



BONAIRE The REPORTER

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Photo Julie Morgan

Great winds at first BonSailing Regatta

BonSailing's first Regatta, June 12 – 14, brought energy, excitement and a strong sense of community to Bonaire, with over 120 sailors taking part across 14 types of craft, from microboats and blokarts (land sailing) to Optimists, Sunfish dinghies, yachts, and a wide range of boards and foils. Sailors ranged in age from 9 to 74 years old, showing that the love of sailing on Bonaire stretches across generations. For many involved, the enthusiastic turnout made one thing clear: one regatta a year is simply not enough, and this event may mark the start of something much bigger for the island's sailing community.

Saturday brought challenging winds that were too strong for many of the smaller boats, a sharp contrast to the lighter conditions often seen during the October Bonaire Regatta. Still, the weekend spirit stayed high. Younger participants kept busy with shoreline paddling races and games, while six yachts and the A-class Sunfish fleet added plenty of color and action on the water. By Sunday, conditions had settled into what many called a perfect sailing day. The highlight of the morning was the downwinder from Atlantis Beach to No Name Beach, where wing foil, kite surf, kite foil, wind surf and wind foil joined the race. Thanks to a special permit from the Marine Park, kites were allowed to land on Klein Bonaire for the event with rangers standing by for safety and helping make the race possible. The first kites crossed the finish in under 30 minutes.

Microboats were a crowd favorite at Parke Tului with 12 boats competing. BonSailing also introduced a new class by sponsoring the creation of three identical boats modeled after the traditional Boto Piskado, (sailing fishing boat). The new vessels are intended to give anyone interested in microboat sailing a chance to try the sport. Organizers say that if interest continues to grow, they also plan to sponsor classes so participants can build their own boats.

The traditional Boto Piskado were prepared to take part, but wind conditions were too strong for them to launch safely. Organizers say the public will likely get another chance to see them during the October regatta.

As part of Budget Marine's 25th anniversary celebrations on Bonaire, the company partnered with the event to host a

fishing tournament on Sunday. The tournament drew a strong response, with 600 kilograms (1,322.77 lb) of fish brought in. Organizers thanked the fishermen for their continued support and noted that residents looking for fresh fish now have plenty of options.

First place for most kgs of fish for large boats went to Jordan de Meyer and crew on Valhalla with 226.5 kg (587.53 lb) of fish as well as the largest fish at 30.3kg (66.8 lb), closely followed by Berjantico Emerenciana on Day & Night with a tuna of 30.1kg (66.35). On the smaller boats, Franson Serberie on Galia had the most total kg with 154.4 (349.39 lb) while Dany Everts and Marjuel tipped the scales with a fish of 24.8kg (54.67 lb) for heaviest fish. Fransisco (Piku) Margarita had the second heaviest and Franson Serberie on Galia a close third.

BonSailing is a foundation dedicated to promoting sailing on Bonaire and is now making the transition into a federation. Leaders say this step will help the organization provide more support, training and opportunities for sailors across the island. Sailing has always been part of Bonaire's story, and BonSailing hopes this renewed momentum will help restore the sport to the place it once held in the community. The group says it has received valuable support from VWS, the department for sports, health, and welfare, as well as from Indebon Bonaire's sport institute. As the organization grows, BonSailing is also looking for committed board members to help guide its next chapter. For more information, please check out bonsailing.org or contact us at board@bonsailing.org. If the success of this regatta is any sign, Bonaire's sailing future is not only still afloat, but catching the wind once again.

See page 4 for race results.

Pam Teitel, president of BonSailing

For more photos see our facebook page:
<https://www.facebook.com/TheBonaireReporter>



Valhalla crew Jordan de Meyer, Buddy Leijnse and Anton Eckhardt caught an amazing 266.5 kilos (587.53) of tuna and their biggest fish was 30.3 kilos (66.8 lbs). Photo Pam Teitel

Report acknowledges islanders protected by fewer rights

A study by the State Commission against Discrimination and Racism confirms that people in the BES municipalities are still far from achieving full equality with people in the European Netherlands. For example, the report says residents of the CN have been waiting for ten years or more for protection against domestic violence that has long been taken for granted by other Dutch citizens. Human rights recognized in the European Netherlands that do not yet apply to the Caribbean Netherlands include the rights of Persons with Disabilities.

The islands also lack social security provisions that have long existed in the European Netherlands, such as an adequate housing allowance, unemployment benefits, the child budget, debt counseling, and various provisions for people with chronic illnesses.

Relatively more residents in the Caribbean Netherlands live in poverty than in the European Netherlands. It is estimated that 1 in 17 people in the European Netherlands live in poverty. The estimate for the Caribbean Netherlands is 1 in 3 people.

DMR

Should forced “gender correction” be allowed on Bonaire?

The Senate is weighing a new law, approved by The House, that would protect homosexual and transgender persons from being forced to undergo therapy or faith healing that is intended “to cure” them. If approved by the Senate that law will be in effect on Bonaire as well as the rest of the nation.

Exercising its rights under the principle of comply or explain, Bonaire’s public body has appealed to the Senate. It has asked that the island be exempted from the new restriction. The appeal, which reportedly is strongly supported by some church leaders, argues that there are clear cultural and religious differences between the island and the rest of the Netherlands. Bonaire, the appeal claims, is not yet ready to accept sexual diversity, not officially at least.

The idea that Bonaire “is not yet ready” supports both sides of the argument.

Supporters of exempting Bonaire from the ban believe that forcing treatment upon people who do not fit in the “two-genders only” model should be legally allowed on the island. They say the intended ban smacks of neocolonialism. The Europeans Netherlands is “shoving a new law down their throats” of the islanders they claim.

On the other hand, those who believe forced treatment should be banned argue that if there people of influence on the island who are not yet ready to accept gender diversity, that is the exact reason the island needs to be granted the authority to prevent forced treatment.

There is no medical evidence that such gender adjustment treatments “succeed” and plenty of evidence that they are psychologically damaging, and in some instances physically damaging, to “the patient.”

DMR

The DTH thinks we’re naughty

Clearing illegal items off public land

The Directorate of Supervision and Enforcement (DTH) has taken enforcement actions against the illegal use of public land without a valid permit. Among other things, advertising signs were removed in Belnem and Sabadeco. In cooperation with STINAPA, rocks were cleared from state-owned land at Playa Lechi.

DTH gave people the opportunity to resolve the situation themselves. In the second and third quarters of 2025, DTH distributed information letters to residents and business owners from Sabadeco to Punt Vierkant. Subsequently, inspections were carried out and warning letters issued where necessary. Examples of using public land include placing rocks, planters, trees or plants on sidewalks, bollards erected without a permit, and chains used to fence off land without permission.

DMR



Enforcing parking

The Directorate of Supervision and Enforcement (DTH) has again issued a press release to notify the public that the police will soon start extra checks on illegal parking in the center of Kralendijk. DTH promises to be understanding and reasonable. They will let us off with a warning twice, they say. They won’t tow our vehicle or fine us until our third offense. DTH says we should only park in permitted places and be considerate of other road users. Most of us had all that figured out a long time ago.

We don’t like having to park on pavements, in front of entrances and exits, at intersections or in parking spaces for the disabled. We understand illegal parking creates dangerous situations and a nuisance for pedestrians, traffic and emergency services. We are aware that DTH takes its responsibility for enforcing traffic and parking regulations seriously.

DMR



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HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

JUNE 21, 2026

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Alcon wines and Freixenet/Mionetto celebrate World Cup

If you're wondering what to wear while watching the World Cup June 11 – July 19, Alcon Wines & Spirits and Mionetto-Freixenet have the answer. Within the international spirit of the World Cup, Umberto Marino of Mionetto-Freixenet in collaboration with Alcon Wines came up with this great offer. For every two bottles of Freixenet or Mionetto purchased, you receive a FREE soccer jersey to wear. You can choose from either a ba-



Umberto Marino sales manager Caribbean and Strategic Accounts for Mionetto Freixenet
Photo Mionetto Freixenet



L-R: Charles Lont, Sales & Marketing manager, Alcon Wines & Spirits; Jeremy Loogman, Team leader, Van den Tweel supermarket, Conchita Arends, COO, Alcon Wines & Spirits. Photo Julie Morgan

sic black for most any of the 48 competing teams or an orange jersey for the Netherlands. Either choice is suitable for supporting your favorite team vying for top honors in the 104 matches.

And as you're cheering on your favorite teams, and your friends can enjoy a bottle of Freixenet or Mionetto designed to bring people together for any life occasion.

This unique offer is currently available at Van den

Tweel. And in a couple of weeks the "buy two bottles and get a jersey free" will be extended to Warehouse Bonaire. Look for the Alcon display in the supermarkets with Freixenet and Mionetto products along with the jerseys.

As one of the leading wine distributors for the past 25 years, Alcon Wines is proud to make this offer and extend a toast to all during this championship season.

Julie Morgan



- **Location: Lagoen Hill**
- **Lot size: 1,183 m2 / 12,733 sq. ft. owned land**
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POLICE REPORT

Contact the police via 715 8000, 911 or the anonymous tip line 9310.

Property crimes

June 15. A dark green Toyota Hilux registration number V-1299 was stolen while parked at Kaya Princess Marie.

June 14. A gray Kymco Agility scooter license plate MF-1868 was stolen while parked in a parking lot near a catering facility on the Kaminda Lac.

June 13. 1:30 a.m. The central control room received a report of a robbery at the Kaya Kòrsou. A woman said that an unknown man had taken her keys and mobile phone. A few minutes later, the reporter contacted the control room again and indicated that the suspect had returned and returned the mobile phone.

June 10. Unknown persons gained access to a supermarket at Kaya Industria and took cash from a safe.

June 9. A black 'fat bike', model V8, was stolen from a house on Kaya Delta.

June 9. An electric bicycle, brand EB2, parked in front of an apartment complex on Kaya Sabana was stolen.

June 8. An electric bicycle (fat bike) was stolen from the grounds of a house on the Kaya Korona.

June 8. A LED lamp mounted on an electric bicycle was stolen while the bicycle was parked on the grounds of a school on Kaya Amsterdam.

June 5. Four Daikin air conditioning installations, both indoor and outdoor units were stolen from house on Kaya Kanari.

June 1. A black Ouxi, model V8 Pro Max 'fat bike' was stolen while parked near a tourist accommodation on Bulevar Julio A. Abraham.

May 31. A black 'fat bike', model V8 was stolen while parked in a parking lot near a catering establishment on Kaminda di Lac.

Arrests

June 14. 3 p.m. The Dutch Caribbean Police Force (KPCN) with a sniffer dog from Customs searched a house on Kaya Maria. Two men, ages 31 and 23, were arrested under the BES Opium Act. Narcotics and various goods relevant to the investigation were seized.

June 13. In the night, a robbery with violence took place on Kaminda Yato Bako. A man, 37, was arrested for robbery and assault that same day.

June 6. 12:15 a.m. A fight was reported at a catering establishment on Kaya Nikiboko Noord. When the police arrived, one of the parties was ordered to leave the location to prevent further escalation. The suspect did not comply. The woman, 33, was arrested for not following a police order and for public drunkenness.

June 3. 3:40 p.m. A man, 40, was arrested at Kaya Dr. José Girigorio Hernandez for animal cruelty and failure to obey a police order.

May 31. 8 p.m. A brawl with a stabbing weapon was reported at a catering establishment on Kaya Balau. When the police arrived, a they found a group of people a vehicle whose windows had been destroyed. A man, 52, was arrested for threatening with a weapon and violating the BES Weapons Act. A man, 45, was arrested for assault.

