



ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

POINTEXPRESS

TRUSTED NEWS AND RESPECTED VIEWS

FRIDAY 7TH FEBRUARY 2020 | ISSUE 37

PRICE **\$3**

A&B PASSPORTS SECURE

Story on Page 3



National Parks praised for yachting boost

Tourism Minister Charles "Max" Fernandez has praised the National Parks Authority (NPA) for making the yachting experience in Antigua and Barbuda, as he put it, "second to none". **Story on Page 2**

National Parks praised for yachting boost

Tourism Minister Charles “Max” Fernandez has praised the National Parks Authority (NPA) for making the yachting experience in Antigua and Barbuda, as he put it, “second to none”.

The Minister was at the time making his contribution to the 2020 Budget Debate in the House of Representatives.

He said the NPA had added and upgraded numerous services and facilities to ensure that yachts people visiting the country would be enjoy modern conveniences which they expected.

“They installed fiber optic internet services in the park. They built a new container park, aimed directly at the high performance racing yachts, to provide storage for the mega yachts.

The constructed a new service road, connecting the super dock in Nelson’s Dockyard to the new container park. They installed a new security system, a key to maintaining Antigua as a safe and welcoming landing place for sailors and cruise ship tenders alike,” Minister Fernandez stated.

He said since its inscription in 2016 as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, Nelson’s Dockyard has been catapulted onto the international stage as never before.

“I am proud to report that the dockyard is on the forefront of climate change research for heritage resilience in the Caribbean. The Board is currently working with UWI Cave Hill Center for Resource Management and Environmental Studies to refine our approach to the management of eco-



Tourism Minister Charles Fernandez system resources. The intention now, is to collaborate with the University of the West Indies Five Islands Campus, regarding this initiative,” the Minister added.

DAY

Max UV Index: 7 High
Wind: E at 26 km/h
Wind Gusts: 33 km/h
Probability of Precipitation: 42%
Probability of Thunderstorms: 20%
Precipitation: 1 mm
Rain: 1 mm
Snow: 0.0 cm
Ice: 0 mm
Hours of Precipitation: 1
Hours of Rain: 1

28° Hi



*Partly sunny with a brief shower

NIGHT

Wind: ENE at 24 km/h
Wind Gusts: 32 km/h
Probability of Precipitation: 40%
Probability of Thunderstorms: 20%
Precipitation: 0 mm
Rain: 0 mm
Snow: 0.0 cm
Ice: 0 mm
Hours of Precipitation: 1
Hours of Rain: 1

23° Lo



*Patchy clouds with a shower in places

SUNRISE/SUNSET

Sunrise AST
6:37 AM

Sunset AST
6:06 PM



Duration
11:29 h

MOONRISE/MOONSET

Moonrise AST
4:34 PM

Moonset AST
6:01 AM



Duration
11:29 h

Nation's passports secure

Information and Broadcasting Minister, Hon. Melford Nicholas, is touting the security of the Antigua and Barbuda passport while chiding a local media house for publishing an erroneous news story regarding an attempted fraudulent use of an Antigua and Barbuda passport to enter a neighbouring island.

The information minister said in the first place the information as reported by the local media entity was incorrect. However, he is satisfied with the integrity of the country's passports. "We have gone out and at extremely high cost to the government, we introduced the electronic passports to replace the machine-readable passports. The level of security associated with these passports are at an international level. The company, Canadian Bank Notes, has

done a tremendous job and our passports are among the most secure in the region," the minister declared.

He added that when it became clear that there were persons involved in a criminal conspiracy to sell the country's passports, several measures were put in place to make the travel documents even more secure. These measures include carrying out an audit late 2018 to early 2019.

He said it was regrettable that the media entity carried the erroneous information when officials with whom they could have checked have been mandated to be available to answer such questions.

Meanwhile, Foreign Affairs Minister, E.P Chet Greene also called out the media entity for reporting what has been termed an 'unsubstantiated

news story'. The reposted news report coming out of Sint. Maarten stated that "Police in Sint Maarten arrested a man who arrived at the Princess Juliana International Airport with a fake passport on Sunday, 4 February 2020."

The local media, in what is believed to be an attempt to insinuate the fake passport in question was an Antiguan and Barbudan passport, used images of the Antigua and Barbuda passport to support their story without any verification from local or foreign authorities.

Authorities in Sint Maarten and Antigua and Barbuda have confirmed that the passport in question is not an Antigua and Barbuda passport.

Minister Greene is critical of the media outlet's handling of this matter, citing it as irresponsible, damaging and deceitful.



STATE INSURANCE
COMPANY LIMITED

Live in a better State of mind



Congratulations to our Directors and Staff on completing the Risk Committee Certification Program hosted by Corporate Governance Training Institute (CGTI)



481-7800/1/2/3/4 | info@sicantigua.com

www.sicantigua.com

Marshall wants 50 more HAPI homes

Gender Affairs and Social Transformation Minister Samantha Marshall mounted an impassioned defense of the Home Advancement Program for the Poor and Indigent or HAPI Program, which has been the target of some criticism by opponents of the government and other detractors.

According to Minister Marshall, the program has made a tremendous and positive difference to its beneficiaries and also helps to strengthen communities.

She made the remarks on Thursday during her contribution to the 2020 Budget Debate in the House of Representatives.

“HAPI is for those persons who are suffering from inter-generational poverty. Many of these homes never had indoor bathroom facilities. Many of the homes that we repaired had at least

one person who lived with a disability,” she explained.

But the Minister was far from finished: “I know a lot of mischievous persons who go on social media and say, ‘HAPI this, HAPI that’ ... We are proud of HAPI; we have changed lives and we have built better communities ...”

Minister Marshall lauded the HAPI program’s partnership with the Adopt-A-Family charity headed by police officer Veldon Raguette.

She said 50 homes have been built so far via this collaboration, and she is aiming for an equal amount to be turned out in 2020.

“I am proud of our partnership with Adopt-a-Family, Mr. Raguette, and I am proud of what HAPI has done. I think we have done something like nearly 50 homes. Mr. Raguette, I’m



Social Transformation Minister Samantha Marshall

challenging you here today, we’re doing 50 [more] homes this year. We’re stepping it up.

“There are people who are in need and we have to ensure that we provide for them,” Minister Marshall declared to thunderous applause.

No cases of coronavirus in Antigua, CMO affirms

There are NO suspected cases of coronavirus in Antigua and Barbuda. But if such cases are detected, the old Margetson Ward at the Holberton Hospital is to be repaired and retrofitted for both quarantine and isolation. This, says Chief Medical Officer (CMO) Dr. Rhonda Sealey-Thomas. And Cabinet has authorized the use of special funding to complete a multi-faceted preparation.

The facility is expected to be completed within weeks and it to take place “from the inside out” according to Information Minister Mel-

ford Nicholas.

Speaking with PointeXpress on Thursday, the CMO said that while there are individuals in quarantine, these individuals are well and do not have the illness. But the two females and three males under quarantine have not been officially tested.

“Persons in quarantine are well and DO NOT have the illness and are NOT tested. They are monitored for a while just to ensure that they are OK,” Dr. Sealey-Thomas said.

On Thursday, the Ministry of Health, Wellness and the

Environment again sought to assure the public that there are no suspected cases of Coronavirus within the Caribbean region.

In a statement, it said that continuous monitoring of the air and sea ports are underway and travel advisories will be issued whenever necessary.

“Again, all nonessential travel to the People’s Republic of China should be avoided. Officials from the health ministry met with different cadres of staff at the airport yesterday to address their concerns,” the Ministry said.

It went on to note that with the flu season still in effect, people must exercise hand hygiene as well as employ general measures against becoming ill.

“Viruses thrive in the cold, as such, close temperature modulation of central air-conditioning units is advised,” the Ministry said.

According to information from Cabinet this week, the arrangements put in place to quarantine those who arrive in the island with the coronavirus was addressed on Thursday.

The CMO told Cabinet
cont’d on pg 5

Elderly man, teen reported missing

The search is on for two people who have been reported missing in separate incidences.

