on Bonaire. (RIVM translates as Institute for Public Health and the Environment.)

Regarding the Lagun Landfill, RIVM emphasizes that short term measures must be taken immediately to improve the situation. These could include properly sealing waste at the landfill, improving waste processing, and extinguishing and preventing fires. RIVM says that, thanks to earlier reports on the Landfill from other organizations such as the ILT, enough information is already available for work to proceed.

The RIVM report acknowledges various sources of environmental pollution are known on Bonaire that still need to be tracked down. These include other issues surrounding the Lagun waste center; water, soil, and air quality problems; litter and illegal dumping; dust and noise pollution; and health problems related to environmental pollution. The mental health of some area residents seems to be affected.

The RIVM advises gaining insight into the effects of environmental pollution and its effects on health. It makes reference to the results of research into the health of the island's population, such as the Health Monitor (Omnibus publication in 2026) and upcoming research into the influence of infectious diseases and living conditions (PIENTER in 2027).

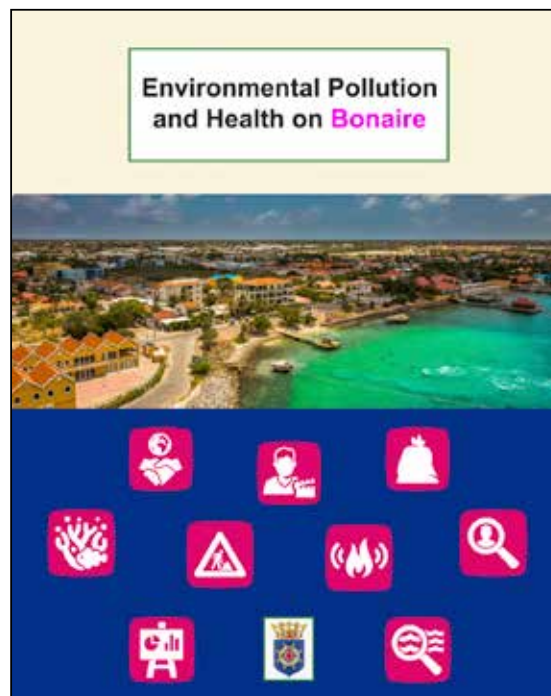
The Executive Council (BC) takes the RIVM's recommendations seriously. The issues surrounding environmental pollution and health on Bonaire are complex and require cooperation between the local government, the European Dutch government, stakeholders, and society.

The RIVM report is available at: <https://www.rivm.nl/publicaties/milieuverving-en-gezondheid-op-bonaire>.

State Secretary Eric van der Burg speaks out

According to a story in Bonaire.nu, State Secretary Eric van der Burg has acknowledged the seriousness of the Landfill situation. He will stay closely involved and wants to see concrete measures initiated right away, "within two weeks."

He says the local government is responsible for solving the Landfill problem. Nevertheless, Van der Burg offered help from the Netherlands. If the problem proves too big for the island government, The Hague is willing to intervene. "I offer that we, if the island government wants us to, can take things out of your hands." According to the State Secretary, this is not coercion, but a form of support upon request in order to speed up the action. *DMR*



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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: May 20, 2026

Contributor's Deadline: Friday, May 15, 2026

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Distribution: Divi-Divi Airline

Printed by: DeStad Drukkerij, Curaçao

Founders: George & Laura DeSalvo

KVK # 12190 (SBI 58130)

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Rincon has a new playground

Misa di Rincon is an all-natural, plastic free playground for kids. Located in the heart of Rincon at the garden of Saint Ludovicus Bertrandus Church, it opened on May 29. The little park is both a place for kids to play and exercise and a meeting place for residents to come together.

Minister of Long-Term Care, Youth and Sport (VWS), Mirjam Sterk said, "In front of me, I see exactly what a community needs: a place where you can be together. Every child must be able to join in ... It is important for everyone to be able to play and exercise, and to make friends. That is why it is so important that there are places like this."



The project, which began last November, was a joint effort of OLB, Indebon; and the local and Netherlands Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport (VWS). According to director Terrence di Jongh of Indebon, in the past few years, the collaboration of these organizations has created a school and cemetery from the ground up and remodeled several other public places. Plans are currently in the works for more facilities in Tera Cora and Hato.

Miso di Rincon is open from sunrise to sunset and closed during church ceremonies, funerals, etc.

Story/Photos Julie Morgan

Ribbon cutting photo: (L-R) John Soliano, Governor, Mirjam Sterk, minister Long-Term Care, Youth and Sport, Church representative, Timoteo Silberie, OLB,



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Planning a night out? The restaurants on page 11 won't disappoint.

POLICE REPORT

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

Dia di Rincon

The KPCN were present at all Simadan parades in Rincon. Police checked all drivers in the parades for a valid driving licence and insurance documents. One driver could not produce proof of insurance and another driver's licence had expired. Both drivers and their vehicles were immediately removed from the parade. In addition, breathalyzer tests were administered to all drivers and everyone passed them successfully.

During the past weekend, activities in Rincon attracted large crowds without any notable incidents. However, the police did have to intervene in three collisions on the road to Rincon. Two vehicles rolled over and a chain collision occurred. In all three cases, drivers were under the influence of alcohol.

During Dia di Rincon, Red Cross and ambulance personnel attended to people who became ill and required treatment. Police received notifications of dangerous fireworks at different locations.

Around midnight a man, 20, had a firearm, fired shots into the air and threatened a person. He was arrested for violation of the BES Firearms Act, threats of public violence and destruction. The firearm was not found. Shortly after, around 12:25 a.m. a second suspect was arrested for violation of the BES Firearms Act. In addition, police received notification of two cases of fighting. A machete was confiscated.

Property crimes

Apr. 27. Vandalism and burglary was reported at a business on Kaya Karpitan. Alcoholic beverages and cash were stolen.

Apr. 27. At Te Amo Beach a GoPro

Hero 13 camera was stolen from a bag left on the beach while the owner was swimming.

Apr. 26. A drill and an angle grinder were stolen from a vehicle parked on Kaya Skandelchi.

Apr. 23. A Kipling backpack containing documents, clothing, and cash was stolen from a van parked near a catering establishment at Sorobon.

Apr. 23. Two burglaries were reported at a tourist accommodation on Bulevar Gobernador N. Debrot. A Garmin diving watch was stolen from one apartment and a GoPro 13 camera, a Garmin diving watch, various chargers, a backpack, and a wallet containing cards and cash was stolen from another.

Apr. 21. A helmet lying under the seat of the scooter parked on the premises of a hospitality establishment on Kaminda Lac was stolen.

Arrests

Apr. 25. 3:15. A man, 31, was arrested near a hospitality establishment on Kaya Bonaire. The suspect was involved in a physical confrontation with another man and failed to comply with the police order to leave the location. During his arrest, he refused to cooperate. He was arrested for failing to follow a police order, resisting arrest, and public drunkenness.

Apr. 23. In the morning the Special Operations Group (GBO), assisted by the maritime team of the KPCN, arrested a man, 31, on a boat at sea. The suspect was arrested for violating the BES Firearms Act, threats, and public violence. The arrest took place within the framework of an investigation into a fight on October 10, 2025. Two house searches were also conducted in the Den Tera and Hato districts. No items relevant to the

investigation were found.

Driving under the influence

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. Drivers are legally required to submit to a breath test.

From Apr. 24 to Apr. 27. Police reported that six drivers were arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol. One driver was identified during a routine check, all others were involved in collisions. Three vehicles had rolled over, one onto its roof. Three driving bans were given (two-hours, five-hours and six-hours). Two driving licenses were confiscated. Due to a medical priority, a breathalyzer test could not be administered to one driver. Two accidents took place on Kaminda di Rincon. Other collisions were on Kaya Papa Cornes, Bulevar Gobernador N. Debrot, Kaminda Tras di Montaña and on E.E.G. Boulevard near Playa Pal'i Mangel (Donkey Beach).

Apr. 27. 2:50 a.m. A man, 21, overturned his vehicle in the bush near Kaminda Onima. Testing showed that he had consumed more alcohol than is legally permitted and his driver's license was confiscated. A few hours later, around 5:55 a.m. the police saw the suspect driving a car on Kaminda di Rincon, despite the fact that his driver's license had been confiscated. He was arrested again and the vehicle was seized.

Traffic, Parking and Speed Control

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

Apr. 28. In the morning police checked 21 vehicles on Boulevard Miguel A. Pourier in Rincon. Fines were issued for

driving without: • a valid driving licence (2x) • valid insurance (4x) • a seatbelt (1x).

Apr. 22. In the afternoon police checked 32 vehicles on Kaya Korona. Fines were issued for driving without: • a valid driving licence (3x) • valid insurance (3x) • a seatbelt (1x).

Traffic fines range from \$30 to \$225.

Public order

Shootings

May 3. Unknown persons passed by and fired twice in the same week at a house in Kaya Demerara. Police confiscated shells. Then again, in the late hours of the night, unknown persons passed by and opened fire on a house in Mamparia Kutu. Here police also confiscated shells. There were no injuries and the cases are being investigated.

Preventive searches

Apr. 25. In the evening checks were carried out at several catering establishments. Police searched (approximately) 15 persons and seven vehicles. A knife and suspected narcotics were seized.

Apr. 26. In the early morning several persons were searched in the city center area. During these checks, two grinders, suspected narcotics, and stabbing weapons, including two pairs of scissors and a knife, were seized.