May 31. 10 a.m. A man, 22, was arrested at the police station for assault.

May 30. 5:25 p.m. A neighbor quarrel was reported at Kaya Theresa F. Ilario. When the police arrived, the officers found the people involved. Two men aged 37 and 44 were arrested on the spot for threats and destruction.

May 28. 4:40 p.m. A man, 75, was arrested on Bulevar Miguel A. Pourier for threatening, attempted manslaughter and attempted assault with a weapon. An object was seized that the suspect had in his possession

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 May 29 to June 14. Police reported that 18 drivers (including three driving scooters) were arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol. Three drivers were identified during a routine check. One driver drove into an electricity box. Police stopped five drivers for driving erratically and two for driving with no lights. Four drivers collided with other cars.

Drivers were given driving bans of 1-, 3-, 5-, 6-, and 7 hours. Nine driving licenses were confiscated. Five drivers were fined for driving without driving licenses.

One driver drove his car backwards and crashed into a police service vehicle. One driver had parked and left his vehicle on the public road twice, despite the fact that the officers had spoken to him about this.

The patrol found another driver asleep in his vehicle parked on the side of the road. When the officers woke him, he showed clear characteristics of a person under the influence of alcohol. But because the officers had not seen him driving, he would only be given a written ban from driving. However despite the ban, the moment the patrol left the location, the suspect drove away with his vehicle. He was immediately stopped and given a breathalyzer test. He was

arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol and his driver's license was confiscated.

June 14. 4:10 a.m. A scooter collided with a traffic island in Kaya Internashonal, injuring the driver. The ambulance took the victim to the hospital Due to medical priority, no breathalyzer test could be taken from the victim, but the driver was clearly under the influence of alcohol.

Traffic accidents (breathalyzer test negative)

June 12. 3 p.m. A scooter and a pick-up collided on Kaya Amsterdam. The scooter driver was injured and was taken to hospital by ambulance for medical treatment. The driver of the pick-up could not show a valid insurance certificate and was fined.

June 12. 12:45 p.m. A car and a pick-up collided at the intersection of the Kaya Mulatu, the Kaya Barakuda and the Kaya Kokolishi because no right of way was given. Ambulance staff provided medical assistance to two minors at the scene, after which one of the victims was taken to the hospital.

June 6. 6:25 p.m. A moped and a car collided on Kaya Industria. The driver of the moped was injured and was rushed to the hospital by the ambulance. Later, the victim was transferred abroad for medical treatment.

June 4. 4:55 p.m. On Kaya Dr. José Girigorio Hernandez a car drove backwards and hit a pedestrian. The victim was taken to the hospital by ambulance.

June 4. 1:15 p.m. At Kaminda La Union, a car went off the road and ended up in the bushes, trapping the passenger in the vehicle. The fire brigade, ambulance and police were directed to the location. Some time later, the fire brigade staff managed to free the victim from the vehicle. The ambulance took both the driver and the passenger to the hospital for medical treatment.

June 1. 8:20 p.m. A car and a scooter collided at the intersection of Kaya Andres A. Emerenciana and Kaya Pos di Amor. The driver of the scooter was injured and was taken to the hospital by ambulance. Due to medical priority, no breathalyzer could be taken from the scooter rider. The driver of the scooter was fined for driving without a license and without valid insurance. The scooter was confiscated.

June 1. 7:35 a.m. A pick-up and a SUV collided head-on on Kaya Korona. Both drivers were injured and were taken to hospital by ambulance for medical treatment. The driver of the pickup truck tried to swerve to avoid a collision with the vehicle that stopped in front of him. Because the brakes of the pickup did not work, he swerved and collided head-on with a SUV that was coming from the opposite direction.

May 31. 9:20 p.m. On Bulevar Miguel A. Pourier a driver was reported trapped in his pick-up. The fire brigade and ambulance were immediately rushed to the location. The pick-up was found parked across the road with considerable material damage. The ambulance staff and the fire brigade freed the driver from the vehicle. The driver did not want medical help, could not show a driver's license and showed characteristics of a person under the influence of alcohol. A breathalyzer test showed that he had consumed more alcohol than is legally allowed. The suspect then chose to go with the ambulance to the hospital for a medical check-up. After the medical check-up at the hospital, the police wanted to take another breathalyzer test from him, but this did not yield the desired result.

May 30. 12:50 p.m. On Kaya Korona a car crashed into a tree on the sidewalk, injuring the driver. The ambulance took the victim to the hospital.

May 29. 6 p.m. On Kaya Gramèl the driver of a scooter crashed into a wall and was injured. The driver was not wearing a helmet. The ambulance took the victim to the hospital.

Traffic, Parking and Speed Control

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

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

From May 28 to June 12. Police conducted traffic controls on Kaminda Lac, Kaya Libertador Simon Bolivar, Kaya Gilberto F. (Betico) Croes, Kaminda La Union, E.E.G. Boulevard, Kaya Nikiboko Zuid, Kaya Andres A. Emerenciana, Kaya Amsterdam and Kaya Korona. More than 100 vehicles were stopped and 38 fines were issued. Fines were issued for driving without a valid driving licence, valid insurance, a helmet, both license plates, and a seatbelt. Fines were also given to a truck that was overloaded, and a driver for holding a mobile phone while driving. Two trucks and an excavator (Caterpillar) were not allowed to continue on their way because the drivers could not show the correct documents.

On May 28 police checked the speed of cars entering Rincon on Bulevar Miguel A. Pourier. Seven fines were issued for exceeding the maximum permitted speed.

During the check on Kaya Amsterdam, the driver of a car didn't stop for the police. After a short chase at high speed, the vehicle stopped on Kaya Zink. The driver turned out to be a minor who was fined for driving without a license and without insurance. The car was

Public order

June 12. 3:20 p.m. A man was reported missing in the bay of Sorobon / Lac Cai. The man had entered the water together with others and got into trouble around 1 p.m. due to the strong current. Two people managed to reach the shore, but the third person did not. The police, the Royal Netherlands Marechaussee and Customs, with the help of boats from STINAPA and CITRO, the helicopter and the Dash aircraft of the Coast Guard and a group of volunteers, searched the bay until 7:20 p.m. when the search was stopped until the next day due to darkness. On Saturday, June 13, around 8 a.m. the central control room received a report that the body of the missing person had been found in Sorobon Bay. The body was brought ashore by boat and then transported to the morgue. A doctor diagnosed the death of the 30-year-old man with the initials M.S.N.F., born on Bonaire. The forensic department of KPCN confirmed that the death was caused by drowning.

May 31. 2 a.m. A chase took place through Tera Kòrà and Niki-boko neighborhoods. A patrol gave the driver of a car a stop sign on Kaya Valdivia because the brake lights were not working properly and the vehicle was swerving on the road. At the height of the Kaya Valdivia, the car slowed down, two passengers opened the door and tried to run away. The vehicle then took off at high speed.

The patrol chased the car through several streets. The chase ended on Kaminda Nieuw Amsterdam, near Kaya Konfó. Here, a passenger got out and ran away, while the driver of the vehicle continued his flight. The police decided to continue the chase on foot behind the passenger who had gotten out of the vehicle, firing three shots. However, the suspect managed to escape in the dark. The police investigated the scene and found a firearm and ammunition. Later, the vehicle was found on the Kaminda Djabou and seized for further investigation.

Final results BonSailing Regatta June 13-14, 2026

Yachts Racing Class: 1st - Jenk - Curacao

Yachts Cruisers: 1st Compass – Bonaire; 2nd Aventura – Bonaire; 3rd Phoenix-Solobon - Bonaire

Sunfish A: 1st Paxienrocque Martis; 2nd Gilbert Martis; 3rd George Soliano

Sunfish B: 1st Antje Gunther; 2nd Konstanze Staud; 3rd Carine Verhaagen

Optimist B: 1st Kyra vd Keuken; 2nd Roemer van den Brink; 3rd Leif Coster

Optimist C: 1st Neymar Janga; 2nd Felix Ong; 3rd Mila de Wit

Microboats 30'': 1st Nogame; 2nd Angel; 3rd Seabird

Microboats 35'': 1st Lina; 2nd Extream; 3rd Melissa

Microboats 40'': 1st Khimani; 2nd Ta Mi So

Microboats 45'': 1st Kheian; 2nd Rainbow

Downwinder Atlantis to Klein Bonaire:

Wing Foiling: 1st Christiaan Zweers; 2nd Pieter Zweers; 3rd Monique Meyer

Kite Men: 1st Leon van Bergen; 2nd Rowan Beenackers; 3rd Robbert Sas

Wind Foil/Wind Surf: 1st Tycho Smit; 2nd Maria Boekstegers; 3rd Kenny Abrahamsz

Women: 1st Astrid van Schaik; 2nd Jiske Schailing; 3rd Melissa Du Mul

BloKart (Land Sailing): 1st Lennart Felida; 2nd Tim Martinez; 3rd Andrew Sands

Most improved/sharpest starts: Evy Heijnen

Unite in Care platform launched at conference

More than 150 healthcare professionals, administrators, policymakers and researchers gathered June 10 – 11 for the conference Future of Care in the Caribbean Netherlands: Standing Strong Together for Healthcare.

Organized by Care and Youth Caribbean Netherlands (ZJCN), the conference participants held discussions and workshops on how different care providers could work more effectively and collaborate between the different islands. The workshops considered leadership in vulnerable care systems, training, education, care data-driven indicators, care labor market empowering the position of care recipients and nutrition.

A major highlight on Day Two, was the launch of the Unite in Care labor market platform. The purpose of the platform is to bring all important information for the labor market to one accessible location:

www.uniteincare.com. The idea is to pool knowledge, experience and insight. The site brings together employers, employees and job seekers together whether they are looking for a job, recruiting or personal and professional development. Working together should build a strong and healthy labor market for the Caribbean Netherlands.

An agreement was signed by Fundashon Mariadal and Scholengemeenschap Bonaire to jointly develop a training program. And Fundashon Mariadal, Mental Health Caribbean, Zorg en Welzijn Groep, Fundashon Kuido pa Personanan Desabilitá and Stichting Project signed a letter of intent to join forces in the areas of support services and operational management.

The platform is open to anyone involved or interested in healthcare or the welfare system. *JM*



Fundashon Mariadal, Mental Health Caribbean, Zorg en Welzijn Groep, Fundashon Kuido pa Personanan Desabilitá and Stichting Project sign agreement. Photo via SSO Communicatie

Ask Bob

Bonaire real estate advice



Hi Bob,

Can I rent out my property on Bonaire for vacation rentals through AirBnB, VRBO or any other commercial rental platforms?

Regards, Sue

Hi Sue,

Thank you for your question.

In some cases, yes, but there are a few important factors to consider before offering your property as a vacation rental on Bonaire.

First, you should verify whether the zoning rules allow vacation rentals at your property. Residential areas often have restrictions because of the zoning plan. If you are planning on purchasing a property, make sure you clearly understand the zoning rules for that property.

Second, if your property is part of a Homeowners Association (HoA) you also need to check the rules of the HoA and to see if there are restrictions for vacation rentals.

Third, it is also important to confirm whether your insurance policy covers vacation rentals and provides liability protection as well.

Lastly, if you purchased the property with financing, your mortgage provider may have included restrictions regarding the use of the property as a vacation rental.

Vacation rentals can be a good way to help pay for your real estate investment on Bonaire but be sure to review all these factors before starting with vacation rentals on a home you own or one you are planning to buy.

Kind regards,
Bob

Bob Bartikoski,

Re/Max Bonaire Broker/Owner

If you are looking to buy or sell a home on Bonaire, or if you have a real estate question for Bob, email him at info@bonairehomes.com.