The first reports are about a missing Buckley's man 70-year-old George



Zinajah Peters

Attwood, whose family first reported him missing to the All Saints Police Station on Tuesday.

Police spokesman Inspector Frankie Thomas said several search parties comprising family members and villagers from Buckley's and neighbouring communities have joined in the search for the elderly man.

He added that the police too have accompanied the search parties which have gone out each day since the man went missing. Up to late Thursday night, there were no reports that he has been found.

According to Thomas, the search continues.

Meanwhile, the police and family of 18 year old Zinajah Peters of All Saints Village, are seeking the help of the general public in knowing her whereabouts.

Zinajah was last seen on Wednesday, February 5, 2020 in uniform after regular school hours at the All Saints Secondary School where she is a fourth form student.

She is dark in complexion, about 5ft-1in. in height, has short permed hair



George Attwood
and slimly built.

Inspector Thomas said the reports are that the young woman was on the school's compound that day, there are reports that she did not attend classes.

Anyone with information is asked to get in touch with the family at 781-7422 or the All Saints Police Station at 460-1000 without delay.

Carpark work starts

Work to complete the Sunshine Hub and Carpark located along Independence Avenue will start in earnest shortly.

Information Minister, Hon. Melford Nicholas,

told parliament Tuesday that work on facing the company is now underway with actual construction set to start in four weeks.

Completing the complex will provide space to park

approximately 250 cars as well as provide office space for an administrative block. The complex will also provide commercial space for several businesses.

The carpark was a project

that started under the UPP Administration. Unfortunately, cost over-run and other issues led to the project being abandoned.

When the ABLP Administration took office in 2014, it promised that it would complete the project 'in the public interest'.

The National Asset Management Company (NAMCO) is overseeing the completion of the project. Nicholas is its deputy chairman.

cont'd from pg 4

that the number of persons suspected of contracting the virus has climbed to 20,000 worldwide, but reiterated that there were no cases in Antigua and Barbuda. The five individuals suspected of being sick have been ordered quarantined for 14 days – the period proposed by the World Health Organization (WHO).

Four Antigua and Barbuda students returned home and they too have been quarantined, although they were not near the epicenter of the disease.

There is said to be a sufficient number of masks, gloves and body suits on ordered to protect health workers, who have reportedly become victims of the virus in at least one country.

The Trump card in Venezuela crisis

By Sir Ronald Sanders

(The writer is Ambassador of Antigua and Barbuda to the United States and the Organization of American States. He is also a Senior Fellow at the Institute of Commonwealth Studies at the University of London and at Massey College in the University of Toronto. The views expressed are entirely his own)

When is a failed policy recognised as a failure and is abandoned for a new approach? That was the question that Barack Obama and his administration had to confront after more than 50 years of a policy of trade embargoes, sanctions and,

at one point, invasion that failed to dislodge the Castro government in Cuba. It is a question that the present Donald Trump administration should be considering in relation to Venezuela and the Nicolas Maduro government.

Over the last four years, the U.S. government has imposed an array of sanctions against individuals and state enterprises in Venezuela.

While the former may have hurt the individuals concerned, the latter has hurt the poorest and most vulnerable, exacerbating the flow of people from the country into neighbouring states.

But, even the continuous sanctions have not creat-

ed conditions in Venezuela where the people or the military have risen-up to bring about the regime change being sought by the U.S., Canada and a few countries in South and Central America.

Maduro's government has remained in place by virtue of several circumstances, including strong support from a significant number of the population; the division among the opposition parties and the unattractiveness of their leaders, despite assertions to the contrary; and the financial backing of Russia and China which continue to buy Venezuelan oil.

The U.S. government, Canada and a few countries in Europe have recognised Juan Guaidó as the President of Venezuela and have supported his efforts to organise protests and demonstrations, although even these have diminished in recent months.

Keeping large crowds on the streets arises either out of deep commitment to a cause or considerable financial support. Protests and marches don't pay bills unless the protestors and marchers are compensated. Money – and donors – seem to have dwindled considerably.

This latter policy of support has encouraged Guaidó not to seek genuine national solutions in the several brokered attempts at dialogue that have occurred. No party to a negotiation, assured

of external backing, would make concessions that would not put it in an advantageous position. Convinced that the U.S., Canada, a few European and Latin American governments would back his hard-line positions, Guaidó didn't bargain, he postured.

This is not to say that the Maduro government did not also take unyielding positions. They clearly did; also encouraged by external forces, especially Russia and China, and by the fact that the majority of countries in the world still recognise it as the government of Venezuela. In the global support game, the score is Guaidó fifty or so; Maduro well over a hundred.

In all this, there have been no winners, only losers. And the biggest losers are the people of Venezuela whose quality of life, except for the higher echelons of the society, has dramatically deteriorated. Other losers are the neighbouring states into which Venezuelan refugees have poured.

Each of them has been impacted by the inward migration. Costs of dealing with the influx of migrants has been high and has diverted funds that should be used to deliver the goods and services their own people expect.

There will come a time when these same neighbouring countries will have to evaluate the damage to

cont'd on pg 7

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
-And-
LARRY JACKSON
COLLEEN JACKSON

Claimant
Defendants

NOTICE OF HEARING

TAKE NOTICE that this matter will be heard on **Thursday the 20th day of February, 2020** before The Honourable Justice Rosalyn Wilkinson at the High Court of Justice, Parliament Drive, St. John's, Antigua at **9:00am**.

Dated the 6th of December, 2019.

Andrea Smithen
MARSHALL & CO.
Attorneys-at-Law
For the Claimant

Filed by Messrs. MARSHALL & CO., Attorneys-at-Law, Ann-Rebecca House, Factory Road, St. John's, Antigua Telephone Nos. 1(268)462-3562/72/73/74 Fax 1 268 462-3563 email mco@bcmllaw.com Attorneys for the above named Claimant whose address for service is the same.

cont'd from pg 6

them of increasing and stringent sanctions on Venezuela that escalate migration. When their own circumstances compel them to do so, they will object to further sanctions and call for a reversal of many of them.

Recognising that sanctions have not produced the desired collapse of the Maduro government and that he has failed to mobilise enough internal dissent, particularly from the military, to topple the Government, Guaidó has been calling for U.S. military intervention.

A member of Guaidó's group, Iván Simonovis, personally delivered a letter to President Donald Trump, requesting that the United States go "on the offensive". In a tweet, Simonovis also declared, "now we are asking to accelerate the process and cut the oxygen line, to finally end Maduro's time".

He has repeatedly stated that the solution for Venezuela is a "military

coalition". In part, this is why the U.S. and 9 countries from the Lima Group (including Guaidó's representative), pushed through a resolution on September 11, 2019 at the Organisation of American States (OAS) to invoke the terms of the Rio Treaty, an anachronistic 1947 compact.

As I have written before, the objective of the resolution, set out in an accompanying notice, was to "adopt measures" to intervene in Venezuela which, it claimed "pose a threat to peace in the Americas".

Guaidó was a guest at President Trump's 'State of the Union' address on 4 February, and he was received by the President at the White House for a half-hour meeting.

After the meeting, Guaidó reported that "concrete measures" against Maduro would be announced in the coming days.

Much as Guaidó might want it, President Trump's "measures" are most unlikely to include a military interven-

tion in Venezuela. This President has shown a marked reluctance to commit the lives of American soldiers and the resources of the U.S. Treasury to fighting someone else's war, particularly as not only would it put the U.S. in an unnecessary confrontation with Russia and China, there would not be much benefit to come from it for America.

As President Trump pointed out just the day before he received Guaidó, the U.S. is entirely self-sufficient in oil and gas, and whatever top-up it needs it can get quicker and cheaper from Canada.

There is clearly a stand-off now in the Venezuelan situation. It cries out for a fresh approach. President Trump might himself be the trump card in the resolution of this situation, if he decides to use his personal authority and bargaining skills for a direct discussion with Nicolas Maduro, centred on the welfare of the Venezuelan people.

