



Photo Julie Morgan

Trippin' Tuna takes a plunge

Created in the Netherlands, artist Fred Ros's Trippin' Tuna is finally home – the ocean. The 4.5m (15ft) hand forged polished stainless steel tuna sculpture is floating peacefully in the waters of Bonaire representing in the artist's words, "An icon for Bonaire's boundless connection between man and nature."

Following her creation by Ros and sculptor Moret in 2023, the "Tuna" took a European road trip before traveling some 7800 km (4847 mi) by cargo ship to Bonaire, a distance she could have easily swum if she were alive.

Tuna in real life are incredible animals. With their torpedo shaped, sleek muscular bodies, they can swim as fast as 43 mph and are often called the Ferraris of the ocean. As an apex predator, tuna help balance the species of our ocean ecosystem. Tuna is an integral part of the world's diet, and several species are threatened by overfishing, illegal fishing practices, and climate change. The tuna could act as the perfect representation for environmental awareness.

Ros said, "The artwork is a silent call for awareness, for the preservation of flora and fauna, and for the protection of man and nature in a world that is under pressure. The visual art underwater shows the vulnerable relationship between man and nature and creates a deeper connection."

The project itself is called Tunarium (tuna and aquarium) as the fish is displayed in a natural ocean aquarium for people to experi-

ence while they are snorkeling or diving.

On January 19, the tuna was submerged and weighted by local divers at the dive site Oil Slick in about 10m (30ft) of water. The tuna floats some 4m (13ft) below the surface off the bottom near the mooring pin.

The Trippin' T awareness project began approximately two years ago with Ros introducing the project with a smaller version of the tuna sculpture at Macaroca restaurant which is still on display.

On arrival in Bonaire, Trippin'T took a few side diversions before heading to the ocean. Ros introduced the tuna through exhibits at Bonaire International Airport, a coloring contest for kids at a supermarket, a stay at Hospital San Francisco where she gave birth and went for a dip in a swimming pool.

Trippin'T / Tunarium project was originally scheduled to last from January 19 – February 6. Following the placement of Trippin'T at Oil Slick, Ros received notice from Bonaire National Marine Park's (BNMP's) Leonel Martijn, that he had to remove the "Tuna" by

January 20. This was due to the absence of a Nature Permit required for every project in the BNMP by Article 7 of the Island Ordinance for the Bonaire Underwater Park: "It is prohibited—without a permit from the Executive Council—to submerge vessels or other objects that do not naturally occur in the underwater park."

Martijn said, "Everyone is required to have a separate Nature Permit for anything that goes into the water, even STINAPA."

Article 7 has been in effect since 10-10-10.

The date for removal has since been amended by the Openbaar Ministerie (prosecutor) who extended the removal date to Sunday, January 29.

At this time the Tunarium "Tuna" will remain in the water at Oil Slick until January 29. The Tuna is magnificent underwater, so please enjoy her while you can.

Fred Ros is an accomplished artist from the Netherlands working in various mediums including photography, painting and sculpture. To learn more about Ros visit his website Fredros.net. To learn more about Trippin Tuna visit <https://trippintuna.net>.

Thanks to divers Martijn Klijnstra, Robert Reindsen and Jan Perelli who brought the Tuna to her home underwater.



Ronald Gravesteijn and Fred Ros (L-R) toast to completing the two year Trippin' Tuna Project. Photo Julie Morgan

Ombudsman intervenes in personal injury settlement

National Ombudsman Reinier van Zutphen has urged the Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport (VWS) to expedite a compensation settlement with a group of 18 Bonaireans who suffered permanent injuries from surgery in Colombia. In 2012 and 2013 the health insurance office sent the patients to a hospital in Colombia for back surgery. An investigation in 2015 by the Dutch Health Care Inspectorate showed that the surgeon who performed the operations made major mistakes.



**National Ombudsman
Reinier van Zutphen**

The settlement has been delayed by extended negotiations between the state attorney and the claimants, even though they hired a personal injury lawyer to represent them. Van Zutphen has sent a 'letter of concern' to the State Secretary for health-care in the Caribbean Netherlands, Vincent Karremans, that said "It is time for the ministry to find a proper way out of the stalled discussions between the patients and the ministry."

Van Zutphen criticized the unequal proceedings. He pointed out that the claimants have no access to a legal aid office. The VWS, on the other hand, is backed by the full weight of the government legal apparatus. The ombudsman expects an answer from Karremans by the end of January at the latest.

DMR / Photo: the-hague-7-october-2021-portrait-national-ombudsman-reinier

Szabó moves to keep his job



**State Secretary for
Kingdom Relations
Zsolt Szabó**

State Secretary for Kingdom Relations Zsolt Szabó has suspended the long-negotiated revision of WolBES and FinBES, the agreements that determine the administrative and financial relations between The Hague and BES. Szabó has also announced his firm intention to rid the Caribbean territories of the Kingdom of the Netherlands of government corruption. He says he is engaging Transparency International (TI) to conduct an anti-corruption investigation.

Last March the previous State Secretary, Van Huffelen, and the is-

land councils of Bonaire, Sint Eustatius and Saba reached an agreement on how to "modernize" WolBES and FinBES after two years of negotiations. The new agreement received the blessing of The Council of State and was expected to be presented for the approval of Parliament this spring. If passed, the new WolBES and FinBES would, among other provisions, terminate the direct authority Szabó, as State Secretary exercises in the governance of the three BES islands. It would not affect the State Secretary's authority in Curaçao, Aruba, and St. Maarten.

President of Parliament MP Sarah Wescot-Williams has voiced her concerns regarding recent statements made by Szabó about involving Transparency International. Speaking in Parliament, Wescot-Williams described Szabó's remarks as "an overreach of authority, emphasizing that any such plans must include dialogue with the autonomous countries within the Kingdom." *DMR*

Most urgent safety measures at landfill completed



The first urgent issues regarding safety and the safe storage of waste at Selibon Lagun have been resolved, according to a press release. The long-standing problems caused by the dangerous smoke from the fires burning deep in the accumulated trash at Selibon Lagun have not been solved. But they brought attention to several other urgent and enduring, but easily correctable, issues regarding the safe storage of waste. In mid-November, the acting Kingdom representative (wRv) Jan Helmond announced that, given the failure of the Executive Council to take action, he was stepping in to resolve the main practical issues at the waste centre.

Helmond cited three concerns regarding storage or disposal of dangerous materials: asbestos-containing waste, offal from the abattoir and dead animals, and biomedical waste. He also said the site needed to be better secured.

Now the containers with asbestos-containing waste have been repaired and have been relocated on a secured site and are equipped with locks. New incoming asbestos-containing waste is being temporarily stored in new containers until a permanent solution for processing asbestos is found.

Incoming biomedical waste will soon be stored in two new refrigerated cooling containers placed on an (existing) concrete foundation and fenced in with a gate. The electrical installation will be adjusted to supply power to the two cooling containers. The options for the disposal and processing of the nine existing containers with uncooled biomedical waste are currently being investigated. Transport and processing to the Netherlands or Aruba are the most promising options.

Offal is being buried, since the incinerator is not in operation. Strict regulations determine the packaging method, the correct depth, the covering, and the registration and marking the location of the site.

The area at and around Selibon Lagun is now secured 24/7 by surveillance cameras, patrols, and security guards monitoring the entrance. The entire waste center is equipped with a proper fence. Four unofficial access roads around the landfill will be gated.

The Executive Council has taken legal action to block Helmond, denying they failed to act and accusing him of following the wrong procedure. *DMR / Photo via Communication SSO-CN*

This Issue's Stories

Trippin Tuna underwater	1
Archaeology students underwater	3
Prison store	4
Governor's New Year's speech	5
Dengue cases	5
Papal appointee visits Bonaire	6
World Wetlands Day Fair	13
Reading Days for 0-6 years	13
Legal advise for immigrants/refugees	13
Ride for Roses coming up	13
2025 Karnaval schedule	15

Our Facebook page brings you news that arrives between issues

Columns

Who's Who in The Reporter	2
Island News:	

- Ombudsman personal injury case; Szabó wants job; Landfill safety issues solved 2
- Blueberries recalled; OLB loses to Ocean Oasis; Police complaint procedure; Student loans forgiven; Equal social security; Home care provisions; van den Tweel dies; Immigration mural student art 7
- Police Report 4
- Ask Bob: Housing rules for non residents 5
- Reef Glimpses: Batfish 8
- Corjan Recipe: Salmiak mousse 8
- Foodies' Dining Guide 9
- Optimal Health: Trauma trend 10
- Accessibility: Internet banking, etc. 10
- Garden: Replanting / herbs 11
- What's Happening: Events; Clean ups; Church services; Cruise ships 12
- Business Directory 14
- Pets of the Week
 - Dog: Ginny; Cat: Luna 15
- Shelter News: Volunteers needed 15

How to Find Us

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

Next edition: February 5, 2025

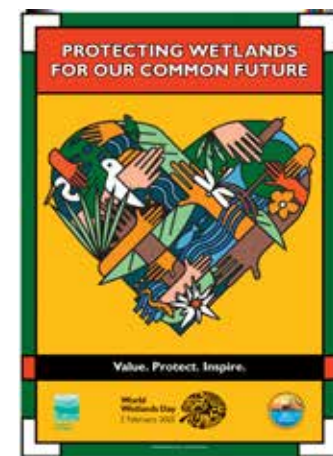
Contributor's Deadline: Friday, January 31, 2025

Stories, tips, questions, ideas & ads:

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

The Bonaire Reporter Staff

Publisher: Julie Morgan
Production: Barbara Lockwood
Website: Michael Copini
Contributors: Ginny Knight, Angliet Baidjoe, Ria Evers-Dokter, Dee Scarr, Jane Madden-Disko, Don M. Ricks, Alan Zale, Irene de Cunda Costa, Sanne Attevelt, Marissa Lamers, Amy Bowen, Kaj Schut, Wilma Nijland, Izain Mercera, Chef Corjan Hoogerheide, George Buckley, Frank Böhm, Paul Ruijs, Pam Teitel, Mel McCombie, Sara Matera, Bo Attevelt, Malcolm Wilson, Nancy Persad, Sander van Lopik, Chantal Hulst
Distribution: Divi-Divi Airline, *Printed by:* DeStad Drukkerij, Curaçao.
Founders: George & Laura DeSalvo
 © 2025 The Bonaire Reporter



Students survey shipwrecks



divers with at least open water certification, but some survey programs require more advanced diving certification or skills.

