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PRICE\$3

POLICE PROBE APPARENT SUICIDE

Story on Page 2



Local News



Police probe apparent suicide

The police have been called in to investigate what appears to be an apparent suicide involving a male.

An early morning report issued on Sunday by the police said they are continuing their investigations into the circumstances surrounding the death of 36-year old Jensen Kelroy Christopher, aka "Kelly" of Tyrells Back Road.

His body was discovered by a relative around 11:30 pm on Saturday, hanging from a Locus tree; a short distance from where he lived.

The body was dressed in a pair of jeans and what appeared to be a "Come-Along" chain around his neck. He was last seen alive sometime between 3:00 pm and 8:30 pm on Saturday.

A medical doctor arrived on the scene and pronounced him dead about a minute past 1 am on Sunday.

Last Thursday, the police were called to investigate another hanging when the body of a male was found hanging in a storage container at the back of the building that houses the National Solid Waste Management Authority offices.

The police have not yet said whether this too was an apparent suicide or whether foul play is suspected.



Jensen Kelroy Christopher



NIGHT 6/1 Wind: E at 11 km/h Wind Gusts: 20 km/h Probability of Precipitation: 40% Probability of Thunderstorms: 60% Precipitation: 1.0 mm Rain: 1.0 mm Snow: 0.0 cm Ice: 0.0 mm Hours of Precipitation: 0.5 Hours of Rain: 0.5

SUNRISE/SUNSET

Sunrise AST 5:32 AM

Sunset AST 6:38 PM



Duration 13:06 hr

MOONRISE/MOONSET

Moonrise AST 2:37 PM

Moonset AST 2:53 AM



Duration 12:16 hr

Local News

PAGE 3

Joint assurance from PM and AG in 'Jungle' homicide probe

The country's Prime Minister and Attorney General have jointly assured the nation that there is no cover up in the ongoing investigation into the seemingly violent death of a man whose body was found at Indian Creek on Easter Monday, April 13.

Bruce "Jungle" Greenaway of Falmouth had last been seen alive four days earlier when he was reportedly taken away in a vehicle that reportedly belonged to a member of the country's defense force.

An autopsy subsequently confirmed that Greenaway died of asphyxiation, which many have interpreted to mean that he was strangled, and family members allowed to view his body claim it bears what they regard as numerous and obvious marks of violence.

The Antigua and Barbuda Defense Force reported conducting an internal probe, due to the alleged involvement of its personnel, and says it has since passed on its findings to the police whose investigations are continuing.

The relative tardiness in identifying suspects and laying charges has led to a measure of public impatience, speculation, and accusations of cover up to protect the uniformed personnel thought to be involved.

Speaking Saturday, 30th May via his Browne and Browne Show on Pointe FM, Prime Minister Gaston Browne assured the public that, "The Bruce Greenaway issue is being addressed by law enforcement and justice will be served.

"In fact, the police [are] making a significant amount of progress with their investigation, and it is so sensitive that they do not wish to say much at this time, fearing that they



Attorney General Steadroy "Cutie" Benjamin

could prejudice the investigation."

Attorney General Steadroy "Cutie" Benjamin is also the Minister responsible for Justice, Legal Affairs and Public Safety.

He declared, on the same radio program, that the police were "doing their job properly to make sure that when arrests are made, they have a very strong case. The police said to me, as the Minister, 'We are proceeding, things are going well'."

Benjamin added that he was taken aback by WhatsApp messages forwarded to him which show "that a particular lady – who was once the Minister of Education, who is now working [as a part-time lecturer] at UWI, who has indicated that the campus should not come here at all, but was the first person to get a job – indicating that she will be demonstrating at the police headquarters to



Prime Minister Gaston Browne

ask for an explanation and to seek answers in this particular matter. How absolutely irresponsible! Let the police do their work."

The Attorney General stated that he had "full faith and confidence in the police", who "have prosecuted their own", as evidenced by the number of policemen imprisoned for breaches of the law.

"I am satisfied that within the next couple of days, justice will be done," Benjamin added emphatically. "The charges must be properly laid. The evidence must be there ..."

While AG Benjamin is the Minister responsible for the Royal Police Force of Antigua and Barbuda, PM Browne has portfolio responsibility for the Antigua and Barbuda Defense Force, and their combined word on these two organizations carries tremendous weight and authority.

Local News



New Standing Orders go before parliament

The long-delayed update of the Standing Orders of the parliament of Antigua and Barbuda is up for debate when the House of Representatives meets tomorrow, Tuesday.

Attorney General, Steadroy Benjamin, said the current Standing Orders, which governs the conduct of both houses of parliament were introduced way back in 1967 when Antigua became an Associated State, which was a semi-independent arrangement.

"We have had discussions with opposition members as well as amongst ourselves for over two years now, but a lot of things have

happened to cause them not to be debated. However, I think that the time is right for us to debate the new Standing Orders at this time and have it settled once and for all," Benjamin stated.

He sided with House Speaker, Sir Gerald Watt, who has sounded the clarion call for the Standing Orders to be updated almost from the time of his appointment to the speaker-

"Sir Gerald has been calling for this for over two years now, and I fully support his position on the matter," he noted.

Recently, the Standing Orders be-

came a matter of much debate when Leader of the Opposition, Jamale Pringle, rose to discuss a matter under the heading Personal Explana-

But when told that the subject that he wanted to raise could not be accommodated under that specific heading, Pringle stormed out of the parliament chambers after accusing the Speaker of being biased and of seeking to stifle the debate.

The subject of what happens to Pringle will likely be raised at Tuesday's meeting as there have been calls for him to be censured in some manner.

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: Wednesday 3rd June 2020 Time: 08:30AM - 11:00 AM

Affected areas: Section south and north of Ramco Building on Independence Dr. and top of Nevis street

Date: Thursday 4th June 2020 Time: 08:30AM - 1:00 PM

Affected areas: Nut Grove and section of Gray's Hill.

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.





Visit us at www.apua.ag



V. C. Bird International Airport and Codrington Airport are managed by Antigua and Barbuda Airport Authority and we use our expertise to position V. C. Bird International Airport as the gateway of choice to the Eastern Caribbean and beyond.

We are determined to continually improve ourselves so that we can better support our stakeholders. If you have a growth mindset and thrive under pressure, you may be a great fit for our executive team!

We are seeking individuals to fill the positions listed.

The deadline for applications is June 15, 2020. NB: Only qualified applicants will be acknowledged.

Send your applications and curriculum vitae to: Vacancy: ABAA Senior Managers

c/o Profiles Consulting Inc. Aflak Building, Friars Hill Road P. O. Box 2118, St. John Antigua and Barbuda

NB: Selected applicants will be required to complete psychometric assessments.