Bonaire: +599-717-7362.

Toll free from US: 1-866-611-7362

Report Sounds Alarm on Water Quality in Bonaire

A new assessment of water quality in the Caribbean Netherlands identifies significant concerns related to nutrient pollution and chemical contaminants in Bonaire's coastal waters. The Bonaire Nature Platform (BNP) agrees with the findings of the report and calls for urgent action to address the sources of pollution threatening the island's communities and marine ecosystems.

Pollution on Land, Impacts at Sea

The study, conducted by Wageningen Marine Research in collaboration with STINAPA Bonaire, Reef Renewal Foundation Bonaire, and other local partners, is the most comprehensive water quality assessment undertaken in the Caribbean Netherlands to date. The findings show that many of the pressures affecting Bonaire's marine environment originate on land, including wastewater, stormwater runoff, erosion, and other forms of pollution that are entering sea and negatively affecting water quality.

"Water quality is closely linked to many of Bonaire's environmental challenges," the BNP stated. "Addressing pollution will also support efforts related to erosion control, wastewater management, habitat restoration, climate resilience, and sustainable development."

Reefs Under Increasing Pressure

The report found that nutrient levels in Bonaire's coastal waters frequently exceed levels considered healthy for coral reefs. Excess nutrients stimulate algal growth, reducing the ability of corals to survive and recover. Excess nutrients and chemical pollution combined with increasing ocean temperatures and recurring bleaching events further reduces reef resilience.

Healthy coral reefs are not only important for nature, but also for Bonaire's economy: support fisheries, tourism and protect Bonaire's coastline. Scientists conclude that reducing local sources of



Collecting water samples. Photo credit STINAPA

pollution is one of the most effective actions available to improve the long-term health of Bonaire's reefs.

Beyond Nature: Implications for People

The report also identified elevated levels of several harmful chemical con-

taminants in marine sediments. These pollutants can accumulate in marine organisms and potentially enter the food chain, highlighting the need for further research into possible impacts on human health and marine life.

BNP release

Curaçao scores FIFA World Cup Goal

The team from Curaçao, in its first FIFA World Cup appearance, and from the smallest country ever to qualify, lost its opening game 7 - 1 to highly favored Germany. But until the later stages of the first half, the score was Germany 1, Curaçao 1. *DMR*

Library nominated for second award

The Biblioteka Publiko Boneiru was named the 2026 Most Positive Government Institution of the Year in the Netherlands. Now it is one of five libraries short-listed for the Best Library of the Netherlands award. The judging criteria: Location, exterior, interior, overall appearance, programming, collection, and staff. *DMR*

Islanders invited to contribute to Climate Adaptation Strategy



A National Climate Adaptation Strategy 2026 will be adopted at the end of 2026. It will include a special focus on the Caribbean part of the kingdom. It will also focus on the social impacts of climate change. Minister Vincent Karremans (Infrastructure and Water Management), acknowledges that “much attention and many resources have been dedicated to the reduction of greenhouse gasses in recent years.” But regardless of the progress made so far, the climate is going to change and we should be preparing to change with it.

We can already see how heavy downpours result in erosion of the coastline and the temperatures are already significantly higher than a couple of years ago. Higher temperatures, heavy downpours, stronger wind speeds, rising sea levels, and hurricanes of the most severe category can be expected. We now need to look ahead: how can we keep our Kingdom safe and resilient? In time, clear choices will have to be made. But to be ready then, we need to be thinking about them now.

Through Monday July 20, anyone can submit an opinion on the draft program National Climate Adaptation Strategy (Draft NAS) and the related environmental impact assessment (EIA Plan). More information can be found via <https://hetkin.nl/en/> *DMR*

House approves expanding BES governing councils

The House of Representatives passed a bill that will allow Bonaire to elect two more Island Council members and appoint an additional deputy to the Executive Council. Bonaire’s Island Council will increase from nine members to eleven, the Executive Council from three to four. Eustatius and Saba will go from five to seven island council members and from two to three deputies. The intention of the increase is to add more competencies to the councils and spread their work load more broadly.

Additional legislation was passed that will help the islands adapt their meeting rooms. Previously agreed measures for supporting implementation and costs was also affirmed.

The measures received broad support from most parties. State Secretary for Kingdom Relations Eric van der Burg has made an urgent appeal to the Senate to approve the legislation by September. Then the islands can start preparing for the March 2027 elections.

Further legislation was passed that requires an evaluation to be conducted at the three public bodies before the number of seats is again increased. *DMR*

Universities combine to offer online professional development

A consortium of universities has launched a Lifelong Learning platform online to strengthen professional development and governance capacity within the entire Kingdom. Professionals in the Caribbean part of the Kingdom are provided access to educational programs, courses, and masterclasses that address current societal and administrative challenges in the region. The educational programs focus on innovation, professionalism, and resilience in the public sector and public administration.

The members of the consortium are Hague University of Applied Sciences, the University of Curaçao Dr. Moises da Costa Gomez, the University of Aruba, and Utrecht University. Their online platform will bring education, knowledge sharing, and professional development together in one central location. The four institutions intend to help professionals throughout the Kingdom become more employable and to strengthen professional development and governance capacity. The platform will connect local expertise with international perspectives and give explicit attention to the cultural and societal context of the islands. *DMR*

Public prosecutors not pursuing landfill accusations

Hans Hofstra, of BES-Reporter.com, has reported the Public Prosecution Service (OM) will not investigate criminal accusations related to Landfill Lagun. In 2026 smoke from landfill fires endangered people living in the area. Government officials recommended an evacuation on January 17, then cancelled it on January 20. Later Stichting Pro Lagun filed a criminal complaint against the officials, accusing them of canceling the evacuation prematurely. OM has ruled that the government employees were acting within their official capacity and were therefore afforded criminal immunity. *DMR*

Craane now leading the Greens



Jolinda Craane, former Provincial Executive member and spokesperson for the UPB during the recent discussions for the formation of the current governing coalition, has been chosen to be the interim leader of the Union Patriótico Boneriano (UPB). Former party leader James Kroon said he considered it an honor to hand over the baton, at least for the time being, to the new interim party leader.

Craane said she was looking forward to the challenge. “More and more people are stating that they cannot identify with the way politics is currently conducted.” *DMR*

Prepare for disasters the OLB says

The hurricane season having started on June 1, the Public Body Bonaire is launching a long range resilience campaign, ‘Ta prepará.’ The intention is to encourage residents to prepare for potential emergencies ahead of time.

Residents are urged to take measures in time. They should assemble an emergency kit, safely store important documents, check their homes for vulnerabilities. They should also make clear arrangements with family, neighbors, and people who would need extra help. “A well-prepared Bonaire is a stronger Bonaire. With this campaign, we want to help residents be aware, practical, and prepared in time for the risks that could affect our island,” says the Public Body Bonaire. *DMR*

Suspended UNICEF child support program may be restored

When the previous cabinet cut 300,000 euros in subsidies, UNICEF’s Child Friendly Cities project in the BES seemed doomed. The new Jetten cabinet has a more constructive attitude to funding worthy projects in the islands. According to State Secretary for Kingdom Relations Eric van der Burg, the UNICEF program may start up again.

The Child Friendly Cities program intends to ensure that children can develop fully in a city where their rights, needs, and aspirations are a community concern. The program, based on local needs, was already started on all three islands, then had to be discontinued when the funding was withdrawn. Child Friendly Cities would complement the domestic violence and child abuse measures being taken under the Administrative Agreement. *DMR*



Global Wellness Day is a first on Bonaire



Bonaire joined 170 other countries June 13 to focus on living well on Global Wellness Day (GWD). Held the second Saturday of June since 2012, people worldwide pause, reflect on well-being and let go of bad habits and stress. The idea for Bonaire's first Global Wellness Day was initiated by The Wellness Collective Bonaire formed by Marjolijn Beuzekamp owner of Massage Bonaire and Jennifer Beaulieu owner of Mermaid Vibes Yoga. Marjolijn and Jennifer reached out to other health and wellness businesses to make GWD happen on Bonaire.

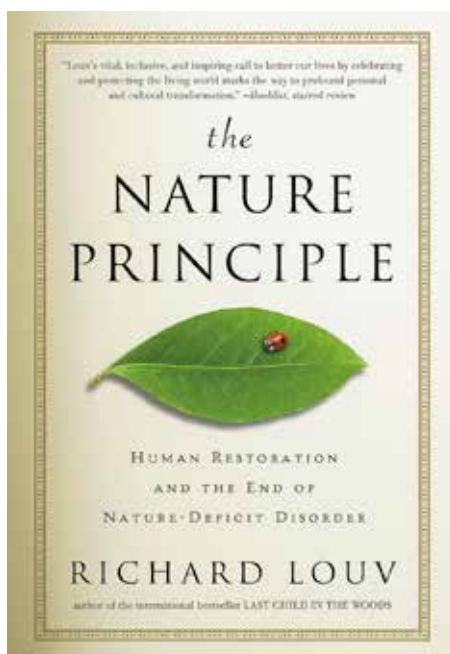
From 8 – 10 a.m. at the rooftop restaurant El Canton, some 30 people chose wellness and enjoyed a free morning of movement, self-care, connection and wellness knowledge. On arrival everyone received a Bingo card which displayed the 18 different wellness stations to visit. Depending on the number of station visits, checked on the card, guests were eligible for a goodie bag or

a chance to win the grand prize. There were four different station categories: Move – physical activity, Nourish – Body & Skin care, Breathe – Mindfulness and reflection and Connect – Healing & togetherness. Guests could try yoga, a singing bowl, foot reflexology, build your own scrub, body analysis, relaxation, skin care and lots more.

Winner of the Grand Prize, a Sunset Retreat Sail, was Jo Tubbs and she has already enjoyed her wellness experience. To find if you are winner of some of the other great prizes visit Wellness Collective Bonaire Facebook page. Participating businesses were: Massage Bonaire, Marjolijn Beuzekamp; Mermaid Vibes Yoga, Jennifer Beaulieu; Fit for Life, Kelly Livingston; Maka's Spa, Yuly Andrea Marroquin Caicedo; BodyFit Bonaire, Inge van Bergen and Island Bounce, Carolyn.

Story / Photo Julie Morgan

Buckley's Books by George Buckley



The Nature Principle

The Nature Principle by Richard Louv provides a deep, analytical and introspective discussion of what he calls Nature Deficit Disorder, the need for exposure to the natural world as posited by Harvard's evolutionary biologist and ant expert, Edward O. Wilson in his book *Biophilia*, which expanded the con-

cept first coined in the 1970s by Eric Fromm. Louv has become a major promoter of the concept of the innate need for nature since the publication of his best selling book, *Last child in the woods*. His other books expanded on that idea: *Our Wild Calling... how connecting with animals can transform our lives and save them* and *Vitamin N...reconnecting with life in a virtual age*. Since then, the restorative powers of nature have been well documented and resulted in such concepts as Forest Bathing and exposure to the sights, sounds and smells of the ocean. The well documented emotional, sensory, physiological and psychological impacts can be significant and are well documented in Louv's writings. I fondly remember E.O. Wilson at the Harvard Museum of Natural History asking me sometime in the late 1980's, "What does it feel like when you are underwater?", about my SCUBA diving. As I answered, he listened carefully, gently prodding me for added details. I became an instant convert to the concepts of Biophilia and later understood the depth and impacts of Louv's themes.

In *The Nature Principle*, Louv explores the

ideas of :

- Developing the full use of the senses'
- Enhancing intelligence through exposure to the world outdoors, and
- Tapping the power of the natural world for our emotional, physical and family fitness.

