



ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

# POINTE X PRESS

TRUSTED NEWS AND RESPECTED VIEWS

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PRICE \$3

# BRUTAL MURDER

Story on  
Page 3



Deceased: Dave Anthony

**Page 3**

**Sibling  
quarrel  
leads to  
death**

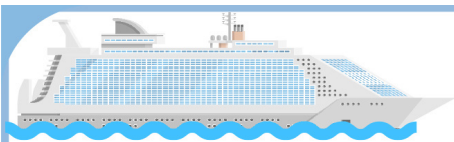
**Page 6**

**Cruise  
Boss:  
Be wise  
with your  
money**



**Page 7 - Life Upended:  
The COVID-19 impact**





## Cruise Ship Port Schedule 2020

| Date                       | Cruise Ship          | Arrive-Depart |       |
|----------------------------|----------------------|---------------|-------|
| 12 March, 2020<br>Thursday | Norwegian Gem        | 08:00         | 17:00 |
| 12 March, 2020<br>Thursday | Norwegian Epic       | 08:00         | 17:00 |
| 13 March, 2020<br>Friday   | MSC Preziosa         | 08:00         | 18:00 |
| 14 March, 2020<br>Saturday | Oceania Sirena       | 08:00         | 15:00 |
| 15 March, 2020<br>Sunday   | Braemar              |               |       |
| 16 March, 2020<br>Monday   | Celebrity Reflection |               | 16:00 |
| 16 March, 2020<br>Monday   | Azura                | 07:00         | 17:00 |
| 16 March, 2020<br>Monday   | Vision Of The Seas   | 08:00         | 17:00 |
| 17 March, 2020<br>Tuesday  | Costa Magica         | 07:00         | 17:00 |
| 17 March, 2020<br>Tuesday  | Serenade Of The Seas | 08:00         | 17:00 |
| 17 March, 2020<br>Tuesday  | AIDAperla            | 08:00         | 18:00 |

## The Living Word

Water into Hope

Read: John 4:4–14

Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink. John 7:37

Tom and Mark's ministry refreshes lives. This is clear in the video they share of a group of fully clad children laughing and dancing in the refreshing water of an open shower—their first ever. The men work with indigenous churches to install water filtration systems on wells in Haiti, easing and lengthening lives as diseases connected to contaminated water are prevented. Access to clean, fresh water gives the people hope for their future.

Jesus referred to "living water" in John 4 to capture a similar idea of a continual source of refreshment. Tired and thirsty, Jesus had asked a Samaritan woman for a drink (vv. 4–8). This request led to a conversation in which Jesus offered the woman "living water" (vv. 9–15)—water that would become a source of life and hope within them, like "a spring of water welling up to eternal life" (v. 14).

We discover what this living water is later in John, when Jesus said, "Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink," declaring that whoever believed in Him would have "rivers of living water [flowing] from within them." John explains, "By this he meant the Spirit" (7:37–39).

Through the Spirit, believers are united to Christ and have access to the boundless power, hope, and joy found in God. Like living water, the Spirit lives inside believers, refreshing and renewing us.

How has Jesus satisfied your thirst through His Spirit? How will you share what Jesus has done for you?

Dear God, thank You for leaving us Your Spirit. Work in us so that our lives point others to You.

### DAY 3/16

Max UV Index: 10 Very High  
 Wind: ENE at 2 km/h  
 Wind Gusts: 7 km/h  
 Probability of Precipitation: 40%  
 Probability of Thunderstorms: 20%  
 Precipitation: 0.5 mm  
 Rain: 0.5 mm  
 Snow: 0.0 cm  
 Ice: 0.0 mm  
 Hours of Precipitation: 1  
 Hours of Rain: 1

# 28° Hi



Intervals of clouds and sun with a passing shower or two

### NIGHT 3/16

Wind: E at 2 km/h  
 Wind Gusts: 9 km/h  
 Probability of Precipitation: 5%  
 Probability of Thunderstorms: 0%  
 Precipitation: 0.0 mm  
 Rain: 0.0 mm  
 Snow: 0.0 cm  
 Ice: 0.0 mm

# 22° Lo



Clear

### SUNRISE/SUNSET

Sunrise AST  
6:14AM

Sunset AST  
6:18PM



Duration  
12:04hr

### MOONRISE/MOONSET

Moonrise AST  
12:31 PM

Moonset AST  
11:57AM



Duration  
11:26hr



## Brutal murder

Residents of Potters are alarmed over what they see as 'a brutal' murder of a fellow villager in the wee hours of Saturday morning.

Several villagers reported that they were awakened around 12:30 am by the loud sound of gunshots. Some reported that they heard between seven and nine gunshots that echoed in the stillness of the night.

On investigation they learned that 45-year old Dave Anthony was shot dead in his home during the hail of gunshots.

On Sunday, the police communications department issued an advisory asking anyone with information that can assist their investigation to come forward. "The police are asking for further assistance from the public as they continue their probe into the death of Dave Anthony of Potters Village.

According to the police... during the early morning hours on Saturday, 14th March, the Police responded to a report, where it was reported that several loud explosions sounding like

gunshots was heard coming from a house in Potters. Having arrived on the scene, the police found Anthony's body lying motionless on his kitchen floor with what appeared to be multiple gunshot wounds.

He was pronounced dead around 3:36am by a medical doctor. He was at the time in the company of a female companion and a child. No one else was reportedly injured.

Anyone with further information can contact the Criminal Investigations Department at 462-3913 or 462-3914.

It appears that his assailants were fully intent on committing murder, as it has been reported that gasoline was poured around the wooden house leaving many to speculate that they wanted Anthony dead either by bullets or by burning the house down with him inside.

At the time of the inci-



*Bullet holes and gasoline discolouration on the door.*

dent, Anthony and his girlfriend were awakened by the smell of the gasoline. Anthony went outside to investigate at which time the first shots were fired. He reportedly managed to re-enter the house and closed the door, but several shots were fired through the wooden door. Fatally wounded, he slumped to the floor where he died.

The news of his death has left several family members distraught as Anthony, a chef by profession and a favourite of many, was taken away from them in this manner.



## Sibling quarrel leads to death

An early morning quarrel between two brothers has ended with one brother being stabbed to death and the other in police custody facing possible charges for the crime.

Police are currently investigating the alleged stabbing incident in Yorks that led to the death of 32-year-old Kareem Santiago of Yorks.

It is alleged that sometime between 7:30 and 7:45am on Friday, 13th March, the deceased and his brother, both of whom are of Hispanic descent, were involved in a domestic dispute,

when he was allegedly stabbed with a sharp object. He was transported to Mount St. Johns Medical Center, where he was later pronounced dead by a medical doctor.

The suspect is currently in police custody assisting the police as further investigations into the matter continue. He is likely to be charged by the police this week.

Also happening on Friday, the police were called to investigate the discovery of a foetus at Perry Bay.

The police say sanitation workers

of National Solid Waste Management Authority alerted police of a foetus that was discovered inside a brown paper bag among garbage in the vicinity of Hoppers Playing Field around 10:30 am. A medical doctor later arrived on the scene and pronounced the foetus dead shortly after 12:00 pm.

Meanwhile, Police have expressed their concerns for the well-being of the mother of that foetus and are advising that she seek immediate medical assistance and counseling as soon as possible.

# COVID-19 could decimate economy – PM

Prime Minister Gaston Browne says a shutdown of the country as some are advocating is impractical and unnecessary at this time.

One day after he addressed the nation to announce that Antigua and Barbuda has encountered its first case of the dreaded COVID-19, the nation's leader spoke via his weekly radio programme,

the *Browne and Browne Show* on **Point FM 99.1**.

He said the challenge now is to manage the virus so as to prevent or limit its spread and make sure it is contained. "What we do not want is to have a spike that would become unmanageable," he stated. "We can't afford to lose tens or hundreds of our citizens."

The Prime Minister observed that Antigua and Barbuda is vulnerable because COVID-19 is being spread from places such as the UK and US, which he described as "travel windows that we may not be able to close", due to the country's heavy reliance on vital imports and tourists from these key source markets. "It would cause a serious amount of economic dislocation. Just imagine if we stop flights from out of the UK and the US ... practically, all the hotels would have to close and that would mean sending home all the hotel workers. Government's revenue would reduce significantly. We would not be able to [meet] our payroll."

Neither can the country turn away cargo boats, the Prime Minister said, as these are responsible for bringing in a large share of the imported food on which the country absolutely depends. "We just cannot close our borders. It is not a practical solution, for those who are saying lock down the country."

He outlined that the most significant challenge COVID-19 will pose to the region will be the economic devastation it is likely to cause. "The economic fallout ... will be significant, and it is the smaller countries within the Caribbean that will be the hardest hit."

The Prime Minister said

this is exactly "the type of situation that adds to the vulnerability of small states". He said it was further reason for the region to "continue pushing for an international carve-out of development assistance for small states."