INFORMATION TECH, MANAGER

JOB SUMMARY

To provide leadership and supervision to plan, install and maintain information technology infrastructure. QUALIFICATIONS

- Bachelor's degree or professional certification or equivalent education and experience
- Project management
- Professional certification in Network Technologies
- Proficient in network technologies, security, firewalls, LAN, WAN, Wireless, and Internet
- Extensive Technical Writing and Presentations

VACANCIES Senior Managers

HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGER

JOB SUMMARY

Responsible for the day-to-day administrative and operational functions of the Human Resources Department and will work closely with the Divisional Director to provide the necessary technical support in HR strategic management and policies and

QUALIFICATIONS

- Relevant Bachelor's degree, professional certification, or equivalent combination of education and experience
- Extensive human resource generalist experience to include strength in change management, leadership development, talent selection, employee relations, and management coaching
- Extensive knowledge of Antigua and Barbuda
- Demonstrable experience with human resources metrics

SECURITY MANAGER

Administer the security operation to ensure compliance of all stipulated regulations and standards, update policies and procedures relativ to security standards, and provide training for security details and departments

QUALIFICATIONS

- Five (5) years relevant work experience Relevant Bachelor's degree, professional certification, or equivalent combination of
- education and experience Logistics Management
- Knowledge of International Travel and Safety
- Knowledge of human behavior and performance
- Team building

POINTE PRESS

Local News

PAGE 5

New COVID-19 case reported

A new case of COVID-19 has been reported thus being the number of people which have tested positive for the respiratory illness to 26.

Reports are that the individual is a male believed to be in his 30's who has been in the care of a private physician for some time.

only active COVID case in the country and the only one reported over the past several weeks.

Since the first case was reported in mid-March, three people have died from the disease with twenty-two recovered.

Health officials continue to urge the Official sources say the case is the population to continue to be vigilant

as there may be people who are infected with the virus and who are asymptomatic. These people can infect others without knowing it.

The public is asked to observe the health protocols of wearing masks in public, to wash hands frequently and to maintain social distance at all times.

Health clinics set reopen

Government-run clinics across Antigua and Barbuda are reopening on Tuesday as the nation seems to have passed the worst of the COVID-19 outbreak.

The Ministry of Health says normal operation return to the clinic on Tuesday with the full slate of services being offered. These services include:

- 1. Antenatal and Postnatal care (that is, care during and after pregnancy)
 - 2. Child Health Clinics
 - 3. Nutrition Services

- 4. Hypertensive Clinic
- 5. Diabetic Clinic
- 6. Doctor's Visits
- 7. Wound Care
- 8. Mental Health Clinic
- 9. Dental Clinic
- 10. Sexually Transmitted Infections Clinic
- 11. Specialty Clinics which include Paediatric and Nephrology Clinics

In a statement the ministry noted that whilst there's an undertaking to return some measure of normality, operations at the different clinics will not be the same.

"In order to provide services to the public while maintaining social distancing and adhering to other health guidelines, we request that clients with appointments, are on time or call ahead if they need to reschedule," the statement said. Additionally, it said, there will be strict adherence to the government policy, requiring all individuals to properly wear a mask and practice social distancing when coming to the clinic.

The ministry is also urging those persons who wish to access the services, to call the clinic nearest to their home address for an appointment.





Local News

POINTE PRESS

Bars, gyms, churches prepare to reopen

Officers and inspectors from the Central Board of Health have been busy over the past two days inspecting bars, casinos, gyms and churches as they all get ready to reopen with new health protocols in place.

Chief health Inspector, Sharon Martin, said she and her staff spent Saturday and Sunday carrying out the inspections to ensure that all three business-types as well as churches adhered to the guidelines established by the Ministry of Health as conditions for their reopening.

"I decided to take on the inspection of the churches and I have since completed inspection of the 15 Moravian churches on the island. We will rest today (Whit Monday), but from tomorrow and for the rest of the week we will continue with the inspections," she told PointeXpress newspaper.

During the inspection, the CBH head

wants to see that churches place hand washing stations at their entrances; that arrangements are made for worshippers to wear face masks as well as to fulfill the requirements of social distancing.

Martin revealed that she has also been in touch with the head of the Anglican Church and during this week inspections will take place at the Adventists, Pentecostal and Roman Catholic churches among others.

For the bars, the CBH inspectors are looking for the same handwashing stations as well, but additionally, each bar is asked to ensure that they install flexiglass that will protect their staff and patrons alike.

Additionally, bars are to ask patrons to observe social distancing rules and that no dancing is to be allowed.

Bar owners have been asked to call the CBH to register and to arrange for inspection. According to Martin there



Chief health Inspector, Sharon Martin

have been many calls into the department as bar operators exhibit a willingness to cooperate with the new health guidelines.

Gyms and casinos owners/operators have also had to follow the guidelines established for bars and churches but with some variation depending on the nature of their business.

These establishments have been among the last to get the greenlight to reopen over fears that practicing social distancing and other health protocols may be difficult to impose.

There are 74 bars and nine gyms registered so far.





PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE DISSEMINATION

VC BIRD INTERNATIONAL INTRODUCES WIDE RANGING PROTOCOLS AHEAD OF OPENING OF ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA'S BORDERS

COOLIDGE, Antigua and Barbuda – 31st May, 2020: Health protocols that cover the diverse range of operations at the VC Bird International Airport will be in full effect to coincide with the opening of Antigua and Barbuda's borders as of Monday 1st June 2020.

The guidelines were subject to the scrutiny of major stakeholders and shared with employees and operators across the VC Bird International Airport through a series of virtual meetings.

The first scheduled commercial flight into the VC Bird International will arrive on the evening of Thursday 4th June.

The Antigua and Barbuda Airport Authority, will be restricting traffic through the terminal to travelers and airport staff.

They will all be subject to the agreed protocols, which include but are certainly not limited to the following:

- All passengers will be required to wear masks during the arrival and departure process.
- Arriving passengers will be asked to complete a health declaration form following which Port Health authorities will administer health and screening checks.
- All airport staff who have to interface with the travelling public must wear PPEs as per the standard health protocols.
- A rigorous regime of cleaning and sanitization has been operationalized for all points of contact to includerestrooms, check in counters, doors, security area, baggage claim etc.
- A limited number of doors will be used for exit from and entry into the terminal and these will be manned by airport personnel to ensure adherence to protocols.
- Only travelers and employees will be allowed entry into the terminal. For the time being, please say your farewells at home. Mask wearing policy will be strictly enforced.
- Travelers are being encouraged to make use of online check in.
- Sneeze guards have been installed at varying points of contact with travellers.
- Airlines have adopted their own set of protocols and travelers are being encouraged to adhere to their procedures.

CEO of the Antigua and Barbuda Airport Authority Euletta Francis has expressed appreciation to employees and stakeholders for their willing support and necessary involvement in the entire process.

"With the re-opening of the Antigua and Barbuda economy, international travel is crucial. But the safety of our valuable employees and members of the travelling public is foremost. The measures we have put in place are intended to keep everyone safe as they transit our facilities," Francis stated.