The Chief Public Prosecutor has authorized the Caribbean Netherlands Police Force to conduct preventive searches for the period from April 24 to May 3. Anyone in designated security risk areas can be searched, without the need for concrete suspicion or a specific reason.

Memorial Day, May, 4 2026

Bonaire observed Memorial Day, (Remembrance Day) May 4 with a small ceremony honoring fallen soldiers, seafarers and victims of World War II at the site of the memorial plaque at the North Pier. The Royal Netherlands Marechaussee and KPCN stood at attention as the Bonaire and Netherlands flags were raised and Fitipaldi Pietersz played the traditional Taptoe on a bugle. Governor John Soliana, Kingdom Representative Jon Helmond and others spoke to the gathering.

Helmond said, "If we consult the history books, Bonaire lost 33 of its sons at sea during the war. Thirty-three sons, brothers, cousins, fathers, grandfathers, friends. All from families with names we know: Bernabela, Cicilia, Serberie, Thielman, Winklaar – and many others. The stories these families have to tell us teach us something. About life in war and insecurity. About loss and grief. But also about the necessity of peace and freedom."

Wreaths were placed by representatives of KPCN (police), Royal Netherlands Marechaussee, Veterans of Bonaire, RCN, Governor of Bonaire, Dialogue Group and Red Cross Bonaire.



Story / Photo Julie Morgan

GGD Bonaire issues Q1 infectious diseases update

GGD Bonaire / Salubridat Públiko monitors the occurrence of infectious diseases on the island and provides an update every quarter.

Ships

GGD Bonaire ensures that infectious diseases do not enter the island via cruise ships. All over the world, every ship must complete a health declaration before arrival that states whether they have a contagious disease on board. Very occasionally, GGD refuses a ship entry.

In the first quarter of 2026, GGD Bonaire received 83 health declarations from cruise ships. Very few had sick people on board.

Flu

In the spring, fewer people visited the GP with cold symptoms than in the same period from 2021 to 2025.

Laboratory data shows that Influenza A and B (flu virus), Rhino- and Enterovirus, and RSV were the most prevalent cases in recent months.

There was remarkably little flu on Bonaire during Q1. Beginning in December, an early and strong worldwide flu season was reported. In the European Netherlands the flu epidemic began in mid-February and ended in March.

Sexual Health Consultation Hour

The GGD Bonaire started a sexual health consultation hour in October 2025. People can ask questions about love, sex, relationships, contraception, or STIs (sexually transmitted infections). In the first quarter, the nurses saw 35 clients, tested 26 for STIs, and found 12 had chlamydia and one had gonorrhoea.

Mosquito-borne diseases

Dengue turns up on Bonaire very occasionally. In the months of January through March, GPs reported few cases of a mosquito-borne disease, such as dengue or chikungunya.

Traveler Consultations

In the first quarter, GGD Bonaire conducted 101 traveler consultations. People were primarily concerned about travel to Colombia, Suriname, and Panama.

Travelers can protect themselves against infectious diseases by requesting travel advice in advance or arranging vaccinations through GGD Bonaire. A yellow fever vaccination is mandatory for visitors to some countries. *DMR*

Ask Bob

Bonaire real estate advice



Hi Bob,

My father passed away and he had a property on Bonaire that I have inherited. Do I need to put the property in my name before I put it up for sale?

Regards, Henk

Dear Henk,
Thank you for your question.

On Bonaire, it is not always necessary to transfer the property into your personal name after someone has passed away.

If you are the heir, you need to prove your rights to the property with a declaration of inheritance prepared by a notary, or a legal opinion drawn up by a lawyer.

With this document, you are officially recognized as the heir, and in many situations, it is not required to first transfer the property into your own name at the land registry office (Kadaster).

It is also not necessary to put the property in your name before offering it for sale. However, in order to complete the

sale at the notary, the proper documents must be in place. Make sure your documents are in order before putting the property up for sale as this will save time and costs.

Every situation can be different, so it is always good to check with a notary for your specific case.

Kind regards,
Bob

Bob Bartkoski,
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**

Creating Optimal Health

Music, Singing and Dancing: A Natural Path to Wellbeing by Irene da Cunda Costa

Music, singing and dancing are deeply embedded in human biology. Some scientists suggest that these forms of expression evolved even before language, serving as essential tools for communication, bonding, and survival. Archaeological evidence, such as ancient cave paintings, shows that humans have been dancing and engaging with rhythm for thousands of years. Even today, this connection remains instinctive, babies as young as a few months old respond to rhythm, while young children naturally begin to synchronize movement with sound.

Often described as a universal language, music has a unique ability to communicate emotion with nuance and depth. It allows us to experience and share feelings that words alone cannot fully capture. Whether through melody, rhythm, or harmony, music fosters empathy and connection, even across cultures and languages.

Listening to music activates multiple systems in the brain and body. It can influence heart rate, blood pressure, and hormone levels; while also triggering the release of dopamine and serotonin, chemicals linked to pleasure and emo-

tional balance. Research shows that listening to music for just 10 to 30 minutes a day can reduce stress, improve heart rate variability, and support both mental and physical health. Music also shapes our expectations and emotions in subtle ways, such as building tension in films or enhancing motivation during exercise.

Actively engaging with music, through singing and dancing, amplifies these benefits. Singing is both a physical and emotional activity. It involves controlled breathing, improves lung capacity, and functions as a form of aerobic exercise. This process releases endorphins, promoting relaxation and happiness while helping to manage anxiety and stress. Singing also supports posture, strengthens muscles involved in breathing and vocalization, and may even help with conditions like snoring or mild sleep apnea.

Cognitively, singing enhances memory, concentration, and language skills, making it a valuable tool for maintaining mental sharpness as we age. It also provides a powerful outlet for emotional expression, helping individuals process feelings such as grief, stress, or joy. In social settings, such as choirs, singing

fosters a sense of belonging and reduces feelings of isolation, an important factor in overall wellbeing.

Dance adds another dimension by combining music with movement. It requires coordination between the brain and body, engaging systems responsible for rhythm, balance, and motor control. This complex interaction stimulates neuroplasticity, the brain's ability to adapt and grow. Studies have shown that dancing can significantly reduce the risk of cognitive decline and improve functions such as memory, spatial awareness, and balance.

Unlike many forms of exercise, dance integrates physical activity, mental challenge, and social interaction simultaneously. This combination makes it particularly effective in supporting brain health and emotional wellbeing. It has even been used therapeutically to help manage conditions such as depression and Parkinson's disease, improving mood, mobility, and quality of life.

Physically, dancing strengthens muscles and bones, improves flexibility and cardiovascular health, and helps manage weight, all while being enjoyable

and low impact. Emotionally, it reduces stress and encourages self-expression. Socially, it fosters connection, reinforcing the idea that shared movement can build empathy and community.

One of the greatest strengths of music, singing and dance is their accessibility. They require no special equipment or professional training. Whether listening to a favorite song, singing in the shower, or dancing with friends, these simple activities can have profound effects on wellbeing.

Ultimately, music, singing and dance are more than forms of entertainment, they are essential human experiences that nurture the body, mind and social connection, helping us live healthier and more fulfilling lives.



Irene is passionate about health, neurosciences and personal growth. From Uruguay, she is an Integrative Psychotherapist (PNIE), Life Coach (ICF), Master in Nutrition (IUSC) and Yoga Instructor.

Navy intercepts two drug shipments

The Dutch naval vessel HNLMS Friesland intercepted a drug boat with three people aboard on Thursday, April 23 and another, with four people aboard, on April 26. In both cases the smugglers surrendered peacefully when a pair of fast interceptor craft were deployed. The suspects and drugs were handed over to the Aruba Police Corps at the Coast Guard Support Base in Savaneta. [Word on the street: “They’re lucky the Dutch navy spotted them first.”] *DMR (BES-Reporter.com).*

Bonaire port expansion being considered

The Jetten government is taking renewed interest in expanding Bonaire’s port, including the addition of a container terminal, according to State Secretary Eric van der Burg. He pointed out that Bonaire’s limited port infrastructure increases the cost of importing goods, especially since shipments are funneled through monopolies. “We need to ensure that more traffic becomes possible, which could bring costs down,” van der Burg said.



Eric van der Burg, State Secretary Kingdom Relations

Van der Burg confirms that talks are underway with potential international investment partners, including the European Union, which may be able to provide funding for the project. The discussions are still exploratory and no estimated starting date has been projected. *DMR (BES-Reporter.com)*

Inflation higher on Bonaire, much higher on smaller islands

According to Statistics Netherlands (CBS), consumer goods and services on Bonaire were 2.0% higher in the first quarter of 2026, and 2.8% higher in the last quarter of 2025. On St. Eustatius inflation was 4.5% higher in Q1 this year and 2.2% higher in Q4 last year. Prices on Saba in Q1 were 3.4% higher in Q1 this year and 2.9 % in Q4 of 2025. *CBS / DMR*

Government transparency? Reader’s choice

Regarding the conflict of interest suspicions concerning the government land purchase in Santa Clara:

The OLB (the new one) made public the report written by EBBEN Partners, the independent integrity agency that investigated the purchase. The OLB also sent out, in the name of the Governor, a press release.

The OLB press release includes this sentence: “The report did not reveal any evidence of malicious intent, self-enrichment, or other irregularities, but it did identify a number of lessons learned and areas for improvement.”