He disclosed that millions of dollars in government revenue now has to be diverted to deal with the COVID threat, and estimates that the overall economic fallout will run into hundreds of millions of dollars. "The question is, who is going to assist the Caribbean in order to build back our economies?" asked the PM, who is also Minister for Finance.

He said the developed countries that make up economic blocs such as the G7 and multilateral financial institutions like the World Bank should begin putting together special packages to assist countries in the Caribbean who will be especially hard hit due to their dependence on tourism and other vulnerabilities. "This is perhaps the most significant threat that any country would have faced for, maybe, the last 100 years," Browne added.

The Prime Minister indicated that he would suggest to his CARICOM colleagues that they need to convene post haste for urgent discussion of these challenges, and to devise effective plans and responses.

## LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION FORM P7

### Rule 15

#### THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

#### (Probate)

#### In the Estate of TEON JERIORN CONNOR late of Willikies Village, St. Phillip's, Antigua and Barbuda, Deceased ADVERTISEMENT OF APPLICATION FOR GRANT FIRST PUBLICATION

**TAKE NOTICE** that an application has been filed **KEATH CONNOR** of Willikies Village, St. Phillip's Parish, in the state of Antigua and Barbuda for a Grant of Letters of Administration to the Applicant who is the grandson of the deceased, the deceased having died intestate on the 6th day of March 2019.

Any person having an objection to the grant of Letters of Administration to the Applicant shall file an objection within fourteen (14) days of the publication of this Notice.

Dated this 10th day of March 2020

**KEATH CONNOR**

Filed by Peyton J. V. Knight of Peyton J. V. Knight & Associates, Attorneys-at-law whose address for service is Upper Newgate Street, P. O. Box 131, St. John's Antigua, and pknightlaw@g-mail.com and (268)-562-1653.

## LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION FORM P7

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#### THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

#### (Probate)

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#### ADVERTISEMENT OF APPLICATION

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**PEYTON J. V. KNIGHT & ASSOCIATES  
SOLICITORS**

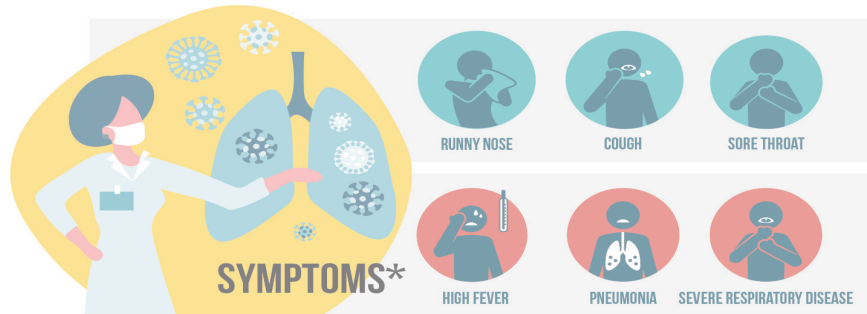


# COVID-19

Coronavirus Disease 2019

## BE AWARE.

COVID-19 is a new respiratory illness that was first discovered in Wuhan, China. It is transmitted from person to person.



COMMON SYMPTOMS

SEVERE CASES

\*Symptoms may appear 1 to 12 days following exposure to the virus



### Who is most at risk of becoming seriously ill?

- People over age 60
- People with pre-existing conditions such as diabetes and heart disease



### How is it transmitted?

- Through close contact with an infected person
- By an infected person coughing or sneezing
- By touching contaminated objects or surfaces and then touching your mouth, nose or eyes



Currently there is no vaccine or specific treatment. We can only treat the symptoms. Serious cases may require oxygen and ventilatory support.

## PREPARE.



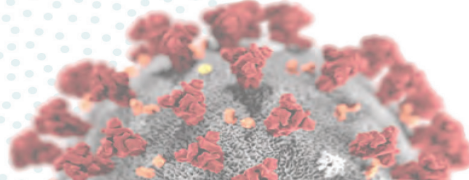
Make sure you get your information from a reliable source.



Wash your hands regularly with soap and water or use an alcohol-based gel.



Cover your mouth with the inside of your elbow when you cough or sneeze or use a tissue and dispose of used tissue immediately and wash your hands.



## ACT.



Avoid close contact with people who have flu-like symptoms.



Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands.



Avoid sharing cups, plates or other personal items and disinfect all surfaces that are touched frequently.



If you have traveled to areas where COVID-19 is circulating or have been in contact with someone who has it and you experience fever, cough or difficulty breathing, seek medical attention immediately. Do not self-medicate.

Note: Information may change when more is known about the disease. February 2020.

PAHO



Pan American Health Organization



World Health Organization  
REGIONAL OFFICE FOR THE AMERICAS

BE AWARE. PREPARE. ACT.

[www.paho.org/coronavirus](http://www.paho.org/coronavirus)

# Local News

## Cruise Boss: Be wise with your money

Following the cancellation of cruises by all the major US cruise lines, President of the Cruise Association, Nathan Dundas is advising his members to be frugal in how they handle their financial resources.

"We have received cancellations from all of the US-based cruise lines as well as some of the European-based cruise lines. We expect based on the cancellations that by the end of this week we will only have a few ships making the last of the calls for the season. The season had expected to see another 50 calls or so,"

Dundas disclosed.

He said this translates into the loss of millions of dollars for the country.

The cruise tourism official urged his members to follow the guidelines established by the government through the ministry of health. "Notwithstanding this, however, we know that lives are more important and we have to follow the guidelines of our medical authorities and our government in an effort to minimize the further effects of COVID-19," he stated.

Dundas sounded an optimistic note as he says the

Caribbean may benefit from increased calls in the future if the region is able to get past the COVID-19 outbreak. He said the indications are that the upcoming summer months may in fact be quite good for the region.

"The fact that Europe has become the epicenter of COVID-19, it means that ships traditionally going to that destination may seek instead to divert to the Caribbean region. Of course, all of this is providing we no longer have the threat of COVID-19 present with us," he noted.

Given the uncertainty of



Nathan Dundas

the next few months, Dundas wants stakeholders to exercise prudence with their finances. "I would further encourage all of our cruise stakeholders to be wise in the use of their financial resources at this time since we don't know how long this situation will last. The financial impact will be felt by us all and may result in job losses and loss of income in the cruise sector," he advised.

### SECRETARY



Institution: The University of the West Indies, Five Islands Campus  
Location: St. John's, Antigua  
Type: Full-Time

#### MAIN PURPOSE OF JOB:

To perform secretarial functions and related duties to enhance confidentiality and efficiency within the department.

The successful candidate will be required to perform secretarial and clerical duties by:

- Taking dictation, minutes of meetings etc. and reproducing same in a format such as letters, memos, speeches, reports etc.
- Typing/word processing, duplicating confidential documents, reports, manuscripts etc.
- Typing/word processing general correspondence etc.
- Maintaining a filing system of all documents, and other work-related material, ensuring security and easy retrieval.
- Processing incoming and outgoing mail in a manner to enhance speedy and efficient dispatch from and distribution within the department.
- Maintaining an up to date departmental diary of appointments, meetings etc.
- Preparation of bills, collection of fees for telephone fax and photocopying machines and dispatch same to Bank/Bursary.
- Assisting in the production of final documents, collating and circulating departmental documents.
- Assisting with organizing seminars, conferences, meetings etc.
- Receiving, routing and making telephone calls.
- Receiving, routing and sending fax messages.
- Managing of departmental imprest
- The maintenance of an adequate office supply etc.

Applicants are required to submit a cover letter and curriculum vitae with the names and contact details of three (3) referees. These should be sent by electronic mail to [hr.fiveislands.uwimona.edu](mailto:hr.fiveislands.uwimona.edu) and addressed to:

The Director  
Finance and Administration  
The University of the West Indies  
Five Islands Campus  
St. John's, Antigua

The final date for receipt of applications is Friday, March 20, 2020.

The University thanks all applicants, however, due to the volume of applications, only shortlisted candidates

### 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, 16th March 2020

Time: 08:30AM - 11:00 AM

Affected areas: Section of Buckleys.

Date: Tuesday, 17th March 2020

Time: 08:30AM - 01:00 PM

Affected areas: Section of Pares east of the primary school.

Date: Wednesday, 18th March 2020

Time: 08:30AM - 10:30 AM

Affected areas: Section of Carlisle.

Date: Thursday, 19th March 2020

Time: 08:30 AM - 01:00 PM

Affected areas: Freetown, Halfmoon Bay, Mill Reef & Browne Bay area.

Date: Friday, 20th March 2020

Time: 08:30AM - 11:00 AM

Affected areas: Section of Liberta south of the primary school.

Kindly note that this schedule is subject to slight variation. Changes will be communicated on the APUA Facebook page.

Any service disruptions outside of this schedule were not anticipated. For further information and updates please call 311.



Apua Apua Apua  
Visit us at [www.apua.ag](http://www.apua.ag)



## COVID-19 upends life in Antigua and Barbuda

The announcement on Friday that Antigua and Barbuda has recorded its first confirmed case of the dreaded COVID-19 has had the effect of upending life in Antigua and Barbuda...at least for the foreseeable future.