Photography, video, Photogrammetry and underwater drawings are a huge part of the training as this is non-invasive research. Nothing that is found is removed from the survey sites but instead recorded and documented for later research.

In addition, they take GPS coordinates, develop site plans, search maritime history and corroborate historical records. Working with STINAPA they create a detailed inventory of artifacts.

The survey team revisited White Pan, the southwest tip of Bonaire near the Salt Pans. Both snorkel and diving surveys were employed. From 1830 and beyond this was an active area for ships picking up salt. A ballast field is evident, perhaps two wrecks, two anchors and numerous pieces of metal were recorded.

The southwest corner of Klein Bonaire was explored in searching for remains of the schooner Abeonas. It is known through archival research to have traveled regularly from Curaçao to Bonaire with building supplies and run aground in 1837. Surge made the team's research difficult, and nothing was found.

The team performed a pedestrian survey of Spelonk Lighthouse and Keeper's house built in 1910. They measured the Keeper's house and scoured the area finding remnants of copper, ceramic, glass, stoneware and olive-green glass dating to the late 19th c which pre-

Shipwreck survey to page 15

From left to right: Keegan Martin, Spencer Bennett, Ashley Ellison (staff), Vida Jaber, Gavin Johnson, Megan Merritt, Hailey Rauch, Lucy Waller, Ruud Stelten (staff), Alana Overbey, Joost Morsink (staff), Travis Himebaugh, Alex Hinton (staff). The two people on top are Allison Day and Luke Willis. Not pictured, Barry (Spike) Hawkey. Photo Julie Morgan.

Dr. Ruud Stelton's Shipwreck Survey Underwater Archaeology Field School was back on Bonaire to continue their search of underwater historical treasure on Bonaire's reefs January 4-18. The team was not looking for gold booty, although it would be nice to find, but instead historical artifacts that tell the story of Bonaire's rich maritime past. The two-week course concluded with a presentation to the public held by STINAPA on

January 17 at Blooz Resort to report their findings.

This is the third visit to Bonaire of the Shipwreck Survey Field School with the first being in 2015. Stelton, Alex Hinton and three staff members led 12 participants from all walks of life: archaeological students, some searching to find if this is their niche and some archaeological enthusiasts. Participants must be scuba

FOR SALE Bella Vista 21 Great Family Home



- Location: Nikiboko
- Lot size: 505 m2 / 5435 sq. ft. owned land
- 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, pantry, storage shed

- Spacious living room with modern open kitchen
- Large tropical fully fenced in garden

Virtual Tour



Asking price \$439,000 US Dollar

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

POLICE REPORT

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

Property crimes and arrests

Jan. 9. Between 12:15 and 7 a.m. a green 5500 Duro-Max generator was stolen from a pick-up parked in front of a house on Kaya Mandolin.

Jan. 8. Between 11:30 and 11:45 a.m. a red and black cooler bag and a blue and white striped beach bag with contents were stolen while the owners were snorkeling at Playa Pal'i Mangel (Donkey's Beach). The bags contained, among other things, two iPhones, keys, clothes, several cards, two Sundogs sunglasses, Bushnell binoculars, cash and water bottles.

Jan. 7 / 8. A black NIU, NQi1S scooter, license plate MF-391, was stolen while parked with a steering lock in front of an apartment complex on Kaya Papa Cornes. On Sunday the 12th a citizen reported that he had found a scooter he suspected stolen in the bushes in Antriol. This turned out to be the scooter previously reported stolen. It was seized for further investigation.

Jan. 6. Between 11 p.m. Sunday and 11 a.m. Monday a black/grey SYM, MIO scooter, license plate MF-3801, was stolen while parked with a steering lock in front of a house on Kaya Heerlen.

Jan. 5 / 6. A construction container on Kaya Pos di Amor was broken into between Sunday 4:30 p.m. and Monday 8 a.m. The container lock and padlock were destroyed and, among other things, seven windows and one door were taken.

Shooting / Preventive frisking

Jan. 11 / 12. Around 10 p.m. Saturday two people were injured in a shooting in Amboina and were taken to the hospital by private car. In connection with the shooting, a house search was conducted on Sunday at a home on Kaya Herman J. Pop. Various items were seized and a man, 21, arrested. The investigation is ongoing.

The police are asking anyone who saw, heard or knows anything about the incident to contact the police via 715 8000 or via the anonymous tip line 9310.

Jan. 9 / 10. Between 9 p.m. and 2:15 a.m. police checked people and vehicles at various locations as part of preventive frisking.

During this check, prohibited goods were found and seized, including quantities of suspected narcotics, illegal fireworks, shotgun ammunition and a knife.

Preventive frisking is an important instrument in the fight against the possession of weapons and other dangerous objects. With this action, the police emphasize its commitment to increasing the safety of citizens and preventing criminal offences.

Arrests BES Opium Act / threats

Jan. 13. In the afternoon a house located on Kaya Mazurka was searched under the BES Opium Act. A man, 39, was arrested and several relevant articles were seized for the ongoing investigation.

Jan. 8. Around 10 p.m. a man, 21, was arrested on Kaya Kanari for violation of the Opium Act BES. Following a report of a suspicious situation, a patrol stopped three boys on Kaya Kanari. During the check, several plastic bags with suspected narcotics were found in the shoulder bag of the suspect. The bags were confiscated and the suspect was taken to the police station.

Jan. 7. Around 7:15 p.m. a man, 24, was arrested at Bario Mamparia Kutu for threats.

Traffic accidents / Driving under the influence

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

Jan. 14. Two men, ages 53 and 62, were arrested for the second time for driving under the influence of alcohol.

Around 9:30 p.m. a caller reported to the police a possibly drunk driver driving a pickup on Kaya Nikiboko Zuid. While the caller was on the phone, the pick up collided with another car at the roundabout on Kaya Nikiboko Zuid and Kaya Industria. After testing the driver of the pick-up, the police confiscated his driver's license and fined him for driving without valid insurance.

Around 6:45 p.m. police received a report that a car had first crashed into the wall of a catering establishment's parking lot on Bulevar Gobernador N. Debrot, and then continued driving. A patrol found the vehicle at another catering establishment on Bulevar Gobernador N. Debrot. After testing, police confiscated the man's driver's license.

Jan. 13. Around 4:55 p.m. a car and a scooter collided on Kaya Neerlandia. The driver of the scooter was injured and was taken to hospital by ambulance. The driver of the car stated that she saw a scooter approaching with its right indicator on and thought that the scooter driver wanted to drive onto Kaya Maria C. Hellmund-Boom. She therefore started to drive onto Kaya Neerlandia, but the scooter driver did not turn, and a collision occurred.

Jan. 12. Around 8:40 p.m. a man, 36, was arrested on Kaya Grandi for driving under the influence of alcohol. He collided with another vehicle and drove away. When he returned to the scene, police tested both drivers, and found that the suspect had consumed more than the per-

mitted amount of alcohol. Police also fined him because he did not have a valid driver's license.

Jan. 12. Around 4 p.m. a car crashed into the wall of a supermarket. When the police and ambulance arrived, the driver stated that she did not feel well and while parking, pressed the accelerator and crashed into the wall. She could not show a driver's license or valid insurance papers. As a result, the vehicle was taken to the police station until the owner could show the correct documents. The driver was taken to the hospital by ambulance. Officers confiscated the several weapons they found in the car, including a machete, a pocket knife and an iron bar.

Jan. 11. Around 5:15 p.m. a car and a scooter collided at the intersection of Hanchi Amboina and Kaya Nikiboko Noord. A breath test administered to both drivers showed that both had consumed more than the permitted amount of alcohol. The driver of the car, a man, 44, was given a 3-hour driving ban. Because the driver of the scooter, a woman, 30, was injured, she was first taken to the hospital by ambulance for medical treatment and later to the police station for a breath analysis. She did not have a driver's license and the scooter was not insured, so she was fined and the scooter was taken to the police station.