As the Dossier Koninkrijksrelaties has reported, the EBBEN report itself said:

“Abraham ‘tipped off’ his then-colleague, Deputy Anjelica Cicilia, that the land was for sale and that it could be ‘interesting’ for the government. This occurred after he had had ‘informal’ contact with the owners on several occasions. Abraham subsequently participated in a heated debate regarding possible uses for the site. Only in the subsequent phase, leading up to the decision-making regarding the purchase, did the PDB leader remain aloof.

“We have established that Deputy Abraham took the initiative himself at a number of key moments to intervene in the purchase process. He sent an email to the Island Secretary and Program Manager advising them to make the OLB’s interest known in the short term. Finally, it appears that he is the author of the board decision to make the interest known to the sellers and their real estate agent,” the investigation report states.

“Nevertheless, EBBEN Partners concludes that there is no question of malicious intent, self-enrichment, or other irregularities, but ‘that there are a number of points for learning and improvement.’”

The report is available on the website of the Public Body Bonaire <https://bonairegov.com/nieuwsoverzicht/artikel/resultaten-feitenreconstructie-rondom-dossier-santa-clara>. *DMR*

BES getting new public prosecutor

K.K. (Karola) van Nie has been appointed Chief Public Prosecutor for Bonaire, Sint Eustatius and Saba. She will succeed W.E.(Walter) Kupers. Van Nie currently serves as National Public Prosecutor for Witness Protection at the National Public Prosecution Service. She previously served on Sint Maarten as a public prosecutor for juvenile cases, where she focused on handling youth cases and the associated policy. *DMR*



K.K. (Karola) van Nie Chief Public Prosecutor CN

New BC opens public transport plans, finds nothing

The Executive Council (BC) of Bonaire has confirmed that public transport is one of its goals for Bonaire. However, it says, the planning has yet to start. The previous administration had promised that buses would be running by September of this year, but that is impossible. Big ideas had been kicked around, but no actual planning was done, according to the BC. Apparently the BC will have to start from scratch.

DMR (source: BES-Reporter.com)

Dangerous substance being cleaned up at CBET (BOPEC)

A dangerous foam that was used to extinguish fires at Bonaire Energy Terminal, the former BOPEC site, is being cleaned up. The project should be completed by end of May. Then the material will be sent to Germany for processing.

The foam contains PFAS, a now banned chemical that is dangerous to humans and the environment and is slow to break down.

The cleanup is being carried out by the Sanering Bopec Percelen Foundation, the non-profit organization that is tasked with remediation of specified BOPEC sites. *DMR (Bonaire.nu)*



During the annual Royal Awards Ceremony, three Bonaire residents were honored for their exceptional contribution to the community: Maria Clarendia Clarinda –Knight in the Order of Orange-Nassau; Suzette Maria Bergland-Balentin –Knight in the Order of Orange-Nassau; and Alyatte Aquilina Quirindoongo-Geertruida –Member in the Order of Orange-Nassau. Photo via OLB

Island fuel prices increase significantly, especially diesel

On April 24 the price of gasoline on Bonaire increased by 9% and the price of diesel jumped by more than 34%.

As international fuel prices fluctuate, the Public Body Bonaire sets a fixed price that will be charged for each category of fuel during the coming period of time. The prices reflex the total costs of delivering the fuel to customers at the point of sale.

Each new fixed price is based on the projected average costs over the intended period of time. That is why the prices Bonaireans are paying now are higher than current world prices would dictate, and why in a few months Bonaireans will be paying less. The costs will average out and people will know what to expect when they pull up at the pump. *DMR*

	Gas (lit)	Diesel (lit)	LPG (100 lbs)	LPG (20 lbs)
Old price	\$1.33	\$.99	\$52	\$ 11
New price	\$1.45	\$1.33	\$55	\$ 12
Price increase	\$0.12	\$ 0.34	+\$3	\$1.00
Increased by	+ 9%	+ 34.34%	+ 5.77%	9.09%



About St. Eustatius Health Care Foundation

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

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

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

What we offer

- A challenging and socially relevant project in a healthcare setting.
- Fixed-term contract for the duration of the project.
- Supportive and collaborative working environment.
- Competitive contractor rate (USD 55/hour), depending on experience and availability.

Additional Information

- Expected start: as soon as possible (exact date to be agreed).
- Work location: primarily on-site in St. Eustatius, with availability to attend project and stakeholder meetings.
- Project duration: fixed term, aligned with the renovation timeline (details shared with shortlisted candidates).
- Background checks may apply (e.g., reference checks and/or certificate of conduct), depending on role requirements.
- SEHCF is an equal opportunity employer and welcomes qualified applicants.
- Applicant data will be used solely for recruitment and handled confidentially.

Interested?

We invite you to submit your resume/CV with a cover letter, including your availability and relevant project references to Mr. Elvin Henriquez, Operations Manager, via email: hr@sehcf.org and cc: elvin.henriquez@sehcf.org. Elvin Henriquez can also be contacted for questions via tel: +599 319-7676.

Closing date: May 12, 2026

H.M. Queen Beatrix rd. 25, Oranjestad St. Eustatius
E: info@sehcf.org | W: www.sehcf.org | T: +599-318 2211

Featured artworks will be on public display at Sobremesa beginning May 6. Visitors can view the collection during regular opening hours: Tuesday to Friday 2 p.m. – 5 p.m. and Saturday 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Importantly, 85% of the proceeds from the evening will go directly to the GMS, a foundation committed to subsidizing court cases for individuals that involve significant or principled matters and who cannot afford legal representation. Through its work, GPS helps ensure access to justice is not limited by financial means.

This event offers the community an opportunity to support both a meaningful cause and the local arts scene while enjoying an inspiring and social evening.

For more information about the Golden Meand Society visit: www.arcocarib.com.

Sobremesa Gallery is located at Julio A. Abraham Boulevard 10. Visit them on Facebook or <https://www.sobremesa-bonaire.com>

Project Manager - Renovation Medical Complex & Non-Medical Staff Office

Organization: St. Eustatius Health Care Foundation (SEHCF)
Location: St. Eustatius, Dutch Caribbean
Reporting to: Operations Manager
Contract: Fixed-term, project-based (contractor/zzp agreement)
Hours: Part-time (20hrs / week)

The St. Eustatius Health Care Foundation (SEHCF) invites applications for an experienced **Project Manager** to lead the renovation of the medical complex and the non-medical staff office. The role includes project preparation, coordination of temporary and permanent relocation of staff and equipment, and management of the renovation's execution and evaluation, ensuring continuity of healthcare services.

Key Responsibilities:

- Lead project preparation: define scope, planning, budget, and risk management.
- Coordinate with architects, engineers, contractors, and regulatory authorities.
- Identify and secure temporary spaces for healthcare operations and organize/oversee relocation of staff and equipment.
- Ensure minimal disruption to patient care and operational continuity.
- Monitor project execution: timelines, quality, safety, and budget compliance.
- Report regularly to the Operations Manager and relevant stakeholders.
- Manage project completion, handover, and evaluation, including documentation and final reporting.

Requirements

- Bachelor's degree or equivalent, demonstrated through experience in Project Management, Construction Management, Engineering, Architecture, or a related field.
- Minimum **5 years of relevant experience** in construction or renovation projects; healthcare experience preferred.
- Proven experience in project planning, contractor management, procurement, and budget control.
- Working knowledge of applicable building codes, permits/inspections, and contractor HSE (health & safety) practices.
- Strong organizational, communication, and stakeholder management skills.
- Ability to work independently and under pressure.
- Certification such as PRINCE2, PMP, or equivalent is an advantage.
- Fluent in English (Dutch is a plus).

Art & Justice: Charity Art Expo and Auction to Support Access to Legal Aid

"Art & Justice" a unique evening of art and philanthropy is set to take place on Saturday, May 16. This collaboration of the Golden Meand Society (GMS) and Sobremesa Art Gallery, is dedicated to supporting access to legal representation.

The event will begin at 5 p.m., with the auction at 5:45 p.m. Attendees can enjoy a diverse collection of artwork from more than 15 talented local artists along with drinks, light bites, music. Participating artists have generously donated their pieces, which will be auctioned with a minimum bid of \$100.

Participating artists: Manuela Winklaar, Jean Girigorie, Monica Truijlo, Carlos Porras, Ria Koster, Michel Poort, Lize van de Ven, José Smit, Germaine Nijdam, Loes Praagman, Steven Verbiest, Jozee Tjoa, Dillon Rannou and Eric Cremers.

Galileo sensor station officially open



For almost half a century people around the world have chosen Bonaire for diving, windsurfing and eco-tourism. But in 2024, Bonaire was chosen for something very different. Bonaire's remote and strategic geological location has led the island to become the earth's third Galileo Navigational Satellite Sensor Station.

Galileo is Europe's civilian navigation system. It has the world's most precise and time accurate response, down to one meter and within a nano-second respectively.

Last week the conference titled, *EU Satellite Systems in the Greater Caribbean: Navigating the Future*, was held in Bonaire. It celebrated the opening of the new sensor station named *Prinses Catharina-Amalia Space Innovation Park*.

Among the speakers, former Lt. Governor Edison Rijna, now special envoy to Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba said, "Today is not just another conference. It is a moment. Global communication is more important than ever and Bonaire is part of that. It's bigger than

Photo Left:
Below: Responsible for bringing the Galileo Sensor Station to Bonaire, L-R: Bianca Peters, Marie Menard, Edison Rijna, Lianne Mooldijk, John Soliana and Afke van Rijn



we could imagine. Opportunity to grow and communicate but most important to bond... by building a partnership that is lasting for the future."