Every aspect of life in the nation has been affected; the economy, the tourism sector, education, the judiciary, religion, sports and recreation and even the way residents greet each other.

Antigua and Barbuda is in an active earthquake zone as well as in an area that frequently feels the full brunt of nature's destructive winds and rain in hurricanes. Yet, it is unlikely that the nation, the region, or even the world has ever encountered anything like this coronavirus, COVID-19.

It was first detected in Wuhan Province in Central China, and started to spread outwards, by last week it had been declared a global pandemic by the World Health Organisation with over a hundred countries reporting that it had been detected within its borders.

The Antigua and Barbuda government, through the ministry of health, had began taking preemptive actions in anticipation that as a part of the global community, it was just a matter of when, not if, the virus would be detected within its shores. An area of the old Holberton Hospital was earmarked as a containment zone where anyone detected to have been confirmed with the virus would be placed in quarantine or isolation depending on the severity of the condition.

Through traditional and social media, most residents have been following the developments and the forward march of the cases of infection; first in Asia, notably South Korea and Japan, then the Middle East, mainly, Iran, and then to Europe.

Italy recorded a large number of outbreaks and in response, Antigua and Barbuda, like other Caribbean states, initially banned travelers from the region of Italy where the outbreak was centered. But the spread severely tested the Italian

health services and as the infection rate jumped, the government took the unusual step of 'locking down' the country. The first such step since World War 2.

As other countries in Europe saw spikes in their infection rates, there were calls locally to ban flights originating from those capitals. But for a country largely dependent on tourism, it was always going to be a tough decision to make.

All this took place, while the hotel sector reported cancellations as holiday makers decided in large numbers to forego planned vacations as fears grew international about contracting the virus.

Last Friday, at mid-morning, Prime Minister, Gaston Browne, addressed the nation confirming that a visitor out of the United Kingdom was confirmed to have been infected with the virus. The news was greeted with a rush of panic as hundreds of residents descended on supermarkets and other food outlets to stock up on supplies.

Many supermarkets had difficulties keeping their shelves stock as many were caught off-guard by the panic and anxieties of shoppers.

The fears of the virus have affected life in ways never experienced before. Churches have issued advisories to their pastors and other leaders introducing new protocols about aspects of worship. These include social distancing during the fellowship-time, the discontinuation of a common wine goblet during communion among others.

Students in the nation's schools are having an early Easter vacation as the ministry of education issued an announcement on Sunday closing schools for two weeks in the first instance. The UWI Five Islands Campus is also postponing classes during this period.

Hotel workers, taxi drivers souvenir vendors and others in the tourist trade are bracing themselves for a long and challenging summer. The announcement that all US cruise lines are cancellation cruises with immediate effect and the scaling back of international flights



by the major carriers, the impact of tourism generally could be severe.

Other aspects of the nation's life impacted include sports as the Antigua Football Association postponed all matches. Other associations have also followed by taking similar action.

On the entertainment front, several fetes that have been scheduled for the next month are also likely to be canceled as major social gatherings are being discouraged. The annual Antigua Sailing Week will go on as planned but these events that include large gatherings will not take place.

The courts have also taken notice and have suspended the criminal assizes.

There's no word yet about the private sector and government offices. PM Browne has on record saying that a total shutdown of the island is 'unnecessary' at this time.

The banking sector too has had to adjust to the new realities as evidenced by the ad from the Antigua Commercial Bank elsewhere in this paper.

There is talk now of virtual meetings, virtual classrooms and live-streaming of church services as the new technologies replace human-to-human contacts. Whatever its impact, it is clear that life in Antigua and Barbuda will change in ways irreversible long after COVID-19 is a distant memory in our rear-view mirrors.

The nation waits with bated breath!



# National School Meals to the rescue

Thousands of students across Antigua and Barbuda will spend the next two weeks at home after the Ministry of Education announced school closures from today, March 16th to March 27th, 2020. According to the press statement issued on Sunday, the education ministry hinted that the closure of all educational institutions is to aid in mitigating the current crisis faced by the country.

The ministry stated that “the Ministry of Education will continue to monitor the situation, and if the crisis persists, it may have to extend beyond the Easter Vacation. Despite best efforts to arrest the spread of COVID-19, we still face uncertainty and the considerable unease brought about by this uncertainty.

“It is necessary to implement additional changes informed by the recommendations of leading health officials and consistent with education systems around the world.”

Although the move to suspend school gatherings was applauded, there were several concerns raised by the public regarding child care in the absence of closed schools.

However, ministry officials have advised parents to safeguard the environment of children while in parental care.

The education ministry stated, “as we transition through this difficult time



of COVID-19 pandemic, we strongly advise that parents/guardians manage the whereabouts of your children during this period and avoid gatherings of more than 4-5 persons.”

This advice from the ministry is said to be based on proactive social distancing practices as a preventative measure against COVID-19.

Though the ministry has plans on supplementing home-based educational tools, having access to nutritional meals during the week was another major concern for some parents.

To combat this, the education ministry indicated that the National School Meals will begin an assessment to identify the most vulnerable students who may benefit from continued school meals. According to the Minister of Education, Hon. Michael Browne, “the national school meals administration will be meeting today.

“We have a list of students from each school we serve and we will begin contacting those who are

deemed most vulnerable. The aim is to ensure that these students, from vulnerable backgrounds, can access a healthy, hot, nutritional meal throughout this school closure.”

This was a welcomed call by the ministry according to some teachers. Primary school teacher at the T. N. Kirnon school, Ms. Tiffany Azzile told reporters on Sunday, “I applaud all of the persons responsible for considering children from low-income households at this time.

“It is already a strain on their caregivers’ pocket to prepare for possible isolation so this continued provision of meals will be a godsend for many.”

The national school currently feeds all government-run primary schools throughout the island.

As primary and secondary schools begin to close their doors today, The University of the West Indies, Five Islands Campus has also issued a closure notice late Sunday evening.

In a statement sent to media houses, the fifth



landed campus stated that “the leadership of The UWI Five Islands Campus in consultation with the Vice-Chancellor and other authorities in responding to Sunday’s announcement by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, has decided to suspend all classes from Monday, March 16 until Friday, March 27.

Correspondingly, the Campus will also implement a system of reduced business operations, for the same period, in alignment with its emergency response plan.”



## URGENT NOTICE!!!

March 15, 2020

### CLOSURE OF EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

To mitigate the impact of the spread of COVID-19, all educational institutions in Antigua & Barbuda will close early for the Easter Vacation from Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> March to Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> March, 2020. The Ministry of Education will continue to monitor the situation, and if the crisis persists, may have to extend beyond the Easter Vacation. Despite best efforts to arrest the spread of COVID-19, we still face uncertainty and the considerable unease brought about by this uncertainty. It is necessary to implement additional changes informed by the recommendations of leading health officials and consistent with education systems around the world.

School leadership, teachers, cleaners, security, and all other staff are to report to their respective institutions Monday and Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> March (and, if needed, and as determined by school leadership, Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> March) to implement MoEST COVID-19 Protocols (published March 13, 2020) in order to work remotely and to prepare schools for cleaning and environmental adjustments for eventual return. The Board of Education, with the support of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and the Environment and the Ministry of Works, will exhaust all options to ensure that all schools are equipped with additional handwashing stations, soap, hand sanitizers, etc. for the reopening.

### Out of Classroom Platforms and Support

In addition to other platforms already in use in schools, the following are suggested educational platforms and are eligible for supplemental funding from the Ministry of Education for schoolwide subscriptions:

1. Google Classroom - <https://classroom.google.com/u/0/h>
2. IXL Personalized Learning - [www.ixl.com](http://www.ixl.com)
3. Moodle - <https://moodle.org>
4. Schoology - <https://www.schoology.com>
5. Edmodo - <https://go.edmodo.com/teachers/>
6. Sakai - <https://www.sakailms.org>
7. Showbie - <https://www.showbie.com>
8. Castle Learning - <https://www.castlelearning.com>
9. iTunes U - <https://www.apple.com/education/>
10. Canvas - <https://www.instructure.com/canvas/?newhome=canvas>
11. Pearson - <https://www.pearsonschool.com>

### PARENTS

As we transition through this difficult time of COVID-19 pandemic, we strongly advise that you rigorously manage the whereabouts of your children during this period and avoid gatherings of more than 4-5 persons. *The National School Meals will begin assessment to identify the most vulnerable students to continue to receive meals during this time.* The situation is evolving. Stay informed:

National Association of School Psychologist - <https://www.nasponline.org/resources-and-publications/resources-and-podcasts/school-climate-safety-and-crisis/health-crisis-resources>

- Responding to COVID-19 - <https://openwho.org/channels/covid-19>
- Center for Disease Control and Prevention - <https://www.cdc.gov>
- Preparing for COVID-19 School Closures - <https://hbr.org/2020/03/how-working-parents-can-prepare-for-coronavirus-closures>

The Ministry of Education, Science & Technology wish all citizens good health. We encourage everyone to implement protective measures to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all, particularly the most vulnerable.

