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AIR FRANCE JOB CUTS LOOM, P. 27

**Student
Stopped
Shooter
From
Killing
More
Page 20**



JOINING BORDERS
SINCE 1873



VOL 25 NO. 117 Saturday, October 3, 2015 U.S. 0.75 CENTS / Naf. 1.50 / EC\$ 1.75

Sarah confirms she will assume Chairmanship of Parliament

PHILIPSBURG--Democratic Party (DP) leader Member of Parliament (MP) Sarah Wescot-Williams confirmed on Friday that she will be assuming the position of the new Chairperson of Parliament.

DP forms part of the new eight-seat-majority coalition in Parliament. According to the Governing Accord signed by members of the new majority coalition, DP will designate the Minister of Public Health, Social Development and Labour VSA and the new Chairperson of Parliament.

Wescot-Williams said there were many goals she would like to accomplish for the Parliament of St. Maarten as Chairperson of the legislative body. She said she

Continued on page 7

National Detectives investigate beating of undocumented man

~ Man says officers threatened to shoot him ~

PHILIPSBURG--Justice Minister Dennis Richardson says an independent investigation by the National Detective Service has been ordered into the alleged beating of an undocumented immigrant who was caught after a chase in an Immigration raid on Thursday evening.

When asked for a comment on the matter, Richardson told *The Daily Herald* he was unable to comment at this stage, given the investigation. It could not be ascertained whether the officer has been or will be placed on inactive duty during the course of the investigation.

Undocumented immigrant G.P. (29), a Jamaican national, told this newspaper on Friday that a young Immigration officer who appeared to be in his 20s had punched him repeatedly in the head. G.P. said he had fallen, had been injured and could not move at the time he was beaten. The officer allegedly punched the man until another officer came up and urged him to stop.

P., who said he had been living in St. Maarten for more than a decade and had a stepchild and four children born on the island, said he was a hard-working man who held two jobs to feed his family, who depend on his financial and emotional care. His children are ages six, four, three and one, and his stepchild turns nine years old today, Saturday.

Continued on page 8



The hearing of Statia's appeal against higher supervision was attended by government officials from the Netherlands and St. Eustatius.

Statia's appeal against higher supervision heard

ST. EUSTATIUS--The appeal filed by the Executive Council against the decision of the Ministry of Home Affairs and Kingdom Relations to impose higher supervision on St. Eustatius was heard Friday.

An advisory board of the Dutch government met with Commissioners Reginald Zaandam (United People's Coalition, UPC) and Astrid McKenzie-Tatem (Progressive Labour Party, PLP) and ministry representatives in the conference room at Old Gin House.

Dutch Government Representative Gilbert Isabella and Hyden Gittens and Manus Twisk of Committee for Financial Supervision (CFT) were also called to be heard. Island Governor Gerald Berkel, Island Secretary Koos Bartelds, Island Council Members Richelline Leerdam and Clyde van Putten (both PLP) and Frini Adelka Spanner and Nicolaas Sneek (both Democratic Party, DP) were among the audience.

The Ministry's standpoint is that the Executive Council is not ad-

missible in the case since the instruction for the supervision was given to the Government Representative and the interests of the Executive Council are therefore not directly affected.

Commissioner McKenzie refuted this by pointing out that the

Continued on page 11

IN BRIEF

**Beacon Hill
NO EVICTION
ORDERED**

The owner of Caravanserai Beach Resort wants The Dream pool bar and lounge on the premises to be vacated, but the Judge has denied two requests for an eviction order. Page 3.

**The Hague
FINANCIAL
SUPERVISION**

The Kingdom Council of Ministers decided on Friday to maintain financial supervision for Curaçao and St. Maarten by the Committee for Financial Supervision. Page 3.

**Philipsburg
ELECTIONS WON'T
SOLVE THE ISSUE**

DP leader MP Sarah Wescot-Williams said on Friday that calling early elections will not solve the issue of MPs switching their support from one party to another. Page 3.

WEEKENDER
See Inside

Shana

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Petition started against forming of new coalition

PHILIPSBURG--Although there already is a new majority coalition formed in parliament since Wednesday, an online petition has been started "against the formation of a new coalition" in the country.

The petition was started by "Voice of SXM" and up to early last night had amassed a total of 60 supporters. The target is 10,000. The petition reads: "We, the people of St. Maarten, support the Prime Minister's decision to utilize article 59 of the country's Constitution, which gives the Council of Ministers the right to dissolve the Parliament of St. Maarten and call for new elections. We, the people of St. Maarten, are fed up with the current, unstable government and have no confidence in a new coalition that consists of the same unreliable and ineffective players. You have the power to create change. Start sharing and watch your impact grow."

The new coalition was formed on Wednesday, and members signed a Governing Accord, which was presented to Governor Eugene Holiday on the same day. Portfolios have already been divided and most of the ministerial candidates for the seven ministries have been identified.

9AM - 1PM

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