The Galileo satellites are 23,000 miles away in space. They provide accurate location tracking for vehicles, smartphone and mapping: SAR (search and rescue); Accurate atomic clocks critical to banking, telecommunications and power grid sync; HAS (high accuracy service) for real time positioning and interoperability works with GPS (Global Positioning Satellite) of the U.S. and GLONASS, Russia's satellite navigation system.

Lt. Governor John Soliano said, "The impact of this moment, by placing this satellite {sensor station} here recognizes our unique geography... This speaks to our young people that they too can play a role in the future... Our task is not to foresee the future but to enable it."

Galileo works closely with the ESU space program and Astronaut Andre Kuiper of the Netherlands joined the conference to relay space history and importance of the Galileo. Kuiper joined

the ESU program at 32 years and was a part of two space station missions for a total of 205 days. In the evening, Kuiper showed his inspiring documentary film, *Beyond, Ode to Space in Wilhelmina Park*, for the people of Bonaire. The film showed images of the Earth from European, Russian, Chinese and American space missions of the past two decades, accompanied by Vangelis' music.

Kuiper said, "I didn't want to make a movie, I wanted to make it as if the viewer was on board seeing space."

Marie Menard, senior communication officer for EUSPA (EU Agency for the Space Program) said, "Today there are 26 Galileo satellites circling the Earth. In December 25 we launched two new second generation satellites, but they are still in testing. What makes the Galileo so precise is because we keep updating."

The satellites are 2.5 m (8.2 ft) x 1.7 m (5.5 ft) but when the solar panels are engaged the Galileo is 14 m (46 ft) and weighs approximately 800k (1763.7 lbs).

Story / Photos Julie Morgan



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

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

What we offer

- **Full-time position:** 40 hours per week, and will be asked to work on-call shift, with a one-year contract and the possibility of extension based on performance;
- **Compensation:** Starting monthly gross salary between USD 3,419.00 and 4,457.00 (based on full-time employment), depending on experience.
- **Competitive benefits package:** In accordance with our Collective Labor Agreement
- **Pension and health coverage:** Participation in the Dutch Caribbean Pension Plan and Zorgverzekering BES health insurance plan.

Interested?

We invite you to submit your CV/resume with cover letter, copies of diploma and/or certificates and two references to: St. Eustatius Health Care Foundation, attn. Mr. Pascal Gorissen, Manager Care, via email: hr@sehcf.org. Mr. Gorissen can also be contacted for more information via +599 319-1923.

Closing date: May 25, 2026

H.M. Queen Beatrix rd. 25, Oranjestad St. Eustatius
E: info@sehcf.org | W: www.sehcf.org | T: +599-318 2211

Coordinator Outpatient Department

To further professionalize and strengthen our Outpatient Department, we are seeking a Coordinator Outpatient Department. In this key role, you are responsible for the daily coordination, alignment, and optimization of all outpatient activities within SEHCF. You ensure smooth care processes, efficient staffing, and a patient-centered service delivery.

The Coordinator Outpatient Department reports to the Manager Care and works closely with other coordinators and disciplines within the organization. During absence of colleague coordinators, you will act as their replacement, ensuring continuity of care and operational stability.

Responsibilities include:

- Coordinate and oversee daily operations of the Outpatient Department
- Plan and manage consultation schedules for physicians and specialists
- Optimize patient flow, waiting times, and overall service quality
- Ensure compliance with medical guidelines, protocols, and procedures
- Identify operational bottlenecks and drive process improvements
- Support and guide staff; promote effective multidisciplinary collaboration
- Act as a central point of contact for staff, healthcare professionals, and management
- Support staff planning, scheduling, and accurate administrative registration

Your profile

- Education at minimum MBO 4+ or Bachelor (HBO) level, preferably in Nursing, Healthcare Management/Administration, or a related healthcare field
- Relevant work experience within outpatient care, general practice, or a hospital setting;
- At least 4 years relevant working experience in healthcare, preferably in a coordinating or senior operational role;
- Good communication and interpersonal skills;
- Organizational skills;
- Quality oriented and patient/client centered;
- Team player and the ability to work independent;
- Computer knowledge and skills;
- Verbal and written communication skills in English, command of Dutch is an asset

Make Bonaire Accessible

A bit scary...and a bit sad.... by Ria Dokter

Most people do not think about it, but I think you should, every now and then, make sure you are being heard. The elderly are a group of people that others tend to forget and neglect. And this happens every day. The elderly do not seem to be taken seriously, or so it seems.

Programs are set up, activities are planned, and it looks like the group of people concerned, the elderly, are not often asked their opinion or ideas. Decisions and plans are made without their approval or without their being able to ask questions. And the activities seem to have to be executed by every group participant.

But for a large group of elderly there are no activities at all, and that makes one wonder why? I know that everyone is not the same. One cannot please all people at once, but one can give it a try. And when things run well, or not, the plans can always be changed and adapted. Make the programs more personalized. There are still so many lonely elderly who are hungry for attention or who hide but hope they are noticed. Not everybody likes to attend group activities, but eating alone is not nice. Tending to everyone's different needs is not easy but efforts can be made. Those big group-activities can

be very scary for some.

The M.B.O. program works with elderly and youth. The youth "adopt" an elderly person, visit them at home and take them out. It looks like this program is successful, so perhaps this is something that can be copied and executed for more elderly in other programs.

Fundashon Plataforma Kultural is also working on more and different programs for the elderly. Their music lessons of playing the quarta, sinfonia, traditional dancing and the arts and craft group are also very successful.

But there are more organized groups that could get lonely elderly involved. Invite them for the weekly gatherings and (most importantly) provide transportation.

Once a month MiVaBo organizes swimming activities at Sorobon. If you are afraid to get into the sea, you can get help and use the beach wheelchair. INDEBON also offers water activities at Sorobon for elderly and persons with limitations. So you see, nobody needs to feel left out.

For the younger volunteers. Please be aware that all activities are to be taken seriously and are not funny. One can learn so much from these elderly. They can teach you a lot of interesting things and make you wonder. Whatever happens, people need people, we can learn so much from each other.

For the elderly. Do not become a stranger on your own island. Try to get out of your house as much as you need and want and get help to do so. Contact AKSESO, they will guide and help you. And should you not know how, you can always ask at the sentro di bario, Indebon or even your house doctor. Please do so, and we will meet at the next activity.



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.



APRIL'S NOS ZJILEA

1900 -1940's fashions at Nos Zjilea

Mangazina di Rei's monthly presentation of Nos Zjilea joined in the festivities of Dia di Rincon's month-long celebration with Frengu, (thimble) a cultural fashion show of clothing from the early 1900s – 1940s.

Rather than the normal Nos Zjilea daytime presentation, the Frenju was held at 6 p.m. Mangazina di Rei's large patio was outfitted with a long runway coming directly from a curtained stage. Some 30 kids and adults took to the stage dressed in clothing handmade by local school children supervised by Rincon's seamstresses.

Wesley Sint Jago led the crowd through eight different themes of everyday life and occasions describing a story of the clothing worn. A backdrop was set on the stage depending on the various theme: housewives, baptism, first Catholic communion, wedding, fisherman, aloe

harvest, planting and clearing the fields and the Simadon harvest. Each outfit was as detailed as possible even down to "the knee" (a round of cloth made on the knee for carrying buckets on the head).

Food and drink was served per the theme for the guests to fully experience the culture. Guests enjoyed little shots of the locally made liquor Cukei for the baptism. A black cake made of prune and peanut butter and goat stew and rice were served for the wedding.

The next Nos Zjilea at Mangazina di Rei will return to its usual time of 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. on the last Saturday of the month. See, Feel and Taste the culture of Bonaire. Visit Mangazina di Rei on their website, <https://mangazinadirei.org> and their Facebook page for more information. *Story / Photos Julie Morgan*



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Rotary Feria 2026 was a record year



Rotary Feria 2026 was a record year with more visitors and more goods to sell thanks to everyone's generosity.

Corine van der Hout explained that as well as private individuals donating, companies also donated merchandise from their stores. Rotary members traveled the

island to pick up the broad assortment of donations.

Wilhelminaplein was overflowing with furnishings, beds, household goods, toys, bikes, electronics, clothing, decorations, books, paintings and more. There was even a booth with a large variety of plants and garden equipment.

Everything that wasn't sold was once again donated to Animal Shelter Bonaire for their thrift store, Pakus di Pruga, held every Saturday.

Revenue from the Feria this year resulted in a net of \$26,000. The funds will be allocated to youth sports projects, the Alzheimer Foundation, hospice, Stichting

Wensambulance and Stichting Mantelzorg (informal care).

Thank you to all the Rotary members and some 40 volunteers who helped prepare the booths and for helping make this event a success.

Story /Photo Julie Morgan

DUO offers online services in local time

The Education Executive Agency (Dienst Uitvoering Onderwijs, DUO) has expanded two of its online services in the Caribbean.

No longer any time difference for video calls to discuss funding

DUO has offered students the option of video calling staff in the Netherlands ever since the coronavirus pandemic began. Students could contact DUO with questions about student finance or repaying student loans. However, available time slots were limited because of the time difference between the Netherlands and the Caribbean.