For more info on COVID-19: <https://www.who.int> - COVID-19 Hotline: (268) 484-2712



# PM dismisses criticism of earlier comments

Utter contempt, is how Prime Minister Gaston Browne described his initial reaction to a press release last week, that criticised him for the manner in which he expressed disagreement with a reportedly pending ruling that would be unfavorable to Government in the Half Moon Bay (HMB) matter.

During **Pointe FM Radio's** weekly *Browne and Browne Show* on Saturday, 7th March 2020, the Prime Minister laid into what he said was the intention of an unnamed High Court Judge to issue a garnishee order against the National Asset Management Company (NAMCO) to settle almost US\$20 million dollars still outstanding from the state's compulsory acquisition of the hotel property about 15 years ago.

Prime Minister Browne denounced the ruling as "perverted", saying it bumped HMB to the top of the pile as "a preferred creditor", which lacking consideration for the economic challenges confronting the country at this time, especially in light of the COVID-19 global pandemic.

Enter the Antigua and Barbuda Bar Council – the executive arm of the Antigua and Barbuda Bar Association – which, in a statement issued on Thursday, 12th March 2020, criticized the Prime Minister's remarks, saying it raised questions about his respect for the rule of law and the constitutional separation of powers.

The Bar Council also claimed that the Prime Minister's remarks did not accurately represent the actions of

the judge in question. Noting that the Government had recourse to appealing any decision of the High Court it did not agree with, the statement accused the PM of being disrespectful, and suggested he was unnecessarily confrontational and defiant in responding to what he said had been a message to him from the judge.

Asked to comment on the Bar Council's statement, Browne said, "My initial reaction is to treat the statement with utter contempt ... I was not trying to decide for [the judge] ... Sometimes you have an overlap between the Executive and ... the Judiciary. You don't want the Judiciary to make a decision that could trespass on the domain of the Executive, and similarly the Executive should not

be involved in the decisions of the Judiciary ... I made it abundantly clear that I understood the lines of separation ... but there was a particular risk, especially in light of COVID-19. I thought, as leader of this country, it was fair comment for me to identify that risk and to state my concern."

The Prime Minister noted that former Attorney General Justin Simon is among those who have criticized his remarks, but pointed out that Simon was in office when his Cabinet colleague – then Agriculture Minister Hilson Baptiste – made threatening statements in 2010 against Justice Louise Blenman who had ruled against the United Progressive Party (UPP) administration in an election petitions case. "Justin Simon did not say anything then ... It's ironic now that he has no status in the government that he has a lot to say."

The Prime Minister said his only intention was to point out the impact that certain judicial decisions could have on the country's economy at this delicate moment of unprecedented challenge from *corona virus*. "Ultimately, what I'm trying to do here is to protect the interest of the people ... I don't have any reason to apologize. I saw it as fair comment ... As a leader, you have to look at certain

*cont'd on pg 11*



**The evolution of road safety**

Speed bump, road hump, sleeping policeman – they go by many names but they all serve the same purpose – to slow down traffic.

First utilised in the US town of Chatham in 1906, where they raised the crosswalks five inches with flagstones and cobbles; this was received so warmly that on the day it was completed people bought popcorn and settled down to watch as unwary cars jolted uncomfortably over the unexpected hurdle.

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ANTIGUA & BARBUDA TRANSPORT BOARD  
A Message from Antigua and Barbuda Transport Board





## Criminal assizes postponed

The current sitting of the Criminal Assize Court has been postponed over concerns related to the coronavirus – COVID-19 outbreak.

Court officials made the decision over the weekend shortly after the announcement that Antigua and Barbuda had recorded its first confirmed case of the coronavirus.

In a circular sent to all jurors sitting during the assizes, they were advised not to report to court today (Monday 16) until further notice. Court sources say there are concerns that a continuation of criminal cases that normally attract as much as 60 persons per case could raise alarm among the jurors.

The sources say the mea-

sure is a precautionary one as the court adopt a 'wait-and-see' approach before making a final determination on how soon it will resume.

"We are about three weeks away from the end of the current sitting so bringing an early end to the assizes would not be too disruptive to the process," one official explained.

He noted that the announcement regarding an early start to the Easter vacation means that this would add additional strains on those members of the jury pool who have children, who now must contend with how to take care of them now that schools are out.

Senior officers of the court will meet today to discuss the way forward.

*cont'd from pg 10*

threats and be proactive in addressing them."

Browne suggested that some of those criticizing him for the remarks "may be trying to impress others – maybe members of the bench – and those trying to score cheap political points. All I feel at this point is total contempt for them, and I will not respond any further."

The Prime Minister would not be drawn into commenting on the legal responses that his government may be contemplating, in the event of the anticipated adverse ruling.

## VACANCY

### HEALTH & SAFETY INSPECTOR

The Antigua Public Utilities Authority is now seeking applications from suitably qualified persons for the position of Health & Safety Inspector.

The Health & Safety Inspector is responsible for maintaining and improving safety in the workplace by identifying, assessing conditions and procedures of work which could produce accidents and losses. The Inspector will also contribute to developing accident-prevention and loss-control. Maintain an effective information system/program which identify hazards, risks and the steps required to eliminate or control them.

#### Key duties include but are not limited to the following:

- Performing Health & Safety functions in any of the Authority's core Business Units (BU's) - Water, Electricity, Telecoms, Head Office.
- Notifying the Health Safety & Wellness Officer (HSWO) and BU Manager of accidents or incidents involving employees immediately, on receipt of a report.
- Notifying the HSWO and BU Manager of accidents or incidents involving damage to property within twenty-four (24) hours of a report being received.
- Completing preliminary accident/incident investigations within forty-eight (48) hours of the occurrence of an incident/accident.
- Developing specifications for hazard specific safety devices and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), sourcing and selecting vendors of the required devices and ensuring that the appropriate stock of these items is maintained.
- Ensuring that employees are suitably trained in the proper use and maintenance of assigned PPE and that employees use the PPE as stipulated.
- Causing a task or equipment to cease operation in a timely manner whenever there are clear indications of imminent danger.
- Documenting and maintaining records, inclusive of complaints received, observed safety violations and actions taken.
- Identifying training needs.
- Submitting monthly reports to the HSWO in a timely manner.

#### The ideal candidate should possess the following:

- Minimum of an Associate's Degree or equivalent in Occupational Health & Safety, Industrial Hygiene, Biology, Chemistry or a related field
- Diploma/Certification in Occupational Health and Safety or related field;
- A suitable combination of experience and qualification
- Attention to detail with excellent communication skills
- Proficiency with MS Office suite of applications
- A valid driver's license and a vehicle.

#### Interested persons are asked to apply in writing to:

The Human Resources Manager  
 Antigua Public Utilities Authority  
 P.O. Box 416  
 Crn. High Street & Independence Avenue  
 St. Johns, Antigua  
**OR** Email: [hr@apua.ag](mailto:hr@apua.ag)

#### Deadline for application is 18th March, 2020

\*\* Only suitable applicants will be acknowledged \*\*  
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# COVID-19 in Antigua and Barbuda – Here is what you need to know

*From our friends at the Mount St. John's Medical Center*

With the report of the first case of COVID-19 being confirmed in Antigua & Barbuda, here's what you need to know...

FIRST... We're hopeful this patient will make a fast and full recovery. This is undoubtedly a frightening situation for the patient and their family.

1. Even though a person in Antigua has developed the illness, the risk to the general public remains low.

2. Home isolation of confirmed cases who aren't sick enough to be hospitalized is a proven measure that will help limit the spread of disease.

NOTE: It's important for you to understand this, as isolating these types of cases at home may become more routine if additional cases are identified.

3. The symptoms of COVID-19 are similar to what someone may be experiencing as the result of seasonal influenza – namely a fever, cough, or shortness of breath.

NOTE: These symptoms on their own are not worrisome and should not cause alarm. But if you or a family member exhibits these symptoms and you have recently traveled to

areas with widespread COVID-19 illness or has been in close contact with a known positive case, you should immediately call the Response Hotline: 46-COVID (462-6843) or send an email to [COVID@msjmc.org](mailto:COVID@msjmc.org). You can also notify your health care provider, who will coordinate with the appropriate public health officials to determine next steps.

4. There is currently no vaccine available for coronavirus and it is flu and respiratory disease season. Mount St. John's Medical Centre (MSJMC) recommends taking everyday preventive actions to stop the spread of germs including regular hand washing, covering coughs and sneezes with a tissue or an elbow, and staying home when you're sick.