Jan. 11. Around 7:45 p.m. on Kaya Industria a scooter collided with the back of a stationary car. The scooter driver was injured and was treated on site by the ambulance personnel.

Jan. 11. Around 2:15 a.m. two people fell off a scooter on Kaya Leiden and ended up in the bushes. Both people had abrasions and were taken to hospital by ambulance.

Jan. 9. Around 3 p.m. a pick-up and a scooter collided at the intersection of Kaya Kanari and Kaya Pos di Amor. Ambulance staff treated the two people from the scooter at the site. The driver of the pick-up stated that he was driving on Kaya Pos di Amor and at the intersection at Kaya Kanari and Kaya Flamingo a scooter drove straight ahead without stopping.

Jan. 6. Around 4:25 p.m. the driver of a scooter driving north on Gobernador Nicolaas Debrot suddenly braked for a car that had started to drive onto Bulevar Gobernador Nicolaas Debrot from Kaya P.N. Antonio Neuman. The scooter driver lost control, and sustained several abrasions when she fell. She was treated on the spot by the ambulance staff.

Inmate store opens in prison

An internal store has been opened in the Caribbean Netherlands Correctional Institution (JICN) where inmates can buy essential products.

The store, called "Toko Lenny," also provides work opportunities for the inmates. They help with tasks such as packaging goods, filling shelves and managing stock. The store staff operates the cash register.

Toko Lenny' has an important educational and rehabilitative function that helps prepare prisoners for a successful return to society. They learn to take responsibility, plan and work within clear rules.

The store also offers workplaces to older employees who can no longer fully participate in regular work. These 'sheltered places' give them the opportunity to continue their careers at the prison.

The store is the brainchild of Karel Martis. The project received the full support of director Wibo de Vries.

DMR / Photo via Communication SSO-CN



Governor John Soliano's New Year's speech

New year, new life!



people more opportunities to study and develop themselves on Bonaire, etc. As I indicated in my end-of-year speech, self-responsibility and self-discipline are important elements that we must continue to work on in order to bring prosperity to ourselves and our children. We have all the ingredients to continue to grow and develop as the Bonairean population. We must all do our bit to create the community that we want to have. Let us not only wish each other a happy new year, but let us seriously ask ourselves what we can do to make the other person's year a better year. Sometimes it is simply a matter of making it a habit to compliment someone for something good that he has done. For you it costs nothing, but for the other person it can be just the support he needs to continue to develop the potential he has and to continue to grow in what he does.

Words have power! Let us be aware of the way we express ourselves, so that we can hold each other accountable, but with the sole purpose that we all benefit from it. I commit myself to not being divided on this rock. To unite ourselves more and become a multicultural community; all who live here must do their best to approach each other with respect and learn from each other. We are an inclusive island and that means to me that we all work on this inclusivity. Talk to each other and respect each other's culture, language and identity. With this foundation we can move forward and become an economically strong people, but more importantly: a socially strong and united people. I would like to thank everyone who contributed to our island in 2024, our employees in all sectors, including healthcare, education and childcare, in the field of safety our policemen and women, our firemen and women, employees of the Kmar, our civil servants, construction workers, etc. I hope that I can continue to count on your enthusiasm and no matter how hard it can be sometimes: keep up the good work!

We have shown, and this has been proven by a study by the CBS, that we have a high degree of happiness on this island. This is in line with the philosophy that happiness is not a station that you reach or simply a thing, but that happiness is a certain attitude.

In 2025 you can count on me and I count on you. I ask everyone to raise a glass to wish each other a happy new year and good health

Governor John Soliano

Ask Bob

Bonaire real estate advice



Hi Bob – I have some questions about the “housing rules” which was proposed by the local government (OLB) at the end of last year, and I was wondering:

- Can I still buy a house under \$533,750?
- How will this proposal affect the value of my home?
- If I buy a house, do I have a requirement to live there myself? (in Dutch “zelfbewoningsplicht”)?

Jeff, Las Vegas. NV

Hi Jeff,

First of all most stake holders agree with the stated goal for this proposal of improving the availability of affordable housing for island residents of both rental housing and home ownership. It is important to keep in mind, right now these are PROPOSED rules from the OLB and the OLB is just doing their research and seeking additional input from all stake holders, including island residents and non-residents, investors and developers, banks, the Fundashon Cas Bonairiano, real estate brokers and RCN. Since the government is still doing their own fact finding, I think these proposals are likely to be modified based on a consideration of the input they receive from all stake holders. The OLB is working toward having these rules take effect before the end of 2025.

At the moment I don't really have any answers to your questions, but stay tuned and I will update the readers of this column as soon as I have any new information.

Regards, *Bob Bartikoski,*
Re/Max Bonaire Broker/Owner

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

Bonaire: +599-717-7362.

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

Dengue cases are increasing

The Public Health Department reports that the number of dengue cases on Bonaire has increased in recent weeks. Since the new year, 24 cases of dengue have been confirmed. There has been a lot of rain on the island recently, which has led to an increase in dengue cases. The Public Health Department urges everyone to take measures to prevent dengue from spreading further.

A person with dengue usually has mild symptoms. However, someone with dengue can develop serious symptoms and need to be hospitalized. This has happened several times on Bonaire in recent months. There are four types of dengue. In addition to type 2, type 3 has now also been confirmed on Bonaire. Someone who has had dengue is protected against that type but not against the other types.

People spread dengue. The virus is transmitted by the *Aedes aegypti* mosquito, also known as the dengue mosquito. Not every *Aedes aegypti* mosquito carries the dengue virus. If you have dengue and the dengue mosquito bites you, the mosquito can then make someone else sick.



It is important that the dengue mosquito does not get a chance to bite someone. Wear light-colored clothing that covers your body well. Use a spray or cream against mosquitoes with at least 30% DEET in it. A product with DEET provides protection for 5 to 6 hours.

Use screens and mosquito nets so that mosquitoes cannot enter the house. Keep windows and doors closed. The dengue mosquito is mainly active early in the morning and in the afternoon. Therefore, always sleep under a mosquito net or make sure that the bedroom is mosquito-free.

The dengue mosquito lives and breeds mainly in people's houses and gardens. The mosquito lays its eggs in objects with stagnant water in them, such as plastic containers, car tires, bottles, cans, buckets with rainwater. It is important to regularly check whether there are objects in the house or garden with stagnant water in them. Remove these objects to prevent the dengue mosquito from breeding in them.

Close containers or barrels with stored rainwater for plants or animals. Use a cloth or mosquito netting with an elastic band that is stretched around the opening.

The inspectors of the Public Health Department check the entire island for breeding grounds of the dengue mosquito. The breeding grounds are treated with insecticides. The inspectors also provide information on what people can do to prevent dengue mosquitoes from breeding in their garden or home.

For advice on mosquito nuisance, treating rain barrels and rain barrels, call the Public Health Department number 715-5324.

OLB Release

Papal Appointee Visits Bonaire

Preaching a message of hope, Archbishop Charles Jason Gordon of Trinidad and Tobago, offered a bilingual, con-celebrated Mass to a full church at Our Lady of Coromoto in Antriol, Bonaire on Thursday evening, January 16, 2025. Earlier this month Archbishop Gordon was appointed by Pope Francis to be the Apostolic Administrator for the Diocese of Willemstad in Curaçao.

The Mass had seven priests on the altar, including all four priests from Bonaire, one from Curaçao, a visiting priest from Holland and the Archbishop. The Mass was celebrated at Our Lady of Coromoto because the pastor, Fr. Marc Hooijschuur, is the Parochial Vicar to the Diocese from Bonaire.

During a lively homily, Archbishop Gordon kept the congregation involved by having them respond by either saying “Amen” or “Ouch” depending on if it was something good or bad.

The Archbishop’s English homily was translated into Papiamentu by Fr. Morrison Laporte from the Chancery Office of the Diocese of Willemstad. Fr. Laporte will serve as the Delegate of the Apostolic Administrator and be a bridge among the six island of the Diocese and the Archbishop.

Following the Mass, Archbishop Gordon stopped to talk to people outside the church and to pose for pictures.

Archbishop Gordon, in his first ever visit to Bonaire, spent 24 hours on the island visiting all three Catholic churches, San Bernardo in Playa, Our Lady of Coromoto in Antriol, and San Luis Beltran in Rincon. He also held a three-hour meeting with all the priests on the island.

Fr. Marc Hooijschuur, Pastor of Our Lady of Coromoto and Parochial Vicar to the Willemstad Diocese, said that Archbishop Gordon visited Bonaire, “To see the reality of our churches on this island.”

The appointment of Archbishop Gordon as Apostolic Administrator for the



Archbishop Charles Jason Gordon offers up the bread and wine at a bilingual Mass. Rear L-R: Fr. Ranulfo Gonedá, Pastor of San Bernardo, Fr. Alphonsus Baak, Pastor of San Luis Beltran-Rincon, Fr. Morrison Laporte, Delegate of the Apostolic Administrator, and Fr. Marc Hooijschuur, Pastor of Our Lady of Coromoto. Photo Alan Zale

Diocese of Willemstad is temporary until a replacement bishop is appointed. The vacancy was created by the retirement of Bishop Luis Antonio Secco. The Diocese is comprised of Aruba, Curaçao, Sint Maarten, Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba. *By Alan Zale*



Alan Zale spent 25 years shooting for The New York Times as both a freelance and temporary staff photographer. He is a contributing photographer to Catholic New York, the official

paper for the Archdiocese of New York and The Scarsdale (NY) Inquirer. Alan is also the photographer for the Hartsdale (NY) Fire Department.