It is now possible to video call staff at the service office on Curaçao. The video call service is available to residents of Curaçao, Aruba, St. Maarten and the Caribbean Netherlands. Video calls can be made on a laptop, tablet or mobile phone. Video call appointments can be scheduled on www.duo.nl/cariben.

E-learning expanded to Aruba

Earlier this school year, more than 500 students on Curaçao in senior general secondary education (HAVO) year four, and pre-university education (VWO) year five took part in the e-learning programme. They learned about student finance, insurance policies, benefits, accommodation and financial management. Students said that the course gave them a better understanding of the practical matters they will come up against in the Netherlands.

The e-learning course is now also being offered at the 'Colegio Nigel Matthew' and 'De Schakel' secondary schools on Aruba. Researchers are assessing whether the teaching materials can also be used in other secondary schools in the Caribbean.

DUO implements laws and regulations in the field of funding for educational institutions.

Apply by May 12 for TOP traineeship

In September 2026, the Talent Development Program Caribbean Netherlands (TOP CN) will start again. TOP CN is a one-year work and training program, specifically designed for recently graduated professionals with Caribbean roots. Applications are open until May 12 for the TOP CN traineeship 2026–2027.

Programme

TOP trainees will begin working in August or September 2026 for a period of one year at a government organization, such as a Public Entity or the Rijksdienst Caribisch Nederland. During this year, they will work in a role suited to their profile while simultaneously participating in the TOP trainee program.

The TOP traineeship officially starts on September 14, 2026 for 10 months. Trainees will receive professional guidance and can take part in a diverse range of training sessions and workshops, including strategic stakeholder management, policy skills and language skills.

Within one year, TOP trainees develop both professionally and personally, significantly strengthening their career opportunities in the Caribbean Netherlands.

Who is it for?

The TOP CN program specifically targets young professionals with Caribbean roots who are motivated to return to Bonaire, St. Eustatius or Saba. They should be within a maximum of three years after completing their higher professional education (HBO) or university (WO) degree.

Are you, or do you know, a suitable candidate?

Are you, or do you know, a suitable candidate for the TOP traineeship? Applications are open until Tuesday, May 12. For more information, please visit www.topcn.nl/engels

Reef Glimpses - Reef Squid by Dee Scarr

In the last issue of the Bonaire Reporter, I wrote about open-ocean squid. Divers are unlikely to see open-ocean squid unless they specifically look for them, and in many cases – considering their size and predatory natures -- that's a really good thing.

Reef squid, however, are easy to watch (once we know how to recognize them), and we're safer, too.

The first time I recognized a reef squid, my first thought was that it was a "broken" fish because its arms were angled a little downward. Then I realized it was too graceful to be broken, and then I realized what it was, hovering just a few feet off the reef. You'll see them alone sometimes, or in pairs or groups of a dozen or more.

Photo: The two squid hover as he uses his specialized arm to insert a sperm sac beneath the mantle of his mate. This is surely not biologically accurate, but to me he looks really happy.



. Photo Julie Morgan

Reef Glimpses ...to page 17

A Garden? Just Do It! - Fighting the drought - by Angliet, Nature Lover

Gardeners look for all kinds of solutions to fight the drought to keep their plants alive.

A drip system is one of the possibilities, but not everyone can afford that. The water and electricity bill costs need to be considered these days. A garden friend told me of a way to use a DIY drip system that works great. Make a tiny hole in the top of a large size cola bottle. Fill the bottle with water and put it upside down into the soil near a plant. The water will slowly leak into the roots.

Create shade for the plants. Make a kind of roof for ground plants with palm, coconut or plaintain leaves. Big carton boxes are a perfect solution too, making a kind of hut over the plants.

It rains a little bit these days so around the house and under the roof I have placed clean, used paint buckets to catch every drop of water. I mix it with WEB water, half and half, so I have more water and the minerals from the rainwater which the plants need so badly. It's cool to see a lot of birds coming to the buckets to drink and take



a bath to cool off. This behavior shows how much birds, lizards and wild cats suffer from lack of water.

I also trim trees and fruit branches to keep them small. This saves the plant energy so it can survive.

Here is a surprising story. For years I have had a big sugar apple tree that has only had one sugar apple. But by the time it was ready to consume the birds has eaten it. The tree had a lot of dry branches so I cut all that stuff off and left only the main thick stem because I couldn't cut it myself. After a few weeks a friend passed by and I asked him to chop that big stem off. But when we started to chop, we saw a lot of small fruit blossoms among the young leaves coming up. It was like in one night they all popped up. What a surprise. After all these years during this drought, the tree blossoms after a trim. This tells me that the tree needed the clean up to start producing blossoms and from there fruits. In fact trimming is a necessity for trees.

A Garden ...to page 17

Stuffed Potato With Chicken Ragout by Chef Corjan Hoogerheide



1 large firm-cooking potato • 100 g (3.5 oz) chicken thigh meat, cut into strips • 50 g (1 ¾ oz) coconut milk • 1/3 onion, diced • 2 cloves of garlic • 5 oyster mushrooms, slightly torn • 75 g (1/3 C) cooking cream • 30 g (2 T) garlic butter • A dash of sweet soy sauce • 1/4 Spanish red pepper, cut into fine strips • 2 pieces of dried tomato, cut into strips • A splash of chicken broth • 1 spring onion, cut diagonally into fine strips • Sprig of parsley, chopped

Cook potato with skin on until tender in water with some Bonaire sea salt and the 2 crushed garlic cloves. Drain and let potato cool down a bit. Cut top off boiled potato and scoop out inside with a spoon, making sure to leave a rim 1/2 cm thick. Mash scooped-out potato finely with a fork and season with pepper, salt, 1 finely mashed garlic clove cooked with it, and make it creamy with the coconut milk.

Fry chicken strips until nicely golden brown. At the end fry the onions and add chopped clove garlic, two oyster mushrooms and chili pepper. Now turn it into a sauce by adding cooking cream, herb butter, dried tomatoes, a dash of soy sauce, and chicken stock. Let it boil for a while then fill the hollowed-out potato with it. Seal the potato with the mashed potatoes and

heat in an oven at 180° until mashed potatoes are nicely browned and thoroughly heated. Sauté the remaining oyster mushrooms in some butter and season with salt, pepper, and some finely chopped spring onion; serve the stuffed potato with chopped parsley on top.

- **Chicken thigh meat:** (the working muscle) contains more fat and connective tissue. It becomes tender, juicy, and flavorful when stewed (too) long. Thigh meat has a deeper, fuller chicken flavor that holds up better among other ingredients.
- **Chicken breast:** (the lazy muscle) lean → dries out and becomes tough quickly with prolonged cooking. And the price of thigh meat is often even a bit cheaper too, more flavor for less money!

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.



Events, Meetings, Sports

What's Happening

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.

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

Apertivo evening from 5 – 8 p.m. Fridays Rosa Cafe. Stop in for a drink & free Italian appetizers.

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

Becoming Movement Club Free monthly event for runners and walkers. Sorobon five-kilometer route Sunday 7.15 a.m. Check [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/becomingmovementclub/).

Bridgeclub Bonaire organizes a bridge evening Wed. 7:30 - 10:30 p.m. All levels 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).

Cultural activities for the elderly at Hôfi Kultural Tues., Wed. and Fri. at Cultural Garden, Antriol Pabou, Skandelchi Street z/n Info: manon@culturalplatform.com or call +599 7708437

Diver Safety. Jason Buttenshaw 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. Usually held last Thursday of the month. Check: <https://www.reef.org/events/month>

JEU De BOULES CLUB Bonaire. ALL WELCOME. We play **PETANQUE** (the French version). Wed. & Sun. 2.30-6 p.m. Kunuku Allee, Kaminda Lac 38. We have spare boules (balls) for newcomers. jeudeboulebonaire@gmail.com or Peter Overman, 00599 7964037

Krese Radio program focusing on the development of Bonaire over the past 70 years.- Last Tuesday of the month, 7 - 8 p.m. on Bon FM 102.7 FM. The program is in Papiamentu; A recap is provided in Dutch and English on <https://www.facebook.com/share/1HPK6YY3Gm/?mibextid=wwXlfr>

Live Music Yhannis Arepas (Kaya Neerlandia, behind Budget Marine) Every Sunday 1 - 5 p.m. <https://www.facebook.com/yhannisarepas/>

Museum Night, Terramar museum. Free access to galleries last Wednesday of the month. From 6 to 8 p.m., visitors are welcomed into a relaxed, friendly atmosphere where they can enjoy the galleries after hours and join a themed workshop (pay what you can).


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.


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. Social play and beginners from 8 – 10 a.m. Advanced Competitive play from 10 a.m. - Noon. Members play free, non-members pay \$ 5.00 per person per day.


Rosicrucian Order, AMORC in Bonaire Michiel Bijkerk 796 2650, 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/> Mixed competition matches play Saturdays 4 to 10 p.m. on Eddie's courts.