For those of you who've asked about home-isolation. Please know that an assessment is carried out by health officials to ascertain the suitability of the residential setting for home care prior to taking this measure. Considerations include whether:

1. The patient is stable enough to receive care at home

2. Appropriate caregivers are available at home

3. There is a separate bedroom where the patient can recover without sharing immediate space with others

4. Resources for access to food and other necessities are available

5. The patient and other household members have access to appropriate, recommended personal protective equipment (at a minimum, gloves and facemask) and are capable of adhering to precautions recommended as part of home care or isolation (e.g., respiratory hygiene and cough etiquette, hand hygiene)

6. There are household members who may be at increased risk of com-

plications from COVID-19 infection (e.g., people 65 years old, young children, pregnant women, people who are immune-compromised or who have chronic heart, lung, or kidney conditions).

NOTE: If it is determined that someone can be isolated at home, they are monitored by a medical team and are required to follow prevention measures outlined by the team until they are cleared to return to their normal activities. Some preventive measures include:

1. Separating themselves from other people and animals in the home

2. Wearing a facemask

3. Covering their coughs and sneezes

4. Cleaning their hands often

5. Avoiding sharing personal household items

6. Cleaning all "high-touch" surfaces everyday

7. Monitoring their symptoms

NOTE: If they have a medical emergency and need to call 911, they should notify the dispatch personnel that they have, or are being evaluated for COVID-19 – And if possible, put on a facemask before emergency medical services arrive.

## OTHER USEFUL INFO

Don't go to the Emergency Department (ED) for COVID-19 testing. The Emergency Department is only for those who need the most critical care.\*

NOTE: If you have chest pain, shortness of breath, dizziness, a severe headache or other potentially life-threatening problems, go to the Emergency Department or call 911.

SOURCES: Mount St. John's Medical Centre, Min. of Health Wellness & the Environment, World Health Organization, Centers for Disease Control & Prevention.

## NATURALISATION NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that Paul Savino of Proctor Point Road, Falmouth, St. Paul, Antigua is applying to the Minister for Naturalisation and that any person who knows why Naturalisation should not be granted should send a written and signed statement of the facts to the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs.

## Nurses Left Stranded By Fearful Taxi Drivers - Tufton Threatens Operators With Sanctions

Taxi drivers across Jamaica are being warned by Health Minister Dr Christopher Tufton that the Government may confiscate their licences if they continue to bar nurses from accessing their services, due to fear that COVID-19 may be transferred to them and other passengers. Though the minister noted that in another day or two, five buses will be dedicated to transporting nurses to and from work, he has demanded that taxi operators desist from the practice.

Minister Tufton said reports from the Nurses Association of Jamaica are that some taxi operators in Manchester, St Ann, Trelawny, St James, Westmoreland and Kingston have been leaving



Prime Minister Andrew Holness and Local Government Minister Desmond McKenzie at a COVID-19 press conference at the Office of the Prime Minister - Ricardo Makyn photo

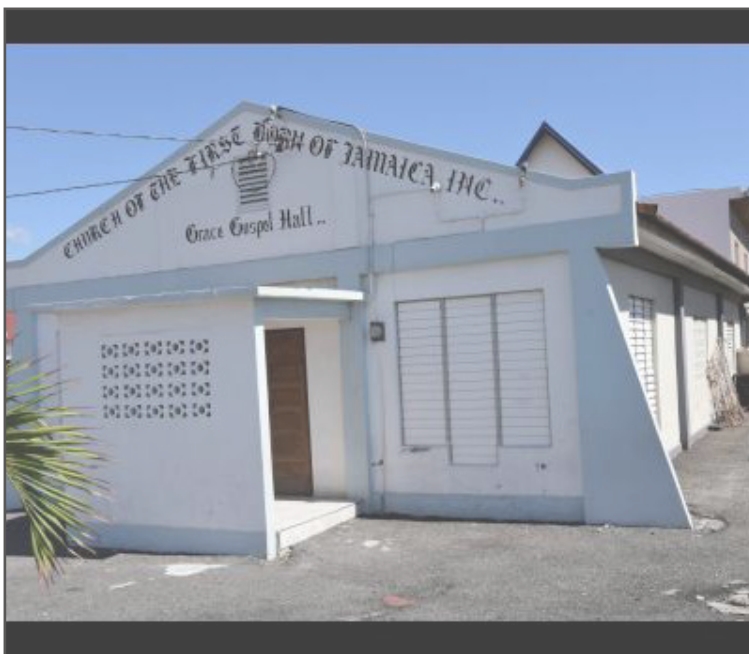
healthcare workers stranded. "If the practice becomes continuous, then we may need to take action otherwise.

These people run taxis and they need licences. If they are actively refusing to carry out essential services to our

workers, at an important period of time when we need the public health system to be responding, then those who are involved could lose licences if the practice becomes sufficiently widespread," Tufton told *The Sunday Gleaner* yesterday. The minister is assuring the public that nurses take extra precautionary measures when carrying out duties, as their safety and that of patients is paramount.

He added that, "We are looking at the extent to which the respective hospitals can give some support to transporting our nurses to central points. We have solutions in terms of our own programmes, but at the same time, taxi drivers should not refuse our nurses access."

## Family Of Patient Zero Getting Death Threats



By Ian Allen

Grace Gospel Hall in Harbour View, St Andrew, where Patient Zero attended a funeral for family matriarch Gloria Clarke earlier this month.

Relatives of the woman who became Jamaica's first confirmed case of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) have been getting death threats from angry residents in their community, two family members have revealed.

'Family Member 1' and 'Family Member 2' opened up, too, about how they have been stigmatised and shunned by taxi operators, shopkeepers and other residents in their Bull Bay, St Andrew, community and their struggles to cope.

"Some of them don't have any food since Tues-

day night. If they want to go downtown [to purchase supplies], nobody not taking them in dem vehicle because they know them from the community," Family Member 2 said.

"And even if they went to places like hardware stores, they are not selling them."

The family members acknowledged, during an interview with *The Sunday Gleaner* on Friday, that they are cousins of the woman identified by health authorities as 'Patient Zero' (a Jamaican visiting from the United Kingdom) and spoke on the condition that their

*cont'd on pg 14*



# Regional News

*cont'd from pg 13*

names would not be published.

Other family members, they said, refused to participate in the interview because they were fearful for their safety.

On Friday evening, Prime Minister Andrew Holness declared their community a quarantine zone, curtailing movement in and out, along with several other communities in Seven Miles and Eight Miles, Bull Bay, bordering St Andrew and St Thomas, to contain the spread of COVID-19.

With some eight confirmed cases of severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) and the health ministry now tracking between 200 and 300 persons who may have come in contact with the patients, Jamaica has been declared a disaster area under the Disaster Risk Management Act Declaration of Disaster Area Order 2020.

## IMPROVING STEADILY

The two family members disclosed that Patient Zero's condition has been steadily improving, but said they have not been able to ascertain the status of 10 other family members who were taken from their homes last Tuesday night by health authorities and placed in quarantine facilities.

"She is improving," they said of Patient Zero, who, according to health officials, arrived in the island from the UK on March 4 for the funeral of family matriarch Gloria Clarke three days later.

"The latest update that we got is that she is not having any fever. She is fine.

That's what she has told other family members when they call her," Family Member 1 told The Sunday Gleaner.

The two admitted that they have had close contact with their cousin, including at Clarke's funeral, and that they have self-quarantined on the instructions of health authorities, but said they have not had any symptoms of COVID-19.

"Until now, there is no one else in the family who has any symptoms or nothing at all," Family Member 1 protested.

Despite this, they claimed, members of the family, including children, have been verbally abused and threatened with violence by angry residents because of speculations in viral social media messages which suggested that they knew their cousin was stricken with the virus and kept it quiet.

Further, the two family members say other residents are furious over the community-wide dislocations since health officials confirmed that the first case of the coronavirus was in the seaside community east of the capital city.

## THREATS TO BURN DOWN HOUSE

Among other things, one resident reported that before the quarantine, nervous taxi operators refused to provide service to and from the community since it was confirmed that Patient Zero resided there.

"They [residents] were saying that she knew [she was infected] and we kept it like that and that the whole a we fi dead off. Names and pictures all

over social media, even my children get involved," Family Member 1 related.

"Persons in the community or wherever they come from were threatening to say they should bun dung the house and such things," Family Member 2 interjected.

They admitted that they are nervous and fearful, but said "the only thing we are doing is just putting it in the hands of God".

"Because we are a God-fearing family and we believe in God," Family Member 2 added before making a compassionate plea to the entire country.

"We are just like everybody else, we are human beings and we have feelings. We have learnt to live with HIV...it doesn't make any sense they run and try to punch us out because there are other persons who have it who they don't know about."

The two family members, who were at Clarke's funeral, held at Grace Gospel Hall, in nearby Harbour View, dismissed reports that their cousin displayed symptoms of the coronavirus during the service.

"When I just got there, I went to her because she wanted me to make notes of something for the funeral and I was with her for some time. Nobody was coughing or anything like that," Family Member 1 said.

"She was sweating, but it was not like how they are exaggerating about. It's not true," Family Member 2 insisted.