Archbishop Charles Jason Gordon delivers his homily at a bilingual Mass at Our Lady of Coromoto in Antriol, Bonaire. Over his right shoulder is Fr. Morrison Laporte, Delegate of the Apostolic Administrator, who translated the homily into Papiamentu. Photo Alan Zale

DE FREEWIELER



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

QUARTERLY CLEAN UP DIVE

—Saturday 25 January—
 Saturday 15 February

DATE
 CHANGE



 **DIVE FRIENDS**
 BONAIRE

INFO@DIVEFRIENDSBONAIRE.COM
WWW.DIVEFRIENDSBONAIRE.COM

Albert Heijn Blueberries recalled



Van den Tweel Supermarket has removed the Albert Heijn brand of frozen blueberries from its shelves. The frozen berries may be contaminated with the hepatitis A virus. The recall is in force in the European and Caribbean Netherlands and Curaçao. Customers who have this product with an expiration date of April 14, 2026 or earlier are “urgently” requested not to eat it, but to return it to the store or destroy it.

Twelve reports of people with hepatitis A turned up in the Netherlands and two people were hospitalized. Other people may have had the infection unnoticed. *DMR*

Judge says OLB entirely wrong in Ocean Oasis case

The Public Entity of Bonaire (OLB) has been involved long-running dispute with beach club Ocean Oasis regarding the construction of a retaining wall at Esmeralda Beach that is intended to protect the beach club from rising seawater. According to the verdict, the island government has made mistake after mistake throughout the entire procedure.

Construction began in 2019 and 2020, then was interrupted by the COVID-19 shut down. When it resumed in June 2021, the OLB imposed a construction freeze on the grounds that a nature permit had not been issued, even though one had been applied for in 2019. The judge ordered the OLB to pay the legal costs and to reassess the permit application correctly within six weeks. *DMR*

New procedure for complaints against police

A new complaints procedure came into effect on January 1 that allows citizens to file complaints against the police in a structured manner. The procedure consists of two phases: informal settlement through mediation and, if necessary, formal handling involving an independent complaints committee. Here’s how the KPCN’s procedure is described in their news release.

A new approach to complaints handling

1. Submission and intake: A complaint is recorded and discussed with the complaint’s coordinator.
2. Informal complaints handling: A mediation meeting between the complainant and the police officer(s) involved offers the opportunity of a resolution and greater mutual understanding.
3. Formal complaints handling: If mediation is not sufficient, the complaint is investigated by an independent complaints committee, which advises the Chief of Police.
4. Decision and follow-up: The Chief of Police evaluates the complaint and communicates a substantiated decision to all concerned.

The new procedure is intended to strengthen the trust between citizens and the police and offer police the opportunity to be heard in a safe and respectful environment. *DMR*

FINEB student loans forgiven

Unrepaid loans granted by Fundashon Finansiamentu di Estudio di Bonaire were forgiven as of January 1, 2025. The loans, funded by The Minister of Education since 2011, were intended to promote studying close to home to encourage students to return to their native island after graduation. Many who study in the European Netherlands do not return to the island afterwards. The loans averaged \$17,500 and carried a high rate of interest, 10%. They were difficult to pay off, given the low wages and poverty on Bonaire.

Culture and Science Eppo Bruins cancelled the outstanding loans at the request of the Executive Council. The ministry could not say how much money is involved. *DMR*

Equivalent social security system closer

The House of Representatives has approved an amendment to the SZW Laws BES 2024 which extends to the people in the Caribbean Netherlands some social security protections that are equivalent to those in the European Netherlands. The rights of disabled employees have been improved, and the leave system for employees has been expanded. The General Old Age Insurance Act BES (AOV) and the General Widows’ and Orphans’ Insurance Act BES (AWW) have been adjusted. Also, a legal basis has been created for doubling child benefits for parents/guardians with care-intensive children.

The changes were among the recommendations made in the report of the Spies Commission. The commission evaluated the inclusion of Bonaire, Sint Eustatius and Saba in the Dutch state system in 2015. Now, after ten years of studies and advice, these recommendations are being implemented. *DMR*

Provisions for home care changed

Residents of Bonaire who live independently but need special care because of illness or mental health may qualify for tailored services such as day care, home help, meal delivery, or medical aids. They should now apply at the Accessible Desk at Sentro Akseso. (Previously the applications were handled via the BCO desk at ZW Group.)

Legal regulations now determine who qualifies for home care. If managing the household independently is not feasible for the person, their social network is expected to help them. If they have no social network, or an insufficient one, provisions can be tailored for them. Sentro Akseso and Care and Youth Caribbean Netherlands (ZJCN) will assess whether an application meets these criteria. If it does, the applicant is entitled to the provided assistance.

The regulation supports individuals with an illness or condition so they can continue living independently for longer. It enables people to remain in their homes, maintain social connections, and stay active. It also alleviates pressure on care institutions. *DMR*

Van den Tweel dies

Dutch entrepreneur Gerard van den Tweel passed away on January 14 at 80. He founded five supermarkets on Aruba, Bonaire and Curaçao, bringing the Albert Heijn brand to the islands. He sold the Caribbean branches in 2018.



He operated his supermarkets and catering company for 57 years and employed 1,300 people. Though in declining health, he stayed at this desk almost to the end.

DMR / Photo via Vallei Business



Student artwork brightens floor at IND

Street artist Marz has completed a work of art on the theme of immigration on the outdoor floor at the entrance of the IND building. The design was inspired by student Brayden Oleana, from the San Bernardo school, whose drawing was selected as winner in a recent competition. *DMR / Photo via Communication SSO-CN*

Reef Glimpses - Batfish

more questions than answers by Dee Scarr

We found a batfish during the 2000 Bonaire Dive Fest. At that time, it was my fourth batfish in 6500 dives, averaging one new batfish every 1625 dives. In 2025, my friends Bernadette and Ed have found one – or maybe two – batfish on their favorite night diving site.



Photo by Bernadette and Ed de Jonge

I'm hoping to get to see one – or maybe two – on a dive with them soon. A new batfish sighting is way overdue: my next dive will be exactly 2222 dives since my last batfish sighting. And if we see two on the same dive ... I'm totally clueless about how to create statistics for that.

What makes batfish worthy of all these calculations?

One reason is their rarity, of course. Or, at least the rarity of divers seeing them. Batfish are textured like a rubble seafloor, and they often partially bury themselves in sand and rubble, so even when you're looking right at them, they're tough to distinguish.

Other critters are rare, too, but I don't keep statistics on them, because another characteristic that separates batfish from manta rays, or hammerhead sharks, or rainbow runners is that batfish are likely to stick around while we examine them. And there is much to see.

Describing a batfish without a photo would be challenging, as you can see by looking at the photos here. Batfish are top-to-bottom flattened fish with muscular, elbowed pectoral fins and ventral (underside) fins that enable them to sort of tiptoe along the bottom. And, the bottom is generally where batfish are, since



Photo by Julie Morgan

Julie has glorious photos of gloriously-colored batfish, but none shows the extended lure so perfectly as this image, possibly of a Polka-dot Batfish, whose dull colors blend in with its dull background at Florida's Blue Heron Bridge. According to one study, the Polka-dot Batfish's lure also releases a chemical to attract prey. This could be true of the lures of other types of batfish, too, but the research awaits a researcher.

they have no swim bladders, and consequently are incapable of hovering.

So, they can't hover and they just walk along the bottom? Their food had better also hang out on or near the bottom, and, luckily, it does: little fish, small shrimp, crabs and other invertebrates, even worms often wander close enough to a batfish to be gobbled down. When no one comes close enough for easy gobbling, batfish lure their prey nearer. Yep, lure: they're anglerfish, related to frogfish. A frogfish jiggles its lure upwards, enticing potential prey critters to a spot

above its upward-facing mouth, then the frogfish opens its mouth wide, flares its gill flaps, and sucks down its prey.

Even though I'd read that batfish have lures, I'd always thought the batfish's lure was the fuzzy tip of the extended area above the fish's eyes. Not so. Underneath the fuzzy tip of the batfish's rostrum is a little cave from which the batfish's lure emerges (and to which it

Reef Glimpses - Batfish
continued on page 10

Salmiak mousse by Chef Corjan Hoogerheide, Lekker Thuis Restaurant



Bring milk to the boil and dissolve the licorice in it. Add liqueur. Pour warm licorice milk onto egg yolks and beat until fluffy and cooked over warm water. Dissolve soaked gelatin in it and let cool. Whip cream with 2/3 of sugar. Finally, beat egg whites with rest of the sugar until stiff. Now mix all ingredients together and scoop into a serving dish. Serve with a glass of salmiak liqueur.