 **Manta Monday** Free presentations Nicole Pelletier of the Caribbean Islands Manta Conservation. Mon. April 27 & Mon. May 4 @ Divi Resort Pure Ocean Garden. Email: nicole.pelletier@mantatrust.org; [Caribbean Islands Manta Conservation facebook](https://www.facebook.com/caribbeanislandsmantaconservation/)

 **Reef Renewal Bonaire.** Mondays 5:30 p.m. Breakfast Area – Buddy Dive Resort. Free. Learn about coral reef restoration. 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. . <https://www.facebook.com/bonaireturtles/> Nesting season patrol starts in May. Reserve your spots reserving on: <https://www.bonaireturtles.org/wp/nest-monitoring-patrols/>

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/>
Each month: **Family Saturday**, March 7 Pay a "family" fee of \$10 to enjoy our exhibitions and activities. Family is who you decide; **Kids Workshop** \$10 per child. March 21. 10 - 12 noon. We will be making piggybanks. Register via terramarmuseum@gmail.com or phone. **Museum at Night** Free entrance. 5 to 6:30 p.m. to explore and shop; also **Sisterhood Circle** by Vibra Foundation 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. March 25. Pay what you can. Info. +599 785 4399

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)

May 1 – 31	"Creativity Knows No Age" Month-long campaign for active seniors (60+). At Bonaire Public Library and neighborhood locations. See page 15
Thursday, May 7	Culinary Team Fundraiser at The View 6 p.m. \$75 pp — 4-course menu including an amuse and 4 beverage tokens— enjoy a fantastic meal prepared by the talented Bonaire Culinary Team. The chefs will cook from a mystery basket, so the menu will be a surprise. Beverage tokens can be used for sodas and beers (1 token), white or red wine (2 tokens), or a special cocktail (3 tokens), prepared by the Bonaire Culinary Team's bartender. Additional beverage tokens are available for purchase at \$4 each. Reserve at https://www.bonaireculinaryteam.com/fundraiser-training-dinner-may-7-2026/
Saturday, May 9	Global Big Day. Join people around the world and record as many bird species as possible in a single day. More info at: https://www.birdscaribbean.org/2026/03/birdscaribbean-island-bird-off-is-back-for-global-big-day-2026/
Thursday, May 14	Ascension Day Public Holiday. Much is closed.
Friday & Saturday May 15 & 16	May 15 & 16: BON DOET, Bonaire's Volunteer Weekend Volunteers can sign up https://www.bondonet.com/nl/all-jobs https://www.facebook.com/bonairedoet/?locale=nl_NL
Saturday, May 16	Art & Justice. Art expo and Auction Fundraiser for Golden Meand Society (GMS) 5 p.m. At Sobremesa. See page 7.
Sunday, May 17	OLB's Canon of Bonaire at Fontein. See page 16
May 21 - June 4	Bonaire Culinary Week Spring Edition Use this 15-day event to discover the wide variety of restaurants on Bonaire. Most 3-course menus will be \$45 but this may vary. https://bonaire-culinaire.com See page 15
Saturday, May 30	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.
Sunday, May 31	Guardian Group Walk & Run 8 km
Saturday, June 6	Food Truck Festival See page 16
Wednesday, June 17	Culinary Team Fundraiser at at Joe's Restaurant 6 p.m. \$75 pp — 4-course menu including an amuse and 4 beverage tokens— The chefs will cook from a mystery basket, so the menu will be a surprise. Reserve at https://www.bonaireculinaryteam.com/fundraiser-training-dinner-2/

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:**

- Fridays 3 - 5 p.m. After School Art. \$20. Ages 8+. Studio Muzo. Materials included.
- 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

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, May 10	Clean Coast Bonaire clean up surveys second Sunday every month. 4-6 p.m. Piedra Pretu. Work as a citizen scientist to collect marine litter & data. https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=clean%20coast%20bonaire
Saturday, May 30	The Beach Boost collects trash washing up on Bonaire's shores in Marine Park the last Saturday of the month. 9:30-10:30 a.m. Join via WhatsApp groups +5997003749, +5997003748.
	Quarterly Clean up Dive, Dive Friends. Held January, April, July and October Everyone is welcome. If you don't dive, you can snorkel; if you don't snorkel, you can help out on shore. https://www.divefriendsbonaire.com/eco-activities/quarterly-clean-up-dives/

2026 Cruise Ship Schedule			
DATE	TIME	CRUISE SHIP	PIER
Mon. May 4	0700-1600	CARIBBEAN PRINCESS 3622 guests	North
Wed. May 6	0900-2200	CARNIVAL MAGIC 3646 guests	South
Wed. May 13	0800-2200	CARNIVAL HORIZON 4683 guests	South
Wed. May 27	0800-2200	CARNIVAL HORIZON 4683 guests	South
Fri. May 29	0630-2200	HEBRIDEAN SKY 120 guests	North
Wed. Jun 3	0900-2200	CARNIVAL MAGIC 3646 guests	South
Wed. Jun 10	0800-2200	CARNIVAL HORIZON 4683 guests	South
Thurs. Jun 18	0500-1300	SEVEN SEAS MARINER 730 guests	North
Wed. Jun 24	0800-2200	CARNIVAL HORIZON 4683 guests	South

Discover the Island's finest flavors this May



At Breeze & Bites.
Photo Flavio Maesroni

We are proud to acknowledge our generous sponsors who play a pivotal role in making this event possible. A heartfelt thank you to The Wine Factory, Real Dutch Bakery, Pietersz and Orco Bank for their unwavering support. Their commitment to promoting culinary excel-

lence on Bonaire is truly commendable.

While savoring the Bonaire Culinary Week Specials at participating locations, you'll also have the chance to win a variety of exciting prizes. After leaving a review by scanning our QR-code cards

available at participating restaurants, you could walk away with a \$50 gift card from Sunset, Wanapa or Macaroca, a dinner for two at Seaside Kioyo Fusion, a breakfast platter for two at Flora, or a charcuterie platter for two at Wines & More. You may also enjoy a 5-course dinner for two at Joe's Restaurant, win four pastries from Sweeti Bakery, or indulge in a Saturday High Tea for two at Blue Lagun Café.

Mark your calendar and get ready to embark on a culinary journey like no other. Bonaire Culinary Week is driven by passionate local entrepreneurs determined to put Bonaire firmly on the global culinary map.

For more information and a full list of participating restaurants, visit: www.bonaireculinaryweek.com <https://www.facebook.com/BonaireCulinaryOfficialPage> Be sure to make your reservations in advance, as availability is limited.

Internet consultation on Childcare Decree BES

The Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment invites you to an internet consultation for the Childcare Decree BES. The Cabinet is arranging for an increased baby supplement for childcare organisations from January 1, 2027. The amendment also sets out more clearly the maximum of 15 days a year that childcare organisations can close whilst maintaining financing.

Anyone can react in the internet consultation from Monday, May 4 up to and including Monday, June 1, 2026 (5:59 p.m. local time) via: <https://www.internetconsultatie.nl/besluitkin-deropvangbes/b1>.

The baby supplement will be increased by approximately 15%. This money is for additional costs for babies up to the age of one year. For instance, the supplement can pay for more staff, milk formula, and nappies.

Closing with financing for a maximum of 15 days a year. The Decree specifies precisely what payment organisations are entitled to and for how long.

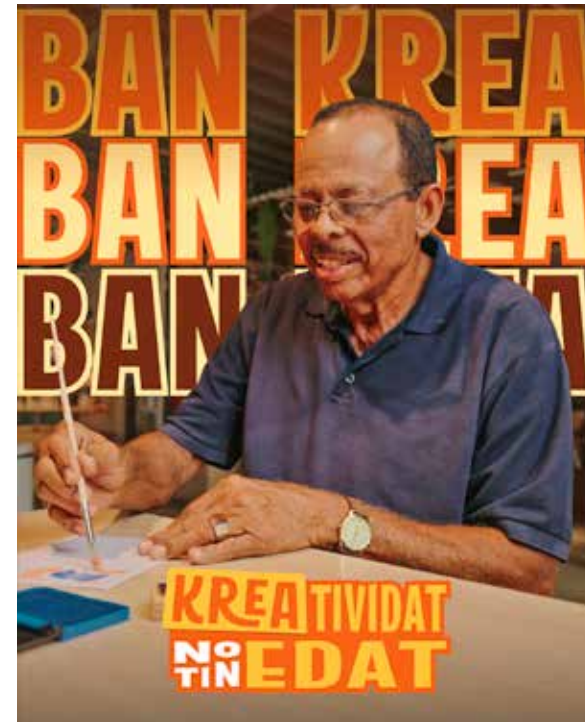
Creativity Knows No Age

In May 2026, the Bonaire Public Library will transform into a vibrant place full of creativity, and new experiences. It is all about fun, connection, and discovering new sides of yourself. The campaign focuses particularly on active seniors (60+). All activities are accessible and require no experience. With the campaign "Kreativitat no tin Edat," or "Creativity Knows No Age," the library invites everyone on Bonaire to participate in a month full of inspiring activities.

Whether you enjoy making things with your hands, want to meet new people, or simply want to try something different: in May, there is something for everyone to discover. The library offers a varied program with creative workshops, opportunities to meet, and special activities at the library location as well as in various community centers on the island.

The program includes painting and crafting workshops, flower arranging, creative writing, makerspace activities, traditional crafts, culinary workshops, and the famous Kofi ku Te gatherings, among other things. The campaign concludes with a large Makerspace Festival at the library.

Most activities are free or accessible for a small fee. Registration is available via <https://www.facebook.com/bibliotekapublikoboneiru/>



Funds Available

Renovation of private historic residences.

From Sept. 1st to 30th private owners can apply for a subsidy for the restoration of their monumental residences. The preservation costs eligible for subsidy must exceed US\$ 25,000 and are subsidised up to US\$100,000. Monuments (historical buildings older than 50 years) without protected status are also eligible for subsidy. Eligible are buildings that are of general importance due to their beauty, artistic value, or historical meaning. It is only possible to apply for subsidy during September.