He delves into the need to become far more self aware, a prelude perhaps to the concepts of "mindfulness," in overcoming place blindness by the Incredible experience of being where you are and *The Nature Principle at Home*. Yes, where you live can be a wonderful place to let your mind go into neutral and explore its surroundings: the sights, smells, sounds and feeling of a breeze et al. in your own yard. Small as it may be, my backyard is a plant-filled oasis for birds; on an early evening ZOOM call in the yard, a participant commented on all the 'bird noise' they heard in the background!.. I said that the birds frequent my yard for all its plants and bushes and their songs were not recordings as in television golf shows! Many people whom I know, work with or have taught, have made their own, often small and personal "Everday Eden" wherever it is that they live.

Louv investigates the concept of a "High Performance Human," not from the sports perspective but rather from the mental, and cognitive realms and how we CAN create and have a "A Living, a Life and a Future"! He incorporate a lot of Schumacher's "Small is Beautiful" ideas into his thinking as well as ideas from numerous other writers about the environment and nature. A detailed notes and references are included for further study and reading as well as a comprehensive index. A wonderful validation of what many already knew of the Power of Nature!

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



First Food Truck Festival



Bonaire's first ever Food Truck Festival has been a long time coming, and what a great idea. Who knew there were so many mobile restaurants on Bonaire? And we know there are even more than at the festival. Some 10+ trucks were available at Parke Isidel, and here are their offerings: two different types of pizza, BBQ, a truck just for mojitos, Chefs on Tour with lionfish specialties, local

food, mini donuts covered in your choice of candies, focaccia sandwiches, Tio's kitchen and Creole. One area was set up for drinks to be purchased with tickets. And there was even a DJ and band.

The event began at 6:30 p.m. and extended to 1 a.m. Estimates of just how many people found their way to the food fest were from 1200-2000 people, but

there could have been more.

A few attendees gave us their pros and cons on the festival.

Pros: great idea, good variety of foods and you saw a lot of friends.

Cons: too many people, it took an hour sometimes to order as the lines were so long and then another 45 minutes to get your food, the drink line took too long

and you couldn't pay cash/card, not enough food trucks available, the band started too late and there was insufficient parking.

More cons than pros so improvement is needed, but we hope the organizers will try again with some modifications.

Story / Photos Julie Morgan



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Above: Jonny's Pizza cooked over a wood fire
Below: Mini donuts with all the toppings



RoffaReef launches collaborative eggspedition.org



Floating fish breeding system in Bonaire. Credit: Diergaarde Bijdorp

Roffa Reefs founder Sander van Lopik brought his first floating fish breeding system as a pilot program to the waters of Bonaire in 2022. Previously the system had only been tested at the Rotterdam Zoo where Sander initiated the company RoffaReefs in 2021. With the help of the World Wide Fund for Nature -Netherlands and the Oceanium at Rotterdam Zoo, the RoffaReefs project has grown to be an important part of reef restoration. And in this fifth anniversary year an international platform named eggspedition.org was launched on May 28.

Eggspedition.org is a collaborative project to collect images of fish eggs, roe and spawning behavior to gain a better understanding of reproduction within fish populations, coral reefs and the health of the oceans. Scientists, divers, snorkelers, fishermen and research institutions worldwide are asked to collect and share data on fish reproduction on the website eggspedition.org.

Thanks to the platform, scientists can gain a better understanding of populations and fish stocks, while fishermen, divers and scientists learn to view the ocean in a different way.

“Coral reefs have been in decline for years. Coral is a living organism that depends on the fish that sustain it. Due to decades of overfishing, climate change and pollution, there are fewer fish in many parts of the world to maintain coral reefs and allow them to flourish, with all the consequences that entails,” said Sander.

Around 80% of all fish in the ocean reproduce pelagically. This means that, from the moment they are fertilized, their eggs, often only half a millimeter in size, drift with the current. RoffaReefs is committed to finding these eggs, mapping them, rearing them and releasing them near coral reefs. This small head start gives the fish, and therefore the coral where they live and feed, a better chance of survival.

“With eggspedition.org, we are carefully mapping all of this. Whether you’re a diver, a fisherman or a scientist, you can contribute your own insights and help ensure our oceans are once again teeming with fish life,” said Sander.

WWF-NL. / Eggspedition.org release / JM

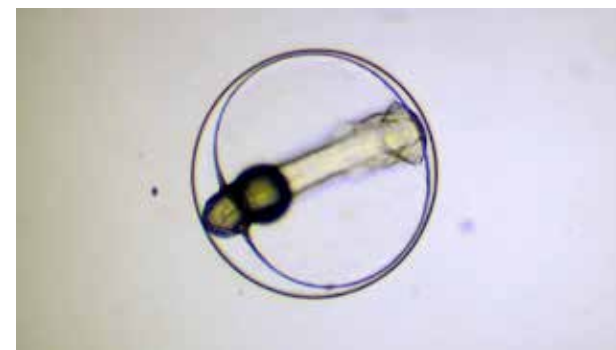


Photo of a fish egg under the microscope. Credit: Diergaarde Bijdorp

Make Bonaire Accessible Sorry... I forgot..... by Ria Dokter

Sorry... I forgot...

That is the thing you hear the most when you are waiting for somebody. Somebody that wanted to come by and see how you are. As an elderly person, a lonely elderly, you are always in for a visitor, somebody to talk to, be seen and be heard.

I was soooooo busy, and it just now popped into my mind. I will call you as soon as I've finished what I am working on.

When I go grocery/shopping, I will give you a call to ask what you need.

Why didn't you call me.

Just wait for me, I am on my way.

We made a note to come and get you, sorry that it went wrong.

Just a few weeks ago I was sitting and thinking how many times people ask you something or promise you something, and they forget or do not show up at all. I even made a list of all the promises different people made and didn't follow through. And you will be surprised how many times the promises were broken or were not accomplished.

Of course, I understand that everybody has their own life and their own things to do. But when you make a

promise to an elderly person, it really means something. When you make an appointment or make a promise, you have to comply. And if you are not really sure you can do it then, please, do not make that promise.

The elder you are dealing with is alone, insecure and depends on others for a lot of things. So, when you cannot make that promise come true, it is so very disappointing. And because this is happening more and more with many more people and organizations, the elderly are getting more and more insecure. It comes to a point where they dare not take people seriously, and that is a very sad fact.

When you are old and come to depend on others, you must be able to rely on the promises made. And when this does not happen, there might be no one that they know to trust. And just that trust is so very important. This counts for those living at home but also for those living in a care facility.

When you know that you cannot make that promise come true... don't make it. Say nothing at all. Maybe you can ask somebody to fill in for you, but always be sure that the person is dependable.

People have absolutely no idea how it feels when you

are “let down” like that. And when it happens more than once, one learns that there is no one to trust. And that makes the loneliness and dependability even worse than it already was.

Please, try to make promises you can keep. And do not try to make up with other promises. Action speaks louder than words...also in cases like this.

Making a special calendar helps, every phone has a possibility to remind us of appointments.

Be sure, be dependable, let your people now and feel they can always count on you.



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.

College Students Measure Underwater Life in Bonaire



Left to right. Dr. Michael Feeley of the National Park Service, Sofia Kender, Jack Jansheski, Eden Noel, Tyler Bazan, Eve Malatesta, Lauryn Robinson, Alexandra Nelson, Shannon DeWit, and Dr. Patrick Rice of College of the Florida Keys Photo Julie Morgan

When eight students from The College of the Florida Keys needed hands-on practical training to measure biodiversity, they came to Bonaire. Supervised by Drs. Patrick Rice, Chief Science and Research Officer of the college, and Michael Feeley of the US National Parks Service, and armed with high and low tech, these students applied their skills to seeing where underwater biodiversity was greatest around Bonaire. On Friday, June 12, they presented their findings from a week of diving and working.

They began with two hypotheses, that dive sites where fishing is not permitted would have greater biodiversity; or that it made no difference whether a site did or did not permit fishing. Using the Bohnsak-Bannerot method of surveying, in which a diver stays in one designated spot and surveys the surrounding fish within an imaginary, fixed-radius cylinder, students laid out 15 meter circular stationary study sites in 45 feet (13.7 meters) of water. Then they carefully count-

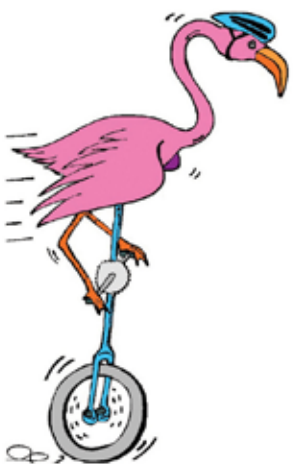
ed the fish species, fish sizes and the condition of the seabed (or benthic habitat). Students communicated with their faculty supervisors with full face masks equipped with buddy phones to talk underwater while recording their data on underwater slates and paper. It was a dry classroom transposed to the sea floor!

Four of their study sites did not permit fishing, 18th Palm, La Machaca, Small Wall, and Reef Scientifico; and four study sites did permit fishing, Karpata and 1000 Steps on Bonaire, and Captain

Don's Reef and Munks Haven on Klein Bonaire. Not surprisingly, the most common fishes they recorded were creole wrasse, brown chromis, eel wrasse, blue chromis, and creolefish.

Measuring underwater life ...to page 12

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A Garden? Just Do It! - International Days - by Angliet, Nature Lover

More and more days of the year seem to be fixed with specific international days. The Days raise awareness such as World Ocean Day this month, or mark communal celebrations like Father's Day. Many such calendar days highlight the intention of doing something.

Nowadays, people are taking action for the ocean worldwide. We hear scientific advice about protecting the ocean and expressed creatively in paintings, music, poems and even at home on our menus. People are consciously choosing not to consume animal and marine food in order to protect nature and repair the damage we have caused through overconsumption and conscious and unconscious industrial pollution (such as plastics

and microplastics, chemical waste).

Ocean protection entails the preservation and restoration of marine ecosystems against threats of over-fishing, seabed destruction and pollution and climate change (ocean acidification, diminished coral reefs and biodiversity being destroyed by warming). The health of our ocean is under pressure worldwide therefore, the global aim is to effectively protect at least 30 percent of all oceans by 2030. This objective entails creating reserves where fishing and mining are prohibited, waste reduction and environmentally friendly sustainable management.

No matter how immense the surface area of the ocean is, humanity has nevertheless been able to inflict serious damage on this phenomenon. Unbounded greed and reckless actions have led to environmental damage that has already passed the tipping point.

I call upon you to participate consciously in the fight for the ocean. Each in your own way, but united in a global force for the preservation of our lifeblood: water. There is no more time to lose; we must take action to

A Garden? ...to page 13

Measuring underwater life

...from page 10

But to my surprise, the students found the most biodiversity at Munks Haven, despite the fact it is not protected from fishing. I had assumed that protection necessarily equaled higher numbers of fish and was surprised by this finding. The students conjectured that perhaps it was the sheer distance of the site from tourist locales that made it so rich, or perhaps it was the cost of fuel that kept fishing boats away. As one person noted at the presentation, it may also result from Piskabon's FADS (fish aggregating devices) fish attractors that are moored in deep water and help fishermen catch deli-

cious pelagic fish like tuna and wahoo. The FADS keep fisherman away from the coral reef and fishing for reef fish. Overall, the students found that both protected and unprotected sites had diverse fish communities, which suggests to me that Bonaire's fishes thrive within the Marine Park whether fishing is permitted or not.

