



ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

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TRUSTED NEW AND RESPECTED VIEWS

MONDAY 3RD FEBRUARY 2020 | ISSUE 35

PRICE \$3

NO CORONAVIRUS IN ANTIGUA

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ST. MARY'S CLASSES RESUME

*One week after it was put in place to ensure that students at the St Mary's Secondary School did not miss classes, the one-week shift system has come to an end. **Story on Page 3***

MONDAY 3RD FEBRUARY 2020

NAMCO to assume greater Jolly Beach shareholding on behalf of state

The net worth of shareholdings vested in the National Asset Management Company (NAMCO) is poised to multiply further, following recent discussions between Government and minority shareholders of the Jolly Beach Resort.

Last Tuesday's meeting focused, among other things, on a valuation of the resort's liabilities, such as its outstanding sums owed to statutory bodies such as the Antigua Public Utilities Authority and Social Security.

Speaking Saturday on Pointe FM Radio's Browne and Browne Show, Prime Minister Gaston Browne described the interaction as "a general discussion to reaffirm the agreement we had in principle that instead of put-

ting Jolly Beach into liquidation ... the various government agencies ... will take shares. However, the executing company will be NAMCO."

The Prime Minister, who is also Minister for Finance and Corporate Governance, made short shrift of suggestions that the statutory corporations such as Medical Benefits and Board of Education should have their own separate shareholdings in Jolly Beach instead of via NAMCO.

According to the PM, while he could support such an argument in the case of Social Security, separate shareholders for the other state or public sector bodies would be "too ungainly".

He said NAMCO would "purchase the debt for one dollar, and the most

effective model in order to create superior value" – rather than fragmentation into different entities – was neither practical nor sensible.

NAMCO is not only the holding and management entity for government assets but also the vehicle by which joint public-private sector investments in which these assets are committed in whole or in part as state equity.

Apart from the Jolly Beach Resort, the Sunshine Hub Car Park on Independence Drive and the West Indies Oil Company (WIOC) are among other state assets that have been vested in NAMCO. Its chairman is Public Utilities Minister Sir Robin Yearwood – an accountant by training – and its secretary is the Solicitor General.

Antiguan opens restaurant in US

An Antiguan with an interesting story to tell, has recently opened a restaurant at a popular train station in New Jersey, United States.

Claude Lewis was ready to leave the culinary world forever.

The Jersey City chef had lost 100 pounds, a result of hyperthyroidism, and in his weakest moments couldn't even reach the bathroom without his wife's help. His illness, exasperated by the stress of working in the kitchen, was slowly killing him.

But it was a 2012 trip to his family's native Antigua – and a truckload of tropical fruit – that miraculously saved his life, he says.

"I ate about 500 mangoes in two weeks because my aunt has a field (of mango

trees)," Lewis says, noting that the more mangoes he ate, the better he felt. "I came back and there was nothing wrong with me. I'm dead serious."

The juicy fruits somehow restored Lewis's health, he says, and soon after his career found new life, too: Also in 2014 he responded to a Craigslist job posting for a "Grove Street pizzeria" that turned out to be the wildly popular restaurant Porta.

"They said, 'I don't know where we're going to put you, but we want you,'" Lewis says of his Porta interview. "From that point I would say things really started changing, because Porta was such an experience."

He climbed the ranks and became the restaurant's ex-



ecutive chef, winning an episode of Food Network's "Chopped" in March 2019 along the way. Now he's branching out on his own.

Lewis, 39, just opened Freetown Road Project, a breezy West Indian restaurant in Journal Square where he serves the food of his parents' homeland, only miles from the Jersey City Heights neighborhood where he was raised.

A quick note before we dive into the dishes: West Indian food is not from Western India but rather the West Indies, a chain of islands in the Caribbean, and the cuisine reflects the many different cultures that settled in those islands: African, Indian and European. Lewis's menu draws comparisons to American soul food, with lots of stews, greens, potatoes and fish.

MONDAY 3RD FEBRUARY 2020

No Coronavirus here

As public concerns and anxiety grow over the global phenomenon, the coronavirus, the Ministry of Health and Wellness is assuring the people of Antigua and Barbuda that there are no suspected cases of the virus in the country.

The Ministry of Health on Sunday said confirmed that there are no suspected cases of the virus in the Caribbean region.

It said the four travelers who recently returned from China and have been quarantined have, are well and are co-operating with health officials.

“The Ministry continues to exercise precautionary measures to mitigate any

threat from the novel Coronavirus.

“The Ministry continues to appeal to the public to practice good hand hygiene and to sanitize their personal space.

“All handles and handheld devices require regular sanitization,” the statement cautioned.

In its determination to follow international events related to the virus, the ministry is reporting that to date, single death outside of the People’s Republic has been reported by national authorities in the Philippines as a result of this novel virus.

The ministry further advises that because the country is currently in the influenza season, the public should do the following:

- Practice good hand hygiene
- Monitor water intake and always actively rehydrate after exercise or excessive sweating
- Avoid nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory medication for flu symptoms
- Use acetaminophen for fever and pain, especially in children, unless otherwise advised by medical personnel
- Pay special attention to signs of

Protect yourself and others from getting sick

Wash your hands



- after coughing or sneezing
- when caring for the sick
- before, during and after you prepare food
- before eating
- after toilet use
- when hands are dirty
- after handling animals or animal waste

dehydration in the very young and the very old (e.g. urinating less/less diaper changes)

- Sanitize surfaces regularly
- Practice non-contact greetings (ie. avoid casually kissing and the shaking of hands) for now
- Avoid sharing eating utensils with persons who are coughing and sneezing

The Ministry wishes to assure the public that there are no suspected cases of Coronavirus within the Caribbean region. Additionally, the Ministry wishes to inform that the individuals under quarantine continue to show NO symptoms of illness.

Reduce your risk of coronavirus infection:



Clean hands with soap & water or alcohol-based hand rub

Cover nose and mouth when coughing and sneezing with tissue or flexed elbow



Avoid close contact with anyone with cold or flu-like symptoms

Thoroughly cook meat and eggs



No unprotected contact with live wild or farm animals



World Health Organization

Classes at SMSS resume today

One week after it was put in place to ensure that students at the St Mary’s Secondary School did not miss classes, the one-week shift system has come to an end.

The more than two hundred students at SMSS attended afternoon classes at the Jennings Secondary School. The latter students had their learning time reduced by one hour to accommodate the other students.

Director of Education, Clare Browne said, he is

‘relieved’ that the Ministry of Works (MOW) has been able to bring the physical conditions at the school to the point where classes will resume today, Monday.

Browne said the MOW team has put in extra hours, including working for several hours yesterday to bring some measure of normalcy and functionality to the school.

“Things will not necessarily be perfect at the school in the short-term as construc-

tion continues, but I am both satisfied and relieved that we are able to end the shift system and have the SMSS students return to classes at their school,” Browne stated.

He said the parking lot has been completed, the access road to the school is now usable and with drainage one of the ongoing challenges for the institution, remedial work was done to steer the water away from the school. He conceded that the prob-

lem of the drainage would need a long-term solution which would be done over-time.

Asked about the possible impact that the shift system may have had on the students, Browne said he has no scientific data to offer an opinion, however, the Jennings Secondary Students were losing one hour of classes each day while the SMSS students were losing one and a half hours per day.

cont’d on pg 4

Cabinet members benefit from workshop on Good Governance

For the second time in a three-month period, the Cabinet of Antigua and Barbuda and a few policy-makers had the benefit of a four-hour interactive retreat, on Saturday, 1st February, 2020, where the subject areas examined and analyzed related to corporate governance principles and the exercise of quality decision-making.

The retreat was conducted by a Canadian professor, named Dr. Dr. Chris Bart, whose abilities are well-known, who is highly respected, and who has also been lecturing to Antigua



and Barbuda civil servants, and has won applause from both private and public managers within the CARICOM region for his insightful work. The professor has agreed to develop a series of interactive lectures

for Permanent Secretaries within the Ministries; and, he has also agreed to seek to deliver lectures at U.W.I. Five Islands, if that is acceptable. In October 2019, Prime Minister the Hon. Gaston Browne conducted the first ever “Corporate Governance Workshop”, under the theme: “Aspiring Towards a Culture of Great Governance.” with Dr. Bart.

The inaugural workshop brought together Public Servants, including Permanent Secretaries and heads of Statutory bodies from across ministries.