The National Agency for Cultural Heritage (RCE) handles the grant application. The latest information is available on the website: <https://www.cultureelerfgoed.nl/onderwerpen/subsidieregeling-monumenten-caribisch-nederland>

Lobster season closed May 1 to October 31.



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



Sargassum is still coming onto our shores

In our April 8 -22 issue we reported Bonaire's latest sargassum invasion on April 1. It is still coming. STINAPA, Sabine Engels and here the Mangrove Maniac team are trying to keep the weed at bay, but it keeps showing up. Chris Lincoln told us the influxes have been ramping up since April 20 and have been severe every day since, with some days worse than others.

If you can help even for a couple of hours, join the messaging announcement to volunteer on WhatsApp: contact 212 753 0888.

(Read more about sargassum on Bonaire in the online Reporter April 8 – 22, 2026 archives, <https://bonairereporter.com>)

Come to Canon Day at Fontein on May 17 - Discover the story of this special place on Bonaire

Over the past period, the Directorate of Spatial Planning and Development has restored the water basins at Fontein. On May 17, we are celebrating Canon Day on Bonaire for the first time, and Fontein will be opened for young and old.

The Canon of Bonaire is a modern timeline of Bonaire. It presents important events, people, locations, buildings, music, dance, and stories.

On May 17, guided tours will take place at Fontein, where the rich history of the area will be recounted. These tours are organized in the morning by FuHiKuBo. Visitors will learn about the first inhabitants, view the rock carvings,

and hear about uprisings and resistance during the period of slavery. They will also discover the stories behind the water basins, learn about World War II, and much more.

The tours will be followed by a community and family lunch. In the afternoon during an interactive session and various workshops, you can contribute ideas and choose which topics should be included in the Canon of Bonaire.

The Canon of Bonaire project is part of the Action Agenda on the History of Slavery and is being implemented by the Directorate of Society and Care.

17 mei

Canondag van Bonaire

Plantage Fontein

Schema

09:00-12:00
Rondleiding FuHiKuBo

12:00-13:30
Community Lunch

13:30-17:00
Workshops + Activiteiten

Save the Date

Foodtruck Festival

2026

SATURDAY, JUNE 6

18:30 - 01:00 | PARKE ISIDEL

BONAIRE

Reef Glimpses - Reef Squid from page 13

Years ago, I noticed two squid together on a morning dive at the Pier. They were still in the same area on my late afternoon dive, when the smaller of the two moved up to the larger, sort of pursed his arms and reached under her mantle, using his tentacles to place his sperm sac with the female, who then uses the sperm to fertilize her eggs.

In some species of squid, the suckered tip of the mating arm, with the sperm sac, completely detaches from the male and stays with the female. The first scientist to discover this believed he was looking at a parasite, so he named it for the suckers: hectocotyl, which means "hundred cups." Once it was known that the mystery parasite was actually the mating arm of the squid, it inherited the adjusted name "hectocotylized arm."

So, after a bit the two reef squid separated, he taking his hectocotylized arm with him. He hovered nearby while she investigated ledges, looking for the perfect location to deposit her eggs. Finally, she found it, all her arms pointed into it, and she hovered there for a while before returning to her partner. After she and her mate left, we looked carefully beneath the ledge and saw the cluster of translucent egg capsules she had deposited.

The next summer, during Captain Don's Habitat's Family Week, we guided a group of young snorkelers along the shore ledge off Playa. The kids found a discarded board. Thinking it was trash, we lifted it to take it out of the water -- and saw a cluster of some kind of eggs attached to the underside! We gently brought the board into shallower water so the smaller kids could see it.

Suddenly a tiny black spot appeared in the water, then another, then another. The squid eggs were hatching! As each black spot materialized, a squid about the size of a little fingernail would scoot out of it. Each tiny squid would emerge from its capsule, eject a tiny-squid-sized blob of ink, then go pale and jet-propel away. Soon there was a cluster of tiny squid (and some ink blobs) hovering just below the surface. I skimmed the water with my mask and caught one of the newly-hatched critters -- and it jet-propelled itself right back into the sea!



The female has found an acceptable location and is placing a cluster of egg capsules where she feels they'll be safe until hatching. Photo Julie Morgan

Looking at the babies through our masks, we saw perfect miniature squid. They were so transparent that we could see their pigment cells expand and contract as they changed colors. We carefully replaced the board since there was also another cluster of much smaller eggs on it.

It was an amazing experience, although the kids enjoyed the arrow crab just as much.

(Thanks again to Jim Toomey and Sherman's Lagoon for the use of the fabulous cartoon which so enhanced my Glimpse of Open Ocean Squid in the last issue of the Reporter!)

Scarr's accomplishments were recognized in 2000 by her inaugural membership in the Women Divers Hall of Fame (along with another Bonaire sea protector, Kalli DeMeyer). Her other honors include Captain Don's Accolade Award, as well as a NOGI Award ("the Emmy of the diving world") in the category of Distinguished Service, and the SeaSpace/PADI Environmental Diver of the Year Award in 1991. Dee was the Beneath the Sea and Boston Sea Rovers Diver of the Year in 1991 and 1993.



A Garden? Just Do It! from page 13

My mango tree is now full of blossoms and the first young mangos are showing. In the few times it has rained, the blossoms have become fruit. I don't want to be disappointed as I know that I will not enjoy them because of the birds. I also see small papayas growing from the blossoms. I didn't expect this because of the drought. I am now watering the tree more often to support the growing fruit.

I also have a plague of different fruit flies. A brown type that is a small fly and the other one is a small black bug. I planted chayote fruits in containers and a few days later the fruit was half eaten by the black bugs. So I planted the chayote again and put on top of the containers some gauze. I don't know if it will work, but I will see. It's fun and we can become smart in fighting our garden problems.

By the way, some plants are very happy with the drought. My bougainvillea has never had such a big, amazing bouquet of flowers. The whole plant is one big bunch of flowers. It's so touching when people stop to

take pictures of this flower queen. Another plant doing well is the desert rose, now flowering in so many gardens. It's like all of Bonaire has desert roses in the yard. If you want to enjoy some live flowers in the garden bougainvillea and desert rose will keep your garden beautiful even during a heavy drought.

Angliet grew up in the Surinam jungle, moved to the Netherlands as a teen, where she trained as a teacher, then in Alternative Healing. She has traveled the world - north to Russia and Alaska, south to Tierra del Fuego and Africa and all points in between. Returning to the Caribbean with her young family, she taught in St Eustatius and Bonaire. Everywhere she has lived, she has planted a garden and grown her own food.



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Pets of the Week

Animal Shelter Bonaire, Kaminda Lagun 26A.

Mon. - Fri. 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Sat. 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Call/What's App 701-4989 animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com



Liam

Dear humans.

My name is Liam but sometimes they call me Bollie, because of my small appearance, LOL.

I'm a very healthy and happy boy of about 7 years old and I have already been quite some time at Animal Shelter Bonaire.

At the moment I share my room with two other dogs, so I'm used to being around other dogs. I would also be fine with being an only dog. And I'm very good with children.

I really hope you will visit me, and spend some time with me. I have a small wish that I can spend my golden years in my own home surrounded with love with my own family.

Story / Photo: Sanne Attevelt

This is Meneer V.D Pluim. This gentleman is around 7 years old. He has a beautiful orange and white coat and a bushy tail. Hence his name, in English it would be Mr. V.D Plume. In short we call him Pluim. Even though Pluim has a stern expression, he is the most gentle cat. He was brought to us in March, because he was wandering the streets. Pretty sure people dumped him, because he has no hunting instinct whatsoever. He loves wetfood, and will let you know he is "hungry." He makes the cutest squeeks. He is okay with other cats, but prefers to be on his own. And because he is an older gentleman, he also prefers a relaxed environment.

Come meet Meneer V.D Pluim in the Cat Palace.

Story / Photo: Bo Attevelt



Meneer V.D Pluim

April's grocery prices

Each month, FTPKB, Bonaire's consumer group, compares the price of 168 basic products in 20 supermarkets.

In April, the savings difference on a full shopping basket was \$820.37

The percentage difference between cheapest and most expensive basic products was 42.7%

TOP 3 CHEAPEST SUPERMARKETS

Caribe Nobo

South side of Nikiboko Zuid traffic circle

- Savings: \$159.73
- 43 cheapest products
- Strong: Baby items, Vegetables & fruit

Kadushi

5P6G+H46, Kaya Djabao, Kralendijk

- Save: \$57.88
- 13 cheapest products
- Strong categories: Flour & grain, Baby items

Bondigro

29 Kaya Industria, Kralendijk

- Saving: \$56.41
- 15 cheapest products
- Strong categories: Fruits & vegetables

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www.tiendapokonsumido.com

Animal Shelter News

Fundraising Feline Flow at the Cat Palace



Some 20 cat lovers gathered inside the Cat Palace at Animal Shelter Bonaire to be guided through a calming and refreshing Feline Flow with Gwen Versteegh from Zest for Life Yoga.

Throughout the session, cats moved around the participants, asking for pets and cuddles, resting next to someone relaxing on the floor or claiming some space on the mat.

The Feline Flow event raised \$845 from cat and yoga lovers which will be doubled by Stichting DierenLot. Donations will be split between the Animal Shelter Bonaire and the TNR (Trap-Neuter-Release) program led by Traveling Animal Doctors at the Flamingo Veterinary Center on Bonaire.