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



Ingredients: 300 g (10.5 oz) soft licorice • 6 dl (2.5 C) milk • 7 dl (3 C) whipped cream • 3 egg yolks • 3 egg whites • 14 g (½ oz) gelatin • 3 dl (9.9 oz) Salmari salmiak liqueur • 170 g (¾ C) sugar



Buena vista

Perfect Service and Quality - Our Passion!

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

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



We love to fly with you

Daily Flights to and from Curacao and Aruba

CHARTERS - CARGO - EXPRESS MAIL

FLYDIVIAIR.COM +599-717-2121

Venezuelan Gluten-Free Fresh Food

Yhanni's Arepas

Dine-in Garden/ Take-away



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

Order +599-788-0035  

Kaya Neerlandia 21-behind Budget Marine

Restaurant & Boutique Hotel Sonrisa

RESTAURANT (Breakfast & Dinner)

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



FOOD TRUCK (Lunch & Dinner)

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

KAYA FINLANDIA 3, ☎+599 777 78 55
SONRISA-BONAIRE.COM/RESTAURANT



Seaside

Krioyo

FUSION

Restaurant and Cocktail Bar

Tuesday - Sunday 8 a.m. - 9 p.m.

CHTA Chef of the Year - Rashindra Donge

+599-770-2417 - Isidel Beach Park

 SeasideKrioyoFusion 

Blue lagoon cafe

Local lunch

Grab & Go meals!

+599 701 1373

Open Tuesday - Saturday 10AM - 8PM

Find us in the Dabboussi Center (AVIS)

Authentic Indian Cuisine

Open Six Days a Week

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

(Closed Tuesday and Sunday afternoon)

Kaya Grandi 67  +599-717-6700

South American Cuisine with a Caribbean Twist



NOW OPEN for LUNCH

Mon-Tues-Thurs-Fri 11:30 - 2pm

DINNER

Mon-Fri 5:30-10pm

LIVE Music

Tuesday-Friday

599-717-6731

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



LUCIVNO

ICE CREAM

Kaya Isla Riba
(centrum Kralendijk)

DAILY 07:30-23:00

New! Bonaire District
Shopping Center - Hato

MON-SAT 9:00-22:00

KRALENDIJK - BONAIRE



Beer and Burgers

Tues-Thurs 5-10pm

Kaya Simon Bolivar 21 / 599-777-2907



DUSHI PALACE

Restaurant & Bar

A Happy Place

Mon-Thur 7a.m - 10p.m.
Fri 7 - 2a.m.
Sat 10-2a.m.
Sun 10 - 3a.m.

At the Hato Circle

599+712-7722
599-784-2038



Artisan Bakery Bonaire

The Only Sourdough & Plant-Based Bakery of Bonaire

Bobbejan's

796-4783



BBQ

WEEKENDS & TAKE AWAY ONLY

Friday Saturday Sunday 6-10 PM

Your favourite RestroBAR

Come catch a sunset !!

Open for Drinks & Dinner

Mon-Sat: 4 pm to 11:30 pm

Sun: 5 pm to 10:00 pm

Mon-Sun : Happy Hour

5 - 6 pm & 10 - 11pm

Pasta Night

Every Thursday from 6 pm

Bobby's Gin Sunset Borrel

Select Friday's from 5pm

Dates posted on Facebook

Party at HOOKED

Every Tuesday - Live DJ's

From 10 pm to 2:30 am



Corner Kaya Bonaire & Kaya J.N.E Craane

T: +599 700 7738

W: www.hookedbysunsets.com



RUM RUNNERS

restaurant & cocktailbar

Open 7 Days a Week

Breakfast-Lunch-Dinner

Great Custom Made Cocktails

Spectacular Sea View

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

Book an ad.

We will tell your story.



ROSA

BY BONITALY

AUTHENTIC ITALIAN CUISINE

IN A CHARMING COZY SETTING

+599 701 8181

Reef Glimpses: Batfish continued from page 8

returns). The lure isn't wriggled around, it's moved, uniquely to the anglerfish, in a piston like motion. This must be amazing to see, but I'd never seen it because I'd never even seen the actual lure since it was always hidden in the shadow of the rostrum. Julie Morgan is one of the few who have ever seen the lure extended and photographed it. Since the lure emerges from the underside of the rostrum, it attracts critters to the area below the rostrum, right in front of the batfish's mouth.

The batfish's mouth is not particularly large in relation to the size of the fish. But the lips of some batfish (including

Bernadette and Ed's mystery batfish) are noteworthy because they're bright red. Another batfish with bright red lips, a native of the Galapagos Islands, was first described in 1985. Its common name is Red Lipped Batfish and its lips have been the subject of a number of studies, none of which has been able to clarify what value the bright red color would be.

So that leaves the subject wide open for our own theories.

Could the batfish's red lips make its mouth look like a sanctuary to its prey? Could the bearer of red lips be more attractive to the opposite sex? What about

batfish vision? What do the red lips look like to other batfish, in shallow waters or in the deeper depths where many batfish reside?

The answers to those questions, and many more about batfish, are not yet known. Since batfish are not harmful to people, since their populations are much too small to give them commercial value as food or aquarium animals or anything else, and since most of them live below scuba depths, they've been studied very little. If you're a student who needs a study subject, a batfish would be an excellent choice – just make sure you can find one!

And, if you should happen to see a batfish suck down a worm or gobble up a

snail, you might be the first person ever to observe such a thing!



Since 2022 Scarr has been trying – and failing – to get justice for Bonaire from Silversea cruise lines, whose ship dumped more than 485 pounds (220 kgs) of broken glass and other debris on Bonaire's reef. There was a partial success in that most of that debris has been taken out of the ocean by wonderful Bonaire volunteer divers. Silversea ships are still welcome on Bonaire, apparently; one will be here next month.

Creating Optimal Health

by Irene da Cunda Costa

The trauma trend

Long before trauma was a psychological term, it was used in medicine to refer as an injury to the body. The word comes from the Greek, meaning wound. The idea of trauma as psyche damage didn't emerge until the late 1880s. The term refers to severe psychological harm caused by extreme events like abuse, war or natural disasters. Research has deepened our understanding of how trauma affects the brain, body and behavior. In recent years, the concept of trauma has gained significant popularity and visibility mainly in social media.

Many events are potentially traumatic, but not all people who experience them will develop a trauma. What makes an event traumatic? Extreme situations such as violence, abuse, accidents, or natural disasters, perceived as life threatening, combined with the feeling of lack of control will produce trauma. Trauma

often leaves long-term effects, including flashbacks, anxiety, avoidance behaviors, and difficulties in emotional regulation. But is the combination of the real event plus the perception of the event by the victim and, maybe most importantly, the perception of personal resources to cope with the situation. This explains why not all victims develop trauma and why some people who are exposed to mild stressors develop trauma.

What can most likely trigger trauma? Physical or sexual abuse, war or combat experiences, serious accidents or injuries, loss of a loved one in tragic circumstances, witnessing violence or catastrophe, experiencing systemic oppression or discrimination.

Not every distressing or upsetting experience qualifies as trauma. Non-traumatic experiences might include day-to-day frustrations like arguments, work stress, or failing a test, temporary setbacks that are upsetting but manageable, such as a breakup or missing an important event. Many experiences are difficult but within an individual's ability to process and recover from without lasting psychological effects. For example, experiences

like losing a job (unless accompanied by severe financial or safety threats), minor accidents or injuries, rejection in a personal or professional context, conflict with friends or family (unless it involves abuse or extreme emotional harm).

Lately the term trauma has been used for a wide range of experiences, so its meaning has become vague, making it harder to distinguish between distress and trauma. Labeling ordinary difficulties as "trauma" can pathologize normal human emotions like sadness, disappointment, or frustration and this overuse of the term might imply that people are less capable of coping with life's challenges without intervention or professional help. The widespread discussion of trauma on platforms like Instagram or TikTok has led to oversimplified or inaccurate representations of complex psychological concepts.

Wellness industries, self-help books, and even therapy services may use trauma as a marketing tool, sometimes prioritizing profit over substance. Some people might self-diagnose trauma without understanding the clinical criteria, leading to inappropriate treatments. Overemphasizing trauma can contribute to a culture

where personal identity is overly tied to suffering or victimization.

It is important to distinguish between trauma, stress, and normal life challenges to preserve the integrity of the concept and ensure that those who need help receive appropriate support.

EMDR (Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing) is a widely recognized therapeutic approach for treating trauma and its associated symptoms, such as anxiety, flashbacks, and emotional distress. It is particularly effective for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and other trauma-related conditions.



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

Make Bonaire Accessible

by Ria Evers-Dokter

Accessibility all the way.

When you get confronted by the issue of accessibility, it seems hard to recognize. But believe me, it is there... always. But when it does not concern you, it is hard to see.

For others, accessibility is always an issue. From early in the morning, till the late night and beyond. From the bed you sleep in, till the bathroom-routine, the whole day long and then again back to the bathroom and bedroom.

Internet-banking. Having a mobile phone is very helpful. But when you have problems using your hands, it can be difficult to call, answer the phone and even worse, practice internet-banking.

At first I was very happy to be able to install the banking app. on my phone. But when my physical problems got worse, I could not use the phone properly anymore. I touched wrong letters and right away I could not work the program anymore.