Dr. Rice also used 360-degree underwater cameras to record the surveys and noticed that as the students settled into their sites and stopped moving, hidden fish popped out and began moving around. This is an advantage of the stationary survey (as opposed to the roving diver survey commonly used by REEF surveyors). A quiet diver does not scare the fish!

I was impressed by how hard these students worked and the rigor of their methods. They should be proud

that their data will go to NOAA and the National Parks Service. The work they did is an excellent complement to the fish surveys done by REEF surveyors here. This special program continues this week with a focus on corals, headed by faculty member Dr. Charles Gregory. We should be proud that our reefs are not just fun to dive but support practical science education.

This is the 10th non-consecutive year the College of the Florida Keys supervised by Dr. Patrick Rice has held the trip to Bonaire and Captain Don's Habitat. The student trip and research was funded by the US National Science Foundation.

Story Mel McCombie,
Photo Julie Morgan

Special olympics athletes welcomed home



Special Olympics Bonaire proudly shares the outstanding results achieved by our athletes during their participation in the Special Olympics National Games Haarlem 2026 in the Netherlands. Our delegation not only greatly enjoyed this special experience but also delivered fantastic sporting performances. Through dedication, enthusiasm, and strong team spirit, our athletes won multiple medals across different sports.

Results

Bocce (Double): Gold: Selvine Offerman & Marchantelie Anthony • **Silver:** Michael Solognier & Suendry Weef

Swimming: Gold: Jerome Martis

Athletics: Gold: Michele Matthew-100m and Lixandro Mauricio-200m • **Silver:** Michele Matthew-200m • **Bronze:** Roël Scherptong-100m and Roël Scherptong-200m • Additional Athletics Participation: Shalimar Matthew-200m (#4) and Lixandro Mauricio-100m (#5)

Football (Soccer): Bronze. The players: Joviantly Susanna, Christopher Martha, Robert Stadius, K'Shawn Pietersz, Camilo Matthew, Jeadan Thode, and Elton Winklaar. (Also Helder Wout, who was unable to participate in the trip due to illness.)

We are extremely happy and proud of our athletes. They not only won many medals but, above all, greatly enjoyed this special experience. The main purpose of the Special Olympics remains enjoyment, inclusion, personal growth, and creating unforgettable memories through sports.

Our delegation arrived back on Tuesday, June 16th at 12:30 (noon) at Flamingo International Airport. The community, family, friends, and supporters warmly welcomed the athletes home.

Special Olympics Release / Photo Julie Morgan

A Garden? from page 12

protect the ocean, thereby preserving our Mother Earth as a habitable planet. Otherwise, existence ends for man and all other life on this earth.

You might think, what does my story have to do with nutrition and gardening? I ask you to look beyond your garden and food. Nature is like a string of beads. And just as every bead adorns the necklace and leads to its completion, so too is nature, of which we are a part, within the greater whole. If the necklace breaks somewhere, the beads fall off, and there is no longer a necklace. And so it is with life on Earth, it is a matter of give and take, respecting nature, treating it with love, and keeping our behavior in balance.

The online science magazine, [Scientias](#), publishes articles on our oceans, for example: [Man has such big impact on oceans, Sept. 5, 2025](#) and [Ocean warming costs a lot of money, January 15, 2026](#).



Another day in this month of love and respect for others is Father's Day. In various cultures, fathers have different roles. But it makes no difference what that role is; he is our father. My father was usually busy in the garden after work. It was his greatest passion. He found peace there, he enjoyed the gardening and all the greenery, and we always had plenty of vegetables and fruit on the table.

Father's Day evokes for me the warm image of the man I always saw working so dedicatedly and intensely in our garden. My great role model.

The photo: For Father's day. Red is for Love and the flowers in the garden (and not in a vase) are for my father who was crazy for gardening, my big example. Photo Elissey Kostsov

Angliet grew up in the Surinam jungle, moved to the Netherlands as a teen, where she trained as a teacher, then in Alternative Healing. Returning to the Caribbean, she taught in St Eustatius and Bonaire. Everywhere she has lived, she has planted a garden and grown her own food.



Reef Glimpses by Dee Scarr Sea Turtle Breath-holding Mystery Solved



A sea turtle peers at Julie as she takes the photo Photo Julie Morgan

One day last week, I asked a bunch of people what they'd like to know about marine turtles. They all had the same question:

How do sea turtles stay underwater so long?

That begs the question that turtles stay underwater for long periods, but anyone who has watched a turtle knows that they can hold their breath lots longer than we can. So, how do they do it?

The first answer I found was that, in addition to its lungs, a turtle has areas of oxygen absorption in its throat and cloaca (the terminal portion of the digestive, urinary, and reproductive systems). It turned out, however, that this is not true of sea turtles. Such extra oxygen absorption belongs only to freshwater turtles, some of whom overwinter underwater.

Sea turtles have long breath-holding times due to several features:

- We have to begin by remembering that turtles are reptiles, with a slower metabolism than, say, people. Maintaining a temperature isn't an issue for their bodies – and, up to a point, they require less oxygen in cooler water.

Reef Glimpses? ...to page 17

BBQ Pineapple with Danny Vera Rum by Chef Corjan Hoogerheide



1 slice of fresh pineapple 1 cm thick, without skin • 1 tablespoon coconut blossom sugar • 1 knob of butter • A few grains of Bonaire sea salt • Some lime zest • A dash of Danny Vera rum, to your own taste

The best thing is that the slice of pineapple is grilled first, for example on the BBQ, which ensures that the pineapple becomes slightly sweeter as the sugars caramelize. Now place the grilled pineapple disc on aluminum foil and add the Danny Vera rum, butter, coconut blossom sugar, lime zest and Bonaire sea salt. Fold the foil well and heat further on the BBQ or in an oven so that ingredients are nicely drawn into the pineapple and a viscous sauce is created.

Serve with a nice scoop of vanilla ice cream and possibly a strawberry for color. Of course, a different rum can also be used, but a dark rum is usually better suited than white rum, because the notes of vanilla, caramel and wood go well with grilled pineapple.

Danny Vera has released his own rum together with the Dutch rum brand Dutch Head Rum: the "Danny Vera Edition." It is a limited blended rum that he has put together himself. What is special about Danny Vera Edition rum? Blend of rums from Panama, Venezuela, Guatemala and the Do-

minican Republic. Some parts have matured for up to 8 years in ex-bourbon barrels. No added sugar or additives. Alcohol percentage is 40%. The flavor profile is described as: vanilla, caramel/toffee, cocoa, dried fruit and raisins.

Coconut blossom sugar is a natural, unrefined sweetener extracted from the nectar of the coconut palm blossom. It has a light caramel flavour, a brown color and can be used one-on-one as a substitute for regular table sugar. It is known for its lower glycemic index, which leads to a slower increase in blood sugar peak.

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

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.

Field Hockey. Kids 6-12. Thurs. free training in May & June. Adults train twice weekly.

<https://www.facebook.com/people/Bonaire-Hockey-Foundation/61576259612469/>

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

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 pp

Radio program "Krese" Bonaire's development over the past 70 years.- Last Tuesday of the month, 6 - 7 p.m. on Bon FM 102.7 FM. In Papiamentu; A recap is planned in Dutch and English on <https://www.facebook.com/share/1HPK6YY3Gm/?mibextid=wwXlfr>

Radio program "Ban Lesa 2.0" Tuesdays 5:30 p.m. on Bon FM 102.7 FM. Multilingual; Guests in a warm and personal conversation, talk about a book that has moved them.

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. 7:30 p.m. **June 22** at Plaza Resort Toucan Diving at the Scu-Bar. No presentations June 29th or July 6th. Back mid-July. Email: nicole.pelletier@mantastrust.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@reefrenewalbonaire.org



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/next-monitoring-patrols/>

What's Happening

Animal Shelter: Mon-Fri 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Sat. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. phone/whatsapp: 701 4989 or 717 4989. Email: animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com

Arts & Crafts Market in Wilhelmina Plaza. NEW open Friday 9am till 4pm as well as for the cruise ships (schedule can be found at: <https://www.facebook.com/BonaireArtsandCraftsCruiseMarket/>)

Cultural Park Mangazina di Rei in Rincon: Tues.-Thurs. 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Sat. 8-noon

Library: Mon. 1-5; Tues. & Thurs. 8-7; Wed & Fri. 8-5; Sat. 10-2. 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/terrarmuseumbonaire/>

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 terrarmuseum@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)

Tuesdays, 24 weeks starting June 2	Ban Lesa 2.0 at 5:30 p.m. BonFM 102.7 The series celebrates the diversity, and power of Caribbean books. Multilingual.
June 13 - 27	Bonaire Yoga & Wellness Week. TCB promotes Island wellness partners: https://bonaireisland.com/wellness-week/
Saturday, June 13 - Sunday, June 21	Pride Bonaire See page 7. W. 17 Let's Talk. MBO Afternoon Break Session. 12.30 p.m (During break) Th. 18 Pink Cuba night. Cuba Compagnie. From 8 p.m Fr. 19 Pride Pub Quiz. Hillside Resort Bonaire. Registration from 7 p.m Sa. 20 Unity in diversity. An educational event. Eddy's Restaurant. 8.30 a.m. Pride Party 4 Unity. Tera Corra Ranch. From 8 p.m Su. 21 Pride Sundowner. Grand Windsock Beach Club. From 5 p.m
Wednesday, June 17	Culinary Team Fundraiser 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/
June 17-19 June 22-24	Dutch Caribbean Research Week Free. Registration required. https://www.dcrw.nl see page 16
Sunday, June 21	International Yoga Day - Meditative walk and gentle yoga at Seru Largu 6: 45 a.m. FREE
Saturday, June 27	Nos Zjilea Cultural Event - The influence of slavery on our culture 10 a.m.- 5 p.m. Cultural Park Mangazina di Rei, Rincon. Enjoy the music, dancing, crafts, amazing food and drink Taste of Suriname Culture 6 – 11 p.m. Parke Isidel. Enjoy Surinamese food, music, fun and various activities that put Surinamese culture in the spotlight.
Monday, June 29 Sunday, July 5	Tennis Tournament A week of exciting doubles competition. Three categories: • Fun • Intermediate • Advanced. Whether you're looking to enjoy competitive matches, gain ranking points, or simply have fun on the court, there's a division for everyone. Registration Fee: \$15. Deadline: June 21. competition@bonairetennisassociation.com
June	Emancipation Month See activities on page 15
Wednesday, July 1	Commemoration of Slavery History The NOS broadcasts the annual commemoration in Amsterdam's Oosterpark live on television and radio. 1:40-3:30 p.m. NPO 1 (and 1.45-3.35 p.m. worldwide via BVN) 1:50- 4 p.m. NPO Radio 1 See The Reporter online page 25.
Friday, July 3	Atardi in the Diaspora, a musical storytelling In Dutch & Papiamentu, the music speaking to all. 7:30 p.m. Roman Catholic church La Birgen di Coromoto on Kaya Korona. Adults \$20, Under 18 \$10. See page 15.
Saturday, July 4	Miss Universe Bonaire Coronation Show Delfins Beach Resort
Friday, July 10	Taste of Bonaire 2023 (Talent Edition) Starts at 6 p.m. @ Wilhelmina Park. Food, culture, local handicrafts. Restaurant signature dishes at special prices.