Responses and previous commentaries: www.sirronaldsanders.com

**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)

BETWEEN:

RBC ROYAL BANK OF CANADA
Applicant/Claimant/Judgment Creditor

-and-

**LARRY JACKSON
COLEEN JACKSON**
Defendants/Judgment Debtors

NOTICE OF APPLICATION

The Applicant/Claimant/Judgment Creditor, **RBC ROYAL BANK OF CANADA**, of Market Street and High Street, in the City of Saint John's, Antigua, through its Attorneys-at-Law, Messrs. Marshall & Co., applies to the Court for an Order that: -

- (1) Pursuant to the Order of the Court entered on the 24th day of January, 2018, the Claimant, as Judgment Creditor and Chargee in exercise of its power of sale, may sell the property of the Defendants particularly described in the Land Registry as **Registration Section: Falmouth & Bethesda; Block: 34 2482A; Parcel: 426** either by private treaty or by public auction at an upset price of \$225,000.00, being 90% of the forced sale value of \$250,000.00;
- (2) The Claimant is at liberty to apply for a further reduction of the upset price by an additional 10% should a sale not be achieved on the reduced upset price of \$225,000.00.
- (3) Such further or other directions as this Honourable Court may deem fit and proper; and
- (4) The costs of and incidental to these proceedings be provided for.


A draft of the Order that we seek is attached hereto.

The Grounds of the Application are:

- (a) By Order of the Court of the 24th day of January, 2018, Judgment was entered against the Defendants in the sum of \$326,805.73 and the Claimant was granted possession of the charged property belonging to the Defendants and permission to sell the same by public auction at no less than the forced sale value of \$255,000.00, as ascribed in a Valuation Report of the property dated the 16th day of November, 2017.
- (b) The said property has been listed for public auction on several occasions but no one has been prepared to purchase the property at either its forced sale or market value.
- (c) In the hope of being able to enforce its Judgment and recover the debt owed to it from the Defendants, the Claimant is prepared to accept the best price that can be achieved for the said property.
- (d) There are additional concerns for the Claimant that the expenses of advertising the property for public auction continue to mount with no offers at the forced sale price being achieved.
- (e) The Defendants have failed to make payment whatsoever towards satisfaction of the Judgment Debt obtained by the Claimant against them in these proceedings.

An Affidavit of ANDREA DICKENSON accompanies this Application

Dated the day of October, 2019


Andrea L. Smith
MARSHALL & CO.
Attorneys-at-Law for the Applicant/Claimant

There is no other gov't: Marshall puts Barbuda Council on notice

The Barbuda Council has been given firm notice that the recently appointed Senator for Barbuda Affairs Knacyntar Nedd will not be obstructed in her performing her duties on the sister isle.

Speaking in Parliament on Thursday, newly appointed Minister of Agriculture Samantha Marshall said she was giving "public notice" to MP for Barbuda Trevor Walker that the building currently occupied by some employees of the Barbuda Council would have to be vacated and made available to the Senator.

"I just want to give him public notice that he will have to surrender the building so that senator Senator Nedd can carry out her duties," Marshall said.

"I am very firm," she added. "There is no other government than the gov-



ernment of Antigua and Barbuda," she said affirming that the Barbuda Council is not independent in its operations outside of the directives and policies of the central government.

"The local council is an agency of

the government operating in Barbuda. They must comply with the directives of the government," the MP said.

In response, Barbuda Member of Parliament Trevor Walker said in the house that there is no grounds for the government to confiscate the building, and that he was prepared to deal with any challenges in this regard.

"We have a building that is occupied. Come. The building is not even empty... The building is occupied by the workers of the Barbuda Council.

"If we have to do the same thing we did with the fisheries, we will," Walker said.

Speaking with PointeXpress on Thursday, Senator Nedd said she has taken note of both the Minister and the Barbuda MPs comments and will reserve her responses for the Senate at a later date.

Nine to vie for Miss Show Off title



A few of the Miss Show Off Delegates alongside reigning queen earlier this month.

Before a rapturous audience, the young ladies who will compete for the Fifth Miss Show Off crown in a few months were unveiled.

Amid wild applause the nine beauties confidently introduced themselves and vowed to win the coveted title under the theme: Once Upon A Time.

Founded in 2016 as a community-based event to promote talent and beauty, the pageant has now blossomed into the national sphere and eagerly-looked forward to yearly.

From the audition in early January, the delegates have continued to woo their audience up to the launch on January 30, 2020 at the Presidential Suite of the Sir Vivian Rich-

cont'd on pg 9

Demand for Antigua and Barbuda high amongst US travelers

Antigua and Barbuda was represented at the largest travel trade and consumer show in North America, the New York Times Travel Show, held in late January.

Led by the Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority's (ABTA) US Director of Tourism, Dean Fenton, the team presented a comprehensive destination update to leading travel trade, media and consumers from the US, Canada, and the Caribbean at the show.

ABTA's US Director of Tourism Dean Fenton noted that, Antigua and Barbuda is particularly resonating with the US traveler as the US Market continues to grow at a fast pace, having ended 2019, with +17% growth for the year, and forward bookings showing demand for the destination increasing amongst US Travellers into 2020.

"We are excited to partner with our hoteliers and on-is-



The Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority's US Team and Antigua hotel representatives were present at the 2020 New York Times Travel Show in New York City where they met with consumers, travel trade and members of the media.

land stakeholders to build on the success of 2019 and share firsthand with consumers and trade exactly why Antigua and Barbuda is on the 'must visit' list for 2020.

"I am confident we will see positive returns for this key US market," said the US Director of Tourism.

The Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority partnered with various island

partners at the show, including Blue Waters, Elite Island Resorts, Carlisle Bay, South Point Hotel, Sugar Ridge Hotel, Royalton Antigua Resort and Spa, and the Starfish Hotel Properties.

cont'd from pg 8
ards stadium.

From being tall and elegant; short and graceful; solid and poised the contestants were selected from several communities across the island.

The brainchild of politician and community activist Colin James, the winners of the Miss Show Off contest represent the constituency of All Saints East & St Luke in the Miss Labour Queen Show. Some contestants have gone on to compete in other shows such as the Queen of Carnival and Miss Antigua & Barbuda Pageant.

"Miss Show Off is the first step to bigger and better things because you never know who will be watching you on stage," James said at the unveiling. "We will go the extra mile to help [you] realize your dreams and fulfill your talents and potential."

Coordinator of the pageant, Shirrine Gillon, who runs the Dreamcatcher Modeling Agency, said the delegates are keen to impress the audience during the contest set to take place on Sunday April 19 at the Dean William Lake Cultural Centre in St John's.

"I would like you (the audience) to

give the ladies your support because it's not easy for them to stand before a crowd and deliver," said the fashion designer.

They will compete in personality, swimwear, talent, interview and evening wear segments.

The reigning queen is Kessyann Samuel who's now pursuing a two-year scholarship at the Antigua & Barbuda Institute of Information Technology (ABITT).

This year's winner will have the opportunity of a two-year college or university study.

Caribbean develops strategy to combat misinformation about Coronavirus

Regional Health Ministers and other officials have agreed to draft an aggressive communications strategy to combat misinformation on the novel Coronavirus.

The Council for Human and Social Development held an emergency meeting via video conference on Monday, and it was agreed that the comprehensive communications strategy would provide citizens with accurate information on how the situation is being addressed. It will target various audiences and include information about the ways in which the virus can be prevented, transmitted and controlled.

It was also recommended at the meeting that the region agree to a coordinated, standard approach for handling of entry to air and sea ports. Issues such as the roles and functions of personnel at the ports; transporting of samples for testing; dialogue with airlines and cruise lines; and action to be taken before, during and after an outbreak, were all discussed.

The Member States have agreed that they will continue to monitor the situation as it evolves internationally, and are on standby to meet again as required.

Meantime, the World Health Organization (WHO) said it has taken steps to ensure that the epidemic that has claimed hundreds of lives in central China does not spark a dangerous social media “infodemic” fuelled by false information.