I decided to get to the bank and ask them to help me. But before I could get to the bank, I had to ask help to get there. I do not have a car and cannot ride my bicycle anymore. But, finding a volunteer to help me was not a problem at all. A very active board member of MiVaBo was ready to help me and provide transportation. At the bank I explained to the employee who assisted me that because of my disability, internet banking on my phone was very hard. I appeared to be no problem at all. Every transaction was handled by the employee. I only had to cue the details.

So, whenever I need to do my banking, I do have to plan ahead, ask a volunteer when he is able to help me, but then I am halfway there.

Volunteers. Because I have all these people to help me, I can be as independent as possible and therefore I want to strongly advise everyone with disabilities to make use of all help that is offered. And if you cannot find anybody to help, ask around. Many people want to offer their help and assistance, but do not know who to contact or how to volunteer.

Be very clear about what kind of help you need and why. And when the "job is done" be very sure to thank those that help you in a proper way.

I would even go so far as to advise Kas di Kuido or other facilities like Sentronan di Barrio to ask bank employees to come as a volunteer and help the elderly do their banking.

It is very hard to get older and have disabilities. But we still count and want to be able to do as much as possible. We only need a bit of practical help every now and then.

If there are potential volunteers, I strongly suggest to contact AKSESO and/or Hofi Kultural. There are always people who need your help and these organizations can coordinate. I wish you all happy volunteering in this new year 2025.



Ria Dokter is living happily on Bonaire, where she also used to work as a director at FKPD and started Special Olympics Bonaire. She took care of her husband (R.I.P) for many years and feels that accessibility is the most important issue on our island.

A Garden? Just Do It!

Replanting by Angliet, Nature Lover

Lately I have been busy every day in my garden as there is so much to do. It's the perfect time to garden with the rain, full moon and soft weather that almost guarantee great results. Some trees are full of fruit and there are so many vegetables and herbs growing. Herbs are sensitive and don't grow easily but these days their seeds are popping up everywhere and taking over my garden. Now is the time to plant, saw, trim and add compost and dirt. It's time to replant and control the young plants like Neem, thorny bushes or big trees you don't want in your yard or are too close to your house. Last week someone told me they were cleaning their yard and made a shocking discovery of a thick root of a young mango tree growing under her house foundation and the beerput (cess-pool). So keep an eye out for roots of big trees in your yard as they grow fast with the recent blessing of rain.

I love to garden early in the morning. The garden smells so gorgeous with all the herbs around. There are three types of basilicum: Italian Basil, Greek Basil and our island Yerbi hole. There is also lemon grass, (Lipia Alba), Mexican mint, Blue Pea and a plant locals call Calpol. I use some everyday in my tea. There are also medicinal plants for poor health: wild Mandarin leaves, Aloe, Soursop leaves, passion fruit leaves and many more. And of course I have enough young vegetable plants ready to consume for me and to share: spinach, perlain, kalaloe, tayerblad, Bonaire cucumbers, peppers and wild bitter gourd.

I constantly have a lot of dried leaves from the many trees in my yard. I don't throw them away but instead I add them to the top soil of plants and vegetables in the garden and the bigger containers with plants. With this rain they compost fast. I use what I can and I give some to friends who have no trees.

Last week a friend picked up four huge bags and three huge boxes of leaves. The car was so full of leaves, plants and cuttings that there was only her driver's seat free and all you could see was a little head in a bush in the car.



Herbs in my garden

There are a lot of people looking for fallen leaves so if you have some make it known on Facebook or Dare to Ask and you will make some people very happy. I have replanted and removed a lot of young plants in the garden or into bigger containers. With so many I've been giving away vegetables, fruit and flowering plants. Many people have dropped by for

yuca cuttings, wayaka plants and the flowering plant trinitaria. I like giving them away. It's a way to make Bonaire green again. Every green we plant has positive consequences for the soil, for nature, for the climate, for our health and for Bonaire.

Gardening makes ME so happy when I see the colors of the plants and all the green, smell a mix of the fresh fragrance of the herbs and watch the birds and butterflies busy to gather their food. But I'm not happy at all when I see an iguana around and the loras eating my fruit. One morning I was in the garden and noticed the guyaba was light green meaning it would be ready to pick in a few days. Later that afternoon they had ripened and the birds were right there ready to eat. It is always a surprise to see how fast certain fruit, particularly berries and small fruit ripen so quickly once they begin the process. With their sharp eyes the birds see the fruit and can leave you with nothing to pick. I now pick the fruits as soon as they begin the ripening process and let them ripen to their fullest in my kitchen.

Gardening means healing of body and mind. It comes back in all aspects of my life and it gives me many happy moments which I share with my soul. When seeing a newly opened beautiful Orchid early in the morning, it is such a wonder to me and that leads to feelings of admiration, happiness and peace. Gardening has the great power to take my mind away from sorrows, stress and relaxes me. It's a detoxing of the mental part of my being. It is so good for my getting older body; a natural massage in its own way. When I feel tired, I go to the garden and it takes the tired feeling out of my body and I forget the worries on my mind. Gardening is so creative, wonderful and so connecting. It's a blessing chain to connect to nature, people and to your inner self. So, never a dull moment in your garden, enjoy it with your body, mind and soul.



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

FOR SALE Proud Paradise Bonaire

Spacious tropical home near Boulevard!



3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms
 Outdoor and indoor kitchen
 Large living room, separate dining room
 Lot size: 570m2
 Living space: 100m2
 Porch area: 60m2
 Mature tropical garden
Asking price \$445,000
 Whatsapp +31 6 470 86541



www.proudparadisebonaire.com

Events, Meetings, Sports

12 steps meeting: Wednesdays at Kaya Den Haag 30 in Hato. Meeting starts at 7:15 p.m. till 8:30 p.m. Info: 12stepsbonaire@gmail.com

Alcoholics Anonymous open meeting Every Thursday, 7 - 8 p.m. International Bible Church Kaya Papago 104 in Hato (Behind Bon Bida Spa and Gym and Bon Bida apartments). All welcome, regardless of primary addiction or no addiction at all.

Art Gallery Sobremesa Bonaire. Sobremesa is closed for the holidays - reopens Jan 7, 2 p.m. View or buy art from Bonaire's local artists. Opening hours are Tue-Fri 2 - 5 p.m. and Sat 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Abraham Boulevard 10.

Beach Tennis Bonaire <https://www.facebook.com/beachtennisbonaire/>
<https://beachtennisbonaire.com>

Bonaire by Night Shopping night every month

Bridgeclub Bonaire organizes a bridge evening Wed. 7:30 - 10:30 p.m. All levels are welcome. Info: 795-0128 (whatsapp text), bridgeclubbonaire@gmail.com. <https://www.facebook.com/bridgeclubbonaire>

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


Diver Safety. Hosted by Jason Buttenshaw who holds presentations the third Sunday of the month 6:30 p.m. at Sugar Thief, 8 Kaya Inglaterra.

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


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


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

Tennis In January and February adults will play a doubles tennis competition on Eddie's courts. Every one (18+) is welcome to join. Register with the association: email info@bonairetennisassociation.com or app with 599 782 4569.

 **Echo Conservation Tours** - Weekdays at 8 a.m. or 5 p.m. and Saturday 8 a.m. To reserve email at info@echobonaire.org

 **Manta Monday at 7:30 p.m.** Jan. 27 - Toucan Diving. Feb. 3 - No Presentation - We will participate in the World Wetlands Day event on February 2. Feb. 10 - Divi Resort Nicole Pelletier of the Caribbean Islands Manta Conservation. Email: nicole.pelletier@mantatrust.org ; [Caribbean Islands Manta Conservation facebook](#)..

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

 **Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire (STCB).** Free presentations at Yellow Submarine, every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month, 8 p.m. See facebook. <https://www.facebook.com/bonaireturtles/>

What's Happening

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

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

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

Library: Mon. 12-5; Tues. to Thurs. 8-5; Fri. 8-4:30; Sat. 8-12. Kaya Gramel 715 5344. Anyone can become a member. Free for residents between 0 and 18 years. Adults \$6 a year. Members can borrow ebooks online. www.onlinebibliotheek.nl

Marshe di Playa Local market Sat. 9-1. Kaya Industria, by Warehouse Supermarket.

Pakus di Pruga (Animal Shelter flea market.): Pakus reopened May 11 at new location Kaya Gilberto F Croes. Located just past Caribbean Laundry. 8 a.m. – 3 p.m. Pakus raises funds for the Animal Shelter by selling recycled and affordable clothes, furniture, books, music, housewares and more.