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. See [website for art clubs, studio time and workshops for all ages.](https://www.sobremesa-bonaire.com/artists-students)

2026 Cruise Ship Schedule			
DATE	TIME	CRUISE SHIP	PIER
Thurs. Jun 18	0500-1300	SEVEN SEAS MARINER 730 guests	North
Wed. Jun 24	0800-2200	CARNIVAL HORIZON 4683 guests	South
Wed. July 1	0900-2200	CARNIVAL MAGIC 3646 guests	South

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/
Saturday, June 27	STCB Fishing line clean-up at Te Amo Meet at Dive Friends at Dive Inn before 9 a.m. dive time for the briefing and a free tank. Bring your C-Card, Marine Park tag, shears/line cutter and mesh bag. Email cepa@bonaireturtles.org to join. 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.
Sunday, July 12	Clean Coast Bonaire clean up surveys second Sunday every month. 4-6 p.m. Boka Onima. Work as a citizen scientist to collect marine litter & data. https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=clean%20coast%20bonaire

Bonaire's concert July 3: *Atardi in the Diaspora*

From 24 June to 4 July, presenter and author Milouska Meulens, the Calefax reed quintet, and singer Juliana Martina will travel to Curaçao, Aruba and Bonaire for a series of concerts and workshops.

ana Martina — a multilingual singer born in Curaçao with Colombian roots — Milouska intertwines European classical music with Caribbean compositions to create a unified musical narrative.

Together, they will perform the show *Atardi in the Diaspora*, a musical storytelling performance in Dutch and Papiamentu, where music and life story form a multi-layered tale of living between different cultural worlds. The performance follows Milouska Meulens from her sunny childhood in Curaçao in 1973 to her bicultural life between Curaçao and the Netherlands. She describes herself as “Curaçaoan at heart and Dutch to the core”. She speaks Papiamentu and Dutch, enjoys eating stamppot just as much as funchi, and combines both cultures in her work. She is a well-known radio and television presenter, as well as the author of works including *Elin*, *Mondi* and the 2026 Children's Book Week gift. Alongside the Calefax reed quintet and Juli-

The youthful brass band of Casa de Musica will be performing together with Calefax at the concert on Bonaire.

The concert takes place on Friday, July 3 at 7:30 PM in the Roman Catholic church La Birgen di Coromoto on Kaya Korona. On July 4 at 11 AM, there will be a short concert at Kas di Kuido.

The texts in the performance are in Papiamentu and Dutch, while the music is of all languages. Tickets cost \$20 for adults and \$10 for youths up to and including age 17. Available for purchase at our regular locations Delmar Bookstore and Lisa Convenience Store.

Classical Music Board Bonaire

Fishing line cleanup dive Saturday, June 27



STCB's next Fishing Line Clean-Up Dive will be June 27. This dive will be at Te Amo (not at one of the piers as in the past). Certified divers are welcome to join us. Either sign up as an individual or with your buddy. Meeting time is 9 a.m. at the Dive Inn location of Dive Friends Bonaire. We will be hosted by Dive Friends Bonaire who will also kindly sponsor our air tanks (INT). Please remember to bring your dive qualification cards, Marine Park tag, shears/line cutters and mesh bag.

Would you like to join? Please send an e-mail to cepa@bonaireturtles.org to sign up. Would you like to stay up to date about STCB's fishing line clean-up dives? You can sign up for their Fishing Line Clean-Up Newsletter <https://www.bonaireturtles.org/wp/>

Photo Julie Morgan

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

June is Emancipation Month

Our past, our heritage
Our future, our work



July 1 is the annual Commemoration of Slavery Past, marking the abolition of slavery on July 1, 1863. On Bonaire, June has been designated Luna di Emansipashon (Emancipation Month). The events have a registration deadline Register without delay via WhatsApp at +599 7011824 and state which activity you are registering for and for how many attendees.

Thur. 18 Dialogue Evening on colorism, a theme deeply rooted in our colonial past and our present reality. Library 7 - 9 p.m. Language: Papiamentu.

Fr. 19 The Dutch Caribbean Research Week 2026 is a free multi-day conference that aims to provide a platform for researchers from the Dutch Caribbean. See page 15

Sat. 20. Children's Workshop: Celebration of the Day of the Ocean Children make their own underwater animals and watch a movie about life in the ocean. \$10 per child, 6 to 12 years. Terramar Museum 10 a.m. – 12 noon

Young people's exhibition: Kibra i Konstruí Mangazina di Rei 6 – 9 p.m. Young people show the works of art, music or creative expressions inspired by what they have discovered about their roots, identity, family patterns and healing process.

Sat. 20. Field inspection of likely archaeological site at Fontein. Leave at 8 a.m. from SKAL. 8 a.m. -12 noon. Some archaeological sites on Bonaire are not yet known. By means of LiDAR, a laser-based technology to map an environment, a detailed exploration will be carried out along the 60-meter-high vertical cliff wall of Fontein. Rock shelters, caves and other geological and archaeological features will be mapped along the entire length of the cliff.

Wed. 24. Museum night, Terramar Museum 5 – 8 p.m. June's edition of 'Un Anochi na Museo,' with free admission to our exhibition, a meeting for fellow students and a sale of local art and books in our museum shop! Vibra Foundation invites women to an open conversation: Circle of Brotherhood: The role of women in Bonaire fishing. 6:30 – 8 p.m.

Sat. 27. "Nos Zjilea" June's theme is: "The influence of slavery on our culture" at Mangazina di Rei, Rincon. 10 a.m – 5 p.m. "Nos Zjilea" combines educational lectures, craft activities, plants, Creole dishes, live music and much more. . Enjoy the beautiful culture of Bonaire, reflect on our history and understand how the past has shaped our current identity.

Sat. 27. Taste of Suriname Culture 6 – 11 p.m. at Parke Isidel. Enjoy Surinamese food, music, fun and various activities that put Surinamese culture in the spotlight.

Sun. 28. Field inspection of likely archaeological site. Protehá Mi: Lac. 8 a.m – 12 noon. Leave at 8 a.m. from SKAL. Language of activity: Papiamentu, Dutch
The 'Protehá mi' project: This type of research focuses on conservation, while information can still be collected about the size, age and quality of various sites on Bonaire. During these field inspections, participants learn how to carry out archaeological field inspections and work at archaeological sites. In addition, they receive information about objects that can be found on Bonaire and we discuss together how they think heritage on Bonaire can be better protected

Mon. 29. The presentation of the book "Strid: History of resilience on Bonaire." The book highlights the rich history of struggle, resistance and resilience of the Bonaire population, from the first inhabitants to the time of slavery and colonization. The book invites us to reflect on our past, understand the impact of history on our community, and honor the steadfastness of generations that have continued to fight for dignity and freedom. At FuHiKuBo, Kaya Ireland 12 Papiamentu. 6 – 7 p.m. English 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Tues. 30. Film Premiere Lanta'riba, a film that reflects on the strength, history, identity and resilience of our people. 6 – 8 p.m. Empire Cinema, Kaya Katwijk 6. Language: Papiamentu

Mangrove Maniacs relate latest projects

Without mangroves Bonaire and other coastal areas would be at risk from storm damage, floods, and severe erosion. They would face a major loss of marine life nursery populations and even more global warming.

Yearly, the Maniacs work with university marine science interns in their chosen research projects for 3- 6 months. The results of this year's interns' work, and their findings were presented on June 11 at Bonaire's Public Library.

The six interns worked both individually and together:

- Jennifer Wennink concentrated on reforestation of Lac Bay's Fofoti Park.
- Luuk Bonnet and Maaïke Avider studied the coastal and marine macro benthos at Awa di Lodo. The area was degraded due to erosion, lack of water circulation and hyper salinity.
- Shanay Winklaar provided general support.
- Livia Gemser helped with informative mangrove coastal walks and developed an outplanting instructional video which should ensure a higher survival rate of the plants.
- Yasmina Wanga worked at Tera Barra to develop smart goals for ecosystems and reforestation. She compared the use of Seed Bombs vs direct seeding of plants in .5m x .5 m research plots at two different sites: Tera Barra and Seru Largu. Buttonwood, Wayaka, Palu di Kalbas, and Divi Divi trees were planted.

Mangrove Maniacs project leader Sabine Engel gave the latest update on the Lac Bay mangroves regarding tidal flushing, salinity and the best areas to open the channels. The work Sabine headed up from Jan – May



Presenting their projects at Mangrove Maniacs. (L_R) Livia Gemser, Jennifer Wennink, Yasmina Wanga, Maaïke Avider, Shanay Winklaar and Luuk Bonnet.

2022 on hydrodynamic sediment is being used on other islands.

On June 14, some 75 people joined the Maniacs Kuenta Salu (Salty Stories) hike, an 8 km walk beginning at Red Slave north and ending up around the Salt Pier. The walkers learned about this shoreline's wildlife as well as the history of the island's salt industry, and the enslaved people working there. Participants could download the app Kuenta Salu for the tour which in-

cluded topics on: Red Slave, Willemstoren, Pekkemeer and flamingos, White Slave, turtles, mangroves, climate change, salt, Salt Pier and coral restoration. After the walk, the app was evaluated through feedback to assist with the final version in English and Dutch.

To learn more about the Mangrove Maniacs visit mangrovemaniacs.org or on Facebook.

Photo/ Story Julie Morgan

Pride Week is about Unity

The opening of Bonaire's Fourth Annual Pride Week June 13 – 21 kicked off at Cuba Compagnie with a group of people who believe in Pride.

Judith Brekelmans of Team Pride Bonaire announced the theme this year is Unity, which is the Netherlands theme for Pride Month. Judith explained the Pride Bonaire team chose the theme Unity as it reflects what is needed most right now: greater togetherness, respect and solidarity.

Judith said, "We've come a long way and we're not there yet. All of you sitting with us are our allies and we need the support of our allies."

Author, teacher and columnist for The Bonaire Reporter Angliet Baidjoe read the poem "Dreamin" from her new book Beg Me. And Semii Marten entertained the group with a song.

This year's recipient of the Pride award honored Ed de Vuijst and Joep van der Ligt who came to Bonaire many years ago and are responsible for many of the most successful restaurants on the island. The couple originated City Café, It Rains Fishes, Cuba Compagnie and they currently own Jardin di Amor. They have the amazing ability of creating a place with wonderful style, great food and an atmosphere where everyone feels comfortable and welcome. Unfortunately, Ed and Joep were unable to attend. The award was accepted on their behalf by Joep Mantferd, a supervisor at Cuba Compagnie where owner Huub Groot has adopted the same ethic of making everyone feel welcome. This perfectly reflects the values of Pride Bonaire.



(L-R) Angliet Baidjoe and Judith Brekelmans

A large rainbow painted stone with the word Pride was passed through the crowd. The stone signifies the hope of Pride, and that even though someone has faced difficulties in the past, there is hope for the future with Unity. The stone was to be placed on the Unity hike at Seru Largu on Sunday morning.

The week of Pride and Unity is filled with many activities and events including an educational event on June 20 with Bonaire Governor John Soliano and Renate Domacasse. In the evening the Pride Party is once again at Tera Corra Ranch which is sure to be a lot of fun. June 21 is the Pride Sundowner and closing event. (See schedule on page 14 for details.)

Story / Photo Julie Morgan

Reef Glimpses: Mystery Solved from page 13



When I first saw this photo I thought fishing line was coming out of the turtle's mouth -- but it's seagrass! Photo Julie Morgan

Lac Bay is a great habitat for green turtles, but so is our leeward coast, especially off Playa. At least one young green dines frequently near our ocean pool, undisturbed by courteous swimmers, snorkelers, and scuba divers. Hawksbills are occasionally seen on our reefs, resting or munching on sponges.

How to be courteous around turtles: if you see a turtle on the bottom while swimming or snorkeling, try to stay to the side a bit rather than directly above the turtle. Resist the temptation to swim

down to it. If the turtle is at the surface, swim along with it, angling gently closer unless the turtle reacts. Approach slowly, from the side or front/side, so the turtle can see you. If the turtle looks directly at you or begins to move away, STOP and back up a bit. If the turtle swims away let it go.