Local News

POINTE PRESS

Mega food donation from Epicurean and Elite Island Resorts



The provision of food packages to Antiguans and Barbudans, who are in need of assistance because of the COVID-19 pandemic, received another shot in the arm on Friday just past, May 29.

Epicurean Supermarket and Elite Island Resorts have donated more than \$1 million worth of food supplies to the Government for distribution to affected individuals and families.

The handing over took place at the Epicurean Supermarket branch in Jolly Harbour.

In receiving the donation on behalf of the government cont'd on pg 9



Local News

PAGE 9



cont'd from pg 8

and people of Antigua and Barbuda, Prime Minister Gaston Browne said there would be no discrimination when such donations are made available and packages distributed to the vulnerable.

Instead, he gave the assurance that everyone, regardless of political stripe or place of residence, would be assisted based on need, and that the opposition would continue to be fully engaged in ensuring that none were bypassed or overlooked

The Prime Minister said the gesture by Epicurean and Elite Island Resorts was an example of the home-grown humanitarian spirit that Antigua and Barbuda needs at this time.



He also noted that this will help to make up for reduced assistance from other countries that are themselves struggling with the economic fallout



from the COVID pandemic.

Photos show the Prime Minister along with representatives of the donors and others during Friday's handing over.



Local News





ANTIGUA & BARBUDA WORKERS' UNION

"UNITY IN DIVERSITY"

Principal Officers:

Kem K. Riley - President David A. D. Massiah - General Secretay

May 29, 2020

For Immediate Release

The Antigua and Barbuda Workers' Union is very cognizant of the issues and challenges emanating from the COVID 19 pandemic and has been on the forefront attending to the rights, fairness and equity and the socioeconomic survival of our membership.

During this period when many businesses have been significantly disrupted, the Union has sought to develop practical solutions in the best interest of all.

As is normal in Industrial Relations, there must be consultation and dialogue to arrive at reasonable solutions. It is a result of this that the Antigua and Barbuda Workers' Union recommended to the government of Antigua and Barbuda for continuous social dialogue between the Union and Employers to develop solution on the potential layoff crisis. Discussions are presently ongoing with the Antigua and Barbuda Hotel Association and a Memorandum of Agreement has already been established with the Sandals Grand Resort in an effort to protect the interest of our membership.

Contrary to the deliberate assertions made by various labour relations practitioners in the media, at no time has the Antigua and Barbuda Workers' Union expressed any interest in either making amendments to or suspension of any provision of the Antigua and Barbuda Labour Code as it relates to the application of severance payments nor agree to introduce any new legislation that will seek to undermine the rights of our membership or to create financial hardship on them.

We take this opportunity to appeal to the government for the establishment of an unemployment fund which will be used to mitigate against periods of pandemic, economic crisis, force majeure and other financial crisis which may result in workers being sent home for periods in excess of one (1) month.

We also call on the government to establish equity/severance protection legislation which will ensure the security of severance payment for workers in Antigua and Barbuda by placing said funds into an Escrow Account, managed by a tripartite committee. The proceeds from this Account shall be made readily available to workers in the event of bankruptcy, redundancy, termination without cause or cessation of business without them having to fight for it. We stand readily available to discuss the establishment of these legislations swiftly in the interest of all.

The Antigua and Barbuda Workers' Union wishes to assure our membership that we will continue to serve them with the utmost level of respect and commitment as our motto states "Unity in Diversity". End

Reg. Office: Freedom Hall, Newgate Street, St. John's, Antigua W.I.

ALL CORRESPONDENCE MUST BE ADDRESSED TO THE GENERAL SECRETARY

P.O BOX 940 • T.268-462-2005/462-0440/562-6541/562-6542 F.268-462-5220 • EMAIL: AWU@CANDW.AG

Kudos for Antigua Distillery

Local rum producer, Antigua Distilleries Ltd. is sharing in the acclaim and attention that are now focused on rum distilleries in the OECS territories.

The West Indies Rum and Spirits Producers Association (WIRSPA) based in Barbados, has issued a release highlighting the work of its members in the OECS territories.

"As the world continues to fight the COVID-19 pandemic, OECS rum distillers have modified their production lines to play their part, producing alco-

hol and hand sanitizer and making donations of sanitation products. Across the Eastern Caribbean, contributions have been made to governments, institutions and frontline healthcare workers and to support local communities impacted by the virus," the WIRSPA release said.

It highlighted the work of the Antigua Distilleries Ltd. which has made 70 percent alcohol readily available to produce hand sanitizers and disinfectants.

"The company has further made donations to emergency and essential workers in Antigua and Barbuda to include health and medical personnel, EMS, the police and Defense Force, HM Prison, and other persons on the front line," the release noted.

In addition, the company has supported the Government's social initiative to provide care packages to the most affected in the society by providing the sanitizing products and bottled water to those in need.

Antigua Distillery is also producing the gel type hand sanitizer utilizing local aloe and intends to export to neighboring countries.





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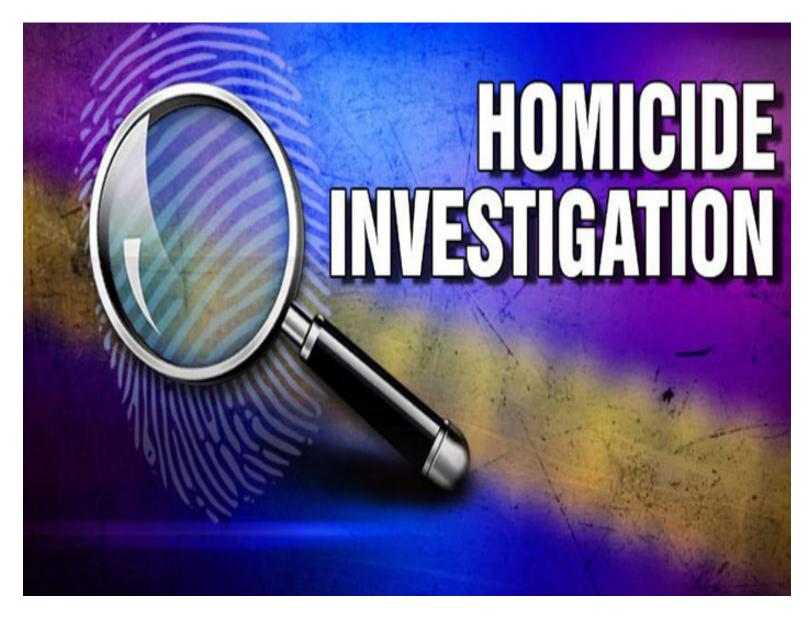


GIVE US A CALL 481-2500
OR VISIT ON OLD PARHAM ROAD, CHOSE AND DRIVE

Regional News



St. Vincent: 11-y-o boy is SVG's 5th homicide victim in a week



An 11-year-old boy has become the fifth person to be killed in St. Vincent and the Grenadines over the past seven days.