Terramar Museum Mon-Fri 9-2. Kaya J.N.E. Isla Riba 3. Admission \$10. Residents \$5. Tours \$20. Children under 12 free. +599 701 4700 <https://www.facebook.com/terramarmuseumbonaire/>

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

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

Open until Friday, Feb. 28	Artistic Journey Exhibit - Delno Tromp & Gabrielle Wilson Terramar Museum, Kaya Isla Riba 3, Kralendijk
Jan. 25 to Feb. 1	National Reading Days with activities for kids 0 to 6 years old. All FREE but registration is required. see page 13.
Saturday, Jan. 25	Annual Parrot (Lora) Roost Count. 6 to 8 a.m. The first roost count of 2025. Volunteers are essential to help count Bonaire's parrots. Echo holds a training session in advance to explain the count and to determine who will go to which site during the official count. Contact Echo at info@echobonaire.org . Nos Zjilea Cultural Event "Our Parrots. Our Pride" 10 a.m.- 3 p.m. Cultural Park Mangazina di Rei, Rincon. Enjoy the music, dancing, crafts, amazing food and drink.
Tuesday, Jan. 28	FREE REEF Fish ID course 7 p.m. TransWorld Radio. Learn to identify local fish species. Explore what it means to be a citizen scientist. Gather with fellow ocean lovers! All are welcome!
Wednesday, Jan. 29	Open Bonaire Bridge Championship Everyone is welcome to participate, regardless of experience. The tournament will take place at Hillside in Antriol, 7:15 to 10:30 p.m.. Register or ask for information via bridgeclubbonaire@gmail.com!
Thursday & Friday Jan. 30 / 31	Ride for Roses T-shirt and bag pickup and late registration Orco Bank 5 – 7 p.m.
Sunday, Feb. 2	Ride, Walk/Run, or Swim for Roses. Fundraiser starts at Isidel Beach Park 6:30 a.m. Tickets are available online and at Bon Bida, Freewieler and Rincon gas station. For information, visit www.ridefortheroses.org . World Wetlands Day Fair Plasa Wilhelmina 5:30 – 9 p.m. See page 13
Feb 7 - March 8	Karnaval See page 15.
Tuesday, Feb. 11	Book presented by Over 60s "Grandinan di Tera Korá Bou di e Palu di Tamarein" Sentro Di Bario Tera Korá 7 – 8 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 15	Fernand and Friso Comedy Night at Yhanni's Arepas. \$15 includes a drink and a snack.

You can help keep Bonaire clean

Saturdays	One Hour Cleanup Power. Weekly coastal clean up every Sat., 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. Location on FB: https://www.facebook.com/OneHourCleanupPower/
Sunday, Feb. 9	Clean Coast Bonaire. 4-6 p.m. Piedra Pretu. Donate your time. Work as a citizen scientist to collect marine litter & data. https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=clean%20coast%20bonaire
Saturday, Feb. 15	Quarterly Clean up Dive, Dive Friends. 9 a.m. Location TBA. Everyone is welcome. If you don't dive, you can snorkel; if you don't snorkel, you can help out on shore. https://www.divefriendsbonaire.com/eco-activities/quarterly-clean-up-dives/

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: Mon,Wed,Fri, Sat-7 p.m. Sun-9 a.m. / 7 p.m.
- **Parish Luis Beltran (RINCON):** Holy Masses: Tues,Wed,Thur, Sat-7 p.m. Sun-7 a.m. / 10 a.m.

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

United Protestant Congregation

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

2025 Cruise Ship Schedule

DATE	TIME	CRUISE SHIP	PIER
Wed. January 22	0730-1500	CARNIVAL HORIZON 4683 guests	South
Thurs. January 23	0830-1700	CELEBRITY REFLECTION 3046 guests	South
Fri. January 24	0700-1300	MARELLA DISCOVERY 2074 guests	North
Sun. January 26	0800-2000	COSTA FORTUNA 3470 guests	North
Mon. January 27	0830-1800	EMERALD PRINCESS 3577 guests	North
Tues. January 28	0500-1900	ILMA 456 guests	North
	0630-1800	BRITANNIA 3674 guests	South
Wed. January 29	0730-1800	CARNIVAL VISTA 4683 guests	South
Fri. January 31	0900-1800	CARNIVAL MIRACLE 2680 guests	North
Sat. February 1	0630-2359	SILVER MOON 623 guests	North
Sun. February 2	0600-1800	CELEBRITY ECLIPSE 3013 guests	South
Mon. February 3	0800-1800	AIDAPERLA 3286 guests	South
Tues. February 4	0800-2100	SEABOURN OVATION 638 guests	North
Wed. February 5	0700-2000	AIDAMAR 2686 guests	North
	0830-2200	CARNIVAL HORIZON 4683 guests	South
Thurs. February 6	0800-1800	AIDABELLA 2500 guests	North

World Wetlands Day February 2, 2025

Come to the Fair



Since its inception, World Wetlands Day has been observed globally on February 2nd to commemorate the signing of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands in 1971.

Here on Bonaire, we celebrate this day at the Plasa Wilhelmina where nature and social organizations will have stalls showcasing elements of the wetlands.

It will be a fun event, with information, activities for all and a quiz with a lot of beautiful prizes. Kids are invited to illustrate collected stories on wetlands, there are free snacks to be sampled and a bar with drinks.

Don't miss out on the fourth annual World Wetlands Day Fair! Bring your friends and family to Wilhelminaplein on February 2 and be part of the fun, it is free!

Event Details

What: Fourth Annual World Wetlands Day Celebration.

When: Sunday, February 2, 5:30 – 9 p.m.

Where: Plasa Wilhelmina, Kralendijk



Are You Interested in Bonaire's Geology?

Everyone who loves Bonaire has questions about the island's geology...How was the island formed and when? What is the actual composition of the island's topographical structures? Is Bonaire a volcanic island?

All your questions will be answered in a three-part fun class on the geology of Bonaire by the well known André Nahr.

The class will be held on Tuesday 11, Thursday 13 & Saturday 15 of February at Youth Center "Jong Bonaire," Kaya Libertador Simon Bolivar 16, in between the Big Church and the TELBO building.

Session 1 & 2 are scheduled from 7-9 pm and session 3 brings everything together in a fun field trip on Saturday from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. The field trip will include visits to several interesting spots on the island to learn and see first hand examples of Bonaire's geology. Comfortable shoes are suggested, but no heavy hiking is involved. The class is taught in English (with explanations in Dutch & Papiamentu, if needed).

Cost is \$140.00 p.p. payable **in cash** at the first session.

Sign up at geology.andrenahr@gmail.com

but don't wait too long, only 15 spots are available!

Don't miss the opportunity to learn about Bonaire's fascinating geology!

For the rug rats, toddlers and run-about

National Reading Days on Bonaire



**National Reading Days on Bonaire:
A week of fun & educational activities**

From January 25 to February 1, we celebrate the National Reading Days on Bonaire. This week, organized in collaboration with the Bonaire Public Library, Biblionef and the Dutch Foundation for Literature is dedicated to the importance of reading aloud for the language development of young children. Reading aloud stimulates the imagination and helps children to discover new words and stories. During this special week, there are all kinds of activities for children from 0 to 6 years old.

On Saturday, January 25, the campaign will be opened with a Reading Breakfast and a book presentation of 'Hello Baby' by Mylo Freeman. During the week, various daycare centers will be visited by well-known readers, including writer Mylo Freeman (Netherlands), actress Milushka Birge (Curaçao), storyteller Jeaniro Dorothea (Bonaire) and teacher Thasjanara Rosario (Bonaire). These reading moments are especially for children aged 3 to 4 and take place at various childcare facilities on Bonaire.

In addition, Mylo Freeman will organize a series of workshops in collaboration with the Library, including a Barbie workshop, a Princess Arabella workshop and illustration and writing workshops.

All activities are free of charge, but registration is required due to the limited number of places. This can be done via the QR code, which will be available in the library and on the) Facebook page. *Release: OLB*

Legal advice available for migrants and refugees

Foundation 'Union of Bonairean Immigrants' (FUIB) will give legal advice to migrants and refugees in Bonaire every Saturday from 4 to 6 p.m. at Bijkerk's law office in Antriol. It makes no difference whether the migrant or refugee is legal or illegal in Bonaire. All have the right to ask questions about their rights, and what can be done legally to normalize their situation.

For example, many refugees do not know that they can apply for political asylum in Bonaire according to law. The refugee will not always have a chance to stay legally in Bonaire. But sometimes yes. It depends on his situation. We can also mention the situation of female illegal immigrants who went into prostitution to survive. Sometimes it is possible to help them get out of their situation and get a residence permit. Depends on circumstances. You can call 796 2650 (abog. Bijkerk) or 787 2373 (FUIB).

For FUIB,dust. M. Bijkerk

Join the 2025 Ride for Roses



We are now counting days rather than weeks till the next Ride for the Roses Bonaire on February 2. This is your opportunity to ride, walk or swim to raise funds for those on the island affected by cancer.

Once again sponsored by Orco Bank, the Ride for the Roses venue has changed to the new Isidel Beach Park. Cyclists, runners and walkers will start the race at the park while swimmers will begin at Kas di Regatta.

Participants can choose to join one of two walks: 5.5k or 8.5k and two bikes: 13k or 26k. Anyone wishing to join the swim from Kas di Regatta to Isidel Park after a run or bike is en-

couraged. Every participant receives a traditional rose at the end of the ride.

Tickets are \$20 for a single event or \$25 to add on the swim. They may be purchased at the Gas Station Rincon, BonBida and Freewieler. T-shirt and bag pickup and late registration will be at Orco Bank January 30/31, 5 – 7 p.m.

Volunteers are needed to help everything run smoothly and keep the participants fueled along the routes. If you would like to help, sign up at contact@ridefortheroses.org.