Scuba divers should follow the snorkeling instructions, plus these additional courtesies: swim parallel to a swimming turtle, don't swim toward it directly. If the turtle is foraging or resting, approach from as low as you can get (without con-

tacting coral). If the turtle continues munching, stay at least three feet (1m) away and enjoy the privilege of watching. If you're taking photos, available light is easiest on the turtle, and a continuous light is easier on them than a strobe flash. Quit shooting and back away the instant the turtle reacts to you (unless it reacts by swimming closer and posing, of course).

A very enjoyable -- and free! -- way to learn more about sea turtles on Bonaire is to attend the Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire (SCTB) presentation, every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month. It takes place at Kaya Aruba 4e (their office) on the seafront north of Luciano's. (Or look up bonaireturtles.org)

All sea turtles are threatened or endangered worldwide. We're amazingly lucky here on Bonaire to be able to see them so frequently and under such tranquil circumstances.

And, you can see them even more frequently by volunteering with SCTB!

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



Creating Optimal Health

Communication is more than just words and emojis by Irene da Cunda Costa

When we think about communication, most of us imagine talking, texting or sharing information. But according to communication theorists Paul Watzlawick, Janet Beavin and Don Jackson, communication is much deeper and more unavoidable, than we might think.

Their work, *Theory of Human Communication*, introduced several key ideas that help explain how we interact with others in everyday life. Today, these ideas are especially relevant in digital spaces like WhatsApp groups, where misunderstandings happen more easily than ever.

The first idea is simple: **it is impossible not to communicate**. Even when you stay silent, you are still sending a message.

In a WhatsApp group, this happens all the time. If everyone is chatting and one person suddenly stops responding, others may assume they are upset, ignoring the group or disagreeing. Even "reading without replying" can be interpreted in many ways.

In digital communication, silence can speak just as loudly as words, sometimes louder.

The second idea is that **every message has two components**: the content (what is said) and the relationship (how it is said).

This becomes tricky in WhatsApp groups because tone is often missing. A short message like "Okay." could mean agreement, annoyance, sarcasm or simply being busy. Without facial expressions or voice tone, people fill in the gaps themselves and many times incorrectly.

Emojis can help, but they don't always solve the problem. One person's harmless comment can easily feel like criticism to someone else, depending on how the relationship is perceived.

The third idea explains why **people often disagree about the origin of a conflict**. Each person "punctuates" or interprets the sequence of events differently.

In a WhatsApp group, this might look like this:

- One person thinks, "I stopped replying because people were being rude."
- Another thinks, "People became rude because you stopped replying."

Both believe they are reacting to the

other. In reality, they are part of a loop where each response influences the next.

Group chats can make this worse because messages pile up quickly, and people may jump into the conversation at different moments, missing context or interpreting things out of order.

The fourth idea is that **communication reflects relationships that are either equal (symmetrical) or based on differences (complementary)**.

In WhatsApp groups, this can create tension. In a group of friends (symmetrical), disagreements can quickly turn into competition, who is right, who gets the last word, or who is being more "reasonable."

In groups with mixed roles, like work chats, family groups, or school groups (complementary), misunderstandings can arise when expectations are unclear. For example, a boss's short message might feel like pressure, while they intended it as a simple reminder.

When roles are not clearly understood, people may feel disrespected or ignored, even when no harm was intended.

These ideas remind us that communication is not just about sending messages, it's about how those messages are received and interpreted within a relationship.

In fast-moving spaces like WhatsApp groups, where tone is limited and context is easy to miss, misunderstandings are almost inevitable. Small messages can quickly turn into bigger conflicts if people assume the worst.

Being aware of these patterns can help us pause before reacting, ask for clarification, and give others the benefit of the doubt.

In the end, communication is not just about what we say, but how we understand each other, especially in a world where most conversations now happen on a screen.



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.

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BONAIRE
tandprothetische praktijk

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



Taz

Dear dog lovers, We would like to introduce this sweet, healthy boy Taz. He is almost six years old, but came to the Shelter when he was a little boy of six weeks.

Unfortunately Taz did not have a lot of luck in his early life. He was adopted when he was 3 months old, but after a year he was returned, because no one had time for him. And when he was 1.5 years old he was adopted again, and he thought he found his forever home, but again after 4 years there was no more time for him.

Taz is a boy that needs attention, guidance and structure. He really enjoys going out for a walk. Taz needs a stable owner that guides him. Just putting him in a yard with no interaction will not make him a happy boy and he will be very sad.

Are you the one willing to go on adventures with Taz? Then he is the perfect buddy for you.

Story / Photo: Sanne Attevelt

This is Oliver Twist. This beautiful ginger boy is now around four months old. He was found in a car stuck in the rear axle, and who knows how long he was in there. Because of that incident, he had a cracked heel, but luckily he has totally recovered. He runs around like it never happened. Oliver is a bit shy, and needs some time to get to know you, but once he does, he is a real cuddle bug. Oliver is also very fond of fluffy pillows and blankets. Will you give this little orphan the home he deserves?

Story / Photo: Bo Attevelt



Oliver Twist

Animal Shelter News *Drop by and see us*

Summertime is coming and if you are looking for something fun to do and love dogs and cats, come visit Animal Shelter Bonaire. We're open Monday through Friday 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. and on Saturday 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. On Sunday we are closed for the public, but of course our care for the animals is everyday.

Come and visit on opening days, no appointment is necessary. We are happy to give you a tour around the property and introduce you to our animals. You can even bring snacks for the dogs and cats and you'll be sure to win them over.

Perhaps you would like to go on a walking adventure with one or maybe two of our dogs. Come by between



8:30 - 9:30, when it is not too hot, to pick up your new furry friend for the day. No appointment is needed.

Or if you wanna be a caregiver for a day (or more) drop by around 8 a.m. and we will take you with us on a fun morning of caring for our animals. Don't come dressed to impress, the animals don't care and it's possible you may get a bit dirty. Closed toe shoes or water shoes are best. Around 11 a.m. most of the morning routine is done, but you can always stay longer and spoil our animals with extra cuddles. We hope to see you all soon!

Story / Photo: Sanne Attevelt

Happy 90th Birthday to Raja Daou, Bonaire's favorite Santa Claus and producer of Tekibon, the first cactus rum and tequila made on Bonaire.

Born in Lebanon on June 21, Raja worked in Venezuela as a photographer and film maker. He made a 16mm film on Bonaire back in the 60s and played Santa in ads for Coca Cola. Raja came to Bonaire to live his life and while here, he was inspired to create Tekibon, the spirit of Bonaire. Raja recently created a new spirit, Boneiru, a special rum in honor of the true Bonaire.

Visit the Tekibon cruise market stand on cruise ship days, sample his many spirits and perhaps meet Raja and wish him a Happy 90th Birthday. Tekibon is sold at Van den Tweel, The Place and Tambo.

Happy Birthday Raja!



Photo Julie Morgan

Local seniors compete in Grandinan Olympics

Returning for the third year, Indebon's Grandinan Olympics was held June 6 at the Sports Hall. Some 275 participants age 60+ joined other members from their neighborhood (bario) to compete as a team in some friendly games against other neighborhoods. The seniors enjoyed music, food, drinks, got a little exercise and won medals for their performance in the sports challenges.

This year's teams were from Rincon, Nortí Salina, Antriol, Nikiboko, Tera Cora, Akseso (social assistance organization) and a group of seniors from Aruba.

Sixty members of the teams took part in the different games which included corn hole, a circle based bocce, a relay carrying an egg in a spoon and others.

Winners were determined by points won by the team. Top teams were: first – Antriol; second – Aruba and third – Rincon.

Story / Photos Julie Morgan

Photos:

Left: Rincon team takes a shot in cornhole
Right: Aruba and a volunteer watch Rincon compete
Below: The winners from Antriol

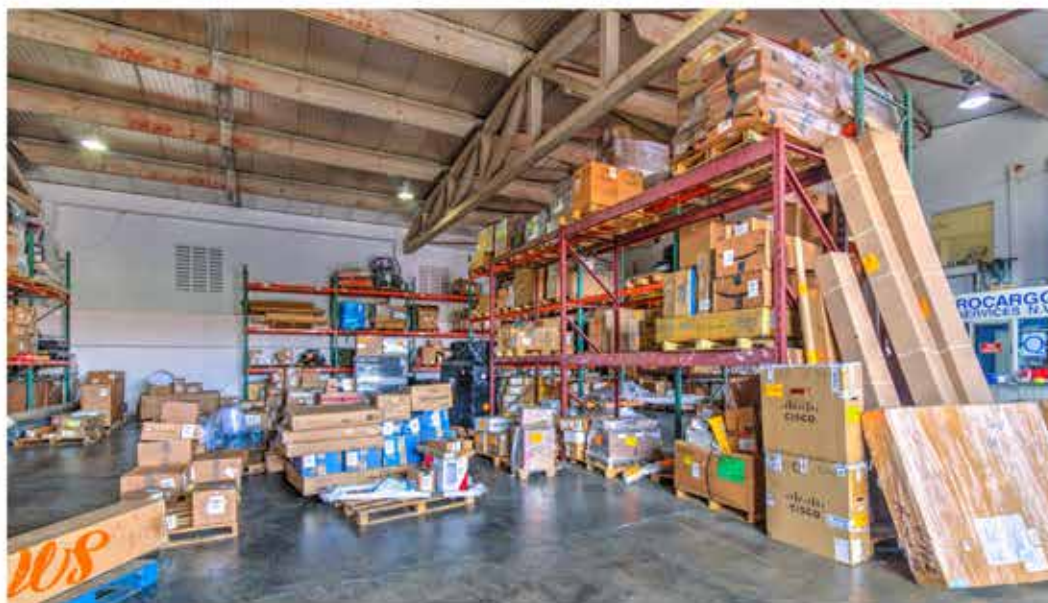


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KATHOLIEKE KERK
COROMOTO



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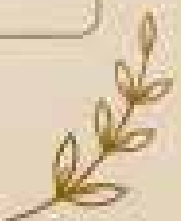
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Coronation show



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Consumer power is our priority

PRICE COMPARISON BONAIRE – 2ND WEEK OF MAY 2026

174 basic products | 21 supermarkets | FTPKB

This is a snapshot based on the monthly price survey of May 2026 –
(prices may change)

Maximum total savings compared to the highest prices on the list: \$592.74.

Average price difference between the cheapest and most expensive basic products:
38.4%.

TOP 3 CHEAPEST SUPERMARKETS

WAREHOUSE

Savings: \$96.74

31 cheapest products

Strong in: Baby products, flour and grain products, vegetables & fruit

CARIBE NOBO

Savings: \$84.76

29 cheapest products

Strong in: Vegetables & fruit, beverages

BONDIGRO

Savings: \$60.16

15 cheapest products

Strong in: Vegetables & fruit, Charcuterie

CONCLUSION

Warehouse, Caribe Nobo, and Bondigro together account for 40% of the maximum savings.

Large price differences between supermarkets remain visible.

Consumers can save significantly by comparing prices carefully.

ADVICE

Compare prices before making purchases.

Combine supermarkets where practically possible.

Focus especially on products with the largest price differences.

Special offers were not included in this price survey.

Your purchasing power lies in your own choices.

For a complete overview of prices, visit our website: www.tiendapakonsumido.com

On Bonaire, smart shopping choices in May 2026 can save up to \$592.74.