Dead is Jamari Phillips, of Richland Park, who died at the scene in the agricultural district after being chopped multiple times to the head and neck, allegedly by a close relative.

The alleged assailant is said

to have responded violently to officers from the Rapid Response Unit, who responded to the report.

Police shot the alleged assailant in the leg then transported him to the Levi Latham Heath Centre for medical attention.

Friday's killing brought the homicide count this year to 16.

Phillips' death comes that, on Tuesday, of Juwanie Roberts,

17, of Redemption Sharpes, who died at the Milton Cato Memorial Hospital (MCMH), where he was receiving medical attention after being shot in Lowmans Leeward one day earlier.

Also on Tuesday, police launched an investigation into the killing of Moralis Delano Stanley, a 45-year-old labourer of Chauncey.

Stanley, who is also known as "Rapper" was found dead in a pool of blood at a house where he lived in a compound where his mother's house is also located.

And, Lionel "Gobler" George, 28, of Rockies, and his girlfriend, Denesia "Gazaden" Corridon, 23, of Yambou, by unknown assailants in Arnos Vale last Saturday morning.

POINTE PRESS

Regional News

PAGE 13

St. Lucia: TUF rejects 'unacceptable' Govt salary proposal



St Lucia Trade Union Federation president, Julian Monrose

Salary negotiations between the Government and the Trade Union Federation are heating up as the Government has threatened to explore its legal options should the TUF refuse to accept its proposal.

The TUF is standing by its final decision to not accept Government's proposed salary percentage plus bonds. In response to the Government's open letter dated May 21, 2020, the Federation stated it has already forfeited the 1% salary increase due on April 1, 2020 for a period of six months and will not be coerced by the

Government in accepting its proposal.

Yesterday (May 28), former President of the Civil Service Association, now Health Minister, Mary Isaac, declared that the trade unions have to fall in line regarding government's proposal to pay civil servants 50% cash and 50% bonds for a period of three months.

According to the Union, the proposal will greatly affect the individuals and their households.

"Our response highlights the effects on individuals and their households. We indicated that

such a move would mean that some public servants would barely be able to cover their housing and food expenses.

"At the end of the threemonth period, some would be indebted to the extent that their insurance policies would lapse, utilities disconnected and household items repossessed."

The Federation also invited the government to consider the psycho-social impact of such a move on the public servants.

"We are therefore saying that while engineering as a field of study has no conscience, we expect those who use engineering principles to have a conscience; law has no conscience but we expect lawmakers and legal practitioners to have a conscience; medicine has no conscience but we expect those who practice medicine to have a conscience; and yes Sir, economics has no conscience but those who administer the economy and apply economic theory should have a conscience."

The TUF has described the Government's request as 'unacceptable' and assured Government that no condition will prevent the workers from standing for what is right.

Regional News



Guyana: WE NEED ANSWERS'



APNU+AFC Campaign Manager, Joseph Harmon

IN a stern statement on Saturday, the A Partnership for National Unity + Alliance For Change (APNU+AFC) called on Guyanese to demand answers from the Guyana Elections Commission (GECOM) for the mountain of alleged cases of electoral fraud that have been unearthed during the ongoing National Recount of the ballots cast at the 2020 General and Regional Elections.

"We cannot sail calmly into the end of the recount while your concerns go unanswered, and a massive fraudulent operation was carried out on your electoral process; an operation which is systemic and pervasive," APNU+AFC Campaign Manager, Joseph Harmon said as he called the Electorate to action.

While calling on Guyanese to demand answers from GECOM, Harmon pointed out that the ruling Coalition, in the last four days wrote a total of eleven letters to the Elections Commission on the irregularities that continue to surface, but has not gotten a response to date.

"You have a right to know what happened to your votes, and why persons who were not entitled to vote voted at your elections," Harmon said. "You have a right to demand of your Elections Commission answers to questions raised by your political representative," he told the APNU+AFC's support base.

Since the start of the recount on May 6, the APNU+AFC has been pointing to a number of alleged irregularities and anomalies, including cases of unscrupulous people voting for persons who are dead or were out of the jurisdiction on March 2, when General and Regional Elections were held here.

As the recount progressed, a range of other anomalies and discrepancies arose, including missing Official Lists of Electors (OLEs), Certificates of Employment, Oaths of Identity and Poll Books among other issues.

According to Harmon, in the past week, the magnitude of the irregularities has increased. In his address, he pointed to cases in which ballot boxes were discovered with the incorrect OLEs; ballots for one region were found to have been cast in another region; and the rejection of the Disciplined Services' votes due to their being unstamped during the intermixing of the ballots on E-Day.

MASSIVE VOTER-FRAUD "Over the period 26th to the

28th of May," Harmon disclosed, "our agents have identified, and from GECOM's own records confirmed, that there was massive voter-fraud in Districts 7 and 8. Our election agent has written the Chairman of GECOM, calling for urgent investigation and response by GECOM before the tabulated votes in the regions are announced."

Over that period, the AP-NU+AFC reportedly identified 83 cases of irregularities. Based on the Coalition's examination of the anomalies, it has concluded that Districts One (Barima-Waini), Seven (Cuyuni-Mazaruni), Eight (Potaro-Siparuni) and Nine (Upper Takutu-Upper Essequibo) were specifically targeted

POINTE PRESS

Regional News

PAGE 15

for special operations by the People's Progressive Party/Civic (PPP/C).

Zeroing in on Regions Seven and Eight, Harmon pointed to a number of ballot boxes in which there were glaring irregularities. "For example, in Ballot Box 7079," he said, "352 ballots were issued one day, yet 377 were discovered in the box at the recount. In Ballot Box 7024, fifty (50) counterfoils were missing from the ballots issued. This means that fifty (50) ballots have been casted elsewhere. Similar occurrences were found in Ballot Box 7003, where the wrong list of electors was found in the box."

Harmon further pointed out that "in Box 7060, the list of electors ticked off for another station was found in this box," while adding that there were seven (7) extra ballots cast in excess of the list and any other procedure which would allow it. The APNU+AFC, he said, has also taken note of what it describes as "the flagrant misuse" of Oaths of Identity, in which persons voted without any identification and without evidence of an oath of identity. According to Harmon, there were 326 such cases identified in 27 ballot boxes.

During the period May 26-28, the Coalition, while participating in the recounting of votes from District Eight, uncovered 83 cases in which persons without ID cards and oaths of identity were allowed to vote.

UNSTAMPED BALLOTS

The alleged case of unstamped ballots cast by members of the Disciplined Services remain another outstanding issue that the Elections Commission must address, Harmon submitted. Unstamped ballots are rejected, and are, therefore, not considered part of the valid votes that were cast.