During the interactive session held over the weekend, Prime Minister



Browne reminded all those present that life-long learning is now the requirement in our globalized world, and that even the best lawyers, judges and other professionals in many developed countries are required to take “continuing education courses”, in order to remain in good standing.

Risk-taking in governance, including risk-tolerance and risk-transference; good boardroom practices that have been dictated by courts, following shareholder lawsuits in the US and Canada; excellent communication skills that result in perfect execution of di-

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cont'd from pg 3

“That’s why we wanted this shift system to be a short-term measure as the impact on the students’ learning would have been significant over an extended period of time,” he noted.

Recent rainy conditions across the island had led to the cancellation of classes at St. Mary’s Secondary, since stagnant water that accumulated on the school’s compound made it difficult

for teachers and students to navigate and it also posed a health risk. It led education officials and other key stakeholders to convene a meeting, where the shift system was implemented.

Browne has expressed gratitude to the principal and staff of Jennings Secondary School for “readily accepting to accommodate the displaced school” and to the Antigua and Barbuda Transport Board for adjusting their school

bus schedule to accommodate the students.

Meanwhile, the parliamentary representative for the area, Hon. Samantha Marshall is lending her voice in complimenting the MOW for a job well done. “I want to thank Minister Weston and his team as well as the teachers, parents and students for their patience as this was a collaborative effort by all,” Marshall stated.

MONDAY 3RD FEBRUARY 2020

PM to environmentalists: ‘Be objective and professional’

Prime Minister Gaston Browne says he has no knowledge of any plans to scale back the PLH project on Barbuda because of environmental concerns.

The Prime Minister spoke Saturday during Pointe FM Radio’s Browne and Browne Show and took the opportunity to admonish local environmentalists and public servants against actions that are premature, unprofessional and serve to undermine or pre-empt the process by which approval is granted to developers.

He said there were concerns about a proposed marina, “but no decision has been taken on that as yet”, as the developers should be given “a fair chance to show the environmentalists how they can mitigate against whatever perceived risks they may have.”

The Prime Minister lamented what he said were “one or two environmentalists who have been very pre-emptive and taking firm

decisions even before hearing from PLH”.

He continued: “PLH has done projects all over the world. They have done projects in Baker’s Bay [which] is a far more fragile area in the Bahamas than Barbuda.”

He noted that PLH has its own environmentalist in the person of “Dr. Deborah Brosnan, who is easily one of the most respected environmentalists in the US ... You have less qualified people here who are second-guessing the international experts.”

Prime Minister Browne said he has “found that, in many instances, some persons employed with government – especially those in a position to grant permits – like to flex muscles they don’t have, and when they do that, it forces the government to then intervene and override them.”

He said those public servants who enjoy throwing their weight around in this manner “may think that they are doing a right thing

and that they are standing up against the government, showing off themselves, and they may get a few claps on OBSERVER. But I want to ask them, how does that help them ultimately? How does that help them in their career? How does that help their career aspirations when they’re just trying to show themselves and help create unnecessary animosity and being obstructive?”

The Prime Minister added that if such persons had seen the developer’s mitigation plans and were not satisfied, then he could understand their responses and objections, “But you cannot,

up front, take a decision that a particular project cannot be pursued. I do not accept that.”

Never one to mince his words, the Prime Minister told the public servants concerned that “they should know that they ought to be professional. They continue leaking information to the Barbuda Council to stir up strife. I want to say to them – they know who they are – it is unacceptable. That is not a professional thing to do. What you are doing is you are undermining confidence in you as a professional who we expect to operate objectively ...”

cont’d from pg 4

rectives; and, a plethora of subjects that will lead to creating an Antigua and Barbuda economic powerhouse.

The Cabinet retreat was applauded by all members. Before the end of Summer 2020, another retreat will likely be held to ensure even greater performance by the Gaston Browne administration. The Cabinet invites experts to its sessions every week in order to strengthen decision-making quality.

Last week, Dr. Bart and the Caribbean Governance Training Institute used the opportunity to conduct a Risk Committee Certification Program with over twenty board directors from both the public and private sector in attendance.

APUA ELECTRICITY MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE

These planned outages are necessary for our continuous upgrade and maintenance programme to provide reliable and consistent service to our customers.

Date: Monday February 3rd, 2020

Time: 9:30AM - 11:30AM

Affected areas: Small sections of Briggins north of All Saints Rd.

Date: Monday February 3rd, 2020

Time: 8:30AM - 10:30AM

Affected areas: Clare Vue, small section of Sutherlands.

Date: Tuesday February 4th, 2020

Time: 8:30AM - 12:00 PM

Affected areas: Section of Mathews Main Rd. and cnr. of All Saints Rd. and Jonas Rd.

Date: Wednesday February 5th, 2020

Time: 9:30 - 11:30 AM

Affected areas: Section of Longford south of the Police Academy

Date: Thursday February 6th, 2020

Time: 9:30AM - 10:00AM

Affected areas: Section of All Saints Rd, Seaview Farm, Lightfoot and Freemans Village.

Date: Thursday February 6th, 2020

Time: 9:30 - 1130 AM

Affected areas: Section of Cassada Gardens, West of Clare Hall School area.

Kindly note that this schedule is subject to slight variation. Changes will be communicated on the APUA Facebook page and APUA Website, www.apua.ag.

Any service disruptions outside of this schedule were not anticipated.



MONDAY 3RD FEBRUARY 2020

Black History Month to focus on Education

The Antigua and Barbuda Reparations Support Commission (ABRSC) joins with all others in the recognition of February as Black History month, but with the vision that the history of the African people on the continent and in the Diaspora must inform our present day decision making as we seek to protect our independence.

We re-emphasise that the history of Africa and its peoples did not start with the European invasion and its trade in the captured and enslaved. It's a history of greatness that can inspire our youth; it is a history of knowledge in the sciences – mathematics, astronomy, architecture among others;



Nattecia Bohardsingh

it is a history of creativity in language, in art, in political organization and governance; it is a history that detail the gory details of resistance and sacrifice in the



struggle for the freedoms of human rights.

The history of African people presently engages the twenty-first century conscious efforts of many – in government and its institutions; in the non-governmental organizations, in academia, in business, to intensify the racial bonds across the continent, and across the continent and the Diaspora. The call for reparations from the governments of Europe for the underdevelopment of the continent and the Caribbean has been a catalyst promoting the deepening of kinship and all other relationships.

ABRSC main event for Black History Month is a seminar for history teachers to be staged in the middle of the month.

We have collaborated with the Centre for Reparation Research (CRR)/Jamaica which shares the expertise of

its affiliate Ms Nattecia Bohardsingh, history graduate of the University of the West Indies and attorney-at-law to lead deliberations at the seminar.

She is an advocate for cultural rights and the rights of vulnerable population and is on a journey to promoting the ideals of justice, human rights and dignity. History is an important subject in her mission.

Last year, ABRSC participated in media programmes and in exhibitions at the Villa and Pigott's Primary School. Members also addressed various gatherings of students and community organizations. Our members stand ready to participate in similar programmes. We can also lead to literature and film that may energize student interest in history programmes. We can be reached at abreparations@gmail.com

THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA
CLAIM NO: ANUHC2017/0441

In the Matter of a Mortgage Claim under Section 72
of the Registered Land Act (Cap. 374)

BETWEEN:

RBC ROYAL BANK OF CANADA
Applicant/Claimant

And

LARRY JACKSON
Respondent/1st Defendant

COLEEN JACKSON
Respondent/2nd Defendant

ORDER

BEFORE: THE HONORABLE JUSTICE ROSALYN E. WILKINSON (IN CHAMBERS)

DATED: 15th DAY OF September 2017

ENTERED THE: 20th DAY OF September 2017

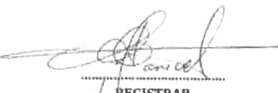
UPON the Application and Affidavit in Support of Gayle Samuel-Browne, filed on the 25th August, 2017;

AND UPON HEARING Counsel for the Applicant/Claimant Ms. Andrea Smithen of Messrs. Marshall & Co;

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. The Applicant/Claimant is granted leave to serve the Respondents/Defendants the Fixed Date Claim Form and Affidavit filed in Support by substituted service via two (2) consecutive publications in a Daily Newspaper in circulation within the State of Antigua and Barbuda.
2. The Applicant/Claimant is granted leave to serve any and/or all further proceedings/pleadings by substituted service via two (2) consecutive publications in a Daily Newspaper in circulation within the State of Antigua and Barbuda.