Photo Julie Morgan, Ride for the Roses, 2024

At Your Service

Online INTERACTIVE Page - just click on the ad

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

Bruce Bowker's CARIB INN
OPEN DAILY
 8am to 5pm
 • Boat Diving
 • Full-Service Dive Shop
 • Repairs

 www.caribinn.com
 JA Abraham Blvd 46
 717-8819 • info@CaribInn.com

Yoga Sensibile

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

JEAN SCEARCE
 YOUR REAL ESTATE AGENT AT
RE/MAX
 PARADISE HOMES BONAIRE
 00 599 717 - 7362
www.bonairehomes.com
jean@bonairehomes.com



Bonaire Scuba

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

The Reporter
 read locally
 AND internationally
 Reach thousands
 Advertise here

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

TEKIBON
 (Tekila & Rum)
 Unique
 Liqour Made
 on Bonaire
 Cruise Market
 &
 The Place
 (Souvenirs & Clothes)
 Kaya Grandi 8
 +599-787-7348
 +599-786-2686



Bonaire Coaching
 by Claudia B.V.
 Learn faster, learn smarter

 PRIVATE COMPUTER LESSONS
 Internet and e-mail, Word, Excel, Access,
 Publisher, Power Point and Website Creation
 Lessons are adapted to your level of knowledge and needs
 as well as your schedule
bonairecoachingbc@gmail.com - +599-786-9676

CARIBBEAN ISLANDS
 MANTA
 CONSERVATION
 PROGRAM


MULTISHOP
 Local Arts and Crafts - Souvenirs

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

petals
 BONAIRE
 Order online!
www.petalsbonaire.com


NEW IN BONAIRE

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

The Touch KUNUKU SPA

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

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

THE STOREHOUSE MANGASINA

 Call 700-1753
www.bonaireselfstorage.com
info@bonaireselfstorage.com

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

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

Elements
 Hand made dichroic glass jewelry
 since 2010

info@elementsbonaire.com
www.elementsbonaire.com
 visit our stand at Cruises Market
 Follow us on  

FOR SALE
WWW.KWBONAIRE.COM
 +599 701 6516

 • 3 BED/3 BATH
 • OFFICE SPACE
 • OCEAN VIEW
 • NEWLY BUILT
 • \$699,000 USD
 kw BONAIRE
 KELLERWILLIAMS

Bonaire Landsailing Adventures

 Open daily for bookings
 Reserve online
www.landsailingadventures.com

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


Pets of the Week



Ginny

Meet Ginny

Ginny is a beautiful lady who will steal your heart at first sight. With her stunning eyes and gentle nature, she's a true gem. Ginny arrived at our shelter

1.5 years ago with her two daughters, and since then, she's shown us what a loving and loyal companion she is.

She absolutely adores cuddles and thrives on being around people. Ginny is not just a people-lover; she also gets along wonderfully with other dogs. Whether it's a stroll along the beach, playing in the sand, or simply relaxing in the sunshine, Ginny is in her element as long as she's surrounded by love. Ginny is great with children and would make the perfect family dog!

We're hoping to find Ginny a warm forever home where she can enjoy all the affection she deserves. Could you be the one to give Ginny her second chance? Visit the shelter and meet this sweetheart in person! *Photo/story: Marissa Lamers*

Hello, this is Luna.

She and her brother Sunny, were brought to the Shelter when their former owners discovered they had a severe cat allergy.

Luna is a one year old cuddle enthusiast, and has a playful side too! And although she loves the company of her brother, Sunny, she is also very content on her own. And she even loves other cats.

Luna has a little kink in her ear, one of the little quirks that make her so special. She is a lovely little goofball, and we would love for her to have her very own home.

Photo/story: Bo Attevelt

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



Luna

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

Shipwreck survey from page 3

dates construction of the lighthouse. Spelunk is one of five real lighthouses on Bonaire. The island also has three lighthouse beacons. The team dived Karpata exploring the drop-off.

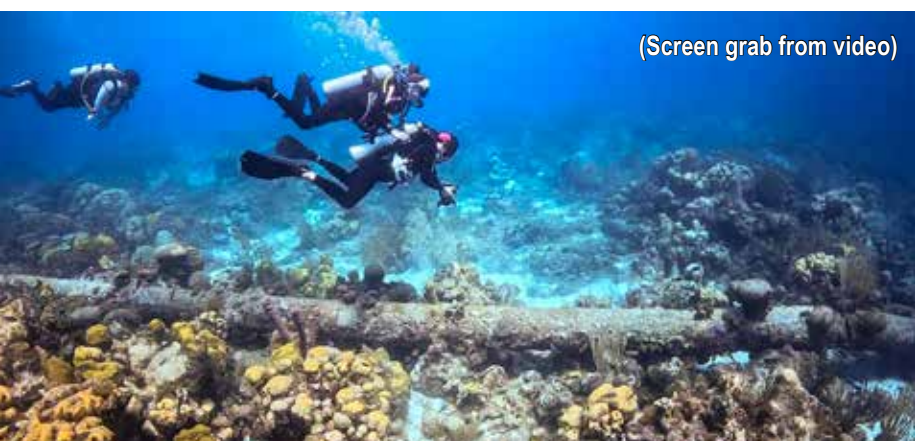
The students had a look at the Windjammer or Mairi Bahn wreck just off BOPEC at 45-60m(148-197ft). A tech diver's dream, the wreck ran aground carrying a load of loose tar from Trinidad that caused the boat to list and sink on December 7, 1912. The ship has two steel masts, one which is 22m (72ft) long and totally encrusted with coral and sponges. The ship was rediscovered in 1968 and stripped by local divers of many of its artifacts including portholes, large amphoras, the binnacle, compass and a lantern. Two artifacts courtesy of

Al Catalfumo and the late Bruce Bowker were on display at the presentation. The students were able to view only the shallow mast due to the limited depth of 40m (130ft) allowed for open water divers.

The Shipwreck Survey has carried out underwater archaeological research on St. Eustatius, Turks & Caicos, Bonaire and gone on two educational shipwreck diving trips in Egypt's Red Sea. They will continue their research on Turks & Caicos and return to Bonaire in July to investigate the historic anchorages of Karpata, Slagbaai and possibly Spelunk.

For more information visit: www.the-shipwrecksurvey.com and socials.

Story / Photos Julie Morgan



(Screen grab from video)

Archaeology students explore the mast of the Mairi Bohn (Windjammer).

Animal Shelter Bonaire Volunteers Wanted



Are you an animal lover looking to make a real difference? We're searching for enthusiastic volunteers to care for and bring joy to our dogs and cats. Whether you're a cat whisperer or a dog enthusiast, your help will have a huge impact on their lives.

How can you help?

- Clean enclosures (mornings from 8:30 to 10/11 a.m.)
- Give cuddles and attention to animals in need;
- Provide general care like wash-

ing, brushing, nail clipping and more;
- Walk dogs, brush cats and keep them happy

We offer flexible hours and a fun, dynamic environment where there's always something to do. Interested? Send an email to animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com or drop by and give it a try.

Together, we can create a safe and loving space for our animals. Make every day a special one at Animal Shelter Bonaire!

Marissa Lamers

2025 is the 50th anniversary of Carnival on Bonaire. The celebration kicks in mid-February with the election of Carnival Royalty. Warmup parties begin then and continue right up until the extravagant March 1-4 parades. Having prepared their souls, Bonaireans devote themselves to the serious business of celebrating Lent.

2025 Karnaval schedule

February - Elections and Parties

Feb. 7. Election Teens • **Feb. 8.** Election Adult Queen, Prince, and Pancho • **Feb. 9.** Election Youth Queen, Prince, and Pancho • **Feb. 13.** Festival di Tumba Grandi. • **Feb. 14.** Valentine Neon Jump

Walk. • **Feb. 15.** Festival di Tumba Grandi Finale • **Feb. 16.** Festival Tumba Youth • **Feb. 22.** Karnaval Youth Rincon • **Feb. 23.** Karnaval Youth Playa • **Feb. 28.** Jump Up Grandparents • **Feb. 29.** Teen Parade

March - Main Karnaval Parades

Mar. 1. Adult Grand Karnaval Parade in Rincon • **Mar. 2.** Adult Grand Karnaval Parade in Kralendijk (Playa) • **Mar. 3.** Children's Farewell Karnaval Parade • **Mar. 4.** Adult Farewell Grand Karnaval Nighttime Parade in Kralendijk with the Burning of King Momo at Midnight • **Mar. 8.** Fiesta Closes with Awards.

The World's Finest Food Products, on Bonaire

Renowned for importing only the most exquisite and sustainable food products from Canada, Europe, USA, and the Caribbean. Purveyors of high-quality Epicurean food stuffs for key restaurants on Bonaire and a new dedicated shop for the home cook enthusiasts. Whether you are seeking specialty meats, fish, seafood, international cheeses, the finest oils, vinegars, plant-based food and more, Canarbo has it all.



Visit us at Kaya Industria #23. Kralendijk - Bonaire
@ Canarboepicureanmarket - www.canarbo.com



ROCARGO LOGISTICS SERVICES B.V.



IFC | Experts in Expediting

For all your shipping needs to or from Bonaire



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

WWW.ROCARGO.COM - INFO@ROCARGO.COM