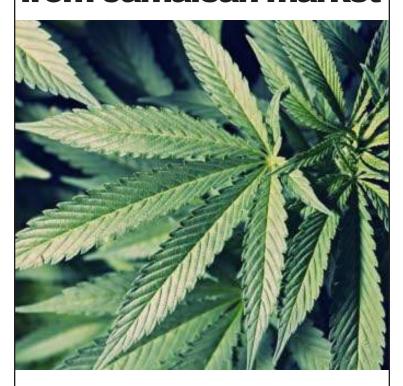
That aside, Harmon said that the Coalition has thus far provided GECOM with a list of names with persons who are either dead or were out of the jurisdiction on Elections Day, but are marked off on the OLEs as having voted. "I can say to you that of the lists of migrants we submitted to GECOM, 90% of those persons were confirmed by the Chief Immigration Officer as being out of the country on 2nd March 2020, and this information is with GECOM," Harmon said, while adding that Death Certificates have also been provided.

Harmon, while iterating a position made known to the Elections Commission, said the APNU+AFC strongly believes that the irregularities unearthed to date are proof of electoral fraud and tampering of the ballot boxes, and as such, warrants an immediate investigation, as they impact the credibility of the electoral process.

EVIDENCE-BASED

"My fellow Guyanese, as you can see, our intervention with GECOM has been based on evidence, and we require GECOM to act in a timely manner on these investigations, as the cumulative impact of these irregularities and fraud has a bearing on the validity of all votes. The qualitative figure so impacted is now in excess of 92,000," Harmon said in his public address, while calling on GECOM to wake up. "Get your act together!" he urged GECOM in his closing remarks. The duration of the recount has been extended until June 13.

Canadian cannabis companies withdraw from Jamaican market



Several Canadian companies, which are licensed producers of cannabis, are leaving the Jamaican market due to stalled governmental decisions on export licenses. Forbes magazine reported yesterday even if the Jamaican government were to expedite the issuance of export licenses, the global market is extremely limited and the slight amount of export was only permitted for medical research and development which does not add up to any genuine marketable or profitable volume.

According to the report, a former employee of Aphria told the magazine that Aphria is "halting all further investments in Latin America and the Caribbean". The magazine said approximately 200 former Aphria employees were laid off in an effort by the company to downsize and restructure.

In addition, Aurora, a Canadian-listed cannabis company, has sold its Jamaican asset for less than its CDN\$4.5 million in order to gain capital, the magazine reported. "The company also accepted an offer to sell its Jamaica property for gross proceeds of CDN\$3.4 million," an Aurora market filing noted. The magazine added that Canadian cannabis producer the Green Organic Dutchman is also no longer pursuing opportunities in Jamaica.

International



SpaceX's historic encore: Astronauts arrive at space station

SpaceX delivered two astronauts to the International Space Station for NASA on Sunday, following up a historic liftoff with an equally smooth docking in yet another first for Elon Musk's company.

With test pilots Doug Hurley and Bob Behnken poised to take over manual control if necessary, the SpaceX Dragon capsule pulled up to the station and docked automatically, no assistance needed. The linkup occurred 262 miles (422 kilometers) above the China-Mongolia border.

"Congratulations on a phenomenal accomplishment and welcome to the International Space Station," SpaceX Mission Control radioed from Hawthorne, California.

It was the first time a privately built and owned spacecraft carried astronauts to the orbiting lab in its nearly 20 years. NASA considers this the opening volley in a business revolution encircling Earth and eventually stretching to the moon and Mars.

"Bravo on a magnificent moment in spaceflight history," NASA's Mission Control piped in from Houston.

NASA astronaut Chris Cassidy greeted the incoming crew by ringing the ship's bell aboard the space station.

The docking occurred a little early, barely 19 hours after a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket blasted off Saturday afternoon from Kennedy Space Center, the nation's first astronaut launch to



NASA astronauts Douglas Hurley, left, and Robert Behnken walk out of the Neil A. Armstrong Operations and Checkout Building on their way to Pad 39-A, at the Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral, Fla., Saturday, May 30, 2020.

orbit from home soil in nearly a decade. Despite the coronavirus pandemic, thousands jammed surrounding beaches, bridges and towns to watch as SpaceX became the world's first private company to send astronauts into orbit, and ended a nine-year launch drought for NASA. The achievement, years in the making, is expected to drive down launch costs so more people might be able to afford a ticket to space in the coming years.

A few hours before docking, the Dragon riders reported that their capsule, newly named Endeavour after the retired shuttle, was performing beautifully. Just in case, they slipped back into their pressurized launch suits and helmets for the rendezvous.

Gleaming white in the sunlight, the Dragon was easily visible from a few miles out, its nose cone open and exposing its docking hook as well as a blinking light. The capsule loomed ever larger on live NASATV as it closed the gap.

Hurley and Behnken took over the controls — using high-tech touchscreens — and did a little piloting less than a couple hundred yards (meters) out as part of the test flight, before putting it back into automatic for the final approach. Hurley said the capsule handled "really well, very crisp."

The astronauts thanked everyone once the capsule was latched securely to the space

International

NIND THE WORLD

PAGE 17

station. The only snag appeared to involve Dragon's communication lines: The astronauts could barely understand the calls coming from Houston's Mission Control following the linkup.

"It's been a real honor to be just a small part of this nineyear endeavor since the last time a United States spaceship has docked with the International Space Station," Hurley said. He was the pilot of that last spaceship, shuttle Atlantis in July 2011.

NASA turned to private industry to pick up the slack following the shuttle fleet's retirement, hiring SpaceX and Boeing in 2014 for space station taxi services. Boeing's first astronaut flight isn't expected until next year.

Given the continuing highrisk drama, SpaceX and NASA officials had held off on any celebrations until after Sunday morning's docking and possibly not until the two astronauts are back on Earth sometime this summer. Clearly relieved, NASA Administrator Jim Bridenstine tweeted a big "welcome home" to the Dragon fliers — "America's two favorite dads." SpaceX has been calling them "dads" to drive home the fact that two lives were at stake in this highly technical effort.

NASA has yet to decide how long Hurley and Behnken will spend at the space station, somewhere between one and four months. While they're there, the Dragon test pilots will join NASA's Cassidy and two Russian station residents in performing experiments and possibly spacewalks to install fresh station batteries.

While U.S. astronauts will continue to catch a ride on Russian Soyuz rockets, it will be through a barter system now that NASA's commercial crew program has finally taken flight. NASA had been shelling out tens of millions of dollars for every Soyuz seat.

In a show-and-tell earlier Sunday, the astronauts gave a quick tour of the Dragon's sparkling clean insides, quite spacious for a capsule. They said the liftoff was pretty bumpy and dynamic, nothing the simulators could have mimicked.

The blue sequined dinosaur accompanying them — their young sons' toy, named Tremor — was also in good shape, Behnken assured viewers. Tremor was going to join Earthy, a plush globe delivered to the space station on last year's test flight of a crew-less crew Dragon. Behnken said both toys would return to Earth with them at mission's end.

An old-style capsule splash-down is planned.