BY THE COURT


REGISTRAR

MONDAY 3RD FEBRUARY 2020

Heart and Stroke Foundation opens

Antigua welcome a new national Heart and Stroke Foundation, which officially launches today, February 3, under the theme 'mind your heart'.

The facility, located on ..., will also act as a voice and support system for patients and their families, while also looking to raise funds, stage community events and conduct local research into the prevalence of heart disease and stroke.

The Heart and Stroke Foundation brings together a team of consultant cardiologist that include Dr Georgette Meade, GP Dr Rasheda Williams, along with businessman Vijay Tewani, wellness coordinator Sumita Balooja and Valerie Gonsalves-Barreiro.

"Cardiovascular disease is a leading cause of death globally and the same is noted in Antigua and Barbuda," explained Dr Meade.

"It affects both our young and elderly citizens. Some of my youngest patients are in their 30s and 40s – and they are dying at these young ages.

"I am very concerned that most persons are not aware that up to 90 per cent of cardiovascular diseases are preventable."

More than 600 people who entered the Mount



Dr Georgette Meade

St. John's Medical Center (MSJMC) emergency room in 2018 were within the heart attack spectrum, Dr Meade said.

This is credited to poor diet on the larger scale, particularly as it relates to the over consumption of fried food, and it is considered the biggest risk to the heart. Diabetes, smoking, hypertension and obesity are among the other major cases.

The Foundation is expected to act as a springboard to attract more advanced investigations and treatment into Antigua enabling earlier detection of heart complications.

"We need to act urgently to reduce the risk factors and the prevalence of heart disease in Antigua and Barbuda or our economy and hospitals won't be able to cope with the burden in the future," Dr Meade said.

THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA
CLAIM NO: ANUHCv2017/0441

In the Matter of a Mortgage Claim under Section 72
of the Registered Land Act (Cap. 374)

RBC ROYAL BANK OF CANADA

-and-

LARRY JACKSON

COLEEN JACKSON

Claimant

1st Defendant

2nd Defendant

FIXED DATE CLAIM FORM
(RULE 66.2 (1) of the CPR)

The Claimant:
Of: RBC Royal Bank of Canada
Market Street and High Street in the City of Saint John, Antigua

Claims against:

The 1st Defendant:
Of: Larry Jackson
Matthew Road, Gray Hill in the Parish of Saint John, Antigua

And

The 2nd Defendant
Of: Coleen Jackson
Matthew Road, Gray Hill in the Parish of Saint John, Antigua

FOR:-

(a) Delivery of possession of the charged property being that more particularly described in the Land Registry as **Registration Section: Grays Farm: Block #: 68 1691E: Parcel#: 135;** and

(b) The payment of the principal balance of EC\$211,033.63, late charges of EC\$2,600.00 and accrued interest of EC\$106,519.30 as at 25th August, 2017 and interest continuing to accrue at the rate of 7.99% per annum or EC\$46.20 per day from 26th August, 2017;

(c) An Order to sell the charged property;

(d) Costs; and

(e) Such other relief as this Honourable Court deems fit.

CERTIFICATE OF TRUTH

I, GAYLE SAMUEL BROWNE, Senior Accounts Manager at Royal bank of Canada, the Claimant herein, hereby certify that I believe the facts stated in the Fixed Date Claim Form are true to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

GAYLE SAMUEL-BROWNE
RBC Royal Bank of Canada
Claimant

Dated the 25th day of August, 2017

Signed ANDREA L. SMITHEN
MARSHALL & CO.
Attorneys-at-Law for the Claimant

MONDAY 3RD FEBRUARY 2020

New Jamaican airline launched

The paucity of indigenously owned and operated airlines in the country, was among the reasons used to support the launch of Oriole Limited, a Jamaican airline venture that the operators have said will transform and revive the domestic and Caribbean airspace.

The full operation of services to be provided by what the operators say will be a domestic low-cost carrier (LCC) is expected to commence next year utilising a sustainable business model that will be affordable, eco-friendly and a regionally connected aviation powerhouse.

Speaking at a launch event yesterday at the Liguanea Club in New Kingston ahead of its intended 388 days full commercial launch, Aloun Ndombet-Assamba, chairman of Oriole—a Jamaican and European consortium, said that the set up will be an integrated aviation business based on a bold strategic vision.

“I knew from the time when I was minister of tourism that Jamaica has been a graveyard for airlines. We probably remember Trans-Jamaican Airlines, Jamaica Air Shuttle, Air Jamaica Express, Air Jamaica and most recently Fly Jamaica. They have all come and gone. I hope like me you will be persuaded that now is the time for a bold new vision for the aviation sector in Jamaica. We have a rare opportunity to consider our own transformational investment opportunity



Aloun Ndombet-Assamba, chairman Oriole Limited responding to questions at a launch event held at the Liguanea Club for the newest airline company in Jamaica. Looking on from left: Diane Edwards, president of Jampro and Keith Kerr, project director and CEO designate (Photo: Garfield Robinson)

for Jamaica.

She stressed that for this airline there will be clarity of vision, detailing of the plan, robustness of the financial parametric, and excellence of the implementation plan.

Oriole in emphasising its vision has said that the business is one aimed at securing western Caribbean dominance in a bid to project Brand Jamaica on a global stage, allow for regional connectivity, provide locals with high-quality jobs, drive the economy and generate hard currency as well as to allow for business and tourist access to the whole island.

Keith Kerr, project director and chief executive officer designate, a seasoned aviation practitioner having years of acquaintance and experience with the industry [started airlines in Saudi Arabia, Phillipines-Airfill Express and Peach — a Japanese carrier] also added that the business plan was conceptualised out of a need to satisfy and address matters arising from operating aviation businesses with a hope of providing real

change.

“This initiative has been in gestation for a significant amount of time, it’s been researched, stress tested, and always come through in flying colours. I have been researching for some time and had knowledge of this particular market. The Jamaican market is booming and is ripe with the right proposition to have great success. Starting an airline is perceived to be difficult, as starting an airline in this country is started by people who are passionate flyers rather than people who are passionate business people. Jamaica needs infrastructure and there is an opportunity to derive significant profits from that if it’s done properly. The problem with prior operators is that they have always started under capitalised,” he shared.

The aim of the business he reasoned is to match the gauge of the aircraft with the market and its requirements.

“We want to deliver all the elements of an aviation service and we want to put Jamaica back to where it was

— an aviation powerhouse! Our vision is that it is outrageous that a country of 2.9 million people who is dependent on tourism, agriculture, and mining hasn’t got its own strategic airlift,” Kerr continued, while making the point that the current providers could choose to withdraw their services at any time which would be to the detriment of the economy.

With a company largely funded through equity projected along a five-year path, Kerr indicated that the company will be building its way from the bottom up and in the process prove its concept, refine its proposition and ultimately contend with the biggest players in the industry, also making mention of launching an initial public offering (IPO) after the start-up phase.

“We are nearly fully funded, we’re in the 80s [per cent] in terms of funding, but we still need to finalise on the issue of the Jamaican content in ownership. There is still an opportunity for folks here to invest; we will be making an IPO at some stage in the early stages. If we are really going to be a people airline, then they ought to have access. You have to ensure that control rests with the nationals,” he said.

He disclosed that in the first phase of the project which will become fully operational in about March next year using mostly leased aircraft,

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MONDAY 3RD FEBRUARY 2020

Maldives becomes 54th member of Commonwealth

The Commonwealth has welcomed its 54th family member after Maldives' application for re-admission was approved.

The small island nation officially re-joined the Commonwealth on Saturday.

This marks the end of a process that began 13 months ago, in December 2018, when President Ibrahim Mohamed Solih wrote to the Commonwealth Secretary-General expressing the country's interest in re-joining.

After due diligence, which included country assessment and consultations in accordance with the rules and procedures agreed by the Commonwealth Heads of Government in Kampala in 2007, Maldives has been

re-admitted.

Commonwealth Secretary-General Patricia Scotland said: "I warmly congratulate Maldives on its successful application. We are delighted to welcome the country and its people back to the Commonwealth.

"The reform process underway in Maldives aligns with the values and principles of the Commonwealth and we encourage the nation to continue on this path.

"Commonwealth members were pleased to note these developments and are happy once again to count Maldives as a member of the family.

"Together we will support Maldives to realise its ambitions."

Maldives President, Ibra-



him Mohamed Solih, said: "Today is a happy day for Maldivians as we return to the family of Commonwealth nations.