And in the face of concerns that people of Chinese descent are being discriminated against as fears grow over the spread of the disease, United Nations (UN) chief António Guterres called for international solidarity and an end to any ill-founded discrimination of the outbreak’s victims.

WHO Director of Global Infectious Hazard Preparedness, Dr Sylvie Briand, told journalists in Geneva yesterday that the agency has already moved fast to dispel an online rumour that the virus can be caught from an infectious

“cloud”:

“People had suddenly the impression that the virus was in the air and... there is this cloud of virus” that can cause infection, she said.

“This is not the situation. Currently the virus is transmitted through droplets and you need a close contact to be infected... So we try to clarify what we know about the science – what is still unknown – and provide recommendations that can help people to protect themselves and their families.”

Dr Briand’s comments echo those of WHO Director-General, Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, who on Monday said that the agency was working with major internet platforms to ensure that WHO’s information about the coronavirus appears first in online searches.

The respiratory illness has claimed almost 500 lives and there are more than 24,000 reported cases in China and 158 cases outside the country.

In an appeal for global cooperation, Dr Briand said it was important not to censor information, but rather communicate what is known about the virus, and what is not known.

She said that those most at risk were those with reduced immunity because of underlying illnesses such as cancer and other chronic illnesses, in addition to senior citizens.

In the two weeks since the virus was declared a global health emergency by the WHO’s Emergency Committee, Dr Briand said there is no evidence that the virus has mutated significantly.

She added that it was also too soon to assess how dangerous the virus is, she added, reiterating the WHO’s advice that handwashing and wearing facemasks when coming into contact with infected individuals, remain the recommended practice. (Caribbean360)



Barbados' Prime Minister receives Guyana's second highest national award

Barbados' Prime Minister Mia Mottley has been conferred the Order of Roraima, Guyana's second-highest national award, for her dedication and demonstrated commitment and contribution towards the strengthening of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM).

The national honour was presented by Guyana's President David Granger at a courtesy call during a visit to the country which she made primarily to meet the staff at the headquarters of CARICOM, of which she became Chairman last month.

"The Government and people of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana recognize your unflinching efforts in representing the interest of the Caribbean region as it pursues socio-economic development and your advocacy for the furtherance of the Caribbean Community's Single Market and Economy," Granger said in presenting the award at the brief ceremony.

He said the national honour was not just a "legalistic formality", but a clear recognition of the excellent fraternal relations that have existed for many years between Barbados and Guyana. Granger noted that Barbados and Guyana worked together for the formation of the Caribbean Free Trade Association (CARIFTA)



Guyana's President David Granger presents Barbados' Prime Minister and CARICOM Chairman, Mia Mottley, with Guyana's Order of Roraima.

in 1965, prior to independence from Britain which they both attained in 1966; they established a joint high commission in London soon after independence; and the founding fathers of the two countries, Errol Barrow and Forbes Burnham, were among the four leaders who signed the treaty establishing CARICOM in 1973.

"Prime Minister Mottley, you have distinguished yourself as an ardent advocate for the Caribbean Single Market and Economy," President Granger added.

"You have combined your

almost 30 years of political activism with your personal enthusiasm and your country's legendary leadership in regional integration. We applaud your leadership. We applaud your stewardship. We applaud your willingness to partner with the Caribbean states. We commend you on your assumption of office as Chairman of...the Caribbean Community."

In accepting the award, Prime Minister Mottley said she did so humbly, on behalf of all Barbadians, recognizing that the relationship between the two nations long

predates her, with linkages that have contributed immensely to the development of both countries.

She recalled that as recently as 2007, official figures showed there were more than 32,000 Guyanese living in Barbados. While that number has declined considerably, she explained, the strong links between the two countries remain.

"The path of our two countries is inseparable and I look forward to our being able to build, Mr President, on that relationship," Mottley said.

Oil spill emergency plan for Caribbean Region urgently needed – TT Minister of Energy

By Kiana Wilburg

Given the fragility of the environment in the Caribbean, Trinidad and Tobago's Energy Minister, Franklin Khan, is of the firm view that Guyana and other oil producing nations in the region need to collaborate on an oil spill emergency plan. The Minister made these and other remarks at his country's three-day Energy Conference which concluded yesterday at the Hyatt Hotel. There, the Energy Minister said that urgent attention needs to be given to the development of this plan. Khan specifically stated, "There needs to be sensitivity to the potential adverse impacts of oil and gas exploration. To date, operators in the region have been responsible in their exploration activities and there have been no major adverse events."

"Notwithstanding, in relation to offshore exploration, risk assessment, disaster management planning, and disaster recovery, the region requires a common approach."

The TT official said it is therefore important that the countries involved in offshore oil and gas exploration consider the development of an oil spill regional emergency plan.

Khan said that Trinidad has an oil spill agreement with Venezuela while noting that there have also been preliminary discussions between the Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries (MEEI) and ExxonMobil which operates in several blocks offshore Guyana.

The Energy Minister said, "This matter requires the urgent attention of the Caribbean Governments and the energy companies operating in their marine



Trinidad and Tobago's Energy Minister, Franklin Khan

environment. T&T has had experience in the development of protocols and in the management of oil spills, and is available, to lend its expertise to the other countries."

For the last four years, Guyana has been working to put together an effective National Oil Spill Contingency Plan. Those efforts are being led by the Civil Defence Commission (CDC). Head of the CDC, Colonel Kester Craig, had said last year that the document would be ready by the end of 2019.

But to date, the CDC is yet to confirm if the plan has received Cabinet's blessings as well as when it would be made public. Furthermore, the oil spill emergency plan as recommended by Minister Franklin would be pertinent to Guyana since its future operations can pose a risk to the region. The details of this risk were outlined in an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) that was carried out on the Payara field of the ExxonMobil operated Stabroek Block.

The EIA states that an oil spill from the Payara field, the development of which is awaiting Government ap-

proval, could affect many of Guyana's neighbours such as Trinidad and Tobago, Aruba, Bonaire, Curaçao; the southern Lesser Antilles; and the Greater Antilles.

The EIA in particular notes that an unmitigated oil spill from a loss-of-well-control during the December-May season would take a west-northwesterly route through the Gulf of Paria and across the southern edge of the Caribbean Sea.

Comparatively, strong easterly winds in the December-May season would expose the northern coast of South America and the southern Lesser Antilles to the bulk of shoreline oiling risk. It was further noted that an equivalent spill during the June-November season would be exposed to lower wind speeds, allowing the surface oil to be transported to the north of Trinidad and Tobago and swept into the Caribbean Sea.

The EIA states that the plume would track slightly more to the north, across the central Caribbean Sea and the central and southern portions of the Lesser Antilles, to the Greater Antilles.

Significantly, the EIA notes that due to its location at the southern end of the Lesser Antilles, Trinidad and Tobago is the only island that would have the potential to be affected by the trans-boundary effects of any unmitigated loss-of-well-control event, regardless of season.

It states that the probability of oiling at least a portion of the coast of Trinidad and Tobago and/or its coastal waters is approximately 90 to 100 percent for any of the unmitigated

cont'd on pg 13

Statement from the Vice-Chancellor of UWI

Regional Headquarters, Jamaica, February 5, 2020. *The following statement is issued by the Vice-Chancellor of The UWI, Professor Sir Hilary Beckles on the passing of Kamau Brathwaite.*

We came to know and love Kamau Brathwaite as the keeper of the ‘abeng’, the African inspired use of the conch shell to spread manifesto messages among mountain maroons and their fellow forest freedom fighters.

The ‘abeng man’ grew a barberless beard, wore a roster of Rasta tams, sliding across our campuses, feet unchained in leathery slippers, and could never speak at a table without this thumb throbbing to the inner sound...the sound...the sound!

Our abeng blower took his task more seriously than many contemporaries were

willing to admit. This was not Kamau’s thing; this was our war, our daily battles for justice, rights, and reasonableness.

When we worked together in the Department of History at The UWI Mona, he chose to live in a village on the edge of the Blue Mountains in eavesdropping reach of the maroons that still hold in sacred trust, life-giving terrain. He would come and go, the ‘mountain man’ with his abeng, but always writing, speaking, blowing, publishing, and calling!