After liftoff, Musk told reporters that the capsule's return will be more dangerous in some ways than its launch. Even so, getting the two astronauts safely to orbit and then the space station had everyone breathing huge sighs of relief.

As always, Musk was looking ahead.

"This is hopefully the first step on a journey toward a civilization on Mars," he said Saturday evening.

Coronavirus: Brazil now fourth-highest nation in Covid-19 deaths

Its figure of 28,834 has now surpassed France, and only the US, the UK and Italy have recorded more deaths.

President Jair Bolsonaro has consistently played down the outbreak, although the country has the world's second-highest number of cases.

He has criticised state lockdowns for harming Brazil's economy and jobs.

Brazil's health ministry said the past 24 hours had seen 956 new deaths.

This puts it past France's total of 28,774. Even if new figures raised the French total back above Brazil, the trends in the two countries show deaths in the Latin American nation are on a far steeper upward trend. According to a count by Johns Hopkins University, Brazil now has 498,440 confirmed cases.

Only the US has more, with 1.77 million. The number of deaths in Brazil has been doubling roughly every two weeks, compared to about every two months in the UK, four months in France, and five months in Italy.

Experts have warned that the real figure may be far higher due to a lack of testing.

Will this change Brazil's policies? Mr Bolsonaro is unlikely to alter his stance, arguing that the economic fallout

of lockdowns is worse than the outbreak. He has fought what he calls "the tyranny of total quarantine" by state governors - despite the upward tick in cases - and has even called for Brazil's football season to resume.

He has also been seen mingling with hundreds of supporters in Brasilia while not wearing a face mask.

On Sunday, Pope Francis added to the pressure on the president by highlighting the plight of the people of the Amazon.

"We call on the Holy Spirit to grant light and strength to the Church and to society in Amazonia, which has been harshly tested by the pandemic," he said.

Amazonas state has one of Brazil's highest infection rates and also one of the most underfunded health systems.

Many experts believe Central and South America are now the major hotspots for increased infections.

A combination of under-pressure healthcare systems and a mixed response by governments to the severity of Covid-19 has meant the region cannot apply the same easing of lockdowns taking place in Europe and elsewhere.

International



Israeli defense minister apologizes for Palestinian's death



Palestinians burn pictures of U.S. President Donald Trump, left, and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu during a protest against Trump's mideast initiative, in the West Bank city of Nablus, Saturday, May 30, 2020.

Israel's defense minister apologized on Sunday for the Israeli police's deadly shooting of an unarmed Palestinian man who was autistic.

The shooting of Iyad Halak, 32, in Jerusalem's Old City on Saturday, drew broad condemnations and revived complaints alleging excessive force by Israeli security forces. Benny Gantz, who is also Israel's "alternate" prime minister under a power-sharing deal, made the remarks at the weekly meeting of the Israeli Cabinet. He was sat

near Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who made no mention of the incident in his opening remarks. "We are really sorry about the incident in which Iyad Halak was shot to death and we share in the family's grief," Gantz said. "I am sure this subject will be investigated swiftly and conclusions will be reached."

Halak's relatives said he had autism and was heading to a school for students with special needs where he studied each day when he was shot. In a statement, Israeli police said they spotted a suspect "with a suspicious object that looked like a pistol." When he failed to obey orders to stop, officers opened fire, the statement said. Police spokesman Micky Rosenfeld later said no weapon was found.

Israeli media reported the officers involved were questioned after the incident as per protocol and a lawyer representing one of them sent his condolences to the family in an interview with Israeli Army Radio. Lone Palestinian attackers with no clear

links to armed groups have carried out a series of stabbings, shootings and car-ramming attacks in recent years.

Palestinians and Israeli human rights groups have long accused Israeli security forces of using excessive force in some cases, either by killing individuals who could have been arrested or using lethal force when their lives were not in danger. Some pro-Palestinian activists compared Saturday's shooting to the recent cases of police violence in the U.S.

International

PAGE 19

World alarmed by violence in US; thousands march in London

Nations around the world have watched in horror at the civil unrest in the United States following the death of George Floyd, a black man who died after a white police officer pressed his knee on his neck until he stopped breathing. Racism-tinged events no longer startle even America's closest allies, though many have watched coverage of the often-violent protests with growing unease. Burning cars and riot police in the U.S. featured on newspaper front pages around the globe Sunday — bumping news of the COVID-19 pandemic to second-tier status in some places.

Floyd's death on May 25 in Minneapolis was the latest in a series of deaths of black men and women at the hands of police in the U.S. Thousands gathered in central London on Sunday to offer support for American demonstrators. Chanting "No justice! No peace!" and waving placards with the words "How many more?" at Trafalgar Square, the protesters ignored U.K. government rules banning crowds because of the pandemic. Police didn't stop them.

Demonstrators then marched to the U.S. Embassy, where a long line of officers surrounded the building. Several hundred milled around in the street and waved placards.

Protesters in Denmark also converged on the U.S. Embassy on Sunday. Participants carried placards with messages such as "Stop Killing Black People."

The U.S. Embassy in Berlin was the scene of protests on Saturday under the motto: "Jus-



A woman holds up a banner as people gather in Trafalgar Square in central London on Sunday, May 31, 2020 to protest against the recent killing of George Floyd by police officers in Minneapolis that has led to protests across the US.

tice for George Floyd." Several hundred more people took to the streets Sunday in the capital's Kreuzberg area, carrying signs with slogans like "Silence is Violence," "Hold Cops Accountable," and "Who Do You Call When Police Murder?" No incidents were reported. Germany's top-selling Bild newspaper on Sunday carried the sensational headline "This killer-cop set America ablaze" with an arrow pointing to a photo of now-fired police officer Derek Chauvin, who has been charged with third-degree murder in Floyd's death, with his knee on Floyd's neck. The newspaper's story reported "scenes like out of a civil war." In Italy, the Corriere della Sera newspaper's senior U.S. correspondent Massimo Gaggi wrote that the reaction to Floyd's killing was "different" than previous cases of black Americans killed by police and the ensuring violence. "There are exasperated black movements that no longer preach nonviolent resistance," Gaggi wrote, noting the Minnesota governor's warning that "anarchist and white supremacy groups are trying to

fuel the chaos □ In countries with authoritarian governments, state-controlled media have been highlighting the chaos and violence of the U.S. demonstrations. in part to undermine American officials' criticism of their own nations. In China, the protests are being viewed through the prism of U.S. government criticism of China's crackdown on anti-government protests in Hong Kong. Hu Xijin, the editor of the state-owned Global Times newspaper, tweeted that U.S. officials can now see protests out their own windows: "I want to ask Speaker Pelosi and Secretary Pompeo: Should Beijing support protests in the U.S., like you glorified rioters in Hong Kong?"

Hua Chunying, a Chinese Foreign ministry spokeswoman, pointed out America's racial unrest by tweeting "I can't breathe," which Floyd said before his death.

