

# Animal Shelter News

Calling all Animal Lovers once again!

We are seeking:

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

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

Marissa Lamers



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

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

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

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

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

We are looking for new volunteers to join our team!

## Pet of the Week



Pudge

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

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

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

Please consider coming to meet Pudge. I believe she will make a nice addition to your home. Pudge is sterilized, up to date on vaccines and has tested negative for feline leukemia and FIV. .

Photo/story: Amy Bowen

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

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

## Lions Club donates pet food

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



## Make Bonaire Accessible

by Ria Evers-Dokter

### Changes..... we hate them

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

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

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

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

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

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

I attend two different projects that of-

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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