Primordial poet of the middle passage, and philosopher of the ‘inner plantation’, our abeng man took the words of empire, mangled their meaning, deformed their structure, and decolonized their meaning in order to promote the rebellion against the inner estate where the real bondage of his people had persisted

beyond the lawless Act of 1834 that ignored ‘Ewom- anpation’ for ‘Emancipation’ when women were the majority on the plantations.

Regrounded in Ghana, where he discovered the abeng and began his journey as the craftsman of Afro-Caribbean words and the poetic verses they yield, our abeng man co-mingled a life of teaching, instruction, researching, writing and under-the-tree-reasoning, with a commitment to academia, love of The UWI that sometimes he thought ripped at his ribs, and concern for the poorest at the door.

Over the years, I watched him up-close as a batsman examines a brilliant bowler and marvelled at his ancestor-given gifts. He possessed a beautifully turbulent and unpredictable mind, honed in the watery underbelly of the middle passage, daily demanding new waves

washing the beaches of our minds.

The abeng man was a soldier for our souls. For more than three scores and ten, his poetic passages tell this tale. He cared for us—the used, abused and abandoned people/property of empire. He called on us to be metamorphosed into missionaries, ontological armies marching to freedom from fear and distancing ourselves from doubt.

Barbados born, the centre/host of the slave-chattel enterprise, he journeyed to England, the holder of the intellectual property right to black chattel commodification, and then to Ghana, home of the soul, before middle-passaging to Jamaica, the land that had taken a firm stand. Along this slave route he took his liberation that gave us the sound of the free life he lived until, finally, he passed the abeng.

The UWI had heard and honed his sound, redefined its mandate and mission, and detached itself from the colonial scaffold. The Caribbean crier is now silent though he will never be silenced; and so back across the middle passage he goes, for the final time to meet ancestors untold. They will blow the celestial abeng for him, and an African sun will shine upon their proud son.

cont’d from pg 13

loss-of-well-control event scenarios. With the exception of the Gulf of Venezuela, oil spill modeling indicates a five to 60 percent probability of surface oil reaching the Venezuelan coastal zone, depending on location and season.

Further, it was outlined in the report that Venezuela has numerous marine turtle nesting beaches, mangroves, important bird areas, coral reefs, and shallow coastal lagoons that would be at risk of oiling. As for Trinidad, it was noted that there are numerous

fishing areas, which could be impacted by a large spill from a loss-of-well-control event. Additionally, the EIA notes that the economies of Aruba, Bonaire, and Curaçao are dependent on tourism to varying degrees but especially so in Bonaire, which is known internationally as a destination for recreational diving. Considering this, the EIA states that an oil spill would have economic effects but the extent of this would depend to a large degree on the scale of the spill and how rapidly they would recover. (Kaieteur News)

Valentine's offer!!!

NEWSPAPER ADVERTISING RATES

	B & W	COLOR
VALENTINES CENTER SPREAD	1,650.00	2,800.00
FULL PAGE	675.00	1,280.00
MINI PAGE	600.00	960.00
HALF PAGE	450.00	680.00
QUARTER PAGE	260.00	400.00
EIGHT OF A PAGE	187.50	280.00
PROBATE	240.00	350.00
16TH OF A PAGE	100.00	260.00
CLASSIFIED - PERSONAL	30.00	60.00
CLASSIFIED - PROFESSIONAL	50.00	100.00



POINTE FM RADIO ADVERTISING RATES

RADIO RATES	DAILY	WEEKLY	MONTHLY
3 SPOTS DAILY	132.00	841.50	2,692.80
4 SPOTS DAILY	160.00	1,020.00	3,264.00
6 SPOTS DAILY 30 TO 45 SECS ADS	216.00	1,377.00	4,406.40

MENTIONS			
3 MENTIONS DAILY	60.00	255.00	816.00
4 MENTIONS DAILY	80.00	340.00	1,088.00
6 MENTIONS DAILY	120.00	510.00	1,632.00

PROGRAM SPONSORSHIP

PRIME TIME	15 MINS 200	30 MINS 350.00
NON-PRIME TIME	15 MINS 150	30 MINS 200.00

POINTE XPRESS & POINTE FM RADIO COMBO ADVERTISING RATES

	B & W	COLOR
MINI PAGE 4 MENTIONS	600.00	1000.00
HALF PAGE 4 MENTIONS	500.00	700.00
CLASSIFIED ADS & 4 MENTIONS	150.00	200.00
QUARTER PAGE & 3 MENTIONS	300.00	420.00
CENTER SPREAD & 3 RADIO ADS OR 6 MENTIONS	1,780.00	2,900.00

PROMOTION RUNS FROM FEB 03-21, 2020

Netherlands Red Cross, Nature Foundation introduces Re-greening St Maarten Project

Recently a project to create a greener and more resilient island was launched by the Netherlands Red Cross in collaboration with the Nature Foundation St. Maarten. The Project “Re-greening SXM” aims to restore and build environmental resilience here on St. Maarten and will be executed this year.

The Re-greening SXM Project is part of the Disaster Risk Reduction Project designed by the Netherlands Red Cross. The project is financed by donations collected by the Netherlands Red Cross for St. Maarten after Hurricane Irma. The project will be focused to ensure ways in which community environments will be better adapted to withstand future hazards and natural disasters.

“The Nature Foundation is very excited and grateful to be part of this important project of the Red Cross, as it will enhance our natural habitats and the environment, creating a more sustainable future. Our nature assists us to protect our island from disasters, such as flooding and storms, their enrichment is critical in the way to recovery and is needed to be prepared for future disasters.

“Without our natural vegetation, trees, mangroves and coral reefs, our island would experience much larger impacts from flooding’s, erosion and storms, therefore nature restoration activities are of utmost significance for St Maarten” stated Nature Foundation’s Manager Melanie Meijer zu Schlochtern.

The Re-greening project will be conducted mainly through restoration of natural and native vegetation. Land degradation results in soil erosion and vegetative damage which in turn creates higher risk of flooding.

Vegetation restoration mitigates these impacts, builds resilience, and restores proper ecosystem functions.



“We know that the natural environment is absolutely crucial to being able to withstand hazards. If you only look at flooding caused by heavy rains: a soil that has a lot of tree roots will absorb much more rainwater than grass ever can. Not to mention that the trees will also provide shade for humans and a home for birds.

“By doing all this, we contribute to Sustainable Development Goal 15 while also reducing existing disaster risk by reducing vulnerability as per the Sendai Framework. So, the Red Cross is funding this because it will make St Maarten less vulnerable to natural hazards, but everybody wins if we restore some greenery around the island!” said Tamas Marki Project Manager of the DRR Project at the Netherlands Red Cross.

Other techniques will involve the several community clean-ups and campaign activities in order to create awareness. The public will be further notified of these events via the Nature Foundation’s Facebook page (Nature Foundation St. Maarten), the Foundation will need the assistance of volunteers for different parts of this project.

“For this project, I will focus on creating a community where natural vegetation is enhanced. I will be assessing current conditions on the island and will select the more vulnerable communities to undergo ecological resto-

ration. The goal is to make certain that the community’s environment will be able to combat future hazards. I would also like to express that it is with high hopes that all the clean-ups being planned for the near future will bring more awareness to the Reduce, Reuse, Recycle motto” voiced Ernika van Putten Project Leader of the Re-greening SXM Project.

Often enough, pollution along with soil run-off creates a blockade in the drainages. This ends up slowing down or completely stopping the water flow through these drainages. With heavy rains and hurricane winds added to this equation pollution from afar also ends up in the drainages. Therefore, proper disposal of waste everywhere is super important.

For our environment to stay healthy, the community as a majority needs to take initiative on keeping the island clean. If resilience is built, restored, and maintained in our environment, rest ashore that our environment will become better equipped to lessen the impacts of disasters on our homes.