In Iran, which has violently put down nationwide demonstrations by killing hundreds, arresting thousands and disrupting internet access to the outside world, state television has repeatedly aired images of the U.S. un-

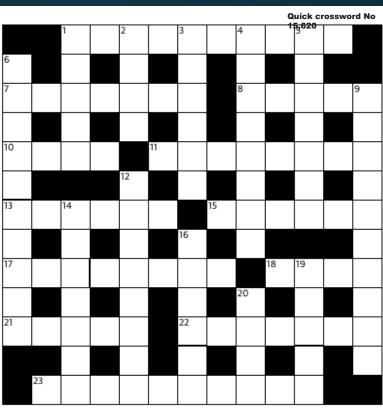
rest. One TV anchor discussed "a horrible scene from New York, where police attacked protesters." Another state TV message accused U.S. police agencies in Washington of "setting fire to cars and attacking protesters," without offering any evidence.

Russia accused the United States of "systemic problems in the human rights sphere ☐ It denounced Floyd's death as the latest in a series of police violence cases against African Americans. "This incident is far from the first in a series of lawless conduct and unjustified violence from U.S. law enforcement," the Russian Foreign Ministry said in a statement. "American police commit such high-profile crimes all too often." There also have been expressions of solidarity with the demonstrators. Over the weekend, Lebanese anti-government protesters flooded social media with tweets sympathetic to U.S. protesters, using the hashtag #Americarevolts. That's a play on the slogan for Lebanon's protest movement — Lebanon revolts — which erupted on Oct. 17 last year. Within 24 hours, the hashtag #Americanrevolts became the No. 1 trending tag in Lebanon. In another expression of solidarity with American protesters, about 150 people marched through central Jerusalem on Saturday to protest the shooting death by Israeli police of an unarmed, autistic Palestinian man earlier in the day. Israeli police mistakenly suspected that the man, Iyad Halak, was carrying a weapon. When he failed to obey orders to stop, officers opened fire.

Leisure



QUICK CROSSWORD



Quick crossword No												
	1 P	R	² O	F	³ L	Ι	⁴ G	Α	5 T	E		
	L		М		Α		U		Α		⁶ S	
⁷ P	U	G	I	L	-	S	М		⁸ R	Ι	С	Η
	М		Т		D		D		R		Α	
	9 B	Α	Т	Н		¹⁰ G	R	U	Υ	Ε	R	Ε
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	Ι				Т		S		Е			
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	Т		0		R		¹⁸ Z		-		-	
19 W	Α	R	D		²⁰ P	R	1	S	Т	1	N	Ε
	z		G		Α		Ν		Α		0	
		²¹ V	Ε	R	N	Α	С	U	L	Α	R	

Across

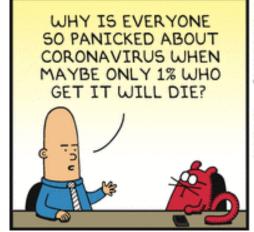
- 1 Bad-tempered person (10)
- 7 Flourish (7)
- 8 Son of Abraham, offered as a sacrifice to God (5)
- 10 ____ Bodies, Evelyn Waugh's 1930 novel (4)
- 11 Valued possession that's handed down (8)
- 13 Side roads (6)
- 15 Hostess in a kimono (6)
- 17 OK (3,5)
- 18 LSD (4)
- 21 Zany (5)
- Walk wearily (7)
- Observant (10)

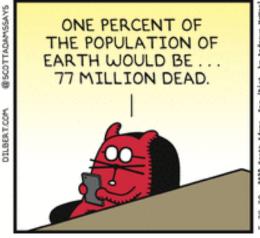
Down

- Shade of pink (5)
- 2 Bovine creatures (4)
- Insectivorous plant (6)Enclosures for birds (8)
- 5 Mountain-dwelling antelope (7)
- 6 On the level (5,5)
- 9 Take by force (10)
- 12 Slavic alphabet (8)
- 14 Greet (7)
- 16 Closely confined (4,2)
- 19 Get into trouble (3,2)
- 20 Green ornamental stone (4)

CARTOON CORNER

Dilbert

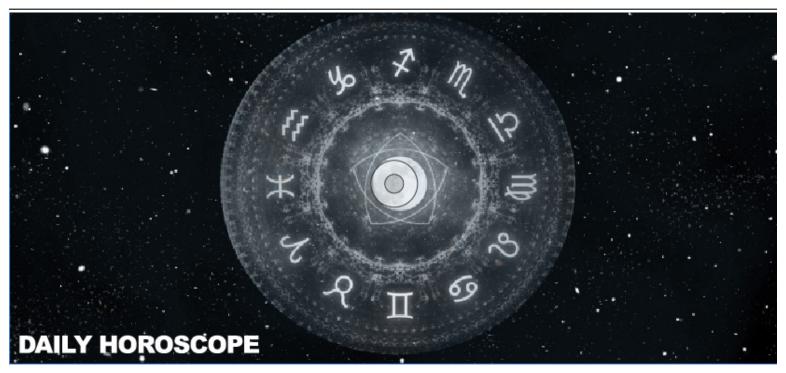






Leisure

PAGE 21



ARIES (Mar 21-Apr. 19): Keep your temper on a tight leash in the week ahead even when it's tempting to let it loose. You may be happiest when working as a team with some friendly people, but be discreet and avoid being too playful.

TAURUS (Apr. 20-May 20): If you can't win a war of wits, you may try to compete with your wallet. In the week ahead you may consider casually spending money just to prove a point. Avoid the temptation to please others no matter the cost.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Handling fast-paced activities and results-driven people may deplete your storehouse of social skills in the week ahead. Take a second look at bills, emails and proposals, as you might miss the fine print.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): To make money, sometimes you must spend money. However, during the upcoming week you might notice that expenditures outweigh the benefits. You may suffer from an illusion that you are in total control.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Once you have a goal in mind, it may be difficult to stop thinking about it. Avoid any relentless quest for now, as this may offend friends or partners who feel left out of the equation. Be energetic but not headstrong this week.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): In the week ahead, keep your sights fixed on achieving major long-term goals even when new ideas, desires and distractions crop up. Don't accept vague answers or ask misleading questions when money is involved.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22.): Your head might not understand what your heart already knows. At some point during the upcoming week you might realize that one of your best ideas was a mere fantasy. Don't take a casual flirtation too seriously.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Your warmth and friendliness are potent tonics best used in small doses as this week unfolds. Focus on finding long-term solutions to temporary financial problems. Don't be too proud to ask for advice or guidance.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You probably know best when it comes to handling your resources as this week unfolds. Some people may urge you to spend today and pay tomorrow, but you have a long-term vision of prosperity to bank on.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Your generosity knows no bounds, but someone else may count on that. A co-worker or acquaintance may inadvertently cause you financial hardship. In the week ahead, remember "neither a borrower nor a lender be."