# GOT NEWS

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## CARICOM High Level Team arrives in Guyana to supervise Elections Recounts



The Independent High-Level Mission (from left): Ms Angela Taylor, Chief Electoral Officer, Barbados; Mr Anthony Boatwain, former Finance Minister, Grenada; Ms Francine Baron, Chair of the Team and former Attorney General and Foreign Minister, Dominica; Ms Fern Nacis-Scope, Chief Elections Officer, Trinidad and Tobago; Ms Cynthia Barrow-Giles, Senior Lecturer, Department of Government, UWI.

A CARICOM High Level Team is now in Guyana to supervise the re-counting of ballots from the country's 2 March 2020 Elections. CARICOM Chairman, Prime Minister Mia Mottley of Barbados, on Saturday announced that Guyana's President Mr David Granger had requested that the Caribbean Community field an Independent High-Level Team to supervise the recounting of the ballots in all Regions, and that this was agreed to by Opposition Leader Mr Bharrat Jagdeo.

"I've spoken directly to both the President and Leader of the Opposition and they have both committed

to abide by the results of a fair and transparent recount of each and every ballot, as supervised by the CARICOM Team," the CARICOM Chairman said. The Independent High level team is chaired by the former Attorney-General and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Dominica Ms Francine Baron, and comprise former Minister of Finance of Grenada Mr Anthony Boatwain; Senior Lecturer in the Department of Government of UWI Ms Cynthia Barrow-Giles; Chief Electoral Officer of Barbados Ms Angela Taylor; and Chief Elections Officer of Trinidad and Tobago Ms Fern Nacis-Scope.

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# SVG To Launch COVID-19 Food Security And Impact Mitigation Plan



*Global food systems have been severely disrupted by the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic.*

St. Vincent and the Grenadines (SVG) has already seen its exports of live lobsters by Bequia Seafoods, a major exporter, grind to a halt. This is as a result of interruptions in air transport between the United States of America and Hong Kong.

Rainforest Seafoods has also postponed the scheduled groundbreaking of a multi-million dollar state of the art processing plant in Calliaqua due to the pandemic. However, construction continues in an attempt to meet the 2020 scheduled date for opening.

The restriction of the movement of goods and people between Europe and the United States of America and between other countries and China will certainly create a spatial scarcity of food and possible inflation in food prices. How will this affect SVG, the OECS and CARICOM Member States?

The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries, Rural Transformation, Industry and Labour, yesterday concluded its second day of meetings to craft the COVID-19 Food Security and Impact Mitigation Plan. The document will be sent for the consider-

ation of Cabinet today, on Friday 13th March, 2020 and subsequent approval.

Hon. Saboto Caesar, in an interview, noted that,

“St. Vincent and the Grenadines has a robust food production platform, which will bolster internal food supply systems should food import availability become compromised.”

The Minister, without detailing the plan, noted that,

“The country can expect an intensification in the production of a basket of commodities which will mature between 4 – 12 weeks. The Green House Park in Montreal will increase production to move into maximum capacity.”

“We will increase our monthly targets for 2020 budgeted areas, and simply intensify production over the upcoming days. The Orange Hill Biotechnology Institute, for example, has already increased seedling production of tomatoes, sweet peppers, lettuce and cabbage, others will be added in the coming days.”

Central to the functioning of the plan is the administrative role of the Internal Food Security Council

(IFSC) – expected to be comprised of senior technicians in the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, and Forestry, and commercial stakeholders in the value chain.

The plan is expected to touch from backyard gardening to commercial-scale production. In a recent address by Minister Caesar, at the prize-giving ceremony of the National School Gardening Competition, he invited all agriculture science teachers to actively partner with the Ministry of Agriculture to further build the island's food production capacity.

Last week the country exported cattle and pigs to Grenada; root crops, plantains and bananas to Trinidad and Tobago, Barbados, the British Virgin Islands, and the Leeward Islands. Coconut water is also a growing export from SVG to several islands in the OECS.

The Minister concluded the meeting by thanking stakeholders and staff for assisting in the drafting of the plan. He has asked farmers and fishers to redouble their efforts in production to ensure that the island maintains high levels of food security.



## Italy reports 368 coronavirus deaths in 24 hours: Latest updates



Over 1,800 killed so far in Italy, the worst-hit country after China, with total number of cases hitting nearly 25,000.

-Aljazera

Italy on Sunday reported 368 new deaths from the coronavirus outbreak as the country's death toll hit 1,809 while the number of positive cases rose to 24,747 from 21,157 on Saturday, the country's civil protection authority said. Governments around the world have stepped up restrictions on the movement of their citizens to reduce the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic, which has killed nearly 5,800 people with over 153,000 infected globally, according to the World Health Organization (WHO).

-Spain became the second European country to impose a nationwide lockdown after 2,000 new cases were confirmed and the number of reported deaths doubled.

Iran announced more than 100 people have died in the past 24 hours, with the confirmed cases nearing 14,000. Tehran said its fight against coronavirus is being severely hampered by US sanctions. In the Philippines, the capital Manila has been sealed off, with its 12 million residents told to avoid travel for a month. Schools in the city have been closed and large events banned.

In the United States, increased screening measures for people returning from Europe have caused chaos at airports. - Serbia declares state of emergency over coronavirus: president Serbia's president declared a state of emergency to halt the spread of the coronavirus deploying soldiers to guard hospitals and shutting down many public spaces. "From tomorrow,

there is no more school, no nurseries, no universities, everything closes, no training, sports... We will close down to save our lives, to save our parents, to save our elderly," said President Aleksandar Vucic. -France reports its biggest jump in coronavirus deaths, total at 120 France recorded 29 additional coronavirus deaths, the biggest one-day increase in the country since the outbreak, bringing the total death toll to 120, Health Minister Olivier Veran said. Around 900 more infections were recorded in the past 24 hours, taking the total to 5,400 since January, Veran told France 2 television.

Separately, the national health agency Sante Publique France, which has been updating its tally daily, put the new toll at 127 deaths



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## New York City to close schools; bars, restaurants around U.S. ordered closed over coronavirus

As U.S. cases of the coronavirus climb well past 3,000, New York City announced on Sunday it will close public schools on Monday, and states and cities are ordering bars and restaurants to close in an effort to encourage social distancing and try to stem the outbreak.

New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo announced on Sunday evening that Westchester, Nassau, Suffolk and New York City schools will close this week. Cuomo also said in a statement that New York City must put a plan in place to make sure children who rely on school meals will still get fed and parents, especially health care workers and first responders, will be provided childcare.

In a press conference on Sunday, Mayor Bill de Blasio said schools will close Monday and remain closed at least until April 20. The mayor said there is a chance schools could remain closed for the rest of the school year. The announcement comes after widespread calls to close the schools and "furious" teachers who thought it was irresponsible to keep schools open. "It is time to take more dramatic measures," the mayor said, adding he knows "the full cost of shutting our schools." The decision comes on a day where states and cities across the



*Gov. Andrew Cuomo ordered schools closed in New York City as Ohio and Illinois ordered all bars and restaurants in the state to shut down service.*

country took more dramatic measures to try to contain the new coronavirus. Ohio governor Mike DeWine announced Sunday he has ordered all bars and restaurants in the state to shut down service beginning at 9 p.m. this evening.

"How long will this order be in effect? We don't, frankly, know," DeWine told reporters Sunday. "It will be in effect for as long as it needs to."

DeWine said carryout and delivery services were not included in the order, and said his administration is working to help small businesses that will inevitably suffer because of the closures. Ohio's decision

comes as other states are putting in place similar protocols. On Sunday, Illinois governor J.B. Pritzker ordered bars and restaurants in the state to close from March 16 to March 30. On CNN Sunday, Los Angeles mayor Eric Garcetti said he plans to enact a similar policy in his city.

Boston mayor Marty Walsh ordered bars, restaurants and clubs to cut their capacity in half by removing tables and chairs to encourage social distancing, said beer gardens cannot open until the crisis passes, and said lines should not form outside, according to NBC Boston. He also loosened rules applying to

takeout. "We are basically allowing every single establishment that serves food in the city of Boston to serve takeout," Walsh said.

Washington D.C. mayor Muriel Bowser also announced a series of protocols restaurants and bars must follow, including limiting service to tables of six people or less, ensuring patrons are seated at least six feet apart at tables and booths, and ordering nightclubs and multi-purpose facilities to suspend operations. New York City is not closing bars and restaurants, but is cracking down on establishments that violate its earlier rule of keeping occupancy at half the capacity of eating and drinking spots. Law enforcement authorities will be enforcing penalties on the half-capacity rule, de Blasio said. The efforts by states and cities are meant to force more people to participate in social distancing, one of the best ways to slow the spread of a virus and minimize its effects on the most vulnerable populations. The best tool we have right now in this response is to give individuals breathing room from one another," Jason Schwartz, an assistant professor in the department of health policy at the Yale School of Public Health, previously told NBC News. "This is really critical."



## Coronavirus: US slashes rates and launches huge stimulus programme

The US has cut interest rates to almost zero and launched a \$700bn stimulus programme in a bid to protect the economy from the impact of coronavirus. It is part of a co-ordinated action announced on Sunday in the UK, Japan, eurozone, Canada, and Switzerland.