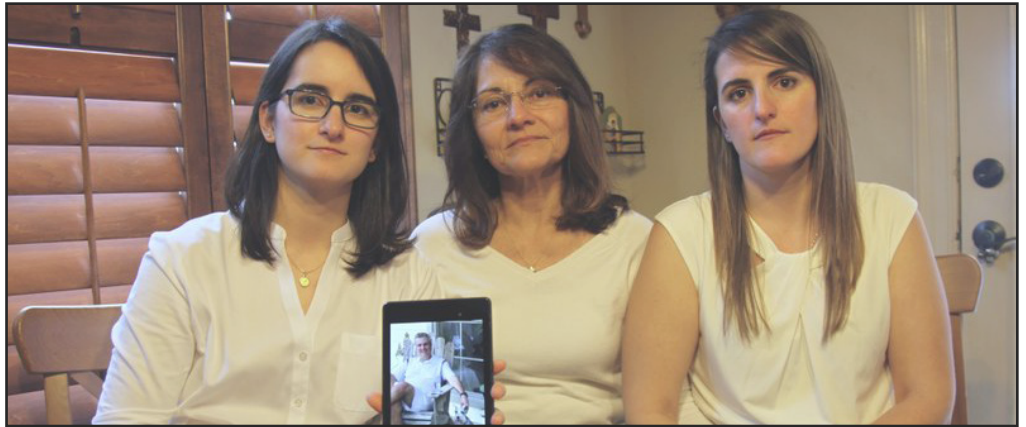
This makes for a much safer and better prepared community. Therefore, both the Red Cross and the Nature Foundation are excited and honoured to launch the re-greening project and are looking forward to receiving assistance from the community to implement this important project.

Venezuela rounds up US oil executives

MIAMI (AP) — Six American oil executives under house arrest in Venezuela were rounded up by police hours after President Donald Trump met Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro's chief opponent at the White House, according to family members of the men.

Alirio Zambrano said early Thursday that the executives of Houston-based Citgo were abruptly taken from their homes last night by the SEBIN intelligence police. Zambrano, the brother of two of the six detained men, said their current whereabouts are unknown.

"We demand to know they are safe but



Dennysse Vadell sits between her daughters Veronica, right, and Cristina holding a digital photograph of father and husband Tomeu who is currently jailed in Venezuela with five other executives from Houston-based Citgo, in Katy, Texas, Friday. (AP Photo/John L Mone, File, File)

POINTEPrintery
 PRINTING AT YOUR FIGURE TIPS

**INVITATIONS
 BI-FOLDS
 CALENDARS
 POSTER
 FLYERS
 BOOKLETS
 BUSINESS CARDS**

CALL US TODAY 268 562 4989
 LOWER NORTH STREET, POINT WHARF, ST. JOHN'S ANTIGUA
 PRINTJOBS@POINTVILLE.AG

ALEXANDER.W
 HEAD OF ENGINEER

COMPANY NAME
 YOUR FIRST ADDRESS LINE
 YOUR SECOND ADDRESS LINE
 JOHN.SMITH@YOURMAIL.COM
 +0 123 456 789
 +0 987 654 321
 WWW.YOURCOMPANY.COM

more importantly their freedom!” Zambrano said on social media, adding that he was very worried about the detainees.

The State Department and Maduro’s government have yet to comment.

But the move comes two months after the men were granted house arrest and just hours after Trump welcomed opposition leader Juan Guaidó to the White House in a show of support for his flagging, year-old campaign to oust Maduro.

In Washington on Thursday, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi stood alongside Guaidó and called for the release of the American oil executives.

Maduro condemned Trump’s embrace of Guaidó while socialist party boss Diosdado Cabello, who is widely seen as the second most powerful person in Venezuela’s government, vowed to retaliate for the meeting.

“Every time they do something, we’re going to turn harder to the left and see who squeals,” Cabello said Wednesday night in his weekly TV program.

The six men were hauled away by masked security agents while at a meeting in Caracas just before Thanksgiving in 2017. They had been lured to Vene-

zuela in order to attend a meeting at the headquarters of Citgo’s parent, state-run oil giant PDVSA.

The group flew out on a corporate jet. They included Tomeu Vadell, vice president of refining; Gustavo Cardenas, head of strategic shareholder relations as well as government and public affairs; Jorge Toledo, vice president of supply and marketing; Alirio Zambrano, vice president and general manager of Citgo’s Corpus Christi refinery; Jose Luis Zambrano, vice president of shared services; and Jose Angel Pereira, the president of Citgo.

In recent weeks, speculation has swirled that Maduro’s government may release the men in a bid to mend ties with the Trump administration, which has been aggressively pushing for his removal.

The men are awaiting trial on corruption charges stemming from a never executed plan to refinance some \$4 billion in Citgo bonds by offering a 50% stake in the company as collateral.

Prosecutors accuse the men of maneuvering to benefit from the proposed deal.

But many believe the men, five of

whom are naturalized U.S. citizens and the other a legal resident, are being held as political bargaining chips as relations between the U.S. and Venezuela have deteriorated. They cite as evidence of irregularities the decisions by Venezuelan Judge Rosvelin Gil to postpone 15 straight times a preliminary hearing.

U.S. Vice President Mike Pence in April called for the men’s release after meeting with family members at the White House.

“We are going to stand with you until they are free and until Venezuela is free,” he said at the time.

It’s unclear whether Guaidó discussed the men during his meeting Wednesday with Trump. A senior U.S. official briefing reporters in advance of the visit didn’t mention the detention.

Family members in the U.S. last spoke to the men Wednesday afternoon, according to a person familiar with the situation who spoke on the condition of anonymity and wasn’t authorized to discuss the matter. Shortly after, the men were all rearrested during raids within a short span of one another, the person said.



XCAPE
 Bar & Restaurant

EAT • DRINK • RECHARGE

Redcliffe Quay & Lower North Street . Antigua

Chinese doctor who sounded the alarm about the virus dies

BEIJING (AP) — A Chinese doctor who got in trouble with authorities in the communist country for sounding an early warning about the coronavirus outbreak died Friday after coming down with the illness.

The Wuhan Central Hospital said on its social media account that Dr. Li Wenliang, a 34-year-old ophthalmologist, was “unfortunately infected during the fight against the pneumonia

epidemic of the new coronavirus infection.”

“We deeply regret and mourn this,” it added.

Li was reprimanded by local police for “spreading rumors” about the illness in late December, according to news reports. The outbreak, centered in Wuhan, has now infected over 28,200 people globally and killed more than 560, triggering travel restrictions and quarantines around the world and a cri-

sis inside the country of 1.4 billion.

The World Health Organization tweeted: “We are deeply saddened by the passing of Dr Li Wenliang. We all need to celebrate work that he did” on the virus.

Within a half-hour of announcing earlier Friday that Li was in critical condition, the hospital received nearly 500,000 comments on its social media post, many of

them from people hoping Li would pull through. One wrote: “We are not going to bed. We are here waiting for a miracle.”

Li was among a number of medical professionals in Wuhan who tried to warn colleagues and others when the government did not. The New York Times reported earlier this week. It said that after the mystery illness had stricken seven patients at a hospital, Li said of them in an online chat group Dec. 30: “Quarantined in the emergency department.”

Another participant in the chat responded by wondering, “Is SARS coming again?” — a reference to the 2002-03 viral outbreak that killed hundreds, the newspaper said.

Wuhan health officials summoned Li in the middle of the night to explain why he shared the information, and police later forced him to sign a statement admitting to “illegal behavior,” the Times said.

“If the officials had disclosed information about the epidemic earlier,” Li said in an interview in the Times via text messages, “I think it would have been a lot better. There should be more openness and transparency.”



Medical staff prepare beds at a temporary hospital which transformed from an exhibition center for accepting patients who diagnosed with the coronaviruses in Wuhan in central China's Hubei province. Ten more people were sickened with a new virus aboard one of two quarantined cruise ships with some 5,400 passengers and crew aboard, health officials in Japan said Thursday, as China reported 73 more deaths and announced that the first group of patients were expected to start taking a new antiviral drug. (Chinatopix via AP)

Trump unleashes impeachment fury in acquittal 'celebration'

WASHINGTON (AP)

Exulting in his impeachment acquittal, a defiant President Donald Trump took a scorched-earth victory lap Thursday, unleashing his fury against those who tried to remove him from office and pointing ahead to his reelection campaign.