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Someone in your intimate circle could rub you the wrong way during the week to come. Abrasive individuals in the workplace could put you on your guard as well. Don't take criticism personally but see the lesson.

PISCES (**Feb. 19-Mar. 20**): Staging an intervention in an effective way may require all your diplomatic skills and your gentlest management. You may find yourself dealing with anger issues in the week ahead when someone doesn't get their way.

Sports News



WI agree to England Test tour in principle, but take 50% pay cuts

Cricket West Indies has agreed "in principle" to July's Test tour of England, but players and staff will take a 50% pay cut.

Next week, The England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) are expected to announce a revamped summer schedule.

West Indies three-Test series against the England is set to start on 8 July.

The matches are to played behind closed doors in a bio-secure environment at Hampshire's Ageas Bowl and Lancanshire's Old Trafford.

Despite the pay-cut West Indies players will still receive their full match fee for the series.

The series must first be approved by the UK government and the West Indies squad would have to



quarantine for 14 days upon arrival under current rules.

The decision comes only after Cricket West Indies medical and cricket related representatives and advisers have been involved in detailed discussions with the ECB, and its own medical and public health advisers.

Earlier in May, the international Cricket Council revealed plans to ban the use of saliva to shine the ball amid the coronavirus pandemic.

Cricket West Indies president says it has been a difficult decision to cut staff and players income but it's a temporary decision that had to be made for the benefit of the institution.

CWI cut salaries and funding

Cricket West Indies on Friday announced a 50% reduction in salaries and cricket funding across the entire regional cricket system effective 1 July.

In a release the board said the decision was a hard one to make but it was necessary because of the economic impact they have been encountering from the COVID-19 pandemic

The CWI noted that with no international cricket currently being played anywhere in the world and with great uncertainty over when regular cricket activity will resume, CWI was facing a significant loss of income, whilst also being uncertain of the long term impact the crisis had on operations

The CWI had kept staff, players, umpires and coach-

es on full pay since the outbreak of COVID-19 and tried its best to avoid any cuts for as long as possible.

The measures include a 50 per cent reduction in funding for territorial boards, territorial board franchises and the West Indies Players Association as well as a 50 per cent cut in all retainers and allowances for directors and executive management.

CWI CEO Johnny Grave said the salary cuts could not be avoided.



POINTE PRESS

Sports News

PAGE 23

cont'd from pg 24 ing careers.

My boys were consistent in what they did but there have been occasions where I feel like certain decisions and stance I took against a particular standout name in sports has haunted my children who have been told by certain individuals once they had anything to do with selecting teams especially in cricket they had no chance.

"But they have been resilient and continue to play their roles in the development of the sport and I am proud of them," Skepple said.

About the growth of cricket in Antigua and Barbuda, the man from Farm is high in praise for the job people like Hugh Gore, Danny Linvingston, Taddy Arindale and Guy Yearwood did in developing top class players, but he is of the view that there is much blight within the walls of the game since those stalwarts left although



some of them are still around the game, he pointed out.

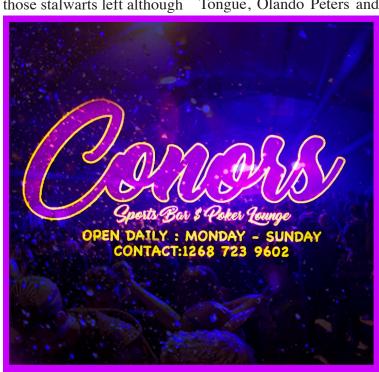
"Coaching is poor and much work needs to be done with coaching, education and working with young athletes. We have produced some of the greatest cricketers the world has ever seen, but in recent years we have witnessed a drop-off which I believe has to do with coaching," he remarked.

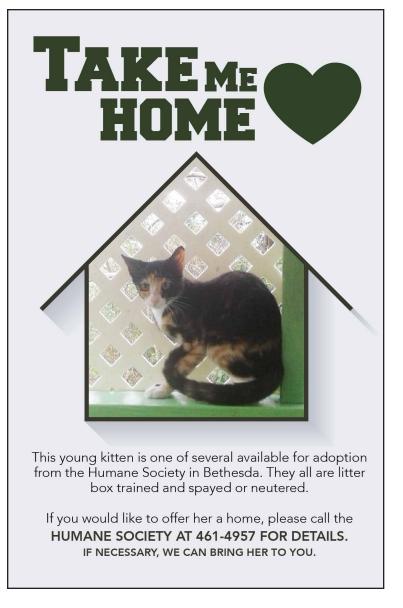
Skepple is of the view that the generation of cricketers which included players like Devon Bobby Thomas, Anthony Iroots Martin, Gavin Tongue, Olando Peters and others has been handled poorly.

What have you been up to these days PointeXpress asked, "busy with my sons working on the upgrade of the New Winthropes field and you would not believe the fight we have been getting from people in the community against us who are just trying to assist for free," Leroy articulated.

He revealed that his son Gregg, who is a farmer for the past 24 years, has been using his experience and expertise while Arab, his other son, is working with West Indies contracted player Britney Hector who is from New Winthropes.

Skepple ended by saying there is so much he has to say followed by a second episode been promised to PointeXpress.





S DOFTS MONDAY 1ST JUNE 2020



I am a little black boy from Sea View Farm

"I am little black boy from Sea View Farm," that's how one of the most respected individuals in the nation's sporting landscape, Lesroy Skepple, described himself. "I move to Pigotts for 10 years, then eventually New Winthropes in 1981 where I still reside," he noted.

Skepple said he watched and played a lot of cricket coming up in Farm and at the Sugar Factory. He played both cricket and football, but noted that rubber-ball was played a lot and portion which assisted his development.

"If you want to train your reflexes, use golf ball against a wall and back in the day, we did that a lot," he explained

Skepple, whose main sport was cricket but also played as a left winger in football, said despite performing well with bat and ball during his playing days he was only offered one national trial and was not selected. "I became discourage because back then, if you did not



represent certain Clubs like Rising Sun and St. John's your chances were limited. Skepple's point has been supported by former national players Gene Gould and Veron Edwards Snr, who while having a sit down with PointeXpress earlier in the week, agreed that most of the players selected back then were from the city.

Edwards and Gould said

back then cricket was played only on Thursdays and most of the organized teams were based in the city until the late Tim Hector, Sir Lester Bird and Kenrick 'Hudson' Isaac took over the sport, instituted Saturday and Sunday fixtures thus leading to more involvement from teams from the rural areas. They also noted that Parish League played a major role in exposing players from these areas.

Lesroy Skepple has worn many hats while contribut-

ing to the development of young talent on the island. "I have been a manager, selector, coach, and player," the former all rounder expressed.

"For some reason I paid more attention to my bowling during my cricket days despite been very competent with the bat. I loved to bowl and work players out," Skepple revealed.

Skepple is the father of former national footballers and cricketers Gregg and Kerry Arab Skepple whom he believes have been treated poorly during their sport-

DEWS

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