"As a young democracy, the Commonwealth's foundational values of the promotion of democracy, human rights, good governance, multilateralism and world peace remain relevant to us more than ever. We gratefully acknowledge the support and help of the Commonwealth to the Maldivian democratic

movement, and we look forward to the support of fellow member states to ensure the long term entrenchment of these values in our society."

The assessment included two site visits to the country followed by positive feedback given by a Commonwealth Observer Group which was present for the Parliamentary Elections in April 2019.

Members subsequently agreed to invite Maldives to submit a formal application, which it did on December 25th last year. The country presented evidence of functioning democratic processes as well as popular support for re-joining.

The Secretary-General then consulted with all 53 Commonwealth members and received no objections.

The country will now be part of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) in Kigali, Rwanda on June 22-28.

Its Ambassador to the UK now becomes its High Commissioner, signifying Commonwealth membership.

Maldives joined the Commonwealth in 1982, and withdrew its membership in 2016.

cont'd from pg 8

they are expected to undertake flights across Jamaica and the region with hourly shuttle service between Kingston and Montego Bay and other intra-island trips to Negril, Ocho Rios, Port Antonio, and Treasure Beach.

For inter-regional flights the routes and networks will be mapped through countries including Barbados, Curacao, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Panama, and Trinidad and Tobago among others.

Diane Edwards, president of Jamaica promotions corporation (Jampro) in speaking at the launch said that though airline businesses tend to be a challenging feat, her agency is very excited about the initiative.

"We often hear of business people who want to go down to Montego Bay to host some meetings for the day or to come up to Kingston for same, and it's a chore for them to do it on the road. We hear of people who

need to be at a meeting in Port Antonio or need to have another meeting in Negril later that afternoon hence there is real opportunity to build business traffic across the island.

"We know that right now, Jamaica is the place to be, the number of people seen in business hotels alone is growing astronomically.

"With the positive macroeconomic indicators that we are seeing, I really feel that the time is ripe for us to improve our connectivity inter-and intra-island," she stated.

She noted that with more investment interest now coming out of the Caribbean and the wider region, Oriole, when it takes off can make a tremendous difference.

"The aviation industry is ripe for movement, logistics is growing as couriers need to be sent from here to there, more document needs to be transported, cargoes etc, we need options," she said. (Jamaica Observer)

MONDAY 3RD FEBRUARY 2020

Guyana gov't not bringing home students from China

There are presently around 40 Guyanese studying in China and the Guyana Government says it has no plans to bring them home in the wake of the deadly outbreak of the Novel Coronavirus in the Chinese city of Wuhan.

This disclosure was made in a release today from the Department of the Public Service (DPS). It is at odds with a statement that had been made on Friday by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr Karen Cummings who said that the government was working to have Guyanese students in China brought back here.

The statement from DPS said that a team of government officials on Saturday met with parents and other representatives of Guyana-China scholars, at the Training Division of the Department of Public Service, Ministry of the Presidency, Vlissengen Road and D'Urban Street, Lodge.

The team comprised Minister of the Public Service, Tabitha Sarabo-Halley; Permanent Secretary of the Department of Public Service, Soyinka Grogan, Chief Medical Officer Dr. Shamdeo Persaud and Director of International Cooperation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Forbes July.

The release said that in her opening remarks Sarabo-Halley put to rest talk of government bringing the students home.

"Government is not putting plans in place to bring students home. After listening and hearing what's happening in China and examining our own situation in Guyana we decided it's best for them to remain there because the more movement the more the possibility of exposure to the virus.

"Staying put in the hostel significantly reduces the likelihood of con-

tracting the virus", the statement quoted her as saying.

Sarabo-Halley further said that the decision made to let the students remain in China was not made unilaterally but came after a meeting on Thursday among the Ministers of Public Health, State, Foreign Affairs, Citizenship and Department of Public Service along with senior technical officers from the respective ministries and the head of PAHO here. The decision also took into consideration advice received from the Chinese Ambassador to Guyana, local and regional medical practitioners.

The Minister said all things considered it was concluded that it was best for the students to remain in China at this time.

"They have everything; they know what to do if the virus is contracted and so that is the best place for them at the current stage because once they start moving we don't know what will happen", she said.

Sarabo-Halley also said there will be difficulties should attempts be made to bring the students home whether by government or their relatives since they will have to be quarantined at various transit points.

"For them to move from one province to the other to get out is a 14-day wait. Fourteen-day quarantine period and that could happen for a while before they actually get out. So, it's not that the government doesn't care about the students. We have taken that into consideration", the release quoted her as saying.

The release said that among the several concerns raised by parents and other representatives of the students were the lack of adequate supplies for



Tabitha Sarabo-Halley

the students who are currently restricted to their place of residence and the paucity of information.

To these concerns, Sarabo-Halley committed that she and other members of the government team will endeavour to collect and disseminate accurate information on the situation as it pertains to each student currently in China on Government of Guyana/ Government of China scholarships.

Chief Medical Officer, Dr Persaud told the meeting that surveillance systems have been established at the various ports of entry locally and suspected victims will be quarantined in line with the internationally recognized standards.

"What we have at the two airports, Moleson Creek and the various ports is if we identify someone that is coughing we put a mask on that person to prevent them from dropping the droplets around the environment.

"(Then) we get the person into isolation. So far we have two sites that

Cont'd on pg 11

MONDAY 3RD FEBRUARY 2020

Jamaica imposes ban on 19 Chinese visitors

Nineteen Chinese nationals who landed in Jamaica Friday night were denied entry, quarantined and put back on an airplane on Saturday morning as the country enforced its travel ban in the wake of the coronavirus outbreak.

Health and Wellness Minister Dr Christopher Tufton spoke of the action as he confirmed that a Jamaican woman in her mid-20s, who had arrived back home last week from China, is now under quarantine at Annotto Bay Hospital after she turned up with a high fever.

“We have no confirmation yet of coronavirus, but she is being held out of an abundance of caution,” Dr Tufton said, adding that the patient is to be transferred to St Ann’s Bay Hospital.

Late Friday evening the health and wellness ministry issued a release, saying that the patient, who presented at the Annotto Bay Hospital with complaints of a headache, anorexia, chills, dryness to the throat and generalised weakness, “does not, at this time, meet the case definition for novel coronavirus”.



“The patient – who landed in Jamaica on January 30 – reported no history of cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, vomiting, muscle pain or diarrhoea. Further, the patient’s vitals, including blood pressure, pulse rate, blood oxygen, and temperature all registered normal.

“The patient does not, therefore, meet the case definition for novel coronavirus,” added.

“However, as a precaution, the patient has been put in isolation and will remain in isolation until the symptoms abate,” the ministry said.

In relation to the 19 Chinese, Dr Tufton said they arrived on vacation but were held at the Norman Manley International Airport, then transferred to a holding area

in Kingston after which they were sent back on a flight early Saturday morning.

On Friday, Jamaica imposed a ban on travel to and from China, a day after the World Health Organization (WHO) declared an international emergency over the outbreak of the deadly novel coronavirus. Under the ban, all individuals entering the island from China will be subject to immediate quarantine for a minimum of 14 days.

“Quarantine facilities for these persons will be provided by the Government of Jamaica and persons will be required to adhere to all restrictions, in line with provisions under the Quarantine Act,” Tufton said at a news conference held in St Ann where the Cabinet was on retreat.

“Individuals returning from China who have been granted landing privileges and who show any symptom of the novel coronavirus will be put in immediate isolation. Isolation facilities are operational at all public hospitals, with a specialist facility available at the National Chest Hospital,” he added.

Saturday, wire service reports stated that China faced deepening isolation over the coronavirus epidemic as the death toll soared to 259, with the United States and Australia leading a growing list of nations to impose extraordinary Chinese travel bans.

With Britain, Russia and Sweden among the countries confirming their first infections, the virus has now spread to more than two dozen nations, sending governments scurrying to limit their exposure.

China toughened its own quarantine measures at the centre of the outbreak in Hubei province, a day after the United States temporarily barred entry to foreigners who had been in China within the past two weeks.

Cont’d from pg 10

we have developed one at Georgetown Hospital and we have a small area at Diamond. Last night we were also told both Ogle and Timehri will have a sep-

arate room ... to conduct our examinations.”

Fariz Khan, an obstetrician who has been working in the local health sector for the last decade told the meet-

ing that his sister is currently pursuing her Master’s in China. He encouraged those present to recognise the advice being given as the best in the current circumstances.