Triumphantly waving newspaper front pages that declared him "ACQUITTED," Trump denounced the impeachment proceedings as a "disgrace" and portrayed himself as a victim of political foes he labeled "scum," "sleaze bags" and "crooked" people. Hours earlier, he unleashed broadsides that stunned the crowd at an annual bipartisan prayer breakfast.

"It was evil, it was corrupt, it was dirty cops," Trump declared in a packed White House East Room, where he was surrounded by several hundred of his most loyal supporters. "This should never ever happen to another president, ever."

He conceded nothing in regard to charges that he improperly withheld a White House meeting and U.S. military aid in an effort to pressure Ukraine to investigate Democratic rival Joe Biden and other political matters.

"We went through hell, unfairly," he insisted. "Did nothing wrong."

His comments were a clear sign that, post-impeachment, Trump is emboldened like never before as he barrels ahead in his reelection fight with a united Republican Party behind him. And his remarks stood in stark contrast to the apology offered by President Bill Clinton when he faced the American people in the aftermath of his own impeachment acquittal in 1999.



President Donald Trump speaks in the East Room of the White House, Thursday, Feb. 6, 2020, in Washington. (AP Photo/ Evan Vucci)

In a brief Rose Garden address, Clinton was somber: "I want to say again to the American people how profoundly sorry I am for what I said and did to trigger these events and the great burden they have imposed on the Congress and on the American people."

The only contrition Trump offered was to his own family, apologizing "for having them go through a phony, rotten deal."

Trump had plenty else to say, however. Venting for more than an hour, he ticked off names of the "vicious and mean" people he felt had wronged

him: House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, Intelligence Committee Chairman Adam Schiff and former FBI Director James Comey. And he reveled in the verdict handed down by the GOP-controlled Senate Wednesday, saluting one-by-one in Oscar acceptance speech-fashion the "warrior" GOP lawmakers who had backed him both in the Capitol and on television.

"Now we have that gorgeous word. I never thought it would sound so good," Trump said. "It's called 'total acquittal.'"

Your Stars Foretold



Aries

Aries (Mar 21 – Apr 19)

Your creative star is in the ascendant, and there are those who are rather impressed with you or your performance. Redouble your efforts and magnify the impression.



Libra

Libra (Sep 23 – Oct 22)

If you agree to a course of action that fundamentally irritates you just to terminate a discussion, you could find yourself in a real bind. Stick to your guns and say, "No thanks."



Taurus

Taurus (Apr 20 – May 20)

Examine the ways a venture could be structured so that it takes your creative and economic needs into account. Right now you have a blank canvas upon which you can design whatever you want. So grab your crayons.



Scorpio

Scorpio (Oct 23 – Nov 21)

Try to get as much work done as possible. Within a few days, the desire to industriously produce widgets will be replaced by the urge to loll under a tree, while holding a beverage with a parasol in it.



Gemini

Gemini (May 21 – Jun 20)

Your perfectionist tendencies notwithstanding, review some of the activities that you would enjoy but don't actually do because you aren't expert at them. Can you guess the rest? That's right-get out there and do them.



Sagittarius

Sagittarius (Nov 22 – Dec 21)

While there is always a comfort to be derived from familiar routines and patterns, there's a heaping helping of inspiration to be drawn from the untried. Let the unknown take you for a spin today.



Cancer

Cancer (Jun 21 – Jul 22)

If you're looking for inspiration, the instructions are simple. Anything that propels you out of your rut or your routine, even temporarily, is a growth opportunity of the first order.



Capricorn

Capricorn (Dec 22 – Jan 19)

It's possible you've made a choice that you're not entirely crazy about. You didn't actually engrave the agreement in stone, did you? Good, because then there's still time to change your plan.



Leo

Leo (Jul 23 – Aug 22)

Certain business or personal arrangements may no longer be ringing your bell the way they once did. You could gain altitude if you chose to jettison those that are weighing you down.



Aquarius

Aquarius (Jan 20 – Feb 18)

If you're doing what you enjoy doing, carry on. If you aren't-and only you know for sure-you ought to seriously consider what would have to happen for you to feel the love.



Virgo

Virgo (Aug 23 – Sept 22)

There's really no reason to worry about future events. Your time is far better spent becoming excited about the fun you can have extracting enjoyment from your existing-the operative word is existing-resources.



Pisces

Pisces (Feb 19 – Mar 20)

Have confidence in your efforts. You have quite an assortment of options and a wealth of talents, all of which are far more worthy of your attention than the hole in the bucket, dear 'Liza or Henry.


 POINTETV

COMING SOON



GOT NEWS?

Become a citizen journalist!

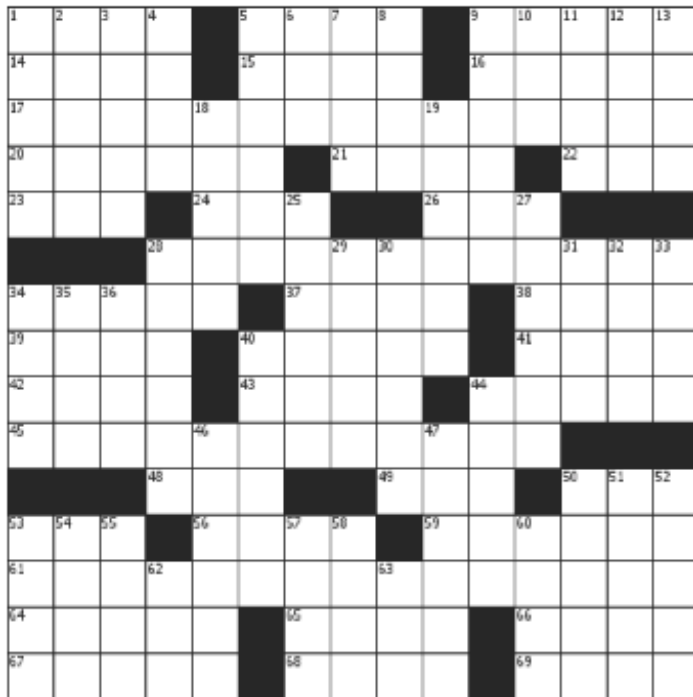
Share your news and views
with us. Call 268-562-4989
Email: news@pointville.ag



CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Across

1. Light source
5. Utter in a grating voice
9. Animal bedding, sometimes
14. Give a deposition
15. Quarter of a quartet, maybe
16. How a postman rings
17. Very pretty juicer?
20. Word before "Core" in an Edgar Rice Burroughs title
21. MEN or WOMEN hang here
22. Chicago to Washington dir.
23. Skilled in deception
24. Hang out to dry
26. Suffix with meth-
28. Provide a place for bowlers?
34. Smooths, in a way
37. Guinness superlative
38. Minute amount
39. Hoary
40. Pub diversion
41. Hammer feature
42. Bangkok dweller
43. Penny-___ (low-stakes)
44. NFL squad
45. It could prove that I'm alive?
48. "Uh-huh"
49. Corp. exec's degree
50. Walkiki wreath
53. Little newt
56. Jazz or Blues, e.g.
59. Back in the navy?
61. Coasting to a sailboat race victory?
64. Member of the nobility
65. Years ago
66. Capital of Alpes-Maritimes Department
67. The Police leader
68. Encircle or bind
69. Ivan the Terrible, e.g.