The event raised awareness about the necessity for neutering Bonaire's wild cats to control the population and the number of cats at Animal Shelter Bonaire waiting for their own home.

Animal Shelter Bonaire plans to make Feline Flow a monthly event

Gwen Versteegh (JM)



Did you pay your

All conservation projects, research, education and work we do are made possible by the nature fee you purchase.

We are incredibly grateful for your dedication to preserving our nature.

Thank you for purchasing your nature fee. Available online at STINAPabonaire.org



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Fecha	Orario	Aktivitat	Lugá
5 di mei 2026	10:00 - 12:00	Kòfi, te i Freedom Meals	Biblioteca Públiko Boneiru
6 di mei 2026	8:00 - 12:00	Eksperensi'é, kreativitat na Nikiboko!	Sentro di Bario Nikiboko
7 di mei 2026	8:00 - 12:00	Eksperensi'é, kreativitat na Rincon!	Klup di UBP Rincon
12 di mei 2026	9:30 - 12:30	Kòfi, te i kreativitat na Mangazina di Rei	Mangazina di Rei
14 di mei 2026	18:00 - 20:00	Tayer: E arte di rèp ku Juny Martina	Biblioteca Públiko Boneiru
16 di mei 2026	14:00-16:00	Tayer: Skibi poesia ku Aline Abdul	Biblioteca Públiko Boneiru
16 di mei 2026	18:00-21:00	Presentashon Spoken Word	Biblioteca Públiko Boneiru
19 di mei 2026	9:30 - 12:30	Kòfi, te i muzik na Hòfi Kultural	Hòfi Kultural
20 di mei 2026	8:00-12:00	Eksperensi'é, kreativitat na Antriol!	Plasa Chiku Goeloe
21 di mei 2026	8:00-12:00	Eksperensi'é, kreativitat na Nort'í Saliña!	Sentro di Bario Nort'í Saliña
23 di mei 2026	18:00-20:00	Siña e arte di areglá flor	Biblioteca Públiko Boneiru
26 di mei 2026	10:00 - 12:00	Kòfi, te i "pruf" buki	Biblioteca Públiko Boneiru
27 di mei 2026	8:00 - 12:00	Eksperensi'é, kreativitat na Tera Kòrá	Sentro di Bario Tera Kòrá
28 di mei 2026	8:00 - 12:00	Eksperensi'é, kreativitat na Amboina	Sentro di Bario Amboina
29 di mei 2026	8:00 - 12:00	Arte & Kultura Ruta Rincon	Biblioteca Públiko Boneiru
29 di mei 2026	13:45-17:00	Arte & Kultura Ruta Playa	Biblioteca Públiko Boneiru
30 di mei 2026	18:00-21:00	Festival di Makerspace	Biblioteca Públiko Boneiru

ENG



PRICE COMPARISON BONAIRE – APRIL 2026

168 basic products | 20 supermarkets | FTPKB

- New World (temporarily closed)
- Snapshot 2nd week of April 2026 – prices are subject to change

Savings difference on full shopping basket: **\$820.37** Percentage difference between cheapest and most expensive basic products **42.7%**

TOP 3 CHEAPEST SUPERMARKETS

Caribe Nobo

- Savings: **\$159.73**
- 43 cheapest products
- Strong: Baby items, Vegetables & fruit

Kadushi

- Save: **\$57.88**
- 13 cheapest products
- Strong categories: Flour & grain, Baby items

Bondigro

- Saving: **\$56.41**
- 15 cheapest products
- Strong categories: Fruits & vegetables

CONCLUSION

- Caribe Nobo and Kadushi dominate **23% of the lowest prices**
- Large price differences remain
- Consumers often pay too much

Price differences are structural, not incidental

ADVICE

- Shopping without price comparison = losing money
- Smart Choosing = Saving Hundreds of Dollars
- Plan your shopping (route)
- Use price comparisons
- Combine supermarkets
- Focus on biggest price differences
- Check offers (not included)

Your purchasing power lies in your own choices

 www.tiendapakonsumido.com

"On Bonaire, smart grocery shopping can save you more than \$800."



FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Winter 2025/2026
starting October 1st

DESTINATION	AIRLINE	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	DETAILS
NEW YORK JFK	jetBlue						✓		Last flight on January 3, 2026
MIAMI	American Airlines	✓		✓		✓	✓*		DAILY Dec. 17, 2025 - Jan. 5, 2026 *Saturdays 2 daily flights (seasonal)
ATLANTA	DELTA			✓*			✓	✓*	*Starting Dec. 20th, seasonal flights
NEW YORK NEWARK	UNITED						✓		Starting Nov. 1st
HOUSTON	UNITED							✓	Arrival on Saturdays
TORONTO	WESTJET			✓					Starting Dec. 9th - Arrivals on Tue.
AMSTERDAM	KLM	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓*	✓	✓*	*Fri. & Sun. 2 daily flights - Dec.19, 2025 - Mar. 15 2026
AMSTERDAM	TUI	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		Wed Thu Fri direct from AMS
AMSTERDAM	corendon.		✓*					✓	*Starting Oct. 14th - till Oct. 8 on Wednesdays
SANTO DOMINGO SDQ	SKYhigh Dominicana					✓			
CURACAO SINT MAARTEN	WINAIR	✓		✓		✓			Arrivals on Sun Tue Thu
CURACAO ARUBA	DIVIDIVI	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
CURACAO ARUBA	ZAir	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	

Please note this schedule is subject to change without prior notice.

2026 Clean Coast Bonaire Schedule 2nd Sunday of each month		
January 11th	Boka Onima	4:00-6:00 PM
February 8th	Piedra Pretu	4:00-6:00 PM
March 8th	Te Amo Beach	8:00-10:00 AM
April 12th	Boka Onima	4:00-6:00 PM
May 10th	Piedra Pretu	4:00-6:00 PM
June 14th	Te Amo Beach	8:00-10:00 AM
July 12th	Boka Onima	4:00-6:00 PM
August 9th	Piedra Pretu	4:00-6:00 PM
September 13th	Te Amo Beach	8:00-10:00 AM
October 11th	Boka Onima	4:00-6:00 PM
November 8th	Piedra Pretu	4:00-6:00 PM
December 13th	Te Amo Beach	8:00-10:00 AM

STUDIO MUZO

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\$20,-
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2026

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Group Exhibition

• IN THE PIANO & FRONT GALLERIES •
Tuesday-Saturday • 9AM - 3PM

José Smit

Ceramicist / artist

José combines reclaimed tiles with her handmade ceramics and found, given, and used materials. Cups, plates, and other treasures that lived a life before, she gathers in her studio. In her hands, by cutting, sawing and grinding, fragments come intuitive together. Slowly figures are born, playful, colourful and full of quiet surprises.



Dillon Rannou

Painter / artist

Whether depicting scenes from the natural world or abstract forms that evoke emotion and feeling, Dillon's art is always tuned in to the rhythms and energies of the island of Bonaire and its people.



Jozee Tjoa

Painter / artist

Jozee creates multiple layered abstract paintings inspired by her surroundings. They are an ongoing exploration of her feelings in nature, like diving into the sea and the beautiful colours that she sees every day around her. Colours of flowers, the sky, sunsets and of course the Caribbean Sea.



Carlos Porras

Painter / artist

Bonaire has many artists, many of whom are not well known. Carlos Porras is one of them. Born in Lima, Peru, Carlos has been living and working on Bonaire since 1993. Most of his paintings are abstract, though not all, and every one carries meaning. Look at them intently and carefully, let your imagination go, and the paintings will begin to speak to you.



Hilma Koelman

Painter / artist

Hilma, from our neighbor island Curaçao, is inspired by the beauty of nature and intuitively expresses emotions through abstract paintings. While her art occasionally depicts hints of seascape and flowers, she moves away from reality to reach a sense of feel. The movements and the comfort arising from her canvas allow your imagination to run free as the harmony of shapes and colours leaves space for you to create your own story.



Henk Roozendaal

Painter / artist

Roozendaal's work is recognizable from even a mile away. In his opinion having a style of your own is at the core of art itself. In the past he had several successful solo exhibitions on Bonaire: Portraits of Bonaire (2002 & 2006), Indians of Bonaire (2008) and Caribbean Queens (2011). In later work he focused more on landscapes.



No dogs on beaches

STINAPA POST:

We adore our four-legged friends, yet it's crucial we respect our delicate ecosystems.

Please adhere to these guidelines to maintain the beauty of our beaches and protect the wildlife.

Nesting Area Respect: No dog walking in sea turtle nesting zones. Fines of up to \$170 may apply.

It is permitted to walk dogs between Punt Vierkant and the Salt Pier and between the Willemstoren and Sorobon, but only along the coast.

Off-Limits Shores: Dogs are not permitted on these specific beaches. View the map for details.

- Playa Lechi (Sunset Beach)
- Playa Lechi Suit (Boulevard)
- Playa Chachacha
- Playa pal'i mangel (Donkey's Beach)
- Fòrn'i kalki (Bachelor's Beach)
- From Saliña (salt pier) to Lacre Punt (Willemstoren)
- Sorobon and Cai
- Piedra haltu (Thousand Steps)
- Tolo
- Klein Bonaire





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Share your experience and tell us about your Bonaire Friend, they could be recognized with a special prize!



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