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PROMOTION RUNS FROM FEB 03-21, 2020

MONDAY 3RD FEBRUARY 2020

Jamaicans top Caribbean nationals in Canadian prisons

Jamaicans occupy more places in Canadian prisons than any other nationals from the English-speaking Caribbean.

According to Correctional Service Canada (CCA), there are currently 58 Jamaicans serving sentences for various crimes in Canada, a number which far outstrips the 18 prisoners who hail from Trinidad and Tobago, Barbados and Antigua combined.

No other English-speaking Caribbean country has a national incarcerated in Canada.

Of the 58 Jamaicans, only one is female. That woman is serving a sentence for murder two.

Some 21 males are in prison in the North American country for murder one, 14 for murder two, while 21 Jamaican males are in prison for what is classified as Schedule 1 and Schedule 11 crimes.

One man is now serving a sentence for what is classified as a non-schedule crime.

Schedule 1 crimes include sexual offences and other violent crimes, excluding first- and second-degree murder, while Schedule II includes serious drug offences or conspiracy to commit serious drug offences.

Non-schedule includes offences that are not murder or that are not included in Schedule I and Schedule II, the CCA said.

According to a Canada National Household Survey, the largest group of Canadians of Caribbean origin are Jamaica-born or of Jamaican descent.

The survey revealed that of all those who reported they had Caribbean origins, 42 per cent said they were Jamaican, while 16 per cent were Haitian, 12 per cent identified as West Indian, 10 per cent were from Trinidad and



Craig Wellington

Tobago, respectively, while five per cent were from Barbados.

Barbadian Canadians have the highest median income and the lowest incidence of poverty among black Canadians.

This disparity in numbers, according to Jamaica-born marketing consultant Craig Wellington, accounts for the relatively high number of Jamaicans being incarcerated in the North American country in which he resides.

Wellington said this is only one side of the coin as Jamaicans have also outperformed their Caribbean neighbours in positive contributions to Canadian society.

“Three of Canada’s municipal police forces have chiefs or deputy chiefs with Jamaican backgrounds. The chief of Ottawa, Peter Sloly, was born in Jamaica.

“Mark Saunders, Toronto’s chief of police, has Jamaican parents, and Peel Region’s deputy chief of police, Marc Andrews, was born in Jamaica.

“There are only four black chiefs

or deputy chiefs in Canada and three were born in Jamaica or have Jamaican parents,” Wellington told The Sunday Gleaner.

Wellington, who has for many years championed social-justice issues and has advocated against the inequities in the Canadian justice system which affect racialised communities, is a former member of the Toronto Chief of Police Black Community Consultative.

“The numbers are going to reflect that more Jamaicans are in prison here, but it does not paint the complete picture. We have the most doctors, attorneys and persons in many other fields than any other English-speaking Caribbean country too,” he said.

He pointed to the case of Devon Clunis, who was chief of the Winnipeg Police Service from 2012 until his retirement in 2016.

Clunis was the first black Canadian ever appointed as a police chief in Canada. He was born in Jamaica and moved to Winnipeg with his family when he was 11.

“We outnumber them in every sphere of life because there are more of us here,” he said.

In the 2011 Canadian census, 256,915 Jamaican Canadians were counted, comprising an 11.2 per cent increase since the previous census done half a decade earlier. A total population of 309,485 were tallied in a 2016 census, signalling an increase of 20.5 per cent.

By comparison, the 2016 census showed only a five per cent increase in Canada’s total population size over the same period.

“Jamaican Canadians are 30 per cent of Canada’s total black population,” Wellington said. (Jamaica Gleaner)

MONDAY 3RD FEBRUARY 2020

Terror attack in London

Assailant was recently released from jail

Streatham, LONDON – A man shot dead by police after he attacked people in south London had been recently released from prison after serving time for terror offences.

He was under active police surveillance at the time of the attack, which police believe to be an Islamist-related terrorist incident.

He had a hoax device strapped to his body, police said.

Three people were injured, with one person in a life-threatening condition.

Prime Minister Boris Johnson said the government would announce further plans for “fundamental changes to the system for dealing with those convicted of terrorism offences” on Monday.

Gunshots were heard on Streatham High Road just after 14:00 GMT on Sunday.

Reports suggest a man entered a shop and started stabbing people. It appears he then left the shop and stabbed a woman.

Witnesses reported hearing three gun-shots and seeing a man lying on the ground outside a Boots pharmacy, as armed police approached and shouted at those nearby to move back.

The attacker had been released from prison at the end of January, after serv-



ing half of his three year sentence.

The BBC’s Daniel Sandford said the events appeared to unfold after witnesses saw an unmarked police car pull in front of another car near Streatham Common, forcing it to stop.

He said this could be linked to the subsequent stabbings and police shooting and it was possible somebody was stopped, before being followed by undercover officers.

London Ambulance Service said it treated the three people for injuries at the scene and all were taken to hospital.

Of the other two, one had minor injuries, believed to have been caused by glass following shots from the police firearm, and the third person’s condition was not life-threatening.

In a statement, Deputy Assistant Commissioner Lucy D’Orsi said armed

officers were in “immediate attendance” and shot a male suspect, as part of a “proactive Counter Terrorism operation”.

The situation has been contained and officers from the Met’s Counter Terrorism Command are now leading an investigation into the incident, she said.

Streatham High Road remained closed with a cordon in place, and enhanced police patrols in the area.

Eyewitness Gjon Kathegjolli said he was in a barber shop when he heard a woman, who was with a baby in a push chair and two young boys, scream and saw her being stabbed.

A man then walked past carrying a knife the size of his forearm, he said.

Another eyewitness told the PA news agency: “I was crossing the road when I saw a man with a machete and silver canisters on his chest being chased by what

I assume was an undercover police officer.”

Daniel Gough said he was out for a run when he heard shots and everyone ran.

“There was panic, people were yelling,” he said.

“A young girl running alongside me kept asking ‘Is this what I’m meant to do?’ - she was very distressed.

“I saw a policeman and he yelled, telling everyone to get back. His gun was pointing in the direction of a man on the floor.

“Suddenly, more police appeared. There were [officers] everywhere”

Adam Blake, who was walking along Streatham Common, described how he saw two or three cars crash into each other, including an unmarked police car, as the incident unfolded.

“Another police car carried on towards the hill pursuing someone,” he told the BBC.

MONDAY 3RD FEBRUARY 2020

US 'shuts down' coronavirus threat; China shuns US help

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - The United States has taken decisive action to protect Americans from the threat of a fast-moving coronavirus while offering help to China, President Donald Trump said on Sunday, but a key adviser said Beijing had not accepted the offers of assistance.

Trump appeared to downplay concerns about the flu-like virus that has killed more than 300 people in China and spread to more than two dozen countries, telling Fox television in an interview, "We're gonna see what happens, but we did shut it down, yes."

Concerns about the virus spurred the United States to declare a public health emergency and bar entry to foreign nationals who have recently visited China.

Under new restrictions that go into effect at 5 p.m. ET (2200 GMT) Sunday, U.S. citizens who have traveled in China within 14 days will be directed to one of seven airports designated for screening.

"We can't have thousands of people coming in who may have this problem - the coronavirus," Trump told Fox during a short interview broadcast on Sunday. He said U.S. officials had offered China "tremendous help" in dealing with the epidemic.

Trump's national security adviser, Robert O'Brien, in a separate interview, said China has been more open about the coronavirus than it has been in previous crises but had not yet accepted U.S. offers of assistance.

"So far the Chinese have been more transparent certainly than in past crises and we appreciate that," O'Brien said in an interview with CBS's "Face the Nation."

He said Beijing has still not responded to U.S. offers of help from the Centers for Disease Control and Preven-



People wear protective masks in an old neighbourhood of Jiujiang, Jiangxi province, China, as the country is hit by an outbreak of novel coronavirus, February 2, 2020. REUTERS/Thomas Peter

tion and other health professionals.

"We've got tremendous expertise," O'Brien said. "This is a worldwide concern. We want to help our Chinese colleagues if we can and we've made the offer and we'll see if they accept the offer."

CDC officials have not been invited into China, but are in neighboring Kazakhstan to help guard against the spread of the virus, U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said on Sunday during a visit there.

"You've got a long border with China which is where this disease has emanated from," Pompeo said in an interview with a Kazakh journalist. "And we've got our people from the Center for Disease Control right here on the ground, helping Kazakhstan deal with this so that you don't have an enormous outbreak."