Announcing the US move, the Federal Reserve said the "outbreak has harmed communities and disrupted economic activity in many countries".

Fed chairman Jerome Powell will hold a news conference later on Sunday. US President Donald Trump said the Fed's action "makes him very happy".

The Fed has cut rates to a target range of 0% to 0.25%, and said it would begin buying bonds - quantitative easing - a move that pumps money directly into the economy. The central bank had already cut interest rates by half a percentage point after an emergency meeting on 3 March.

It was the first rate cut outside of a regularly scheduled policy meeting since the financial crisis in 2008. Stock markets have plunged amid fears that economic paralysis will wipe out corporate prof-

its and spark a global recession. But in a statement on Sunday, the Fed said: "The Federal Reserve is prepared to use its full range of tools to support the flow of credit to households and businesses and thereby promote its maximum employment and price stability goals."



*Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell was scheduled to hold a media conference later on Sunday*



Antigua Commercial Bank

### A message from our General Manager

**At Antigua Commercial Bank, our highest priority is always the safety of our customers and our employees. Each day, we are learning more about the coronavirus (COVID-19) and how it is impacting the communities in which we live and work.**

As a valued stakeholder, we wanted to take a moment to reach out to you and assure you of the precautions we are taking to mitigate the impact of the coronavirus (COVID-19) in-branch. We are in the process of implementing rigorous sanitation standards and robust cleaning procedures, including:

- Extensive and ongoing training for our staff on maintaining a safe and hygienic workplace and environment for all of our stakeholders;
- Specified intervals for frequent cleaning and disinfection of customer-contact areas throughout the day;
- The provision of hand sanitizers in high traffic areas, as well as at the ATM locations at our branches;
- Employ daily and frequent sanitation procedures throughout all of our facilities.

Our aim is to provide you with uninterrupted access to our Banking services, and remind you that you can utilize our island-wide ATM locations (including in Barbuda). You can also download our ACB Mobile Banking App, to check account balances in real time, transfer funds between your ACB accounts, transfer funds to other ACB customers, pay utility bills and so much more.

We are delighted to be your Bank of Choice, and again reassure you that we are doing all that we can in order to provide a safe banking experience for all of our stakeholders, so that you can concentrate on keeping yourself and your family healthy.

*Joanna Charles*  
General Manager

Thank you for allowing us to continue to serve you.

# Leisure

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## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

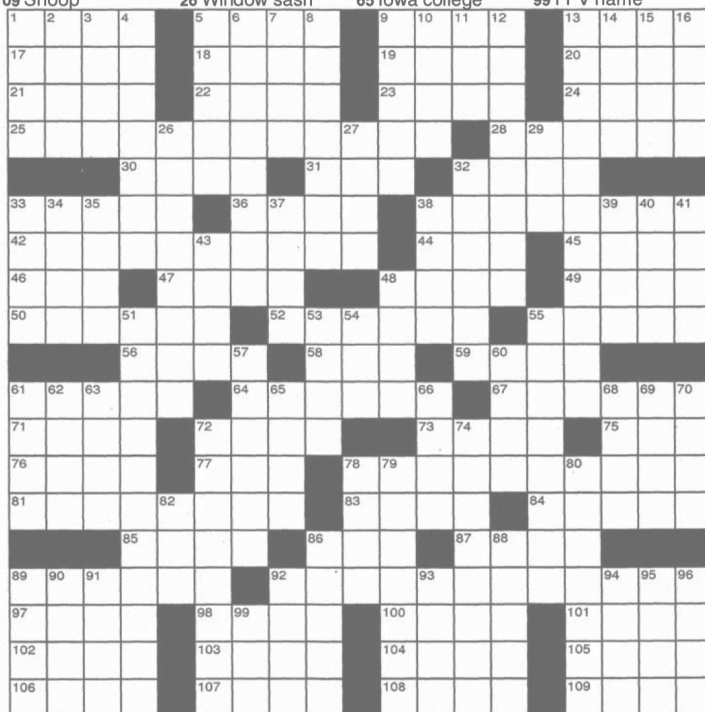
## ACROSS

- 1 Insult  
5 Fall start  
9 Plaster brace  
13 Golfer's peril  
17 Like most NBA players  
18 Hannah, for Miley  
19 Lilylike plant  
20 "Keep \_\_\_ alive" (Jesse Jackson)  
21 Verdi masterpiece  
22 Victorious shout  
23 Rudolph of "SNL"  
24 Columnist-hostess Maxwell  
25 Cowboy, at times  
28 Some bridge suspenders  
30 Luau chow  
31 "Sands of \_\_\_ Jima"  
32 "Fame" songstress  
33 Holds over  
36 Ready, willing, and \_\_\_  
38 Perform successfully  
42 Heath family plant  
44 Food scrap  
45 Mall come-on  
46 Black cuckoo  
47 Clio, e.g.  
48 Kops' props  
49 Factual  
50 Drake, e.g.  
52 Coat collar continuations  
55 Assuaged  
56 Washington bills  
58 Henie's homeland: abbr.  
59 Hypertensive's dietary no-no  
61 Used up  
64 "Break Up to \_\_\_" (Stylistics)  
67 Pre-freon purveyor  
71 Whig's foe  
72 Sophia's capital  
73 Lawyer-turned-author Gardner  
75 Exist  
76 Other  
77 Piece out  
78 Hoaxes

## DOWN

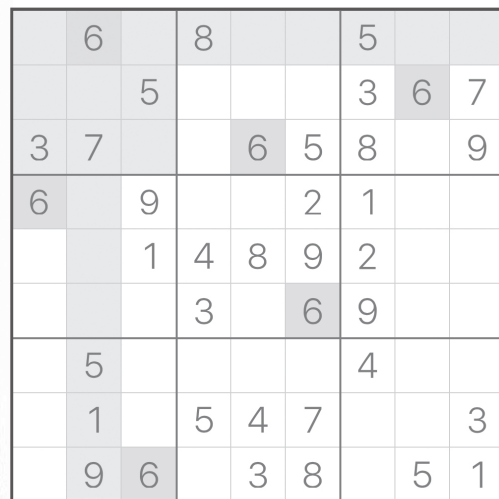
- 81 Nerve networks  
83 Author of "Popular Fallacies"  
84 Redos, on the set  
85 Experts  
86 "\_\_\_ Dreamer, Aren't We All?"  
87 Elevator units  
89 \_\_\_ mind (consider)  
92 Jet set sort  
97 River in France  
98 Jai \_\_\_  
100 Comic-strip agent  
101 Bald eagle's kin  
102 Convenes  
103 Leningrad's river  
104 Harvest \_\_\_  
105 Prison turmoil  
106 East China and Japan  
107 \_\_\_ off (annoyed)  
108 Virginia lake  
109 Snoop

- 1 Use a dagger  
2 "\_\_\_ of the White Worm" (Stoker)  
3 Italian statesman Moro  
4 DeBecque of "South Pacific," e.g.  
5 Abbot's assistant  
6 Dories  
7 1966 NL batting champ  
8 Stretchable  
9 Hitchcock's dog walker in "The Birds," e.g.  
10 Pertaining to wings  
11 Bean-curd bean  
12 4 p.m. London trolleys?  
13 Massachusetts  
14 Start a backgammon turn  
15 Basilica section  
16 Pasta alla carbonara veggies  
26 Window sash  
29 JFK datum  
32 Stroke gently  
33 Ivan the Terrible, e.g.  
34 St. Columba's isle  
35 Faucet problem  
37 Belgian singer Jacques  
38 Spring  
39 Thole mates  
40 Chimney duct  
41 Cattle mash  
43 Fisherman's enticement  
48 Sendero Luminoso's nation  
51 Service made obsolete by the telegraph  
53 "Diana" singer  
54 "The Raven" poet  
55 California town  
57 Enjoys a pipe  
60 Suffers  
61 Flight part  
62 Gallup product  
63 Hebridean tongue  
65 Iowa college  
66 Actress Gilpin of "Frasier"  
68 False face  
69 "\_\_\_ de Escrivir"  
70 Crook-catcher Eliot  
72 Reechoing  
74 Chain \_\_\_  
78 Office correspondence  
79 Where the Tombigbee flows  
80 Asian  
82 Psychic Geller  
86 Homer opus  
88 Place of combat  
89 Supervisor  
90 Ontario's neighbor  
91 Rectangular pier  
92 Presented  
93 Made of a hard, heavy wood  
94 The Powerpuff Girls, e.g.  
95 Cainan's father  
96 Nerve network  
99 FFV name



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## Sudoku



Daily Comics presented by azcentral.

### Doonesbury



### Cathy



### Garfield



### Luann





## Your Stars Foretold



Aries

### Aries (Mar 21 – Apr 19)

Put an extra spring in your step, Aries. The slow, steady pace may be something that you're comfortable with, but note that the situations of the day call for something much more dynamic and brave.