Down

1. Toyland visitors
2. Of the vascular layer of the eye
3. Timothy who took trips
4. Very dry, as wine
5. Cereal fruit
6. Alien from Melmac
7. Wall upright
8. Sport of princes
9. Rib splitters
10. One-time Delta competitor
11. Icy glaze
12. Kings are beaten by them
13. "___ off to see ..."
18. Loses solidity
19. Honors with ridicule
25. Gypsy
27. Call forth
28. Quirkiness
29. Santa's direction
30. Honor
31. Redline lazily
32. Abbr. ending a list
33. Course deviations
34. Fill fully
35. Ottoman bigwig
36. Warm
40. Slow down a fire
44. Offensively bold
46. Excursion
47. Eased off
50. Clark's associate
51. Susan Lucci's character
52. Exclusive, as circles
53. Goes out, like the tide
54. Apartment
55. Spelling of TV
57. Ready and raring
58. Skirt type
60. Reception site, maybe
62. Proved superior
63. Big name in ATMs

Download Pointe FM App



Available on the
App Store

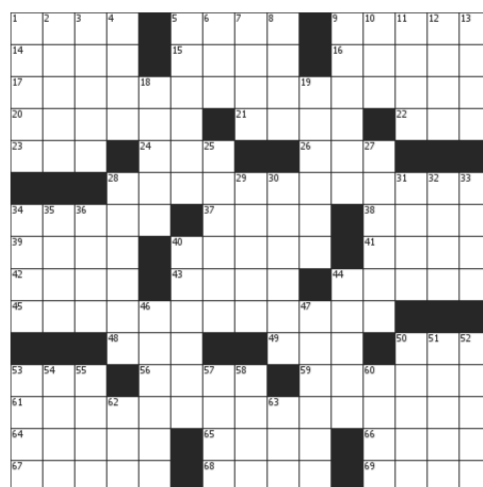
GET IT ON
Google Play

CLASSIFIED

SALE!!!

**ON SAMSUNG PHONE
& LG PHONES @
Donofficial Accesso-
ries Store
Upper Nevis Street
Tel # 268 720 4488**

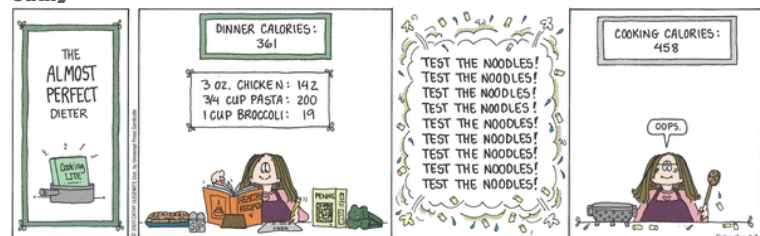
Answer to last puzzle



Non Sequitur



Cathy

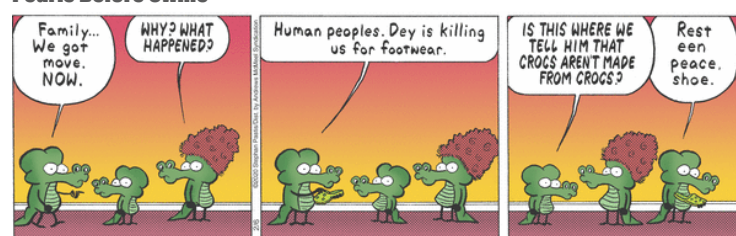


Daily Comics presented by azcentral.

Big Nate



Pearls Before Swine



Tokyo Olympics organisers 'extremely worried' about Coronavirus

Olympic organisers are "extremely worried" about the impact the spread of the coronavirus could have on the Tokyo Games.

In excess of 24,300 cases of the virus have been recorded in China, with 490 people confirmed dead.

A cruise ship in the Japanese port of Yokohama has been quarantined after 10 people on board tested positive.

Tokyo Organising Committee chief executive Toshiro Muto has expressed his concern over the epidemic five months before the Olympics get under way.

"We are extremely worried in the sense that the spread of the infectious virus could pour cold water on momentum for the Games," Muto said.

"I hope that it can be eradicated as

quickly as possible. We plan to co-operate with the IOC (International Olympic Committee), the IPC (International Paralympic Committee), the government and the city of Tokyo to tackle the disease."

Saburo Kawabuchi, head of the athletes' village, said: "I hope from my heart that we can overcome this (virus) and have a smooth Olympics.

"We will do everything we can to protect the athletes to allow them to produce their best performances."

The IOC last week refuted reports that the Games could be cancelled.

An IOC statement said: "Counter-measures against infectious diseases constitute an important part of Tokyo 2020's plans to host a safe and secure Games.



"Tokyo 2020 will continue to collaborate with all relevant organisations which carefully monitor any incidence of infectious diseases and will review any countermeasures." (sportsmax.tv)

Man City reveal Sterling has hamstring damage

Raheem Sterling will miss Manchester City's clash with West Ham on Sunday after it was confirmed the England forward has suffered a hamstring injury.

The blow to Sterling came about late in City's defeat to Tottenham last weekend, and the reigning Premier League champions have stated only that he will be absent for this weekend.

It remains to be seen whether Sterling recovers in time for the match against Leicester on February 22, or the Champions League last-16 first-leg tussle with Real Madrid four days later.

A statement on City's official website said: "Raheem Sterling will miss the visit



Raheem Sterling

of West Ham after scans revealed he has suffered damage to his left hamstring.

"The forward limped out of our game at Tottenham on Sunday with six minutes remaining and was assessed on Thursday at the CFA [City Football Academy].

"He will continue to be monitored during the winter break. Everyone at City wishes Raheem a full and speedy recovery."

City begin their short mid-season break after the match against lowly West Ham, with Pep Guardiola's

side, who sit a distant second to Liverpool in the table, returning to action 13 days later against Leicester.

Sterling has scored 11 goals in 23 Premier League outings for City this season. (sportsmax.tv)

Nurse admits Raptors 'haven't played great all the time' in record winning streak

Toronto Raptors coach Nick Nurse admits the defending NBA champions "haven't played great all the time" during a franchise-record winning streak.

The Raptors rallied from 19 points down to beat the Indiana Pacers on Wednesday and extend their run to 12 victories in a row.

Serge Ibaka – who scored the go-ahead three-pointer with 30 seconds left – and Kyle Lowry led the comeback as Toronto scored the final 11 points of the game in a 119-118 win.

Nurse described the Pacers' defense as "awesome" as he credited his own players for their fighting spirit.

"I guess that, and we've said this before during this win streak, we haven't played great all the time, but we keep finding a way and that's a heck of a characteristic to have," said Nurse.

"Tonight, we weren't very good, and they were very good, I give them credit. They were awesome. They were cutting and flying and moving and hustling and guarding and physical and all the things you can be. They were trying to knock us out and we wouldn't quite go away, and luckily we hung in there and pulled one off."

Ibaka credited Nurse for



a timely pep talk after he struggled in the early stages, with the Raptors managing just 18 points in the second quarter.

"Nick told me in a time-out, 'Serge, keep shooting

with confidence, just push the ball'. He gave me a lot of confidence," said Ibaka.

"We keep our composure during the game. We've been there before, even in playoffs, so we have that

mindset of 'never give up'. We keep trusting each other and we don't point fingers. When things go bad, we stay together, and I think that's what makes us very special." (sportsmax.tv)

Powell to race Tajay Gayle, Fraser-Pryce faces

Shauna Helps over 60m at Milo Western Relays



Powell

In light of the postponement of the World Indoor Championships in Nanjing, China, organisers of the Milo Western Relays have responded to a request from several of Jamaica's elite athletes to include the 60m dash in the schedule of the meet set for Saturday, February 8, at the GC Foster College in St. Catherine.

According to meet organizer Ray Harvey, MVP Track Club, UTech and Speed Unit Track Club, requested

that he add three 60-metres races the schedule. As a result, the first of those three races will be run at 9:40 am.

In that race, Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce will line up alongside Shauna Helps, Jodean Williams, Ezinne Okparaebio of Norway and four other athletes.

In the second race Utech athletes Ojumu Graham, Marcus Brown and Tarisco Bell will line up against five other athletes including Chaquille

Sam of Montserrat.

The final 60-metre dash former 100m world record holder Asafa Powell will face World Long Jump champion Tajay Gayle and Nesta Carter.

Julian Forte, Austin Hamilton of Sweden are also listed among the starters.

Ray Harvey said the races are expected to be a treat for all the spectators who turn up to the venue on Saturday. (sportsmax.tv)