China's National Health Commission said on Sunday the coronavirus has killed 304 people in China, and infections jumped to 14,380 as of Saturday.

At least 171 cases have been reported in more than two dozen other countries and regions, including the United

States, Japan, Thailand, Hong Kong and Britain.

So far, eight cases of the fast-spreading virus have been confirmed in the United States, health officials said. The Pentagon is providing housing for people arriving from overseas who might need to be quarantined.

Americans who visited China's Hubei Province, epicenter of the coronavirus epidemic, will be subject to a mandatory quarantine of 14 days - the incubation period of the virus - upon entering the United States. Americans who traveled to other parts of mainland China will undergo health screening and be asked to self-quarantine for up to 14 days.

Foreigners who have traveled in China within 14 days of their arrival will be denied entry.

Chad Wolf, U.S. Homeland Security acting secretary, said the overall risk to the American public remains low.

The latest U.S. patient, in Massachusetts, recently returned from Hubei, the CDC said. The coronavirus is believed to have originated in a market that traded illegally in wildlife in Hubei's provincial capital, Wuhan.

MONDAY 3RD FEBRUARY 2020

Al-Qaida in Yemen claims deadly Florida naval base shooting

CAIRO (AP) — Al-Qaida's branch in Yemen claimed responsibility Sunday for last year's deadly shooting at the Naval Air Station Pensacola by an aviation student from Saudi Arabia.

The shooter, 2nd Lt. Mohammed Saeed Alshamrani, was a member of the Saudi Air Force in training at the base.

He opened fire inside a classroom at the base on Dec. 6, killing three people and wounding two sheriff's

deputies before one of the deputies killed him. Eight others were also hurt.

Al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula, or AQAP, released a video claiming the attack. SITE Intelligence Group, which tracks messaging by militant groups, reported the claim.

AQAP has long been considered the global network's most dangerous branch and has attempted to carry out attacks on the U.S. mainland.

The 18-minute video did

not provide evidence of training the shooter, but did indicate that Alshamrani and AQAP were in communication, said Rita Katz, director of SITE. It was not clear when the video was recorded.

The video claimed that Alshamrani had been planning for years to attack a U.S. base, and had been training and "selecting" targets.

The video, which was viewed by The Associated Press, provided a will writ-

ten by Alshamrani to his family in September 2019, three months prior to attack. He said he wanted to attack the U.S., citing religious reasons. However, he made no mention of al-Qaida.

Foreign nationals participating in U.S. training go through a vetting process. The Pentagon says it includes screening for any illicit drug activities, support for terrorist organizations, corruption and criminal conduct.

The video included audio from top AQAP leader Qassim al-Rimi claiming "full responsibility" for the attack by Alshamrani, calling him "the hero, the courageous knight."

A suspected U.S. drone strike destroyed a building housing al-Qaida militant last week in eastern Yemen. President Donald Trump retweeted several tweets and media reports that seemed to offer confirmation the strike killed al-Rimi.

Katz also said that AQAP did not state "May Allah Protect Him" in regard to al-Rimi, as its releases usually do.

"(This) adds yet more suggestion to him indeed being killed," she tweeted.

Al-Rimi was one of AQAP's founders and became the group's leader after Nasser al-Wahishi was killed in a U.S. drone strike in 2015.



An Air Force carry team moves a transfer case containing the remains of Navy Ensign Joshua Watson, at Dover Air Force Base, Del. Al-Qaida's branch in Yemen claimed responsibility Sunday, Feb. 2, 2020 for last year's deadly shooting at the Naval Air Station Pensacola by an aviation student from Saudi Arabia. The shooter, 2nd Lt. Mohammed Saeed Alshamrani, was a member of the Saudi Air Force in training at the base. (AP Photo/Cliff Owen, File)

MONDAY 3RD FEBRUARY 2020

Trump impeachment: Senate rejects witnesses in trial

By: Susan Cornwell

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - The U.S. Senate voted on Friday against calling witnesses and collecting new evidence in President Donald Trump's impeachment trial, clearing the way for Trump's almost certain acquittal next week.

By a vote of 51-49, the Republican-controlled Senate stopped Democrats' drive to hear testimony from witnesses like former national security adviser John Bolton, who is thought to have first-hand knowledge of Trump's efforts to pressure Ukraine to investigate a political rival, former Vice President Joe Biden.

Those actions prompted the Democratic-controlled House of Representatives to formally charge Trump with abuse of power and obstruction of Congress in December, making Trump only the third president in U.S. history to be impeached.

He denies wrongdoing and has accused Democrats of an "attempted coup."

The Senate approved on a party-line vote a timeline for the rest of the trial that calls for a final vote on the impeachment charges at 4 p.m. EST (2100 GMT) on Wednesday.

Closing arguments will begin at 11 a.m. EST (1600 GMT) on Monday, with four hours split between the prosecution and defense. That will give the four Democratic senators who are running to be their party's presidential nominee time to get to Iowa for that night's first nominating contest.

In between the closing arguments and final vote, senators will have an opportunity to give speeches on the Senate floor, but the trial will not for-



U.S. President Donald Trump departs for travel to Florida from the South Lawn of the White House in Washington, U.S. January 31, 2020. REUTERS/Leah Millis

mally be in session. Trump will deliver his State of the Union speech to a joint session of Congress on Tuesday night.

The Senate is almost certain to acquit Trump of the charges, as a two-thirds Senate majority is required to remove Trump and none of the chamber's 53 Republicans have indicated they will vote to convict.

Trump is seeking re-election in the Nov. 3 vote. Biden is a leading contender for the Democratic nomination to face him.

In Friday's vote on witnesses, only two Republicans - Mitt Romney, the 2012 Republican presidential nominee, and Susan Collins, who faces a tough re-election in November in her home state of Maine - broke with their party and voted with Democrats.

U.S. President Donald Trump departs for travel to Florida from the

South Lawn of the White House in Washington, U.S. January 31, 2020. REUTERS/Leah Millis

"America will remember this day, unfortunately, where the Senate did not live up to its responsibilities, where the Senate turned away from truth and went along with a sham trial," Senate Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer told reporters.

After the first vote on calling witnesses, Schumer offered more amendments seeking to call witnesses and obtain more evidence, but the Senate rejected them all. Romney and Collins were again the only Republicans to support calling Bolton as a witness.

Republican Senator Lindsey Graham said the trial should end as soon as possible. "The cake is baked and we just need to move as soon as we can to get it behind us," he told reporters.

MONDAY 3RD FEBRUARY 2020

Your Stars Foretold



Aries

Aries (Mar 21 – Apr 19)

Your imagination and creativity require maintenance, and today you'll have the time you need to do it. If you're in a relationship, think about where you want to go next. The future for you two will be greatly influenced by what you want it to be, so start imagining things in as much detail as possible.



Libra

Libra (Sep 23 – Oct 22)

The barriers between you and other people are falling away, and suddenly you're in intimate quarters with a powerful person. People will want to be as close to you as you let them, so try to take advantage of it. Don't make any promises you don't intend to keep.



Taurus

Taurus (Apr 20 – May 20)

There is no reason to worry about where you stand in your social circle, especially right now when your insight and ideas are what everyone is craving most. You need to have a little bit more faith that you are still loved by your friends!



Scorpio

Scorpio (Oct 23 – Nov 21)

Your ideas are definitely the best ones being offered up today, so how come no one is listening to you? This is no time to throw a hissy fit out of frustration, because that will do little to help people take you seriously.



Gemini

Gemini (May 21 – Jun 20)

Just because the advice that your friends and family gave you wasn't what you were hoping to hear doesn't mean that you shouldn't still follow it. In fact, it means you should follow it all the more! These people know you and love you.



Sagittarius

Sagittarius (Nov 22 – Dec 21)

A friend is trying to take their relationship with you to a deeper level, and you should take them seriously. Don't just go along with their plans unless you also want them to be a bigger part of your life.



Cancer

Cancer (Jun 21 – Jul 22)

You're a very generous person, to a fault, sometimes. There are some new people in your life right now who could be angling to take advantage of the fact that you tend to think of the needs of others before you consider your own needs. Today, you should protect yourself.



Capricorn

Capricorn (Dec 22 – Jan 19)

These are two very different things. People assess things based on their own prejudices and preconceptions, so if they don't respond to your presentation or speech the way you'd hoped, you can't take it personally! You did your best. You gave them the message and they misinterpreted it.