Libra

### Libra (Sep 23 – Oct 22)

Don't be a pushover today, Libra. This is your time to lead. At least get your opinion out in the open and let it be known to the people around you. Put some passion in your day in order to liven things up and get the energy moving. A powerful transformation may take place within you as you start to wield your power instead of give it blindly away to others.



Taurus

### Taurus (Apr 20 – May 20)

Be prepared for all-out combat with people today, Taurus, even though this is pretty much the opposite of your normal style. In fact, "opposite" is the name of the game for you today. Don't be surprised if you walk into an ice cream shop wanting vanilla and all they have is chocolate. Remember to not get upset by these types of situations over which you simply have no control.



Scorpio

### Scorpio (Oct 23 – Nov 21)

You have a great deal of power at your disposal today, Scorpio. You should keep in mind that just about anything you wish for will come true. Don't waste words or actions. Concentrate your energy and focus it on one or two important things instead of dispersing it and thereby diluting your overall power. There isn't anything to fear on a day like this.



Gemini

### Gemini (May 21 – Jun 20)

Control is apt to be a big theme for you and the people around you today, Gemini. You'll find such a brutal dispute over who is holding the reins that once someone finally gets a firm hold of them, he or she is apt to take the situation to the extreme. There's an aggressive tone to things that can't easily be ignored. Keep an eye on your associates on a day like this.



Sagittarius

### Sagittarius (Nov 22 – Dec 21)

Be careful of getting into fights today, Sagittarius. However, if a squabble or altercation of some sort seems inevitable, don't shrink away and hide. It's important that you face the source of the attack and stand up to whomever or whatever is getting in your path. Conjure up the warrior inside you and you might surprise yourself with the incredible power you have within.



Cancer

### Cancer (Jun 21 – Jul 22)

In general, things should be going extremely well for you today, Cancer, so don't miss this opportunity to pursue your dreams in every sense of the word. Do things with passion and don't hold back. Remember that your mind and will are the only things stopping you from getting where you want to be. There's a great deal of magnetism at your disposal today, so enlist others to help you.



Capricorn

### Capricorn (Dec 22 – Jan 19)

Issues regarding freedom are apt to come up today in more ways than one, Capricorn. These issues could be connected with opportunities for adventure and travel. Although you initially want to dive into this promised freedom, take time to reflect on what you need in your current situation before making any final decision. Don't forget the other people in your life and how such actions might affect them and your relationships.



Leo

### Leo (Jul 23 – Aug 22)

You may feel anxious today, even more so than usual, Leo. Your nerves may be quite jittery, and there's a feeling that you may not be on exactly the right track. More than likely, what you need to do is simply calm down and relax. Let your brain slow down and think clearly without the distraction of many people telling you what to do.



Aquarius

### Aquarius (Jan 20 – Feb 18)

There is a great deal of startup energy working for you today, Aquarius. You may feel as if you're walking on hot coals. This isn't a good day to sit on the couch watching TV. The coals will burn you for sure. It's important that you keep moving. Engage in activities that exercise your mind as well as body. You'll feel much better if you can point to something and say that you created it.



Virgo

### Virgo (Aug 23 – Sept 22)

Other people are the most important aspect of your day today, Virgo. You'll find that things might get a bit difficult and unruly alone, but if you connect with others, even the most challenging task becomes almost effortless. One toothpick is easily broken, but 50 toothpicks together are as strong as steel. Conjure up this power created by a force of people who all share a common goal.



Pisces

### Pisces (Feb 19 – Mar 20)

Your energy will light up any room you enter today, Pisces. Feel free to take advantage of this incredible magnetism by initiating and encouraging others to join you in creative activities and bold adventures. However, be careful that your head doesn't get too big. You can be proud without becoming egotistical; otherwise you'll end up losing your followers before you even get started.





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## Edwards: Concern over lengthy stoppage

Head coach of the Grenades Football Club Derrick Prettyboy Edwards is concerned with the lengthy halt to the ABFA 2019/20 premier league season.

Speaking to PointeXpress the former national striker says with only two more rounds of matches remaining he is hoping that some measure can be found to complete the season as soon as possible.

Edwards pointed to the possibility of playing the games behind closed door for the short period remaining.

Known during his playing days as number 4 must score he noted that the



*Derrick Prettyboy Edwards, right.*

30 days ban will affect his club tremendously.

He added that his overseas players need to get back to their families and it will hit the executive financially costing

more to complete the season.

Grenades have eight overseas based players on their roster.

Edwards says he will try to keep his team in sharp through training over the period. He is confident that when all is done and dusted Grenades will lift their first Premier Championship.

Grenades presently lead the 10 team completion with 31 points from 16 outings two points clear of Green Bay Hoppers on 29.

Only one of both teams has any chance of winning the grand prize.

## Jennings top Glanvilles in School Cricket

Jennings Secondary brushed aside Glanvilles by 9 wickets last week in the Ministry of Sports Under-15 cricket league.

Playing at Jennings, Glanvilles could only manage 60 for 5 from 15 overs. Matthew picked up 2 for 11 in 3.1 overs.

In response the home team rushes to 62 for 1 from 7.4 overs. Tanez Francis made 32 and Malinga Bruney was unbeaten on 13.

In the Under 19 category All Saints Secondary rolled over Ottos Comprehensive School by 122 runs. Batting first ASC accumulated 178 for 5 declared with Tarek



Charles stroking 84 and Keny Sutton adding 55.

OCS was then bowled out for 104 with Sutton picking up 5 for 29, Demetri Lucas 3 for 22 and Ajahrie Joseph 2 for 15. Batting a second time the young men from

All Saints posted 109 for 2 declared with Brent Joseph leading the way unbeaten on 54 and Sutton making 36.

OCS was bundled out for just 61 with Sutton and Lucas grabbing 5 wickets each.

At Factory Jennings Sec-



onday and Antigua State College played to a draw. Jennings 127 all out, Glenton Williams 30, Demari Benta 5 for 18, and 37 all out Benta 4 wickets. ASC 50 for 8 Grayson Cuffy 20, Matthew Miller 6 for 29, and 62 for 2 Grayson Cuffy 22 not-out.

Princess Margaret School and Antigua Grammar School, PMS 195, Kiel Williams 67, Tyrese Damon 33, Yanique Watley 33 not out, Tyree Moore 4 for 29, and 74 for 3 Michael Greaves 40, Watley unbeaten 28. AGS 118 all out Melique Jacobs 20, Michael Greaves 5 for 23, Jaydin Coates 2 for 22, and 71 for 7 Greaves 6 for 27. Match drawn.

## Hector urging members to comply

The Antigua and Barbuda Football Association notified its members last Friday of the stance taken by the Ministry of Sports to ban all sporting activities for 30 days. Appearing on Pointe FM Saturday Sports Talk with Epilus, Blinds and Blacks the secretary of the ABFA Rohan Hector emphasize the importance of following the guidelines set out by the Government, Ministry of Health and Ministry of Sports to reframe from all sporting and social gatherings for the period stipulated.

The Secretary noted that the directive also

include training sessions. He added the ABFA has a responsibility to thousands of players and supporters of the sport in keeping them safe.

The football administrator says they will be dialoging with their members and stakeholders on a regular basis over the period since there is no precedence to follow in respect to COVID-19 and sports.

He articulated that the smart thing to do at this point is join forces with Government and health officials by following their guidelines.

# Sports

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MONDAY 16TH MARCH 2020

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA  
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## RAFTR Club win big over A&B Shooting Club

The Royal Air Force Target Rifle Club (RAFTR Club) completed their Caribbean 2020 tour with victories in the two day championship with host Antigua and Barbuda Shooting Club.

The tournament was held at Crabbs Shooting Range. On Day-One the Royal Air Force amassed a total of 1436 points with 74 Vbulls. Antigua and Barbuda Shooting Club had 1350 with 65 Vbulls settling for second.

On day-two both Clubs competed in the individual competition.

For RAFTR Club Scott Glanville posted 147 points with 13 Vbulls, followed closely by David Calvert with 147 points and 11 Vbulls, and Chris Fitzpatrick on 146 points with 13 Vbulls.

For Antigua Andy Perry 142 points with 7 Vbulls, Rohit Dukhram 140 points with 7 Vbulls, and Christmas Joseph 138 points with 9 Vbulls.

Antigua and Barbuda received high praise from David Calvert who highlighted the Hospitality of the people who he interacted with and promise to promote Antigua and Barbuda as a



shooting destination.

Meanwhile president of the Antigua and Barbuda Shooting Club Thomas Benjamin said this was just the tip of

the iceberg for his Club and added that it was a learning experience for his team. The Royal Air Force Rifle Club will head home on Tuesday.

## Football postponed for 30 days

All football matches in the Female, First Division and Premier League was postponed over the weekend after the nation recorded the first case of Coronavirus.

The Ministry of Sports issued a directive dated March 12 2020 banning all sporting events for 30 days because of COVID-19 pandemic.

All members of the ABFA

were notified on Friday 13 to cease all group activities with immediate effect until further notice.

All training sessions and public gathering will be affected.

**DEWS**

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