Supermarket	Number of cheapest products in basic list	Total amount saved compared to more expensive price	%
1 Warehouse	31	\$96.74	16%
2 Caribe Nobo	29	\$84.76	14%
3 Bondigro	15	\$60.16	10%
4 Rincon City	12	\$47.77	8%
5 Famoso	9	\$41.13	7%
6 Zhung Kong	12	\$35.71	6%
7 Wing Cheung	11	\$31.71	5%
8 Top	10	\$30.90	5%
9 Lucky	10	\$21.43	4%
10 Supermarket na Kaya Korona 56	4	\$21.22	4%
11 Van den Tweel	8	\$18.36	3%
12 Kadushi	9	\$16.33	3%
13 Tesco Supermarket	6	\$15.68	3%
14 Good & More	3	\$13.90	2%
15 Jai Xing (Kaya Korona)	7	\$12.32	2%
16 Xu-Sheng	6	\$11.05	2%
17 Jai Xing (kaya Salsa)	5	\$9.13	2%
18 Ideal	9	\$8.95	2%
19 Foodymark	6	\$6.52	1%
20 Sunshine	2	\$5.95	1%
21 New World	3	\$3.02	1%
		\$ 592.74	100%

Comparing prices May 2026

You can save over \$500 if you shop intelligently

For a list of the cheapest products scan



Supermarket	Number of most expensive products in basic list	Total amount of loss compared to cheaper price	%
1 Zhung Kong	20	-\$66.27	12%
2 Van den Tweel	14	-\$59.39	11%
3 Warehouse	16	-\$57.71	10%
4 Supermarket na Kaya Korona 56	18	-\$50.68	9%
5 Lucky	10	-\$41.32	7%
6 Foodymark	10	-\$40.91	7%
7 Jai Xing (kaya Salsa)	16	-\$36.87	7%
8 Jai Xing (Kaya Korona)	7	-\$36.54	7%
9 Famoso	8	-\$24.48	4%
10 New World	8	-\$22.84	4%
11 Sunshine	14	-\$20.33	4%
12 Wing Cheung	6	-\$19.15	3%
13 Rincon City	7	-\$18.03	3%
14 Ideal	5	-\$16.19	3%
15 Top	10	-\$15.36	3%
16 Bondigro	6	-\$10.66	2%
17 Good & More	5	-\$7.70	1%
18 Caribe Nobo	1	-\$6.00	1%
19 Xu-Sheng	4	-\$3.06	1%
20 Kadushi	1	-\$1.60	0%
21 Tesco Supermarket	1	-\$0.50	0%
		\$ (555.59)	100%

Comparing prices May 2026

You can save over \$500 if you shop intelligently

For a list of the most expensive products scan.



Did you know that a satisfied customer comes back, but an enthusiastic customer brings new customers?

In a growing and increasingly competitive market, excellent customer service is no longer a luxury, but a necessity.

That is why The Next Step organizes an inspiring and practical session on customer service for (semi) advanced entrepreneurs on Bonaire.

During this interactive evening, Aishel Granviel of Moving Forward B.V. shares valuable insights into:

- Customer satisfaction and customer loyalty
- Professional handling of complaints
- Effective communication via WhatsApp and social media
- Service-oriented thinking and acting
- Consciously step into your entrepreneurial role

Date: Wednesday 17 June 2026
 Time: 18:00 – 21:00
 Location: Chamber of Commerce Bonaire, Kaya Amsterdam #23

Invest in stronger customer relationships, a better reputation and sustainable growth for your business.

Sign up via the QR code or via our registration link: <https://forms.office.com/e/R11G2wGGNf>

(we only have room for 24 entrepreneurs, so be quick!)



Next Step'

Customer Service
 With goodo sovico to duitzamo graci!

Chamber of Commerce's program 'The Next Step' invites you to
 An innovative session on customer service and how this can be used to achieve growth.

Speaker: Aishel Granviel of 'Moving Forward B.V!'

During this evening we will discuss various topics, including: What is 'customer service' and its importance?, How do you increase customer satisfaction and customer loyalty, Effective and timely customer contact through various (social) media channels, and consciously in your 'Entrepreneur role' steps!

Date: Wednesday 17 June 2026
Time: 6:00PM - 09:00PM
Location: Chamber of Commerce Bonaire (Kaya Amsterdam #23)

Language: Dutch with a chance to ask questions in Papiament!

You can register via the registration link Or the QR-Code below:



Scan here

Chamber of Commerce BONAIRE | Ministry of Economic Affairs And Climate | National Agency for Entrepreneurial Netherlands



2nd RANKING DOUBLES TOURNAMENT



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- FUN
- INTERMEDIATE
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LOCATION:

Eddy's Restaurant



DATE:

June 29 - July 5



SIGN UP BEFORE:

June 21st



SIGN UP AT:

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REGISTRATION FEE:

\$15

NOS broadcasts the Commemoration of Slavery History 2026

NOS Commemoration of Slavery History
 Wednesday July 1
 1:40-3:30 p.m., NPO 1 (and 1.45-3.35 p.m. worldwide via BVN)
 1:50- 4 p.m. NPO Radio 1

On July 1, it will be 163 years since slavery was abolished by law in Suriname and the Netherlands Antilles and 153 years since it actually came to an end. The NOS broadcasts the annual commemoration in Amsterdam's Oosterpark live on television and radio. The television broadcast is presented by Simone Weimans; the presentation on the radio is in the hands of Winfried Baijens.

During the commemoration, the Amsterdam mayor Halsema is one of the speakers. For the first time, Rob Jetten is there in his position as Prime Minister.

Television

The common thread in the broadcast is the impact of slavery to the present day. Simone Weimans talks about it with main guest anthropologist Alana Helberg-Procter, who specializes in this subject. Author, programme maker and dancer Raoul de Jong is also a guest. He is the son of a Dutch mother and only got to know his Surinamese father when he was 27 years old. Evita MacNack reports from the Oosterpark and there are also reports on the meaning of clothing and hairstyle in Surinamese and Antillean culture. It can also be seen how commemorations and celebrations are taking place in other places in the country.

Radio

On NPO Radio 1, the commemoration is followed live and presenter Winfried Baijens talks to guests. Reporters are in the Oosterpark for the commemoration and on the Museumplein, where the Keti Koti Festival celebrates the abolition of slavery.

Kids Trainingen Hockey



Kids hockey training -
 Ages 6-12



Thursdays 4-5 p.m. free
 May - June



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Gratis



Free Community Event International Yoga Day Summer Solstice Celebration

Walk a short mindful meditative loop with us followed by gentle yoga overlooking Klein Bonaire

21st June 2026

06:45am for 07:00am start

What to bring:

Mat or towel

Water

Walking Shoes

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TASTE OF BONAIRE

SAVE THE DATE

UPCOMING EVENT

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TALENT
EDITION

 Wilhelmina Park

 18:00 - 22:00

Experience local & international food, music,
handcraft and much more!




It's in our nature.

BONAIRE MONTHLY TOURISM PERFORMANCE

MAY 2026

THE FACTS YOU NEED TO KNOW:

These data are preliminary figures.

NUMBER OF VISITORS BY AIR
15,201 **2026**

All non-residents are registered as visitors

NUMBER OF VISITORS BY AIR
14,962 **2025**

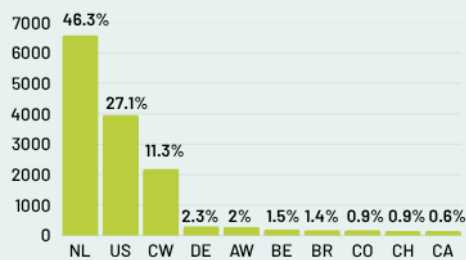
2026 COMPARED TO 2025

1.6%

Increase in non-resident arrivals



COUNTRY OF ORIGIN



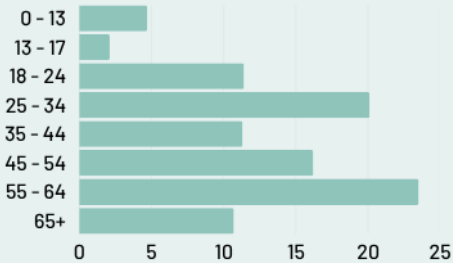
TOP STATES & REGION

US Florida, Texas, California, New York, and North Carolina.

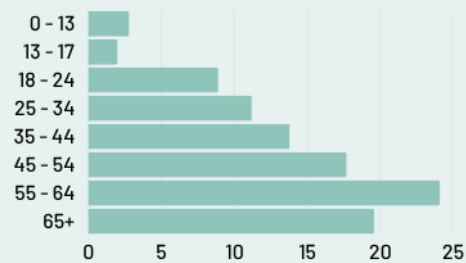
NL South Holland, North Holland, North Brabant, Gelderland, and Utrecht.

DEMOGRAPHICS

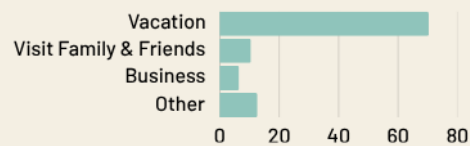
AGE | DUTCH



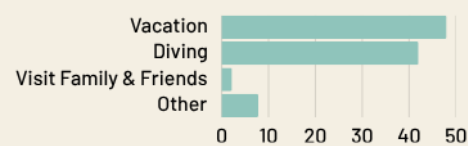
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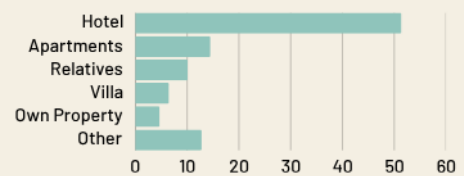
REASON TO VISIT | AMERICAN



VISITOR BEHAVIOR

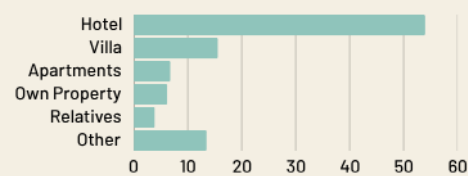
ACCOMMODATION TYPE

DUTCH



ACCOMMODATION TYPE

AMERICAN



LENGTH OF STAY



FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

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WHAT IS 'BAN LESA 2.0?'

A new radio series about Caribbean books with a new episode every week!

Starting Tuesday, June 2, the new radio series Ban Lesa 2.0 begins on BonFM. Every week at 5:30 PM, listeners will dive into the richness of Caribbean literature for half an hour. The series consists of 24 episodes of 30 minutes, divided across three languages: eight in Papiamentu, eight in English, and eight in Dutch. In this way, the versatility of the Caribbean language area will be made accessible to a broad audience.



BAN LESA 2.0



on view...

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.



The social effects of climate adaptation

A social impact analysis (SIA) supporting the National Climate Adaptation Strategy (NAS'26)





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

Creative Color Lab - Afterschool Art

at Sobremesa

J.A Abraham Boulevard 10

15:00-17:00

Starting
20 March 2026

\$20,-
EACH FRIDAY
AGE 8+

- Paint on different surfaces
- Learn color mixing & expressions
- Create unique and abstract art
- No "right or wrong" way
- Lets have fun in a supportive group

*Materials included

Contact via whatsapp : +599 700 7115
Email: sobremesabonaire@gmail.com

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





BONAIRE FRIENDS

CELEBRATING THE BEST PART OF BONAIRE

DID YOU MAKE A FRIEND DURING YOUR STAY ON BONAIRE?

SHARE YOUR STORY WITH US

We're celebrating the wonderful people of Bonaire and want to hear your stories! Have you met a local who made your visit unforgettable, maybe by showing you a hidden gem, helping you try something new, or simply lending a kind hand?

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



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