Leo

Leo (Jul 23 – Aug 22)

There could be a fun little drama popping into your life today, and it could toss a monkey wrench into your carefully made plans. But so what? Plans are made to be rearranged sometimes. And you could use a little lesson in flexibility.



Aquarius

Aquarius (Jan 20 – Feb 18)

When making choices about your social life, you shouldn't be factoring in your boss or co-workers, at least not right now. Keep the line between your private life and your professional life boldly drawn. Crossing over right now would be very unwise.



Virgo

Virgo (Aug 23 – Sept 22)

You may not find all the answers you're looking for today, but you'll definitely learn something new if you keep your mind open. If someone says something that makes you want to gasp, hold back your indignation.



Pisces

Pisces (Feb 19 – Mar 20)

Do you feel like no one is leveling with you right now? Turn to your closest friends for all the reality checks you need. They can always be counted on to tell you the truth and help you get rid of unrealistic fantasies.

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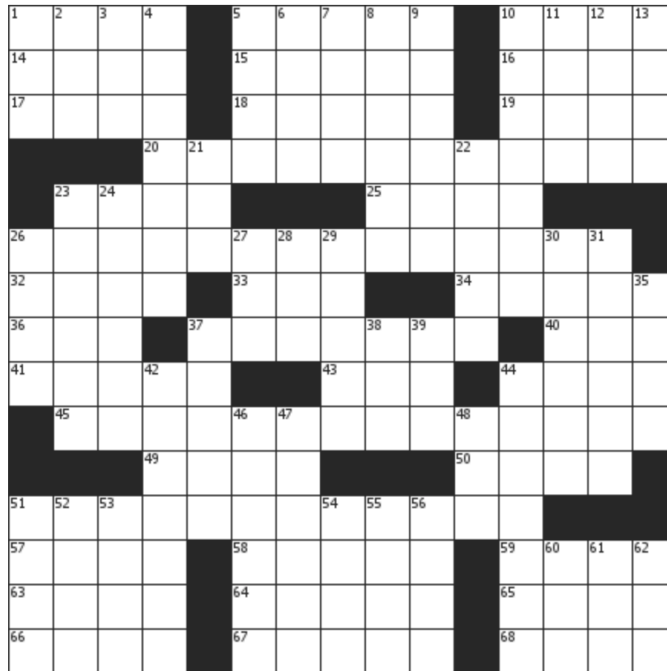


MONDAY 3RD FEBRUARY 2020

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Across

1. Resign
5. Abbr. on a business sign
10. Crooner Perry
14. Individually
15. SeaWorld attraction
16. Work out the wrinkles?
17. Eins und zwei
18. Video display dot
19. It's 1 on the Mohs scale
20. Witty poet Oscar in a race?
23. The bottom line, to a consumer
25. Pablo ____ y Picasso
26. Satiric poet Andrew in the army?
32. City rds.
33. TV's Arthur
34. Granddaddy of all modern computers
36. Cartoon canine
37. Comes forward
40. Anka's "____ Beso (That Kiss!)"
41. Inanely silly
43. Disney frame
44. Pt. of NCAA
45. Traditional poet Alfred's urban problem?
49. "____ chance!"
50. Okla. neighbor
51. Mordant Roman poet's trial venue?
57. Phone abbr.
58. Healing ointments
59. E pluribus ____
63. Men-only
64. Make up (for)
65. Widespread
66. Worthy of worship
67. Lukewarm
68. Perceive as fact



Down

1. "Proved!" letters
2. Syr. and Eg., once
3. Diamonds, slangily
4. Has a strong desire
5. Armchair quarterback's TV channel
6. Leg part
7. Sitcom with "Reverend Jim" and Latka
8. Supreme Theban deity
9. Cracked wheat
10. One who enjoys civil liberties
11. Dental exam
12. Fungus growth
13. Uniquely
21. Stage actress Hagen
22. "First ____ Club"
23. Spelunker's concern
24. ____ suggestion (receptive)
26. Joker
27. Aptiva maker
28. Born, in Bordeaux
29. Polo who spent time in China
30. ____ wait (prepares to ambush)
31. Dogie snappers
35. N. Eng. state
37. "I've got my ____ you!"
38. Hairstyling goo
39. Alcove's cousin
42. Cooperative action
44. 1920s Turkey leader Kemal ____
46. Take a ____ (try)
47. Roof of the mouth
48. Former USSR constituent
51. Engage in some banter
52. Capable of performing
53. Calf meat
54. Hoof's sound
55. Former science magazine
56. Secondhand
60. "Delta of Venus" author
61. ET craft
62. Kitten's cry

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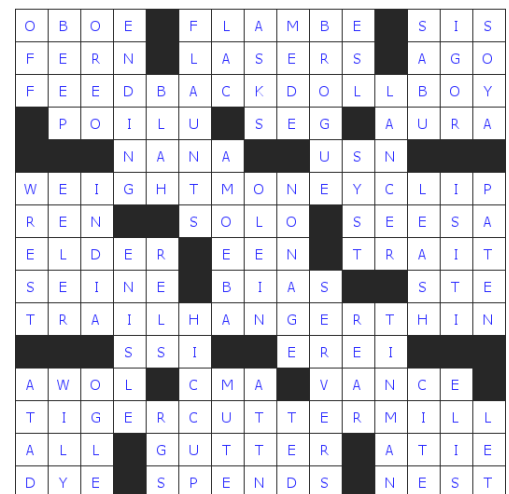
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Answer to last puzzle



Garfield



Luann

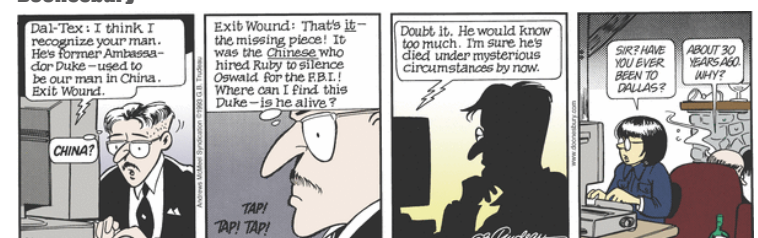


Daily Comics presented by azcentral.

Dilbert



Doonesbury



MONDAY 3RD FEBRUARY 2020

Sudoku

9	4	5	2		6	3		
							6	2
			3	7		9		4
3	2		6			1		
6				3				9
		9			7		2	3
7		4		1	3			
5	9							
		2	7		9	4	5	8

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Answer to last Sudoku

8	3	2	1	4	5	9	6	7
7	1	9	6	2	8	3	4	5
5	6	4	9	7	3	8	2	1
2	4	1	8	5	6	7	9	3
6	8	3	7	9	4	5	1	2
9	5	7	2	3	1	6	8	4
3	7	6	4	1	9	2	5	8
4	9	5	3	8	2	1	7	6
1	2	8	5	6	7	4	3	9

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MONDAY 3RD FEBRUARY 2020

LeBron leads Lakers to victory, Irving sprains knee in Nets loss

LeBron James registered a triple-double to earn the Los Angeles Lakers an uplifting win on Saturday, while Kyrie Irving suffered an injury scare.

The Lakers needed a boost against the Sacramento Kings after paying emotional tributes to Kobe Bryant and subsequently losing to the Portland Trail Blazers less than 24 hours earlier.

Their star man delivered at Golden 1 Center, James posting 15 points, 10 rebounds and 11 assists in a 129-113 victory that snapped a three-game slump.

Irving sent a shock through the Brooklyn Nets when his right knee bent awkwardly under Bradley Beal (34 points) in the fourth quarter of a 113-107 road loss to the Washington Wizards.

The Nets described the injury as a knee sprain and Irving, who received treatment on the floor, said he needed further assessment.

"Just got to get an MRI. X-rays were negative. Just go home and see what's going on," the Brooklyn guard told reporters.

"I've done some pretty decent things to my knees



LeBron James

in the past. The most important thing was my ACL, just making sure it was fine. It was just a weird, weird, weird, weird fall. I just felt a lot stretching and tension afterwards. Just a bad fall."

Lillard extends incredible scoring streak

After blitzing the Lakers at Staples Center on Friday, the red-hot Damian Lillard continued his brilliant form to help the Trail Blazers top the Utah Jazz 124-107.

Lillard dropped 51 points on 17-of-29 shooting as he became the first player in NBA history to average 45 points and 10 assists across a six-game span.

Kawhi Leonard and Paul

George combined for 52 points as they shared the floor for the first time since January 2 in the Los Angeles Clippers' 118-106 win over the Minnesota Timberwolves.

Jaylen Brown put up 32 points and Jayson Tatum added 25 to inspire the Boston Celtics to a comfortable 116-95 victory against the Philadelphia 76ers.

The Dallas Mavericks overcame a two-game hiccup thanks in part to Jalen Brunson, who scored a season-high 27 points to sink the Atlanta Hawks 123-100.

Meanwhile, the Indiana Pacers lost forward T.J. Warren to a third-quarter

head injury en route to a 92-85 defeat at the hands of the New York Knicks.

Gobert wilts against Whiteside

Named an All-Star for the first time this week, Rudy Gobert was given a dose of reality in the Jazz's lackluster loss to the Trail Blazers.

Hassan Whiteside, the Frenchman's direct opponent, pulled down 10 more rebounds and tallied 11 extra points at Moda Center.

Pelicans at Rockets

Zion Williamson and the improving New Orleans Pelicans (20-29) take on James Harden's Houston Rockets (30-18) in one of Sunday's four games.



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St. Kitts thrashed 6-0 by Mexico

Mexico drubbed St. Kitts and Nevis 6-0 in Group B of the 2020 Concacaf Women's Olympic Qualifying Championship on Saturday at HEB Park in Edinburg, Texas on Saturday.

Mexico scored three goals inside the first 10 minutes of the match, setting the stage for the rout.

Kiana Palacios scored in just the second minute after a flicked-on header at the near post spun perfectly for Palacios to head in for a 1-0 lead.

Two minutes later, Jimena Lopez pounced on a loose



ball in the area and scored to double Mexico's lead.

The early explosion of goals culminated with

Stephany Mayor's penalty conversion in minute nine.

Renae Cuellar scored the first of her two goals in the

22nd minute with a strong right-footed finish off a cross to extend the lead to 4-0.

Julien Alfred wins 60m, sets national 200m record

St Lucia's Julien Alfred said she wanted to go faster but was generally pleased with her performances at the Razorback Invitational at the Randall Tyson Track Centre at Fayetteville, Arkansas on the weekend.

The University of Texas sophomore set a Caribbean U20 record in the 200m and ran another fast time in winning the 60m dash in yet another outstanding outing this indoor season.

The 18-year-old St. Lucian sprint queen clocked 23.08s over 200m on Friday night that was good enough for second behind Thelma Davis of Louisiana State University who clocked a world-leading 22.96s for the win.

The St Lucian's time broke her own national record of 23.50 set in January.

Alfred's teammate at the University of Texas Simon Kennedy ran 23.44 for third.

On Saturday, Alfred went one better in the 60m dash, winning in 7.15s.

Briana Duncan of Oregon was second in 7.21 while Semira Killebrew of Florida was third in 7.29s.



Julien Alfred

"I'm pleased with my performance on the weekend," she told Sportsmax.TV on Sunday.

"I wanted to go faster in both events but I'm satisfied nevertheless. What matters most right now is that I'm healthy."

The young St. Lucian has also been experiencing a healthy boost in confidence.

"Setting records has definitely boosted my confidence," she said. "I'm stronger than I was last season. Last year I started school in January and missed out on fall training, so I wasn't as strong as I am now."

Saint Kitts and Nevis hung tough though and some fancy footwork from Brittney Lawrence, plus some spirited play from 14-year-old Kayla Uddenberg, highlighted the play of the islanders.

Cuellar was back at it in the 51' when she polished off a counterattack, handing El Tricolor a 5-0 advantage.

Liliana Mercado then completed the final scoreline with a powerful header off a cross to help nail down the three points.

The result means Canada is at the top of the group with six points after their 9-0 drubbing of Jamaica. Mexico, who defeated Jamaica 1-0, trail on goal difference.

Jamaica are third having lost both their matches while St. Kitts are at the bottom of the group having conceded 17 goals in their two matches to date.

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Parliamentary Representative salutes “Champs”

Members of the champion football team – the Liberta Blackhawks – were treated to special evening of camaraderie and celebration by the area’s parliamentary representative, Hon. E.P Chet Greene.

The event took place at Anna’s restaurant at Dickenson Bay and it was hosted by Greene in appreciation for the successes of the team during the last season where they emerged the champion football team in the Antigua Football Association Premier League.

Greene said the social was also to serve as encouragement for the team which started the current season in poor form by losing several of it’s first matches. However, Greene noted that there’s been a remarkable turnaround in the team’s fortunes as it has won its

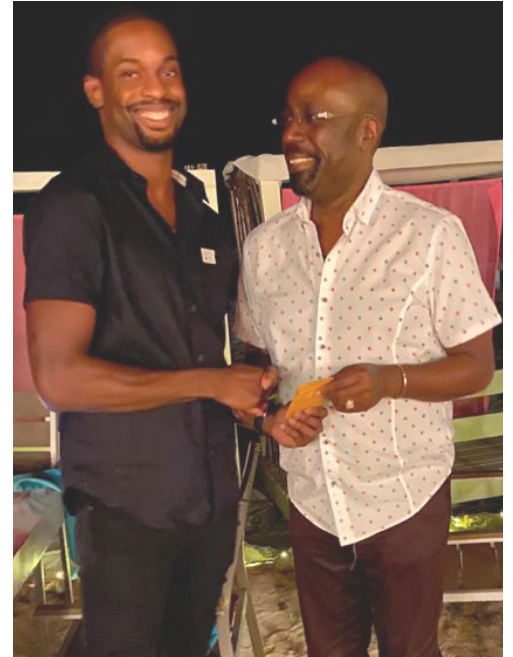
last four matches.

“The team was at the bottom of the table at the halfway mark for the season, but with four consecutive wins they are sitting in third place,” a proud representative declared.

He said the social was to recognize the players for their improved play as well as to serve as a congratulatory event for the winning of the championship last season.

Coach, Rohan ‘Porridge’ Benjamin thanked Greene for hosting the event noting that it served as ‘refresher’ for the players with their sights on the upcoming series of matches which could determine overall champions.

Player of the 2018-19 Season, Jovon Stevens, was singled out by Greene for special congratulatory remarks as



the parliamentary representative urged the player not to settle on his current achievements but instead he should endeavour to be the best player that he can be; for himself and for his team.

Windies U-19s beat South Africa in World Cup fifth place playoff

West Indies Under-19 all-rounder Matthew Patrick had a telling performance with the bat and ball as the regional team secured a 4 wickets win over South Africa, in the 5th Place Playoff of the ICC Under-19 World Cup at Potchefstroom.

The South Africans, who won the toss and choose to bat, seemed well on their way to a decent total after posting 120 for 4 in the 29th over.

Patrick and left-arm spinner Ashmead Nedd, however, then ripped through the middle order prompting a South Africa collapse that



saw the team lose its remaining six wickets for 23 runs and post 143.

In pursuit of what seemed a gettable target, the Windies found themselves in early trouble after losing two

wickets with only 11 runs on the board.

Patrick, who came in as the no 6. batsman, steadied the ship with a crucial 25 runs off 61 balls and ensured the team got to the target.

Bryce Parsons and Merrick Brett were the pick of the bowlers for South Africa after turning five of their 19 overs into maidens and picking up four wickets between them.

Chiefs are 2020 Super Bowl champions



MIAMI GARDENS, Fla. — After a 50-year wait, the Kansas City Chiefs are Super Bowl champions once again, with Patrick Mahomes engineering a fourth-quarter comeback to beat the San Francisco 49ers, 31-20, at a raucous Hard Rock Stadium.

It was a game of momentum swings, but the last one went to the Chiefs, who entered the fourth quarter trailing by 10 points but proceeded to score three touchdowns over the course of just 5

minutes 1 second of game clock, overwhelming a San Francisco defense that had simply been hoping to hold on to a lead.

Mahomes had looked shaky for much of the game, throwing two second-half interceptions, but he was picked up by his defense in the fourth quarter as they harassed San Francisco quarterback Jimmy Garoppolo into a series of bad throws and ineffective drives, allowing Kansas City to find its rhythm.

Mahomes finished the game having completed 26 of 41 passes for 286 yards, with two touchdowns and two interceptions, getting huge contributions from running back Damien Williams (133 yards from scrimmage and two touchdowns), Tyreek Hill (105 receiving yards) and Sammy Watkins (98 receiving yards). Travis Kelce, the team's All-Pro tight end, also contributed with the touchdown that started the comeback.